



LITTLE
HADHAM
PARISH
NEWS

MARCH 2025

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

Father Simon Our Assistant Area Dean writes:



It seems detective and crime fiction is as popular as ever. The TV listings are full of it and bookshops have it piled high.

It's always interested me why it's so popular. I've often found it odd that, in a world which already contains so much darkness and brokenness, somebody would then want to indulge in such fictional - though often similar - plotlines for entertainment and light relief.

Over the years, I've reflected on it, and it strikes me there are three reasons why these stories continue to draw us in.



Firstly, they're about people – often like us - and how they respond to their passions and to others. Secondly, crime and detective fiction take us on a journey

that stimulates the mind. Lastly, it seems to me that the stories of crime and murder we read and watch are oddly usually stories of hope; stories in which - albeit only eventually - good defeats evil and, by the end, a perpetrator will have been unmasked.



Why, I hear you ask, am I reflecting on this? Well, this month sees the beginning of Lent and

it strikes me that some of the things that might attract us to crime and detective fiction may also be true of Lent.



For example, just as crime fiction takes us on a journey of discovery, Lent should

also be a journey of discovery, leading us to the realisation that there is hope to be found at the end of the story; that through Jesus' Easter resurrection, good has defeated evil, and that God is in charge. Like a good crime story, Easter's the shocking twist at the end of the Lenten tale; the unexpected ending that brings a solution nobody at the time was expecting.

And like a good detective or crime story, Lent also invites us to reflect: to think about aspects of ourselves and others, and of how we interact with one another. We're fascinating, complex people, but it's easy to keep going in the usual way that we've always done. So it's worth taking time to stop and think in Lent about why we live the way we do, and whether we're responding to others in the way we should or want to.

But perhaps less frequently to be found in crime stories, Lent also gives us the opportunity to reflect upon God and our relationship with him; whether we're living the life that God would want us to live. It's an opportunity for us to not only engage our hearts but also our minds, and, perhaps through some daily reading, discover new aspects of God.

So, whilst you may be enjoying some crime fiction this Lent, I hope you'll also be able to spend some time reflecting upon the Holy Week and Easter story and how it might affect your life. There's a case to be solved there!

I pray that God will be with you on that journey.

Fr Simon

LITTLE HADHAM PARISH NEWS

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

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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 commend to God's care Roger John DAY (66) of Cradle End, whose funeral took place on Friday 31st January.

ADVERTISING ENQUIRIES

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

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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

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

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

Below is an edited excerpt from the minutes of the Little Hadham Parish Council meeting:

Chris Hinchliff, Labour MP for Northeast Hertfordshire attended the Little Hadham Parish Council meeting on Tuesday 4th February to answer any questions from members of the public:

Questions were raised regarding:

3/25/0043/SCREEN PROPOSAL: EIA Screening Opinion for up to 270 residential dwellings, access, public open space, land for community use and drainage at Land North Of Stortford Road.

Concerns were raised about current flooding to the houses already there, and a need to protect these houses. Building more houses without flood measures in place, will result in further and more extreme flooding. The flood risk will go up with the number of houses being built on the hill, also that the area will not qualify for flood relief from the government. Chris Hinchliff (CH) said, not an unexpected comment as there has been a lot of feedback from across the constituency and

he has asked for a meeting with the Environment Agency. He is happy to talk about the principals surrounding the planning but has no power in planning. CH is speaking to the Housing Minister that there is definite recognition that people don't want to see villages doubling in size which changes the character of the location and is not sustainable

A question was asked as to how much voice do we have and how much of an impact do our opinions have and how is the planning process defined. CH responded, through the democratic planning system. Important part is where the planning authority defend their plan should be engaging with the local communities that they are the right sites for housing developments. All residents who are impacted can put forward their views, but the planning system is not a numerical system. What you need to do is have very clear strong arguments how this relates to planning policy and how it's not meeting those policies. The Parish Council are statutory consultees. CH confirmed if the Parish Council want to write to him to allow him to follow

up on a response and to look at this very seriously. CH was asked how can we achieve rock solid objections CH said there are organisations that we could contact CPRE for example. Also, Parish Councils have huge amounts of knowledge on this. Also, the District council on what conditions will be considered

What is a Local Plan and a Neighbourhood Plan? East Herts are responsible for the Local Plan and the Parish Council are responsible for the Neighbourhood Plan. A Local Plan identifies the right sites to meet the needs of the area. Neighbourhood Plan is more village based. It was noted that Little Hadham doesn't have a village plan. It was voiced that there is willingness to get a village plan in place. CH said yes to our developing a neighbourhood plan. It was noted that the Parish Council have tried to create a plan but couldn't get volunteers.

-CH was asked what his priorities are. CH said he is happy to meet with communities, as there are common issues: public transport; planning and development.; affordable homes; social care reform; making sure we support our farmers.

Call for sites – what security do we have against further building and what can we do about that? CH has dialogue with the Council as to whether the sites are suitable.

Neighbourhood Plan

In light of this application and the above discussion, it was suggested that Little Hadham Parish Council should re-investigate whether there

is scope for a Neighbourhood Plan for the parish. Unfortunately, last time we reviewed this in 2023, there were not sufficient volunteers for this to be a viable option. However, that is not to say we have given up on the idea! Therefore, if you would be interested in volunteering to help with a Neighbourhood plan for Little Hadham, please do contact Carole onclerklittlehadham@gmail.com. Realistically, we would need at least 8 volunteers who would be able to give at least 4-6 hours a month of their time (potentially more some months and less in others). As can be seen from Much Hadham's neighbourhood plan, they are very detailed documents

www.eastherts.gov.uk/planning-building/planning-policy/neighbourhood-planning-activity-east-herts/much-hadham.

Anyone with planning experience would be particularly welcome!

Further information on what a neighbourhood plan is and can achieve is set out here - www.gov.uk/guidance/neighbourhood-planning--2

At the Parish Council meeting two residents stepped forward to offer their time, so we are not starting at 0 volunteers.

Volunteers needed	Volunteers on board	Total required
8	2 (Clerk and Parish Councillor)	6
6	2 members of the public	4

Down at the Doctors

Andrew Wilkinson, Practice Manager

www.muchhadhamhealthcentre.co.uk



You may have seen advertisements for the NHS 10-Year Health Plan, which the Government has encouraged the public to share their views on. The first question asks:

"If the 10-Year Health Plan is a success, what three words describe how using the NHS will feel in the future?"

Take a moment to think about it—and ask those around you as you read this, my answer is below. Visit change.nhs.uk to find out how you can take part.

Now, it's time to hand over to Tina Brown, our community paramedic, who has kindly written this month's article about her role:

I began my NHS career in 2003 with the then Essex Ambulance service as an Ambulance Technician. Over the next 16 years, I progressed to Paramedic status and witnessed the service expand, merging with neighbouring counties to form the East of England Ambulance Service. Personally, I believe this was a step in the wrong direction—as the saying goes, "too many chefs spoil the broth!"

Wanting to develop my skills further, I returned to university to complete my Minor Illness accreditation, which led to obtaining my prescribing certificate.

I then spent six wonderful years at a practice in Harlow, where I worked closely with care homes, saw patients in the surgery, and carried out home visits. Home visits, in particular, were especially rewarding—being out in the community has always been my true passion.

Since July 2024, I've taken on an exciting new role with the Stort Valley and Villages PCN, working across all the surgeries in Bishop's Stortford, Sawbridgeworth, and Much Hadham. Saying I love this job would be an understatement! I've always felt that housebound patients can sometimes go years without seeing medical staff, and visiting them in their homes gives me valuable insight into their well-being. My years in emergency care have given me a 'sixth sense' when assessing patients, ensuring they receive the care they need. Each visit is like a full 'MOT,' and if I have any concerns, I can always consult with a GP.

In addition to home visits, I work two afternoons a week at The Hub at Herts and Essex Hospital, seeing minor illness cases. I also have Fridays off—a little work-life balance!

Every Tuesday, I'm at Much Hadham, so if you see me around or receive a visit, don't hesitate to say hello. Take care, everyone, and remember to look after your health!

In response to the question above, I decided to go for F words:

- Fast – Quicker access to care, reduced wait times, and efficient services.
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Nikki & Louise
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Woodland Rangers have had a bustling month filled with activities and new adventures. The children were fascinated by the new fox holes discovered around the woods. This sparked an exciting session where they learned about foxes, their diet, and their lifestyle. Their curiosity led them on an exciting hunt for fox dens.

To celebrate the Lunar New Year, the children gathered around the campfire to cook noodles, which they enjoyed eating using chopsticks. This was a fun and tasty way to explore different cultures.

The Home Education group has been busy acquiring new skills. They have been honing their whittling abilities with knives, crafting unique whisks from recycled Christmas trees.


Valentine's Day brought a wave of creativity as the children concocted love potions using petals and coloured water. They also crafted heart wands out of wool and willow, generously donated by a local family.

During February half term, we hosted a couple of delightful family fun days that brought together all generations. Families enjoyed exploring the woodland together and cooking sausages around the campfire.



We are currently seeking additional woodland that is secure and private



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Do you recognise any of these people?



Judith Wheeler
Judithwheeler1@aol.com

This is an archive photo of 1st Hadham Rosebuds(Brownies) in 1914. The year girls from 8 years were allowed to join GirlGuiding. Brownies's continue to run weekly in the Village Hall and I ran Lt Hadham Brownies for over 20 years.

It's believed the first meetings in 1914 were held in Hadham Hall. Does anyone recognise any of the faces? If you do please contact me I have a keen interest the history of the Unit .
email: Judithwheeler1@aol.com

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"Great British Spring Clean" Challenge

The "Great British Spring Clean", a challenge organised by Keep Britain Tidy, runs from **21st March until 6th April 2025**. If you are fed up with seeing litter strewn around our village, why not grab yourself a litter picker and spend 15 minutes clearing an area, no matter how big or small, it all helps! It does make a difference, not only to our village but it also makes you feel good too.



A BEGINNER'S GUIDE TO LITTER-PICKING
 HELPING ANYONE BECOME A #LITTERHERO 2023

And if you want to get even more organised, why not head over to www.KeepBritainTidy.org/get-involved/support-our-campaigns/great-british-spring-clean where they have loads of support and advice for setting up your own regular litter picking group and becoming a litter picking hero! Including some really helpful downloadable guides on How to Organise a Litter Picking Event and how to Litter Pick like a pro!



HOW TO ORGANISE A LITTER-PICKING EVENT
 THE #LITTERHEROES GUIDE



You can sign up on their website as an individual, a group or a school and share the results of your litter picking on the Keep Britain Tidy website, they have a Collect & Count tool. It is a simple form you can access via their website, which they ask all #LitterHeroes to complete after their litter pick. They use the information shared to monitor and demonstrate the scale of the national litter problem and the impact of volunteer action.



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Little Hadham Gardening Club

Anne Willett

Our next meeting is on **Tuesday 18th March** at Little Hadham Village Hall when we will hold our AGM followed by a quiz with wine and nibbles. Doors open 7.45pm for 8.00pm start. The new Events & Autumn Show Schedule for 2025-2026 will be available and annual subs will be due and remain at £10 for the year. Non members £5. Everybody welcome.

How to build a bug hotel

Boost the diversity of your garden by making a bug hotel for insects to shelter inside. This is a layered structure of gaps and crevices to provide a home for lots of different types of mini beasts, such as ladybirds, spiders, beetles and wood lice. It needs to be placed somewhere flat for a secure and sturdy base, in moderate shade, and near plants, shrubs or trees so insects can easily access the hotel.

You will need :-

- Wooden Pallets x 4 - no more than 1 metre high.
 - Air Bricks (with holes in)
 - Bamboo canes, straw, leaves, twigs, loose bark and stones
 - Plastic bottles
 - Drilled logs, pine cones
 - Old tiles/broken pots
 - Recycled corrugated cardboard
1. Place a wooden pallet in your chosen location. If you have any old paving stones use these underneath so the wood does not rot. Place your next pallet on



top and repeat the process for all of the pallets. If you are worried about children climbing on it, you can secure each pallet with long screws.

2. Fill in the spaces with bricks, leaves, pebbles, stones, tiles, loose bark and straw. Also rolled up corrugated cardboard and bamboo canes. Cut off the top two thirds of plastic bottles and fill with bamboo canes or rolled up cardboard.
3. Add in any extra materials that you want to recycle, eg old pipes, toilet rolls, old plant pots.
4. Be creative - add a Welcome sign or give your hotel a name. If you are leaving the roof flat, then ensure the top is waterproof by using roofing felt or old roof tiles. The top could be decorated with several small pots with plants that will attract insects.

Come and join!

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Millennium Wood

Rachel Seifert

rachel.seifert@gmail.com

Signs of life have started to spring up in Millennium Wood this month. Snowdrops are nodding their heads, catkins wagging their tails, and primroses starting to show their faces in the odd dapple of sunlight. Green shoots are pushing up across the forest floor in the hope of more to come.

We had our last work party at the end of January - it was cold but a warming fire and roasted hot cross buns and marshmallows certainly kept all ages happy! We took down a few diseased ash trees and cleared a large area of tangled bramble which had taken over. This has created a clearing for wild flowers to hopefully attract a variety of pollinators throughout the warmer months. Hundreds of bulbs were planted - snowdrops, bluebells, daffodils, snakes head fritillary, alongside primrose plantlings. We bordered the area with some of the fallen logs in order to protect them from being trampled down. Seed bombs full of native wild species were then thrown by the children throughout the wood.

Some of these have already taken and as the weather warms there are lots of new shoots pushing up through the soil. We need to keep on top of the brambles, but hopefully when the spring finally comes this will add a splash of colour to the woodland floor and a much needed habitat for our bees and butterflies. We also put up a trail cam to check on the wildlife coming through



the wood at night - the children went through the photos seeing what they could spot and they were delighted to identify rabbits, foxes, muntjac deer and badgers all roaming through in the dark.

We happily finished the day just before the rain came down! Thank you to all who joined us - our next and last work party of this season will be on **Sunday 2nd March from 10am-1pm.**

Also please save the date as we are excited to announce that we are planning a gathering to celebrate the 25 year anniversary of the woodland on **Sunday April 13th**, so please join us from 1pm if you can! More details to follow...



Little Hadham Village Hall News

Jan Williams

www.littlehadhamvillagehall.com

We had an incredibly busy time with our village hall run community groups in February. The Community Breakfast was fully booked serving over 60 breakfasts. We also saw Brenda celebrate her 80th birthday who is always at the village hall kitchen sink dutifully washing up all your dirty plates and dishes either in the café or at breakfast. Thank you, Brenda, for all your hard work and Congratulations on your special birthday.

The Little Hadham Village Hall community would like to say a sad farewell to Rose Cooper from Much Hadham who passed away on 15th February 2025. She had been a volunteer and attendee at our hall for over 5 years and always sat in her special corner with a group of ladies in the Welcome Café. She will be sadly missed. Our thoughts are with her friends and family.



Tea and Bingo Afternoon

Our thanks to Herts County Council for awarding us a Festive Grant, which subsidised this event. Although there wasn't space within our busy hall calendar to hold an event in December or January, the festive grant allowed us to host a Tea and Bingo afternoon on Tuesday 4th February. Up to 40 people enjoyed three full games of

bingo with prizes of confectionery to the winners and afternoon tea for all to tuck into. Thank you to all who contributed towards the raffle which raised £125 towards village hall projects.



New - Darts and Games Social - Starts Tuesday 4th March

We are excited to announce that we are starting a Darts and Games Social afternoon, alternate Tuesday's from 2pm to 4pm, starting Tuesday 4th March. No need to book, just turn up!

We have installed a dart board in the Elm room and have a selection of card and board games available. If you just want to sit and chat, that's fine too. The social costs £3 per person to cover hall hire. Donations appreciated for refreshments provided.

Monthly Air Fryer Demonstrations

It was great to see new faces at the air fryer demos in February. We got off to a great start with Lisa, a new demonstrator who took the plunge and took to the stage as a true novice. Lisa, like many people, purchased an air fryer and then did what most of us do and use it to cook the easy things such as potatoes and chips. Lisa put herself into my hands and I gave her many tasks to perform in front of the audience. No rehearsals as we don't get time for such luxuries, and she took to it like a duck to water. We cooked Greek chicken with peppers and onion, roasted root vegetables, crushed new potatoes (then air fried), Courgette and feta pie in filo pastry and meatless Bolognese sauce with lentils (the star of the show) served with French bread. Brioche slices topped with peach slices and peach conserve glaze which caramelises with 3 – 4 minutes of air frying.

The Next demonstration is on Monday 10th March starting promptly at 7pm. Your generous cash donations support this event. Please visit our website for details and to book your place online.



Bishop's Stortford Sinfonia at Little Hadham Village Hall - Saturday 31st May

Little Hadham Village Hall will be hosting an afternoon tea on Saturday 31st May in partnership with Bishop's Stortford Sinfonia. Come enjoy a couple hours with friends and family while enjoying live music performed by Bishop's Stortford Sinfonia strings. The Sinfonia



has been delighting audiences in the local area for 9 years with its high-quality performances and is excited to be coming to Little Hadham to present an afternoon of much-loved music.

Tickets are £20 which can be booked online from the beginning of March when the program will also be available. Full details to follow.

Albury Village Hall Barn Dance/ Ceilidh - Saturday 22nd March

For tickets, please email Stephanie: dsstrouds@hotmail.com or phone: 01279 771 478

Chairman Vacancy

It is disappointing to report that we have not had any enquiries regarding the Chairman's vacancy. This post has been advertised for nearly a year now and there has been no interest.

In the past 2 years there have been no members of the public in attendance at the Village Hall AGM which is an indicator that maybe people are not interested in whether the village hall survives or not. Like all facilities, we take for granted something that is part of our community until one day it is shut, and people say why did it close. We are not the only village hall struggling for volunteers and I predict that the fate of many rural village halls will go the same way as many pubs as they can either no longer afford to stay open or just don't get the volunteers needed to run them.

If you are interested in getting involved with our dedicated management team, please get in touch. We would appreciate help with organising events and activities.

Our AGM is on **Tuesday 8th April at 7.30pm** in the main hall and is open to the residents of Little Hadham. Please come along and support your village hall and meet the hard-working volunteers that keep it going. There are volunteering opportunities that you can get involved in, that are fun to do, enable you to meet new people and take up very little of your time. We look forward to seeing you there.

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

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WE NEED HELP WITH:

- Community well-being projects
- Refurbishment and maintenance
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For information on how you can help, contact Joan McKinlay vice-chair@littlehadhamvillagehall.com or M: 07789 098071

WE ♥ OUR Volunteers



What's On in March @ 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 **11 am – 11:45** Mark Cox 07368 293 062
Digital Improvers **2 – 3:30pm** Jan 01279 771 272
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 **11 am -12noon** contact Daisy Osborne 07585 309 933 or email: daisy.af.osborne@gmail.com

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

FORTNIGHTLY

Tuesday 4th & 18th **2 – 4pm** Darts, games and social (£3 per session)
Tuesday 11th & 25th **2 – 4pm** Turn up & Play Scrabble (£3 per session)
 Annette: 07926 088 202
Wednesday 12th & 26th **1 – 2pm** Virtual Cycle Studio to book your place
 contact Sarah Baker 07740 701 102
Wednesday 5th & 19th **1 – 2pm** Tai Chi (Sarah Baker 07740 701 102)

MONTHLY

4th **7:30pm** Parish Council Meeting (main hall)
10th **7 – 9pm** Air Fryer Demonstration - pay on entry £7
13th **10 – 12 noon** Community Breakfast morning
BOOKING ESSENTIAL on website: littlehadhamvillagehall.com
 or email vice-chair@littlehadhamvillagehall.com
28th **9am – 1pm** Little City Kids role play

NOTICEBOARD

 **Herts Domestic Abuse Helpline**
08 088 088 088

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Friday 14th March
7pm

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

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

AnneRobson Trust

St Cecilia's Church Bells

Quasi

Teaching people to ring bells requires patience and dedication. In our local area we are fortunate to have a lot of people who are blessed with these attributes. At the end of the day few bell ringers 'know it all' as there is always more to learn, so we are all in it together. Bell towers always need new ringers so that services and celebrations can have a pool of people to ask to cover these events.


Learning to bell ring has a structure and progressive curriculum of skill development that should enable ringers to progress further and faster (although everyone learns at their own pace, which can also be dependant on how many hours of practice is put in every week). A new ringer's progress will be encouraged and supported by their trainer.

The novice starts by understanding what is happening to the bell when it is rung because we can not see it. Through practice we learn to 'feel' it through the rope. Due to the weight of each bell, it is important to know what to do, and just as importantly, what not to do, to avoid accidents. Slowly the learner starts to practice bell handling. When a bell is rung there is a hand stroke and a back stroke. Beginners will start by ringing the hand stroke only, whilst holding on to the tail of the rope at all times with the help of their trainer. Through repetition, when they are ready beginners will take control of the bell. To add variety and improve skills the beginner will ring on different bells. Each has a different weight, and also their own 'personalities'. The new ringer will learn the ringing action

with repetition. It is important that the beginner repeats the movements and actions accurately, achieved with explanation, demonstration, feedback and praise. Soon they will have mastered bell handling and bell control accuracy and be ready to take part in ringing with others.

Thanks must go to all the volunteers who not only ring the bells we all love to hear, but all those others who go a step further, investing their time to train the next generation of ringers.

It is a start of a learning journey which will be as unique as you are. If you want to give bell ringing a go, go to <https://riverashchurches.org.uk/river-ash-churches-bellringers/> for more information.



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The Hundred Parishes Society

Ken McDonald

www.hundredparishes.org.uk



One of the main crops of the rich agricultural area covered by The Hundred Parishes is barley, the main ingredient of traditional ales and beer. In the past, much of the barley was malted locally before being taken to a nearby brewery to be combined with water, hops and yeast for fermenting into beer.

Brewing was initially a domestic activity in the home for family consumption, on farms and estates for the landowner's family and workers, and in various institutions such as religious communities for those who lived in and visited them. As the demand for beer grew (safer to drink than 'fresh' water at the time) so did the brewing industry: public houses having their own brewhouses, commercial brewers working out of stand-alone breweries, and then the development of industrial scale brewery complexes.

Evidence of all these different types of breweries is to be found within the Hundred Parishes in the form of place names such as Brewery Lane in Stansted, Brewery House in Little Hadham; Little Brewers, a cottage in Matching Green; Brewery Cottage in Swards End; and Brewers House in Dunmow.

There are also surviving examples of the breweries from each of the various phases of the development of the industry. At Audley End House the estate's brewhouse survives although the internal features have

been lost. An example of a public house brewery survives as The Old Brewery in Radwinter, now a private house. In Hatfield Heath the former stand-alone brewhouse was converted to a corn mill before becoming commercial offices.

Three examples of brewhouses which were a part of industrial brewery complexes survive in Furneux Pelham, Wethersfield and Hartford End in Felsted. All three have been renovated and converted to private residential use.



Radwinter – The Old Brewery



Furneux Pelham – former brewery



Hatfield Heath – former brewery



Stansted Mountfitchet – Brewery House



Little Hadham – Nags Head and former Brewery House



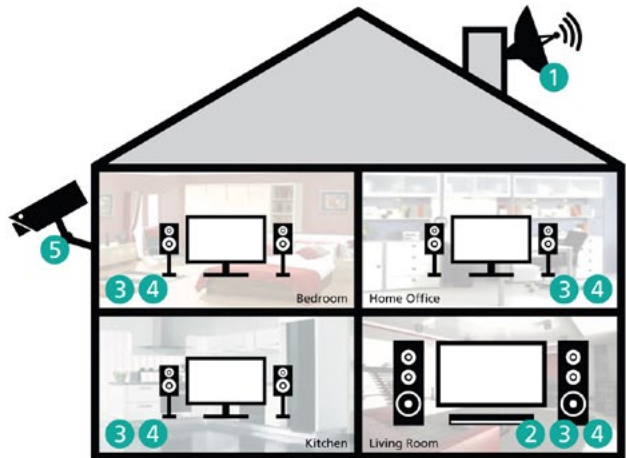
Felsted – former brewery at Hartford End - 2013



Felsted - former brewery at Hartford End - 2022

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News from the Venue Hub at Much Hadham Bowls Club

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

Events Open To All

The popularity and enjoyment of these events with both members and non members continued to grow with our Robbie Burns night on 25th January. The ceremony surrounding the haggis, 3 course meal, Scottish music and the evening rounded off with our DJ who strayed into music of a different genre which brought many to the makeshift dance floor, made a great evening.

Our next event, BINGO Plus was held on Saturday, 22nd February (still to happen at the time of writing) so more of that next month.

Future Events

Monday 17th March - St Patrick's Day

An evening of live music from Wheelie on piano and Mary on violin.

Sing-a-long, try an Irish jig, 2 course themed dinner and winding up with our ever popular MC/DJ. £15 pp

Saturday, 5th April -

Grand National Day

Wear a hat and join us to watch and cheer the BIG RACE. There will be a sweepstake to get us involved AND excited followed by a superb smoked salmon, avocado and blueberry salad. "Bubbly" (and other drinks) available at the bar from 3pm. Later, with our DJ. £7.50 pp

Thursday, 8th May - VE Day

A date for your diary

80 years to the day that peace came to Europe after 5 long years of casualties, separation, blackouts, bombing and severe rationing. Not difficult to imagine the relief, the joy and the exuberant celebrations of that day and we aim to recreate those celebrations. More details later.

BOOK EARLY as these events are often sold-out.

Call 01279 842 637 for bookings

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THE GARDENS OF EASTON LODGE

Jill Goldsmith
www.eastonlodge.co.uk



Daffodils follow on from the snowdrops at the Gardens and have a lovely long season. Did you know, there are 80 wild species (only 2 native to the UK); and over 30,000 different varieties of cultivated daffodils on the International Daffodil Register? At the Gardens we have planted Tete-a-tete for their early show – they give a really vibrant splash of colour along the top of the Italian garden from late February. They are followed by a host of naturalised varieties near the elephant statue and in the Lime Wood. Some of those were on the market in the early 1900s, so were probably planted when Peto redesigned the Gardens and built the treehouse for the Countess of Warwick in 1902. The memorial area in the Glade was established with daffodils and hyacinths. And more recently we have also planted late flowering narcissi to complement Camassia in the mini orchard at the top of the kitchen garden; to brighten the

tree cathedral in the Glade; and to add to the Japanese style garden near the platform with views onto the fishing lake.

The Gardens are not routinely open to the public in March but, if the weather is set fair, we sometimes open on Thursdays in late March – we announce this on our Facebook, Instagram or website www.eastonlodge.co.uk. So keep an eye out!

Of course our volunteers, who keep the Gardens looking so lovely, see the flowers as they emerge week by week. We take on **new volunteers** all year round and will be holding a new volunteers session on **Thursday 20 March**. As well as gardeners we are pleased to welcome volunteers who like to help with maintenance work, catering and front of house roles. There is something for everyone! You can find information and contact details on our website.

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The History Society met in January and held their Annual General Meeting. The meeting was very well attended and the meeting proved very fruitful with lots of ideas and suggestions put forward for the coming year.

The next meeting will be on Thursday **27th March 7:45pm for 8pm** in the Green Room Much Hadham Village Hall. At the moment we are hoping to arrange a speaker but when this is finalised members will be notified with all details and information.

Our Meeting in **April will be held on 24th April 7:45pm for 8pm**, in the Green Room Much Hadham Village Hall. Paul Jiggins will be coming along to give a talk on "The History of "The Frith - Welwyn" and I am sure that this will be very interesting.

If you would like to join our Society - you can come along as a visitor to see what we are about - all new members will be made very welcome.

Hadham Cross Congregational Church

PREACHERS FOR MARCH SERVICES AT 11am

2nd March	Sam Pakala	Oakwood Chapel, Harlow
9th March	Mike Hillyer	Oakwood Chapel, Harlow
16th March	John Fosker	Therfield Congregational Church
23rd March	Roger Amos	Sawbridgeworth Congregational Church
30th March	Sam Pakala	Oakwood Chapel, Harlow

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

Our next **AFTERNOON TEA MEETING** will be on **Thursday 27th March**, 2 - 4pm - All are welcome for tea/coffee cake and a chat.

Do come and join us on Sundays at 11am - all are very welcome to our Services.

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



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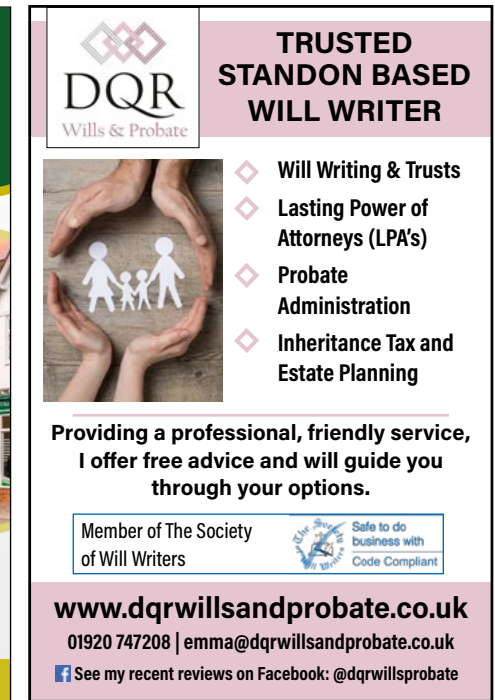
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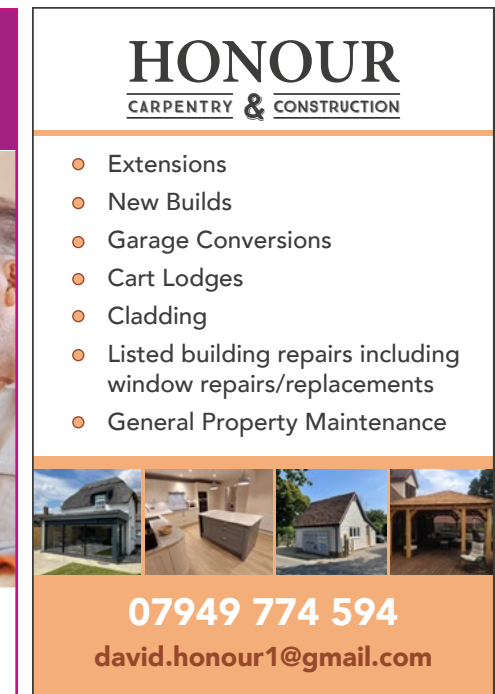
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Rural Ramblings

Cherry Mardell

When I reached a certain grand old age one of my friends gave me, for my birthday, a racehorse...well, it wasn't a whole horse but part of one... I like to pretend it was it's nose... cause that's the first thing that gets past the finishing post!

And now, five years later, I can claim to own two of them... yes, another "nose" hoping to be a winner.

I have done quite well all in all... a few wins, plenty of seconds and thirds and lots of nervous TV watching to make sure "my" horse comes through it all unharmed!

I'm part of a group of horse lovers who will never be able to afford to own a whole race horse, but is able to feel part of owning - just a fraction of - one!

We get regular updates from the top class trainers telling us about our animals, pictures and videos of them both racing and enjoying a rather posh life in the trainer's fabulous country stables. We hear about the bad (accident or injury but now on the mend) and the good (horse fit and raring to go).

We can apply for tickets to the racecourse where our horse will be competing as well as joining a group to visit the stables where they are being trained...unfortunately it would be an extremely long day as my horses are stabled many miles from here!

Just this afternoon I noticed that my horse was running in a race at Kelso and the event would be televised. I rushed to the TV to check... and yes, sure enough I could watch it. (...only trouble was that it was being televised on a channel which requires additional payment!)

I always knew that owning a racehorse was way out of my price range, but I still get a thrill when I see that moment when "my" birthday present comes in first!!

Editor's Note: *We are still on the lookout for a new columnist - as we will be very sad to lose Cherry as one of our writers after so many years.*

But we would welcome any budding columnists out there who would like to write for us regularly, so please do contact me if you'd like to discuss this or send me a sample piece at: littlehadhampn@gmail.com

We are on the lookout for new content editors in general as we have also lost Jono to the charms of Norfolk. So if you have an idea for a new regular feature about our village, let me know.

Parish Services March 2025

Benefice of: Little Hadham | Much Hadham | Albury

	Sunday next before Lent 2nd March	Lent 1 9th March	Lent 2 16th March	Lent 3 23rd March	Mothering Sunday 30th March
St Andrew's Much Hadham			9:15am Benefice Holy Communion Tayo		
St Cecilia's Little Hadham	9:15am Benefice Holy Communion Tayo			9:15am Benefice Holy Communion Tayo	
St Mary's Albury		9:15am Benefice Holy Communion Tayo			9:15am Benefice Holy Communion Tayo

OTHER SERVICES:

Wednesday 5th March 7:30pm Holy Communion + Imposition of Ashes
Much Hadham *Tayo*

Thursday 27th 10:00am Midweek Communion Little Hadham *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