

# Little Hadham Parish News November 2008

## *St. Cecilia's Concert*



*Pete Baker's Crusty Jazzers*

at

*St. Cecilia's Church*

*Little Hadham, (SG11 2DY) off A120*

To commemorate St. Cecilia, Patron Saint of Music

on

*Sunday 23rd November*

6.30pm for 7pm

Tickets £8 (includes glass of wine and nibbles)

from

Tony Skidmore 771688 – Don Gibson 771325 – Post Office

**ONLY 100 TICKETS WILL BE SOLD**

Rector of Parish: Revd. Chris Boulton 01279 842609

e-mail: [rectory@muchhadham.com](mailto:rectory@muchhadham.com)

Team Vicar: Revd. Jeanette Gosney

01920 822619

e-mail: [vicar@braughing.org.uk](mailto:vicar@braughing.org.uk)

Asst. Priest: Revd. Clive Slaughter

01279 844955

e-mail: [cp.slaughter@virgin.net](mailto:cp.slaughter@virgin.net)

Churchwardens: Don Gibson 01279 771325, Tony Skidmore 01279 771688

Log on to [www.thehadhams.com](http://www.thehadhams.com) for issues dating back to May 2006

# Letter from the Rectory

## Continuing reflections upon a Sabbatical

After I had left Durban in South Africa, I ventured into the Drakensberg mountains. Referred to as the "Dragon Mountains" by the early Afrikaner settlers, the Zulus called the mountains uKhahlamba or "barrier of spears". It brought back memories of the film Zulu, the Battle of Isandhlwana and Rorke's Drift. The red coats who had come "on the orders of the great white Queen", facing the spears, dying horribly but valiantly on foreign soil. As we drove the long kilometres to and from the mountains, I thought of our soldiers trudging all over that part of Africa for Queen and Country and Empire, so far from home, first in the Boer War and later, in Namibia and East Africa, as Europe dragged the continent into the Great War of 1914. They were recent intruders in the long history of war and peace between the tribes of the region. 21,000 British and Imperial soldiers, 25,000 Boer soldiers and civilians, thousands of native blacks, died in the Boer War alone; and it astonished me to read that up to 500,000 black Africans took part in the Great War and many died: a forgotten force. This year, as we stand before the War memorial in Much Hadham on Remembrance Sunday, I will spare a thought for Africa and its wars.

But in happier times I was at peace, climbing into those mountains of spears, crossing an icy mountain stream to view the ancient bushmen rock paintings; a climb requiring great effort on my part, but to our native guide a simple stroll. Returning exhausted, I was informed that we should walk a mere 3 kilometres to visit a local Roman Catholic secondary school. It was well worth the trip. There I met the lovely sister Pat and the dedicated staff, and some of the teenagers. I visited the classrooms and shared a service in the Chapel. The singing of the young people, male and female was gentle, moving and uplifting. Why, I thought have we lost this simple love of singing, especially among boys? Their joy and enthusiasm for learning was truly humbling. They owned comparatively little, but had so much. The white legacy in South Africa is not all bad, and at least the Christian Churches of all denominations have tried to invest in education; but there is so much more to do. It is above all through education that ignorance and prejudice can be overcome and poverty tackled. I recall the words of Nelson Mandela:

"Education is the great engine of personal development. It is through education that the daughter of a peasant can become a doctor, that the child of farm workers can become the president of a great nation."

Chris Boulton

See photos on page 6

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## 'Cabinet Reshuffle' for Parish Council

Members of Little Hadham Parish Council have been given new responsibilities under a 'Cabinet Reshuffle'. The idea is to encourage new ideas and widen the experience of councillors, said chairman Mike Fairchild.

Andy Morris remains vice-chairman and takes over as chairman of the planning committee. The job of considering applications and visiting properties will continue to be shared out among councillors. Considering planning applications is one of the council's most important and busy functions even though the council's role is limited. The parish council planning committee can object to an application and state its reasons, or raise no objection. East Herts Council takes the final decision but should take the parish council's views into account.

Councillors will work as a team where their specialist roles tend to overlap. Tony Skidmore retains responsibility for housing issues and matters involving the Regional Plan, and remains the village school representative.

John Purvis assumes responsibility for highways matters including the planned bypass.

Geoff Williamson takes responsibility for flooding matters and for the maintenance of the village's playgrounds as well as remaining

parish council representative on the Village Hall committee. Mary Wilkinson remains responsible for liaison with the police and will handle projects with environmental issues.

Carmela Piccolo retains her responsibility for young people's issues as well as representing the three adjoining parishes of Cradle End, Green Street and Bury Green. Councillors' area responsibilities are unchanged (see below). In addition to his role as chairman, Mike Fairchild will take the lead on public consultations and retains his responsibility for airport-related issues. Bev Evans retains his wide-ranging role as parish clerk.

### **Do you know your local parish councillor?**

Get to know your local parish councillor who will be happy to discuss your local issues, concerns – and suggestions!

Cradle End, Green Street and Bury Green:

Cllr Mrs Carmela Piccolo

The Ford: Cllr Geoff Williamson

Westland Green: Cllr John Purvis

The Ash: Cllr Andy Morris

Hadham Hall: Cllr Tony Skidmore

If you wish to contact your local councillor, in the first instance call Bev Evans, Parish Clerk: 842803.

*continued on page 5*

## **FIREWORKS – advance notice**

We all know about November 5th, but this is to let dog-owners know that apart from that there will be fireworks on the **1st November** by the War Memorial (7pm) and two lots on the **8th November** in the vicinity of the traffic lights (7pm and 11pm). Thank you all so much for letting the Fireworks Hotline know, and please keep up the good work.

Dog-owners, did you know that there is a tape of various loud noises available to help you to accustom your dog to fireworks? It could be worth a try.

Lastly, visit [www.petfireworkfear.co.uk](http://www.petfireworkfear.co.uk) for some really good advice to everyone.

## Nature Notes: September and October

by Jonathan Forgham

In this month's notes I shall endeavour to keep more up to date and so include comments from the whole of September and as far as October 18th. Carrying on for the rest of the year will mean I shall cover nearly all of the year by the January issue.

The highlight bird of September was undoubtedly a female or first year merlin. This was first witnessed, on the 1st September, as I wandered to the allotment, flushing it from trees. It proceeded to give good views from the large oak tree nearby. The smallest British falcon, not much larger than a blackbird, but with a longer wingspan. A tell-tale field note for this species is that when it flies off it tends to keep low, attacking its prey from beneath. Usual prey are small finches and tits, which it catches in midair. The bird was seen on several occasions after this, harassing linnets in the fields leading to Bush Wood. Other birds of note were: migrating sand martins (7th), 150+ swallows (15th), reed bunting (15th), common buzzard (27th), little owl (28th), bullfinch (28th), grey heron (29th) and finally a late migrating garden warbler at the allotment on the 29th. I last recorded local swallows on the 28th of September.

The Indian summer offered chances of more butterflies with commas being prevalent but also noted were red admirals, large and small whites and peacocks. All these enjoyed the nectar from the garden buddleia.

And so into October where two new birds were added to the list. Firstly, a most unexpected bird whilst walking along the Ridge path to Winding Hill: a common sandpiper. Again, a migratory bird heading towards Africa and again, probably a late first year bird making its first trek south. A real surprise. This was on the 8th and then on the 11th, whilst walking to Queer Wood I heard and then observed a party of six lesser redpolls, high and moving west. This bird became the 80th species for the year. A most satisfactory total.

*continued on page 7*

Adverts removed

## Parish Council News continued from page 3

The parish council has also agreed new procedures with the aim of making shorter, more decisive meetings.

- Members of the parish council will be attending the four-day examination in public into proposals by the East of England Regional Assembly for additional pitches for gypsies and travellers. Two sites in Little Hadham were identified as potential sites.

- Following the failure of the County Council's highways department to consult the parish council over changes to the 'tie-ins' at either end of the proposed Little Hadham bypass, assurances have been given that the council will in future be kept fully informed. A meeting with engineers is planned to examine the detail of the proposed changes. A meeting has also been arranged with a resident whose home is affected by the new route.

- The parish council will examine safety issues

arising out of the number of cars parked on the main road through the village, near the old post office. Residents say parking makes it dangerous when exiting from their driveways. The council will explore with Highways whether there are any off-street parking solutions.

- Following the installation of new equipment in both playgrounds, an annual safety inspection has identified that only minor problems need attention. The council will organise a DIY work party.

- National Air Traffic Services are now reviewing proposed changes to flight paths that could affect Little Hadham. The decision by the Government to sanction the raising of passenger numbers on Stansted's existing runway from 25 million passengers a year to 35 million has no bearing on plans for a second runway, which will be the subject of a planning inquiry in April next year. The

*continued on page 15*

Adverts removed

*Some photos from  
Chris Boulton's sabattical*



*Youngsters from the school in the Drakensberg region.*



*Taken from the top of a Drakensberg mountain, with  
Robert, our Busan guide in the foreground.*



*Sister Pat from the Catholic School*

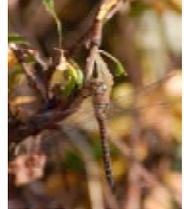
*Adverts removed*

## Nature Notes continued from page 4

Glorious weekends have recently given the opportunity for me to get out and about, registering many late flying butterflies as well as common darter and migrant hawk dragonflies. The former was photographed adjacent to the golf course, as was the latter, roosting in hedgerow by the 1st fairway, shown here. Also on the 11th a common buzzard swept low over the golf club house, being mobbed by carrion crows and jackdaws, as shown here. October has brought the return of the redwing, a thrush from Scandinavia's conifer forests. These were first recorded south of the village on the 18th, a recently arrived party of 25+.



owls are now heard most evenings and at dawn, with a particularly vociferous female calling from Muggin's Wood as I wait for the morning bus. A garden bird watch on the 18th gave a total of 15 species, the highlight being a group of three goldcrests, feeding in the apple tree.



As October continues with the first frosts of the autumn, the leaves are looking absolutely marvellous; a veritable myriad of autumnal colour.

Further photographs and more detailed reports can be viewed and read at <http://littlehadhambirding.blogspot.com>.

A final reminder that I shall be giving a fully illustrated talk in the Village Hall on Tuesday 11th November. Doors open at 7.30pm and I look forward to meeting members of the social club as well as any other villagers who will be made most welcome. Entry for non-members is £1.50

Adverts removed

## Little Hadham & Albury Social Club

At our October meeting we were pleased to welcome Patricia and Ruth, volunteer representatives on behalf of the Herts. Air Ambulance. They explained to us that Hertfordshire is the only county in the country that does not have an Air Ambulance Service and that since the launch of the Hertfordshire charity in August 2007 almost £500,000 has been donated towards Hertfordshire's first Air Ambulance.

Initially a helicopter will be leased for a year and, to continue the service, £80,000 per month must still be made available. We are fortunate to have been able to use the services of the Essex Air Ambulance, who are called out between three and five times every day. The Herts. helicopter will probably work from North Weald aerodrome. To enable such an important facility to work successfully please give generously to the charity whenever you can.

At our meeting on 11th November, Jonathan Forgham, our village naturalist, will review his findings over the past year – there have been some rare sightings too? Do come along to the Little Hadham Village Hall at 8 p.m. and learn about our interesting countryside. Only £1.50 per person, including refreshments.

Bookings for our Christmas dinner at The Bull, Much Hadham on Tuesday, 9th December, must be made at the November meeting, please.

Tel. 771580 or 658585 for information.

Adverts removed

## **Jack May Trust Fund Concert** *in aid of Much Hadham Health Centre*

Featuring the internationally renowned trumpeter Crispian Steel-Perkins accompanied by Lesley Pearson (organ) and Barbara Manning (piano), St Andrew's Church, Much Hadham will be the venue for this concert on Friday 12 December at 7.30pm. Tickets will be available from Mrs Gina May 844083, Mr Peter Brighton 842309 or by personal application to Much Hadham Health Centre. Tickets cost £12 each and include a glass of mulled wine and seasonal refreshments.

The Fund was founded in 2001 in the memory of the late Jack May of Hunsdon. Its purpose is to provide facilities for the benefit of the patients at Much Hadham Health Centre Practice. Over the years it has funded projects such as the major refurbishment of the treatment room, provision of ECG machines, BP monitors, surgical equipment, diagnostic equipment, couches and more recently the refurbishment of the patients' waiting room area. Funds are also made available for patients who require professional counselling but are unable to afford this service. Any donations can come under the 'Gift Aid Scheme for tax purposes'. (Registered Charity No. 1088104)

For further information please contact the Practice Manager or either of the Partners.

We hope that you will be able to come and support this event. We can assure you that it will be a fantastic evening.

Colin Brookbanks

*Adverts removed*

# What's on in November . . .

in the Village Hall unless otherwise stated

**4 Tue Parish Council meeting**, 8pm.  
Everyone welcome, do come along.

**6-8 'Season's Greetings'**, comedy by Alan Ayckbourn, 8pm Victoria Hall Theatre, Old Harlow, £7.50 (Concessions £6.00). Reservations can be made on 07931 590464; Box Office Answerphone 01279 420062; The Tuck Shop; and Cafe of the Angels, in Bell Street, Sawbridgeworth and at the Victoria Hall Box Office on performance nights subject to availability.

**6, 20 Thur Mobile Library** Details, page 11.

**11 Tues LH&A Social Club**, 8pm Jonathan Forgham, our village naturalist, will review his findings over the past year – there have been some rare sightings too? Do come along and learn about our interesting countryside. Only £1.50 per person, including refreshments. Bookings for our **Christmas dinner** at The Bull, Much Hadham on Tuesday, 9th December, must be made at the November meeting, please. 771580 or 658585 for information.

**14 Fri Cricket Club AGM**, 8pm All welcome.

**15 Sat Opera Loki**. in Mozart's **The Marriage of Figaro**, 7pm St Nicholas' Church Gt Munden. Tickets £20 inc wine & nibbles. Details 01992 584322. Set in 18thC and sung in English.

**15 Sat An Evening with the Overtures** organised by Holly McCredie in memory of her dad Warwick to raise funds for Isabel Hospice. Held in the beautiful location of Three Lakes, Westmill Farm, Ware. Tickets cost £15. Holly is also running the Flora London marathon in 2009 and sponsorship forms will be available on the evening. Call 01920 465126 for tickets.

**18 Tue LH&A Garden Club**, 7.45pm  
Guest speaker will be Mr R Claydon whose subject is 'Chelsea Flower Show Changes'.

**20 Thur "Way Inn" coffee morning** 10-12noon.  
Meet and make friends over a cuppa.

**22 Sat Isabel Hospice Music Hall**, 7.30pm  
Braughing Drama Group is performing in aid of the hospice. Hot fish/chicken and chip supper provided. Tickets £12 each (over 16s only). Bar by the Axe and Compasses. Tickets from Ann Styles 01920 822683.

**22 Sat Annual Garden Club Dinner** 7.00 for 7.30pm.

**23 Sun Pete Baker's Hot and Crusty Jazzers**, 6.30 for 7pm, St Cecilia's Church. Tickets £8. See front cover for details. Photo in living colour on next page. How could you resist?

**29 Sat Farmers' Market**, 9-12 noon. Local produce, hot food. Support your farmers.

**29 Sat Lights of Love Ceremony** 4pm, Van Hage Garden Centre, Ware. The second of our ceremonies held to remember loved ones throughout the Isabel Hospice catchment area. The ceremony lasts about 1 hour and is held around the Christmas Tree at Van Hage. Includes a reading, carols and a speaker. Do come along, all welcome. To dedicate a light on the tree, contact fundraising at Isabel Hospice on 01707 376782 or download a form from [www.isabelhospice.org.uk](http://www.isabelhospice.org.uk).

**30 Sun Isabel Hospice Christmas Fair** 10.30-4pm, Castle Hall (formerly held at Hanbury Manor) Always lots of Christmas Shopping opportunities. Admission £3 children free, lucky dip. Refreshments available all day. Call Renee Friend on 01279 755320 for details.

**30 Sun Music@Stansted. Panoply** - a unique group of instrumentalists mixing music from Latin America, China and Europe. Tickets £12 (concessions available). Pay at the door with no need to book, or ring 01279 815282.

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## ... and then?

Dec 2 **The Magic Of Christmas**, shopping event, Tickets £40, details from Suzanne Coleman on 01438 717406.

Dec 5, 6, 7 **Christmas Tree Festival**. More info from Denise Dilly on 01992 587113.

Dec 7 **Jingle Bells and Bows Fun Run**.

Entry is £10 (free entry for under 16s). details: [lisa.seccombe@isabelhospice.org.uk](mailto:lisa.seccombe@isabelhospice.org.uk)

Dec 9 **Social Club Christmas dinner** 771580 or 658585 for information.

Dec 13 **Lights of Love Ceremony**, 4pm The Castle, Hertford Details as on page 10.

Dec 14 **Showstoppers**, Castle Hall, Hertford for Isabel Hospice. Details 01992 586010

Dec 17 **Christmas Carols** at Haileybury 7.45pm for 8pm. Free entry, £5 for a glass of wine and a mince pie if you wish.

Dec 21 **Nine Lessons and Carols** to be held on Sunday at 6pm in St. Cecilia's Church.

Jan 18 **Music@Stansted**.



**PETE BAKER'S HOT AND CRUSTY JAZZERS**

**23 Nov 6.30 for 7.00**

**6 & 20 November**  
**Mobile Library**  
Nag's Head from 1345 - 1405  
The Smithy from 14.10 - 14.30  
Bury Green from 1445 - 1505  
A fortnightly service.

## 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

### St. Elizabeth's Centre Christmas Events!

#### Christmas Bazaar

**Saturday 29th November 1-4pm**

Held in St. Elizabeth's School Hall, this is a popular annual event where you can do some early Christmas shopping and enjoy some home-made refreshments. It's fun for all the family with stalls, games and our own Father Christmas and Christmas Fair! Free entry, everyone is welcome!

#### Reflections at Christmas

**Sunday 7th December 4pm**

Join us at 4pm in St. Elizabeth's Chapel, Much Hadham to dedicate a candle, join in the singing of traditional carols and listen to some festive readings, followed by mulled wine and mince pies. It's a lovely way to start celebrating Christmas.

#### Fundraising Projects

Our popular Christmas card selection is back for another year with eight new designs to choose from. Also this year, we are pleased to announce the return of the popular St. Elizabeth's Centre Plum Pudding! These puddings are an attractive gift and are ideal stocking fillers!

To order any products or for more information on any upcoming event please contact Tracey Harley, Fundraising Manager, St. Elizabeth's Centre, Much Hadham, Herts, SG10 6EW.

01279 844226

[harleyt@stelizabeths.org.uk](mailto:harleyt@stelizabeths.org.uk)

## Little Hadham Cricket Club News

LITTLE HADHAM'S FINAL MATCH OF THE SEASON was due to be the annual Ron Oxborrow Memorial Cup match which is played for between Little Hadham and Albury as the last match each year. Unfortunately this year on the 5th October (as it seems with most of the summer) the rains came and the match was cancelled. The following week there were clear blue skies and temperatures reaching 70 degrees; the season obviously ended too soon!

Attention now turns to off the field activities and on Friday 14th November, Little Hadham Cricket Club is holding its Annual General Meeting at 8.00pm in Little Hadham Village Hall. The meeting is not just open to members of the club, but anyone who may be interested in playing or supporting is also very welcome to come along.

Early in January the club will be running indoor nets for about 3 months before the start of next season, so if you are interested in playing cricket for your local village side please contact one of the people shown below. The club has members in the age range of 11 to 70, so you are never too young or old to enjoy a game of village cricket, on (hopefully next year) a warm and sunny afternoon. Further details are available from either Neil Oxborrow on 506062 (mobile 07769 850827) or Martin Hallmark on 771033 (mobile 07917 425076). So if you are interested then please give us a call and help maintain the Village Cricket Club.

*Many thanks to Max & Lesley Ashley for sponsoring this page*

Adverts removed

# Little Hadham School

*Believing and Achieving*

Our Harvest Service in church was well supported and the children performed their various Harvest presentations beautifully. This year, we chose to support Oxfam's World Food Day and raised £177 to spend on Oxfam Unwrapped Gifts. The School Council had the final say as to what 'gifts' we actually chose to purchase.

National Reading Week in school was launched by a visit from Mrs Mellors from Bishop's Stortford Library and the children really enjoyed the different reading opportunities. Many were inspired to buy some 'good reads' from our visiting Scholastic Book Fair.

Christmas plans are already in the air and our FRIENDS Association are getting ready to make our Christmas Bazaar on Sunday 30th November a great success. Do come along and see for yourselves!

Liz Stockley, Head

## Distraction Burglaries

Please be aware that several distraction burglaries have occurred recently in Enfield – offenders purported to be from the Water Board. Although this is not Hertfordshire it is only down the A10.

Please remind everyone, particularly the vulnerable and elderly, not to open their door to anyone they don't know. And if anyone sees or hears anything suspicious they should ring the police immediately.

Adverts removed

## Regular events

*in the Village Hall unless otherwise stated*

**Badminton:** 8.00pm Mondays

**Brownies:** 4.30 - 6pm Tuesdays, term-time.

Judi Wheeler 654624

**Carpet Bowls Club: Social and League,**

8-10pm Fridays, Eileen Booth 771426

**Farmers' Market:** 9.00-12 noon, last

Saturday of month. Brenda Kain 771028

**Karate:** 5-6pm Wednesdays,

Catherine Petch, 771636

**Mobile Police Station:** 9 - 11am first and

third Tuesday, in the car park.

**Music Makers:** For under-fives. 1.15 - 1.50

& 2.10 - 2.45 on Thursdays in the Nursery

at LH School. Fern Oliver 506369

**Parent & Toddler group,**

9.30 - 11.30am, Wednesdays, term-time.

**Playgroup:** 1.00pm - 3.30pm Mondays,

Tuesdays, Wednesdays in the Nursery at

LH School. Lisa Hale 505194

**LH Post Office:** 9.00 - 11am Tuesdays and

Thursdays, rear of the Village Hall in the

Doctor's Reception Room.

**The "Way Inn":** third Thursday of month

**Whist Drive:** Last Thursday of month.

Ross Barron, 771694

## Useful phone numbers

**Citizens' Advice Bureau, East Herts**

District 08744 848 9700

**Editor, Parish News:** Jan Finn, 771113

**Environment Agency Incident Line:**

0800 807060

**Fireworks hotline:** Jan Finn, 771113

**Mobile Library info:** 01438 737333

**Police non-emergency phone number**

(local rate): 0845 3300222

**Power cut helpline:** 0800 7 838 838

**Road or Pavement problems, call**

Highways on 01438 737320

**Stansted Airport Noise Complaints:**

0800 243788

**Traveline:** 0871 200 22 33

**Village Hall bookings:** Mrs Fardell,

771697

**Water/Sewage problems, call Thames**

Water on 0800 376 5325

Adverts removed

## Bingo

It was Full House in October when the Village Hall took on Bingo mode for the evening.

Thanks to all the villagers and local businesses who supplied us with prizes and to everyone who attended and joined in the fun. This resulted in a profit of £450 which has gone towards the printing of the Village Welcome pack, soon to make its debut.

The Bingo quartet (Jenny, Steffie, Sabine and Cherry) have now retired!

## Harvest Supper - a Great Success

Thank you very much to everyone who attended the Harvest Supper. Not only did we have a great time but the evening raised £100 for the Bishop of St Albans' Harvest Appeal 2008 - the Hawa Dirra community in Mali where local residents can no longer rely on the river to harvest fish and so are being taught to become farmers. Thank you once again for your support.

Hilary and Karin

## PC News *continued from page 5*

council noted that the Conservatives have given an undertaking to oppose a second runway if elected.

- The parish council has been asked its views on Government proposals to give local authorities more powers to pass and enforce bylaws. A reply will be discussed at the November meeting of the parish council that takes place on **Tuesday November 4 at 8pm** in the Village Hall. All residents are invited to attend and take part.

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## Proposed flight path changes by NATS

NATS [National Air Traffic Services] have accepted that the westerly flight path over Little Hadham called the Buzad route requires to be re-examined.

They had proposed a reduction in height over the village from 4,400ft to 3,000ft. This was to allow planes to pass under the new 5,000ft flight path from Luton and then do lots of extra unnecessary flying to loop round and come over the top of the 5,000ft Luton flight path. This proposal is included in BAA's planning application for the 2nd runway at Stansted. We are talking about a flight path for the next 40 years.

In a letter from NATS dated 29th September further options for the Buzad route are being considered. The implementation date on next April 2009 has been postponed. This is an opportunity to get a proper appraisal of the flight paths.

High performance routes are an option which would take planes straight over the new Luton 5,000ft flight path, reducing extra track mileage, fuel burn and noise. Oliver Heald MP, Mark Prisk MP and Much Hadham Parish council are in favour of the high performance routes.

If high performance routes are implemented then the village will have the height of planes taken up to 6,000ft. The Parish council is doing all it can to achieve this, but the most pressure that can be brought to bear will help the situation, so please all consider how you can help.

Andy Morris, Little Hadham Parish Council

Adverts removed

# Rural Ramblings

by Cherry Mardell

Computers came too late in life for me. Although I use one every day, I have never mastered all the short cuts which kids do without a second thought. I'm fine on the basics but ask me to design something on it or set out some complicated graph and I've had it. Kindly relatives have given me both "Getting things done on your PC" and the positive tome from Reader's Digest entitled "How to do just about anything on a computer"... and I still fumble and fail when asked to do the simplest of jobs. Added terror is the positive plethora of cables underneath my quaintly termed "office corner" with plugs going into various other boxes of hi-tech torture. You soon realise that this whole thing is way beyond me! So when the computer itself packed up, doom and gloom set in.

I was once told that if I held hands with someone who was holding an electric fence, then it wouldn't hurt! Since then I have had an unhealthy terror of electric shocks. So it seemed the best idea to pull everything out of

the back of said dead computer box and await instructions. The new computer comes this week and I have no idea how to set it up as I can't even faintly remember which plug went where – which is where children come in. Both mine work with computers. Admittedly they both live over 100 miles away. But with promises of a large, vegetarian lunch and lashings of alcohol, I have persuaded one to come over for the day and set up my new toy. I know she will sigh in desperation as I ask foolish questions and I will be back to being the kid while she becomes the knowledgeable adult.

But who cares? Me and my computer, despite everything, we have formed quite a relationship. Sometimes I think it is slightly better than a husband: it doesn't require feeding or keeping good humoured. I don't have to wash and iron its clothes. I can leave it when I feel like it and return when I feel in the mood. And it is always so knowledgeable!

What more could a woman want!

Advert removed

## SU DOKU no.25

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

### GUY FAWKES

Only one solution, no need to guess

U	F	W			G	Y		
		K	S	F			G	
A						U		
		S	Y	A				
G	A		U		E		Y	K
				G	S	E		
		E						A
	w			K	Y	G		
		U	E			F	w	Y

## Thank you

The members of the PCC are extremely grateful to Hilary Davies and Karin Green, the organisers of the Harvest Supper, and their many helpers. We were treated to a wonderful evening – the music, food and atmosphere could not have been better.

A very big thank you.

•

Max and Lesley wish to acknowledge the many Get Well cards and kind messages we've received during Max's recent illness.

His return to health and strength is yet a long way off, but most days see some progress.

Your thoughts have been a great comfort to us and we wish to thank everyone for their concern.

## St. Cecilia's Carol Service

- singers needed

If you enjoy singing and are prepared to come to a few rehearsals, you would be warmly welcomed in the choir for the traditional service of Nine Lessons and Carols to be held on Sunday 21st December 2008 at 6pm in St. Cecilia's Church.

We sing a variety of well-known and lesser known carols, both choir only and congregational, and the choir includes singers from the various villages in our team and also beyond (e.g. Bishop's Stortford and even Welwyn!).

The first rehearsal is on **Friday 21st November at 7.30pm** in St. Cecilia's Church, Little Hadham. Please contact me on 01279 771000, or [mary.snyder@btinternet.com](mailto:mary.snyder@btinternet.com) if you are interested.

Mary Snyder

Adverts removed

## Pattern of Services – Ash and Quin Valleys’ team – 2008

Date	Much Hadham	St. Thomas	Little Hadham	Albury
First Sunday	Family Communion 9.15	Holy Communion 8.00	Matins 9.30	Parish Communion 11.15
Second Sunday	Parish Communion 9.15 Taizé 5.00pm	Matins 11.15	Shared Communion 9.30	
Third Sunday	Parish Communion 9.15		Holy Communion 8.00 All Age Service (Village Hall) 9.30	Evensong 6.00pm
Fourth Sunday	Parish Communion 9.15	Matins 11.15	Evensong 6.00pm	Shared Communion 11.15
Fifth Sunday	Shared Communion in rotation 9.15		Shared Communion in rotation 9.30	Shared Communion in rotation 11.00
Weekday Services	Holy Communion Wednesday 10.30		Holy Communion First Thursday 9.00	

Times may vary for special days and festivals

### Sculpture returns to Little Hadham

A sculpture commissioned by Hadham Hall Society, the parents’ association of the former school, which in recent years spent much of its life adorning a wall at the Bishop’s Stortford Tesco, is now seeking a home.

The relief sculpture in bronze resin was created by Paul Bainbridge, former head of art at the school and a friend and colleague of Tom Feather, who had been the house master there and who very sadly died recently. Paul is now a freelance sculptor.

Paul describes the sculpture as a labour of love. The work, which is in three sections and stands 6ft tall, tells the history of the school using archeological artefacts as its theme. Paul would like to bring the sculpture back home to Little Hadham and is now seeking a more fitting site.

If you have any ideas, contact Paul on 01763 288174.

### Obituary – Maude Hodgson

Those of you who remember Roger and Maude Hodgson will be saddened to hear that Maude died last week after a gallant battle with cancer.

Maude was a delightful person, a welcoming hostess at the rectory, a great support to Roger in his parish work and a loving mother to Jeremy and Caroline, as well as appearing with Bishop’s Stortford Operatic Society. One or two of us were able to attend the funeral at Arundel on Wednesday October 15th. It was a moving but uplifting occasion. Mingling with the congregation at the sumptuous tea afterwards we heard one phrase on everyone’s lips – “She was a lovely lady.” A fitting epitaph. We all send our love and sympathy to Roger, Jeremy and Caroline in their great loss.

Ann Clayton

# November diary for Little Hadham and Albury

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

**2 Sunday**      **All Saints Festival**  
8.00am      Holy Communion at St Thomas', Perry Green  
9.30am      Sung Matins at St Cecilia's, Little Hadham  
4.00pm      Charity Concert for African Schools at St Andrew's, Much Hadham.  
Admission at door or tickets from Chris Boulton. Junior children free.

**9 Sunday**      **Remembrance Sunday**  
9.15am      Parish Communion at St Andrew's, Much Hadham  
10.50am      Service of Remembrance at the War Memorial, Little Hadham  
5.00pm      Taizé style service in St Andrew's, Much Hadham

**16 Sunday**      **2nd before Advent**  
8.00am      Holy Communion at St Cecilia's, Little Hadham  
9.30am      Family Service in the Village Hall, Little Hadham  
6.00pm      Evensong at St Mary's, Albury

**21 Friday**  
7.30pm      Christmas choir rehearsal at St Cecilia's, Little Hadham

**23 Sunday**      **Feast of Christ The King**  
11.15am      Parish Communion at St Mary's, Albury  
6.30pm (7pm)      St Cecilia's Day Concert at St Cecilia's, Little Hadham  
Tickets from Tony Skidmore

**26 Wednesday**  
7.30pm      Deanery Eucharist at St Michael's, Bishop's Stortford. All welcome.

27 Thursday  
8.00pm      Little Hadham PCC meeting in St Cecilia's room.

**30 Sunday**      **Advent Sunday**  
9.30am      Benefice Communion at St Cecilia's, Little Hadham  
6.00pm      Music for Advent. A service at St Andrew's, Much Hadham  
Also a celebration of St Andrew's Day.

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

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## St Cecilia's – Churchyard clear-up

Help is needed to carry out the Autumn clear-up of the Churchyard and grounds at St Cecilia's. If you can spare half an hour (or an hour) please come to the Church at 10 am on Saturday 15th November. Jobs to be done: grass cutting, light bonfire, clean windows, tidy up churchyard, clear spoil on west perimeter, lop-off unwanted/dead tree branches, clear guttering AND make tea

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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**)

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