

Little Hadham Parish News October 2009



All the usual suspects were at the Village Picnic

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Letter from the Rectory

Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness,
Close bosom-friend of the maturing sun;
Conspiring with him how to load and bless
With fruit the vines that round the thatch-eves run;
To bend with apples the moss'd cottage-trees,
And fill all fruit with ripeness to the core;
To swell the gourd, and plump the hazel shells
With a sweet kernel; to set budding more,
And still more, later flowers for the bees,
Until they think warm days will never cease,
For Summer has o'er-brimm'd their clammy cells.

John Keats "To Autumn"

John Keat's romantic vision of the English countryside is still a reality in many of our lanes and gardens of Hertfordshire. Although in my garden Autumn seems mainly a season of clearance; removing spent beans and courgettes, preparing to prune the once fruit laden Victoria plumb tree, chopping back the prolific growth of the summer and preparing the ground for next spring. It is the season of hard work!

Nevertheless how thankful I am that I have such abundance to clear and so many berries to delight in, when once again I read of a coming crisis in Africa.

The Kenyan government said 3.5 to four million people were now at risk of starvation in its north, northeast, western and coastal regions, up from 2.5 million, while the United Nations said 1.75 million in southeast and east Ethiopia were now in need of urgent aid, up from about one million. As the worst drought to hit East Africa in decades enters its fourth year, aid agencies say cases of severe malnutrition are on the rise. The drought and subsequent famine stretch across swaths of Kenya, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Somalia, Djibouti and Sudan, countries that are simply not prepared to deal with the looming humanitarian crisis. I am not sure the world is prepared either. It is a potential scale of suffering that is almost impossible to grasp.

When Keats was writing in 1820, famines far away were not high in most people's consciousness. Concern for our own crops and the poor at home was much more of a concern. But now we have become a global community and economy we inevitably have a global perspective. That is why at our Church Harvest Festivals we now display goods from around the world; we give produce to home charities, and money to charities abroad. This year our produce goes to St Elizabeth's and our money to the Bishop's Harvest Appeal, "Give water for life", to raise funds for an Ethiopian water aid charity. As Christians, let alone as human beings, we cannot ignore suffering on such a scale, and we simply must do all we can to help; even though we may at times almost despair about the enormity of the problem. If you want to contribute to the Appeal, even after the Celebrations have taken place, please contact me directly.

Chris Boulton

Parish Council News

Air noise: In its response to BAA Stansted's latest consultation on noise, the Council says the plan does not take into account sufficiently the fact that aircraft noise has an exaggerated effect in rural areas, especially at night. It challenged the methodology used to measure noise and points out that people do not hear 'average' noise but an actual noise event. The Council criticised the selective use of noise mapping data and raised concerns about low flying helicopters.

'Call for sites': Landowners have identified six possible sites for development in Little Hadham. They would mostly be for residential use but the largest, covering 200 hectares, mentions housing and community facilities. The information results from East Herts Council's 'call for sites', which invited landowners to indicate potential locations. EHC has stressed these are not applications, merely possible locations that will now be filtered and examined for suitability as part of housing needs under the Local Development Plan. No detail will be available until 'preferred option' consultations in 2010 and 2011.

War memorial: time for a clean up? In a year that marks the 70th anniversary of the outbreak of the Second World War and 95 years since the start of WW1 it seems an appropriate moment to ask whether the Little Hadham War memorial should be cleaned.

Erected in the 1920s and bearing the names of 21 local heroes who gave their lives in the two world wars, the Portland stone cross has probably never been properly cleaned. The march of time has left patches of lichen and soot and the base is blackened and has cracked pointing.

The Parish Council would like to know if you think it should be professionally cleaned by expert stone masons using moderate pressure washing and sterilising chemicals, or left as it is – although the pointing needs attention. The same company has cleaned a number of war memorials locally including Gilston, Eastwick, Roydon and Wareside. The cost, likely to be around £1,000, is outside the Council's budget but it may be able to get a small grant. If you think it should be cleaned to improve its appearance and as a tribute to those whose names it bears, would you be willing to contribute to a public subscription?

Please send you views on both questions to the Parish Clerk, Bev Evans, at Pryersfield, New Road, Little Hadham, SG11 2AW, or email to: clerklittlehadham@homecall.co.uk

The Parish Council has accepted a quotation for repairs to the wall surrounding the memorial and the work should be completed in time for Remembrance Sunday.

The next meeting of the Parish Council, to which all residents are invited to attend and take part in, will be on **Tuesday October 6**, Village Hall, 8pm. Please come along.

Once again the Village Picnic was a great success. The day began with clouds, but at ten minutes to twelve they parted and the sun came out on cue for a twelve o'clock start. Almost a hundred people from the parish of Little Hadham packed into Stuart and Brenda Lennox's lovely garden and tucked into Braughing sausages, baked potatoes and salad, closely followed by raspberries and cream, meringues and strawberries. The youngsters enjoyed themselves in the pool and the adults played tennis and had a good chin-wag. Many many thanks to Brenda and Stuart for hosting this popular annual event. Long may it continue! Thank you!

Time to 'dozy-doe your pardners' again!

Barn Dance is back by popular demand

The highly successful Little Hadham Barn Dance that took place for the first time last year is back by popular demand! It will take place in the Village Hall on Saturday October 24, 7.30 for 8 pm (finish by 11 pm).

More than 60 dancers took part last year – couples and families – and it proved to be one of the most successful Parish Plan entertainments. If you like good company, a great evening's entertainment and a chance to dress up Western-style, our Barn Dance is a must. Even if you think you've got two left feet, don't worry because our caller Pete Skiffins will soon have you twirling confidently around the floor.

This year we are inviting you to bring your own food and drink. Tickets are £10 for adults and £3 for under-12s. There'll also be a 'barn dance raffle'. If you haven't bought your tickets yet, contact Mike Smith at Tandle, The Ford or call 771568, or email: maggietandle@btinternet.com.

If you've got any strangers in town, why not bring 'em along? So, break out those stetsons and jeans and mosey on down for a 'dozy-doe'!



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Traveller sites:

No decision for some time yet

A decision on where new sites for gypsies and travellers will be located in East Hertfordshire won't be taken for some time yet. There have been no further developments since the Government published its final policy document in July in which it stated that the number of extra permanent pitches (not sites) needed in East Herts up to 2011 and beyond was 25. It is now up to East Herts Council (EHC) to determine where the pitches will be allocated.

Traveller accommodation is being addressed through new planning policies – the Local Development Framework. However, even the next stage of consultation, expected next year, will deal mainly with development principles and not specific sites. EHC have given an assurance that there will be a full public consultation once potential sites are identified.

At a previous stage, two potential sites were identified in Little Hadham. Little Hadham Conservation Society, the Parish Council and many residents voiced strong opposition to the possibility of a site in the village and argued there was no evidence of need. However, the Conservation Society has warned against dropping our guard. It continues to monitor the situation and retains the fighting fund subscribed to by local residents to contribute to the costs of legal advice should this become necessary.

Wanted Urgently

Wanted urgently – any good quality new or used unwanted baby/children's toys for the Little Hadham Toddler Group. Please call Emma on 01279 776232

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Nature Notes: August/September

by Jonathan Forgham

A busy month in many ways: good birding conditions, setting up a new company and enjoying a short break. Weather remained fine for the whole month, if not scorching then certainly dry, as the hardness of the ground will testify.

Bird-wise it has been a fantastic period (18th August – 18th September) with many outstanding birds being recorded. To start with, a wood warbler in Acremore Street. This was seen early in the morning of the 20th. This was only the 2nd parish record, the first being on 15th August 2008 and only 800 yards away from the latest sighting. This was certainly a migratory bird that was heading south to Africa. Secondly, only ten minutes later, a flock of 8 yellow wagtails in the horse fields at Bury Green. The first parish record.



On the 1st September, a walk north of the A120 to Hadham Hall gave good, if distant views of a female wheatear. Another new record and again, a migratory bird. On the 8th I set out early for the ponds around Hadham Hall, hoping for some migratory waders. Although unsuccessful on that particular count, I did record only the second kingfisher sighting for the parish. Then, on the 9th a wander around Westland Green offered super views of a spotted flycatcher, (shown here) making this the third new record in three weeks. To finish off this purple patch a stonechat was witnessed whilst I was achieving a scrappy par on the seventh green

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Little Hadham and Albury Garden Club

The Autumn Show had lots of entries and looked really good with all the Flowers, Vegetables and Domestic produce all set out ready for the judging to begin at 10.00. The judges were impressed with the quality of the exhibits and got to work to sort out the winners. When the doors opened to the public at 2.30 there was the usual anticipation to see who had won what. Mollie Gough retained the Garden Club Shield for getting the most points but Dennis Taylor came away with the most cups – four. There was the usual rivalry in the Men's Domestic Class with Dennis Taylor's Scotch Eggs beating the rest hands down. The Junior entries were impressive this year and Charlotte Ellis came away with the Cup.

If you entered and didn't win and if you didn't enter there is always next year. The show is open to all residents of Little Hadham and Albury.

Our next meeting is on the **20th October**. Tom Cole will be speaking about Growing Fruit.

Garden Tips

Flower Borders

Plant spring flowering bulbs

Sow hardy annuals

Plant shrubs, perennials and evergreens

Lift tender bulbs, corms and tubers and store in a dry, airy, frost-free place

Lift and divide perennials cutting back dead stems

Rake lawn to remove dead grass and apply

autumn lawn fertilizer.

Veg patch

Pick apples for storage

Cut canes of autumn fruiting raspberries to the ground

Dig up main crop potatoes and store

Harvest any last runner beans, sweetcorn and pumpkins.



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Nature Notes, *continued from page 6*

at Ash Valley Golf Course (17th). This was (the bird that is) only the second record. Interestingly, exactly the same spot where I recorded an over-wintering stonechat last winter.

Just to round off this month another bird of note was a hobby hunting over the garden and war memorial on the 20th and 21st. It was chasing martins and was probably one of the adults that bred successfully near St Michael's Mead. Finally, a second spotted flycatcher was observed on the golf course early on the 18th September, just by the second green.

Several warm days offered good views of migrant and southern hawk, ruddy and common darter dragonflies around the parish, photos of which can be viewed at <http://littlehadhambirding.blogspot.com>. The butterflies became less evident but still sightings of red admiral, comma, large and small whites were made. These can still be seen on buddleia bushes. However, not too late for a first sighting of the uncommon clouded yellow butterfly. Unmistakable, with its custard yellow and black markings, a typical September migrant that will have moved north from southern France. One recently recorded at Takeley so they're about. The difficulty being they are inevitably a very fast flying creature and so fleeting glimpses are all that is frequently offered.



It now feels rather autumnal early in the morning as well as after 7 in the evening and so time to begin looking out for the winter thrushes (redwings and fieldfares) arriving in their vast flocks.

Finally, a date for your diary. On November 10th I have been invited to give an illustrated talk to the Little Hadham and Albury Social Club at
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Little Hadham and Albury Social Club

At our September meeting we had a good audience to listen to Pam Farley's talk 'Woodland Alive'. A representative of The Woodland Trust, Pam used slides and spoke very knowledgeably about the history of ancient woodland and the work of the Trust. She also distributed leaflets with information of the largest new native woodland in England, 'Heartwood Forest', which is being created just north of St. Albans, close to Sandridge. Her enthusiasm for the protection and expansion of woodland makes her a true ambassador of the Trust.

'Hatch, Match and Dispatch' is the title of our talk on 13th October, when Frances Luck will talk of her time as a Registrar. It should be a fun evening.

We have been invited to attend the Albury 60+ meeting on Thursday, 29th October, at 2 p.m. in Albury Village Hall, when Chris Boulton will complete the story of his travels in Africa with a slide show. There will be a Bring and Buy table and delicious tea and cakes.

The Social Club meet at 8 p.m. in Little Hadham Village Hall, on the second Tuesday of each month. We are always delighted to meet old friends and make new. Only £1.50 admission, including refreshments and we have a raffle, plus secondhand book sales, the proceeds of which go to a chosen charity. Tel. 771580 or 658585 for information.

Nature Notes, continued from page 8

the village hall, 7.45 for 8.00pm. Always a pleasant evening with good, friendly company. All welcome. This year, I shall give a quick resume of my sightings for 2009 and then talk about the North Norfolk coastal footpath route that I will have completed in October. The final photo depicts an immature willow warbler photographed in Millennium Wood.

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What's on in October ...

in the Village Hall unless otherwise stated

1, 15, 29 Thur, **Mobile Library**

3 Sat, **Jazz Evening** - Atila and his Musicians in The Memorial Hall, Welham Green, for Isabel Hospice. To attend this great Jazz evening contact Fran Bassel on 01707 265333. Atila is a fantastic Jazz singer and tickets cost £16 to include your supper.

3 Sat, **Three 2-actor scenes** by Wren Theatre Productions at St Nicholas's Church Great Munden, in aid of the Courtyard Arts Centre, Hertford. Harold Pinter, Fay Weldon, Alun Owen. Tickets £20 from anniefriedlein@hotmail.com.

3,4, Sat, Sun **Furneux Festival**. A weekend of fun and entertainment Classic cars, dog show, live music in the Church, harvest flowers, country store, scarecrow competition, photographic competition, 5-a-side football tournament, BBQ, tombola, history display and village walk. For programme details visit www.furneuxfestival.com

4 Sun, **Rotary Horse Ride**. In aid of Isabel Hospice, Riding for the Disabled and other Rotary Charities. In the beautiful Hatfield Park Hertfordshire by kind permission of the Marquess and Marchioness of Salisbury. Raffle and refreshments available on the day Event photographers will be there to offer souvenirs of your occasion. A rare opportunity to ride a marvellous eight mile course now with added optional jumps, passing through mainly parkland of outstanding natural beauty. Co-ordinator John Perrin tel. 01707 327289 email John.f.perrin@ntlworld.com

6 Tue, **Police Locality Meeting** 7.30pm at BS Police Station to discuss residents' concerns.

6 Tue, **Parish Council meeting**, 8pm

6,7 Wed, **Designer Clothing Sale** 10-6pm at Aristocat Men's & Women's clothes. Sizes 6-16 reduced by up to 70% in aid of Isabel

Hospice. To be held in The Chantry, Hadham Road, Bishop's Stortford, CM23 2QR

10 Sat, **Harvest Supper**. Priced at £7.50 a head, tickets from Frank Green on 771532.

10 Sat, **Music @ Stansted**, 7.30pm A repeat visit by Catrin Finch, the world famous harpist. Full details on page 18.

10 Sat, **Voices for Isabel Hospice** 7-10pm. Join us in Haileybury Chapel and be entertained by the renowned Cantate Youth Choir. Tickets: £25 each to include: 6.-6.45pm Wine & Canapés Reception in Big School, 7.-9.00pm Concert by Cantate in Haileybury Chapel. Contact Maria Alexander for tickets on 01707 382500. maria.alexander@isabelhospice.org.uk

13 Tue, **LH & A Social Club**, 8pm. Frances Luck speaks of her time as a Registrar: "Hatch, Match and Dispatch". All welcome. Information 771580 or 658585.

15 Thur, "Way Inn" coffee morning, 10am-12.

20 Tue, **LH & A Garden Club**, 8pm. "Growing Fruit", with Tom Cole. The Village Hall is open from 7.45pm and refreshments are provided.

24 Sat, **Barn Dance** 7.30-11pm Details p4.

24/25 Sat/Sun, **Put your clocks back 1 hour**.

29 Thur, **Red Cross Christmas Fair**, 10-4pm Fanhams Hall Hotel, Ware. Entry £4, café and restaurant. Free parking. Info 01992 586609

31 Sat, **Farmers' Market**, 8.30-11.30am.

... and later

10 Nov Jonathan Forgham at Little Hadham and Albury Social Club, 7.45 for 8.00pm.

Music@Stansted future dates: 13th December, 3pm, Cambridge Chorale; 17th January 3pm, Andrew Booth (guitar); and 6th March 7.30pm, The Coull String Quartet.

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Albury Art and Craft Show.

7th and 8th November

This is a village fundraising event to be held in our award winning Village Hall.

This year we are raising funds for the Church, which suffered three attacks from thieves stealing the roof! Just to make matters worse, our ancient boiler decided it was time to die! This meant a very cold and damp winter last year.

We have moved the show to a slightly later date to cater for early Christmas shoppers and will have plenty of artwork and various crafts for sale.

The village 'Pot Luck Supper' ladies will again be providing their wonderful refreshments and there is plenty of free parking.

The show will be open from 11.00 - 4.00 on both days. Look forward to seeing you there.

Celery Beef with Sundried Tomatoes

(The first casserole of the season)

900g braising steak, cubed

2 cloves garlic, crushed

2 tbsps flour

1 tsp dried basil

250ml red wine

250ml beef stock

70g tomato puree

1 medium onion, sliced

1 red pepper cut into strips

1 head of celery

8 sundried tomatoes, chopped roughly

2 tbsps redcurrant jelly

Salt & pepper

Brown the beef in olive or sunflower oil, then add garlic (don't burn it)

Add the flour, stir in and then season well, add basil, wine (bring to the boil) and finally stock

Again bring to the boil and then add the onion, red pepper and sundried tomatoes and thickly sliced celery, but reserve some celery to add later

Stir in redcurrant jelly

Cover and simmer for 5 mins then transfer to the floor of the AGA simmering oven, gas 140C or 300F for approx 2 hours

30 mins prior to serving add the remainder of the celery which will cook slightly but give a "crunchy" texture (optional)

NOTE: When you put this dish in the oven it might not look as though there is enough liquid. Do not panic. The vegetables give off enough liquid to make this a delicious warming meal.

TRUST ME !

Tomb Repair at St Cecilia's

From Richard Beckett – Trustee of the Little Hadham Charities

Anybody visiting or walking through St. Cecilia's churchyard in recent weeks may have noticed some repair work taking place on the tomb of John Hammond, situated on the east side of the church under the yew tree. He is described on a plaque inside the church as a citizen and haberdasher of the City of London. When he died in 1775 he left money to be invested in land with the income generated being for the benefit of the poor of the Parish. He imposed the condition that his tomb be kept in good repair and if not, the money was to be passed to Great Hadham!

John Hammond's legacy now forms the basis of the Little Hadham Charities which each year distribute a sum of money to some thirty of the older residents of the Parish. For some years now, the trustees of the charity had been aware of the need for repairs to the tomb and were delighted when Robert Collins of Church End Farm offered his services. On behalf of all the trustees, I would like to thank Robert for all his hard work. We are all very pleased with the result and can now relax knowing that we need not worry about further repairs for another 230 years!

Below, Robert describes in more detail the work involved:

"The stone slab with the engraving had broken into 4 pieces with many smaller pieces found inside as the brickwork was dismantled. The sound bricks had to be cleaned, and the foundations had to be rebuilt, which was a slow and painstaking job. The stone slab was pressure-washed to enable us to read the inscription, and placed on pallets to bring it into a good working light in one of our buildings.



"On the internet we found a firm in Norfolk that produced a glue which would stick stonework together. The manager became very interested in what we were doing and came along complete with glue. He took several photographs as they would be a good advertisement for the product. He and I spent about two hours trying to piece together the smaller parts; it was like doing a jigsaw puzzle - the more pieces there were in place the easier it was to place the rest. The smaller pieces were glued to the four larger pieces and left to set for about a week.

The stone was returned to the tomb and raised on pallets to enable it to be slid onto the brickwork. It was arranged that Terry Mitchell, the manager, would come again with more glue. A bed of mortar had to be laid on the brickwork and each stone slid into place and glued together. This was no easy job, as the whole stone weighed over a ton; each piece had to be level to enable each stone to be glued to the next.

"There were several holes left where stone was missing so Stansted Paving, who rent a building at Church End, were visited. We mixed up 6 batches of cement with different shades of colouring to find a match. The correct match was mixed, the holes filled and smoothed and as the cement went off the letters which were missing were engraved, so we hope we have done our part to keep the tomb in good repair and the money in Little Hadham."

Dear Dame . . . the diary of a pantomime Dame



Well it's time to dust off the denim and get out the gingham because the preparations for the pantomime have begun and this time we are heading to the Wild West for 'Panto at the OK Corral'. It's very exciting, I've always fancied owning a pair of chaps. . . and this year I'll have my very own Butch Casserole and Sun-Tan Kid! Mind you, I have my own trials and tribulations along the way, I still have to learn all the songs but with my singing voice it's bound to be beautiful, a kind gentleman once told me I had the power of a foghorn and the tuning of a fork!

Rehearsals are well under way, under the expert direction of Cathy Wheatley (she's already produced two award-winning pantomimes so we expect great things!) and Lightning the horse is starting to get his legs under control. The other day his back legs decided to go the opposite way to the front legs and they were running around in circles, Cathy eventually got them under control and told them to stop horsing around!!

But there's lots still to do, lines to learn and dances to choreograph so it's 'Whip Crack Away' and back to 'show' business!

Until next month. . . bye

Dame Winnie Peg

If you would like to get involved with Little Hadham Pantomime Group contact Shirley on LHPanto@hotmail.com. Any questions for the Dame please e-mail DearDame@hotmail.com.

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Cricket Club News

The past month has seen Little Hadham Cricket Club remain unbeaten in the five matches they have played. The first of those matches was due to be Away to Sheering, but after Sheering failed to raise a side, a game at home to Hockerill was hastily arranged. Batting first Little Hadham scored 182 for 7 with James Law scoring 90 off just 62 deliveries (a total that included 5 sixes). In reply eight Hadham bowlers were used to try to get the ten Hockerill wickets required to win the match, but in the end both sides settled for a draw as Hockerill finished on 101 for 5.

The following week the visitors to Millfield Lane were Little Hallingbury and batting first Hadham once again scored 182 but this time were all out. James Law was again top scorer this time with 91, off 72 balls. In reply Hallingbury were 38 for 5 at one point with Neil Oxborrow taking 4 wickets but a partnership of 53 for the sixth wicket helped Hallingbury earn a draw.

A trip to Hatfield Heath was the next match for Hadham who once again batted first in a 40 overs per side match and scored 152 for 7; James Law in a rich vein of form yet again top scoring with 56. In reply Hatfield Heath kept up with the required run rate but lost wickets at regular intervals as Hadham put in an impressive bowling and fielding performance. The Heath were eventually all out for 106 with David Wheatley taking 4 wickets and Frank Jaynes taking 3 as Hadham won by 46 runs.

August Bank Holiday Monday saw the visit of High Beech to Millfield Lane. High Beech batted first and scored 234 for 8 despite the efforts of Ben Law who took 3 wickets in one over. Requiring more than 6 runs per over Hadham were in with a chance all the while until the last 4 overs with James Law scoring 68 and Alan South 44. In the end both sides settled for a draw as Hadham finished just 22 runs short with 2 wickets remaining.

The next game saw Little Hadham travel to Reed in North Hertfordshire. Reed batted first and after 10 overs were 25 for 6 with Neil Oxborrow taking 5 wickets for 16 runs. A partnership of 117 for the 7th wicket saw Reed recover to eventually score 144 for 7 off their 40 overs. Hadham's reply seemed to almost mirror Reed's innings as at one point they were 21 for 4. But an unbeaten stand of 124 for the 5th wicket (with Frank Jaynes scoring 85 not out) saw Little Hadham win by 6 wickets.

OCTOBER FIXTURE *Sun 4th Albury Home 12.30*

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. Alternatively come up and see us play on our last match of the season in Millfield Lane on the 4th October.

From early January the club will be holding indoor net sessions on Sunday Mornings and at the end of February we are hoping to run after many years' absence another Quiz night in the Village Hall. More details to appear in future editions of The Parish News.

Little Hadham School

Believing and Achieving

The Autumn Term is now in full swing with lots to look forward to. Firstly, may I take this opportunity to invite you to our School Harvest Celebration in St Cecilia's Church on Thursday **8th October** at 9.30am. This year, our collection will be supporting the Kidz4Keech Hospice, a local hospital for children with long term illness.

Our first Theme Day of the school year is 'Space' on 15th October and the children will have the opportunity to spend time investigating our Solar System inside a huge 'Planetarium Dome' inside our school hall.

Our second Theme Day is on November 5th and reflects the bright lights of Bonfire Night. We have decided to call it 'Bright Sparks' Day!

Continuing on our learning journey towards becoming an accredited 'Thinking School', our teachers are in the middle of training on 'Thinking Maps' which will support the children in all aspects of organising their thinking. I hope it can do something for me too!

Please don't forget to come along to our super ICT Suite and develop your ICT skills again this year with Bev Evans on Tuesdays at 4pm.

Liz Stockley, Head

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David Beckham prize for local players



Three lucky youngsters are off to spend a day at the David Beckham Academy having been chosen 'star players' in the Little Hadham Five-a-side tournament last month. The winners were



Well saved!

Connor Saggars (14), Jack Walker (8) and Pierce Tindale (10). Worth more than £80, each prize entitles the winner to a day's training at the soccer school created by David Beckham to foster star players. They will also receive a David Beckham Academy t-shirt, a medal and certificate.

Off to the David Beckham Academy are (l-r): Connor Saggars, Jack Walker and Pierce Tindale, pictured with referee Richard Mardell.

The tournament, organised as part of our Parish Plan programme, produced a high standard of play and some cracking goals, with the Red team beating the Blues by a narrow margin of two. The match was organised and refereed by Richard Mardell, a well-known local league FA official. Mums and dads were there to cheer from the sidelines. Look out for details of our next fixture. If you would like to organise a match and borrow our five-a-side goals, please contact Carmela Piccolo on 466331

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Connor heads for the stars in this goalmouth skirmish



One of several cracking goals



Some natty footwork



Some of the Reds and the Blues, pictured with Richard Mardell



Parents watch the match from the marquee 'grandstand'



Both teams put on a good show of soccer skills

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The first concert this season is on Saturday, 10th October at 7.30pm with a repeat visit by Catrin Finch, the world famous harpist, who came to play for us in 2005. We are grateful for the support of The Rose & Crown, Bentfield Green towards the costs of this concert and take this opportunity to welcome the new landlords, Chris and Christine, and their family to Stansted.

When Prince Charles revived the post of Royal Harpist in 2000, Catrin was his first choice despite still being a student at the Royal Academy of Music. Today she is a Visiting Professor at the Academy, as well as at the Royal Welsh College of Music, and an international performing and recording star. As one critic put it, she "has such a mastery of her instrument, combined with deep musical insight, that others pale in comparison". Another says "Finch can do almost anything on the harp..." Catrin has done more than anybody to popularise the harp around the world and carries out extensive educational work. She has revolutionised people's view of what the harp can do, working with everyone from John Rutter to brass bands.

If you are not a member of music@stansted there is still time to join! Membership for the whole season is £32 (concessions £30), while tickets for individual concerts are £12 each, Children £1. If you would like to join please send a cheque payable to "music at stansted" with your name(s) and address to The Membership Secretary, music@stansted, 105 Cambridge Road, Stansted, CM24 8BY or you can join at the first concert. Simply buy a ticket for the concert on October 10th and then, if you decide to join, pay the difference (£20) and join on the night.

Tickets: Adults £12, Children £1, available from: Stansted Carpets, Chapel Hill, Stansted; Nockolds Solicitors, Market Sq., Bishop's Stortford; Sonia Levy, 31 Chapel Hill, Stansted. 815282.

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Police, Camera, Action!

As part of their policy of stepping up policing activities in Little Hadham, our local force are mounting a special operation to deter bad driving at the traffic lights. This follows an incident when a child narrowly missed being knocked down by a car that left a queue of waiting traffic and jumped the red light.

The police are monitoring traffic at the lights during the morning rush hour, which coincides with children and parents making their way to school. They are considering the installation of an ANPRS (automatic number plate recognition system) camera, which has the added advantage of spotting drivers who are untaxed, uninsured or otherwise known to the police. They are also monitoring traffic on the A120 between Little Hadham and Standon following complaints about speeding and bad driving. Inspector Damien Kennedy, commander of our local force, explains: "Too many drivers travel at the speed they consider safe, regardless of the speed limit. The A120 and the area around the traffic lights are busy and potentially dangerous and we want to encourage a better and safer standard of driving."

The Parish Council and local resident representatives met Inspector Kennedy recently. One issue raised was the need to publicise the opening hours of the police station in Bishop's Stortford. The police say crime in all categories is down although there has been a rise in burglary of sheds and external buildings.

Three officers now patrol rural villages including Little Hadham: PCs Tracey Fegan, Tony Morris and Nicola Hunt, wife of Sgt Chris Hunt who covered the area until recently. The police are starting a series of regular locality meetings to discuss residents' concerns. The next meeting is on **Tuesday October 6** at 7.30 pm at Bishop's Stortford police station.

Advert removed

October diary for Little Hadham and Albury

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

4 Sunday

11.00am

Harvest

Harvest Family Service in St Cecilia's, Little Hadham

8 Thursday

9.30am

Little Hadham School Service in Church

11 Sunday

9.30am

Trinity 18 Proper 23

Shared Communion at St Cecilia's, Little Hadham

18 Sunday

8.00am

St Luke's Day

Holy Communion at St Cecilia's, Little Hadham

9.30am

Family service in the Village Hall

21 Wednesday

8.00pm

Meeting of the Team Joint Council at the Rectory, Much Hadham

25 Sunday

8.00am

Trinity 20 Proper 25

Holy Communion at St Andrew's, Much Hadham

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

Charity Bike Ride



The 5 Bikers rode forth on Saturday 12th September. We got round about 20 churches, covering 25 plus miles. Many thanks for the sponsor money received so far - we are still accepting donations for this charity - and haven't closed the books yet!

The four shown are Steve Hargrave, Tony Skidmore, Dimitri Smit, and Robin Erswell, before setting off from Hadham Hall.

Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal 2009



We are again looking for volunteers to assist with the door-to-door sale of poppies this year. If you can spare an hour or so to help in this very worthwhile cause, please contact Frank Green Tel. 771532.

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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