

A man with grey hair, smiling, stands in a vineyard. He is wearing a bright orange jumpsuit over a white shirt, a black belt with a tool bag, and white socks. He is holding a pair of red-handled pruning shears. The vineyard has rows of grapevines with some green leaves and some bare wood. The background shows more trees and a clear blue sky.

LITTLE HADHAM PARISH NEWS

JUNE 2025

UPDATE FROM OUR OWN LOCAL VINEYARD

Read the latest from Platon
at Four Acres Estate on pg.22

Letter from the Rectory

Advertising The Right To Choose

Adverts have such an influence on us. I recall a particular advert, in my mid-twenties, it got my hooked! (not for this write up, ask me face to face I will tell you).

Over the years, I have been swayed a few times by adverts, the well thought through campaigns which involve persuasive and emotive messages that sometimes peak one's interest into purchasing an unplanned item or service. I recall a particular burger advert last year. I went past the shop, retraced my steps and bought the burger. I must say, it met its advertised chord. Some fail to meet required expectations but we sometimes, give the product or service a second try.

These days, there is the avenue of "reviews" which also, help us decide our decisions. Some of us, however, just take on the good old fashion way of "experience is the best teacher". Why hear from others when I can try it myself, make my own judgement and learn.

Ever been drawn in by an advert? It would be interesting to hear your different experiences.

As a priest, I urge people to read the bible with an open and relaxed mind because, God is not a frowning God. Yes, he is just, but He is also super loving and has a sense of humour, so read the bible with some fun in your mindset and with your wits at its best.

In this light, I see the story of the burning bush found in Exodus chapter 3, as God doing an advert. It aroused Moses' curiosity, he engaged with God and the rest is history as they say. God used the burning bush to draw Moses' attention, and they became pals. Yes, Moses was God's very good friend. All due to an advert Moses took another look at.

What is God's advert to us, how does he draw us in and spike our interest? Is it in the beauty of our surroundings, the sun and nature at its best or in the faces of our loved ones or in his word? What has God placed around us that we have not "taken note" of and engaged Him.

God does not play mind games like some of the adverts of today, but He seeks and wants our attention, and he wants us to have a personal relationship with him.

In church, we offer a time to engage not only with God but with ourselves. Pop in and see what is going on in our church, your church, a part of your village history.

Enjoy the sunshine and store some for the later part of the year when the sun goes on strike again.

With fondest thoughts,



Revd T.

LITTLE HADHAM PARISH NEWS

Priest in Charge:

Revd Ibitayo (Tayo) Wale-Falope

Administrator to the Rector:

01279 842 609

muchhadhamrectory@gmail.com

Churchwarden:

Karin Green

01279 771 532

churchwardenstcecilias@gmail.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 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

We welcome into the family of the Church Danielle Francois Leak, who was baptised on Sunday 4th May.

We commend to God's care Brian Peter Smith (92) whose ashes were buried on Tuesday 6th May.

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

3rd June	1st July	2nd Sept
7th October	4th November	2nd December

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



River Ash Monitoring

On Sunday 11th May, the Clerk (Carole Page) and Councillor Carolyn Westlake spent the day on a Riverfly training course on the Mimram at Panshanger Park.

We learnt how to use nets to collect sediment from the bottom of the river and then to put our findings in a white tray so that we could identify what we had found. It was fascinating to see all the various creatures, lots



of freshwater shrimp and cased and caseless caddis to mention just three! The idea being that the more you find and the bigger the diversity the better quality of the water. Our samples were good, I wonder what the state of the Ash running through our village is? It would be useful to know, particularly in view of future planning applications near the river.

This course is held periodically and anyone can attend. This is the first

step in starting a Friends of the River Ash group together as we find this and other ways to collect data on the state of our precious chalk stream and how we can do our bit in protecting it.

If you would like to get involved, please contact the clerk on clerk@littlehadham-pc.gov.uk

A Village Welcome Pack

A member of the village suggests a welcome pack be developed that would provide all the information needed to live in the village. Do you think this is a good idea. Please let the clerk know your thoughts.

Book Swap Phone Box at the Ford

The phone box needs some TLC. Is there anyone who would look in on it on occasion and make sure it looks loved? It could really do with a makeover like the phone box had at Bury Green a couple of years ago. If anyone would like to have a go, please get in touch with the clerk. It may be the case that it could be used for something other than a book exchange. If you have any ideas on how we can protect and use our phone box, please let Carole the clerk know. If you are interested www.thek6project.co.uk lists all the phone boxes in the U.K. with some useful history.

Little Hadham Ramblers – our walks are scheduled for:

Wednesday 4th June

Wednesday 2nd July



We start from the Village Hall at 10am, with a return between 11.30-12pm. 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.

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.

clerklittlehadhamgmail.com | 01920 870 809 | 07825 011 975

The Braughing Shed Club is looking for new members

Jacqui Thorne

Who are we?: Men and women from the local communities who get together to use existing skills, and learn new ones, to make and repair things. There is no upper age requirement or specific skills needed but you must be over 18. We were originally part funded by Braughing Parish Council as part of its overall wellbeing strategy and we received a grant from East Herts District Council.

Where we do it?:

We meet on **Wednesdays** in a barn at Brook Cottage Farm Riding School, Furneux Pelham, SG9 0LL, from **noon until 4pm**, although you can come and go within these core hours as you please, to fit in with your life.

Our aim:

We provide a venue for local people to help relieve feelings of isolation, create friendships and offer support while working on projects and share ideas with a cuppa and cake.

We make and repair items for sale, for charity, or to support residents or village community associations to build and mend items for themselves with help as required. We do this through up-cycling using donated and reclaimed wood, pallets and other materials for projects. We may work with new materials as required. We sell the items we make in order to be self-funding whilst making financial donations to local charities. We make hedgehog houses, bat boxes, bird tables, bird feeders, bug hotels, wooden storage crates, garden planters etc., or whatever you want to make.



What do you need?:

You do not need to have any specialist skills but if you have any, they would be welcomed or you can come along and learn new skills. You are free to make whatever you want. You can either work alone or team up with others. We use tools that belong to the club that have been kindly donated and members often bring their own tools for particular projects. The club will buy tools as and when required.

What does it cost?:

The club cost £2.00 a week to go towards materials, such as nails, screws and tools and refreshments.

Want to find out more?:

Contact Jacqui Thorne

Email: Jacquithorne664@gmail.com

Phone: 07557 966 526

Millennium Wood

Rachel Seifert

rachel.seifert@gmail.com

With all this recent sunshine Spring is now feeling much more like Summer, and the wood is all of a sudden very green. The trees are resplendent with their shiny new leaves, creating a wonderful light-dappled canopy above the wood and some much welcome shade. The ground is mostly covered with a mat of stinging nettles, a good food source for the peacock butterfly amongst others, and turns out is also good for us! The kids and I made a batch of stinging nettle pesto with the fresh new green leaves harvested from the plant last week (obviously with very thick gloves!) It turned out to be a great success, we had a lot of fun making it, and we were all positively surprised at how delicious it tasted!

The Hawthorn is now in full flower and adding a splash of white throughout the wood. You can hear the bees buzzing around it, a wonderful soundtrack of the Spring. There are a few butterflies about - we've spotted speckled wood, brimstone, and orange-tip over the past few weeks. The little ones have been spotting numerous ladybirds. And robins, blackbirds, great tits, blue tits, long-tailed tits, greater spotted woodpecker, treecreeper have all been heard if not seen amongst the foliage. There is a lot of activity as its prime breeding season and the wood is full of life. We're letting the wood do its own thing for the next few months so we don't disturb any of this wildlife.

One job I have been doing though is filling up the pond. Given the recent sunny and dry weather, it has been low in water, and will keep an eye on over the next few weeks given more of the same is predicted. A moorhen is around most days I'm there which is a good sign. And given the hot weather, it's a great place to go and visit to let us all cool down in the natural shade!



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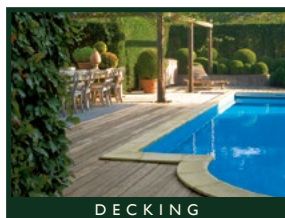


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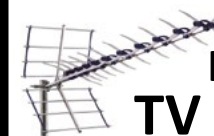
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Down at the Doctors

Andrew Wilkinson, Practice Manager

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Many of you have been asking how Dr Sharif has been doing over the last few months. I recently spoke with her, and she's kindly given me permission to share her story—not only to keep you updated, but also to raise awareness for the life-saving work of the Anthony Nolan Trust.

Back in July last year, Dr Sharif started feeling a little under the weather—just not herself. After some routine blood tests (because, being a doctor, she knew not to ignore a gut feeling), she was given a diagnosis that none of us expected: Acute Lymphocytic Leukaemia (ALL). ALL is a rare and aggressive cancer of the bone marrow and blood, usually seen in children and rarely in adults, which made the news all the more shocking—for her and for all of us.

She began treatment immediately at UCLH and has since undergone multiple rounds of chemotherapy. Many of you might remember spotting her in the surgery, calmly working away with a bright blue, 24 hour infusion bag in tow. In fact, she made a running joke of the one silver-lining—her chemo bag and tubes meant she always got a seat on the Tube during her twice-weekly trips into London. Every cloud...

Despite everything, Dr Sharif continued to support the GP team behind the scenes—handling phone consultations, reviewing blood results, and tackling a to-do list that would make most of us weep. Her dedication and resilience have been nothing short of inspirational.

Unfortunately, after her final round of chemo, she was told the treatment had not been successful. The next step: stem cell therapy. It was not presented as a choice, but thankfully, a near-perfect donor

match was found abroad—an extraordinary gift, thanks to the Anthony Nolan Trust.

For those unfamiliar with the process, stem cell treatment involves high-dose chemo (and sometimes radiation) to wipe out remaining cancer cells and clear space in the bone marrow. The donor stem cells are then infused—just like a blood transfusion—and the hope is they'll take hold and start producing healthy new blood cells. This process, known as "engraftment," takes weeks to months, with the patient closely monitored in hospital for complications like infection or bleeding.

This is the road ahead for Dr Sharif, and we know you will all join us in sending her strength and good wishes. Her heartfelt gratitude goes to the many healthcare professionals involved in her care over the past year. She also hopes to raise awareness about the importance of early screening programmes for all types of cancer—something that can make a world of difference in catching disease early.

She is especially grateful to the Anthony Nolan Trust for finding her a donor. If you're not familiar with their work, please take a moment to learn more: www.anthonynolan.org.

Dr Sharif will be taking time off to focus on her recovery, and we will all miss her dearly. From me personally—I just want to say what an incredible person she is. She's had her tough days (who wouldn't?), but she's faced everything with humour, grit, and grace. She has remained an exceptional doctor throughout it all, even while carrying a burden most of us can barely imagine.

We will be cheering her on every step of the way—and we can't wait to welcome her back.

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Nikki & Louise
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May has been filled with outdoor fun, discovery, and community spirit at Woodland Rangers! We kicked off the month with a special Bank Holiday Family Event, where families braved the unpredictable British weather to enjoy time together in the great outdoors. The campfire crackled with warmth as sausages sizzled and marshmallows toasted, bringing all generations together.

We also celebrated some fantastic nature-themed days! World Bee Day had children buzzing with excitement as they learned about the vital role of bees in our ecosystem through engaging stories and creative nature crafts. Similarly, Hedgehog Awareness Week inspired young minds to think about our prickly garden visitors, with activities centred around these delightful creatures.

Excitement is building for the return of Mini Muntjacs in June - our much loved baby session for parents with little ones under one year old. Families can enjoy peaceful forest walks, a cuppa, and friendly chats while their babies soak up the fresh air and sensory benefits of nature.

Looking ahead, we are also proud to be supporting the NSPCC with a special Teddy Bears Picnic throughout the first week of June! Families can gather for a magical

picnic filled with laughter, games, and cuddly companions, all while supporting a great cause. A percentage of our booking fees that week will be donated to the NSPCC, helping to raise awareness and money for this amazing charity.

We are really looking forward to the Summer term and all the exciting plans we have lined up! Summer term bookings are open, promising unforgettable experiences this summer for children of all ages.



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Do you know if you have an RTS Electricity Meter? Do you know about the switch off on 30th June?

If you have electric heating, you may be one of the almost 1 million homes that have a Radio Teleswitch Service (RTS) meter. And on Monday 30 June 2025, the RTS will switch off. Unless you arrange a replacement with your energy supplier now, your heating and hot water may stop working properly.

How do I know if I have an RTS meter?

You might have an RTS meter if you:

- Use electric heating to heat your home.
- Have a tariff where the price of electricity changes at different times of day.
- Have a separate box near your electricity meter with the words 'radio teleswitch' or 'radio telemeter'.
- Have two codes on your electricity bill that start with the letter S. These are 'supply numbers' or 'S numbers'.

What do I do?

If you know you have an RTS meter or if you are not sure then **get in touch with your electricity supplier as soon as possible**, they can let you know if you will be affected or not and if so they can arrange to replace your meter.

Your supplier should upgrade you to a smart meter for free. If you can't have a smart meter, they still have to replace your RTS meter with a suitable alternative.

You don't pay anything to change your meter. If someone contacts you and says you have to pay to change your meter, this is a scam.



An example of a RTS meter is the black box on the left.

If your supplier says it can't replace your meter before 30 June 2025, you can make a complaint. Ofgem has more advice on making a complaint to your energy supplier.

What are the benefits of upgrading to a smart meter?

With a smart meter installed, you'll:

- Have more accurate energy bills.
- Be better able to lower energy use.
- Get access to money saving initiatives.

What happens if I don't change my RTS meter?

If your supplier doesn't replace your meter by 30 June 2025, your heating and hot water will likely be affected. They might:

- Stay on all the time.
- Not come on at all.
- Charge at the wrong time of day.
- Turn on and off at odd times of day.
- Not come on when you want them to.
- You might see your energy bills go up as a result.

Little Hadham Gardening Club

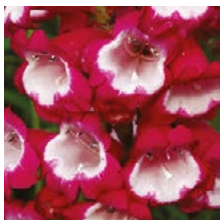
Anne Willett

We do not meet in June but remember to start to think about which classes you might want to enter in our Autumn Show. Pickles and Chutneys should be at least 3 months old to allow flavours to develop. Pot plants must be grown by the exhibitor for more than 4 months. There are also changes to some classes, ie Cheese and Rosemary Scones, a Swiss Roll, Bread Pudding for the men only class, and a photograph of My Garden.

Easy summer flowers

If you want more flowers in your garden, you need plants that are guaranteed to perform. But with so many plants to choose from, how do you know which plants are easiest to grow and which will give you the most flowers?

The following plants are easy to grow and will flower right through summer and into autumn – some will even give you year-round colour and interest. All the plants are perennial, so you can look forward to flowers for many summers. There are colours and shapes to suit every taste and every style of garden, and they're all great for attracting bees and other pollinating insects to your garden.



Penstemon

If you want to add some instant colour to your flowerbeds from June until the first frosts, penstemons are a great choice.

Most varieties flower for months and are equally at home in the middle of a border or growing in a pot. The tubular flowers look like small foxgloves; they come in a range of colours and are popular with bees. Grow in full sun or partial shade.

Penstemons are short-lived perennials that can suffer in cold, wet winters. Take penstemon cuttings in summer to make new plants, to replace any you lose over winter. Height: 60-90cm Spread: 50cm Flowers: June-October



Lavender

A fantastic all-rounder – it can be grown in pots or in the ground, it's evergreen, with wonderfully fragrant leaves, fantastic for

pollinators and suits different garden styles, from cottage gardens to contemporary schemes. English Lavender and most hybrid types are hardy and can be left in the garden all year. French lavender is only frost hardy, so is best kept in containers and protected over winter. Grow lavender in full sun in well-drained soil. Cut back after flowering to prevent plants from becoming leggy and straggly. Height: 50-80cm Spread: 60-90cm Flowers: June-September



Salvias

Really earn their keep in the garden. The great range of forms

and colours, from electric blue to deep purple, crimson to yellow, makes them indispensable garden plants. The nectar-rich flowers are magnets for bumblebees and butterflies. There's a great variety to choose from, including tender bedding salvias and hardy perennials that come back year after year. They all thrive in full sun, and most flower from mid-

summer to autumn. Add gravel to the planting hole to aid drainage if you have heavy soil. Height: 40cm-1.5m Spread: 30-50cm Flowers: June-November.



Heuchera

When looking for plants for shade, you can't go wrong with heucheras. Their leaves come in an array of vibrant colours from

orange to purple, black to lime green, giving you almost year-round colour. In summer, spikes of tiny flowers, often in contrasting shades to the leaves, add to their appeal. Great in pots or as a shade-tolerant groundcover plant for the front of a border. Height: 25cm Spread: 35cm Flowers: June-August



Erysimum 'Bowles Mauve'

This is a beautiful, floriferous, woody-stemmed wallflower, bearing masses of purple flowers on

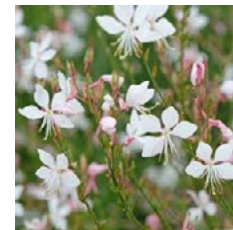
tall spires, for months on end. In mild areas, it can flower virtually all year round. Grow in sun or partial shade. It's a short lived perennial but can be easily replaced with young plants made by taking cuttings. Height: 45cm Spread: 50cm Flowers: March-November.



Hardy Geranium

Easy to grow; they thrive in shade and flower for months – many until the first frosts. They have saucer-shaped flowers in shades

of pink, purple, white or blue and are fantastic for pollinators such as bees and hoverflies. Grow in sun or shade. Cut back after flowering to encourage a second flush of blooms. Height: 20-50cm Spread: 30cm-1.2m Flowers: April-September



Gaura

Pretty, deciduous perennials which look great in a cottage garden or prairie border. They have small starry pink or white flowers, appearing

from early summer right through to autumn. Their delicate stems are particularly useful for linking together other plants in a flowerbed, or they can be grown in containers. They tolerate partial shade. Height: 50-90cm Spread: 50-60cm Flowers: May-November



Verbascums

Are stately perennials that are ideal for adding height and structure to planting schemes. Their elegant spires of summer flowers, in shades of pink, white, yellow, orange or even blue, look equally at home in a cottage garden or a manicured border. Grow in sun or partial shade. They are short-lived perennials, so it's well worth propagating them to get new plants for free. Height: 70cm-1.5m Spread: 30-60cm Flowers: June-September.



Community Breakfast - Celebrating VE Day

What a fabulous event our VE Day Celebration was on Thursday 8th May. A special VE Day breakfast was cooked up

by Jan and Carole, ably assisted by Brenda and Diane in the kitchen. Volunteers Dave, Mark, Richard, Gina and Rosemarie were kept extremely busy taking food orders and serving up to 70 guests. My thanks to Gina who also helped put up the decorations in the hall. Jenny Salmon brought along 15 singers from her choirs U3A Broxbourne and 'Just love to Sing', Bengoe to entertain us all with 1940's songs and a couple of modern-day sing-a-longs too, which had people on their feet and dancing in the aisles. One of our guests kindly emailed to say: 'Just wanted to say well done for today! Ideas so well organised and the thought that had gone into the décor etc was excellent...'

As vice-chair, I am personally very proud of all our village hall volunteers who give their all to make events such as these possible, so well done to every one of you and a big thank you to our guests who came along to celebrate and enjoy this event with us.

Our next monthly Community Breakfast will be on **Thursday 12th June**, with the last breakfast before the summer break, on **Thursday 10th July**. Booking available via our village hall website, search: www.littlehadhamvillagehall.com – select What's On tab from menu bar and then select events page from drop down menu.



Red Chair Community Cinema Monday 16th June

This is a relaxed screening

Doors Open: 2.30pm, film starts promptly at 3pm.

Entry: £7 pay at the door (No need to book in advance)

Film: The 100 yr Old Man, Who Climbed Out of a Window (2013)

When his pet cat is killed by a fox, an enraged Allan gets revenge by blowing up the fox using dynamite, which prompts the authorities to put him in a home. On the same day as his 100th birthday, he climbs out of the window and disappears....

Adventure Comedy/ Certificate PG / Runtime 1hr 54mins



Red Chair Community Cinema

We must have shown more than 60 films



under a MPLC licence to our Red Chair Community Cinema film club membership since it first started in July 2019. The MPLC licence allowed us to bring films to our members at a reasonable cost, but with some restrictions. We could not advertise the films publicly and not all the titles we would have liked to show could be licenced under MPLC. Despite this, our members have enjoyed a varied monthly film programme, the company of others, a drink from the bar and/or an ice cream treat.

Since the pandemic and with home streaming, viewing preferences have changed. Like most cinemas, we have experienced a decline in attendance which has led to the decision to change how we manage our community cinema. We will no longer be offering an annual subscription film membership for a monthly film showing on a Friday evening. We hope that our loyal members will understand the need for change, and we thank them for their support.

We are not excluding the possibility of advertising evening film screenings in the future, but to help us reach a wider audience, from September, we will be trialling a programme of regular monthly Monday afternoon relaxed screenings. The films will be provided by Moviola a Company and Charity that organises a programming and booking service for community venues across the country. This change brings with it the advantage of advertising more widely and the use of website links to promote our cinema to a wider audience. Film screenings will rely on grant funding to cover licencing costs, but the organisation of the cinema should be made easier. We will be promoting our film programme when it becomes available later in the year.



Monthly Air Fryer Demonstration Monday 9th June

Join Jan, Carole and Lisa on **Monday 9th June** from 7pm as they once again, entertain

enthusiasts and encourage us with a range of tasty recipes cooked up in an air fryer. A taster session at the end of the demonstration comes with a glass of juice or wine. Booking available through the village hall website, with suggested donation of £7 at the event.

Please book online or email hospitality@littlehadhamvillagehall.com Booking allows us to know how many we need to cater for.

Help Needed Please

Weekend hall hires are important to us and bring in much needed income. We want to ensure a good experience for all hall hirers with good communication, deal efficiently with any issues that arise at the time and promote our much loved and versatile village hall.

Large events and children's parties are usually held on a Saturday or Sunday and because of this we are looking for someone who lives locally to check that the building is 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 doing, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Contact: Joan McKinlay M: 07789 098 071 - Email: vice-chair@littlehadhamvillagehall.com

What's On in June @ 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**
Bereavement Group Meeting **Every THIRD Tuesday of the month (1-1 every other Tuesday from 10am - 12:15 BY APPOINTMENT ONLY ring Jan 01279 771 272 or Ron Bunce mob: 07903 194 991)**

WEDNESDAY'S

Welcome Cafe **10am – 2pm** No need to book just drop in and enjoy!
Druman Chair Yoga **11am – 11:45** Mark Cox 07368 293 062
Tai Chi & Qi Gong **1pm -2pm** Sarah Baker 07740 701 102
Digital Improvers **2 – 3:30pm** Jan 07710 325363
Fitsteps **6 – 7pm** Jacqui: 07731 454 228
Tai Chi & Qi Gong **7:30-8:30pm** Sarah Baker 07740 701 102

THURSDAY'S

Mike's Bowls Club **2 – 4pm**

FRIDAY'S

Friday Fitness Group **11am -12noon** contact Daisy Osborne 07585 309 933 or email: daisy.af.osborne@gmail.com

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

FORTNIGHTLY

Tuesday 10th & 24th **2 – 4pm** Darts, games and social (£3 per session)
Tuesday 3rd & 17th **2 – 4pm** Turn up & Play Scrabble (£3 per session)
 Annette: 07926 088 202

MONTHLY

Tuesday 3rd **7:30pm** Parish Council Meeting (main hall)
Monday 9th **7 – 9pm** Air Fryer Demonstration - pay on entry £7 (**change of date**)
Thursday 12th **10 – 12 noon** Community Breakfast morning
BOOKING ESSENTIAL on website: littlehadhamvillagehall.com or email vice-chair@littlehadhamvillagehall.com
Monday 16th **2:30pm for 3pm** Afternoon Relaxed Screening: **The 100yr Old Man Who Climbed Out of a Window (2013)** Contact Mrs Joan Mckinlay phone 07789 098
 071 entrance £7 includes tea/coffee
Friday 27th **9am-1pm** Little City kids role play

NOTICEBOARD

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.

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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



Friday 13th June
7pm

Membership Required. For information email:
redchaircinema@littlehadhamvillagehall.com

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Four Acres Vineyard & Winery

Platon Loizou



We stopped writing our articles in the Little Hadham Parish News some time ago because both the vineyard and apple orchard are very cyclical and we were in danger of repeating ourselves which would be a little boring for readers so we decided to take a break.

The Vineyard

I am writing this article on the 4th May, the vines have all been pruned and we are now tying the canes onto the wires. The last few weeks have been very warm and the vines have now bud burst. Let's hope we don't get any frosts otherwise all our hard work will come to nothing,



The Apple Orchard

The blossom has been amazing this year and the signs are looking good for a bumper harvest. Most of the cider varieties are now fully grown and it looks beautiful this time of year.



Grafting

Some of our Morgan Sweet apple trees (a cider variety) were shading our vineyard so we cut eleven of the trees and grafted twenty two heritage eating varieties. The grafts were successful and we are looking forward to getting some interesting apples this year.



The Beehives

Amber bees, who sell their honey at the Little Hadham Village Farmers Market, have placed their beehives by our apple orchard and the bees seem to love the apple blossom. Let's hope for some apple honey at the village market.

Sparkling Wine Sale

We have just launched our 2022 vintage blanc de blancs sparkling wine which we are very pleased with. As a thank you to all the people who have volunteered to help us with the harvest over the years we are having a sale of our sparkling wine and cider for Little Hadham residents.

Blanc de Blancs 2022 vintage

Normal price £23.00

Special Offer £20.00

Rose 2019 vintage

Normal price £22.00

Special Offer £20.00

Sparkling cider 2019 vintage

Normal price £12.00

Special Offer £10.00

This offer will last until 22nd June.

If you are interested please text me on 07802 313 075.

Regards to everyone

Platon & Sharron

We've got some great events for you coming up, so please join us!

Our Great Big Green Week HADHAM SWAP & SHOP is back!

Between **8th – 22nd June** it will be open during normal museum hours (Fri, Sat, Sun 11am - 5pm).

Bring your unwanted items and take away your new favourite preloved finds from our Swap Shop. No electricals please, and items must be in "very good" / "as new" condition. Pay £5 to be part of the Swap Shop community, come and go as much as you like for the duration of the shop OR if you don't have items to swap, just browse and shop for bargains. Either way you will be supporting your local heritage and helping us all be a little greener at the same time, WIN WIN! #GreatBigGreenWeek

Forge 30 minute tasters Sunday 29th June or Sat 5th July.

Have a go in the blacksmiths forge with expert tutor Rich Maynard. Make a small keyring fob or coat hook to take home and try out our new gallery trail "Forging Links with Science", created with help from the children at St. Andrew's School.

Funded by The Royal Society Places of Science Grants 2025.

BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL, refundable deposits will be required.



Contact Cristina on 07483 113345 or email the museum to reserve your place. (Children over 7 years, no upper age limit!)

Sip and Sew – Celebrating Morris Mania
Tues 22nd July, 7.30pm

Bring along your worn jeans or clothes, use William Morris pattern fabric patches to mend. Our local sewing helpers will be on hand with the materials you need to guide you, but if you have fabric scissors, needles and coloured thread, do bring them!

(£15, includes a glass of Prosecco, bring your own bottle permitted).
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If someone you know is causing you harm or distress – or if you are worried about a family member or friend – you can call or email us in confidence for help and advice on your options.

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Monday to Friday: 9am–9pm Weekends: 9am–4pm

Or confidential email: kim@mailpurple.org

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Barbara, Rolo's Mum

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I'm Rolo

Help Isabel Hospice Protect End-of-Life Care Amidst National Hospice Funding Crisis

Isabel Hospice is urgently appealing for community support to protect its vital end-of-life care services as a nationwide hospice funding crisis continues to deepen.



Isabel Hospice Nurse, Jess, caring for her patient, Jennifer.

While the cost of running the hospice has surged —driven by the sharp increase in national insurance and energy costs to name a few – the government funding that covers just 30% of Isabel Hospice's costs has remained stagnant for the last two years.

Helen Glenister, CEO of Isabel Hospice, said:

"Every day, our dedicated team of nurses and doctors witness the profound impact our care has on patients and their loved ones. But right now, we are facing a national hospice funding crisis that threatens our ability to continue providing this essential support."

"We are doing everything in our power to beat this crisis, but we urgently need the community's help to bridge the immediate gap we face and ensure that no one has to face life's hardest chapter alone."

Isabel Hospice's Cost of Caring Urgent Appeal seeks to raise funds to help keep it's vital services running.

Just £28 could pay for an hour of nursing care. To donate, please call Isabel Hospice on 01707 954850 or visit isabelhospice.org.uk/CostOfCaring. Every pound will help local families by protecting their access to vital end-of-life care.

St Cecilia's Church Bells

Quasi

In May we had the privilege of ringing in memory of Pope Francis for the Catholic congregations of St Joseph's, Bishop's Stortford, which is next to St Michael's Church, and Holy Cross, Much Hadham, which shares the church with St Andrew's. On both occasions the bells were half muffled, making the sound very different. The ringing was finished by the toll bell ringing 88 times, to signify the 88 years of Pope Francis' life. This replicated what had happened at St Peter's Basilica, in the Vatican, a few days before. The tenor bell at Much Hadham was also tolled

88 times on Saturday 26th April immediately before Pope Francis' 9am Funeral. Both the Much Hadham and Bishop's Stortford Catholic parishioners appreciated the event, one commented that "it was so special to hear the muted bells being rung from your church in memory of Pope Francis." It was described as "memorable and poignant".

If you want to give bell ringing a go and keep the tradition going, go to <https://riverashchurches.org.uk/river-ash-churches-bellringers/> for more information.

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I'm moving and will be renting somewhere on my own for the first time. It feels like there's so much to think about, I'm worried I'll forget something important. Do you have any advice on what I should do when looking for a new home?

Most properties available for rent are listed online or with lettings agents.

If you have the chance, renting directly from a landlord might be a bit cheaper before you move in, as they may ask for fewer references and you might not need to do a credit check. But you'll have to deal with them directly if any issues arise during the tenancy. It's worth noting some landlords use a lettings agent to find their tenants and then manage the properties themselves. If an agent is managing the property then you'll deal with them rather than with the landlord directly, for instance, if you need to get any repairs done.

Beware rental fraudsters

Remember, never pay any money before you've seen the property as this is a common tactic used by rental fraudsters. If you can, take someone with you when viewing properties for a second opinion. If repairs are being done when you view a property, it's a good idea to take pictures of the issues and follow up after the viewing with an email so you've got a record of the issues and that you were told they'd be sorted before you move in.

Things often happen very quickly when trying to find somewhere to rent

so always ask the landlord or letting agent some key questions to make sure properties you're considering are safe, affordable and meet your needs.

Key questions to ask include:

- How much is the rent? Is it payable monthly or weekly?
- How long is the tenancy for?
- Are bills included in the rent?
- Are any appliances or furniture included?
- Is there a break clause allowing any fixed term to be ended early, if needed?
- Does the landlord need a guarantor?
- Is there a tenancy deposit, how much is it, and how will it be protected?

It's also good to ask whether the tenancy is for a self-contained property, or whether there are shared facilities, whether or not it's a joint tenancy with other people and, if relevant, if you can have pets. Make sure you're happy with the arrangements.

Holding deposit?

Check if you'll need to pay a holding deposit while the landlord carries out pre-tenancy checks. A deposit can't be more than a week's rent and should be returned to you at the start of the tenancy. You should also ask your landlord or letting agent what documents

you'll need to provide when you agree to rent the property including evidence of your Right to Rent.

Avoid subletting

Avoid 'subletting' which is when you rent directly from an existing tenant, as they might not have the landlord's permission to rent to you, which could cause problems further down the line. If a tenant is showing you around the property on behalf of the landlord they should give you the landlord's contact details.

If a landlord refuses to rent to you because of who you are, this may be discrimination - for example because of your race, religion or sexual orientation. A 'no kids policy' or refusing to rent to you because you get benefits could also be discrimination. You only need to tell a landlord or letting agent you receive benefits if they ask.



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Come and join us!

Citizens Advice East Herts is looking for general support volunteers in Buntingford. If you can use a computer, like office work, and can spare three hours a week, or more, please email Karyn at jonesk@citizensadviceeastherts.org.uk Expenses will be paid and you'll be working with a small but friendly and welcoming team. There are opportunities to work from our office in Buntingford and/or from home.

A driver is also wanted to deliver items to our hubs and contact centres, throughout East Herts, on an ad hoc basis. Expenses will be paid.

Come and join us. We look forward to hearing from you.



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The Hundred Parishes Society

Ken McDonald

www.hundredparishes.org.uk



We know that being outside is good for our wellbeing, both mental and physical. Besides the open countryside, we are fortunate in The Hundred Parishes to have parks and gardens where we can walk, sit and enjoy nature. I will mention just a few.

Bridge End Gardens in Saffron Walden was created by a local businessman and Quaker, Francis Gibson, in the 1840s. It is now managed by Saffron Waldon Town Council. Delights to explore include the hedge maze, rose garden and Dutch garden.

The Gardens of Easton Lodge in Little Easton have limited opening hours which can be found on our website www.hundredparishes.org.uk. They were designed by Harold Peto in 1902 for the Countess of Warwick who lived at Easton Lodge.

In Sawbridgeworth, Pishiobury Park was redesigned by Capability Brown in the 18th century as an enclosed park. It is a registered historic park and includes wet woodland, grazed fields, an oak walk, meadows and part of the River Stort.

Birchanger Wood comprises 69 acres of ancient coppiced woodland, managed and owned by the Birchanger Wood Trust. Three miles of all-weather, wheelchair-friendly paths make it easy to explore.

In Stansted Mountfitchet, the Aubrey Buxton Nature Reserve is a 25 acre woodland with six man-made ponds. It was originally part of the park and garden of Aubrey Buxton's house. He was a co-founder of the World

Wildlife Trust and donated the land to Essex Wildlife Trust. Today you can enjoy circular walks passing the ponds through the wood.

June is the month when many private gardens open to the public, even groups of gardens in Duxford and Ickleton – details appear on the What's On section of our website.

We hope you enjoy the summer and explore some of our wonderful parks and gardens.



Little Easton - Gardens of Easton Lodge



Sawbridgeworth - Pishiobury Park



Saffron Walden - Bridge End Gardens



Birchanger - Birchanger Wood



Saffron Walden - the gardens of Audley End House



Much Hadham - Henry Moore Foundation in Perry Green

Talking Bowls...or Something

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

We have had what we wished for from Sun God Helios (last month's piece) with glorious bowling weather. However, I must admit to feeling just a bit guilty and selfish as we must have rain. I wonder if our daytime worship for Helios and night-time for the rain God Zeus would work? Everyone would then be happy.

Our second weekend friendly match was cancelled as our would be opponents were unable to get the required number of players which was unfortunate. Nonetheless we took full advantage of the sunshine and played amongst ourselves which was good fun and something we have limited opportunity to do in a busy calendar.

Our Seniors team have got off to a good start with a victory over Thaxted winning 2 of the 3 rinks and gaining 6 points to 2 overall.

Next up is Bishops Stortford away and we are hoping to at least match that result.



The first Mens 2 rink evening league against Potters Bar did not go so well - one rink each but we lost overall by 3 shots which means they took 4 points to our 2. Our next chance to improve on that is a home game against Stevenage.

It is good to see some new members joining the Club, most without bowling experience but they will soon get the hang of the game and settle into the "swing". Still room for some more so call 01279 842637 if you fancy a try. We have all the equipment so you only need flat soled shoes (trainers are fine).

Cannot sign off this piece without comment on VE Day on 8th May which was a splendid evening reliving the joy and relief of those in 1945.

We started with some "theatre" which included recorded

speeches from Chamberlain and Churchill, air raid sirens and bomb explosions of the Blitz.

Ration books were handed out for the "war time feast", music of Vera Lynn and Glen Miller and our DJ Tony B sneaked in a Hokey Cokey and the Conga - great fun.

Many dressed for the part - RAF Officers and aircrew, some brilliant Land Army girls and even a "black market Spiv" all of whom were awarded with a drink from the bar.

Also as a memento of the event everybody was given a genuine wartime penny (you could buy a bun with it in those days.)

A memorable evening.

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Golf Croquet in Much Hadham

The weather has been fantastic and 2 lawns have been set up every Wednesday afternoon. The 1.30pm is now full but we have space for other people to play at 3.30 pm that day or of course on other days.

Several people have requested playing on Sundays from 2pm - ideally a minimum of 4 for 1 lawn or 8 for 2 lawns.

If you would like to join us for either of these slots or almost any afternoon we would love to hear from you. Experienced or newcomers welcome. Flat soled shoes necessary, we have mallets and balls.

Shirley Howlett - tel: 07764 192133/01279 842637

email shirley.howlett@btinternet.com

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Jill Goldsmith
www.eastonlodge.co.uk



June is another special month at the Gardens. Last year was the first for our wildflower spiral in the walled kitchen garden and it was a mass of colour, changing through June from orange to red. We are looking forward to seeing how it will flower this year – it has successfully self-seeded into the path, so hopefully the seedlings in the bed will also do well! We also enjoy the wildflowers elsewhere, the orchids, yellow flag irises and, my favourite, the grass vetchling on the bank in the Glade, followed by the foxgloves then the poppies. There are more lovely trees to enjoy – the false acacia and the Judas tree. The waterlilies open in the Italian Garden and if you are lucky you might catch the voodoo lily with its fascinatingly vulgar shape (and unique smell). The roses

start to look really spectacular (and need deadheading regularly), the courgettes come on stream and we have the first soft fruit pickings – so jamming starts!

Except for June 26th, when we are closed for our Annual General Meeting, we are open every Thursday from 11.00 to 3.00pm. Visitors enjoy chatting to our volunteers while they work and can buy our plants, fruit and veg for their supper!

On **Sunday 15 June** we will have our Nature Day, with a range of activities for all the family including bug hunting and pond dipping. Essex Bat Group, Essex Wildlife Trust and the RSPB will be with us. There will be facepainting and stalls and of course our volunteers will be providing refreshments.

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The History Society had a change of venue for May as the proposed visit to The Verulamium did not take place due to the site not being open.

A visit was arranged, however, for the afternoon of the 29th May to go to County Hall Hertford. HALS (Hertfordshire Archives and Local Studies) have offered to focus the visit on areas of particular interest to members present.

This visit is following on from an excellent talk given by Sarah Kerrison in February (Treasures of the Hertfordshire Archives).

Our June meeting will be on **26th June** when Alistair Hodgson will be coming along to give a talk on "The History of De Havillands Hatfield."

Our July meeting will be on **24th July** when Cristina Harrison will be coming along to give a talk on "The History of Hadham Palace"

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 and our programme please do not hesitate to get in touch with me (Kathy Hamilton). 01279 843 756

Hadham Cross Congregational Church

PREACHERS FOR SERVICES AT 11am

1st June	Tim Wells	Wormley Church
8th June	Mike Hillyer	Oakwood Chapel Harlow
15th June	Roger Amos	Sawbridgeworth Congregational Church
22nd June	Andrew Mayo	Spicer Street St. Albans
29th June	John Fosker	Therfield Congregational Church

Our next **COFFEE MORNING** will be on **Wednesday 11th June**, 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 26th June**, 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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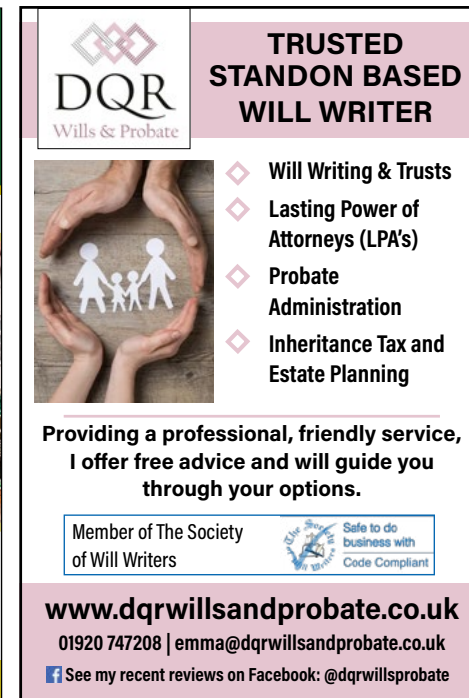
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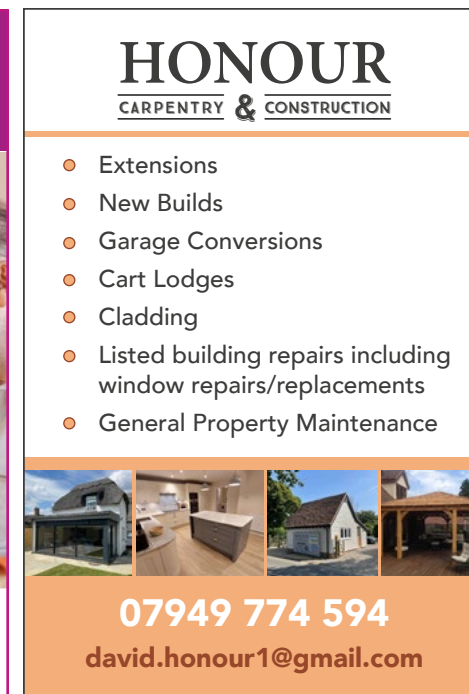
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Rural Ramblings

Cherry Mardell

It was going to be a leisurely holiday. Let the ship take the strain! As we waved goodbye to our relations, who had kindly driven us to the ship, we felt at peace with the world.

But nothing in our life seems to go to plan.

Two days later my husband complained of chest pains and was shot into the ship's medical centre. The pains ceased but we were put off in the next port of call to see a doctor. This we did, but it all took time ... we had to find someone who spoke the language.... but by the time we had the OK to carry on with the cruise, the ship had left us behind!

Instead we were booked into a hotel in Lisbon, Portugal, where we stayed for over a week, getting the OK from the local doctor... and then a family member booked us flights home.

We tried to make the best of it... the hotel was nice, but expensive,, so we survived on B&B! We found a local market which we explored a couple of times and one day took a ride to see the Lisbon sights... which were beautiful.

If we had been 50 years younger, the whole thing would have been a great adventure! But, at our age it was all a bit much!

Never been so relieved to see home again, even if the highlight of today is writing this and re-living the "holiday"!

And now starts the hard part - trying, via our insurance, to recoup the cost of everything... wish us luck!

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	Easter 7 1st June	Pentecost 8th June	Trinity Sunday 15th June	Trinity 1 22nd June	Trinity 2 29th June
St Andrew's Much Hadham		9:15am Benefice Holy Communion Tayo			
St Cecilia's Little Hadham			9:15am Benefice Holy Communion Tayo		
St Mary's Albury	9:15am Benefice Holy Communion Tayo			9:15am Benefice Holy Communion Tayo	
St Thomas Perry Green					9:15am Benefice Holy Communion Tayo

OTHER SERVICES:

Thursday 26th June

10am Little Hadham Communion

Tayo

Donating to St. Cecilia's

As well as the Parish Giving Scheme, cheques and cash, we have now caught up with modern technology and have Contactless Giving in the Church. You can also donate via our QR code.

Thank you



All are welcome to join our services