



LITTLE HADHAM PARISH NEWS

JANUARY 2024

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

Letter from the Rectory

Father Simon Vivian

At this time of year, I always get asked whether I'm going to be making any New Year resolutions. Yes - I have. And - yes - it's hopefully one we can all make.

Besides being a follower of Jesus, the world defines a Christian as someone who feeds the hungry, someone who clothes the naked, and someone who visits the sick and those in prison. Their aims derived from the latter third of chapter 25 of Matthew's gospel.

When you look closely at the history of the early Christian community in Jerusalem - before they were called 'Christian' - you see an exciting and growing Church. And as they grew, they became more and more concerned about helping those in need. That community ministered to people's material needs, voluntarily taking gifts to those in need who were hungry, thirsty, and needed clothing, and it seems there weren't any needy people among that early Christian community whose needs weren't met.

And so this year I want to try and reach out on more of a personal level to support those in need. I'm very conscious that my role requires a lot of sitting at my computer, either answering necessary administrative emails or staring at a blank sheet of Microsoft Word waiting for the Holy Spirit to fill my heart and head with words to be published or preached.

There are people all over this world who are hurting, just waiting for someone to reach out to them in love and care. It doesn't even have to be in person. A phone call or a card through the post can be a great boost to someone who's struggling. It shows that they're thought of and cherished.

Of course, we can't help everyone, and there are plenty of schemes, benefits, organisations, and charities who do wonderful work in supporting those in need. But it can also be too easy to think, "That's not my job. They're not my responsibility!" After all, on many occasions, a person doesn't need an organisation or a programme to help them. They simply need a sympathetic ear and a prayerful response. They simply need a little bit of our time. It's true, as I say, that we can't help everyone. But that should never stop us from helping someone. It's our Christian duty to care, and God is disappointed when we fail to help our fellow human beings if it's in our power and ability.

So, that's my New Year resolution which we hopefully might all be able to sign up to.

Please pray for me as I go about my ministry, as I pray for you.

Yours in Christ,



Fr Simon

LITTLE HADHAM PARISH NEWS

Rector of the Parish:

Vacant

Administrator to the Rector:

01279 842 609
muchhadhamrectory@gmail.com

Churchwarden:

Karin Green

01279 771 532
gouldburn.green@outlook.com

Editor:

Anne Wright

littlehadhampn@gmail.com

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

www.riverashchurches.org.uk

EDITORIAL DEADLINE

All articles for inclusion, sponsorship and copy 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.com

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

Cover Photo: 2022 Snowman - Bury Green © Andrea Taylor

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.

There were no entries in the registers last month.

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

6th February	5th March	2nd April	7th May	4th June
2nd July	3rd September	1st October	5th November	3rd December

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

Tuesday 6th February – presentation regarding AMAFest held in Little Hadham July 2023

We are hoping the Executive Member for Planning and Growth, East Herts Council will present the findings from the enquiry into the AMAFest held in Little Hadham in July 2023. Please watch the noticeboards, Facebook, and the PC website for further details.

Parish Council update

The Parish Council have had a successful 2023 and have a lot of exciting plans for 2024. We have secured funding for a number of Village projects, including improvements to the community orchard, village pump and chalk stream and points of interest boards, which we hope will benefit each of the Village Hamlets.

There has also been a lot going on down at the allotments. All of the plots are now taken and hopefully everyone will have a very successful Spring planting. If you are interested in taking on a plot, please do speak to Councillor Westlake who will be

able to place you on the waiting list.

Other achievements this year include work at the layby opposite Hadham Hall to clear it of fly tipping and arrange for CCTV and signage and we have just held a very successful festive village drinks event. We have also reignited our good working relationship with Herts CC Highways department and continue to work towards highways improvement in the village, including speed reduction measures on the old A120.

All that remains is for me to thank all the Councillors (and especially our trusty clerk Carole) for their hard work throughout the year and wish you all a happy and healthy 2024! Councillor Kent (Chair of Little Hadham Parish Council)

Parish Council Meet and Greet – held in the Village Hall on Sunday, 10th December 2023

There was a good turn out of 24 villagers who attended from the Ford, Bury Green, Albury Road, Acreman Street, Church End, including some children.



Issues raised were how to protect trees in the parish and about the 120-year-old oak cut down in Mill House Field. Also, how to find out about the Sign of the Times festival and express their views. A suggestion to get the event organiser to a PC meeting in the new year.

This event provided an opportunity for villagers to meet with the Parish Council, Village Hall Committee members and chat amongst themselves, whilst enjoying festive refreshments.

Round Up of 2023

Litter Picking grant ceased – 31st March 2023

The village no longer has a paid litter picker, so it's up to us all to monitor our area and pick up any litter as we see it. You can always join the 'Adopt an Area' scheme, which is run by East Herts Council. They will provide you with a litter grabber, high viz jacket and rubbish bags. East Herts Council continue to empty the rubbish bins, but do not pick up litter.

AMA Fest – Silver Leys Polo Club – Saturday 1st July 2023

awaiting response from Executive Member for Planning and Growth

Stansted Noise Action Plan – Little Hadham Parish Council responded on behalf of the village:

The Parish is under the noise preferred routes for departures on 22 and arrivals on 04. LHPC considers the noise action plan ("NAP") to be deficient in three aspects:

1. Noise is considered in absolute terms rather than the direct impact on households.
2. LHPC urges Stansted to prohibit with immediate effect the use of the noisiest aircraft (QC4) on night flights.
3. LHPC does not understand how a NAP can be proposed and yet fail to materially take account of the airspace modernisation programme in progress. In LHPC's opinion, the NAP will be out of date within months as a result of airspace modernisation.

First Apple Pressing Day – September 17th in the Community Orchard

A good turnout of enthusiastic people for the apple pressing day. Was a very good day and something we will do next year. Residents turned up to see what was going on. This will be repeated in 2024.

Post Bypass update

Speeding down the old A120 is clearly the biggest highways issue for the villagers and potential ways forward are under discussion: including pinch points, chicanes, and speed cameras. These measures are proposed to be completed within a year – and would be a reasonable timeframe for speed reduction and traffic calming measures to have been put in. So, watch this space. Other areas being looked into include a potential pedestrian crossing at the Smithy and consultation on further works to the crossroads.

Fly tipping

There has been a lot of involvement with the enforcement officer. There is now a sign up on the A120 layby to say there is CCTV. Apparently if an area is clean and tidy it is less likely to be dumped. Talk about getting the layby adopted by the village, perhaps a competition as to who has the cleanest layby compared with other villages. Cllr Mardell is currently clearing the layby to keep it tidy.

UK Prosperity Grant - £13,200

Little Hadham Parish Council applied for an improvement grant for various areas in the village. We were fortunate enough to be granted a sum for the following projects:

- Refurbishment of village sign and village pump, plus reflective signs on the village memorial, gateway flower boxes at the 4 entrances to the village
- Unique Information boards in all the hamlets with referencing points of interest in that vicinity, also showing routes around the parish, to inform on all areas in the village.
- Pudding stone information board
- Funding for improving the community orchard.
- Chalk stream works – bat boxes, swallow boxes to be installed.
- Communal seating on green spaces
- Bus stop refurbishment
- We applied for an ACV for the Community Orchard – which has been granted.



**D. SPARWELL
ROOFING**

25-year guarantee to all new pitched roofs
and a 15-year guarantee on all new flat roofs

Free no obligation quotations

- Flat Roofing Repairs, Cement Work, Lead Work, Chimneys
- Facias, Gutters & Soffits, VELUX installation, Emergency call out service
- Pitch Roofs, Tiling, Slating

Tel: 07852 576 194 Email: sales@dsparwellroofing.co.uk



We Need You!

The individual hamlet Information Boards provide a wonderful opportunity to open this up to anyone who might have local knowledge they can share.

We are intending to base the text loosely on the information we put on the village walking maps a few years ago, but it would be wonderful to add some different information too, facts people may not know about their hamlet, or historical information. If you have any information to share, please contact us via the editor at: littlehadhampn@gmail.com.

We also need bright, stunning photographs, showing off our lovely hamlet's at their best, or showcasing specific features or wildlife of the hamlet so if there are any budding photographers out there, please get out and about in our village and take some shots, and send them to us, again via the editor. We hope to start this project early next year.

CHLOÉ BURROUGHS REFLEXOLOGY



Relaxing and Rebalancing Reflexology
Treatments

Advanced Facial Reflexology

www.chloeburroughsreflexology.com

Phone: 07863346212

Email:

Info@chloeburroughsreflexology.com

Treatment Room in Little Hadham

*Come and experience the power of
reflexology*



attend2health

- Chiropractors
- Physiotherapy
- Osteopathy
- Chiropody & Podiatry
- Sports Massage
- Acupuncture
- Hypnotherapy
- Nutritional Therapy
- GP Services
- Yoga, Pilates & Tai Chi

**£20
OFF**

YOUR FIRST APPOINTMENT
WITH THIS ADVERT

01763 87 80 87

www.attend2health.co.uk

27 High Street Buntingford SG9 9AB

*Valid for Chiropractic, Osteopathy and Physiotherapy New Patients only.

Award-winning Clinic

clerklittlehadham@gmail.com 01920 870 809 | 07825 011 975



100 YEARS
WOOD BROS
ENGLAND 1924

**20%
OFF**
with this
advert



UPHOLSTERY | CABINET | FABRIC | ACCESSORIES

Come and visit our Ware showroom to see a huge range of our bestselling cabinet and upholstery

Old Charm

Harris Tweed

Choose from a wide selection of upholstery designs in tweeds, velvets, leathers and more...

Online woodbros.co.uk Showroom in Ware

Marsh Lane, London Road, Ware, Hertfordshire, SG12 9QH
01920 469241 Terms and Conditions see instore for details

Sargies

Garden and Countryside
Services



- * Hedge Cutting & Mowing
- * Fencing
- * Tree Surgery & Stump removal
- * Sheds & Buildings
- * Decking, Patios & Driveways
- * Ponds & Ditches
- * Field Maintenance
- * Hard & Soft Landscaping
- * Seasonal Maintenance
- * General Maintenance

All Jobs Considered

Contact Tim or Jack Sargent

Tel. 07977 264 204

@. Sargies@gmail.com



**CJ Gardening
Services**

For all your gardening requirements

Call CJ Gardening 07713 790545

For a reliable, conscientious and trustworthy service. Choice of male or female gardeners. Customer recommendations available.

Pruning - Planting - Weeding - Fencing -
Jet washing - Seasonal tidy ups

Call Johnny on 07713 790545 for a friendly chat about your requirements.



**Rose Yoga
Studio**

YOGA CLASSES

I am a Power Yoga Teacher. I incorporate poses that will bring strength and flexibility to your body along with a sense of inner peace and well-being to your mind. Start your journey today.

To suit all levels - Offering:

- Power • Vinyasa Flow • Slow Flow • Yin
- Workshops and Sanctuary Days
- Tailored 1-2-1 Option

Please call to discuss your needs

☎ 07860 929379

✉ jane@janeroseyoga.com

🌐 janeroseyoga.com

📱 janeroseyoga

Visit me at my studio in Standon



**HOWE GREEN
HOUSE SCHOOL**

Independent Co-ed Prep School for 4 to 11 years
and Little Oaks Nursery School for 2 to 4 years

www.howegreenhouseschool.co.uk
01279 657706

Little Hadham Primary School

Sinead Connolly, Head Teacher



As expected, December at Little Hadham Primary School was a dizzying blur of Christmas activities and fun (and learning, of course!)

We started the month with our annual Christmas Bazaar hosted by the Friends PTA. The school was transformed into a traditional Christmas market with children busking, Father Christmas passing out presents, and lots of stalls, games and crafting activities. Thank you to everyone who came to join us and to the Friends for organizing – we raised an astonishing £3,150 for the school!

At school, children from Beech to Willow class (Years 1 through 6) learned all about the United Nations 17 Global Sustainable Development Goals for a 'greener, fairer, better world by 2030' with our Global Goals advent calendar. We hope that learning about these goals will help motivate and inspire our pupils to become informed and active citizens and build the world they want to grow up in.



We also saw some amazing Christmas performances from our Early Years, Year 1 and Year 2 pupils, and were blown away by the range of talents that performers from around the school brought to our Little Hadham's Got Talent Show.



To celebrate the end of the year, the whole school attended a pantomime and enjoyed our annual Christmas lunch in our festive jumpers and paper crowns, while Willow class (Year 6) took to the ice for some skating.

We're eager to welcome pupils back after the Christmas break, refreshed and ready to take on the rest of the school year. Happy New Year to all!




High quality creative education for children from 3-11

Emphasis on nurturing each child as an individual.

Care provision from 7.45am to 6.00pm including excellent all day nursery.

"A positive active ethos that strives for excellent personal and academic development."

By far the best way to find out about a school is to visit it.

Please phone us on 01279 771285 to make an appointment.







OTHER PRODUCTS TOO! JUST ASK



OVER 25 YEARS OF QUALITY SERVICE

CONSULTATION * INSTALLATION
RENOVATION * PERSONAL SERVICE

andrewbanks.co.uk
01279 626389

BOOK YOUR 1ST CLASS FOR £5

YOU TIME!

Come and join us for a Reformer Pilates, Yoga, or Barre class. At our beautiful studio at Wickham Hall, Bishop's Stortford.

Call/Book online
www.akashawellness.co.uk
01279 757633



Pesteco
Fast, effective pest control

If you have a pest problem we have the solution!

Don't delay - Call us today

01279 842 881 | 07773 252 000






DPS Handyman Services

Local friendly handyman
Reasonable rates
References available

Tel: Simon - 07970 905360
Email: simon@dpshandyman.co.uk

Little Hadham Gardening Club

Anne Willett

There is no meeting in January but please remember to put the **20th February 2024** in your diary as the next meeting is our Ploughmans Lunch. More details next month. The Xmas Wreath workshop was well attended and an enjoyable time was had by all.

If you have recently bought a Poinsettia or been given one for Xmas the following article might be too late, but you can save it for next year.



Poinsettia, *Euphorbia pulcherrima*, is an attractive house plant with dark green leaves and leafy red 'bracts' that surround the green-yellow flowers in December and January. They're commonly used to decorate the home at Christmas. Native to Mexico, poinsettias can be tricky to keep alive after Christmas and most are thrown away after the red bracts have faded and the festivities have ended. However, with a little care and attention it's possible to keep your poinsettia alive throughout the year and even encourage red bracts and flowers to form in time for the following Christmas.

How to grow poinsettia

Grow poinsettia in a draught-free spot with bright, indirect light and a temperature of around 13-15°C. Water sparingly, typically when the surface of the compost has started to dry out. Mist the leaves and bracts regularly to increase humidity and keep the colourful bracts looking their best for longer. After Christmas, feed your poinsettia monthly with a high potash liquid feed, such as a tomato feed.

If buying your poinsettia from a garden centre or supermarket, make sure it's in good condition and that no leaves are wilting, as wilting leaves can be a sign that they've been stored in too-cold conditions. Avoid buying poinsettias that have been displayed near a door or even on a petrol station forecourt – they simply won't last.

Take care to ensure it's well protected on the journey home, making sure its delicate leaves aren't exposed to freezing temperatures – ask the shop assistant to wrap it up or cover it in a plastic bag if you need to. Don't leave your poinsettia in the car for longer than is absolutely necessary as temperatures can quickly tumble and your poinsettia will suffer.

Place your poinsettia in a bright, draught-free spot out of direct sunlight, ideally with an average temperature of 13-15°C. Keep it away from windows, where temperatures can drop significantly at night, and from doorways and open fireplaces, which can be draughty.



Water only if the surface of the compost is dry, and continue to water sparingly. Increase humidity by spraying gently with water every few days. This will help keep the leaves and bracts in tip-top condition. Dust the leaves as and when you need to, to keep your poinsettia looking its best but also ensuring its leaves can photosynthesise properly, so it remains as healthy as possible.

Problem solving

The most common problem when growing poinsettias is that the leaves wilt and drop off. This is a sign of cold conditions. Remember poinsettias are from Mexico and need to be kept at a minimum temperature of 13°C, away

from draughts (including near doors, fireplaces or single-glazed windows). Unfortunately, some poinsettias are kept in poor conditions in the shop or garden centre, and the leaves start to wilt when you get them home. Sadly there's not much you can do for your poinsettia at this stage. Always buy your poinsettia from a reputable supplier and remember to protect it from cold conditions on the journey home.

Other problems, such as grey mould, can result from over-watering. Make sure you water your poinsettia only when the surface of the compost is dry, and mist the leaves regularly to maintain humidity around the plant.

**Caring Companions**
Promoting Independence. Lessening Isolation.

- Local team supporting elderly people
- Companionship in your home
- Practical help with day to day living
- Personal, tailored and flexible support

Carolyn Westlake 07827 331 987

**STORTFORD PARK PHYSIOTHERAPY**
Based at Wickham Hall CM23 1JG
Contact us for appointments or information
Tel: Diana 07506 693 158
Email: dianastortpark@gmail.com
Web: stortfordpark.physio

Millennium Wood Update

Jono Forgham

jonoforgham@gmail.com



A fine time in Millennium Wood the Sunday before the Christmas weekend. Trees were decorated with baubles and twinkling lights. A bonfire warmed folk and marshmallows were toasted upon the embers.

Mulled wine, hot chocolate and mince pies were served as the super Bishop's Stortford Ukulele Society played tunes for 45 minutes. The event concluded with a sweet and chocolate hunt for the youngsters and two bottles of wine hidden in the wood having been donated by Tesco, were found by Natsha and Janine.



A pleasing attendance made this a really wonderful occasion to kick start the Christmas period.

Thanks to Wendy, Andy, Mick, Judi, Dave, Tina, Rozie and Anna-Maria for helping to set up the gazebos, hang the lights and baubles, collect the firewood and organise the seating around the fire.





DQR
Wills & Probate

**TRUSTED
STANDON BASED
WILL WRITER**




- ◆ Will Writing & Trusts
- ◆ Lasting Power of Attorneys (LPA's)
- ◆ Probate Administration
- ◆ Inheritance Tax and Estate Planning

**Providing a professional, friendly service,
I offer free advice and will guide you
through your options.**

Member of The Society
of Will Writers


 Safe to do
business with
Code Compliant


www.dqrwillsandprobate.co.uk
01920 747208 | emma@dqrwillsandprobate.co.uk
See my recent reviews on Facebook: @dqrwillsprobate





Supalawns
Professional Lawn Care


Locally based lawn care
services and bespoke
treatment programmes


Specialists in:


 Aeration

 Weed & Moss Control


 Scarification


 Fertiliser Application


 Top Dressing


 Disease Diagnosis


Professional, safe and efficient pest solutions:

 Lawn Pests

 Rats & Mice

 Moles

 Bees & Wasps



+44 (0) 7725415826 | info@supalawns.com | supalawns.com

VST

PAINTING & DECORATING



Laurence Baldwin

laurence@vstdecorating.co.uk

07989 968 278

Your resident decorator

Fully Insured

Bishop's Stortford Chimney Services



Office: 01279 771462
Mobile: 07990 770883

- Chimney sweeping
- Stove installation
- Maintenance & repairs
- Pots & cowl fitted
- Certificates issued
- Free estimates

bishopstortfordchimneyservices.co.uk
richard.mardell@yahoo.co.uk



WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE ADVERTISING HERE?

Reach over **500 households every month**, (we don't take a break like many other local papers, we publish 12 issues per year, rain or shine!) plus we give our advertisers the opportunity to write an editorial piece to introduce your business to the village.

Prices start from just £9 per issue for an 1/8th page ad, this size (1/4 page) is £15 per issue or £150 for the year as there is a discount for taking out an ad subscription for a year (12 for the price of 10).

Please contact the editor for details:
littlehadhampn@gmail.com

The Costume Workshop

costume hire
hand-made originals
for
Fancy Dress Parties
Amateur Dramatics
Pantomime
and specialising in
Period costumes for
adults and children to
wear on educational
trips and in history
lessons

open by arrangement
01279 771223, 07973 899497
Home Farm Chapel Lane Little Hadham
www.thecostumeworkshop.co.uk



- Bespoke ponds & water features
- Fish ponds, wildlife ponds, swim ponds
- Child safe streams & pondless waterfalls

Brook House, Albury
01279 771 084 | 07889 655 908
www.creativecascades.co.uk
enquiries@creativecascades.co.uk

DO YOU NEED A GRAPHIC DESIGNER?

Hello! I'm a local graphic designer. I specialise in helping small businesses reach their full potential and attract new audiences.

Contact me on
anne@thehumblineline.com
to talk about your project.

Branding & Logo Design
Brochures, Leaflets, Posters, Reports
Packaging
Adverts & Marketing
Web Design & Social Media
Copywriting & Typesetting



www.thehumblineline.com | anne@thehumblineline.com | @thehumblineline

the **humblineline**
graphic design



THE NAGS HEAD

OPENING HOURS 12:15 TILL 22:00 (23:00 weekends) 7 DAYS A WEEK

A WARM WELCOME AWAITS

Built in 1595, this pub still retains its character. It is a popular and welcoming country dining pub with small linked heavily beamed rooms.

High tables set in the lower bar with a hand selected portfolio of ales and excellent quality wines. The restaurant is down a couple of steps which is popular with tourists, ramblers and locals alike. The garden area at the front benefits from all day sun and 2 newly developed rear courtyard gardens act as a suntrap throughout the day.

Fine Indian cuisine: be prepared to relax and experience authentic dishes from the many regions of India in an appealing setting, with hospitable service.

WE PROVIDE A FREE HOME DELIVERY SERVICE WITHIN 5 MILES

Sunday buffet from 12:15 to 17:30 we display 15 dishes eat as much as you like, £14.95 per adult, £8.95 per children.



The Nags Head, The Ford, Chapel Lane, Little Hadham, SG11 2AX
01279 771 555 | www.nagsheadlittlehadham.co.uk

Little Hadham Village Hall News

Joan Mckinlay

www.littlehadhamvillagehall.com



Firstly, a BIG thank you to everyone from The Hadham's and surrounding areas who have supported the Village Hall in 2023. We have enjoyed seeing many new faces over the past weeks and month's particularly at our Welcome Café and we look forward to seeing everyone again in the new year. It cannot be underestimated how important your voluntary contributions are along with the grant funding applications we apply for over the course of the year in support of village hall improvements and activities. An enormous thank you too, to all our hardworking volunteers who have worked tirelessly again this year to ensure that everything happens as it should and runs smoothly.

Christmas Festivities were particularly well received with Christmas Lunch on Tuesday 12th December, being

served to 48 seated guests and we were delighted members of, 'Just Love to Sing' led by Jenny Salmon, were able to volunteer their time to entertain us with their joyous Christmas songs. The Welcome Café was open as usual on the Wednesday with more Christmas lunches and our monthly Community Breakfast took on the seasonal Christmas theme on Thursday 14th December, catering for another 40 plus guests.

With the support of the local community, the management committee has been able to achieve a great deal this year. We are particularly proud of the Welcome Café, supported by your generous donations, HCF and Clarion Futures grant funding. We have also been able to offer regular support to those bereaved through our Bereavement group and host a Scam Awareness



session, presented by Stuart Orton of Citizens Advice. We are very grateful for the support of Citizens Advice, NHS social prescribers and Home Instead, who go above and beyond with their time and resources. If you haven't already popped by for a coffee and a chat, it is a great opportunity to make new friends and find out about everything that's going on in the village hall.

For 2024, our **Air Fryer demonstrations are back on Monday 8th January at 7pm**. Look out for future demonstrations on the first Monday of the month. Our **Welcome Café is back weekly from Wednesday 10th January**, with a light lunch available and **Digital Inclusion support at the workshop from 2pm**. Our monthly **Community Breakfast is on Thursday 11th**, booking is essential, so please get in touch via email. If you would like to book into any of our events or receive direct notifications of 'What's On', please join

our emailing list by contacting: vice-chair@littlehadhamvillagehall.com.

As the village hall gets busier, we have invested in new technology to help support our hall users and hirers and make managing village hall business a little less time consuming for our volunteers. Our new website and booking system, is progressing well, and we have arrangements in place to increase our WIFI capacity too. We are always on the look out for skilled volunteers, so if you have an interest in technology or just have time to spare, please let us know.

TRACEY'S
Travel

Four-Seater Estate for all occasions
Pre-Booked only

For a reliable, personal service

Office: **01279 843344** Mobile: **07966 392444**

Much Hadham Based

If you would like to know more about anything in this article please phone Jan Williamson on: **01279 771 272** or email: chairvillagehall@littlehadham.org.uk

What's On in January @ LH Village Hall

See website www.littlehadhamvillagehall.com for latest details

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

MONDAY'S

Mum's Matter (Mother & Baby Group) **10 – 11:30am**

TUESDAY'S

Brownies **5:45 – 7pm** **Term Time Only**

WEDNESDAY'S

Welcome Cafe **10am – 2pm** No need to book just drop in and enjoy!
Re-opens at 10am on Wednesday 10th Jan 2024

Chair Yoga **11am – 11:45** Mark Druman 07368 293 062
Resumes on 10th Jan 24

Digital Improvers drop in **2 – 3:30pm** Jan 01279 771 272
Resumes on 10th Jan 24

Fitsteps **6 – 7pm** Jacqui: 07731 454 228

THURSDAY'S

Olio food collection **9:30am** Tara and James - rear of VH collection

Mike's Bowls Club **2 – 4pm**

Panto Rehearsal **7:30 – 10pm**

FRIDAY'S

Fancy Feet children's dance class **4 – 5:30pm** **Term Time Only** Hannah 07538 262 835

Indoor Bowls **7:30 – 10pm** **except 2nd Friday**

FORTNIGHTLY

Tuesday 2nd, 16th & 30th **2 – 4pm** Turn up & Play Scrabble (£3 per session)
Annette: 07926 088 202

Wednesday 10th & 24th **12:30 – 1:30pm** Tai Chi (Sarah Baker 07740 701 102)

Wednesday 17th & 31st **12:30 – 1:30pm** Virtual Cycle Studio (joshua.hardy@aitc.org.uk)

MONTHLY

8th **7 - 9pm** Air Fryer Demonstration (1st Monday in the month)

Book through Jan 07710 325 363

11th **10 – 12 noon** Community Breakfast morning 01279 771 272

12th **7pm** Red Chair Cinema Club

Membership required, contact: redchaircinema@littlehadhamvillagehall.com

GOLDILOCKS AND THE THREE BEARS

Fri 19th | Sat 20th | Sun 21st (matinee)
Thu 25th | Fri 26th | Sat 27th January 2024

LITTLE HADHAM VILLAGE HALL

BOX OFFICE
01279 842315

www.ticketsource.co.uk/lhpg

An amateur production by arrangement with Tom Whalley
Script adapted by Darrell Williams & Sophie Mardell

NOTICEBOARD



Lost Cat?

Is this your cat? Has been hanging around Green Street for a number of weeks.

Please call Jo to be reunited: 07900 241 488

Little Hadham Charity

What a great time was had by all at the L.H. over 60 Christmas Tea on 14th Dec. The hall was decorated for Christmas with crackers and wine on the tables and a sumptuous array of food. The trustee's would like to thank Wendy and her helpers for making this lovely afternoon possible.

Hopefully we will be able to fund another event next Christmas.

Wishing you all a Happy New year.

*The Trustees
Little Hadham Charity.*

 **Herts
Domestic
Abuse
Helpline**

08 088 088 088

**We're only a
phone call away**

For survivors, friends, family,
colleagues and professionals.
Our team is here to listen and
signpost you to the help you need.

Freephone 08 088 088 088

9am - 9pm Weekdays
9am - 4pm Weekends and Bank Holidays

Confidential, anonymous and non-judgemental

**If you or someone
close to you is
dying, you can
talk to us**

We know that facing the end of life
can leave you feeling isolated and alone.
The Anne Robson Trust helpline volunteers
are here to listen and support you.

Call us on
0808 801 0688

We're here for you, if you or a loved
one are facing the end of life at home,
in a hospital, care home or hospice.

To find out more, please visit
www.annerobsontrust.org.uk

AnneRobson
Trust



MOWTIVATED

TREE SURGERY & GROUNDS MAINTENANCE

AVAILABLE FOR:

- Crown Reduction/Thinning - Tree Removal
- Pollarding - Felling - Site Clearance -
- Fencing - Grass & Hedge Cutting -
- Contract Maintenance



CALL OR TEXT FOR A FREE QUOTE

Tom Cottam

TEL: 01279 850257 MOB: 07834 785716

@MOWTIVATED.TC



SKIN AND BEAUTY CLINIC
BASED IN CHURCH END, LITTLE HADHAM

- Advanced Skin Treatments
- Medical Grade Skincare
- Beauty Treatments

Open Monday-Saturday By appointment only

07507 271 508 | info@proteaskinandbeauty.co.uk | [@proteaskinandbeauty](https://www.instagram.com/proteaskinandbeauty)



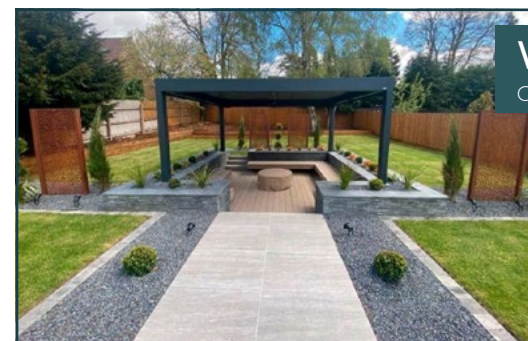
Somnium

Bespoke contemporary water features

- Finishes include steel & aluminium
- Built-in eco filtration designed by us

01279 771 084

www.somniumdesign.co.uk



Willow Landscaping

Garden Design & landscape builders

- Patios
- Planters
- Raised beds
- Steps
- Paths
- Grading

Design drawings
from £350 + vat

01279 771 084

www.willow-land-scapes.co.uk



Traditional Pole and Clear
Span Frame marquees for
any occasion

www.eclecticmarquees.co.uk

01279 655386

07548 704236



Need a helping hand?

We provide a wide range of IT services
and solutions all tailored to your
individual needs.

From system set up and virus
management to repairs and up skilling
on the latest technology.

Offsite and home support available.

Tracy Walker - IT Consultant

07521 977997

www.rebootitsolutions.co.uk



DANIEL ROBINSON & SONS

Independent Family Funeral Directors & Monumental Masons

Est 1892

Always here when you need us...

- Arrangements in the comfort of your own home, if preferred
- Private Chapels of Rest
- Prepaid funeral planning services
- Traditional & contemporary funerals to suit your wishes



79/81 South Street
BISHOP'S STORTFORD
01279 655477

3 Bullfields
SAWBRIDGEWORTH
01279 722476

enquiries@drobinson.co.uk ~ www.drobinson.co.uk

Nature Round Up from 2023

Jono Forgham

jonoforgham@gmail.com

A lot of my time has been spent in Stocking Wood this year so I thought I would round off 2023 with a selection of photos from this superb habitat where I have now recorded over 950 species of everything apart from lichen and mosses, which I shall be tackling in the forthcoming months.

I have come across several rare for Herts creatures and one that I found earlier this month that is rare on the national scale, a 4 Spotted Ladybird, *Nephus quadrimaculatus*. This is invariably found on ivy.

When the survey concludes, sometime in early Summer, I am anticipating a total of in excess of 1500 species of birds, flora, insects, fish and aquatic invertebrates along with centipedes etc. So far, been a really enjoyable time finding so many creatures. Photos here of a few rarer ones for East Herts.



Bombylius major



Red headed cardinal beetle



Vestal



Platycis minutus



Nomada bee sp



False Ladybird

Carabeus violaceus
Violet ground beetle

Purple Hairstreak

Silver Washed Fritillary

Red Kite

St Cecilia's Church Bells

Quasi



Did you know that there is an annual Japanese buddhist bell ringing ceremony?

It follows Japanese custom in which the 'end of the year bell' ("joia no kone", translated as "bell bring in the light") is struck 108 times before midnight on New Year's Eve.

Symbolically it welcomes in the New Year and represents the purification of the 108 mortal desires / human faults (bono). It is a huge single bell with many inscriptions which include Buddhist texts containing information about the bell's creation, such as the artists name, date it was cast and the temple it is from. There is a reinforced spot on the bell for a large wooden pole (similar to a telegraph pole) to strike - the spot is often decorated with a Buddhist lotus or chrysanthemum motif. A horizontal wooden pole is suspended by ropes to the ceiling and is pulled back and also has many ropes attached to

allow it to be rung. There is a team of Monks, each with a rope that pull the pole backwards and forwards without ever touching the bell. Only on the command of the Abbot, the head of the Monastery is the bell finally struck, when he also pulls on his rope with all his might to allow the bell to be struck. Through the 2 hour plus ceremony the Monks chant and a service is given.

The sound of the bell changes depending on how the bell has been struck, it often resonates with a gentle hum that lasts for a period of time after the bell is struck.

Wishing you all a very happy New Year, and, if any of you out there wish to try English church bell ringing, don't just put it on your 'to do' list, DO it!

Contact us through the link in www.tinyurl.com/riverash

Happy New Year.

Stansted's
Best Kept Secret

Gallery @ MOUNTFITCHET

Paintings by
Anne McCormack RI SWA

Viewing details & opening times visit:
annemccormack.com

**M Perkins
Decorators**
Interior & Exterior Decorating

Established 25yrs+
Quality Workmanship
References Available
Competitive Prices

**Tel: 01279-771192
Mobile: 07932-928148**

Email: contact@mpdecorators.com
Website: www.mperkinsdecorators.com

ORGANISE ME
happy
20% off your first booking

YOUR LIFE MADE SIMPLE
Decluttering and organising wardrobes, playrooms, kitchens, moving home

Natalie Tyson, Professional Organiser
07725 218 016 hello@organisemehappy.com
www.organisemehappy.com

Chillermatic
MOBILE FRIDGE & FREEZER HIRE

We also have mobile fridge and freezer units available for hire.
Tel: 01279 504638
www.chillermatic.com
Email: info@chillermatic.com

[f](#) [t](#)

I'm Rachel!
"Rachel is reliable, kind and has so much love for my pup just like he is her own, we're so thankful we found her!"
Shelley, Rachel's Mum

Rachel's Pooch Pals
DOG WALKING SERVICES

I'm Rachel!
Hello, I'm Rachel!

Your local Dog Walker
I'm here to help with your Pooches.
I offer dog walking, doggy day care, pop in and play & sleepovers!
Get in touch to see how I can help you.

"We are so lucky to have Rachel! We know our pooch is in safe hands when we are away! She looks after him as if he is her own!"
Reneah, Rafe's Mum

**Fully Insured Dog Walker
Canine First Aid Trained**

Got in touch today:
RACHELSPOOCHPALS@GMAIL.COM
MOBILE: 07753162561
[f](#) [t](#) [i](#)
[@RACHELSPOOCHPALS](https://www.instagram.com/RACHELSPOOCHPALS)

I'm Rafe

SCAN ME

Luxury Toilet Hire (UK) Ltd



Whether you are arranging a wedding, private party or corporate event, let Luxury Toilet Hire (UK) Ltd provide you with the perfect toilet facility to make your occasion a memorable success.

Tel: 01279 504638 or 01371 873003

Web: www.luxurytoilethireltd.co.uk

Email: info@luxurytoilethire.co.uk

We also hire out mobile fridge and freezer trailers.

S.Southgate Carpentry Services

Free Estimates with no obligation

Kitchen Fitting & Tiling

Door Hanging

Skirtings / Architraves

Wood Flooring

General DIY & Maintenance

22 Years' Carpentry experience

07971 228735

[s.southgatecarpentryservices](mailto:s.southgatecarpentryservices@hotmail.co.uk)

@hotmail.co.uk



HERTFORDSHIRE AND ESSEX
FLOATATION CENTRE

BOOK NOW

01279 598593

www.thefloatretreat.co.uk
thefloatretreat@gmail.com

BENEFITS OF FLOATATION

- MUSCLE REPAIR
- STRESS & ANXIETY RELIEF
- MEDITATION
- RELIEVE INSOMNIA
- PAIN MANAGEMENT
- PREGNANCY



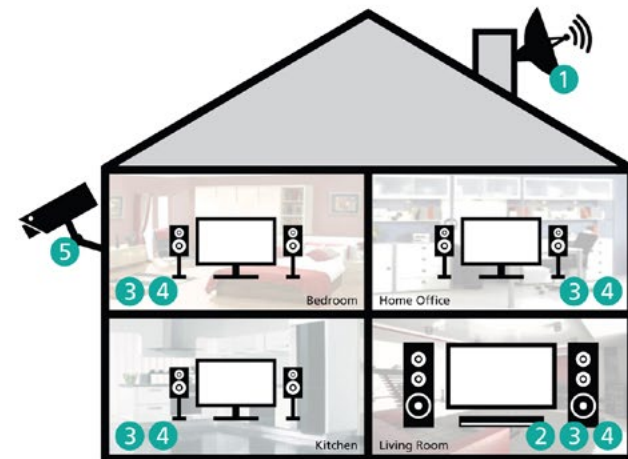
10% off
YOUR FIRST FLOAT
USE CODE: FLOAT 10

Unit 13C Church End Estate, Church End, Little Hadham, Ware, Herts SG11 2DY



Connect your home

We're your local experts in cutting-edge home technology & bespoke installations. So you can truly connect your home thanks to our range of; satellite dishes, aerials, network solutions, sound systems and home cinema solutions.



- 1 Custom satellite dish installation
- 2 Bespoke home cinema set up
- 3 Watch Sky in any room
- 4 Whole Home Audio
- 5 CCTV & Alarm

Visit Our New Store

Mediacoms: Unit i, Suite 1, Peek Business Centre,
Woodside Industrial Estate, Bishops Stortford. CM23 5RG

Call us today or visit www.mediacoms.co.uk

Essex & Herts: 01279 656983

London: 020 8524 6882



SONOS



MONITOR AUDIO
design for sound





The Hundred Parishes Society

Ken McDonald
www.hundredparishes.org.uk

The Society's website has been updated although it retains the name **www.hundredparishes.org.uk**

The most significant change is the addition of a section called Articles. This section consists of about 80 pages and offers a window onto more aspects of the Hundred Parishes, complementing the existing introductory pages to parishes, walks, people, what's on, etc.

The Articles section comprises a series of short essays on a diverse range of subjects ranging alphabetically from Almshouses to Workhouses. Most of the articles started life as a submission to local parish magazines; most have been expanded. We have introductory articles about the Hundred Parishes Society's origins, aims and activities. Other topics include Aviation, many aspects of Churches, Landscape, Listings, Museums, Parish names, Pub names, Village halls and Village signs – and many more. This expansion of the website has provided an opportunity to include some 600 additional photos. The Articles section will grow over time, usually to incorporate new subjects that are submitted as monthly articles to parish magazines.

We like to receive feedback, whether that be to report a problem, expand our knowledge, or perhaps just to express an opinion on what the Society is doing or could do.

We particularly rely on feedback to keep our What's On page up to date and the contact details current within our parish introductions. The details that require most frequent change usually relate to our pubs, either closing, re-opening or changing their contact details.

We hope residents will take a fresh look at the website. We hope they will find something to interest them and perhaps inspire them to investigate further, either online or better still on foot, following one of our suggested walk routes.



Walking – in Radwinter



Church stained-glass windows – Great Waltham



Straw finials – Pegasus in Leaden Roding



Listings – Widdington's Priors Hall Barn



Village signs – High Wych



Pub names and signs – Coach & Horses in Thorley

JACKS

GROUNDWORKS

DIGGER AND OPERATOR FOR HIRE

- Excavations •Driveways
- Foundations •Footings
- Drainage •Soakaways
- Septic Tanks

07940 231964
01279 755545

Sierra
HomeCare
Personal • Caring • Responsive

*There's no place
like home...*

Companionship

Home Help

Personal Care

*...to receive care and support
to live your life, your way*



Tel: 01279 501678

www.sierrahomecare.co.uk

CQC Registered

Beautiful loft conversions at affordable prices.

OSL

01245 860354

OSLCONTRACTS.COM



Brian Ross
stanstedairportwatch.com

Has the time come to tax Aviation Fuel?

World leaders representing 198 countries gathered in the United Arab Emirates in early December with the aim of agreeing meaningful action to combat climate change.

The occasion was the COP28 summit. These climate summits are held annually but they rarely manage to agree tangible measures to tackle global warming. Unsurprisingly, the oil-producing countries are reluctant to kill their golden goose but they are not alone in resisting measures to reduce the use of fossil fuels. The aviation lobby is equally culpable.

So, when EU representatives arrived at the COP28 summit with a proposal to tax aviation fuel on international flights, there was an outcry from the aviation industry.

An international treaty (the Chicago Convention) signed in 1944, prohibits any country from taxing aviation fuel for international flights. International air travel was still in its infancy in 1944 and there was minimal awareness of global warming. However, air travel has mushroomed since 1944 and is now the fastest growing source of CO2 emissions.

Today, airlines continue to be exempt from fuel duty and VAT. In the UK, passengers pay Air Passenger Duty (APD) and this raised £3.1 billion last year. However, if airlines paid fuel duty and VAT at the same rate as

the motorist, this would cost them £9.7 billion. APD would need to be more than three times its present level to create a level playing field between air travel and road travel.

Higher taxation on air travel would dampen the demand for flights and thereby reduce CO2 emissions and help to combat climate change. Nobody likes tax increases and so any increase in APD would be strongly resisted by voters, as well as by the aviation industry.

On the positive side, the Government could use the £billions of additional APD revenue for the NHS or other public services, or to pay for tax cuts in other areas. On the negative side, if we continue to give huge tax subsidies to the aviation industry and allow it complete liberty to expand year after year, we may not win the battle against climate change.

It is very unlikely that the COP 28 summit will produce an agreement to tax aviation fuel. However, when international agreement cannot be reached it may be time for the UK to show leadership.

THE GARDENS OF EASTON LODGE

Jill Goldsmith
www.eastonlodge.co.uk



I hope you all managed to tuck up your Gardens for the winter. Do you remember winter 2023? We had sharp frosts then snow before Christmas and the snow hung on the trees beautifully and lasted for days because it stayed so cold. Then in January it went really cold again, so the lilypond and fishing lake at the bottom of the Gardens were covered in ice and the manure, which normally should stay beautifully warm in a big pile, had a thick crust we had to chop our way through, to spread it on the vegetable garden. Unfortunately we lost many shrubs and perennials, but through the year the upside has been fewer slugs (I think?) and the opportunities for renewal!

So far this winter we have had sharp cold again at the beginning of December...but who knows what January will bring? Our first volunteer day in the new year will be Thursday

4 January – just before the beginning of the agricultural season, known as Plough Day, which in 2024 is on 8 January. Plough Day was a day of celebration for farm workers, who toured villages with a plough, singing and dancing and digging up the gardens of those who didn't join in or contribute to the fundraising! Maybe we should start to celebrate this, but of course without digging up others' gardens!

In January we will be working more on winter projects and prepping for snowdrop season – two Sundays and two Thursdays from 18 to 29 February. There's always a lot to do and we are happy to welcome new volunteers, if your new year's resolution is to join us!! You can find information about snowdrop days and volunteering, as well as much more besides, on our website: www.eastonlodge.co.uk

Visit our Bishop's Stortford showroom with a huge selection of sofas, chairs, sofabeds and recliners

Easy Chair & Sofa Co

The South East's Largest Sofa and Chair Retailer



Talk to the experts - our personal service, attention to detail and 40 years of experience set us apart from the rest

34 Twyford Business Centre, London Road, Bishop's Stortford, CM23 3YT. T: 01279 465863

www.easychaircompany.co.uk

Peter Worby
Antiques Restoration

**ANTIQUES
RESTORATION**
over 40 years
experience

All Repairs, Inc. Modern,
Polishing
Fully Insured, Free
Estimates, No V.A.T.
Tel: 01920 821973

e.mail:
peterworby56@gmail.com

TPM

for your

Total Property Maintenance

Unable to get 'that job' done?
Painting, Decorating and Tiling
Complete kitchens and bathrooms
Maintenance and Repairs
Garden Fencing

Call Tim Mearning for a
Free estimate



07970 599204
01279 771288



e-mail: timmearning@hotmail.com

- Highly respected local service –
most work obtained through
personal recommendation



All electrical work undertaken.

Lights, sockets, showers, fuseboards, extractors, outside lighting, cookers etc.

No job too small!

Call James on 07799-626411



JORDAN OIL BURNER SERVICES

ESTABLISHED 1968

An independent oil boiler commissioning, servicing & breakdown company

OFTEC Registered

All our vans carry a range of genuine boiler spares

81 Lingfield Road, Stevenage, Herts SG1 5SQ

Tel: 01438 355583 / Mob: 07831 364607

www.jordanoil.co.uk

LTH Waste Removal

Effluent & Liquid Waste Removal



Your local service provider for all effluent and liquid waste removal including:

- Cesspits
- Septic tanks
- Klargesters and Bio disks

LTH provides a personal, professional and efficient service at a very competitive rate.

For a free quotation, and site visit if required, please call us on:

01279 504638

01371 873003

or email:

info@luxurytoilethire.co.uk

Oliver Minton
Sales & Lettings

With our Puckeridge Office, complemented by our other offices in Stanstead Abbots & Roydon, we are perfectly placed to attract buyers originating from areas such as Enfield & Cheshunt, who desire a more rural environment

Call 01920 822999
www.oliverminton.com

HERTFORD TV SERVICE

Please call: 01992 552955

- AERIALS & SATELLITE INSTALLATIONS/REPAIRS
- TV REPAIRS (OLED, LCD, LED)
- TV WALL MOUNTING & SOUNDBARS
- WIFI SYSTEMS & DATA NETWORKING
- CCTV & WIRELESS BURGLAR ALARM SYSTEMS

www.hertfordtvservice.co.uk

Unit 1B, Foxholes Avenue, Hertford SG13 7JG

LOCAL FAMILY BUSINESS EST 1979

ALL WORK FULLY GUARANTEED

Rural Ramblings

Cherry Mardell

In praise of dogs

Two years ago this month I was trying to persuade my husband that we were not too old to take on another dog. Rightly, he said I was mad, we were too old and infirm and, if I went against him, it would be totally my responsibility. In that month our next dog was born!

On a cold, wet day, an unwilling husband and an overexcited OAP went to pick up Dash, an eight week old bundle of fur who was to change my life totally.

The breeder had introduced us to his mum and dad, a small spaniel and a miniature poodle. But as we took him from her arms, she said, 'I think he may be quite a big boy'. And, with his parentage, he certainly is... his legs, like Topsy, just grew and grew!

Oh, yes, there have been many many days when I rue the day that I got my way and returned home with a very small cockerpoo with a great pedigree but with an iron will of his own.... they mostly occur at around 8am when I don enough clothes to survive the North Pole, and wade into the soggy grass, complete with telephone (am pretty unsteady these days and the ability to call for help is top of my list), a dog whistle (of which he takes absolutely no notice), my walking stick (strictly necessary but not ideal when dog walking), poo bags, treats (to get him back when he has run off to roll in horse poo or to meet other dogs), and, hopefully one eager to be out-and-about small-ish dog!

But on the plus side, I have my biggest fan, who loves me totally, would follow me to the end of the earth, delights on

sitting on my lap (often a surprise, as he hurtles into the room and deposits himself on me in one easy leap)...(I can hear all your dog owners saying if only I had trained him properly, this would not have happened!)

And the husband?

He has been true to his word. For the first year he had nothing to do with the dog. It was a two-way happening –the dog soon realised that he was not flavour of the month, any month that is, and so their meetings were short and not too sweet. They sort of agreed not to be friends.

But in the second year, things took a turn for the better. Can't say it was all sweetness and light, but they came to an understanding, and tolerated each other. Only today, (feeling in a morbid mood) I suggested that should I die, one of hubby's sons might be persuaded to take Dash on... only to be told that he, husband, would be able to cope and there would be no need to find a foster home!

I suppose I should be thrilled but I do wonder who else would be prepared to go out in all weathers with an excitable small dog... certainly there has been no sign of movement from 'He who must be obeyed'.

Any regrets? Obviously I'd like to be ten years younger and fitter. But no, it's all good so far!

Parish Services January 2024

Benefice of: Little Hadham | Much Hadham | Albury

	Baptism of Christ 7th Jan	Epiphany 2 14th Jan	Epiphany 3 21st Jan	Epiphany 4 28th Jan
St Andrew's Much Hadham	9:15am Benefice Morning Prayer <i>Mark Stephens</i>			9:15am Benefice Morning Prayer <i>Lesley Titcomb</i>
St Cecilia's Little Hadham		11:15am Benefice Holy Communion <i>Revd June</i>		
St Mary's Albury			11:15am Benefice Holy Communion or Morning Prayer <i>tbc</i>	

OTHER SERVICES:

Thur 25th 10:00am Mid-week Communion - Gaz St Cecilia's

All are welcome to join our services