

LITTLE
HADHAM
PARISH
NEWS

OCTOBER 2024

**LITTLE HADHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL
LEAVERS: SOUVENIR EDITION**

Find out where our lovely year 6's have gone to for Secondary School as they begin new adventures in year 7. See p.12

Father Simon Our Assistant Area Dean writes:

There's a well-known tale entitled 'The Starfish Story' which some of you may have come across.



One day a man is walking along a beach when he notices a boy picking something up and gently throwing it into the sea. Approaching the boy, the man asks: 'What are you doing?' The boy answers: 'Throwing starfish back into the sea. The surf's up and the tide is going out. If I don't throw them back now, they'll die.'

'Son,' the man says, 'don't you realise there are miles and miles of beach and hundreds, perhaps thousands, of starfish lying here? You can't make a difference.'

After listening politely, the boy bends down, picks up another starfish, and throws it back into the surf. Then, smiling at the man, he says: 'It made a difference to that one.'



As Christians called to love God and our neighbours as ourselves, we can easily be overwhelmed by the sheer magnitude of the needs our neighbours face in this country, not to mention in other parts of the world. However, like that boy, we can each make a difference, even if we think it's only a small difference. But cumulatively, we can add our help to that of others to make an even greater difference.

That's why, this harvest, so many of us will be giving thanks to God for all that creation provides - enough for everybody if only our world were prepared to share - through worship and through our giving - both financial and in terms of produce donated to foodbanks and to the likes of the Bishop of St Albans' Harvest Appeal which this year is being run in partnership with The Leprosy Mission to support a project in Sri Lanka which provides those affected by leprosy with the means to grow their own food and raise their standard of living.



One of Jesus' most famous 'I am' sayings is: 'I am the light of the world.' [St John 8:12] Jesus is reminding us that he came among us to reflect the light of God's love out into the world. We who seek to follow in his footsteps are similarly called to reflect God's love in our own lives, and our harvest offerings are just one small opportunity to do that, making, bit by bit, life-changing differences to so many families.

We may not be able to change the whole world for the better but at least we can effect change for a part of it.

With God's love

Fr Simon



LITTLE HADHAM PARISH NEWS

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

www.riverashchurches.org.uk

EDITORIAL DEADLINE

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

(BACS preferred, email the editor for details.)

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

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



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

Nothing from the registers this month.

ADVERTISING ENQUIRIES

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

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

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

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

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

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

Church Roof Fund – Update

Helen Walker



If you have been to Church End recently – either to the Church or for other reasons – you will have seen that scaffolding is now erected at the rear of the Church, for which we would like to express our grateful thanks again to local enterprise, Connect Scaffolding Ltd. By the time you are reading this, we hope that repairs will be well underway if not already completed. We also hope that with the funds we have raised since January there may be some left to undertake preventative maintenance to ensure the roof remains watertight over the coming months.

As an autumn churchyard clear-up has been scheduled, and after the huge success of our Spring event, we will also be holding an **AUTUMN CAKE SALE at St. Cecilians on 19TH OCTOBER from 2pm**, so please do come along and support us in whatever way you can. Cake donations also welcome!

The planned **Celebration of St Cecilia's Day on SATURDAY 23RD NOVEMBER** is taking shape and we

hope this will be an entertaining afternoon for all ages. It's not too late to get involved and showcase your talent, so please do get in touch to discuss - (churchwardenstcecilias@gmail.com or tel. 01279 771 532).

As you will all be aware, property maintenance is a never-ending task and all monetary donations continue to be welcome. Remember if you are a UK taxpayer, you can boost your gift by 25% so please contact Karin Green (Church Warden) for a declaration form (churchwardenstcecilias@gmail.com or tel. 01279 771 532).

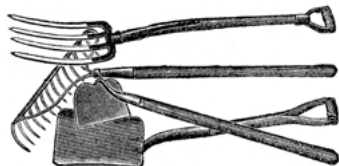
St Cecilia's Autumn Churchyard Clear Up & Cake Sale

Saturday 19th October 2pm

If you can spare an hour or two please come along with your secateurs, loppers, rakes and shears.

We would like to tidy up round the Churchyard trees, hedges and all the things that have grown over the summer.

Tea/coffee and biscuits provided.



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SCAN ME

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

1st October 24	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.



Little Hadham Ramblers

A new social, walking group is forming to explore the

many footpaths in Little Hadham. The first walk is planned for **Wednesday, 30th October from the Village Hall car park at 10am**. We will have a stroll/walk of up to 5 miles, at a pace that suits everyone. Depending on the interest, the frequency of the walks can be determined. After the walk, its back to the Village Hall for a hot lunch. If you are interested, contact: Carole Page (clerklittlehadham@gmail.com or 07825 011 975)

Highways Update

- **Traffic survey of speed and volume data** to be carried out in strategic locations – We have requested this data, as it will enable other projects to be actioned.
- **Greyed out Speed Signs on the A120** – most of these have now been replaced, except the one on Millfield lane at the junction with the old A120.
- **Raised pedestrian crossing at the Smithy** – this is currently under consideration.

- **Having a Speed Indicator Device (SID) on the A120** - they have to meet a criterion. First stage gets the traffic speed and volume data to see if it meets the criteria.
- **Traffic light phasing on the A120** - Currently personal Sat Nav directs people through the village as the fasted route rather than the bypass. It is suggested if the timing of the signals were changed, would make the journey through the village longer than going via the bypass and the sat nav will then suggest the bypass as the fastest route.
- **Pavement clearing on the A120** – has been carried out. But will need to be monitored and reported to ensure they are kept clear and passable for pedestrians.
- **HGV signs for Ford Hill** – Two signs have gone up advising Ford Hill is not suitable for HGV vehicles. This has been actioned due to the number of times the memorial has been damaged by HGV's and subsequently we have had to repair it with our Parish Council funds.
- **20mph at the School** – We are looking at re-zoning outside the school to 20mph.

Please note that all Highways faults can be reported online. It is a very simple system and ensures all faults are reported and accountable: www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/faultreporting

Litter in the Village

It has been noted that there are people in the village that regularly litter pick our lanes and footpaths. Since we no longer get government funding for litter picking, it is greatly appreciated the great job that is being done by volunteers. The Parish Council thanks you all. Please do not litter pick on the roads and always be aware of road users.

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

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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 guest! 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



I am incredibly grateful to the Jack May Trustees for their continued support of the practice. Colin Brookbanks, the chair, has written an article that you can read opposite. The article outlines the purchases made on behalf of the practice over the last couple of years. Recently, the Trust welcomed a new trustee, Jenny Byng, who brings both youth and extensive experience as a healthcare professional in physiotherapy.

I'll now hand over to Samantha Christos...

Hello! Most of you already know me, but for those who don't, I am Sam, and I've worked in the dispensary for 19 years. I was recently promoted to Dispensary Manager, and I now supervise a wonderful team of dispensers: Lynda, Menerva, and Pippa, who all do an amazing job. We also have a counter assistant, Suzanne, who helps with serving patients, answering prescription queries, and always greets everyone with a smile.

A bit of background on the dispensary: As a 90% dispensing practice, we serve up to 6,000 patients who can order their medication through us. On average, we dispense around 9,000 items per month. With three suppliers and two daily deliveries, it's a very busy operation, so efficient processes and good stock control are essential.

Here's how the prescription service works: We ask for three working days' notice when possible, to allow time for ordering stock and to account for any staff training, absences, or holidays. However, we usually turn prescriptions around much quicker. Prescription requests must be submitted in writing—either by placing your repeat slips in the box, emailing, or using the NHS app. We do not take prescription requests over the phone to avoid potential errors.

Now, just a little about me: Outside of work, I enjoy spending time with my 4-year-old son and our two sausage dogs, Maple and Pickle. I'm also a keen boxer and runner and often sign up for races to raise money for various charities. I enjoy drawing, painting, and crafting as well. I'm sure I'll see you all soon, so that's enough from me!

Lastly, please remember we are holding a mass **flu clinic at Little Hadham Village Hall on Saturday, 12th October, from 8:30am to 12pm.**

A team of doctors and nurses will be on hand to vaccinate those eligible for a flu vaccine. The following week, on **Saturday 19th October** the PCN nurses will be holding a **Covid Clinic from 8:30am to 5pm.** You will need to book your appointment through the National Booking System—just Google "book a Covid vaccine."

Jack May Trust Fund for Much Hadham Health Centre. (Charity commission no. 1088104.)

After more than twenty years the Trust continues to provide facilities and equipment for the practice and it's patients. (approx. 7000). I thought that it would be of interest to give a brief update on some of the recent achievements of the fund.

Asthma.

This is a relatively common condition, and can sometimes be a diagnostic challenge, requiring a number of tests and investigations. The Fund purchased a "FeNo" monitor which analyses exhaled breath to detect traces of the gas nitric oxide. If found to be present this can indicate the presence of inflammation within the lungs or airways. If taken with other information this can enable a more accurate diagnosis to be made.

New Doctors.

The practice has been fortunate to acquire two new doctors recently, (Mathanarajah & Ganandran.) We have been able to provide them with new examination couches and replace the air-conditioning for the treatment room.

These are examples of the more exotic benefits afforded to the practice, but other, more mundane sundries such as ear irrigation equipment have been bought.

Thank you to all those who have supported the Trust, which, we hope, will continue supporting the practice and it's patients.

If you have any suggestions or queries concerning the Trust please contact the practice manager, Andrew Wilkinson. (andrew.wilkinson7@nhs.net).

Colin Brookbanks. September 2024.

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Your school Governing Body needs you!

Dave Willett
dw1289@outlook.com

I have lived in Little Hadham for 12 years now.

When I moved here from London, I decided that I wanted to get involved in the village. Since then, I have regularly attended Parish Council meetings, and I have also been involved in two Parish Council projects. I have served on the Village Hall Committee, and I continue to be a volunteer at the Village Hall, including raising money for more refurbishment.

I have also been a Governor at Little Hadham Primary School for 7 years. Having spent my career in education, I wanted to give something back. Our primary school is a consistently Good school. It is well run, with an excellent Headteacher and staff, and a supportive Governing Body. In many respects it is an Outstanding school. We all hope that Ofsted does give the school an 'Outstanding' rating after the next inspection.

There is a shortage of school Governors nationally, especially co-opted ones like me. Little Hadham Primary School needs more Governors.

What's in it for you? Well, lots of things really. It is an opportunity -

- To develop your personal skills, planning, team working, and financial planning. You will be able to use all of your usual work skills, life skills, and experience as well.
- You can build relationships with teachers, parents and fellow Governors.



Little Hadham
Primary School

- You will also be supporting your local school in your local community.

Children are our future, and we all have a responsibility to prepare them for later life.

There are lots of inspirational quotes about the value of volunteering. Here are some.

- Volunteering is the lifeblood of our communities.
- Volunteers are not paid because they are worthless, but because they are priceless.
- Definition of a volunteer – I care, I help, I make a difference.

I can certainly identify with all of these quotes. I have really enjoyed my years as a Governor, although I have now left the due to other commitments. But I will remain on the 'subs bench' for the time being to provide support whenever I can.

So, please give it some thought. You will be given all the support and training you need. The Governing Body is supportive, helpful, and there is plenty of humour at every meeting...and lots of cakes and biscuits as well. If you are downsizing your work, or about to retire, this could be a worthwhile use of your time. If you have a neighbour, relative or family friend, persuade them to think about this as well.

If you would like any more information, please contact me. I would be happy to answer any questions you may have.



Nikki & Louise
www.woodlandrangers.co.uk

f woodlandrangersuk

After a break for the summer, Woodland Rangers are back.

This month, we have welcomed so many children to eagerly return to the forest, ready to embark on a new term filled with discovery and adventure.

We began the term with blackberry picking in the woods. The children worked together to navigate the brambles, making sure plenty of blackberries were left for the wildlife, and used them to create beautiful tie-dye bunting.

This week we have embraced the arrival of autumn, discovering the wonders of the season through hands-on exploration. Children have created artwork using the fallen autumn leaves and other natural treasures the forest has to offer.

As the weather has got cooler, the warmth of the crackling campfire has been welcomed, as we have enjoyed delicious hot chocolate around the fire circle, under our cozy new shelter.

As well as our popular stay and play sessions for pre-schoolers twice a week, we also run a group for home educated children, as well as a successful after school club with the enthusiastic children at Little Hadham Primary School.

We are already getting excited about taking bookings for our half term holiday club. We have lots of Halloween activities and autumn crafts planned. We look forward to more children and families from the Little Hadham community joining us for new adventures in the forest.



Our Year 6 Leave Little Hadham Primary for Secondary School!



We are proud to share with you photos of our Little Hadham Primary School leavers 2024 who are moving onwards and upwards to secondary school. As always it is a pleasure to share their excitement, pride and understandable nerves as they make this important transition. We are lucky to have a good selection of schools for children to choose from and as usual all children were successful in getting into their first choice school.



It's an honour to see children mature and grow through primary school and year 6 really showcases how much they have achieved. Not only did they all do extremely well in their Key Stage 2 SATs, they also showed skills across a much broader spectrum. Their residential trip to Gilwell Park is a good example of this where they sang, joked, climbed (including up crates they stacked themselves!) and took leaps of faith!



It's great to see the children excited and ready for the new challenges that await them. We wish them all the best of luck going forward!



Little Hadham Gardening Club

Anne Willett

The Little Hadham Gardening Club Show was a delight for the senses. We had 33 exhibitors some entering for the first time and all the exhibits looked impressive. Winners on the day were Sam Day, Judi Wheeler, Dick Rees, Chloe Burroughs, John Fardell, Judith Crimes, Lisa Sunner, Gail Ellis, Andy Jopling and Anne Fuller (who also got Best in Show). In the junior section the overall winner was Rose Burroughs. Congratulations to everyone who took part.

On the day we had a few enquiries to join the club so we are looking forward to welcoming them and others who are ready to take a leap and enter next year's show.

Our next meeting is on **Tuesday 15th October** when we will have a talk by Roger Hance on **'Attracting birds and other wildlife to your garden'**. Doors open at 7.45pm. Members free, non-members £5. Refreshments available.

Annual Club Supper - full details of our Club Supper on **23rd November** will be available at the next meeting including the menu and cost.

Also, following the success of last year, we are holding another **Christmas Wreath Workshop on the 26th November**. Further details to follow next month

Autumn is the season for dramatic seed heads and displays of vivid fiery colour. The days are shorter and the air is fresher, but the Autumn sunshine and refreshing temperatures make revamping your outdoor space an absolute joy.



Liriope Muscari

Choose some vibrant, cheerful bulbs to plant in your garden for a fantastic spring display. Lift and divide early flowering herbaceous perennials that have become less floriferous to ensure the best display for next year. Give your borders a tidy up, trying not to prune anything that can provide a valuable food source or home over winter and add a good layer of mulch to protect and improve the structure of your soil.

Plant some winter containers for some new colour on the patio. Use a mix of shrubs, perennials and winter bedding for the best displays. Include some spring bulbs too for a splash of colour later on. Great effects can be created with Heuchera, evergreen grasses and ferns.



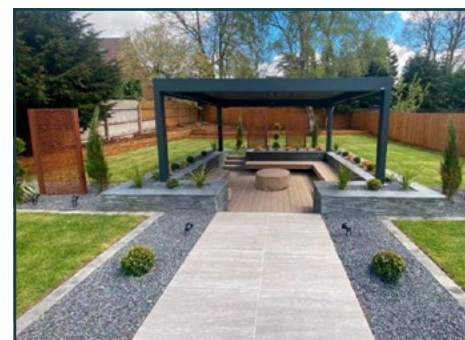
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Samuel Betts: Farmer - Hadham Hall & Bury Green

Mike Smith

mike.s1937@gmail.com

Samuel was born in 1827 in Kings Langley, Herts, into a family

of well-established farmers. He appears to have spent his school years in Kings Langley, but by 1851 the census shows him travelling, and staying at the White Horse Inn in Exeter. Three years later he was in Brighton, where, on the 25th July 1855 he married Elizabeth Anne Scott 6 years his senior.

In 1842 Hadham Hall was let to John Betts of Kings Langley, and managed by him and his sons John, and Samuel. They were joined for a short time by Samuel's cousin Henry Betts. But John senior and Henry both later returned to continue farming in King's Langley. (eg in 1881 Henry was farming 360 acres in Hemel Hempstead employing 9 men and 3 boys).

The Post Office directory for Little Hadham in 1855 lists Samuel and his

brother John as Brickmakers in Little Hadham, but John is also listed as a farmer. John soon died and Samuel continued with the tenancy of Hadham Hall. The Post Office directory shows him continuing to farm until his death in 1915.

In the mid to late Nineteenth Century Samuel Betts was a major character in Little Hadham. Referred to by many as "The Squire", he was the local JP, and a major employer and landowner.

In 1871 Samuel farmed and occupied 960 acres, employing 41 men, 10 women and 10 boys. In 1881 the census shows him farming 1153 acres and employing 30 men and 13 boys. At the time he was amongst the top 10 farmers in Hertfordshire occupying over 1000 acres. With falling wheat prices, the following years would be uncomfortable, but he continued successfully with assistance of the Draytons, father and son, as his bailiffs. After 30 years as a tenant of the Earl of Essex, the Hall was sold to William Minet and Samuel had to move to Lower Farm in Bury Green.



A very old, faded photo. (probably dating from 1870-1880) showing a cohort of 34 farm workers, together with two horses (ridden by the farm bailiffs?), and at least four barrels of beer (?). Is this the end of summer harvest?? - Photo from Little Hadham Archive



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In Some Account of Little Hadham, by William Minet; "in 1842 John Betts from Kings Langley, close to Cassiobury, and so no doubt well known to the Earl of Essex, became a tenant, and in 1850 was joined by a younger brother Samuel. John died very soon; Samuel kept the tenancy, and brought the Scot line back to Hadham by marrying Elizabeth Scot granddaughter of the John Scot who had been tenant from 1780 to 1824."

Samuel continued to live on in Little Hadham with his wife Elizabeth Betts until she died in 1893. By 1911 aged 84 he was the owner and occupier of 250 acres in both Little Hadham and Much Hadham. He died on 18th August 1919, and is buried at St Cecilia's Church.

Top Photo: Samuel Betts in 1915,
Print from HALS DE X10/71

Christopher
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This summer we've enjoyed hosting Busy Weeks activities and behind the scenes we've been planning for our upcoming events.

**5th & 6th October, 11am - 4pm,
Autumn Open Weekend, Family £5**

Explore the museum, complete the Grimwood trail, get making at the craft table and play a game of conkers to get your scores on the leaderboard. Any player can win a bag of chocolate conkers! Refreshments available.

**HADHAM HAUNTZ presents
"Macabre Manor" at the museum
Thurs 31st October, noon until
8.30pm – FUNDRAISER!**

The outdoor trail is open from noon. Will you brave the witches and pirates and the haunted monks' graveyard! Activity, craft table and refreshments available. (£2.50 per child)

The evening house trail is open from 5.30 – 8.30pm (£2.50)

Expect scares galore as you pass through themed rooms designed by youth volunteer and Scare Director Lucas Gooch.

Sat 9th Nov, Remembrance Dinner & Talk, "Hadham's Heroes"

8 pm start, 2 Courses & Prosecco toast, Tickets £30, at MHVH

Booking essential. Text/Call 07483 113345 to register interest.

Sun 24th Nov, Christmas Market & Santa's Grotto, noon -5pm

Visit Santa in his grotto at the forge (includes gift and selfies £10), buy great gifts from local makers and enjoy festive crafts. Food and refreshments available.

VENUES:

Much Hadham Village Hall and the museum.

To book a stall (£20) text or call 07483 113 345.

hadham.museum@btinternet.com | 01279 843 301 | 07483 113 345

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I cannot believe I am writing the October news! Where did the summer go ("What summer?" I hear you say!). I had a very late holiday which meant I came back after we had started up our community groups following the summer break. This was unfortunate as I had to cancel the first Air Fryer monthly demonstrations due to the volunteer team disbanding which meant there would only be me demonstrating. I didn't think that was going to work so better to cancel and re-form with a new group of demonstrators. If you have experience and confidence in cooking with an Air Fryer and would like to join me as part of the demonstration team please get in touch. You would not have to do every month as I would like to get a rota of people willing to cook what they feel comfortable with which would also give the group a variety of styles of cooking. It is good fun and none of us are experts! Maybe you have attended these demonstrations and feel you have learnt enough to join me.

The next Air Fryer demonstration is **14th October 7pm – 9pm**. Booking is essential

Cooking for one

I have now got a small group of people which I would like to start teaching to cook back to basics. For many of us we take for granted that there is always someone there to cook but when life changes and you find yourself in a situation whereby

you are on your own, cooking even the most basic of meals can be a challenge. I shall be commencing these classes on **Tuesday 8th October 11:30am – 1pm**. Please contact Jan on M: 07710 325 363

Virtual Cycling

Unfortunately the Forever Cycling group had to be cancelled in September due the person who took this group leaving. They are desperately looking for a replacement for this group as Little Hadham has proved to be one of the most successful venues out of the 3 others it frequents. We will keep you informed if a replacement is found and the classes can re-open.

Afternoon Cinema - Relaxed Screening

In September we showed The Great Escaper. A very moving story with a lovely cast, and well directed. We had 22 attendees of which 5 were new to the group. We have now received a grant from Home Instead which contributes to the cost of the screening licences for the next year. We are indeed grateful so thank you to Home Instead for their support.

Quiz Evening

We had a sell-out for our quiz evening at the end of September which is great news as it is our first major fundraiser of the year. Thank you to all that supported this event and I hope you all had an enjoyable time.

A Musical Afternoon

I have been in discussion with the Musical Director and Leader of a Bishop's Stortford Orchestra who is keen to bring some music into Little Hadham and surrounding villages next year. We are planning an afternoon tea with the accompaniment of some string musicians from the orchestra which we hope will take place around April 2025. I am very excited that Little Hadham has been offered this opportunity and I look forward to finalising a date very soon.

Christmas Luncheon

Last year we were lucky enough to get a grant to help towards putting on a Xmas luncheon for the village. Grants for this type of event may be a little scarcer this year but we are still keen to do something for our residents around Xmas time. We will be looking out for possible grants over the coming weeks and hope to be able to give more information in November's newsletter.

Treasurer Vacancy

We have now had interest in the Treasurer's position and are moving forward with setting up for a smooth transition. We will keep you informed when everything is finalised.

And finally:

Chairman Vacancy from March 2025

I will be stepping down from the role of chairman of the village hall at our next AGM which is in March 2025. By that time I will have been in the chair for eight very rewarding years but it is time for someone else to take the helm.

The role is to lead the management team in delivering the vision of a thriving and vibrant venue for the village for all to enjoy, and to plan for how the village hall can continue as a community asset into the future.

This is an important role for our village and if you think this could be for you then please contact me and I will be very happy to discuss.

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What's On in October @ 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 2 – 4pm
Hatha Yoga Class 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 8th & 22nd 2 – 4pm Turn up & Play Scrabble (£3 per session) Annette: 07926 088 202
Wednesday 2nd, 16th & 30th 1 – 2pm Tai Chi (Sarah Baker 07740 701 102)

MONTHLY & EXTRA EVENTS

1st	7:30pm	Parish Council Meeting
8th	11:30am - 1pm	Cooking for One - basic cooking skills
10th	10 – 12 noon	Community Breakfast morning BOOKING ESSENTIAL on website: littlehadhamvillagehall.com or email vice-chair@littlehadhamvillagehall.com
14th	7 - 9pm	Air Fryer Demonstration (2nd Monday in the month) BOOKING ESSENTIAL through Jan 07710 325 363 or email: vice-chair@littlehadhamvillagehall.com
15th	7:30pm for 9:30pm	Garden Club
25th	9am - 1pm	Little City Kids role play
26th	7:30pm	Panto Quiz Night

NOTICEBOARD



PANTOMIME GROUP QUIZ

26th October 7:30 for 8pm
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Tables up to 8 people.

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Bring your own drinks and glasses.

Contact Eileen:

01279 771 426. or email lhbooths@gmail.com to book a table.

FANCY A NEW CHALLENGE?

OR WANT TO GET MORE INVOLVED IN YOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY AND GET TO KNOW MORE PEOPLE IN THE VILLAGE?

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.



Vaccinations

Please note Flu vaccinations on 12th and Covid clinic on 19th are NOT bookable through the Village Hall website or booking secretary but through your Health Centre.

RED CHAIR CINEMA CLUB

Friday 11th October

7pm

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

Nature Notes

Jono Forgham

jonoforgham@gmail.com

Finally, I was permitted to drive again, 7 weeks after my op. Straight away, I headed to the lagoons at Stansted Airport, where a wide variety of wildfowl and other birds were to be seen.

Highlights were Common sandpiper and Green sandpiper, whilst over the water, plenty of swallows and house martins were refuelling as they migrated south.

Another tip found me wandering around Rye Meads RSPB Reserve. Again, sandpipers were present along with a female sparrowhawk, gull species, grey heron and many duck species.

Finally, I managed a local wander over the golf course to the clubhouse and back. I was hoping to find some migratory birds such as Whinchat and Wheatear that take time to feed upon the course in early September. Up until today (15th) I have yet to see either of these two species.

Certainly pleasing to be able to walk a little further now whilst also being able to access good sites up to half an hour's drive away.



Juvenile moorhen



Shovelers and Gadwall



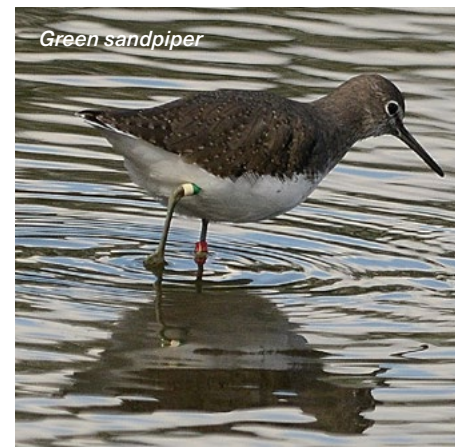
Green shieldbug



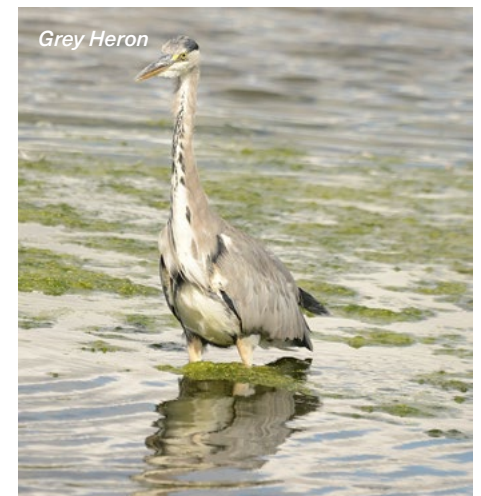
Gadwall pair



Muntjac



Green sandpiper



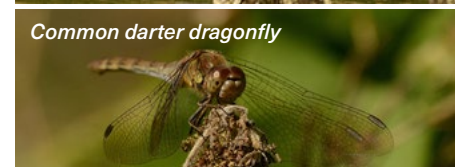
Grey Heron



Green sandpiper & shoveler duck at Rye Meads



Little grebe



Common darter dragonfly



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Millennium Wood

Jono Forgham

jonoforgham@gmail.com

Millennium Wood has had a very successful late spring and summer with plenty of insects to be found around the pond. Of particular note were both the Willow Emerald damselfly and Rhingia rostrata, a hoverfly species.

The former is a recent colonist to the UK and was first recorded in Herts in 2004. I first caught a glimpse of one in MW in 2020 and it is now clearly a resident, with ovipositing (egg laying) taking place in early September 2024.

I have basically left the wood to its own growth over the last few months, with just a quick tidy up in late August. However, it now requires some fairly heavy cutting back, ready for the winter.

Sadly, my recent operation means I am no longer able to wield heavy gear such as chain saws and trimmers. Just hand tools for me.

I am planning a work party on **Sunday 13th October, 10am – 1pm**. I would be most appreciative of plenty of volunteers coming along with any tools ranging from trimmers to secateurs via loppers, bow saws, pruning saws etc. Basically, without some extra help the wood will soon become overgrown, so please do try to find time to pop along, even if you can only spare an hour. If we could muster 20 locals then all the required jobs will be completed by 1pm.



Brimstone butterfly



Eristalis pertinax, a hoverfly species



Ancistrocerus gazella, a wasp species



Willow emerald damselfly

Bombus pascuorum, Common carder bumblebee

Greenbottle

Red Admiral

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St Cecilia's Church Bells

Quasi

Wedding Bells

As the summer wedding season comes to an end, I expect there are a few couples in the area making plans to marry sometime in the near future. For those that get married in a church, one of the many choices they have to make is whether they would like the church bells to ring at their wedding.

The sound of Wedding Bells means many things -

- They were thought to bring good luck and fortune to the newly weds.
- The bells are rung to celebrate the marriage and announce that the service is over.

- They symbolise the start of a new future and a happily ever after.
- They were thought to ward off evil spirits.
- They spread the news across long distances.
- They celebrate the couples union and mark their grand exit.

What does it mean to you?

It is a privilege to ring bells for a wedding and to be a part of the couples special day (albeit we are often unseen). If you wish to give it a try, the bells are waiting for you.

Go to <https://riverashchurches.org.uk/river-ash-churches-bellringers/> for more information.

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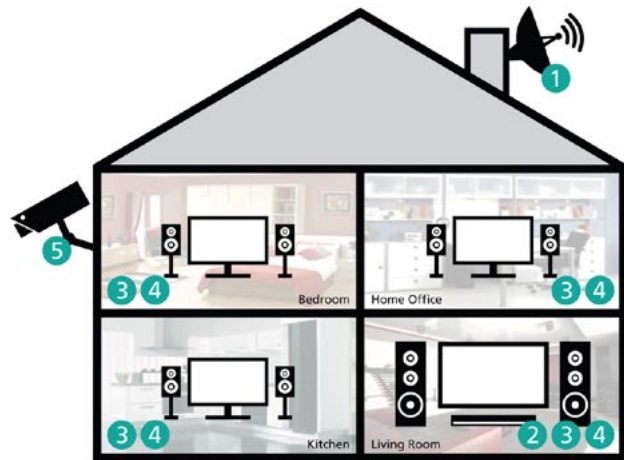
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The Hundred Parishes Society

Ken McDonald



Many of the walks on our website provide opportunities to pause and enjoy a panoramic view from a vantage point. The layout of roads, settlements, woods and fields is a visual record of many centuries of human activity.

Checking with an Ordnance Survey map, it is possible to pinpoint significant landmarks and features such as hedged field boundaries. From the 16th century, assorted records of land ownership have survived, but the most complete set of records was gathered by surveyors for the mid-19th century Tithe Awards, a forerunner of today's rating assessments for council tax and business rates.

Prepared between 1837 and the 1850's, these documents were the result of painstaking work by surveyors whose task was to map and list the details of land ownership, occupiers, size of plot and land use. Buildings, gardens and names of fields were recorded. Subsequent research by local historians has revealed that some field names can be traced back centuries, an indication of the close association of communities with the land that provided their food and opportunities for employment.

Field names are varied, some give just the size in acres while others mention specific persons such as Old Harry's Field. Some are more descriptive such as Hop Ground, Twelve Acre Pasture, Thistley Field, The Rookery, Mill Hill Field, Further Pasture, Ozier Ground and Crab Tree Field.

Comparing these old parish maps with recent maps highlights the significant loss of hedgerows with the creation of much larger fields to allow agricultural machines to work the land.

For anyone interested in local history, the details within these tithe awards may be a useful resource – they are held by the Public Record Office for 80% of the Hundred Parishes' parishes. For further information please see www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/help-with-your-research/research-guides/tithes/



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Brian Ross
stanstedairportwatch.com

Dear Supporter

When I wrote to you earlier this year I explained our proposal to convert Stansted Airport Watch ('SAW') into a Foundation following approval by our members at a Special General Meeting in March. The conversion process has been protracted but we now have approval from Companies House to establish a Community Interest Company (CIC) which will be named the Stansted Airport Watch Foundation. We have also now finalised, or are very close to finalising, all the other transitional issues, including new banking arrangements.

We expect the process to be fully complete by 30 September 2024 at which time SAW will be wound up and all of the net assets will be transferred to the SAW Foundation CIC.

The SAW Foundation will have the same key objectives as the current objectives of SAW. It will be a not-for-profit entity established for the benefit of the local community. The activities of all CICs are overseen by the CIC Regulator to whom CICs must submit an annual report and accounts which, to ensure transparency, are published on the Companies House website. The CIC will have seven directors to begin with, all of whom are longstanding members of our Executive Committee.

By establishing the SAW Foundation, we will be laying down the seed-corn for the future. All of the residual net assets of Stansted Airport Watch will be transferred to the Foundation on 30 September 2024. We expect this to be in the region of £85,000 and the aim will be to protect and grow these funds over the years ahead so that, if there is a renewed threat of major expansion at Stansted

Airport, funds should be available from the outset to kick-start a new campaign.

Whilst there will be a number of benefits in establishing the SAW Foundation, there will undeniably be adverse consequences from winding down SAW. We will no longer be a member organisation and so there will be no subscriptions, no newsletters, no website and no office services. Noise Complaints will no longer be via the SAW website, but via stanstednoiseline@stanstedairport.com, with a copy to the local MP as appropriate. As previously explained, we have been struggling for some time to find the volunteers needed to maintain these core elements of SAW.

Whilst we do not envisage the Foundation engaging in any significant level of active campaigning, it will not be entirely passive. I expect that the directors of the Foundation, either individually or collectively, may wish to continue to provide occasional advice and commentary on key airport-related issues.

Ultimately, however, local district, parish and town councillors and our local MPs will need to become more directly involved in dealing with the environmental impacts of Stansted Airport. This will include dealing with local residents' concerns about the airport's activities and holding the Department for Transport and other government departments and agencies to account, as required.

It only remains for me to thank all of my colleagues, all of the volunteers and, last but not least, all of the members and supporters of SAW who have contributed to the many successes we have achieved together over the years.

With best wishes. Yours sincerely

Brian Ross Chairman



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THE GARDENS OF EASTON LODGE

Jill Goldsmith
www.eastonlodge.co.uk

This is our last month of the open season at the Gardens and after the disastrous snowdrop season, it has turned into a decent year!

In October our volunteers will be continuing with deadheading and weeding to ensure that the Gardens are still looking lovely for visitors. The Italian Garden and walled kitchen garden retain their colour right through to the end of the season, from their roses and dahlias, with some seed heads, sedum and Michaelmas daisies adding an autumn vibe. And both areas can be beautifully warm, as they keep out the wind. Who knows when the autumn leaf show will start this year on the acers, red and scarlet oaks, ornamental cherries and Persian ironwood, but it can be anytime from mid-October onwards. Visitors will be encouraged to walk to the bottom of the Glade, where some of the prettiest acers are, and where volunteers will be working to extend the Japanese style garden. There will be pumpkins and squashes for sale, as well as our chilli crop and jams and jellies.

The Gardens will be open every Thursday, from 11am to 3pm. The



last **Sunday Open Day** of the year is on **Sunday 13 October, from 11am to 5pm**, and there will be Halloween activities and Bishops Stortford Ukelele Society will get visitors singing along to popular classics.

For more information about our opening hours and discounted advance tickets for the Sunday Open Day go to **www.eastonlodge.co.uk/whats-on**

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Kathy Hamilton

www.thehadhamshistorysociety.org.uk

The Hadham's History Society met in August, however, there was a change to the programme. Amanda Halliday had agreed to move her talk to our October Meeting.

Mike Clark gave a very interesting presentation to show a quite different aspect of Old Surverys than Amanda's OS Maps. He had typescript copies of the original handwritten Apportionments i.e. entries in the Tithe Books undertaken by volunteers. He showed examples from the books each covering full names and titles of owners and tenants, land use (buildings, woods arable or pasture pleasure) value. This was indeed a very interesting evening.

The next meeting will be on **Thursday 24th October, 7:45pm. for 8pm** in the Main

Hall Much Hadham Village Hall. Amanda Halliday will be giving a presentation on "Local Historic Maps and Apportionments of Much Hadham and Little Hadham.

Our November meeting will be on **Thursday 28th November** usual time, in the Green Room Much Hadham Village Hall. Christopher Hadley will be speaking on "The Road - Braughing to Gt Chesterford".

Please come along to our meetings you will be made very welcome - you can just pay as a one-off visitor or join the Society, if you wish. We have a very varied programme arranged for the rest of the year.

Looking forward to seeing everyone in October.

Hadham Cross Congregational Church

PREACHERS FOR OCTOBER SERVICES AT 11am

6th October	John Fosker	Therfield Congregational Church
13th October	Mike Hillyer	Oakwood Chapel, Harlow
20th October	John Fosker	Therfield Congregational Church
27th October	Sam Pakala	Oakwood Chapel Harlow

Our next **COFFEE MORNING** will be on **Wednesday 9th October**, 10am- noon. Please do come and join us for coffee/tea cake and a chat.

Our next **AFTERNOON TEA MEETING** will be on **Thursday 31st October**, 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 23rd October**, from 2 - 3:30pm. All are invited to join us you will be very welcome.

AGAIN, A PLEA FOR HELP!

Playing the organ or key board at our sunday morning services. We would very much welcome anyone who could play a different musical instrument i.e. Recorder - flute - clarinet. 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

Maybe it is because autumn is here and we must enjoy the warm days, knowing they will be gone in a flash, that I feel it necessary to 'big up' the good and forgive the bad. So..... I dragged my other half to London last week to see a West End show, knowing that, between us, our ability to walk any distance is a major no-no!

So we set off with a coachload of other oldies plucked from surrounding areas and were driven into London, firstly at a good speed and latterly at the proverbial snail's pace. However, because this was all new to us, we accepted it as a wonderful slow motion tour around the capital. And, because a coach seat is so much higher than that of any car, we had perfect views of all the must-see places. It was a stunning trip and made the day even more special!

The driver managed to get his coach within two roads of the theatre which was only a three or four minutes walk.

We had chosen stalls (stairs are a no-no these days) and we felt we had achieved a personal best the time the show started!

The show was Hello Dolly and it was a blast! I can recommend it to all of you, beautifully staged and acted with songs which we have heard over the years but were performed with such verve and joyfulness that they nearly brought the house down!

The return journey was long and slow.... how do you folk who go to town every day stay sane? Our driver seemed to find unbelievable patience and eventually dropped us off 11 hours after our original pick-up time! Our success was such we are considering doing another such show during the winter months. Bring it on!

FROM this success to reality... I have mentioned before my fury that one of the main Bishop's Stortford banks shut up shop some months ago, and the chaos it has meant for many of us. I decided to move my business account to an existing bank in Stortford, which I have now done. But it required me to remember another of those gruesome pin numbers. That's two differing numbers at one bank! So, like most of you, I chose a combination of dates and numbers which mean something personal to me. The problem is remembering it all when I need it! Ten, even five years ago this would be no trouble... but the old grey matter is getting harder to keep up to date... and sometimes I sit by my computer and wish it would all go away!

Parish Services October 2024

Benefice of: Little Hadham | Much Hadham | Albury

	Trinity 19 6th Oct	Trinity 20 13th Oct	Trinity 21 20th Oct	Last Trinity 27th Oct
St Andrew's Much Hadham	9:15am Benefice Harvest Communion <i>Tayo</i>			9:15am Benefice Holy Communion <i>Tayo</i>
St Cecilia's Little Hadham		9:15am Benefice Harvest Communion <i>Tayo</i>		
St Mary's Albury			9:15am Benefice Holy Communion <i>Tayo</i>	

OTHER SERVICES:

Thur 24th

10am

Little Hadham Communion (Tayo)

All are welcome to join our services