

LITTLE HADHAM PARISH NEWS

AUGUST 2025

**OUR SCHOOL IS
OUTSTANDING!!**

Ofsted have recognised our very own Little Hadham Primary School as outstanding in all categories. See p.8 for details

Little Hadham Parish News is distributed free by St Cecilia's Church

Letter from the Rectory

Hello! I have the pleasure of being the Headteacher at St Andrew's CE Primary School in Much Hadham. Our Priest In Charge, Revd Tayo Wale-Falope has kindly given us his space here in the magazine for this edition.

Our inclusive and Christian vision drives all we do at St Andrew's. We share the Church of England's vision for education and Jesus' promise that all will live 'Life in All its Fullness'. This is represented by the diverse and rich opportunities, which are available to all children and staff at St Andrew's, for every area of their growth and development.

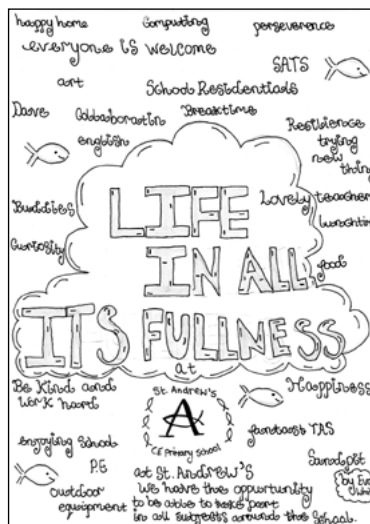
Jesus said, 'I am the good shepherd ... I came so that everyone would have life, and have it fully.' (John 10:10)

Just as St Andrew was encouraged by Jesus to 'Come and See', our children can bear witness to God's world around them, in their work and play. Our welcoming school invites all to 'come and see' the fantastic work that our children produce and experience how we live out the Christian values that we hold dear each and every day.

I hope you enjoy looking at some of the posters made by our Year 6 children, who have just left to move on to secondary school. They recently reflected on what our School Vision has meant for them during their time at St Andrew's.

Caroline Dimond (Mrs)
Headteacher

St Andrew's CE Primary School and Nursery



LITTLE HADHAM PARISH NEWS

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To find out more about the life of our Church, please visit our website:

www.riverashchurches.org.uk

EDITORIAL DEADLINE

All articles for inclusion and payment for advertising in the next issue **must** be received by the **15th** of the month.

(BACS preferred, email the editor for details.)

Editor reserves the right to edit copy received, and add or omit pictures where necessary.

View the Parish News Online including back issues: www.littlehadham-pc.gov.uk/parish_news.html



From the Registers of St. Cecilia's Church, Little Hadham

Nothing from the registers this month.

ADVERTISING ENQUIRIES

If you would like to advertise in our magazine, please contact the editor at: littlehadhampn@gmail.com for more details.

The Parish News is funded and distributed freely by St Cecilia's Church. We really appreciate the support of all our advertisers to help cover our overheads and keep the Parish News in print. Please support them and shop local.

So if you run a business or service and would like to invest in your local magazine and reach over 500 homes each month with your product or service, we'd love to hear from you.

We offer ads at 4 different sizes and prices from a full page to an eighth of a page, with discounts for taking a year at a time. We can also insert flyers for a small fee.

You can also offer support by making a donation to the magazine, contact the editor for details.

The magazine is written by many contributors who report for themselves or for a club or organisation they represent. The church and production team does not necessarily agree with the opinions aired in any article printed here.

Little Hadham Parish Council

Carole Page

www.littlehadham-pc.gov.uk

Little Hadham Parish Council meets the first Tuesday of each month in the Village Hall. There is no meeting in August or January. All residents and press are welcome to attend the meetings.

Meeting dates – all meetings commence at 7.30pm

2nd Sept	7th October
4th November	2nd December

Agendas are posted on noticeboards and the Little Hadham Parish Council website.

Little Hadham Ramblers – our walks are scheduled for:

Wednesday 3rd September

Wednesday 1st October

Wednesday 5th November

Wednesday 3rd December

We start from the Village Hall at 10.00, with a return between 11.30-12.00. There is a lunch available at the Warm Spaces Café. Always a delicious choice of soup, filled jacket potato or a main meal. Dogs welcome.

The walks will be loaded onto the Parish Council website through Komoot.

Sign of the Times

Cllr Williams provided an update. The request for the licence to be reviewed was put in on the 28th of May. The event holder voluntarily surrendered the licence on the 16th of May, which made the official Council review redundant. It was feasible for the licence to be transferred within the 30-day window, which would take us to the 14th of June. No such application was made, so the licence no longer exists. If anyone wants to hold any kind of

event replicating what Sign of the Times would have been, will have to apply for a new licence from scratch.

Ongoing Parish Council Projects

- River Ash Monitoring – an update from Cllr Westlake. Waiting for the co-ordinator to contact us, but at this time he is too busy to help, but we have 3 people who have experience in monitoring the river and the next stage will be to set up a meeting. The school is also keen to get involved with the monitoring.
- Ridgeway Project - to turn an unused play area into a community area that will cater for all our residents and create an inclusive space – update clerk. Going to run this as a longer-term project.
- Bus Shelter Project - The school are going to create art works for installation in each shelter as an ongoing project. The children will choose and create the artworks, perhaps: poppies for Remembrance Sunday; Christmas themed art etc. Shelters are on order; plans are drawn up.

- Book Exchange - Telephone boxes – A resident has offered to look after the one in the Ford. Any maintenance works to be carried out before the Autumn. Do we still want the book exchange. If they aren't being used, we could remove the books and transfer the maintenance costs to another project in the village.

Little Hadham Parish Council Website

<https://littlehadham-pc.gov.uk/> We now have a new PC website and would ask for any ideas as to content.



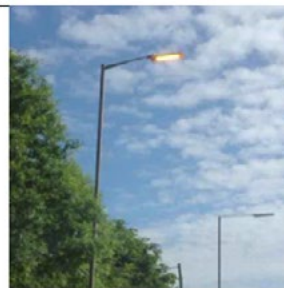



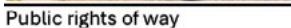
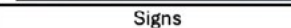
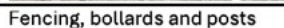
Little Hadham Community Group – Facebook Page

The group is for residents to share information about the village: roads closed, trees down, events in the village, etc. This is our Facebook page and is about our village and what is going on.

Fault Reporting in our village

Lastly, when you notice anything in the village that needs attention, notify the Parish Clerk, who will follow these up with Highways during our regular meetings. Then:

- Log into Hertfordshire County Council website
- Click on 'Fault Reporting'
- What type of fault are you reporting

		
Road and cycle path faults (including potholes)	Trees, hedges, weeds and grass	Lighting and traffic lights
		
Pavements and verges	Blockage in road	Flooding and drainage
		
Public rights of way	Signs	Fencing, bollards and posts

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Down at the Doctors

Andrew Wilkinson, Practice Manager

www.muchhadhamhealthcentre.co.uk



Recent developments have brought some important updates regarding Tirzepatide (Mounjaro), a weight loss medication now approved for use in primary care by NHS England and NICE, as well as changes to the cervical screening programme.

Tirzepatide: Limited Access Started June 2025

From June 23, 2025, Tirzepatide—also known as Mounjaro®—will be available through primary care. However, its initial availability will be limited to a very small group of patients due to strict eligibility criteria set by NHS England. This cautious approach ensures the medicine is introduced safely into the NHS without breaking the bank.

To be eligible, patients must have a Body Mass Index (BMI) of 40 or more, and at least four of the following diagnosed conditions:

- Hypertension
- Dyslipidaemia
- Obstructive sleep apnoea
- Atherosclerotic Cardiovascular Disease (ASCVD)
- Type 2 diabetes mellitus

A search of our patient records found no individuals meeting these criteria at present, so please only contact us if you believe you qualify.

Cervical Screening: Longer Intervals for Low-Risk Individuals

NHS England has also updated the cervical screening programme. For those without a recent high-risk HPV positive result, the screening interval will change from every three years to every five years. This adjustment brings England in line with Scotland and Wales and reflects advances in understanding HPV's role in cervical cancer.

Since the UK introduced cervical screening in 1964, knowledge and tools have improved dramatically. HPV is now known to cause almost all cervical cancers, and vaccination against high-risk HPV strains is routinely offered to boys and girls aged 12-13. The new screening approach is more personalized: if you have no recent HPV findings, you'll be invited every five years; if you have or recently had high-risk HPV, screening will continue more frequently.

For more information, visit <https://eveappeal.org.uk/information-and-advice/>.

Furthermore as part of the new 10 Year Health Plan home kits will be offered to those that have missed their invite or haven't come forward making care more convenient and supporting the shift from treatment to prevention.

Reminder – Flu clinic Saturday 4th October at Little Hadham Village Hall for those eligible for a flu vaccination.

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Summer Term Highlights

As we approach the end of term, it's the perfect time to share some of the brilliant things that have been happening at Little Hadham Primary School over the past couple of months. It's been a term full of creativity, curiosity, confidence, and a few very special visitors too!

An Outstanding Achievement!

We are absolutely thrilled to share that following our recent inspection, Ofsted has judged Little Hadham to be Outstanding in every category. The report praised our "calm, purposeful atmosphere," where "pupils show exceptional kindness" and "love coming to school." The inspectors were impressed by our rich curriculum, our high expectations, and the way our staff go above and beyond to ensure every child succeeds. It's a true testament to the whole community, our staff, children, parents, and governors. Thank you for being part of our journey!

Rugby Stars in the Making

Our Year 6 girls had a fantastic morning at Bishop's Stortford Rugby Club, taking part in a girls-only tag rugby tournament designed to introduce rugby in a fun and supportive way. The event was buzzing with music, energy, and encouragement from inspirational female referees and role models. Every participant received a goodie bag, and we're already eyeing up next year's trophy! The girls represented Little Hadham brilliantly with bags of team spirit and determination.



A huge woohoooo for Abigail, who won the Sportsmanship Prize for her outstanding attitude, what a role model!

Life Skills and Confidence: Crucial Crew

Willow Class took part in the inspiring Crucial Crew experience—a practical and powerful afternoon aimed at preparing them for the transition to secondary school. They tackled first aid (yes, they even practised CPR!), financial literacy, online safety, and much more. One of the standout moments was a moving drama about bullying, performed by Year 10 students from Herts & Essex School. The afternoon left our children feeling confident, informed, and ready for the adventures ahead.

Little Angel Theatre – Big Imagination!

We were treated to a magical workshop with the Little Angel Theatre team, who helped us design puppets with moving arms and necks using recycled materials. The children explored how to express emotions through puppet movement and use gravity to bring their characters to life. A joyful celebration of storytelling, imagination, and sustainability!



Take One Picture: A Whole-School Art Celebration

The National Gallery's "Take One Picture" project inspired a week bursting with colour and creativity. This year's painting, Regatta on the Grand Canal by Canaletto, sparked artwork, design, and storytelling all over the school. The week culminated in a joyful whole-school art exhibition, which parents were thrilled to attend!

A Visit from Parliament—Times Two!

Not one, but two Members of Parliament visited Little Hadham this week! We were delighted to welcome Chris Hinchliff and Josh Dean, who toured the school with our fantastic School Captains before leading an engaging assembly. They shared stories from Parliament and answered children's questions, including how MPs "bob" to get noticed in debates. Our pupils took to the political talk like pros, we may well have some future MPs in our midst!



Looking Ahead...

Carole from the Parish Council popped in for a chat to see what our children could do in the village! We're now looking forward to updating the village bus shelter with children's artwork every half term, so keep your eyes peeled! Also, we're really looking forward to joining the parish for one of the upcoming breakfasts, it would be a true honour for our children to help out and be part of such a valued community event.

As always, thank you for your continued support and encouragement, we hope you have a fabulous summer.



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- All profits go to our school with a local cash prize every week
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To start supporting, visit:
yourschoollottery.co.uk
and search for: Little Hadham

Garbille Awards 15

Little Hadham Gardening Club

Anne Willett



There is no evening meeting in August but we have arranged a visit to an NGS garden called Dragons at Boyton Cross on **Tuesday 5th August**, meet at Little Hadham Village Hall at 10.15am to car share. It will take about 30 minutes to get there. If you don't drive, don't let that put you off coming. The cost is £10 and refreshments are available. Please contact Anne on 07904 150 595 if you would like to come.

Our **Autumn Show is on Sunday 31st August 2025** so now is the time to finalise your entries. The Show is open to garden club members and all residents of Little Hadham and its hamlets, If you haven't a schedule, a copy is available on Little Hadham Village Hall website.

(I've already had a go at making raspberry jam (class 63) and it seemed to taste ok - next will be nectarine jam (class 62) and a practice at making a Swiss Roll (class 70). Why not have a go.

Please save this date in your diary and start planning which classes you can enter.

Guide to Summer Watering

Summer can be a tough time for plants. During very hot spells, greenhouses can become more like a desert while containers seem to dry out within hours

of watering them. By knowing which plants to prioritise and when to water, you can make the best use of your time by watering those that need it most.

1. Water every day or two - the top priorities for watering are seedlings, cuttings and young plants plus anything recently planted. Other thirsty plants are those potted in a greenhouse, such as tomatoes and cucumbers. Water the trunks of tree ferns daily to create humidity.
2. Water once a week - next come plants with shallow root systems, including bedding plants and large, thin leaved subtropical plants and ferns. Big plants, moisture loving perennials and many veg crops, like spinach, lettuce and celery will also suffer if left to dry out.
3. Water once a fortnight - during long dry spells, water plants that can normally fend for themselves, like clematis and roses by soaking thoroughly once a fortnight. Also water fruit trees on dwarfing rootstocks, shallow rooted shrubs like camellias and plantings from last Autumn in this way.
4. Avoid watering - parts of the garden can be left unwatered to reduce dependence on irrigation and allow tough plants like verbascums to thrive. Don't water mature trees, shrubs and hedges - it's a waste. Lawns may also be left unwatered - if it goes brown, it will recover when rain arrives.

Some drought resistant plants:- Alliums, Ballota, Euphorbia, Gaura, Helianthemum, Nepeta, Santolina, Sedum, Stachys, Stipa, Thyme and Verbena.

MUCH HADHAM ART SOCIETY

THE VILLAGE HALL
High St. Much Hadham SG10 6DQ

ART EXHIBITION

SATURDAY 30 AUGUST

10AM-5PM

SUNDAY 31 AUGUST

10AM-4PM



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WWW.MUCHHADHAMARTSOCIETY.CO.UK

Youth opportunities

We really value the input our local youth bring to the team at the museum. Years 2 and 4 from St Andrew's helped us to trial ideas for a new Science trail, now being installed this Summer, and we look forward to welcoming all the year groups to the museum next year to try it out. Year 12 Work experience students, Eliza and Lucy have recently been helping with object conservation, creating a new display and making social media posts. Uni student Shannon has completed her studies about Roman Hadham Ware, earning herself a well-deserved First for her dissertation and overall degree, congratulations!

This summer holidays, Red will be joining our team of Halloween prop makers and we are welcoming new Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award youth volunteers at weekends too.

If you would like to get involved, we would love to have you, get in touch.

"Forging links with Science": Our Forge 30 minute tasters took place on Sunday 29th June and Sat 5th July, funded by The Royal Society, They were fully booked and at the last minute, after 27 years here, I finally had a go at blacksmithing myself!

All had a brilliant time and we received some great feedback from participants. We hope to hold more sessions in the future.



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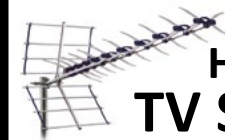
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Woodland Rangers Wrap Up the Term with Mud, Bugs, and Campfire Fun

It's been a busy and exciting month as we rounded off the term with sunshine, laughter, and plenty of forest adventures. Children have enjoyed the glorious weather, staying cool with plenty of water activities and fun under the shade of the tree canopy.

A muddy highlight was International Mud Day, where children painted with mud and sculpted with natural clay. During Insect Week, young explorers went on bug hunts and discovered the fascinating life cycle of ladybirds.

Our popular Stay and Play sessions saw children creating their very own Stickmen from woodland materials—imagination ran wild!

We also had the pleasure of hosting the Little Hadham Brownies, who embraced nature crafts, tool use, and even learned to light fires using flint and steel, before toasting s'mores around the campfire.

Woodland Rangers have also been delivering Forest School sessions at Little Hadham Primary School for a few weeks, where children from Early Years to Year 6 got hands-on with hammers, saws, drills, and fire lighting. We especially enjoyed using the school's new Polycrub!

Nikki & Louise
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Little Hadham Village Hall News

Joan McKinlay

www.littlehadhamvillagehall.com

Just a reminder that the Village Hall will be closed during August for its summer break and for refurbishment of the main hall floor. We will be able to report on our premises projects in September, but until then, here's an update of what's coming up for September.

Wednesday Community: Welcome Café

Open again from Wednesday 3rd September, the Welcome Café is closed in August for a well-earned break. The Café has had yet another very successful year and is generously supported by Grant funding from Herts Community Foundation (HCF) and cash donations. We don't have a price list for our menu items, and the Café is open and accessible to anyone who wishes to pop in. We are open for four hours every week from 10am to 2pm, 46 weeks per year, providing a place to chat with friends or meet before or after a weekly activity like Chair Yoga or Tai Chi or a walk with Little Hadham Ramblers.



Little Hadham Village Hall - SG11 2BP



Join our
Welcome Café
team

We are looking
for volunteer
cooks
to help in our
kitchen

If you like to cook and can help
on a regular basis please let us know

For details, please contact:
Joan McKinlay, Vice-Chair
M: 07789 098071



Our amazing volunteers serve up to 28 hot lunches every week providing a choice of soup, filled jacket potato or a home cooked meal, endless cups of tea and coffee and sweet treats too. Mention must go to Brenda for all the washing up she manages, Gina for helping to prep food and serve and to Jan and Rosemarie for producing delicious home cooked meals for everyone to enjoy each week. Well done all of you!

We are always on the lookout for more volunteers to cook and help serve. If you would like to find out how you could get involved from September and help on a rota basis, please get in touch.

Phone Joan McKinlay: 07789 098071 or email: vice-chair@littlehadhamvillagehall.com

Monthly Community Breakfast

Our next monthly Community Breakfast will on **Thursday 11th September**. Booking available now via our village hall website, search: www.littlehadhamvillagehall.com – select 'What's On' tab from menu bar and then select 'Events' from drop down menu.

Email: redchaircinema@littlehadhamvillagehall.com

From September 2025
New Programme of Relaxed Afternoon Films Screenings

New ticket entry price and range of refreshments available

Doors Open 2.00pm
Film Starts Promptly at 2.30pm

See our website for list of film screenings
www.littlehadhamvillagehall.com

Film licencing supported by
HCC Locality Budget Scheme Grant

Red Chair Community (Afternoon) Cinema

Red Chair Community Cinema is back at the Village Hall on **Monday 15th September**. Other dates for afternoon cinema are Monday 20th October, Monday 17th November and 15th December. Details of film titles to follow. Look out for the film titles on the village hall website,

RCCC noticeboard and your email inbox, if you subscribe to our regular monthly 'What's On' notifications.

There is a small change to how we will manage the afternoon cinema from September. Not only are we starting half an hour earlier at 2.00pm, with films starting promptly at 2.30pm, entry is reduced from £7 to £5 per person. A range of refreshments will be available to purchase from the kitchen counter. We are grateful to HCC Locality Budget Grant Funding for supporting the cost of the film licences.

Darts and Games Afternoon Social

Due to the popularity of the Darts and Games Social launched in April, we are back again in September. Open from 2pm to 4.30pm **alternate Tuesdays – 16th & 22nd September**. No need to book, just turn up. £3 per session, tea/coffee and cake included.

'Love to Sing' – Starting Thursday 25th September

Starting on Thursday 25th September, we will be trialling a 'Love to Sing' group led by Jenny Salmon. To join, you do not need to be able to sing, the whole point is to enable anyone who just enjoys singing, to get involved. There is no age limit, and singing is great fun and very therapeutic too, so don't be shy! You will be able to help choose the kind of songs you wish to learn.

BRAND NEW SINGING GROUP
COMING TO
LITTLE HADHAM VILLAGE HALL
from September 2025

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led by
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Ever wanted to sing
just for the fun of it?
Then this IS for YOU!

A Brand new singing group
is starting at Little Hadham
Village Hall from September.
It will run for an hour from
10am on Thursday morning
(Excludes second
Thursday of the month)

The group chooses their own songs
and Jenny Salmon will help you bring
them to life.... all while laughing and
enjoying yourself.
You do not need to be able to sing or
read music....
You just need to LOVE TO SING!!!

'Love to Sing' will be held on the first, third and last Thursday of the month between 10am and 11am in the Elm Room. Cost is just £7 per session, pay as you go. To express your interest, please contact Jenny via email: jennysalmon123@yahoo.co.uk or phone her on: 07823 884 445

Hands on Sourdough: Tuesday 25th September - 10am and 12pm.

Led by Ella Bisschoff, you are invited to join her for a 'Hands on Sourdough' session. Book via the village hall website to join Ella as she shows you how to make sourdough bread. Cost is just £5 to cover ingredients, and you get to take home what you make!

Details of these and other events are available to view on our website along with many more regular activities and fitness groups. www.littlehadhamvillagehall.com

Help needed please!

Large events and children's parties are usually held on weekends and because of this we are looking for a person/s who live locally to meet with hall hirers. This would be before and after their hall hire to check there are/ have been no issues and the building has been left clean, tidy and secure ready for the next hall user to come in.

This could be a paid, shared or volunteer role. If this is something you might be interested in helping with, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

To find out more about volunteering roles please select the 'News' tab from our website menu.

www.littlehadhamvillagehall.com

Contact: Joan McKinlay M: 07789 098071 - Email: vice-chair@littlehadhamvillagehall.com



If you would like to know more about anything in this article please contact Joan McKinlay on: **07789 098 071** or email: vice-chair@littlehadhamvillagehall.com

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St Cecilia's Church Bells

Quasi

On Friday 15th August all local ringers are coming together to ring to celebrate VJ Day. This year marks the 80th anniversaries of VE Day (Victory in Europe Day) and VJ Day (Victory over Japan Day). Victory over Japan Day is the day on which Imperial Japan

surrendered in World War II, in effect bringing the war to an end. It is an opportunity for the nation to come together and pay tribute to the Second World War generation from across the UK and Commonwealth, through a series of national and local events and activities encouraged by the government.

By the summer of 1945 the world had been gripped by war for six long years. In May, a light had emerged at the end of the tunnel, the end of the war in Europe. Following Germany's surrender, the Allies were striving for victory in the Pacific.

It would take several more months of fighting and the loss of tens of thousands of lives, military and civilian, and the use of two atomic



weapons, on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, to compel Japan to surrender on 15 August. Two weeks later, on 2 September, Japan's formal surrender was taken onboard the American battleship USS Missouri in Tokyo Bay.

Over 542,000 Commonwealth servicemen and women had died since the beginning of the war and the Japanese surrender.

Both St Andrew's Church, Much Hadham and St Michael's Church, Bishop's Stortford will ring out in celebration between 6.30pm until 7pm.

Please take a moment to stop in thought for all those affected by all Wars and to thank those who played a part in keeping our freedom.

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Parcel Delivery Scams

I got a text asking me to click on a link to reschedule a parcel delivery I'd missed. I was waiting for a parcel from Royal Mail at the time, so I clicked on the link and was asked to make a payment. Luckily, my daughter told me the text is a scam and to ignore it, but I almost gave away my personal details. How can I spot the signs of this type of scam for myself in the future?

Parcel delivery scams are becoming increasingly common. Ones involving texts and emails are known as phishing scams, and aim to trick you into giving away your personal information and financial details, so your bank account and money can be accessed.

One way scammers do this is by enticing people to click on links, which can lead to fake websites, in the hope that this information will be entered.

While scammers can pretend to be from any parcel delivery company, many of them choose Royal Mail because it's the largest delivery company in the UK. This means the chances of scammers contacting someone who receives parcels from Royal Mail, is higher.

These scams can be in the form of a text, like yours was, or an email or phone call. There are also reports of fake 'Something for You' cards, which Royal Mail leave when a delivery is attempted, but no-one is home.

Here are some tips on how you can stay vigilant and spot the signs of a parcel delivery scam, and other scam messages:

- If you're waiting for a parcel, and get a message that asks you to pay to get it, or reschedule the delivery, it's usually a scam.
- Don't click any links or attachments in the text or email. Delivery companies won't ask you to pay them through a link in an email or text.
- Parcel delivery scammers often pretend to be from an organisation like Royal Mail, and can try to make you click on a fake version of the company's genuine website, which asks for personal information or login details - these can appear real.
- To check if a link is genuine, hover your mouse over the link without clicking on it, or press and hold on the link on a mobile device. You should be able to see the address the link goes to, and check it's the same as the company's official website address.
- Make sure you check the address carefully - fake link addresses can look similar to the genuine address.
- Other signs of a message that is a scam include bad spelling and grammar, and when it

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starts with a general greeting instead of your name. But, scam messages can sometimes be sophisticated - so don't rely on obvious mistakes only.

- If you get an email, check if the email address matches the sender's name or organisation - you might have to click on their name to see the email address.
- If there's something you're unsure about, don't feel pressured to act. You can find the official details for the company the person who has contacted you says they're from, and ask the company if they've contacted you.

Royal Mail has a helpful page on its website of examples of delivery scams, including text messages

and emails people have received.

You can check if you think something you've seen online, or in a text or email you've received, might be a scam, using an online tool on the Citizens Advice website. If you have been scammed, you can report it on the Citizens Advice website, and check what else you need to do - including protecting yourself from further risks.

Being targeted by a scammer or falling victim to a scam can make people feel anxious or embarrassed, but it's important to remember scammers are clever and scams can happen to anyone. Reporting them helps track down and stop scammers, and prevent other people from ending up in the same situation.



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The Hundred Parishes Society

Ken McDonald

www.hundredparishes.org.uk



Before the “dissolution of the monasteries”, instigated in 1536 by King Henry VIII, the Hundred Parishes area had its fair share of religious houses – monasteries, convents, abbeys and priories. The remains of some can still be seen today.

Tilty Abbey is one. It was founded for Cistercian monks in 1153 and prospered mainly due to the wool trade before being dissolved. In 1220 a chapel was built outside the abbey gates for use by visitors. The chapel survives and today functions as Tilty's parish church. Little remains of the other abbey buildings but the site can be visited; interpretation boards inform the visitor and give an artist's impression of what the site would have looked like.

Little Dunmow Priory was founded in 1104 and was home to Augustinian monks until the Dissolution. Most of the priory church was demolished but the southern aisle survived. It is now used as the parish church.

Several of our larger hospitality venues were developed on sites of former religious houses: Hanbury Manor in Thundridge was once Poles Convent, Down Hall in Hatfield Heath evolved from a 14th-century monastery, while Leez Priory in Felsted became the home of Richard Rich through his leading role in dissolving the monasteries.

In Saffron Walden, Audley End House was built on the site of Walden Abbey,

founded in the 12th century and whose lands were granted in 1538 to Sir Thomas Audley, Henry VIII's Lord Chancellor. The present house was built some 60 years later by his grandson Thomas Howard.

While we tend to think of religious houses as a bygone era, Pleshey has one that is relatively new and active: its House of Retreat was founded as a convent in the early 1900s and became the first Diocesan Retreat House in England in 1927.



Tilty Abbey remains



Tilty Church



Audley End House



Pleshey Retreat House



Little Dunmow parish church



Down Hall

Talking Bowls...or Something

Much Hadham Bowling Club: Recreation Ground, Much Hadham SG10 6DL

The Case of the Missing Snakes sounds like the title of an old green Penguin whodunit but they really are missing from our Green.

We have not used pesticides on our Green for years and worms and leatherjackets enjoy a peaceful life with us, or they would do if they were not a favoured delicacy of the crow family who dig some surprisingly big holes in our Green to reach their prey. Snakes, as a deterrent, seemed a possible answer and four genuine looking rubbery snakes were strategically placed on the Green. It seemed to be working but ten days later one disappeared - children perhaps? Four days later the other three had gone apart from the front half of one. Could still be children but in true whodunit fashion they're the red-herring and the true culprits are now believed to be the kites. So if you find a rubber snake dropped somewhere, please return it to us! We would be very grateful and our subterranean residents undyingly so.

As for bowling, we are already past the halfway mark in the regional leagues. The Seniors squad is sitting 4th place in the table with 42 points (just 28 points last year) and with tails up we are aiming for a final top 3 spot.

Our Mens evening squad is also doing better than last year but probably not well enough to expect promotion to the next Division. Currently we are awaiting publication of the league tables to see how others are doing.

Meanwhile our friendly matches against other Clubs continue at weekends - sometimes Saturday, sometimes Sunday. These are social events where playing and socialising take priority over winning and they are fun afternoons. All levels, from beginners to experienced players take part with some food and refreshments included after the game.

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Jill Goldsmith
www.eastonlodge.co.uk



Our volunteers have been working hard to add to the range of garden games we provide, ready for visitors on Thursdays through the school summer holidays and our family fun day on **Sunday 17 August**. We reckon croquet is a game for all ages (it can be gentle or aggressive and brutal to opponents, if playing all the rules!). And we all enjoy Connect 4, draughts, bean bag games and others. Together with a lazy stroll around the Gardens, a picnic, a cuppa and a piece of cake, and the chance to buy vegetables for supper, we hope we have plenty on offer for relaxed days out in August. And on Sunday 17 August we will be joined by the Little Easton Alpacas! Adult entry on Thursdays is £5.50 and on Sunday (advance ticket) is £6.00, with free entry for children under 16 years old.

As you would expect, the Gardens are parched, but there is still lots to see and enjoy! The lavender hedges love the heat and sunshine and have been welcoming lots of butterflies and an occasional

hummingbird hawk moth. The roses are also very happy. The new rosebed in the walled kitchen garden is covered in flower, albeit not on long branches; and the perfume from the more established bushes wafts to visitors on a still day. The Italian garden borders have long included drought tolerant shrubs and perennials, such as Phlomis russeliana, Crambe cordifolia, Hylotelephium and ornamental grasses, but we have added further dry area loving plants, including white Gaura lindheimera Whirling Butterflies, Cool Cream Salvia greigii and orange/yellow Helenium Sahin's Early Flowerer. Our volunteers have been watering vulnerable plants and trees as often as they can. And our vegetables are thriving, so we have a steady stream of beans, beetroot, carrots, chard, courgettes and spinach to sell to visitors. Our soft fruit crop is keeping our jammers busy and the plum trees are groaning with fruit to come. We look forward to welcoming you. For more information go to www.eastonlodge.co.uk

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The Hadhams' History Society had a very interesting meeting in June when Alistair Hodgson came along to give a talk on "The History of De Havilands". This talk was so informative regarding the beginning of De Havilands and how it evolved over the years. The meeting was also very well attended.

Our August Meeting will be on the **28th August** and given by Anne Rowe on the "Rabbit Warrens of Hertfordshire". Anne has been to us several times to give talks on various subjects and these

are always so interesting.

Our September Meeting will be on **25th September** - Mike Clark will be giving a talk on "Value of Wills to Historical Research".

We always welcome new members to join us - you will be made very welcome.

We do have an excellent programme arranged and if anyone would like further details of meetings/ programme please do get in touch with me (Kathy Hamilton) katieh69@btinternet.com.

Hadham Cross Congregational Church

PREACHERS FOR SERVICES AT 11am

3rd Aug	Andrew Mayo	Spicer Street, St. Albans
10th Aug	Mike Hillyer	Oakwood Chapel Harlow
17th Aug	Roger Amos	Sawbridgeworth Congregational Church
24th Aug	Alison Ffinch	All Saints Methodist, Stevenage
31st Aug	John Fosker	Therfield Congregational Church

Our next **COFFEE MORNING** will be on **Wednesday 6th August**, 10am- 12 noon. Please do come and join us for coffee/tea cake and a chat.

Our next **AFTERNOON TEA MEETING** will be on **Thursday 28th August**, 2 - 4pm - All are welcome for tea/coffee cake and a chat.

Do come and join us on Sundays at 11am - you will be very welcome.

Church Deacons: Brenda Coleshill 01279 842 800 | Kathy Hamilton 01279 843 756



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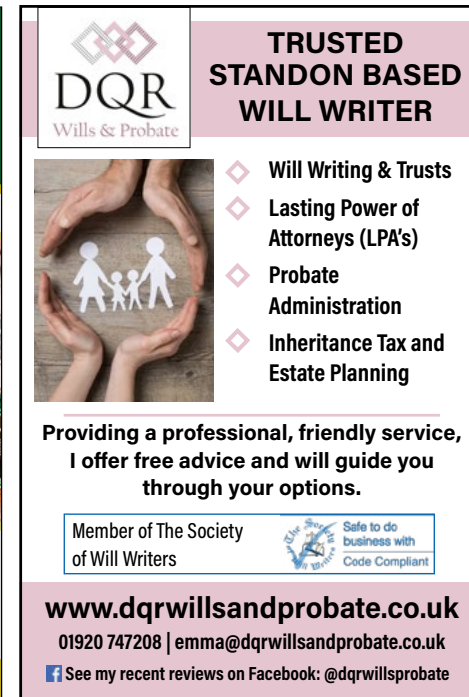
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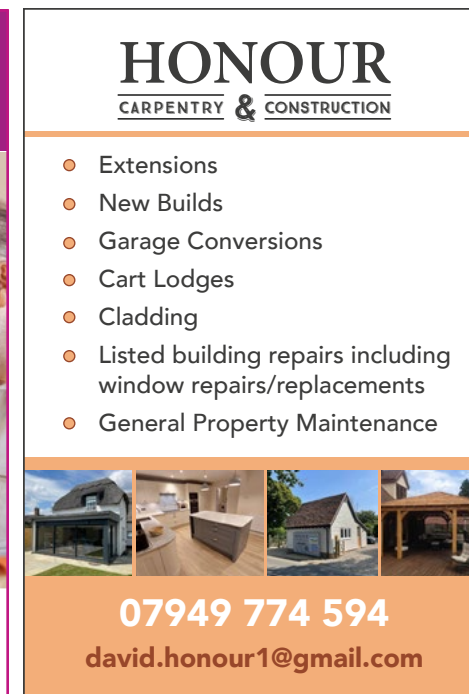
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Rural Ramblings

Cherry Mardell

You would imagine that, at our extremely elderly age, we would have sorted out our bedclothes so late in life... how wrong could you be?

After years of having two single beds, we decided that a change would be nice ... and we purchased a huge double one! That's when the problems really started!

Naturally this meant buying a whole new set of bed linen.... which we attempted to do locally... but Bishop's Stortford isn't the biggest of towns, and the shops are really quite "small"-minded!

So we journeyed to where there is more of a selection and found ourselves in Cheshunt where M&S rules supreme and super sizes are not uncommon!

We found ourselves a super-king sized duvet and a suitably massive bottom sheet and returned exhausted and quite a bit poorer!

It was only days later, that we put our new sleeping gear on the bed - only to find that the brand new duvet was far from that and had obviously had one previous, devious, owner, who had returned the unwanted item very carefully... and the receiving assistant

had not bothered to check the virgin newness of the article!

Ten years ago you would have seen me turn the car around the drive right back to complain bitterly about the whole thing. Now age is against me and I took the coward's way out.... so the whole thing has had to go straight into the washing machine!

Not the best of starts!

This saga, I fear, is just beginning!

And I am already worried about what's going to go wrong next!



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St Andrew's Much Hadham	5-5:30pm Benefice Said Eucharist <i>Tayo</i>		9:15am Benefice Holy Communion <i>Tayo</i> 5-5:30pm Benefice Quiet Church <i>Tayo</i>		
St Cecilia's Little Hadham	9:15am Benefice Holy Communion <i>Tayo</i>			9:15am Benefice Holy Communion <i>Tayo</i>	
St Mary's Albury		9:15am Benefice Holy Communion <i>Tayo</i>			
St Thomas Perry Green					9:15am Benefice Holy Communion <i>Tayo</i>

OTHER SERVICES:

Thursday 28th August

10am

Little Hadham Communion

Tayo

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All are welcome to join our services