

*Little Hadham
Parish News
September 2010*

*** Please see important information on page 3 about new planning framework consultation *which will affect all local people.* ***



“Farewell, old friend. . .”

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

Letter from the Rectory

On Sunday September 19th Pope Benedict XVI will beatify Cardinal John Henry Newman in Crofton Park Birmingham, near to the place where Newman is buried and to Oscott College where he studied.

Most people, if they have heard of John Henry Newman, will probably associate him with the hymn, "Praise to the holiest"; or perhaps with the setting from whence it came, his poem the Dream of Gerontius, so powerfully set to music by Edward Elgar.

Cardinal Newman, who died in 1890, was one of the great theologians of the 19th century. For almost half his life he was an Anglican, for the rest he was a Roman Catholic. He contributed greatly to both Anglican and Roman Catholic thinking. But in terms of history, it is his conversion rather than his writings that is chiefly remembered. He was perhaps the most famous of all converts to Catholicism in 19th century England.

He was part of the so-called Tractarian or Oxford movement alongside Pusey and Keble; men who wanted above all to keep the Church of England as part of the universal Body of Christ. But whereas Pusey and Keble remained devout Anglicans, Newman made the painful decision to leave. In a famous sermon, preached at Littlemore Chapel in September 1843, he said goodbye. The sermon was called "The parting of friends". He was received into the Roman Catholic Church in 1845. Having been reordained, he joined the Congregation of the Oratory of St Philip Neri. Then in 1850 Pope Pius IX issued a Bull by which England was constituted an ecclesiastical province of the RC Church, under an Archbishop of Westminster and twelve Suffragan Bishops. It was a major step forward for the Catholic community in this country. Eventually Newman was received into the Sacred College of Cardinals by Pope Leo XIII in 1879.

Benedict XVI wrote of Newman: "The characteristic of a great doctor of the Church is that he teaches not only through thought and speech, but also by his life, because within him thought and life are interpenetrated and defined. If this is so, then Newman belongs to the great teachers of the Church, because at the same time he touches our hearts and enlightens our thinking."

As Anglicans we welcome Pope Benedict to this country and pray that his visit will be fruitful. Instead of a further parting of friends, I hope the visit will encourage closer friendship and ties between our two churches. Remembering that Newman was a son of both, I pray that his beatification will not be seen as a call to separation, but a continuing call to reconciliation, and that the progress we have made in ecumenism since Newman's day will continue ever stronger in our time. Jesus taught us: "You are my friends, if you do what I command you"; and that command was to love one another.

Chris Boulton.

Thank you Bryan!

The Parish News would like to say a heart-felt thankyou to Bryan Burton, who has been delivering the Parish News for many years. Indeed, for a long time Bryan had the largest bundle of all to deliver, covering both Church End and Hadham Hall. Now, however, he feels it is time to take a well-earned rest. Thank you again Bryan, and we wish you well!

EAST HERTS CORE STRATEGY - ISSUES & OPTIONS CONSULTATION

The Parish Council can report that East Herts is to launch a consultation to the community regarding how housing and other types of development (including employment, retail, and key infrastructure) will be dealt with in the future in East Herts.

By law the local planning authority is required to produce and keep up to date a Development Plan, setting out the Council's planning policies. The Core Strategy, as it is known, will determine how many homes will be built and the broad locations for development. In East Herts it is estimated that 8,500 new homes will be required to be built between now and 2031 - this number excludes any housing development north of Harlow. In order to support the new homes new infrastructure will also have to be built; schools, health care facilities, new business premises & places of employment.

Development – options range from concentrating development in the towns to dispersing it throughout all the villages. Therefore eventually it could even affect small villages & hamlets like ours! However, the Core Strategy will only contain the broad development strategy for the district: individual sites will be allocated in a later policy document, which will be the subject of a separate consultation.

With development comes growth - in population, traffic, pollution, noise, etc. How do you feel about LOCAL development? Make sure you make YOUR views known by filling in the questionnaire!

The Issues & Options consultation will last twelve weeks starting 2nd September 2010 - 25th November 2010. This will be YOUR opportunity to say how you feel about housing development in our part of the world. The consultation will consist of 43 questions covering the broad development strategy for the district (Chapter 3) and four questions relating specifically to the villages (Chapter 9). You can see all the consultation documents and quickly locate questions of interest to you at the Consultation Portal at <http://eastherts-consult.limehouse.co.uk>

The Parish Council urges all parishioners to take the opportunity to “get involved”. A Summary Leaflet (which includes a shortened version of the questionnaire) will be delivered to all residents and most business premises in East Herts. East Herts is pulling out all the stops in order to make the consultation and response to it as simple as possible. If you have any queries concerning how to respond to the consultation you can speak to the Planning Policy Team at East Herts Council on 01279 655261 or [email \[planningpolicy@eastherts.gov.uk\]\(mailto:planningpolicy@eastherts.gov.uk\)](mailto:planningpolicy@eastherts.gov.uk)

MAKE SURE YOU HAVE YOUR SAY ON LOCAL DEVELOPMENT - IT'S IMPORTANT!

PUBLIC NOTICE

Evangelical Fellowship of Congregational Churches, P.O. Box 24, Beverley, HU17 0YY

Trustees of Little Hadham Congregational Church, hereby give notice that certain gravestones in the Churchyard at Chapel Lane, Little Hadham will be moved to the side of the Church.

For further details contact J. Hockley, Piggotts Farm, Albury End, Ware, SG11 2HS by 30th September, 2010.

Parish Council News

The Book Exchange

is now fully up and running, so if you want to swap your Agatha Christie for a Zane Grey or a whodunnit for a Who's Who pay a visit to either of the telephone kiosks at The Ford or Bury Green and see what's on offer.

The idea is simple, take along any book that you've finished with and could be enjoyed by others, and swap with any other book on the shelves. There is no limit on how many times you can swap. All that we ask is that donated books are in reasonable condition.

The Book Exchange is one of the ideas put forward when the Parish Council was presented with the opportunity to adopt

the phone boxes after BT made them redundant.

Parish Council Meeting

For all parishioners who are interested please make sure you attend the Parish Council meeting on **Tuesday 7th September** (8pm Village Hall) as there will be a quick update from Don Gibson and Tony Skidmore, Little Hadham Conservation Society, regarding recent news of Gypsies and Travellers' proposed sites in the East Herts area. No doubt you will recall that there are two suggested sites relative to this proposition in Little Hadham. . .want to hear more? This is an important and pertinent subject so please make the time to come to the meeting.

Adverts removed

Rural Ramblings

by Cherry Mardell

Last month was a sad one for us. We lost our beloved Labrador, Daisy. The house seems so quiet without her. We miss her a hundred times a day. I am looking forward to the time Hubby says he is ready to take on another puppy. It can't come soon enough for me.

On the alpaca front, we also had a difficult time. Our second cria (baby alpaca) this summer was born two weeks ago. Mum, (Mulan the Spitter) started one evening – and then stopped. I was up early the following morning and sure enough, about mid-morning, a very small cria was born. Everything looked to be going OK, but after 30 minutes I realised things were far from normal.

A frantic call to the vet and her subsequent visit, showed that Mulan had prolapsed. I can speak lightly of it now, but at the time it was horrible and very frightening. Sufficient to say I now know more about the insides of an alpaca than I did and more than I ever want to see again. After some very hard work by the vet, Mulan's internal bits were safely restored to where they belonged...all this without the help of pain killers or the like. Mulan let out long mournful bleats, while I, dripping perspiration, held onto her legs to stop her from thrashing about while Hubby held onto her head.

Meanwhile, the little cria had to be bottle fed on life-saving powdered colostrum until her mother was able to take over the job herself. He is now a strapping young fellow, the exact colour of milky coffee...so he's been called Latte.

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Adverts removed

Thefts of lead in Albury and Little Hadham

In 2005 'the Ecclesiastical' which provides insurance cover for most churches in this country paid out approximately £300k for theft of lead from church roofs. By 2008 that figure had risen to £12m!

We kept our fingers crossed and hoped that in this relatively crime free part of the county, Little Hadham, the thieves would forget where we were. Sadly, we misjudged their tenacity and in 2008, over a period of eight weeks, the 'light fingered brigade' made two visits to St Mary's, Albury and one to St Cecilia's. The theft at St Cecilia's was relatively light and amounted to only a small area of lead on a rear roof. However, on their first visit to Albury the thieves ripped and cut away a five feet high irreplaceable and valuable decorative bronze railing which had adorned a grave monument there for more than 100 years. Their second attendance at St Mary's resulted in damage and theft of lead amounting to £30k of which the church had to find a substantial sum to line the roof with stainless steel (not lead this time for fear of a repeat performance).

Police and SOCOs (scenes of crime officers) searched diligently for clues and half way up a drainpipe outside Albury church discovered a fingerprint which matched that of a young man from Harlow. When questioned he admitted climbing to the roof of St Mary's – not the night when the theft occurred but on a previous occasion – and was waiting to see if there were any ghosts!

Many months were wasted whilst the CPS dithered and vacillated on the possibility that a jury might believe this unlikely story and acquit, but due to the perseverance of Albury's church warden, the young man was eventually arrested, charged with the second theft at St Mary's, and convicted. The

continued on next page

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**Advertise here and reach nearly 500
homes with your product or service.**

Farmers' Market News

Eight years after they set up the monthly Little Hadham Farmers' Market in the Village Hall, Brenda and Brian Kain have announced they are now ready to retire.

The first market was held in March 2002, and has since grown to become one of the largest and most successful markets of its type in the area offering a wide range of farm produce alongside locally-made foods and drink including bread, marmalades and jams, honey, cakes, sauces, apple juice and beer. Local crafts are also represented. Among their many innovations, in 2007 Brenda and Brian introduced cooked breakfasts at the market, using produce from the stallholders.

Brenda and Brian have now handed the reins to Jan and Geoff Williamson, who regular shoppers will know as the cook and waiter in the kitchen.

Despite the change of management it will be "business as usual" at the market, and Geoff and Jan look forward to welcoming customers old and new at the next market on **Saturday 28th August.**

Thefts of lead, continued from page 6

jury obviously had more common sense and life experience than that credited by the lawyers! The judge imposed a sentence of 200 hours Community Service (unpaid work) a six months' curfew (remain at home during prescribed hours) and to repay £2,400 to St Mary's. We will have to wait and see if all or any of that money is paid!

When these thefts first came to light much coverage was given by the Press but this report has been made available to the Parish News as there appears to be no mention of it in local newspapers.

Adverts removed

Say “Farewell” to an old friend!!

On 6th September work will start on the replacement of the bridge over The Ash at the traffic lights, the bridge that has stood there since the 1920s. It has to go, we are told, as, if it were to be hit by a runaway vehicle, the bridge would collapse throwing the vehicle into the river. Oh dear, how many of these have we witnessed since the 1920s to the present day? I



do not recall any in the last 35 years, does anyone else? I thought that was what the traffic lights were for. The only time there was a serious accident was when a sleeping lorry driver crashed into The Angel pub, the lorry was coming down the Standon Road. The Fairport Convention who were living there at the time wrote a song about it!

So now we are to have a new bridge with a “reinforced concrete core and a decorative brick facing, the new fence will have a steel core with a hardwood facing” - how much is all this going to cost when we are crying out for a bypass? The work is to be carried out at night to avoid disrupting the traffic; I hope the Parish Council Chairman has invested in earplugs and warned his neighbours.

So farewell old friend, one that features on so many old photographs of the village, is depicted on the hanging in St. Cecilia's church and has added a gracious, curvy elegance to our little village. It doesn't need Planning Permission to be demolished - so that's alright then? Perhaps Fairport Convention will write a lament for it.

Angela Fardell

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Cricket Club News

Little Hadham Cricket Club made the relatively short journey to Church Langley, Harlow to play Potter Street. Batting first the home side scored an impressive 279 for 8 off their 40 overs, with David Barnes taking 3 of the wickets to fall. This was always going to prove a challenging target and despite James Law scoring 112 not out, Hadham only reached 215 for 8, thereby losing by 64 runs.

The next match was the annual Ron Oxborrow memorial cup that is played between Little Hadham and Albury. Albury batted first and scored 254 for 8 off their 40 overs, with David Wheatley only conceding 13 runs off his 8 overs, whilst his brother Keith scored an unbeaten century for Albury. Hadham set about their task with a quick fire 37 from Paul Mason-Smith and this was followed by 59 from Alan South and 106 from James Law. This meant that Little Hadham passed the Albury total with 4 wickets to spare and thereby won the cup for the first time.

The following Sunday, Hadham entertained Manuden at Millfield lane. Batting first the visitors scored 215 for 7 with Paul Mason-Smith taking 3 wickets for 34 runs. In reply Hadham always struggled to keep up with the rate and despite 68 from James Law plus 61 from David Wheatley eventually lost by 62 runs.

The next match saw a short trip to Furneux Pelham where the home side batting first scored 215 for 10, with George Atkins taking 2 for 38 and Lewis Garrett taking a superb one handed catch (his first for the club) being the highlights of the Hadham fielding display. The Hadham

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Nature Notes: July – August

by Jonathan Forgham

A month of mixed weather conditions, with continuing hot days in July followed by welcome rain towards the latter stages of the period (18th July – 18th August).

On the ornithological side, there were the first signs of autumn, with a noted movement south of sand martins over Chapel Lane on 15th August. Also, on the 12th, over 40 swifts headed south over Bury Green. The drop in temperature convinced these summer migrants that it was time to head to sub-Saharan Africa. A survey visit around the parish on the 9th August



realised 36 species of birds, with highlights being a little owl at Cradle End, tawny owl near Bury Green, 4 bullfinches near Ford Hill and the sight of 26 Black Headed gulls entering Little Hadham airspace from the east. These will be birds returning to winter quarters having completed their breeding cycle. Other birds of note were sparrow hawk (19th July) common buzzard (23rd and after), 5 mandarin duck, (3rd) and 13 linnets (17th).

Insects continue to be present in large numbers, with the hawker dragonflies appearing in many areas of the parish.

These colourful insects take up a territory which they patrol vigorously and can be found near trees and hedgerows. A good site for them at present is the footpath leading to Muggin's Wood from The Ford where the photo above was taken. This specimen is a migrant hawker. Butterflies are ever present, with huge numbers of common

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Have Your Say!

East Herts Local Development Framework *Shaping Now, Shaping the Future*

Public Consultation: September 2 to November 25, 2010

East Herts Council will soon be consulting on its first planning document in the new Local Development Framework (LDF).

The **Core Strategy** document will set the vision and development strategy for the district to 2031. Importantly, the Core Strategy will not deal with specific sites.

The consultation itself is called **Issues and Options** and is structured around 43 questions. It is a discussion document and is not the final plan. This is your chance to have your say to shape the future of East Herts to 2031.

Every household in the district will receive a summary leaflet and questionnaire in Autumn LINK Magazine but you can also comment on the full consultation document at <http://eastherts-consult.limehouse.co.uk> or paper copies will be available to view at the Council's Offices in Hertford and Bishop's Stortford, and at public libraries and town council offices.

For further information please visit the website at www.eastherts.gov.uk/issuesandoptions or contact the Planning Policy Team on 01279 655261.

Adverts removed

What's on in September . . .

in the Village Hall unless otherwise stated

2, 16, 30 *Thur, Mobile Library.* Details on back page.

4 *Sat, Garden Club Show,* 2.30pm See p19.

7 *Tue, Parish Council meeting* 8pm. Update on Gypsy and Travellers' sites. Be there!

7 *Tue, BS Camera Club,* 7:45pm for 8, Hockerill Cricket Club, start of the new season. We would be pleased to welcome anyone interested in joining, of whatever standard.

9 *Thu, Isabel Hospice Annual Meeting* 7.30pm, Van Hage Garden Centre, Ware.

11 *Sat, MH Horticultural Soc Autumn Show,* See next page.

12 *Sun, Antiques Fair* 9.30-4pm Free entry with advert on page 5!

12 *Sun, Alswick Hall Plant Fair,* for Red Cross at Buntingford, SG9 0AA. 2-5pm Entry £3. This Tudor House with five acres of landscaped gardens is set in unspoiled farmland. It features two well-established natural ponds with rockeries, herbaceous borders, shrubs and roses plus a delightful knot garden and extensive dahlia beds.

14 *Tue, LH & Albury Social Club,* 8pm. Richard Maynard, the resident artist blacksmith at The Forge Museum, Much Hadham, will be talking to us about his skills. He will also bring items for sale, so think Christmas presents! Admission £1.50 including refreshments, and we always have a raffle. Everyone welcome.

16 *Thur, Way Inn* coffee morning. Details on back page.

18 *Sat, Jumble Sale,* Thundridge Village Hall 2.30-4.30, 20p entry. Come and grab some bargains. Details 01920 462992

19 *Sun, Chain Walk* 10-3pm 10th Anniversary of the Isabel Hospice Chain Walk. This year there are 2 new walks added to the already 17 strong walks which form a chain around

the area in which we care for people. Each led walk is circular with a break at a pub for lunch. Walks are between 8 and 12 miles in distance. A new shorter route will start at the Crooked Chimney in, Lemsford. Unlike the other routes lunch will be at the end of the walk. - approx 3.5 miles. Info please call Maria Alexander on 01707 382500

21 *Tue, BS Camera Club.* Talk by Andrew Hay from the RSPB (not about birds). An evening with a difference.

25 *Sat, Farmers' Market,* 8.30-11.30 Roll up, roll up! Plenty of bargains to be had, including Fresh seasonal vegetables, Soft fruits (in season), Perennial and annual plants, Apples, apple juice and cider, Pickles and condiments, Home made ready meals, Hand made chocolate, Dog Biscuits, Hand made pork pies and, of course, cooked to order farmhouse breakfasts made with produce from the stallholders

30 *Thur, Whist Drive,* 7.30pm £1 to play including scorecard, tea and biscuits at interval. Also large raffle. Further info can be obtained at our website www.whistdrive.org.uk

. . . and later

2, 3 *Oct Furneux Festival.* See next page.

3 *Oct Open Gardens* Bromley Hall Standon.

9 *Oct Harvest Supper.* See page 14.

9 *Oct Braughing Music Soc.* See next page.

16 *Oct Victorian Music Hall.* See next page.

19 *Oct Garden Club.* Aubrey Barker from Hopleys to talk on Berries and Bark.

21 *Nov Christmas Fayre* Hanbury Manor 10am, for Isabel Hospice.

2 *July 2011 St Cecilia's Day Concert* - a date for your diary! Info contact Don Gibson 771325 or Tony Skidmore 771688.

Braughing Music Society -

Classical Guitar Recital

The Williams Kelleher Duo

Saturday 9th October - 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

**Much Hadham Horticultural Society
and Allotment Club**

Autumn Show

Saturday 11th September

2.30pm - 4.30pm

Much Hadham Village Hall

*Come along and see beautiful cut flowers,
floral art, vegetables, planted
containers, cookery,
children's entries, crafts and more*

Everybody Welcome - Admission Free

*Raffle Refreshments include Karen's
delicious home-made cakes*

*(Entry forms or email entries to be
submitted by 8pm Wednesday 8th*

*September All exhibits to be on display in
Much Hadham Village Hall by 10.30am
11th September for judging)*

Thank you to everybody who donated to the Muscular Dystrophy Charity Golf day this year. I am pleased to say that we raised £1789 for the charity..

Alan Swann

Historic Churches Sponsored Bike Ride

Saturday 11th Sept. Our usual team of four from Hadham Hall, (Steve, Robin, Dimitri and Tony S) and Peter English will be setting forth rain or shine to ride round some 32 Churches in the Bishop's Stortford area - what they need is your sponsor support. Pledges of support contact Tony Skidmore 01279 771688 or Lynda English on 01279 842094 -Thanks.



Furneux Festival 2010

Saturday 2nd and Sunday 3rd October

A weekend of fun and entertainment in the beautiful village of Furneux Pelham

Live music in the church - Country store - Floral displays and Photographic competition
Craft stalls - Classic cars - Art exhibition
Football tournament - Dog show- Scarecrow competition - BBQ -Beer tent - Live music - Tombola - Pony and carriage rides.

For details visit www.furneuxfestival.com

**The Slap & Tickle Players Proudly
Present...**

'A Little of What You Fancy!'



**A Victorian Music Hall
Extravaganza**

**On Saturday 16th October
2010 (1 Night Only)**

In Standon Village Hall

At 7:45 pm

(Adults Only)

Licensed Bar/ Refreshments/ Raffle

**Tickets £10 each (from Standon Post Office)
or ring Denis 01279 - 842625**



**Extra Parking in Paper Mill Lane
(All Proceeds to the Village Hall fund)**

Rural Ramblings continued from page 5

Mulan has made a good recovery although she will not be able to have any more cria. Chances of a successful pregnancy are too slim to take chances.

Meanwhile two strapping stud males visited two of our females this week to earn their keep. And, hopefully, in eleven and a half months' time, we'll have two more little ones to complete my hoped-for herd of ten.

At the time of writing, we're still hoping to salvage our wheat. The long hot summer ended in heavy rain last week – just as it should have been harvested. Now we play the waiting game – for a few days of dry, hot weather to turn our soggy crop into dry saleable corn. Who would be a farmer!

Harvest Supper Saturday 9th October

Village Hall 7pm for 7.30pm.

Priced at £7.50 a head, tickets for this year's Harvest Supper in the Village Hall are now on sale, available from Frank Green on 771532.

Book your seat early, as tickets will be limited!

Adverts removed

SSE Calendars

The Hadhams have been chosen to feature in the 2011 Community Calendar which goes on sale in September in aid of Stop Stansted Expansion (SSE).

The full colour A3 calendar provides a powerful daily reminder of the communities, countryside and heritage which lie in the shadow of Stansted Airport and of the need to remain vigilant against the expansion threat. Each month features a different village (or adjoining villages) with three beautiful pictures. The cover features a spectacular picture of a bluebell wood in Much Hadham.

Now in its ninth year, the Community Calendar has become an established part of life for many people as a symbol of determination to preserve the heritage and community life which makes the area so special. All proceeds go to continuing the work of SSE as it seeks long term safeguards against the expansion threat and its work to contain the impacts of the airport's current operations.

The calendars cost £6 each and will be sold at various outlets as well as door to door and by mail order.

Details of all local sales points will shortly be published on SSE's website at [www. stopstanstedexpansion.com](http://www.stopstanstedexpansion.com) but in the meantime the details are available from Stop Stansted Expansion's Campaign Office on 01279 870558.

Adverts removed

Cricket Club News, continued from page 9

reply struggled to keep up with the required rate and finishing on 132 for 8 (Tom Radley 42 not out) this meant the match was lost by 83 runs.

SEPTEMBER FIXTURES

Sunday 5th	Reed	Home	1.00pm
Saturday 11th	Chrishall	Away	1.00pm
Sunday 12th	North Weald	Home	1.00pm
Sunday 19th	Barley	Home	1.00pm
Saturday 25th	Hockerill	Home	1.00pm
Sunday 26th	Nazeing Common	Home	1.00pm

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 even 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 01279 771033 or Neil Oxborrow 01279 506062 for more details. In addition the cricket club now has its own website and this can be found at <http://littlehadham.play-cricket.com>. The website contains details of all of the club's fixtures and will include club news as we go through the season.

Adverts removed

Nature Notes, continued from page 10

blues being found feeding on the nectar of greater knapweed, especially around the polo fields. Also, red admirals are now evident along with the more common large and small whites and the less readily seen green veined white. A butterfly that is not recorded everyday within the parish was a holly blue, found on Brick Kiln Hill on the 15th. Another insect, not commonly seen, was a hornet, found at Ash Valley Golf Club, shown here.



A morning plant survey along Acremore Street to Millennium Wood via Hoecroft Lane proved most worthwhile, with several new species being registered. A stand of Agrimony was found at the top of Ford Hill whilst Bristley Ox Tongue was growing well on Millfield Lane. Moths are prevalent at the moment and an evening wander will provide observers with good views of them feeding on nectar-giving plants as well as being attracted to lights. The two species depicted here are a small waved umber (top) and a ruby tiger, both found on the wall of the Nag's Head.



A nature walk on the 15th, from the Village Hall to Standon and back, was most pleasant. Birds were a little scarce, but a juvenile buzzard called from its nest and a grey heron was seen in a Westland Green garden. Hawker dragonflies showed well along with a good variety of butterflies. All footpaths offered aspects of natural history interest, with autumnal fruits already ripe. The earliest blackberries I have known for many years. Also found, was a good variety of fungi, with plenty of field mushrooms ready to pick. Excellent for a tasty breakfast.

Adverts removed

Down at the Doctor's

An unusual incident happened at Much Hadham surgery since I last wrote.

One baking hot day towards the end of July, around lunchtime, a large and old looking tortoise wandered through the front doors. He hadn't phoned beforehand; nor did he have an appointment and morning surgeries had long since ended. I suspected foul play; maybe someone from the PCT in disguise or one of Dr Brookbank's practical jokes. Anyway, we popped him in a box, gave him some lettuce (what caring folk we are!) and put up some notices in the surgery and Londis. Lo and behold by mid-afternoon the 60yr old Toby had been re-united with his owner and all was well.

On a more serious note, I am delighted to announce that Dr Nathalie Oates will become a partner in the practice from 1st September. She first joined us 8yrs ago on the GP retainer scheme, designed to allow doctors with young families to work a few sessions each week in order to "keep their hand in" until they feel able return to work on a permanent basis. A lot of you know Dr Oates already and will hopefully agree that she will be an asset to the practice.

I am also pleased to say that the early mornings and Saturday surgeries have got off to a good start. You may well have seen either Dr Conway or me tucking into our porridge between 8 and 8:30 on either a Tuesday or Thursday whilst trying to recover from the inhumane 7am start.roll on the cold, dark mornings!

Paul Haimes

Adverts removed

Little Hadham & Albury Social Club

Our August meeting was a social occasion and those who braved the rain, that had fallen on and off all day, got up to date with the trip to Elton Hall on Monday, 23rd August and then enjoyed table games and a quiz, organised by Barbara. We are a Social Club and it was a pleasant evening, giving us time to catch up and chat.

On 14th September Richard Maynard, the resident artist blacksmith at The Forge Museum, Much Hadham, will be talking to us about his skills. He will also bring items for sale, so think Christmas presents! We meet at 8pm, admission £1.50 including refreshments, and we always have a raffle. Everyone welcome so we look forward to seeing old friends and new.

Little Hadham & Albury Garden Club

If you get this before the 1st September it isn't too late to get your entry in for the Autumn Show which is on Saturday 4th September; ring Karin Green 771532. If you have entered make sure your entries are in place by 10.00am, which is when the judging starts. The show is open to the public at 2.30pm, please come along and admire the Flowers, Vegetables, Cakes and Chutneys and treat yourself to a home made cake and cup of tea from the refreshment bar. Would all last year's cup holders return their cups to Karin Green.

Our trip to Bressingham on Saturday 18th September has a few places left; phone Barbara on 771987 for more details. Also for anyone already booked on the trip Barbara would love to have your money. The coach will leave the Village Hall car park at 9.00am.

The next Club night is on Tuesday 19th October when Aubrey Barker from Hopleys will give a talk on Berries and Bark.

Adverts removed

Why 'Editor'?

Have you ever wondered why an Editor is so called? The answer appeared in the Illustrated London News on 30th January 1847 and is reproduced here for your education at no extra cost.

Because of the constant anxiety about deadlines and about the amount of blank space to be filled, Editors can often be seen slapping their foreheads with their hands. Hence the term 'Head-hitter', which in those parts of the country where aitches are dropped became corrupted in due course to 'editor'.

- Two antennae met on a roof, fell in love and got married. The ceremony wasn't much, but the reception was excellent.
- A set of jump leads walk into a bar. The bartender says, 'I'll serve you, but don't start anything.'
- A man walks into a bar with a slab of asphalt under his arm, and says: 'A beer please, and one for the road.'
- Two cannibals are eating a clown. One says to the other: 'Does this taste funny to you?'
- 'Doc, I can't stop singing 'The Green, Green Grass of Home.' 'That sounds like Tom Jones Syndrome.' 'Is it common?'' 'Well, It's Not Unusual.'

I've got dozens more like that. If you can't bear it, how about writing a short piece to stop me? Half a page would do, or even less. All contributions considered! - Ed.

Adverts removed

Useful phone numbers

Citizens' Advice Bureau, East Herts District 08744 848 9700

Environment Agency Incident Line:

0800 807060

Fireworks hotline: Jan Finn, 771113

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, 0800 376 5325

Adverts removed

It's yours, and all free!

from Barbara Taylor (BT?)



Little Hadham possibly has one of the smallest libraries you will ever see. Have you visited your very own book borrowing emporium? Please note you may take away any book to read and return it when you have finished – but you will have to provide your own seat and mug of tea if you wish to read it in the 'library' (phone box). If you prefer a slightly larger library – with seats, drinks and meals, visit 'The Nag's Head' as they provide a similar book borrowing service.



::STOP PRESS::

Since writing the above article re. the telephone box library, a neighbour has seen children taking ALL the books away in a black plastic bag. They were followed to the field opposite the village hall and challenged. There was no apparent intention to return any of the books. It was pointed out that this was a facility for anybody in the village to borrow and return any book. The response was quite hostile from the children. If you think these may be your children please explain what we are trying to do here. We are all for children reading books and would encourage **borrowing** from this asset.

Adverts removed

Diary of a Pantomime Dame

Hello Possums!!

Oooh I'm so excited because we are having our first social event of the new panto season on 5th September; a Bar-Bee-Que!

We have one every year but this time we are also having the very first panto group golf society event in the morning at Great Hadham Golf Club, courtesy of Mr Ian Bailey (he's the one who played the scary Indian, Running Bear, in the last production!). In order to improve my chances of winning I think I'll wear the cowgirl outfit from my extensive wardrobe (other dresses may impede my swing) and then I can play off the ladies' tees!

And don't forget, the first rehearsal, where we just read through the script, is at Little Hadham Village Hall at 8pm on **Thursday 9th September**. All those interested will be most welcome. Those numbers again; 01279 843235 or 07905 222358

Books bagged

Regarding the phone box book swap shop I have found three children taking all of the books from the phone box these children had taken all the books and had them in a black bag this is not why people have left the books there!

Laura Katie Brain

Adverts removed

September diary for Little Hadham and Albury

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

5 Sunday

Trinity 14 (Proper 18)

9.30am

Matins at St Cecilia's, Little Hadham

12 Sunday

Trinity 15 (Proper 19)

9.30am

Shared Communion at St Cecilia's, Little Hadham

19 Sunday

Trinity 16 (Proper 20)

8.00am

Holy Communion at St Cecilia's, Little Hadham

9.30am

Little Hadham Village Hall Service

26 Sunday

Trinity 17 (Proper 21)

11.15am

Harvest Festival 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

There have been no entries in the Register this month

“Seated one day at the organ. . .”

Within the very near future St Cecilia's Church will have a vacancy for an organist to cover Sunday services, choir practice and seasonal religious events - Christmas etc.

Knowledge of Church of England musical styles and procedures would be an asset. A PNC enquiry may also be required.

Please apply to Revd Chris Boulton or the church wardens. (Details on front cover.)

2nd, 16th, 30th September Mobile Library

Nag's Head from 1345 - 1405

The Smithy from 1410 - 1430

Bury Green from 1445 - 1505

A fortnightly service.

The 'Way Inn'

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

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

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

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