

# *Little Hadham Parish News*

*March 2010*

**The Young Ones.**  
Unfortunately, this year's Young Ones' production, 'The Little Mermaid', has had to be cancelled.



“Let’s go into town on the bus”

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**01920 822619**

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

# Letter from the Rectory

The remains of the statue of Pharaoh Ramses II in the British Museum was one of the objects discussed by Neil MacGregor in his series, *The History of the World in 100 objects*. Around 1200 BC this great ruler dominated the Middle Eastern political scene for 60 years. The mournful poem of Shelley is a reminder for all

**“My name is Ozymandias, king of kings:  
Look on my works, ye Mighty, and despair!”  
Nothing beside remains. Round the decay  
Of that colossal wreck, boundless and bare  
The lone and level sands stretch far away.**

Percy Bysshe Shelley

rulers and all empires of the transience of power, recalling that after Ramses, his great empire began to decay and disintegrate. It is a timely warning in every age, and an antidote to the extravagant claims made by leaders and nations about their victories and successes: it is one very similar to that given to Christians for 2000 years every Ash Wednesday: “remember O mortal, that dust you are and to dust you shall return.”

Nevertheless there is another message contained in this object, as Neil MacGregor reminds us; namely the history and achievements of a great civilisation, which passed down its art and some of its mathematical and scientific advances to future generations. In other words, although our works are passing worth, they do make a difference.

There are times when everyone may ask themselves, “What is the point of it all?” Times when we may question whether our lives have contributed anything worthwhile. Few achieve greatness. However this does not mean that we should “look on our works and despair”; for the way we live, and even the small things we accomplish do make a difference to the whole picture.

Our new Bishop, Alan Smith, has issued a challenge to Christians this year; “dare to make a difference”, encouraging us to consider various quotations from the New Testament and see if acting upon them can make a difference to our lives, community and world. I trust that all people of good will can work together to make a difference, by those small acts of kindness and public spirited commitments. We make a difference when we take a stand or support a worthy cause. We make a difference when we engage in art, music or science. We make a difference when we work in politics and social care. Some day archaeologists will be digging up our civilisation. Who knows what they will discover! I hope they will conclude that we contributed some good for future generations among the lone and level sands that stretch far away.

Chris Boulton

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## PC News

Our February meeting was the first one of 2010 and already we are busy responding to requests and dealing with other Parish Council business which arose from discussions during the meeting. Topics of interest include – the adoption of red telephone kiosks, local police monitoring of the Little Hadham lights, the co-opting of two new councillors and the up and coming Parish Assembly 2010.

### **Red Telephone Kiosks**

The Parish Council has applied to BT to adopt the telephone kiosks in our village. Eventually we hope the community will get involved with projects to be housed in the kiosks; one being a 'book swap stop'. Watch this space for more great ideas! What we don't want is for the kiosks to be forgotten about and to fall into disrepair. So are you up to for the challenge? Get in touch and lend a hand!

### **Police to monitor the Lights**

Local Police will be monitoring the Little Hadham traffic lights over the next few weeks. They will be in uniform. We are not sure how long this will go on for but hopefully their presence will at least get people thinking about the way they act at the junction. We know of at least one very dangerous incident which occurred last year and have heard of other incidents which happen from time to time; drivers jumping the lights seems to be the most common. Let's hope this exercise

will have the desired effect.

### **Parish Assembly 2010** (see page 8)

This will be held at the village hall on Thursday 22 April, 7pm for 7.30pm start. We are busy making preparations in the background; inviting speakers, local business people and most important getting in the wine & nibbles! We hope lots of villagers will attend; your support will be much appreciated so please mark your calendars and make it a date.

### **New councillors appointed**

As you will be aware Cllrs Mike Fairchild and Tony Skidmore left the Parish Council at the December meeting and so the hunt commenced for two new councillors to join us. We are very pleased to report that Robin Gregory and Jonathan Forgham have been co-opted. Both bring a variety of new skills and are ready to begin their work within the Council. We wish them well and here's to a long and worthwhile working partnership.

### **Finally we say "Thank You"**

to the faithful few who attend the Parish Council meetings; your participation is much appreciated. To those of you who wonder exactly what it is we discuss and the work we carry out on behalf of all parishioners don't forget first Tuesday of each month (except January and August) we'll be there (at the village hall 8pm) – will you? Look forward to seeing you there.

## Community & Voluntary Transport

Please let me know if you, or indeed anyone you know, could use help with travel arrangements; hospital appointments, shopping, etc. Those who could benefit from this service are the disabled, older people and those with limited mobility.

The network of help is quite comprehensive and both community and voluntary based travel schemes are available. Vehicles include those adapted for wheelchair use, minibuses, cars and people carriers

Drop me an email [cam2403@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:cam2403@hotmail.co.uk) or call 466331 for further info.

Carmela

## A Brilliant Party

Thank you to all who joined in our 100 years Celebration Party – it was a brilliant. Our first Brown Owl came, older Trefoil members came, Mums came, older Brownies came and other friends came too. During the party the Brownies achieved part of their 100 year Challenge Badge by taking part in olden day games, acting, singing older camp fire songs and talking to people who had brought so much Guiding memorabilia to share.

Our refreshments and bring and buy stall raised £68.30, and with the District donation, a total of £130.33 will be taken to India as a gift from our Brownies to those in Pune .

Thank you again to everyone who joined in, especially our Brownies who were just the best. If you to are a girl aged 7-10 years and want to join us or our waiting list call 01279 654624

Judi Wheeler Brown Owl

## All Contributions Gratefully Received!

The Parish News needs articles each month unless you just want to read adverts. If you have something to say, or a story to tell, please write in and let us have it. If you think there's something that could go in the 'Regular Events' column, or a useful telephone number to add to the list, please get in touch with the editor (details on page 23 this month). Are you mad about something? Send it to the Complaints Corner. Whatever you send in we'll be grateful, so please get writing!

Adverts removed

## music@stansted

A reminder that the fourth and final concert of our 2009/10 season features **The Coull String Quartet** and takes place on Saturday, 6th March at 7.30pm in St John's Stansted.

The quartet, who have been "Quartet-in-Residence" at the University of Warwick since 1977, will be making a very welcome return visit to Stansted, their having already played here in 2006. They have performed and broadcast extensively throughout this country, the USA and Western Europe. They have toured India, the Middle and Far East, South America and Australia. On 6th March they will be performing the Haydn Quartet in Eb Op 33 No 2 "The Joke"; the Shostakovitch Quartet in D Op 83 No 4; and the Mendelssohn Quartet in E minor Op 44 No 2. All the ingredients are in place for what should be a very enjoyable evening's music.

Tickets - Adults £12, Children £1 - are available from:

Stansted Carpets, Chapel Hill, Stansted

Nockolds Solicitors, Market Square, Bishop's Stortford

Sonia Levy, 31 Chapel Hill, Stansted (01279 815282) or at the door on the night.

Please visit our web site at [www.musicatstansted.com](http://www.musicatstansted.com) if you would like to become a member, join our mailing list, or to see more information and dates of future events.

Adverts removed

## Nature Notes, January and February

by Jonathan Forgham

Another month of unusually wintry conditions meant that all of nature has now been held back. With snowdrops only just beginning to flower and few signs of early spring growth, e.g. cuckoo pint (arum lily) yet to show, it appears that spring will come in a rush in March. Let's hope so.

Birding continued to prove difficult around the parish, with little early movement of birds, so the residents were all that were recorded. However, this didn't mean I went without highlights. An unexpected sight was that of a kingfisher in Green Street on the 13th February. As I wandered from Tesco's back to Chapel Lane I caught sight of this bird flying west along the flooded ditch near the Cradle End junction. 7 common buzzards were observed overhead on one of the bright days (5th), with 2 in courtship display flight, shown here. Also on this walk, the regular little owl roost was checked and sure enough, the resident bird was sitting at its post: too far into the wood for a worthwhile photo. Apart from these three, much remained as last month, with good sightings of mute swan and canada geese (19th Jan), 8 great black backed gulls (23rd), a grey heron alighted on the chapel roof (1st) shown below, a mixed group of black headed and herring gulls heading to their traditional evening roost at Amwell on the evening of the 3rd, a great



*continued on page 9*

Adverts removed

## Massage can reduce stress

Nowadays people are aware of the consequences of too much stress. Whilst a certain amount of cortisol (a hormone we release when stressed) is required in the body, too much can be damaging. Relaxation hormones are equally important or we can become exhausted and stressed and it may affect one's physical and mental health.

Massage has been proven to produce relaxation and beneficial hormones such as serotonin, oxytocin and dopamine that result in relaxation, regulated moods, reduced anxiety, and also relieve depression. High levels of these hormones are present in not only the person being massaged but also the masseur.

For mothers massaging their baby oxytocin is known as the hormone of 'bonding' hence massage is recommended for mothers who suffer from post-natal depression. It also stimulates milk production.

For the baby being massaged, research has shown that regular massages induced sleep more than just rocking and over a six week period, infants gained more weight and showed greater improvement on socialability, were calmer with greater decreases in urinary cortisol and increased serotonin than those not massaged.

For more information on baby massage and classes please call Penny Constantinou on 07944 416572 or visit [www.babymassageherts.co.uk](http://www.babymassageherts.co.uk).

Adverts removed

## Rural Ramblings

by Cherry Mardell

*I once bought a coin organiser, a battery operated machine where you drop your coins in to the top opening and they get sorted into little tubes. Well, that's what should happen.*

*My coin sorter has been on strike since the day I purchased it. Drop more than six coins in and one would get jammed – requiring me to take the whole thing to pieces to find the reluctant one.*

*But every few months I need to use it. Himself collects small change which we sort into manageable coinage, I double it and we send the result to our chosen charity. This week was one of those times.*

*After an hour we still had a pile of assorted, uncounted coins, the machine had been taken to pieces four times and our tempers were extremely frayed. This time, the culprits were foreign coins which had been palmed off onto unsuspecting us over the last couple of months ... well, do you check through your change each time to find any immigrants?*

*We had taken all the tubes out a dozen times, shaken the machine, poked into the interior with sharp objects, retrieved jammed coins with tweezers – and eventually counted all the coins out by hand, a much faster operation!*

*The machine is now waiting for my next foray into town to the charity shop. Let some other poor soul suffer!*

*I work at my computer for around three hours a day and the window alongside gives me a wonderful view of "our" half of Little Hadham, of the fields, the trees, (the traffic!) and the wildlife. And I am happy to report that, despite continuing cold winter weather, I am sure I have seen the first glimmer of Spring. For one thing, just days after Valentine's Day, I saw our two resident thrushes doing what comes naturally around that day! We have regular visits from a heron who spends hours wandering across our wheat fields. What he finds of interest we don't know, but he appears to be picking up morsels of heron-friendly food. Fieldfares have now joined ranks with pigeons and rooks in non-stop food gathering. Even our chickens have decided it's time to repay me for all the food they have consumed recently by presenting me with around nine eggs every day.*

*Surely, with such a hive of activity, Spring can't be far away!*

## Parish Assembly Thursday 22nd April 2010

*It is with great pleasure that the Parish Council announces the Annual Parish Assembly 2010 to be held at the village hall on Thursday 22nd April at 7pm for 7.30pm start. As always our invitation goes out to all in the village. This will be your chance to get together over a glass of wine & nibbles, meet up with the Parish Council and other friends from the village.*

*As in past years we will have a varied list of guest speakers; including news on the bypass and other important local issues. Make sure you come and have your say!*

*This year, as an added attraction, we would like to invite 'village businesses' to come and set up a display of their particular trade. We hope to have a great response to this feature so please get in touch as soon as possible to secure your place on the night!*

*Contact - Carmela 466331 email [cam2403@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:cam2403@hotmail.co.uk)*

## Nature Notes, *continued from page 6*

spotted woodpecker drumming at Brick Kiln Hill (4th and after), 8 skylarks south of The Ford (5th) nuthatch, 12 long tailed tits and 45 redwings (13th).

This period also included a 5 day visit to wonderful Lisbon. Although officially not a birding trip, I managed a few sessions with the binoculars, recording cattle egret, black shouldered kite, black winged stilts along with many swallows and house martins. Parakeets (both ring necked and monk) were evident within the city parks along with warblers that we associate with spring and summer, such as willow warbler, blackcap and chiffchaff.



A change in the weather, that must happen soon, surely, should bring the first migrants into the parish. The sound of chiffchaff and willow warbler should be heard before April and so I plan my first Dawn Chorus walk of 2010. This will take place Sunday 28th March, meeting at the village hall car park at 5.45am. All welcome, with a coffee and bacon sandwich taken at Ash Valley Golf club. Please email me at [jforgham@theprimaryworks.com](mailto:jforgham@theprimaryworks.com) to register your interest, so we don't go without you and so I can advise the golf club of expected numbers.

Finally, a big thank you to Mrs Anne Clayton, who has kindly lent me her records of the wild flowers within our parish. These were noted in the mid '60s and it is most interesting to compare the species to those now flowering some 45 years later. Jonathan Forgham

Adverts removed

## **STOP PRESS! The Village Players return**

*Back by popular demand, after a rest of 5 years, 'The Village Players' are returning to Little Hadham Village Hall with those indescribable Farndale Avenue ladies (and Gordon). Many people remember with fondness those hilarious evenings with the inept Farndale Avenue Women's Institute (described by a well-known and prominent member of the community as the funniest thing he'd ever seen at the village hall) and now is your chance to recapture those moments, or to come along and experience the mayhem that is an evening with the ladies (and Gordon). So, check your diaries for Friday 11th June or Saturday 12th June, to make sure that you are not the ones disappointed when you find out that everyone is talking about something you missed!! And you will be supporting the local community as all proceeds go to Little Hadham Village Hall.*

*More information about the ladies (and Gordon), the table reservations and supper, in next month's Parish Magazine, but listen out, as word is on the grapevine and you may hear more...*

### **Come round to see your holiday pics? Oooh yes please!**

*We have been clearing out lofts and have found a large quantity of colour slides but no Slide Projector. If any one has one we could buy, rent or borrow please give us a ring. Many thanks.*

Frank and Karin Green 771532.

**Adverts removed**



## THE GARDENS OF EASTON LODGE

LITTLE EASTON • GREAT DUNMOW • ESSEX



Photo: Peter Lawson-Brooker

### SNOWDROPS

FEBRUARY Sundays 21st and 28th,  
MARCH Sundays 7th and 14th

Entry £2.50, children free. Refreshments available.  
OPEN FROM NOON TO 4pm (LAST ENTRY - 3pm)  
Tel: 01371 876979 or visit [www.eastonlodge.co.uk](http://www.eastonlodge.co.uk)  
SITUATED OFF THE B184 NORTH OF GREAT DUNMOW  
FOLLOW THE BROWN HERITAGE SIGNS  
Registered Charity No. 1101442. Supported by Essex County Council.

## Easton Lodge Snowdrop Days

The two Snowdrops Sundays in March are on 7 and 14 March 12 noon to 4pm, last entry 3pm. Entry £2.50, children free.

Refreshments will be available for purchase at the Gardens for those in need of sustenance if the weather remains cold (soups, hearty cakes, steaming mugs of chocolate, coffee and tea)

Tel: 01371 876979 or visit [www.eastonlodge.co.uk](http://www.eastonlodge.co.uk) for more details

### Bishop's Stortford Police Station Opening Times

Monday:	12.00pm-4.30pm
Tuesday:	CLOSED
Wednesday:	CLOSED
Thursday:	2pm-11pm
Friday:	7am-Midnight
Saturday:	7am-Midnight
Sunday:	10am-8pm

CLOSED BANK HOLIDAYS

Adverts removed

# What's on in March ...

in the Village Hall unless otherwise stated

**2 Tue, Parish Council meeting**, 8pm.

**4, 18 Thur, Mobile Library** See below.

**6 Sat, music@stansted** The Coull String Quartet, 7.30pm, St John's Stansted.. More details on page 5.

**7, 14 Sun, Snowdrops at Easton Lodge**, 12 noon to 4pm . Details on page 11.

**9 Tue, LH & A Social Club**, 8pm. Catherine Petch is bringing along some members of her successful Kyokushin Karate Club. Everyone is welcomed. Admission £1.50, including refreshments and we have a raffle and book sales. Information: 771580 or 658585.

**13 Sat, Cricket Club Quiz Evening**, 7.30 for 8.00pm. Teams of up to 8. Tickets £6.00 including food. Licensed bar. Contact Alan South 01279 651603 or David Wheatley: 07528 129773.

**16 Tue, LH & A Garden Club AGM**, 8pm. Please come along to catch up with what the club has been doing and what is going on next year. We will be sticking to the tried and trusted format of a short speech by the chairman and then tuck into the drinks and nibbles. Look forward to seeing you there.

**18 Thur, "Way Inn" coffee morning** See below

**20 Sat, School Quiz Night** Quiz will start promptly at 8pm - tickets are £10 each, which includes a home cooked supper (chicken or veg curry with rice or quiche & salad). Teams can have up to 8 people. There will be a licensed bar (please NO BYO) & raffle. Come along and enjoy a great night out! For further information &/or tickets please contact Helen on 01279 771509.

**25 Thur Whist Drive** 7.15 for 7.30 start £1 includes tea & biscuits. [www.whistdrive.org.uk](http://www.whistdrive.org.uk)

**28 Sun, Dawn Chorus Walk**, 5.45am at the Viallg Hall car park. All welcome and please

register your interest either by contacting Jonathan Forgham on 07805571551 or at [jforgham@theprimaryworks.com](mailto:jforgham@theprimaryworks.com).

**27 Sat, Farmers' Market**, 8.30–11.30am. Come and visit this highly successful market run by Brenda Kain. Fresh and cooked produce and the famous Cooked Breakfast.

**28 Sun, Clocks go forward 1 hour.**

## ... and later

22 April **Annual Parish Assembly** see page 8.

24 April **East Herts Eco FilmFest**, Hertford, 1.30pm to 9.30pm. FREE Entry..

Details: [www.transitionhertford.ning.com](http://www.transitionhertford.ning.com) or email [transitionhertford@googlemail.com](mailto:transitionhertford@googlemail.com)

23 May **Much Hadham Open Gardens**, 12pm–5pm Tickets, garden guides & refreshments this year will be available from The Forge.

11, 12 June **The Village Players** See page 10.

19 June **Much Hadham Playgroup Ball** "Fire & Ice" £75 before 1st April, £80 thereafter. For booking form: [muchhadhamball@googlemail.com](mailto:muchhadhamball@googlemail.com)

## The 'Way Inn'

Come and meet friends and neighbours over a cup of tea or coffee. Rear of village hall, 3rd thursday of the month, 10 - 12 noon

## 4th and 18th March Mobile Library

Naclog's Head from 1345 - 1405

The Smithy from 1410 - 1430

Bury Green from 1445 - 1505

A fortnightly service.

## Little Hadham Whist Drives

March 25 • April 29 • May 27  
• June 24 • July 29 • August 26  
• September 30 • October 28 •  
November 25 • December 23

Costs £1 to play including scorecard,  
tea and biscuits at interval.

Also large raffle on night.

All drives commence 7:30 pm

(doors open by 7:15pm)

on the last thursday of the month,  
in the Village Hall.

We've been going in the village since  
the 1950s, and all of our profits go to  
support the Village Hall.

Further info can be obtained at our  
website [www.whistdrive.org.uk](http://www.whistdrive.org.uk)

**Muscular  
Dystrophy**  
Campaign

BARKWAY PARK  
GOLF CLUB



## CHARITY GOLF DAY

## at BARKWAY PARK GOLF CLUB

FRIDAY 13 AUGUST 2010

supporting

THE MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY CAMPAIGN

sponsored by



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 + Longest Drive Prizes  
Putting Competition

ENTRY FORMS AVAILABLE FROM

ALAN, 01279 505147

or call 01279 813710 for more  
information

*Braughing Music Society*

## Five Star Swing

The best of Swing, Jazz & Blues from Glen Miller  
to Jools Holland played by a dynamic band of six  
talented musicians.

A foot tapping evening – not to be missed!

Saturday 20th March - 7:30 pm

St Mary's Church, Braughing

TICKET PRICES

£15 Premium; £12 Standard; £10 restricted view  
£15 at the door

Telephone Box Office: 01763 289073

[www.braughingmusicsociety.co.uk](http://www.braughingmusicsociety.co.uk)

St Andrew's Church, Much Hadham

Saturday, 13th March @ 7.30 pm

A concert of sacred and secular music by the choir of  
GONVILLE & CAIUS COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE

Profits go to the choir's tour to China.

Tickets: £12.00 (£9.00 concessions) inc. interval drink.

Tickets available at the door on the evening or  
from Nicholas Jardine; tel. 01992 445925



(The choir is run Philippa Bagnall's granddaughter. They  
are excellent and we do hope many people will come!)

## Is reflexology for you?

Many people I talk to are unsure of what reflexology is, often thinking it's just a relaxing foot massage. As a reflexologist, I'm pleased to have this opportunity to explain what it is and some of the real benefits it can offer. As well as being a fantastic way to wind down and relieve stress it brings a range of health benefits.

Reflexology is a form of complementary medicine that has been used for over 3000 years, predominantly in the East, and involves massage to reflex areas found in the feet which correspond to parts of the body. For example, in practice, a patient who has problems with headaches would also have a corresponding area on their foot for that region.

Reflexology does not claim to be a 'cure all' but numerous disorders have been successfully treated by this method. These disorders include such things as migraine, sinus, digestive, circulatory, skin and back problems, hormonal imbalances, breathing disorders, tension and stress.

But how does it actually work? The theory of reflexology relies heavily on the principle of energy flow, and as such is virtually impossible to measure or verify within a scientific setting. A great number of medical professionals consider its practice of no benefit, since there is no physiological evidence to support its claims. In spite of this stance, many still seek out the medical benefits that result from reflexology massage techniques. At a recent debate at Kings College Social Medicine Society Professor David Peters argued that mainstream medicines and some therapies working together was the answer. The Oncology ward at Chelmsford hospital use therapists for their patients as they see the real benefits and say it's wonderful for relaxation.

Some theories as to how it works include:

**Lymphatic** – The lymphatic system is part of the immune system and functions as a filter. It removes toxic elements from the body. It is thought that reflexology enhances the lymphatic system's function and, in return, restores proper chemical balance in the body.

**Ch'i energy** – Ch'i is the circulating life energy that in Chinese philosophy is thought to be inherent in all things. In traditional Chinese medicine the balance of negative and positive forms in the body is believed to be essential for good health. Like acupuncture and shiatsu it is believed that reflexology works similarly in that it stimulates the flow of Ch'i energy bringing the body back into energetic balance.

**Nerve pathways** – It is believed that when nerve pathways are unable to transmit impulses, it is because of chemical deposits that build up around nerve endings stopping the impulses from travelling. Stimulating nerve endings in the hands, ears, and feet, helps clear that blockage.

**Placebo** – The power of suggestion is a key factor; so psychologically, it is believed that reflexology acts as a placebo.

Despite the conflicting views in the medical world there is no doubt in my mind that reflexology is a wonderful way to keep the body in good health and an incredibly relaxing experience.

If you'd like to have a chat about any of this, and perhaps even consider a session, please don't hesitate to contact me. Introductory offers are available ... and I'm sure, like me, you won't regret learning more about the benefits this therapy can bring.

Camilla Brackstone MBRA  
[camillalloyd@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:camillalloyd@yahoo.co.uk) 07949 639114

## **SSE latest – issued 11.2.10**

### **Make Your Mind Up on Second Runway, Government tells BAA**

*The Government Minister responsible for dealing with BAA's plans for a second Stansted runway has asked the airport operator to state whether it still wants to continue with its current planning application.*

*John Denham, Secretary of State for Communities, has also told BAA that if it does still want its second runway application to be considered, then the information provided when it submitted the application almost two years ago will need to be updated.*

*The planning application documents stand more than ten feet high, which gives an indication of the amount of work that would be involved in bringing the information up to date.*

*The 'make your mind up' message is contained in an open letter sent yesterday (10 February) by the Secretary of State to BAA, Stop Stansted Expansion (SSE) and other interested parties. The letter also states that if BAA does still want its second runway application to be considered, the Public Inquiry cannot start until after the next General Election which must be held no later than 3 June. Significantly, both the Conservatives and the Liberal Democrats are pledged to ditch any plans for a second Stansted runway.*

*SSE has been pressing the Secretary of State over the last year to bring an end to the present blight and uncertainty by having the second runway planning application withdrawn, although recognising that this is something only BAA itself can do.*

*SSE strongly welcomes this intervention by the Secretary of State. SSE Chairman Peter Sanders commented: "We're very pleased that the Secretary of State has now put the ball firmly in*

*continued on page 17*

**Adverts removed**

# Little Hadham School

*Believing and Achieving*

We are getting really excited now as we get nearer to March 7th when our Y5/6 pupils will be singing at the Royal Albert Hall. We will be joining with another 970 pupils from Hertfordshire schools in the County Singing Festival. Tunes such as 'Hey Jude' and 'Land of Hope and Glory' have been resonating around the school! In order to share it with everyone, we have organised a Musical Evening on Tuesday 30th March at 7pm. All welcome!

We are taking part in the 'K'Nex' Challenge this month, where the children will be working with an engineer on a design task. We are also looking forward to the next 'Theme Day' on 16th March when we will have an Indian Dance Workshop in school for the KS2 children.

Hockerill have kindly agreed to holding another Y4/5 French Enrichment Day at Little Hadham on Tuesday 23rd March – ooh la la!

Through our parent link with B.P. we had a very successful 'Plastizote' Day where the KS2 children made some amazing masks and creatures using this mouldable plastic material. They look superb on display!

Considering that this is a relatively short term, as you can see, we have definitely packed a great deal in!

Thank you for your continued support.

Liz Stockley, Head

P.S. Don't miss out on our Quiz Night on Saturday March 20th at the Village Hall!

Adverts removed

## Cricket Club News

The club is currently holding indoor nets at the HECC sport centre for cricket, which is at Tharbies Farm, Rook End, High Wych near Sawbridgeworth, CM21 0LL. The nets sessions are from 10am until 11am each Sunday until the end of March. 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. Indoor nets are an ideal way to get started if you have never played before or wish to take up the sport again after a break from playing. 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 771033 or Neil Oxborrow 506062 for more details. The club is once again holding a **quiz evening** Please see details on page 12:

## SSE latest, continued from page 15

BAA's court by asking it to state its future intentions regarding its second runway application. BAA has spectacularly failed in its original intention to secure planning approval for a second runway before the next General Election, despite having had the present Government's blessing for the development since 2003. A lot of water has gone under the bridge since then, and if BAA does decide to go ahead it must make a start on updating that ten foot pile of planning documents. The blight and uncertainty has gone on for far too long."

Adverts removed

## Little Hadham & Albury Gardening Club

Our next meeting is the club's AGM on Tuesday 16th March at 8.00 in Little Hadham Village Hall. Please come along to catch up with what the club has been doing and what is going on next year. We will be sticking to the tried and trusted format of a short speech by the chairman and then tuck into the drinks and nibbles. Look forward to seeing you there.

**Gardening Tips for March** (hopefully you have managed some of the previous month's tips)

### **Veg Plot**

Now is the time to fork over the ground to prepare for sowing.

Plant shallots and onion sets

Sow early cropping vegetable seeds under cloches

### **Flower Beds**

Plant summer flowering bulbs

After flowering lift and divide congested snowdrops

Divide overgrown perennials

Tidy up roses, removing dead, damaged or diseased stems.

A good time for transplanting evergreen shrubs and conifers.

Adverts removed

## LH & A Social Club

The Nag's Head became our meeting room for February, when we celebrated our 5th Anniversary. It was a cold evening, but we did not have to travel far from home. Barbara, Binnie and Ennis; thank you for your support and hope that we will all continue to enjoy our sociable, monthly meetings.

For the 9th March meeting our neighbour, Catherine Petch, is bringing along some members of her successful **Kyokushin Karate Club**. We will be able to watch the skills of 'The Spirit of OSU', and perhaps join in? Everyone is welcomed. 8pm start. Admission £1.50, including refreshments and we have a raffle and book sales

Tel: 771580 or 658585 for information.

## St Cecilia's Church

### **Mothering Sunday**

**14th March**

**9.30am**

**Join us at St Cecilia's  
and thank God for the  
unconditional love freely  
given by our Mothers**

A small bouquet of flowers will be given to each Mother  
followed by coffee and biscuits

Adverts removed

## Are you a Cracked Pot?

An elderly Chinese woman had two large pots, each hung on the ends of a pole which she carried across her neck. One of the pots had a crack in it while the other pot was perfect and always delivered a full portion of water. At the end of the long walks from the stream to the house, the cracked pot arrived only half full.

For a full two years this went on daily, with the woman bringing home only one and a half pots of water. Of course, the perfect pot was proud of its accomplishments, but the poor cracked pot was ashamed of its own imperfection, and miserable that it could only do half of what it had been made to do. After two years of what it perceived to be bitter failure, it spoke to the woman one day by the stream. 'I am ashamed of myself, because this crack in my side causes water to leak out all the way back to your house.'

The old woman smiled, 'Did you notice that there are flowers on your side of the path, but not on the other pot's side? That's because I have always known about your flaw, so I planted flower seeds on your side of the path, and every day while we walk back, you water them. For two years I have been able to pick these beautiful flowers to decorate the table. Without you being just the way you are, there would not be this beauty to grace the house.' Each of us has our own unique flaw. But it's the cracks and flaws we each have that make our lives together so very interesting and rewarding. You've just got to take each person for what they are and look for the good in them. So, to all of you cracked pots, have a great day and remember to smell the flowers on your side of the path.

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:** 8.30–11.30am, last

Saturday of month. Brenda Kain 771028

[www.lhfm.org.uk](http://www.lhfm.org.uk)

**Garden Club:** third Tuesday of the month.

Karin Green 771532.

**Karate:** 5–6pm Wednesdays,

Catherine Petch 771636

**Mobile Police Station:** 9–11 am first and third

Tuesday, in the car park.

**Parish Council** first Tuesday of the month

(except January and August) at 8.00pm.

**Parent & Toddler group,**

9.30 – 11.30am, Wednesdays, term-time.

**Playgroup:** 12.30pm–3.30pm Mondays,

Tuesdays, Wednesdays in the Nursery at

LH School. Mirandi Smit 771241

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

Thursdays, rear of the Village Hall in the

Doctor's Reception Room.

**Social Club:** 8pm, second Tuesday of the

month: 771580 or 658585 for information

**“Way Inn” coffee morning:** third Thursday of

month, rear of Village Hall, 10–12 noon.

**Whist Drive:** Last Thursday of the month,

7.30pm start. Ross Barron 07732 370923

**Please inform the editor of any changes to the**

**above., 771113 or [htfp@clocktower.co.uk](mailto:htfp@clocktower.co.uk)**

Adverts removed

## *St Cecilia's – Churchyard clear-up*

Help is needed to carry out the Spring clear-up  
of the Churchyard & 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  
13<sup>th</sup> March 2010**

**jobs to be done:**

**grass cutting, light bonfire, clean windows,  
tidy up churchyard, lop-off & pick-up  
unwanted/dead tree branches, clear guttering  
AND make tea**

**please do come along and give a hand**

## **Useful phone numbers**

*Citizens' Advice Bureau, East Herts District*  
08744 848 9700

*Environment Agency Incident Line:*  
0800 807060

*Smell Gas? Call free on 0800 111 999*

*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

## **Complaints Corner: Grumpy Old Men and Moaning Minnies only, please.**

### **Proliferation of signs in the village!**

Have you noticed the number and size of unlawful posters that are springing up around the village? The A120 is a classic example, especially near the traffic lights, where anyone with an event to publicise, usually in a village or town miles from Little Hadham, sees fit to adorn posts, road markers and any spare piece of land with a sign attracting passing drivers to attend their fete, circus, open garden or pub.

They are the beneficiaries of the advertisements and we the sufferers. Our village is continually under attack from 'Bill Posters' who, once upon a time, was likely to be prosecuted, but, nowadays seems to get away with it, and Little Hadham is beginning, or has already become, one of the untidy corners in the county.

Just recently all of the bus shelters were given a colourful, internal back-drop of up to three large posters advertising a forthcoming circus in Bishop's Stortford. Fine, I suppose, if you needed warning of this attraction, but what, you may ask, do we have Notice Boards for? Well, for one thing they aren't big enough for exciting, multi-coloured 2 x 2 feet signs, so let's cover the whole village with unwanted adverts.

To a certain extent locally organised occasions; pantomime, garden club, antiques and farmers' market, are our responsibility, for our benefit and we usually remove all publicity traces of the event soon after it has ended – not so those from abroad, their signs and posters hang around for weeks – not long ago a Berden Fete poster was left out to dry for almost a year!

Parish Council members will tell you that any new sign needs the authority of the District Council and these 'permissions' are granted with great care so that a pleasant and well ordered village, like ours, doesn't suffocate under the weight of unsightly pieces of paper stuck-up at every street corner.

Does this complaint from a 'grumpy old person' have a seconder or are parishioners content with the sight of untidy, unlawful and unwanted notices on their bus shelters, traffic lights, etc., etc?

### **TO ALL DOG-WALKERS**

This is a plea to all dog-walkers using the pavements and footpaths in the parish – the problem of dog-mess is getting worse, so please be considerate and clear up after your dog so everyone can enjoy the local countryside.

**Do you have something to rant about?  
Get it off your chest here; it'll make you feel ever so much better!**

### **The Register**

**Sat 6 March 12 noon** **Baptism** of Florence Stella Iris Harris of Holly Tree Cottage, Bury Green

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

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

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

# March diary for Little Hadham and Albury

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

- 2 Tuesday** Lent Group soup and rolls at the Red House, High Street, Much Hadham.  
12.45pm Hosts Diana and Martin Dillon
- 6 Saturday** Lent Lunch at Bakers Cross, Much Hadham (Next to the Crown Pub)  
12.30pm Hosts Mr and Mrs Naughton
- 7 Sunday** **Lent 3**  
9.30am Matins at St Cecilia's, Little Hadham
- 9 Tuesday** Lent Group soup and rolls at the Red House, High Street, Much Hadham.  
12.45pm Hosts Diana and Martin Dillon
- 13 Saturday**  
12.30pm Lent Lunch at Brands Farm, Brands Lane. Hosts Penny and Vernon Taylor  
7.30pm Concert by the choir of Gonville & Caius College Cambridge at St Andrew's
- 14 Sunday** **Mothering Sunday**  
9.30am Shared Family Service at St Cecilia's, Little Hadham  
5.00pm Taizé Service at St Andrew's, Much Hadham
- 16 Tuesday** Lent Group soup and rolls at the Red House, High Street, Much Hadham.  
12.45pm Hosts Diana and Martin Dillon
- 20 Saturday**  
12.30pm Lent Lunch at Blakes, High Street, Much Hadham. Host Judy Waples.
- 21 Sunday** **Lent 5**  
8.00am Holy Communion at St Cecilia's, Little Hadham  
9.30am Village Hall Family Service  
6.00pm Evensong at St Mary's, Albury
- 25 Thursday**  
1.00pm Lent Lunch at "Regions" Bury Green. Host Mrs Gill Booty
- 28 Sunday** **Palm Sunday**  
11.15am Shared Communion at St Mary's, Albury  
6.00pm Evensong at St Cecilia's, Little Hadham
- April 1 Thursday** **Maundy Thursday**  
7.30pm Holy Communion at St Andrew's followed by supper at the Rectory
- April 2 Friday** **Good Friday**  
12 noon Ecumenical Procession of the Cross (starting from the priest's house, Malting Lane Much Hadham)  
1.00pm Veneration of the Cross (ecumenical) St Andrew's, Much Hadham  
1.30pm-3.00pm Meditation and music before the cross  
7.30pm Service of music and readings for Good Friday at St Mary's Furneux Pelham
- April 4 Sunday** **Easter Day**  
9.30am Parish Communion at St Cecilia's, Little Hadham