

NOVEMBER 2024

REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE 10th November, 10:50am at the War Memorial

COME & CELEBRATE ST CECILIA'S DAY

22nd November, 6pm at the Church for hymns, beer & mulled wine.

HAVE YOU VISITED OUR BEAUTIFUL MILLENNIUM WOOD RECENTLY?

A successful workparty in October has seen the wood strimmed and tidied up ready for winter. See p.30

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

Father Simon Our Assistant Area Dean writes:



For me, the year's flying by. I can't believe we're already into the season of remembrance.

Armistice Day (11th November) originally marked the anniversary of the cessation of hostilities on the Western Front of World War One. But, like Remembrance Sunday (10th November), it's come to be the annual official moment when we remember all those millions who, over the many years, have lost their lives - or sacrificed their quality of life - in war and conflict for our country and its freedoms.

The colour red is always very much in evidence, with poppies fashioned into wreaths to be laid at war memorials across the country and worn on lapels.

Each year, over 45 million poppies are sold across England, Wales and Northern Ireland for the welfare of veterans, reminding us of the poppies which grew, over a hundred years ago, across the war-torn fields of Flanders and reminding us of the same colour which was shed by all those who tragically lost their lives in the name of peace.

But the poppy is also a symbol of hope. In Flanders, the poppies soon spread over the scars of war - a great red carpet of new life. And in honour of the fallen in both wars and in the conflicts since - and for the sake of the future - we have to continue building on the agony of the past



distressed humanity.

But there is another symbol of hope: the cross, often worn proudly by those who profess and live out the Christian life.

Just as the poppy symbolises the blood shed in war for peace and justice, the cross symbolises the blood shed by Jesus in a war against evil and sin in all its forms, as he gave his life willingly - not only for his friends but also for his enemies - so as to offer redemption to us all.

Just as the poppy spreads living beauty in the midst of destruction and death, and speaks to us of perseverance, new life and hope, the cross teaches us that through bitterness, desolation, and cruelty, hope and love can still spring up and spread the love and grace of God.

But both of these symbols - the poppy and the cross - must also inspire us to action. Our greatest 'thank you' to those who died in war and to those who still suffer, is to be not only reconciled to ourselves and then to work for reconciliation. calling out hatred, prejudice, and racism wherever and whenever we find it because for the goodness of our tomorrow, they gave their today.

With God's love



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

www.riverashchurches.org.uk

EDITORIAL DEADLINE

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

(BACS preferred, email the editor for details.)

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

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



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 Cecila'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.

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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.

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

Nothing from the registers this month.

Church Roof Fund – Update Helen Walker

For those of you who regularly pass by Church End, you will no doubt be wondering why the scaffolding at the rear of the church is still in place. Regretfully the much-needed roof repairs are far greater than was initially anticipated and not helped at all by the torrential rain in recent weeks. There has been further water ingress to the church itself and now there is also scaffolding inside to allow a further roof-related problem to be investigated. For safety reasons the church has had to remain locked except for planned services, when usually it is open to all during daylight hours.

We continue to be enormously grateful to Connect Scaffolding Ltd who have very generously also donated the interior scaffolding, and we sincerely hope that repairs can be completed quickly.

Due to unforeseen circumstances our planned **Festival of Music on 23rd November has been CANCELLED**. We have however been able to organise a further **HYMNS AND A** BEER session in its place, which will be on St Cecilia's Day itself - FRIDAY 22 NOVEMBER FROM 6:30pm. All refreshments (beer, wine, mulled wine, soft drinks and snacks) are free and all we ask is for a cash donation. Please do come along to celebrate, to choose and sing your favourite hymns, meet old friends and maybe make some new ones. All are welcome to raise the

by-then-hopefully-repaired roof!

In addition to our various fundraising events, we have continued to receive kind donations and we are truly grateful for the very generous support of all who have contributed since this Appeal began in January. As Christmas approaches, please do consider donating in lieu of sending cards this year. Please also remember if you are a UK taxpayer, you can boost your gift, no matter how small it is, by 25% so please contact Karin Green (Church Warden) for a declaration form (churchwardenstcecilias@ gmail.com or tel. 01279 771 532).





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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

	5th November 24	3rd December 24	4th February 25	4th March 25
1st April 25	6th May 25	3rd June 25	1st July 25	2nd Sept 25
7th October 25	4th November 25	2nd December 25		

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



Chris Hinchliff *Member of Parliament for North East Hertfordshire*

Will be at the Little Hadham Parish Council meeting on the 5th November to take questions from residents there. Do come along for 7.30pm on Tuesday, 5th November. This is your chance to have your voice heard.

Community Flood Group

At the Parish Council meeting on the 2nd October, it became apparent that people have real concerns regarding flooding in the village. With that in mind, it was suggested we start a Community Flood Group and work with East Herts to develop our Flood Plan. This will give us the framework for further discussions with the Environment Agency and East Herts Council on flood alleviation at the Village Hall, the Ford, run off from the fields down Ford Hill. Contact the clerk to register your interest and also any other areas that are affected by surface run off water or general flooding.

It is a very exciting time for the Parish Council. We have many projects in the pipeline but lack the councillors to help execute them. We need 2 new councillors. If you would like to join us, please contact the clerk on: clerklittlehadham@gmail.com

clerklittlehadham@gmail.com 01920 870809 07825 011975





Snowman Challenge

The **14th of December** is the date for the Parish Council Christmas Meet and Greet at the village hall, and it would be lovely if you could come along.

- This year we are pleased to say, we will have an extra quest! Santa
- is bringing his sleigh and will
- be joining us for the festivities.
- I'm sure he will be happy to give some presents out as well!

To make him feel welcome we have decided to have a snowman competition and display them in the car park for him to see. Maximum size one metre and made of whatever materials

- are to hand. Everyone free to have a go and get creative!
- Please contact Judi at:
- judithwheeler1@aol.com
- for more details & ideas.
- Further details next month.

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Down at the Doctors

Andrew Wilkinson, Practice Manager

www.muchhadhamhealthcentre.co.uk

Last month's annual flu clinic was a huge success, with over 1,000 patients receiving their vaccinations in just three hours. The car park was incredibly busy but brilliantly managed by Bob and Kay Kerr, and Paul Barnes, who ensured smooth traffic flow. A big thank you to them, as well as to Jan Williamson and Gina Turnstill, who kept us all refreshed with tea and biscuits.

A special congratulations to Dr. Rajah, who claimed the top spot as the leading vaccinator, closely followed by Dr. Tish – proof that youth has its perks!

If you were unable to attend the flu clinic, please contact reception and we will get you booked in.

In recent years, GP practices have benefited from additional staff, allowing GPs more time to focus on chronic and complex cases. However, NHS England has noted that patients often don't fully understand these new roles and their purpose.

To address this, we've chosen a simple, effective solution: leaflets. These provide background information, names, and details of each role. We distributed several hundred leaflets at the clinic, so now there's no excuse not to know who the pharmacist or paramedic



is and how they can assist you! Leaflets are available at reception / dispensary if you would like one.

On a brighter note, our Health Centre is a finalist for Practice of the Year, covering Hertfordshire and Essex! This recognition is based on outstanding patient satisfaction, community engagement, support for the elderly and isolated, and staff health and wellbeing.

The awards ceremony will be held on Wednesday, November 6th, and we have our fingers crossed. Regardless of the outcome, being a finalist is a phenomenal achievement. A heartfelt thank you to our incredible staff, doctors, and, of course, our wonderful patients. I'll share the results in next month's edition!

Best wishes,

Andrew





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Nikki & Louise www.woodlandrangers.co.uk

This past month at Woodland Rangers has been a whirlwind of excitement and learning, highlighted by the thrilling announcement of our official approval by OFSTED! We were delighted to welcome the Ofsted Inspector to our unique outdoor learning environment, and we're proud to say that Woodland Rangers is now recognised as an approved childcare provider. This milestone reflects our commitment to providing high-quality education and care in the great outdoors.

As we continue to embrace the beauty of the changing seasons, our learners have engaged in a variety of hands-on activities designed to foster creativity and exploration. One of the standout events was Conker Week. Children eagerly drilled holes in conkers, built impressive conker runs using pipes and guttering, and let their imaginations run wild with conker animal creations. To top it all off, we even crafted conker soap an interesting sensory experience!

Following the excitement of conkers, we dived into a Gruffalo themed week. Inspired by the beloved children's book, we explored the different habitats of the characters, including the mouse, fox, owl, and snake. We also included a delicious cooking session where we made Gruffalo Crumble over the campfire.

This week, our focus shifted to the fascinating world of owls. The children learned about these magnificent creatures, their habitats, and behaviours.

As we approach the end of the halfterm, we're gearing up for a series of exciting Halloween themed activities and celebrations, ensuring our little rangers finish the term with plenty of spooky fun!







Little Hadham Primary School

Sinead Connolly, Head Teacher

A Busy and Exciting Start to the New School Year!

It's been an incredibly busy and exciting half term this the new school year. From school elections and art trips to breaking codes and even attempting to break a world record, our children have been immersed in a whirlwind of activities!

A special mention goes to our Year 6 pupils for their remarkable efforts during our recent elections. A record number of students courageously stood in front of the entire school to deliver their speeches, all hoping to be elected as school captains. Their confidence and presentation skills were truly impressive, making it easy to forget they're still in primary school! We are thrilled to announce our new school captains: Belle and Dylan! They will be well-supported by our vice-captains: Max and Abigail. Congratulations to them all on this well-deserved achievement!

In addition, we'd like to introduce our new school council members: Jacques, Sachin, Joe, Hugh, Wilf, Walter, Rosie, and Evie, and our fantastic Green Team: Caden, Harrison, Alice, Michael, Louis, Ellie, Charlie, and Kali. With such dynamic teams in place, we are sure this will be an exciting year ahead.

Also, we welcomed back the wonderful team from Coram Life Education for a series of SCARF/PSHE workshops. These workshops focus on promoting positive behaviour, mental health, resilience, and achievement. Our children were thrilled to meet Harold the Giraffe once again and engaged in lively discussions on topics like "All About Me" and how our bodies work.



The SCARF workshops provide an essential part of our curriculum, helping students explore personal, social, and emotional issues in a safe and supportive environment. The children's thoughtful participation was inspiring, as they learned valuable skills to navigate life's challenges with empathy and confidence.

Maple Class took a trip to the Henry Moore Studios and Gardens, and it was an amazing experience for everyone involved! The children had the chance to explore creative processes with plaster, casting natural objects and carving their designs. Both students and teachers had a fantastic time, as the children unleashed their artistic skills and learned new techniques. We are lucky to have such a treasure on our doorstep!

12



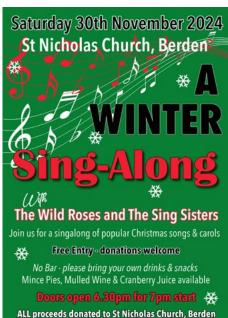
Furthermore, in an exciting twist, Willow Class and Lime Class had the unique opportunity to take part in a Guinness World Record attempt! On National Poetry Day, our students joined renowned poet Laura Mucha and thousands of children country in an attempt to break the record for the 'Largest Poetry Lesson Taught Across Multiple Venues'. The lesson, themed on 'counting,' resulted in a collaborative poem that will be shared nationwide. It was a memorable experience for our students to

across the

be part of something so extraordinary.

As you can see, it's been a thrilling start to the year, and we look forward to all the exciting adventures yet to come!





Little Hadham Gardening Club

Anne Willett



Our next club meeting will be on **26th November** with our popular Xmas Wreath Workshop. Doors open at 7:45pm for a start at 8pm. Cost for members £12 non-members £17. Please contact Gail on 07800 764 414 or a committee member to book your place.

On the Saturday before, **23rd November**, we are holding our **Club Supper**. Doors open 7pm with sit down at 7:30pm. Cost is £20 per person including wine and soft drinks.

Menu as follows:-

Main:- Fish Pie or Moussaka or Beef stew and Mashed Potato

all served with tender stem broccoli and garlic bread

Dessert:-Chocolate Brownie and Ice Cream or Tropical Fruit Pavlova

As usual there will be a short fun quiz. Please contact a committee member to book your place. Winter flowering plants:- are perfect for adding a splash of colour to the garden in the coldest, darkest months, helping to extend the season of interest beyond the traditional growing season of spring to autumn.

There is a huge range of winter flowering plants including climbers such as winter clematis and winter honeysuckle, shrubs and bedding plants like winter pansies. Many are suitable for growing in pots so you can add a splash of colour anywhere you fancy, perhaps a colourful display outside your front door is enough to bring some winter cheer.

Some also benefit pollinators providing pollen and nectar for species such as bumblebees which are increasingly found foraging in the winter months.

Plants to consider:- Snowdrops, Cyclamen winter Heather, Hellebore, winter Honeysuckle, winter flowering Clematis, Aconites and Daphne.

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Ehumble ine



Private 33157: Isaac Fox

Mike Smith mike.s1937@gmail.com

In October 1910 Isaac married Alice Chapman from Berden in Essex. They settled locally and moved into No1 Tile Kiln Cottages in Cradle End. Isaac was employed as a Butchers assistant; probably by Charles Baker & Son, at a shop which is now part of Ash Cottage near the traffic lights.

He subsequently enlisted as Private 33157, with the 4th Battalion of the Bedfordshire Regiment. In August 1918 they were engaged in the Battle of Albert, and with tank support, attacked the advancing enemy near Miraumont. During this action on 23rd August, Isaac aged 31, was killed. He is buried at Achiet-le-Grand Communal Cemetery extension, near Arras, and is also commemorated on Little Hadham War memorial.

From the Herts and Essex Observer Saturday 27 August 1923

In ever loving memory of my dear husband Private Isaac Fox, killed August 23rd 1918

Gone is the face I loved so dear Silent the voice I longed to hear, So far away from sight or speech But not too far for thoughts to reach. Days of sadness still to come o'er me, Hidden tears that often flow: For memory keeps my dear one near me Although he died three years ago **From his loving wife Alice**

And on Saturday 30th August 1924

I shall never forget him, I loved him so dearly,

For his memory to fade from my life like a dream,

My lips need not speak when my heart mourns sincerely,

My grief often dwells where it seldom is seen

From his loving Alice

Alice did not marry again until 15th September 1945 when she was 61; to Thomas Coster 64, a retired Commercial Traveller. in St Cecilia's Church. She died In 1966 aged 82.





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Much Hadham Bowls Club

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



Little Hadham Village Hall News

Jan Williamson

www.littlehadhamvillagehall.com

The arrival of the colder wetter months can often bring challenges with it, not least for our village hall, which is of wooden construction and more than fifty years old. In October, circumstances forced our hand and the flat roof over the side extension of the Ash Room and Rowan Room (Formally Doctor's Surgery/Post Office) had to be replaced. This was extensive work including improving insulation and scaffolding for safety purposes at a total cost of £8,650. October also brought a problem with our heating system with old, concealed pipe work, providing us with an unidentified leak. At the time of writing, we are getting guotes for a repair and the leak has been located. Apologies to anyone who found the hall to be a little chilly at that time. On a more positive note, our annual insurance premium has not been increased this year, so we will again, be paying £8,202.88. I am sure you will agree that this still an enormous sum to find every year, but until the flood cover is removed the cost remains high.

Keeping fit over the Winter

The hall now hosts a range of exercise classes, hopefully there is something to suit most abilities. Daytime we have Chair Yoga, Tai Chi, Forever Fit and are pleased that Forever Cycling is back again on alternate Wednesday afternoons supported by Sarah Baker. Please note the new time is 1pm – 2pm. Evening classes are Hatha



Yoga and Fit Steps. Please see the village hall website for details and contact the organiser to join the class. www.littlehadhamvillagehall.com

In addition to these groups, we are delighted to introduce an opportunity for you to join a new group, Little Hadham Ramblers. Carole Page (Parish Council Clerk) is a keen walker and will be leading walks monthly, on a Wednesday from 10am. If you are interested the first walk is on **Wednesday 30th October**, for further dates, please phone Carole M:07825 011 975. This walk is FREE, although a donation of £2 to the village hall, would be gratefully received. Just turn up at the Welcome Café at 10am. Please bring walking boots



or stout footwear and a change of shoes if entering the Café. Order a hot meal before you set off, to enjoy in the Café when you return from your walk. The Welcome Cafe does not have a price list, it is your generous donations for meals and refreshments that keep the Café open.

Air Frying Demonstrations

Monday 14thOctober was the last evening Air Fryer demonstration this year. Thank you to Judi Wheeler who demonstrated how to use a Halogen Air Fryer to make delicious scones and to Gina and Brenda for supporting the event. Other dishes made in an Air Fryer were stuffed marrow with sausage meat, sage, and apricot. A vegetarian stuffing was also available. Chinese stir fry of vegetables with terivaki sauce and Chinese sesame chicken. Drunken mushrooms in a sherry and cream sauce with orzo pasta. Lastly Mediterraneum vegetables with tomato sauce, topped with parmesan.



Hopefully, new dates for evening Air Fryer demonstrations should be coming in the new year. In the meantime, small teaching groups are being held by other volunteers. If you are interested in attending one of the small groups held during the day, please get in contact for details and availability. Phone Jan: 07710 325 363 or email: chairvillagehall@littlehadham.org.uk.

Annual Meet and Greet Event - Saturday 14th December

We are joining up with Little Hadham Parish Council to bring you a fun afternoon of activities and competitions. Chat to Parish Councils, village hall volunteers and visit Father Christmas! Find out what's happening locally. Please come along to this FREE event and support your community, refreshments available. Open from 3.00pm to 5.30pm.

Red Chair Community Cinema - Relaxed Screenings

Our next afternoon screening is **Dream Horse** (2020) on **Monday 16th December. Doors open at 2.30pm**, entry £7.00, please pay at the door. (Carers free) Film starts promptly at 3.00pm. Tea/Coffee included in your entrance fee.

Full details of all upcoming films are on the village hall website. Don't forget, our evening film screenings too. Please see website for details or email redchaircinema@ littlehadhamvillagehall.com

Donate to Us

Organised fund-raising events during the year are well supported and we are grateful for your

generous cash donations in support of activities. However, unfortunately, events and activities alone are not enough to cover the cost of running the hall. Because of this, we have various ways you can help support the village hall with full details available on our website. If you can, please consider joining up to one or more of these options.

Easy fundraising - Easy fundraising partners with over 7,000 brands who will donate part of what you spend to us, and it won't cost any extra. Brands pay a commission when you start your shop from the easy fundraising website or App. When you make a purchase, a commission



is generated, and Easy funding turns that into a donation to the village hall.

Just Giving - Please help us by donating towards maintenance and refurbishment of the village hall. Funds are needed for refurbishment/ replacement of floors, toilets and essential roof repairs. You can make a one-off or monthly donation.

East Herts Lottery - Please support us through East Herts Lottery. Every ticket bought means we can do more towards maintenance work and refurbishment projects.

Other ways to donate – If you would like to make a direct donation to the village hall, please contact us for bank details.



What's On in November @ 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	
Digital Improvers drop in	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 Hatha Yoga Class	2 – 4pm 6:45 -7:30pm	Kirsty Smith 07903 035 180 km.rabs@gmail.com	
FRIDAY'S Indoor Bowls	7:30 – 10pm	except 2nd Friday	
Fancy Feet Children's Dance	4 -5:30pm	Term Time Only Hannah 07538 262 835	
FORTNIGHTLY			

Tuesday 15th & 19th	2 – 4pm	Turn up & Play Scrabble (£3 per session) Annette: 07926 088 202
Wednesday 6th, 20th	1 – 2pm	Virtual Cycle Studio to book your place contact Sarah Baker 07740 701 102
Wednesday 13th & 27th	1 – 2pm	Tai Chi (Sarah Baker 07740 701 102)

MONTHLY & EXTRA EVENTS

5th	7:30pm	Parish Council Meeting
10th	9am	Little Hadham Antiques Fair
14th	10 – 12 noon	Community Breakfast morning BOOKING ESSENTIAL on website: littlehadhamvillagehall.com or email vice-chair@littlehadhamvillagehall.com
26th	7:30pm for 9:30pm	Garden Club
29th	9am - 1pm	Little City Kids role play



NEW COVER РНОТОЅ

I would like to update the cover of our Little Hadham magazine to better reflect what is going on in the village. There will still be photos of our beautiful countryside but I would also like to introduce more event based covers. So if you are writing an article for the magazine, consider if there is a good cover photo we could use to showcase your event or story. Or if you have witnessed something unusual or interesting going on in the village...

Please send your photos to me at:

littlehadhampn@ gmail.com

Make sure they are hi-resolution, and have a relatively clear space top right or left hand side for the name and issue of the magazine. :-) I look forward to seeing what you send ...

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THE PARISH COUNCIL ARE LOOKING FOR 2 NEW COUNCILLORS. MAYBE **ONE OF THEM COULD BE YOU?**

It is a very exciting time for the Parish Council. We have many projects in the pipeline but lack the councillors to help execute them. We need 2 new councillors. If you would like to join us, please contact the clerk on: clerklittlehadham@gmail.com

See what we're currently working on in our article on page 6.





Nature Notes

Jono Forgham

The weather has kept me in recently and on the occasions I did manage to venture outside, the frosts we have had seem to have finished off plenty of the insects.

Several moth sessions in Stocking Wood. These have given new records for the parish as well as a fair few new moths for the wood iteself. Two micro moths were particularly pleasing. Both new for the parish: Scrobipalpa costella and Scrobipalpa ocellatella. These two take my running total of moth species for the parish to 859.

Earlier in the month there were still a few butterflies on the wing, particularly Red Admiral and Brimstone.

A walk along the tow path to Sawbridgeworth gave good views of both Stonechat and Raven whilst in Millennium Wood, a Grey wagtail was noted at the pond and the last of the dragon and damselflies were resting in nearby willows.

The highlight for the month was encountering a rare fungus in Stocking Wood. The Wrinkled Peach fungus (Rhodotus palmatus.) This species invariably grows on dead Elm which needs to have been a mature tree. Not many of these about compared to the 1970's when dead elms were everywhere courtesy of Dutch Elm disease. I was very pleased to find this rarity, growing on a rotting, fallen elm trunk. Yet another significant species found

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in this magnificent, part ancient woodland. What other secrets are still there to be discovered?







rinkled Peach Fung









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Millennium Wood

Jono Forgham

A successful work party on Sunday 13th October meant we managed to get plenty done in time for the winter months.

A large Dogwood was coppiced to permit light on to the path and help a coppiced hazel come back strong. Plenty of plant species were put into an area I have earmarked as a wildflower glade. These should come up brilliantly next spring and attract many bee and other insect species.

Brambles were removed from around the firepit area as well as along the perimeter of the paths whilst the whole area around the pond was strimmed.

I will soon be having a meeting with someone who has expressed an interest in taking over the running and upkeep of the wood. Hopefully more news on this next month, but I am feeling positive. Since my recent operation, I am now not permitted to wield heavier tools and during the work party was limited to using secateurs on brambles and putting stuff on the fire. All rather frustrating. Not much good when Hazels need coppicing and infected Ash need felling.

The whole wood is looking very healthy at present. Later this winter at least 10 large Ash will be felled and logged. This will mean more ground level growth, so more wildflowers will be planted and plenty of seeds be sown straight into the prepared soil.

jonoforgham@gmail.com





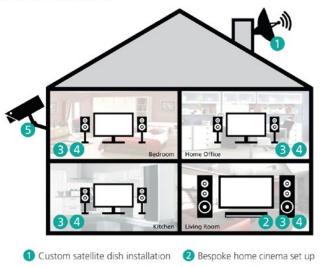




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The Hundred Parishes Society Ken McDonald

One of the best ways to enjoy and appreciate our wonderful area is on foot, so the Hundred Parishes Society's website has always included a selection of walks. They have generally been focused on footpaths but last winter's exceptional rain made many paths difficult. This prompted us to develop a new series of walking routes that do not use any footpaths. We hope our "Quiet Lane Walks" will appeal to anyone who does not like cleaning boots and also perhaps to families, people with mobility problems or less-energetic cyclists.

Our website now has almost 40 Quiet Lane Walks in addition to over 100 established routes. You can find a route that suits you by either scanning the lists of walks or by going to a specific parish introduction to see which route numbers go there - the Quiet Lane walks start with the number 3. We have put together guiet lane routes that visit 41 of our hundred parishes but we would welcome suggestions for more - just email a simple route outline to hundredparishes@ btinternet.com and we will put together a full route description.

The new routes range in distance from 1 mile to 12 miles and pass through typical Hundred Parishes territory: lovely villages and attractive countryside, often with an inviting café or pub.



descriptions can be freely

Route

downloaded from our website and then printed. The descriptions should ensure that nobody gets lost and they include snippets of information about places along the way.

If you do not have access to the internet but would like some walk suggestions, please write to The Hundred Parishes Society, 2 Greenfields, Stansted Mountfitchet CM24 8AH. We will send you a list of available routes and then print some for you. There is no charge.















THE GARDENS OF **EASTON LODGE**





October was a busy month for the Trustee who is leading the work to consider the next steps for the restoration of the Italian Garden. We have photos of the sunken garden as it was completed, with its stone faced parapets and walls, stone steps and paving fresh, smooth and pale. We restored the balustrade around the lilypond in 2021 and have now built up the Trust's funds again, so we can support more match funding. There are lots of potential options for the next project, so we are drawing up plans to help us determine the best order for our investments in the Garden. It will be challenging work for specialists, so will take a while - but it is exciting to be on the case again and we will report on progress!

With the gates closed and no visitors till the snowdrop season in February,

volunteers' efforts will be to put the Gardens to bed for the winter and seasonal planting. The big departure will be to lift the dahlias to look after the tubers that survived the insatiable slugs and

snails in the early summer - it will be a chance for a stock take, ready for a big refresh of the dahlia border next year. Damage from local deer continues to be significant, so we will need to work on making new tree plantings even more secure.

And we have other big winter projects in mind too, including further work to extend the Japanese style garden, improvements to the entrance area and erecting a greenhouse to enable us to do more propagation from our plants.

For more information about the Trust go to www.eastonlodge.co.uk. One of the Trust's volunteers provides talks to local groups about the history of Easton Lodge, the Countess of Warwick and the Gardens. If you would like to arrange a talk contact us on enquiries@eastonlodge.co.uk.

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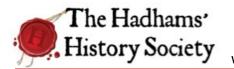
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www.thehadhamshistorysociety.org.uk

Kathy Hamilton

The Hadham's History Society met in September when Tim Turner from Sworders Auctioneers came along to speak on "240 Years and Counting" and everyone thought this was a very interesting talk and evening.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 28th November, 7:45 pm for **8pm** in the Green Room Much Hadham Village Hall. Christopher Hadley will be coming along to give a talk on "The Road - Braughing to great Chesterford".

Our December meeting is to be arranged.

Please come along to our meetings you will be made very welcome.

Hadham Cross Congregational Church

PREACHERS FOR NOVEMBER SERVICES AT 11am

3rd November	Sam Pakala
10th November	Mike Hillyer
17th November	Roger Amos
24th November	Andrew Proudfoot

Oakwood Chapel Harlow Oakwood Chapel, Harlow Sawbridgeworth Congregational Church Therfield Congregational Church

Our next **COFFEE MORNING** will be on **Wednesday 13th November**, 10am- noon. Please do come and join us for coffee/tea cake and a chat.

Our next **AFTERNOON TEA MEETING** will be on **Thursday 28th November**, 2 - 4pm - Again please do come and join us for coffee/tea cake and a chat. Please bring along things for a Bring and Buy Sale and any books that you have read and wish to pass on. All are welcome - we will be very pleased to see you.

Our next **BIBLE STUDY GROUP** will be on **Wednesday 20th November**, from 2 - 3:30pm. All are invited to join us you will be very welcome.

AGAIN, A PLEA FOR HELP!

Playing the organ or a musical instrument at our 11am Sunday morning service. Further details contact Kathy Hamilton. Help with this would be very much appreciated.

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



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Rural Ramblings

Cherry Mardell

Over the years I've worked in all kinds of offices from the traditional madcap newspaper office to the pretty, prim and slightly posh "public relations" set ups where there is always one room in the business which is kept clean and smart - in which all potential customers are entertained!

But since retiring from the rat race (which I did a few years ago), my office is now a room in our house, given over to my totally untidy desk, computer and reams and reams of paperwork! It is a cold room, the coldest in the house, and, as I glance over the heaps of unanswered mail, bills and assorted grot, I wonder if I'll ever get it back to look worklike again!

Yet there is something about my 'office' which draws me in every day. There's the emails which arrive daily.... 99 per cent of which should go straight into the proverbial dustbin. Most of them are trying to sell me something anything from time consuming recipes to wonderful offers of cut price cruises or news of the latest pill guaranteed to knock 20 years off my ageing body!

I am not alone is this room. I share it with all the stuff in the house which doesn't have a home! The photo albums take up much of the space. We now have three shelves of pictures of our much loved long-distance holidays, many spent in the USA.

I do occasionally look through some of them... but the sight of a slimmer, younger me with friends who are no longer here makes me sad!

All the old photos from our previous holidays are stacked here and we

sometimes look through them with the aim of weeding out a few - but nothing really gets thrown!

There is a cupboard in one corner which hardly ever gets opened but which, I understand, contains certain things preme... so I don't look in it very often!

The room boasts a huge old fireplace, which I'm told the family used to use when the children were young. I now fill it with paper flowers... and additional junk!

Then there is room for a small but hardy settee. It doesn't get any use because it is usually filled with books, maps and music plus various assorted framed pictures... they take turns going on the only wall that has any space left!

Yes, I could clear away a lot of it, maybe I should. But the last almost 25 years of my life is in this room and I'm not sure I'm ready to say goodbye to any of it!

You could say I'm lucky in that I have a whole room to call my own. Few people enter here... they are put off, I'm sure, by the sheer jumble of it all. But having one's own domain is really quite something ... you should try it some day!

P.S. My left arm is now my flu arm while my right one is, of today, my Covid one. The flu jab was good and I didn't feel any after effects. The Covid one was this morning, done at a chemist shop... too soon to know if it is going to give me any after-effects.

I was all ready to leave for the weekend staying with my son and his family...only to receive a call just now to say stay home ... they were all ill - with Covid.

You just can't win!

Parish Services November 2024

Benefice of: Little Hadham | Much Hadham | Albury

	4th before Advent	Remembrance Sunday	2nd before Advent	Christ the King
	3rd Nov	10th Nov	17th Nov	24th Nov
St		10:50am	9:15am	
Andrew's Much		War Memorial Service	Benefice Holy Communion	
Hadham		Nick	Тауо	
St	9:15am	10:50am		9:15am
Cecilia's Little	Benefice Holy Communion	War Memorial Service		Benefice Holy Communion
Hadham	Тауо	Edward Middleton		Tayo
St Mary's Albury		9:15am Benefice Holy Communion <i>Tayo</i>		
		10:50am Remembrance in Church <i>Tayo</i>		
Thur 28th	10am	Little Hadham C	communion	Тауо

Fri 22nd 12 midday LH Said Service for Patron Saint Tayo

FRIDAY 22ND NOVEMBER - ST CECILIA'S DAY 6PM: HYMNS, BEER & MULLED WINE

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