

Little Hadham
PARISH NEWS
January 2008



** There will be no meeting of the Parish Council in January **

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Log on to www.thehadhams.com for issues dating back to May 2006

Letter from the Rectory

Dear Friends,

After the Feast of the Epiphany on the 6th of January I shall be taking down the decorations and removing the Christmas tree. This year I shall make a real effort to recycle my tree. I am slowly but relentlessly becoming more personally aware of the need to be more careful about how I use the world's limited energy resources. Perhaps I should not have had a tree at all; given the massive deforestation around the globe: but at least I can help to encourage the planting of new ones.

The old year ended with a UN conference in Bali, where the nations only just agreed to a "road map" towards limiting carbon emissions. Nevertheless it was a significant event, in that everyone acknowledged the reality of the human impact on the eco system. 2008 will be a year when the debate on the future of our planet earth will intensify.

I hope that the debate will not be driven simply by fear. Fear of what might happen is indeed a powerful driver of change, but can so easily lead to panic or bad judgement. It can even lead to desperation and to violence. The fear needs to be tempered by love. A true love of the environment and of life is a much more constructive force for change.

The interplay of fear and love is to some extent played out in the Bible reading for Epiphany. The fear of Herod for his loss of power, the slaughter of the children and the flight of Mary and Joseph into Egypt is set beside the narrative of a child who is destined to bring a real love into our lives; a love stronger than any fear. Compassion for others is a good motive for the protection of the earth's resources. As Christians we are learning that love of our brothers and sisters goes hand in hand with a love of the whole ecology of life.

Chris Boulton

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On the cover – St Cecilia's Church, Little Hadham

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Parish Council News

Group set up to contest traveller site

A group representing residents and businesses has been formed to consider how best to resist a traveller site in Little Hadham. The parish council decided that the group would be more effective if independent of the council. In a recent report by East Herts Council (EHC), two sites in Little Hadham were identified as possible locations for gypsies and travellers. In a detailed response to the parish council's list of objections, EHC revealed that no sites had actually been visited by its consultants. EHC will decide on the number of sites in its area in spring 2008 when a public consultation will begin, although no decisions on sites will be taken until 2009.

Rising costs lead to higher precept

Higher insurance and maintenance costs have contributed to the need to raise the parish council precept to £11,885, an increase of 10%. The precept is money received by the parish council from EHC out of council tax. However, because new homes and house extensions in the parish generated more council tax income this year, residents will only pay 5.5% more towards the parish next year than they do this. Last year the increase was only 1.2% so the average increase for the years 2007/08 and 2008/09 is only 3.35%. This means that households in Band D would pay about £23 a year out of their council tax towards parish council costs, and a household in Band H about £47 a year.

Another 'No' to Harlow North

In its response to a further consultation on future planning by the East of England Regional Assembly, the parish council took the opportunity to repeat its opposition to proposals for Harlow North. The council also noted that the latest proposed amendments

to the plans failed to adequately protect the habitats of wild life.

Church End Farm discussions

The council is hoping to have discussions with the owners of the former Hadham Water site about its future use. Councillors have expressed concern about the potential enlargement of the industrial estate at the site.

Fair trade move approved

The council endorsed a recommendation by Cllr Andy Morris that Little Hadham should become a Fairtrade parish, encouraging organisations to stock Fairtrade products for consumption or sale. More information from Andy at: andy@morris66.freserve.co.uk

'Get tough' over Cradle End cottages

The parish council has sent a highly critical letter to EHC on failure to take action over the dilapidated state of May Cottage in Cradle End. It has demanded that the site of this listed cottage is secured and that EHC considers a compulsory purchase order in the absence of action by the developers.

Options for Bury Green Farm on show

Following consultation with the parish council, three possible schemes to replace the former Glaxo animal breeding centre at Bury Green have been put on show by site owners Romehold. Local residents are being consulted on the options – a secure data centre, a retirement village and a housing development – prior to submission of planning applications.

See you at next meeting? Have your say on these and other key issues at the next parish council meeting on **TUESDAY 5 February** at 8pm in the Village Hall (no meeting in January).

Little Hadham Cricket Club

The club will be holding indoor Cricket nets on Sunday mornings from the 12 January in the Bishopssport sports hall at the Bishop's Stortford High School. The nets begin at 10am and we would welcome anyone interested in coming along to get some cricket practice. Even if you have never played before but would like to 'give it a go' then you will be more than welcome. Further details are available from either Andy Yarwood on 01799 540041 or Neil Oxborrow on 01279 506062.

Will tennis and soccer team up?

A combined tennis court and five-a-side soccer pitch seems to be emerging as the front-runner in our survey to help determine how the parish council should spend a grant from East Herts Council. A questionnaire in last month's Parish News set out a number of options for the sports field next to the village hall playground as well as the alternative of repairs to the wall of the village war memorial.

We weren't exactly overwhelmed by the response, which is a pity since the council and the Parish Plan group are working very hard to provide better sports facilities, especially for our youngsters. If you want your say and your household hasn't completed and returned the questionnaire (December issue, page 12), it's still not too late, but we have to act quickly as any money put up by the council will be DOUBLED by EHC but must be spent by March next year. The decision will be revealed in the next issue.

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Need some cash?

If you have a Lloyds, Barclays or Alliance & Leicester bank account with a card and PIN you can withdraw cash from

Little Hadham Post Office

Tuesdays and Thursdays,
9-11am, rear of Village Hall.

"ALADDIN"

This Pantomime will be stunning! Wonderful sets will transport you to old China with all your favourite characters. The costumes are lavish, and with songs to delight you, we promise you an evening you'll never forget. Tickets are now on sale! There will be six performances for you to choose from, including two matinees with reductions for children under 14 years. These sell out very quickly so don't delay. The prices are the same as last time:

Friday, 18th January, 2008, c.u: 7.45 p.m. £7

Saturday, 19th January, 2008, c.u: 2.30 p.m.
£6 adults, £4 children (under 14)

Saturday, 19th January, 2008, c.u: 7.45 p.m. £7

Friday, 25th January, 2008, c.u: 7.45 p.m. £7

Saturday, 26th January, 2008, c.u: 2.30 p.m.
£6 adults, £4 children (under 14)

Saturday, 26th January, 2008, c.u: 7.45 pm. £7

BOX OFFICE: 01279 842160 & 771697

Surfing the Web - the first Parish Clerk Barbara Evans

Once the Parish Council had been set up in 1894, a Parish Clerk had to be appointed. The first clerk was George Thomas Winterton born in Whittlesey, Cambridgeshire in 1847. Early on in his life the family had moved to Stanstead Abbots, where his father ran a small tailoring business in the High Street. At fourteen he was a servant, but later followed his father into tailoring. In 1870 he married Louisa Sampford a local girl from Ware whose father was a maltster and a Baptist minister. The couple then moved to Great Hadham where George carried on his tailoring employing two workers. They had two children, Herbert who became a solicitor's clerk and Annie who was assistant mistress at the school.

By the time George was appointed as Parish Clerk which earned him £20 a year, he had taken on further duties as tax assessor for the district.

We do not know how George Winterton travelled from Much Hadham to Little Hadham for the Council Meetings, but he made the journey for twenty-five years until his resignation in 1919, aged 62.

And what topics were being discussed at council meetings in those early days? The appointment of a doctor for the parish and the installation of a public telephone at the post office were important issues and of course the clearing of overgrown footpaths and bridleways was perennially on the agenda.

Sources: <http://freebmd.rootsweb.com>, www.ancestry.co.uk, Little Hadham Parish Council Records, Kelly's Directory, 1895: <http://www.historicaldirectories.org>

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Star on TV with your “Trash for Cash”

Here's a chance to de-clutter, raise some money for your community – and yourself – and star in a BBC TV show!

“Trash for Cash” is a new BBC1 day-time show starting in the spring in which a team of experts will help you to identify and sell items you no longer need including antiques, collectibles, unused household items such as furniture and toys. They'll advise on the best way to sell through auctions, house sales, salvage yards or advertising – including for a modest charge through The Parish News.

The proceeds will be divided equally between a personal project and a contribution towards a community project of your choice such as creating a five-a-side soccer pitch or a tennis court next to the Village Hall playground, or repairs to the wall of the village war memorial – but it's up to you. If you think you've got the 'trash' and want some cash to share with a worthy local cause, please contact Carmella Piccolo (466331), not later than Monday January 14.

Good luck!

If you would like to advertise in *The Parish News*, please contact the editor for our very reasonable advertising rates:

hftp@clocktower.co.uk

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FCN Helpline

07002 326 326

7am-11pm every day of the year

tiredness • overwork
• anxiety • illness •
relationships • inheritance
• loneliness • isolation
• ethical issues • form
filling • regulations • debt
• pollution • environment
• bereavement

- Helps farming people through difficult times
- Responds confidentially and quickly to requests for help
- Has volunteer members with farming and pastoral understanding
- 'Walks with' and supports people as they seek to resolve their problems
- Just a phone call away

Registered Office

Farm Crisis Network

Manor Farm, West Haddon,
mail@fcn.org.uk

www.farmcrisisnetwork.org.uk

Reg charity No. 1095919. FCN was formed in 1994 as a partnership between the Agricultural Christian Fellowship and the Arthur Rank Centre. Patron: HRH The Prince of Wales

FCN's story

FCN was born in 1995 as a partnership between the Arthur Rank Centre and the Agricultural Christian Fellowship, after a gestation of 18 months! UK farming families were already under considerable pressure and there was concern about the high suicide level among farmers. As Jesus did on the way to Emmaus, FCN volunteers were to draw alongside and 'walk with' farmers and their families, listening, encouraging and giving practical support.

FCN was closely modelled on the work of the Farm Family Supporting Service in Württemberg, Southern Germany and the Gloucestershire Farming Friends. Both of these organisations assisted FCN with advice and training for the first groups of volunteers. Urgency was added by 'Prairie Fire' in the United States. **"Build the organisation before it (major crisis) happens"** was their remarkably prophetic word.

We built, tested and evaluated. We learned much through the East Anglian Swine Fever outbreak in 2000. **Then came Foot and Mouth Disease in 2001.** FCN supported over 7,000 households providing encouragement, advocacy and help with finding financial assistance. It was an exhausting and emotional year but FCN emerged intact, strengthened and with twice as many volunteers. Close working relationships had also been built with the other Farming Help charities.

Foot and Mouth Disease came on top of a period of very low farm incomes, which is still with us today. Many farming families are struggling financially, suffering from strained relationships and poor health and unable to cope with ever-increasing rules and regulations. **FCN continues to support about 1,000 families every year.** Much of this work goes on quietly and with little recognition but its value cannot be over-estimated. Many people have their health, their families, their future and their very lives intact because of the care, support and friendship they have received from an FCN volunteer.

FCN now operates across the UK with 23 groups of volunteers covering most areas. Elsewhere there are links to other local support groups offering a similar service. Together with the local churches, this gives FCN the ability to offer support to any member of the farming community who contacts us. **FCN runs a national helpline from 7am to 11pm every day of the year.** Talking with someone who understands farming but is not directly involved in their situation can be a real support and, when appropriate, callers are offered a visit from an FCN volunteer.

Christopher Jones, FCN National Co-ordinator

Anything happening in January?

in the village hall unless
otherwise stated

8 Tues, LH & A Social Club, 8pm. "Village Hall to Livery Hall" – Olivia Elton Barratt will tell us of her year as Prime Warden. We enjoyed a very pleasant evening at the Catherine Wheel, Albury for our Christmas Party. Make a New Year resolution to join us on the second Tuesday of each month – you will be made very welcome.

10 Tue, Mobile Library (details p9)

17 Thur "Way Inn" Coffee morning, 10-12. Meet your neighbours for coffee or tea.

18 Fri, Jazz Evening, Haileybury 7.15-10pm in aid of Isabel Hospice. The vibrant music department at Haileybury has supported the Hospice for many years. Book early to avoid disappointment. Tickets £25 inc buffet. Call fundraising for tickets on 01707 376782.

18, 19, 25, 26 Aladdin! (details p4)

20, Sun, The Village Music Club, 3pm, at

St John's Church, Stansted. Marie McLeod ('cello) accomp. by Martin Sturfalt. Tickets £10, Children £3.00 from: Stansted Carpets, Chapel Hill, Stansted; Nockolds Solicitors, Market Square, Bishop's Stortford; Sonia Levy, 31 Chapel Hill, Stansted, 01279 815282

24 Tue, Mobile Library (details p9)

26 Sat, Farmers' Market, 9 -12noon.

26 Sat, Jumble Sale Thundridge 2.30-4.30pm in Thundridge Village Hall. 01920 462992.

27 Sun, Aerobathon, Wodson Park Sports Centre, Ware - 10-12 midday. Join in this fantastic event by calling Lindsey Peters on 01707 334229.

29 Thur, LH & A Garden Club, 7.45pm.

Our guest speaker will be Mr P Hughes talking about organic gardening.

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... February? March?

Further details from the editor

1 Feb, **Musical Soiree**, 7.30pm Old Hall, Ware Priory. Tickets £12.50. 01992 587246.

2 Feb, **"A Hot Italian Evening."** 7.30–10pm Welham Green. Tickets £16.50 inc supper. 01707 656640 or 269723.

2 Feb, **Medley of Meals'** Tickets £7.50 from Mrs Kain - 771028

16 Feb, **Wedding Fayre**, 11am – 4pm St Michael's Church, Windhill, BS. Experience the atmosphere a Church has to offer, listen to our Choir and Organ Recitals, enjoy lunch and the Fashion Show taking place at 1.30pm. All you need for your wedding will be on display, resourced by local businesses.

16 Feb, **60s band "The Animals"**, Drill Hall, Ware, 8–11pm. Tickets £20, 01920 460316.

17 Feb, **100 Mile Swim for Isobel Hospice.** Contact Pam Shepherd on 01707 376782.

8 Mar, **The Table Top Sale**, 10 – 12.30 pm (hirers from 8.30 a.m.) Remember to book your table – first come, first served – a small table £6; large £10. Payment with booking please, telephone Binnie on 771580.

8 Mar **Village Music Club**, Stansted. 7.30pm Thomas Barber (oboe) accomp. James Southall.

9 Mar, **Big Fun Walk**, London Parks, 9.15am If you are interested in taking part, call Renee Friend on 01279 755320. Dogs welcome.

30 Mar, **Tea in Gardens**, 2-5pm Pelham Hse.

10th & 24th January Mobile Library

Nag's Head	from	13.45	-	14.05
The Smithy	from	14.10	-	14.30
Bury Green	from	14.45	-	15.05

This is a fortnightly service.

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Little Hadham School

"Believing and Achieving"

Happy New Year to you all!

I think everyone was ready for the holidays after such a busy end to the term. The children performed really well at their respective concerts and, once again, their singing was excellent! Thank you to everyone who came to support us at the different events.

What does the New Year bring?

Firstly, we begin the year with a Music Workshop by expert Douglas Coombes. (You may remember 'Singing Together?') We then end January with a visit from The Magic Theatre Company with their message called 'The Eco Show'. This should inspire our school 'Eco Team' into action!

We will also be testing their entrepreneurial skills as each child will each be given a £1 coin and they will be given up to half-term to make it 'grow'. We did ask Sir Alan Sugar to help us launch it but unfortunately he was too busy but he did wish us well!

From little acorns mighty oaks do grow!

*Liz Stockley
Head*

PS Thank you to those who shop online through 'The Giving Machine'. We received a cheque for £40 from commission.

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Peak-time traffic

From recent reports by the Parish Council, it would appear that Cradle End is not affected by peak time traffic passing through Bury Green and Wellpond Green.

Cradle End bears the brunt of traffic travelling to and from the A120. The hamlet has three very dangerous bends which drivers negotiate at speed, very often while speaking on their mobile telephones.

It is hoped that this omission will be rectified in future reports.

Eric Rogers

The 'Way Inn'

Come and meet friends and neighbours over a cup of tea or coffee. Rear of village hall, third thursday of the month, 10 - 12noon

Fireworks Hot-line?

Brenda Lennox of Ash Farm has contacted The Parish News to say that many parishioners are concerned about the number of firework displays that have been taking place recently. She stresses that this is not a complaint about fireworks as such; the problem is with their dogs, who get extremely distressed when fireworks are let off. They can get tranquillisers for them, but they need to be administered half an hour beforehand. Would it be possible for some notice to be given if fireworks are going to be set off so that they can save their dogs such unnecessary distress, which in some cases can last for days after the event?

So, the editor's suggestion is:—

If you wish to be notified about forthcoming fireworks for this reason, please contact the editor with your e-mail address (preferably), or telephone number.

If you are planning to set off fireworks, likewise please contact the editor so that she can notify all those who wish to be forewarned.

e-mail: htfp@clocktower.co.uk

or phone: 771113

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Poor Law Research Project – volunteers required

Dr. Paul Carter, Principal Modern Records Specialist at The National Archives in Kew, has begun a project to record all the correspondence, held at Kew, between the Guardians of the workhouses and the Poor Law Commission. As the Parish of Little Hadham was included in the area of the Bishop's Stortford Union workhouse, there will be among the records references to the families of this parish.

Dr. Carter is looking for volunteers to transcribe the records in a simplified style and return the results to Kew. This does mean that each helper requires, or has access to, a computer with an internet connection.

If you are able to help with this project, please call me on 01 279 658585 and I will pass on your details.

Eric Rogers

Home Births ...

"I am just writing in response to the November issue article about births in the Parish. Our daughter, Caroline, was born at home at the beginning of this year on 1st January 2007. Our neighbours, Carmella and Tony Piccolo very kindly looked after our other two daughters and so the girls were able to greet their new sister in the afternoon, with their brother doing so a couple of days later. The midwives were marvellous and it was a lovely start to the New Year!"

Elaine Fisher,
Cradle End.

"I see there is an ongoing 'home birth' discussion in the Parish News - just to add my bit, my youngest son Benjamin was born at home, here in The Smithy, in 1998 (it was a planned homebirth). It seems there are quite a few of us around."

Catherine Petch.

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Have your say –

– in planning

Everyone is affected by planning, so East Herts Council (EHC) is giving you a chance to contribute to a new planning system that will eventually replace the Local Plan. The Government has introduced a Local Development Framework (LDF) that will shape future development in this district up to 2021.

EHC is inviting residents to comment on the core strategy behind the LDF in areas such as housing, the environment, transport and healthy living. Have your say at Community Voice meetings in January.

More details in EHC's winter *Link* magazine, out now.

Litter and damage to verges

“Now that the summer’s growth has died down, the amount of litter that has been thrown into hedgerows and the damage caused by vehicles to roadside verges can be clearly seen.

It seems that most of the litter is thrown from passing cars but local footpaths do not fare any better, so part of the problem is closer to home.

Damage to local verges has only become apparent in recent years as both private and commercial vehicles have become larger and more powerful. Instead of slowing down to allow another vehicle to pass, drivers run into the verge causing soil and other debris to be deposited on the roadway. This is unpleasant for pedestrians and dangerous for cyclists.”

Eric Rogers

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Kyokujitsu Kyokushin Karate Club

Club Report for 2007

The Karate club has had a wonderfully successful year and its talented students are becoming regular features in both the Herts & Essex and Mercury newspapers with headlines such as: 'KARATE KIDS PUT LITTLE HADHAM ON SPORTING MAP'.

The club is flourishing – we recently had 22 students attend a grading examination – all of whom passed, thus maintaining our 100% pass rate. We have been lucky enough to receive two grants this year – from the Hertfordshire Police Initiatives Fund and from the Stansted Airport Community Trust. The money has enabled us to buy mats for the hall as well as additional training aids. We also held a very successful 'Fight Night Dinner & Dance' at our sister club in Ware – raising money for a competition travel expenses fund for the club's students as well as £220 for the Herts Air Ambulance.

Our most obvious successes however have been in competitions – with our students dominating the trophies first locally and, more recently, on a national level. We have numerous 2nd and 3rd placings and no less than three national champions! Zac Jeffery is the current under 9s British Knockdown Champion, Benjamin Petch is under 9s English Clicker Champion and Jamie Petch recently won the Welsh Open title for his age group. Jamie has also been asked to train with the England squad, as have two of our senior fighters – Clive McDonald (clicker) and Dan Dass (full-contact knockdown).

Despite these notable successes, most importantly the club prides itself on being very

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continued from page 14

friendly, very disciplined and very spirited. We train hard so that we can fight hard! – but in the process we enjoy ourselves (I hope!) very much and receive so many benefits, both physically and mentally. If you would like to join in our fun, please come along to the Little Hadham Village Hall on Wednesdays from 5.00-6.00pm or give me a ring on 771636. OSU!

Senpai Catherine Petch

If you have something to write, nearly 500 homes would like to read it (probably), so why not send in your piece and make the *Parish News* really interesting and not full of awkward spaces like this one. . . ?

. . . and this one.

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SU DOKU
no. 17

Complete this grid so that each row, column and block of 9 squares contains the letters of the words

PARISH NEW

Only one solution, no need to guess

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January diary for Little Hadham and Albury

(part of the Ash and Quin Valleys' team incorporating Much Hadham, Braughing, Furneux and Stocking Pelham.)

6 Sunday *The Epiphany*

8.00am Holy Communion at St Thomas's, Perry Green

9.30am Matins at St Cecilia's, Little Hadham

11.15am Parish Communion at St Mary's, Albury

13 Sunday *Baptism of Christ*

9.30am Shared Communion at St Cecilia's, Little Hadham

5.00pm Taizé style service at St Andrew's, Much Hadham

20 Sunday *Epiphany 3*

8.00am Holy Communion at St Cecilia's, Little Hadham

9.30am Family Service in Little Hadham Village Hall

6.00pm Evensong at St Mary's, Albury

27 Sunday *Epiphany 4*

11.15am Parish Communion at St Mary's, Albury

6.00pm Evensong at St Cecilia's, Little Hadham

There is a service of Holy Communion every Wednesday at 10.30am at St Andrew's

Useful phone numbers:

Citizens' Advice Bureau, Bishop's Stortford:

0870 126 4083

Editor, Parish News: Jan Finn, 771113

Environment Agency Incident Line:

0800 807060

Highways Fault reporting: 01438 737320

Mobile Library info: 01438 737333

Police non-emergency phone number (local rate):

0845 3300222

Power cut helpline 24hrs: 0800 7 838 838

Road or Pavement problems, call Highways on
01438 737320

Stansted Airport Noise Complaints:

0800 243788

Traveline: 0870 608 2 608

Village Hall bookings: Mrs Fardell, 771697

Water/Sewage problems, call Thames Water on

0800 376 5325

Editor: Jan Finn, Ash Cottage, The Ashe, Little Hadham, SG11 2DX (771113) e-mails to htfp@clocktower.co.uk

All articles for inclusion; sponsorship; and payment for advertising in the next issue
must be received by the **18th** of the month. (cheques payable to **Little Hadham PCC**)

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