

# LITTLE HADHAM PARISH NEWS

AUGUST 2009



In the bushes, something stirred: Jonathan points out nature's hidden creatures on his latest walk.

.....  
: **HARVEST SUPPER** :  
: **SATURDAY 10TH OCTOBER VILLAGE HALL** :  
.....

- Priced at £7.50 a head, tickets for this year's Harvest Supper go on sale in August.
- Available from Frank Green, 771532, book your seat early, as tickets will be limited!

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

Forty years ago I had finished my first Trinity term at Oxford and was staying at my parents' home. It was a very special day. We congregated around the television to witness an historic event; the landing on the moon. The late sixties were for many a time of hope in the technological and scientific possibilities for humanity. "A small step for a man; a giant leap for mankind" was not just a rhetorical slogan, but a real belief. It was genuinely inspiring to think that for the first time human beings were standing on another planet.

We looked back through the camera eye and saw the earth as a stranger might. This fragile and colourful globe, shooting through space at an amazing rate was our spaceship, our home, our mother, holding us to her breast through gravity. It was, though I did not know it at the time, the foundation of a deeper understanding of our need to protect this planet and an impetus to a new environmental movement. Although "green" ideas had been around for a century, it was in 1972 that the United Nations first issued an environmental programme.

For me, the experience of Apollo 11, far from hardening the contrast between science and religion, seemed to make it come all the closer together.

When Buzz Aldrin quoted the words of psalm 8, "What is man, that thou art mindful of him? And the son of man, that thou visitest him?" they struck a chord with me; and I went on to develop my own mission, to become a priest, dedicated to going out into the world to spread the Christian gospel.

Since then a great deal has happened. The optimism of space exploration did not perhaps go on to fulfil its early promise. Many other scientific advances in space and on earth have taken place. But I hope I shall not forget the sense of excitement, or the belief in the power of the human spirit to achieve great things. I still go on seeing in those achievements the hand of God and the capacity of human beings to experience the awe and wonder that lie at the heart of life on earth.

Chris Boulton

**The Little Hadham Fun Run** raised £1,000 for Cardiac Risk in the Young (CRY) and topped up Parish Plan starter funds for future events. The run was in memory of Caroline Johnstone who lived in Chapel Lane, known to friends as Caz. The money will be added to proceeds from the 'Cazfest' concert in Bishop's Stortford which will bring forward plans for heart screening, or 'CazTesting', for 16-17-year-olds.

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## Colin Brookbanks hangs up his stethoscope...well, almost!



Colin received a crystal dish and a cheque from Bunty Anderson on behalf of villagers. Colin Brookbanks with his wife Pep, son Alistair (centre), daughters Amy (right) and Joanne and some of the 300 guests.

More than 300 people gathered at Hopleys Nursery in Much Hadham to mark the retirement of Dr Colin Brookbanks who leaves after 32 years' service. Dr Brookbanks started work in 1977 as the local community's junior physician and worked his way up to become senior partner at the Much Hadham Health Centre. He helped to modernise the clinic and gradually expanded its catchment area to cover villages as far out as Standon and Hunsdon and also helped set up a satellite service in Little Hadham Village Hall. Dr Brookbanks regularly provided out-of-hours cover to St Elizabeth's Centre in Perry Green.

Colin and his wife Pep have been popular members of the community. Colin has been actively involved in local activities, notably as pantomime dame and in other roles in productions by Little Hadham Pantomime Group.

He was in familiar good humour at his retirement party. He recalled that it was almost 32 years to the day when he bade farewell to his predecessor, Dr Peter Elder, and noted that some of those present were at the previous retirement. He thanked his wife Pep for her support as well as practice manager at the health centre, Lyn Lynn, and the staff whose numbers have grown from four to 17. The practice was fortunate in having three part-time doctors – Natalie Oates, Sara Macbay and Louise Scott. He welcomed to the practice Dr John Conway who will join Paul Haimes.

On a serious note, Dr Brookbanks urged the community to continue to support the independent GP at a time when government was in favour of salaried practitioners over whom it would have total control.

His party was organised by Bunty Anderson, a longstanding patient. She presented him with a commemorative crystal dish and a cheque for more than £7,000, which was donated by hundreds of grateful villagers.

Colin retires formally in August. He and Pep are having a 'complete break' in New Zealand – but it won't be that complete as he intends to undertake locum work while there.

### Only God is Perfect

An apology to those of you who noticed the glaring typo in last month's PN. (p8) 440 of the 480-ish copies were printed before I saw it and corrected it, so for those 440 people who diligently file away the PN each month for posterity, please call in at Ash Cottage and I will give you a t. Jan

## A church fete

Ann Clayton

*Seeing all the people gathered recently across the road from The Nag's Head for the wonderful Fun Run, I was reminded of an event which took place in that field in 1970.*

*It started off as a church fete (an annual event in those days), but this was rather grander than usual as we had to pay for organ repairs. There was to be a procession of floats to be judged by the broadcaster Judith Chalmers, who opened the fete. Inside the field we had the usual stalls and a small funfair for the children. In the evening there was to be a bit of dancing and a barbecue.*

*One of Dr Elder's sons suggested that there was a pop group living at The Angel, who might play for the dancing. Although we knew nothing about them, the committee agreed to accept their offer. They said they would deal with the publicity. As things progressed it began to dawn on us that the group was fairly well known. We'd never heard of The Fairport Convention, but plenty of others had as we soon discovered.*

*The fete went well, but during the afternoon more and more people arrived and we had to open up the field above for a car park. By 6pm the whole place was solid with figures sitting around and right up on the hillside. Still more continued to arrive.*

*I don't think there was any dancing at all. The crowd only wanted to listen to the music. Lesley Ashley and I had a stall at the fete, but didn't sell much of the masses of fudge we'd made as it was a very hot day. So we went out among the throng later on and it sold out immediately.*

*The barbecue worked overtime – the man who was in charge burned his stomach as everything was red-hot. The Nag's Head ran out of beer and all the helpers were exhausted.*

*I remember the old ladies who lived nearby, venturing out to view the goings-on, and standing there tut-tutting in horror.*

*The music went on for ages but eventually subsided and most of our visitors departed. A number slept in the field overnight. Next morning the site was empty but for a carpet of litter right across it. We sent our children out and they and the Paterson children from Little Sparrows toiled across the field picking up the rubbish. The man who brought the funfair was still there in his caravan and told them they would find plenty of pennies among the litter, which encouraged them to search – I think they did quite well with the money and they tidied the field in record time.*

*It really was an amazing and memorable occasion for everyone. Some church fete!*

## Out2Play

*Quick reminder to all that the Out2Play Team will be back at the Village Hall Playing Fields **WEDNESDAYS, 1pm - 3pm: 29 July, 5 Aug, 12 Aug, 19 Aug, 26 Aug.** I urge all mums, dads, guardians to please encourage children to use this facility – it's FREE! It's great fun - footie, rounders, ball games, giant snakes and ladders. Ages accepted 8-11 (siblings 7 & 12). All team members are CRB checked, fully insured and EHDC approved. Remember if we don't use it we'll lose it! Any more info – Carmela 466331 – [cam2403@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:cam2403@hotmail.co.uk)*

The Liverpool Street Music Company  
presents

**A**  
**CONCERT**  
**ENTERTAINMENT**

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in aid of  
**THE TALL SHIPS YOUTH TRUST**  
with  
**JONATHAN MARTIN**  
**(Digital Piano)**

**SATURDAY 26<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2009**

**7.45pm**

at

**LITTLE HADHAM VILLAGE HALL**

**Special Guest Appearance by**

**MIKE PERHAM**

**(17 year old Solo World Circumnavigator)**

*Licensed Bar and Fun Food*

**Tickets:- £15.00**

**(£3.00 plus £12.00 supplement for the Tall Ships Youth Trust)**

**Concessions: Unemployed or Sickness Benefit - £3.00 only.**

**Further information from 0797 6855 101**

*Also - Pre-concert meal available at the Nags Head Pub from  
6.00pm. Advance telephone bookings only - 01279 771555.  
(10% Discount on presentation of Valid Concert Ticket.)*

# Dame's Little Hadham Panto Pie Recipe

## Ingredients

- 26 rehearsals
- 842 cups of tea
- 65 packets of biscuits
- 8 scenery changes
- 1 horse
- 12 dances to choreograph
- 20 gallons of paint
- 105 lines to learn
- 52 costumes
- 100 tonnes of make-up



- 1 woman in man's clothing
- Large team front of house helpers
- 1 fantastic band
- 6 raffles
- 1 box office
- 33 trips to the Nag's Head
- 31 lighting cues
- 1 BBQ
- 53 props to find or make
- 1 man in women's clothing
- 12 chorus singers

## Method

Blend all the ingredients together with a ladleful of hard work and a generous helping of humour and voila, you have yourself a pantomime!

Why not join us in cooking up a storm for next January's panto? We're looking for anyone over 14 living in Little Hadham, Albury or Much Hadham to join the fun. To find out more, call Kirsty on 01279 771 002 or drop us an email at [LHPanto@hotmail.com](mailto:LHPanto@hotmail.com).

STOP PRESS: Dame Winnie Pegg has been hired as Little Hadham's Parish News Agony Aunt! If you've got something on your mind and want some advice, then why not get in touch with Dame Winnie Pegg and see if she can help! Email her at [DearDame@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:DearDame@hotmail.co.uk).

**adverts removed**

## Cricket Club News

Over the past month Little Hadham Cricket Club has played four matches, drawing two and losing the other two. The first of these matches was a home game against Potter Street and batting first Little Hadham scored 165 for the loss of 5 wickets. David Wheatley (56) and Alan South (42) being the main contributors with the bat. In reply an early Potter Street wicket with the score on 2 gave Hadham hope; however a 103 run partnership for the 2nd wicket took the game away from the home side who eventually lost by 5 wickets, despite 4 wickets for Frank Jaynes. A home match the next week saw a second visit for the season from Ardleigh Green. The visitors batted first scoring 170 all out. There were good bowling performances from all the Hadham bowlers with Martin Hallmark picking up 3 wickets whilst conceding just 13 runs. In reply Hadham struggled to escape with a draw, managing to score just 113 for the loss of 9 wickets, with only David Wheatley (who scored 45) getting over 20. A trip into Epping Forest to play High Beach was the next match for Little Hadham. In a 40 overs per side contest High Beach amassed 273 for 9 with Neil Oxborrow taking 4 wickets for 44 runs. Chasing a total of nearly 7 runs per over was always going to be difficult and despite 51 from Alan South, 35 from James Law and 24 from Ben Law, Hadham lost by 108 runs. The next match was away to Barley on the Cambridgeshire border. Barley batted first and scored 240 for the loss of only 1 wicket. In reply Hadham scored 170 for 4 with 51 from James Law, thereby ensuring the match was drawn.

### AUGUST FIXTURES

Sun 2nd	Manuden	Away	14.00
Sun 9th	Furneux Pelham	Home	14.00
Sun 16th	Sheering	Away	14.30
Sun 23rd	Little Hallingbury	Home	14.00
Sun 24th	High Beach	Home	14.00
Mon 31st	Hatfield Heath	Away	14.00

The club is always looking to attract new members, so if you are interested in playing cricket and therefore help support your village side, then please contact us on the numbers below. We are a very friendly club and would welcome new members of all ages and abilities. We currently have a membership with an age range of 10 to 70, so you are never too young or old to play. Please contact either Martin Hallmark 01279 771033 or Neil Oxborrow 01279 506062 or come up and see us play on a home match day.

## Jono's new career lifts off

After retiring as a teacher, Jonathan Forgham, who writes 'Nature Notes' for the Parish News, has launched a new career that will enable him to indulge his passion for making the teaching of science fun.

'Jono' lived in Bishop's Stortford, where he taught science at Summercroft Primary School for 27 years, before moving to Little Hadham 18 months ago. He has quickly become a familiar figure with his feathered country hat, camera and binoculars, walking the footpaths of the parish in pursuit of his interest in the natural world. He has led local groups on dawn chorus

*continued on page 23*

## Nature Notes: June and July

from Jonathan Forgham

*A month of pleasant and sometimes, extremely hot weather, encouraged me to get out and about to monitor the local butterfly colonies.*

*July is traditionally the quietest month for bird watching and so it proved. A few seasonal birds were noted, hinting at autumn. These were in the shape of 3 herring gulls over New Road (21st), 2 lapwings heading west over my allotment (26th) and 2 black headed gulls heading south near the village hall (18th). In this period (18th June – 18th July) a new bird was recorded for my parish records. 2 ringed plovers were encountered at the large lake behind Hadham Hall on the 27th. All the birds mentioned are probably species that had either failed to raise fledged young or failed breeders and consequently were heading back to their winter feeding grounds.*



*Another highlight was a nuthatch feeding in the garden apple tree on the 14th.*

*A visit to the ponds around Hadham Hall on the 27th was a great success, with 25 species recorded including pied wagtails, flyover cormorant, resident grey heron, common buzzard and a post breeding party of 50+ linnets. However, the highlight of the visit was recording black tailed skimmer dragonflies for the first time. About 10 were being territorial over the large pond along with several emperor dragonflies (left). Other new insects for 2009 were*

*continued on page 16*

**adverts removed**

## Little Hadham & Albury Social Club

At our July meeting we were entertained by Laurie Kerr, who spoke of his love of cricket. It was a pleasure to listen to his dedication to the game. He is now retired and coaches cricket to youngsters, giving instruction on the skills and dependence of team play – unfortunately an element of sport often sadly lacking to day.

Since our last report we have had two trips: first we visited the Spear's Games Archive, at Old Hall Green. Francis and Hazel Spear welcomed us into their home and gave us a delicious tea. Francis talked us through the Company's history, first in Germany and finally in Enfield, when it was taken over by another consortium. The archive was amazing, displayed in a room packed full of hundreds of Spear's games – there were drawers full of them.

We also had a successful trip into The City of London and The Mansion House with Martin Copping, who walked us around the area of the Fire of London. The ladies were embarrassed to learn that the term 'fish wife' originated from the coarse language used by the women working in the old Billingsgate Fish Market. One vicar even had the windows of his church bricked up, in order not to hear the obscenities! After lunch we visited The Mansion House, our guide being a Welsh version of Peter Sellers! He was very amusing, but also gave us a lot of information. The Mansion House was first occupied in 1752 and is relatively unchanged, the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress are resident for their year of office. The gold leaf decoration on the pillars, walls and ceiling decoration is 23 carat gold and the Mansion House holds the largest collection of Dutch Masters. We were able to visit the Gold and Silver vaults, among its many treasures being the Fire Cup of 1662, which is the only piece of City of London plate in its pre-fire state, and the Lord Mayor's famous gold collar c.1520. The historic building has many beautiful treasures, with interesting stories.

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## Parents! School holiday treat not to be missed

### Win a day at the David Beckham Academy!

Three lucky youngsters taking part in the Little Hadham Five-a-Side Soccer Tournament this month (August) will win a day's training at the David Beckham Academy. Each will receive a David Beckham Academy T-shirt, as well as a medal and certificate to show they completed a training session at the world's most prestigious training centre for aspiring young soccer players.

Following an inaugural five-a-side match last year, a bigger and more ambitious tournament will be staged in the Village Hall Playing Field on Saturday August 29 starting at 10am.

Although there is a serious prize, this is a fun day. You could be an aspiring David Beckham or never played in a team before – either way, this is an opportunity not to be missed. The tournament is the latest event organised by our Parish Plan committee and follows the recent highly successful Fun Run.

There will be a series of matches for boys and girls aged between 8 and 17 and a special match for girls who want to 'Bend it Like Beckham!' There will also be a match for under-8s and other sports activities for kids waiting to play. The tournament will be refereed by Richard Mardell who organised last year's tournament, assisted by Parish Plan committee members and parents. Richard is a well known local league Football Association referee and CRB-checked official.



The three places at the David Beckham Academy will be awarded by our panel of experts to boys or girls aged between 8 and 17 voted 'stars of the day' – based on skill, greatest potential or simply great sportsmanship! There will also be prizes for the under-8 team.

The matches will be played in the sports area of the playing field, now equipped with picnic benches for spectators. There will be changing facilities and toilets. Light refreshments will be provided for the players and parents are invited to bring a picnic – we have marquees if it rains. Kids – bring soccer kit (shorts, t-shirt and trainers will do). Parents – just bring your kids!

To reserve a place in the tournament and a chance to win a day at the David Beckham Academy, as well as to help us plan the day (10am to 3pm), please contact: Carmela, 01279 466331. To discover what's in store for the three lucky 8-17-year-olds, go to [HYPERLINK "http://www.thedavidbeckhamacademy.com" www.thedavidbeckhamacademy.com](http://www.thedavidbeckhamacademy.com)

## Give plastic and tins the blues!

Your rubbish is part of 56,000 tonnes of household waste collected annually in East Herts, only 35 per cent of which is recycled or composted. If the council fails to hit its target of recycling 50 per cent of its rubbish by 2012, householders will have to fork out another £800,000 in council tax over the next three years.

These were some of the stark messages from Trevor Watkins, waste services manager for East Herts Council (EHC), when he announced details of the new Alternate Refuse Collection scheme (ARC) at the July Parish Council meeting.

EHC will join 180 authorities using alternating collection systems – delayed until a composting plant capable of taking food could become operational.

Under the new scheme, a blue box will be provided to take plastic bottles – please remove all tops – and cans. The green box will be used for paper and glass. Contents of boxes will be separated by the contractor. Once the new scheme starts, food waste and cardboard can be put into the existing brown wheelie bin. Worktop kitchen caddies will be provided to collect food waste ready to put in the brown bin. If you have concerns about keeping food waste in the brown bin for two weeks over hot weather, it can be placed in the black bin; but only material in the brown bin is composted – all material in the black bin is sent for disposal.

Collections will be on the same day of the week but on alternate weeks, ie one week recycling boxes and brown bin will be collected and the following week your black bin will be collected. The scheme is due to start the w/c 2nd November 2009. Notices will be distributed to confirm the arrangements, but in summary:

**Black bins:** general household waste excluding glass, paper, plastic bottles, cans, food, cardboard and garden waste

**Brown bins:** food, cardboard and garden waste

**Green boxes:** newspapers and other paper (no plastic wrappers) and glass

**Blue boxes:** plastic bottles (no caps) and cans

Special provision will be made for large families, families with many children and for disposal of sanpro products.

A Blot on the landscape? With another box for rubbish (necessary though it is), is there a risk that front gardens and areas in front of our houses are going to be increasingly blighted by unsightly wheelie bins and boxes? Is it a problem now, could it get worse, and what should we do about it? Readers' comments please!

## Rural Ramblings

by Cherry Mardell

We are now eating veggies from our own garden. And don't they taste wonderful! Freshly shelled peas, which had been growing until a few minutes before, taste like nectar; lettuces, fresh, crisp and juicy (OK, I have met a couple of small sluggy creatures when washing them, but salt in the water brings 'em out like magic); those first early potatoes followed by other delicious varieties ...and carrots to die for!

If you haven't got a veggie patch, do yourself a favour and make one for next year.

[Apologies to Cherry for lack of space: her article will be printed in full next month.]

# What's on in August . . .

in the Village Hall unless otherwise stated

## No Parish Council meeting this month

Wednesdays, **Out2Play**, see p4 for times

**6, 20** Thur, **Mobile Library** see p15

**8,9** Sat, Sun, **Garden Furniture Sale**

**9** Sun **Open Garden, Hopleys, MH**, 2-5pm £3 to Red Cross. Music, Sculpture exhibition.

**9** Sun **Easton Lodge Open Day**, 12-6pm Lovers of garden design and cultural history will have a rare opportunity to experience the enchanting atmosphere of one of the jewels of North West Essex when the Gardens of Easton Lodge throw open their gates for a special summer open day, with free admission. [www.eastonlodge.co.uk](http://www.eastonlodge.co.uk), 01371 876979 or [enquiries@eastonlodge.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@eastonlodge.co.uk).

**11** Tue, **Little Hadham & Albury Social Club** 8pm. The Hedgehog Rescue Charity will be advising us how to help these lovely little creatures. Charity sales items will be available and there may even be baby hedgehogs to hold! Everyone welcome. Admission £1.50, inc. refreshments, buy a raffle ticket and check out our second hand books. Tel. 658585 or 771580 for information.

**15** Sun, **Henry Moore Open Day**, 12-5pm, followed by an open-air performance of 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' at 7.30pm. Open for picnics from 5pm. In aid of St Elizabeth's Centre. Bring rugs or low-back seating. Light refreshments available. See ad on p13 for more details.

**20** Thur, "Way Inn" coffee morning see p13

**21** Fri **Charity Golf Day** Barkway Park Golf Club Entry forms from Alan, 01279 505147 See next page for more details.

**21-23** Fri-Sun **Flamstead Scarecrow Festival** 2-5pm on Friday, 11-6pm on Saturday and 10.30 -5pm on Sunday. Come along for a fantastic day out for the whole family

and help to raise money for two very worthy charities. Info Charlene 01462 684214 or e-mail: [charleneredmond@hmstc.net](mailto:charleneredmond@hmstc.net). Visit our websites to see last year's scarecrows at [www.flamstead-herts.co.uk](http://www.flamstead-herts.co.uk) & [www.hertsmstherapy.org.uk](http://www.hertsmstherapy.org.uk)

**27** Thur **Ladies Golf** in aid of Isabel Hospice, Panshanger Golf Club, WGC. Coffee, golf, and a summer buffet lunch. Fourball Betterball Stapleford Competition. Entry costs £100 per pair. Jan Leggetter. 01438 716079.

**29** Sat **Five-a-side tournament** 10am, see p10

**29** Sat, **Farmers' Market**, 8.30-11.30am Home-made ready meals, and, of course, freshly-cooked English Breakfasts.

## . . . and later

5 Sept **Garden Club Autumn Show** see p18

6 Sept **The Village Picnic** Sunday at 12 noon, Ash Farm, courtesy of Mr & Mrs Stuart Lennox

13 Sept **Plant Fair**, Alswick Hall Buntingford 2-5pm £3 to Red Cross. Tudor House, 5 acres of landscaped gardens

20 Sept **Great North Run** for Isabel Hospice. We have ten guaranteed places which we will be able to allocate on a first come, first served basis. Please contact Pam Shepherd for more information on 01707 382500.

20 Sept **Open Garden**, Moor Place, Much Hadham, 2-5pm in aid of Isabel Hospice.

24 Sept **Wine Tasting** 6-8.30pm in aid of Isabel Hospice at The Mixed Case, Little Hadham. Tickets £8 to taste eight wines with nibbles, Renee Friend. 01279 755320

26 Sept **Evening of Entertainment** featuring Jonathan Martin from Bury Green with his Yamaha Digital Piano. See ad p5.

10 Oct **Harvest Supper** 771532

# Village Hall News

We have had an inspection by the Environmental Health Inspector for East Herts District Council who ran her finger along the sills and tut-tutted over the cookers. The result is that we are buying some new equipment, putting up posters and generally trying to bring the Hall up to her demanding standards. However, the Hall is getting old, built in 1973 to a pre-fabricated design, and some things we can't fix. Sincere thanks go to Eileen and Gill who clean and tidy for us but all Hall users are asked to abide by the Regulations, report any repairs and maintenance needed to Jon Fardell and do their best to clean up after their booking. Thank you.

On **8th and 9th August** Jo Alexander will be back with his garden furniture sales. Pop in during the day to see what's on offer.

Laura Shambrook is looking for puppies to join the dog training group held on Wednesday evenings in the Hall. Laura has her own independent dog grooming business, employing two people, and has lots of experience training dogs and puppies, she also loves dogs! Her number is 079 444 90493 and she makes the sessions great fun.

Muscular  
Dystrophy  
Campaign



**CHARITY GOLF DAY**  
at **BARKWAY PARK GOLF CLUB**  
FRIDAY 21 AUGUST 2009

supporting  
**THE MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY CAMPAIGN**  
Main sponsor



18-hole Stapleford in teams of four  
Cost £128 per team to include  
Coffee or Tea before play and Buffet  
after the Golf.

Team Prizes + Individual Winner's Trophy  
Nearest the Pin + Longer Drive Prizes  
Putting Competition

**CHARITY AUCTION**

**>>> SPONSORS REQUIRED <<<**

Entry forms available from  
ALAN, 01279 505147

## 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

adverts removed

CHAPTERHOUSE THEATRE COMPANY  
OPEN-AIR GARDEN THEATRE



**A Midsummer  
Night's Dream**  
by William Shakespeare

The Henry Moore Foundation  
In aid of St Elizabeth's Centre

**Saturday 15th August**  
12-5 pm Open Day  
Followed by at 7.30pm  
Open Air Theatre Production of 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'

Tickets and information from: St Elizabeth's Centre (01279) 844229/347  
Bishop's Stortford Tourist Information Centre (01279) 655831  
SEE Tickets: 0871 2200260 or [www.seetickets.com](http://www.seetickets.com)  
Adults £15 / OAP, Students and Children £10 / Families (2 Adults 2 Children) £40  
Grounds open for picnics from 5pm please bring your own rugs or low-backed  
Seating. Light refreshments will be available.



## We always try to help them all!

The Great Amwell and District Branch of Cats Protection, which includes Little Hadham in its area, last year rescued and re-homed 200 cats and kittens, and helped with the cost of neutering many more.

The Branch currently has over 60 cats in its care just at this very moment, with more coming in every day. Cats such as Chinks, who was nearly blind, but after having an eye operation had his sight saved and Blackie, who had major surgery to repair a broken front leg after being involved in an accident. These are just two of the many cats and kittens that have been cared for by volunteers at the branch.



**Do you know anyone who might have a space in their home and heart for a new friend?**

Fluffy is a beautiful three year old female looking for a new family, or what about four year old Oliver, who is very affectionate and looking for a new home?



With so many cats and kittens in our care there is sure to be a purrfect match.

Stephanie Adams, a volunteer from the branch who lives in Little Hadham, says: "I became involved in volunteering for the branch after we brought Shelley, a beautiful tabby and white rescue cat, into our home. I had not even realised that the Great Amwell branch was local to Little Hadham, but now, after several years, I am very pleased to be involved with such a hard working team of volunteers, who devote all their time to the care of cats and kittens. If anyone is thinking about getting a new family pet, please do take a look at the branch website. You will see a lot of our cats are featured there, and you will also find out much more about what we do. You may be very surprised! And all monies raised by the local branch go directly back into helping the branch."

Cats Protection's Great Amwell Branch is part of the charity's nationwide network of 29 Centres and 260 voluntary-run Branches that together re-homes around 60,000 cats a year.

**For more information or to re-home a cat please call 01992 467826 or visit [www.greatamwell.cats.org.uk](http://www.greatamwell.cats.org.uk)**

**adverts removed**

# Little Hadham School

*Believing and Achieving*

*Where did that year go?*

*Last month proved a very busy time for us, especially as it began on the 1st July with an OFSTED inspection! We were thrilled that our Early Years Foundation Stage Unit was considered an 'Outstanding' example of Early Years provision and that, overall, our school is officially considered a 'Good' School with some 'Outstanding' features. It was great to read so many 'excellents' and 'exceptionals'!*

*We were also really proud of our KS2 SATs results where 44% of our Year 6 pupils achieved above average results at Level 5 in English and Science with an amazing 81% achieving above average results at Level 5 in Maths! Well done Y6!*

*Thank you to those who supported our Summer Fayre where we managed to raise over £2000 and have a great afternoon too! Well done to our FRIENDS Association!*

## **6th & 20th August Mobile Library**

**Nag's Head from 13:45 - 14:05**

**The Smithy from 14:10 - 14:30**

**Bury Green from 14:45 - 15:05**

**A fortnightly service.**

*It is a good feeling to go into the holidays with so many positives behind us and then we can 'charge up our batteries' ready for building on things further in September.*

*Have a great Summer!*

Liz Stockley, Head

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## Nature Notes *continued from page 8*

recorded: a small skipper butterfly (25th), gatekeeper butterfly (5th) as well as a first for the parish. This was the uncommon purple hairstreak butterfly, found at Westland Green on the 5th July. A good find near its food plant, a mature oak tree.

Other butterflies noted during the hot spell were marbled whites (5 in Chapel Lane on the 5th and since), red admiral (Bury Green on the 9th) as well as one in Ford Hill (18th) and several sightings of newly emerged painted ladies. All in all, a very good period of butterfly recording with the parish total now up to 23 species. I can only think of two more that I would anticipate finding: white letter hairstreak which will always be associated with elm trees, so please let me know if there are any mature elms near you (07805571551) and clouded yellow, a migratory species from southern Europe.



Moths were recorded throughout the month with a colony of yellowshells being found on the ridge path (22nd), white plume moth (same walk), privet hawk moth attracted to lamps outside the Nag's Head (14th) and 6 spot burnet moth (left) in the same place as last year, namely Westland Green on the 5th. I also received a report of a hummingbird hawkmoth feeding on japonica in Ford Hill. Many thanks to Geoffrey Williamson for this record. The final photo shows a regular insect for the region. An oedemera nobilis which is a striking

*continued on page 17*

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## Nature Notes continued from page 14

metallic green beetle, as shown here.

As the warm weather appears to be set to continue there should be more butterflies to report, along with increased numbers of dragon and damselflies and also news on the first real migration of the summer visiting birds. Any interesting sightings, or queries regarding natural history, please contact me at [jforgham@hotmail.com](mailto:jforgham@hotmail.com) as Mr. Gregory did. Interesting report of the same, or another, good sized grass snake near the church. Personally, I have still to see one in the parish but the habitat around Church End obviously favours this creature, with good sized ponds and long grass for them to hunt and lay their eggs.



Finally, on the 18th July, I led a most relaxing nature wander to Millennium Wood, where 10 of us enjoyed a picnic, 10 butterfly species and good sights of a female sparrowhawk chasing a startled mistle thrush. In all 27 species of birds were seen or heard. A good few hours in most pleasant company.

### A Glass of WINE in the Summer Time

For the month of August we would like you to hold a Glass of WINE in the Summer Time event in aid of Isabel Hospice. This is an opportunity to have some fun at home with friends. Why not organise a barbecue, sponsor a colleague to be teetotal for a week, organise a wine raffle or host a cheese & wine party? We can offer support by providing a fundraising pack. Don't forget to send us your photos. Please contact Pam Shepherd for further details on 01707 382500 or e-mail [pam.shepherd@isabelhospice.org.uk](mailto:pam.shepherd@isabelhospice.org.uk)

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## Garden Club News and tips for August

The Garden club would like to say a big thank you to Paul and Natalie at the Nag's Head for their generosity in donating the proceeds (£75) of the June quiz night to our club. The quiz night was its usual success and representatives of the committee formed a team and came a creditable 2nd.

Our next big event is the **Autumn Show on the 5th September**. This is your chance to show what you can do and maybe grab a first prize or even a cup or two. There is something in the schedule for everyone so even if you haven't entered before make this year the year you do. If you haven't got a schedule they are available from the Post Office, Little Hadham or Karin Green at Gouldburn Cottage, Little Hadham (Tel: 771532). The show is open to the public from 2.30pm when tea and cakes are available and the prize giving is at 3.15. We hope to see you there.

### Gardening Tips for August

#### General

Prune the long whippy bits of wisteria

Trim hedges so the new growth can harden off before winter

Stake any plants in need of support

Harvest ripe seed, dry and store in a cool airy place

Pick open flowers from patio pots before going on holiday, so you come back to fresh new blooms instead of deadheads

#### In the Veg plot

Cut out the old fruited canes of summer fruiting raspberries

Sow green manures

Still time for sowings of radishes, winter lettuce, spring cabbage, pak choi, turnips and spinach

Of course harvesting all your great veg not forgetting to check your show schedule to see what you can enter in the village show.

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## Think B4 U Act

*In the last few weeks of the school year, Hertfordshire Constabulary is reminding young people to stay out of trouble during the long summer holiday.*

*Youth officers and Schools' PCSOs make regular visits to their schools across the county and, in recent weeks, have been armed with new advice leaflets. 'Staying Safe' advises children about how to protect themselves and their property and 'Think B4 U Act' aims to ensure they understand the consequences of their actions around others and what would be considered to be anti-social behaviour that could result in police intervention. Both leaflets and more advice are available online at [www.herts.police.uk](http://www.herts.police.uk)*

*"We know that the vast majority of school-age children in Hertfordshire are law-abiding, sociable and friendly but we also recognise that, when in groups, they can appear intimidating to other people," said Inspector Richard Beechey, the Constabulary lead on Youth Issues. "They can get raucous and excited, leading them to behaviour that they might not normally get up to in different circumstances.*

*"Our message to young people is to think about your behaviour and how it may affect others before it goes too far and you end up in trouble with police. At the same time we want to reassure residents and businesses that very few young people commit crime and become involved in anti-social behaviour and we are doing a great deal of work to keep it that way."*

*There are dedicated PCSOs aligned to secondary schools, working closely with local councils to reduce anti-social behaviour and liaising with Youth Offending Teams who steer young people in trouble away from a life of crime – and many more tactics to deal with youth issues as part of the Constabulary's Youth Strategy.*

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## **Little Hadham Toddlers – six months on!**

Resurrected in February 2009, the new Toddlers group is now flourishing. The generous 'start up' fund, kindly donated by The Friends of Little Hadham School, has now been repaid and the Toddlers are now self funding. We have just purchased new tables for use in September 2009. The children have had lots of fun letting off steam, making new friends, singing and making a range of different things.

The time has come for my daughter and me to move on but I leave the Toddlers Group in excellent hands. Emma Wynn, Elaine Fisher and Helen Walker have very kindly agreed to take on various roles from September – I thank them and wish them good luck.

The group will start back on Wednesday 16th September 2009. Why not pop in and see what you are missing!

Gail Ellis

## **Sculpture comes home to Hadham Hall**

The Hadham Hall Relief, a sculpture in bronze resin that depicts the history of Hadham Hall School, will be restored to its rightful place next month. The idea of the sculpture was conceived by the late Tom Feather, a former teacher at the school, who believed its history should be commemorated. Paul Bainbridge, former head of art, who was commissioned by the Hadham Hall Society, tells the story using archaeological artefacts as the theme.

The relief sculpture, which is in three parts and stands 6ft tall, adorned a wall at the Bishop's Stortford Tesco for some years before Paul, now a freelance sculptor, decided it was time it came home. The images include reminders of the building's Saxon and Roman origins; a cat to represent the Minets, the French Huguenot family who were the last to live there; a rose →

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## The Brownies



The Brownies have enjoyed a Pack holiday under canvas with a Circus theme this year; we had 18 Brownies sleep over for two nights in late June. The weather was truly British with sun rain and thunder, but it was all a great adventure even if the leaders were very tired!

14 July brings the end of term and the summer break, we all go and recharge our batteries ready to return in the Autumn. September 8 starts our new year and the also 100 years of Girl Guiding. If you were, are, a guide, brownie, helper or guider or have any connection with girl guiding we are planning a Village Brownie/Guide celebration. I know some past members, leaders and helpers still are resident, please all get in touch to join with us in the evening, we hope to use your memories or photos in this special event.

Judi Wheeler Brown Owl 654624



### **Sculpture comes home,** *continued*

*design used on the wooden bowls carved by former teacher Bryan Burton that were presented to retiring teachers; and a scene featuring the founding head, Edmund Douglas.*

*Sworders Agricultural have agreed that the sculpture can be mounted on the wall of the gatehouse of Hadham Hall and it will be formally unveiled in September.*

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# Tom's Colonial Curry

Brenda Kain

*This recipe comes from friends in Albany, Perth in Australia. They are strawberry and avocado farmers. Tom comes from England, but his family emigrated to Africa when he was young. This recipe was given to his mother. He is now retiring, having farmed in Australia for many years. His wife Jos has tweaked the recipe. When we use chicken instead of beef we call it Jos' Colonial Curry*

2lb Braising Steak

3 cooking apples

3 large onions

3 tbsp curry paste or powder

2 pints water

2 tbsp chutney

4oz sultanas

Tin chopped toms

2 tbsp flour

Method:

Fry apples and onions until golden

Fry meat until brown

Add meat to apples and onion. Add curry powder and then flour. Stir well.

When mixed add tomatoes, chutney, sultanas

Add enough of the water, you might not need 2 pints, but remember you want it to have some sauce

Cook in a slow oven for approx 1 hour.

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## Obituary – Grace Burton

Little Hadham has lost one of its oldest, most active and well loved residents with the death on 7th July of Grace Burton. Grace died peacefully at the age of 92.

Grace moved to Little Hadham with her husband Bryan and family in 1953. From those early days she became a stalwart of the village and its organisations. She joined the Mothers' Union and WI and over the years she was secretary of both (the WI when she was well into her 80s). She was an active member of the WI drama group and the Village Pantomime group from its earliest days when performances were given in the Congregational Hall.

She was a dedicated Christian and St. Cecilia's benefitted from her tireless work. She organised the Sunday school for many, many years, read lessons, made the coffee, arranged flowers and did much secretarial work for Bryan in the 20 years he was Churchwarden

For years she arranged the Christian Aid Appeal for the whole of Little Hadham, she sold poppies for the Royal British Legion for at least 20 years and supported many other charities.

She will be fondly remembered by many of her neighbours. She would always lend a helping hand if needed and was quick to welcome newcomers to the village and especially to St. Cecilia's.

Grace is survived by her husband of 60 years Bryan, her sons Michael and Jonathan, her daughters Rosemary and Kathleen, her 11 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.



**A reminder to all those planning to let off fireworks to let the editor know in advance. This is so that those with nervous dogs can be warned in time to administer tranquilisers to save them from unnecessary distress. Hotline number: 771113**

## Jono's new career, *continued from page 7*

walks and country rambles (see cover pic), and is conducting a biodiversity study for our Parish Plan. He will still undertake some teaching in local schools but his preoccupation will now be The Primary Works, a science communications consultancy dedicated to teaching traditional science subjects in a fun way. At a science festival in Poznan, Poland, he gave young children an insight into space technology with his specially designed pneumatic rocket made from cardboard with a 250ft height limit. A fellow of the Gatsby Foundation, created by former science minister Lord Sainsbury, Jono is widely connected in scientific circles and was the UK delegate for the Institute of Physics at an 8-day physics conference, held at the European Space Agency headquarters in The Netherlands. Here, he was part of a European contingent discussing the future of science communication within the growing EU.

As he plans more 'live science' shows – no doubt with a few rockets thrown in – it's probably a matter of 'watch this space'!

# August diary for Little Hadham and Albury

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

**2 Sunday**                      **Trinity 8**                      **Proper 13**  
9.30am                              Matins at St Cecilia's, Little Hadham

**5 Wednesday**  
8.00pm                              Little Hadham PCC at St Cecilia's Church, Little Hadham

**9 Sunday**                      **Trinity 9**                      **Proper 14**  
9.30am                              Shared Communion at St Cecilia's, Little Hadham

**16 Sunday**                      **Trinity 10**                      **Proper 15**  
8.00am                              Holy Communion at St Cecilia's, Little Hadham  
9.30am                              Family service at Little Hadham Village Hall

**23 Sunday**                      **Trinity 11**                      **Proper 16**  
11.15am                              Shared Communion at St Mary's, Albury  
No evensong at St Cecilia's, Little Hadham

**30 Sunday**                      **Trinity 12**                      **Proper 17**  
9.30am                              Team Benefice Communion at St Andrew's, Much Hadham  
6.00pm                              Deanery Evensong at St Anne's, Allen's Green

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

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## Register

Funeral of Grace Burton, aged 92, of Brienz, Albury Road 21st July at St Cecilia's Church

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## Thank you!

For more than 30 years I have had the joy and privilege of working as a local GP. There comes a time to retire. This will be at the end of August. In September Pep and myself are travelling to New Zealand where I will work as a locum GP for about 6 months.

I have been touched and astonished by the many good wishes, cards and presents from so many patients. In particular thank you for my recent presentation party at Hopleys in Much Hadham, where I could at least thank some of you personally.

There have been so many kind and generous patients such that I am unable to thank you individually so I should like to do so through your parish magazine.

Thank you all so very much and also, most particularly, for allowing me to be part of your lives.

Dr Colin F. G. Brookbanks

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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