

Little Hadham Parish News

November 2010

HALLOWEEN PARTY

Little Hadham Primary School

Saturday 30th October 2010
at
Little Hadham Village Hall
6.00pm - 8.00pm

**DISCO &
GAMES**

Children of all ages welcome
Costumes encouraged

**Family Ticket
£10**

Contact Jules or Traci at the school for tickets
or you can pay at the door on the night

Rector of Parish: Revd. Chris Boulton
01279 842609

e-mail: rectory@muchhadham.com

Asst. Priest: Revd. Clive Slaughter
01279 844955

e-mail: cp.slaughter@virgin.net

Churchwardens: Don Gibson 01279 771325, Tony Skidmore 01279 771688

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

Letter from the Rectory

A good news story is always welcome amidst all the doom and gloom of normal reporting; and the release of the Chilean miners from their underground prison has gladdened the hearts of people all over the world. We imagine what a hell it must have been, trapped for months in a hot and dusty tomb; not knowing if you will live or die. In one sense it has been a small and insignificant event in the history of humanity; but it touched on a narrative of courage against the odds and physical endurance; and so struck a chord across the world. We were proud that human ingenuity had been able to overcome massive natural challenges: and yet how much better it would have been to have made the mine safe in the first place.

One of the things that contributed to the survival of the miners was their faith. Many, if not all, were quite willing to say that their Christian faith and prayer helped them in time of need. They spoke of emerging in the light as it were like being born again. However the miners' ordeal has not ended and their faith will be tested; they will undergo many stresses and psychological dangers in the coming months and years, perhaps even greater than they have been through already. It is the testimony of many who have experienced the trauma of war and other disasters that afterwards comes the greater test, of living again a so-called normal life. Many struggle for years, even all their lives, to deal with their past and move into the future. This is something our soldiers and personnel who have fought in Iraq and Afghanistan and their families know only too well. Young soldiers coming home from Afghanistan have spoken about their own particular hot and dusty hell. Their safe return home must be like being born again; yet many will have to return to that hell and once more risk their lives. In such circumstances faith is tested to the limit; and who would blame those who let go of faith in a loving God? But when that faith is held, such faith is more precious than fine gold.

Organisations such as "Help for Heroes" have done a wonderful job in raising the profile of those who have returned injured from the war zones; and once again during November we shall be remembering all who have fought in wars around the globe, and supporting the British Legion in their good work. We can help to put people's lives together again; and yet how much better it would have been to have prevented the wars in the first place.

Chris Boulton

Make your purchases count

Waitrose, Bishop's Stortford have put forward **The Albury Art and Craft show** (which is on 13th and 14th November) into their Community Matters scheme. This is great publicity for the show plus it will hopefully help raise some funds.

If you or any of your friends shop in Waitrose or would just pop in to buy a newspaper, could you please put a counter into our cause.

This year's show is raising funds for electrical work at St Mary's Church and towards renewing our very sad children's playground equipment at the Albury Village Hall. Any support would be very welcome, we would also love to see you at the show on the 13th and 14th November – 11.00 - 4.00 at our Village Hall.

Many thanks

Parish Council News

E. Herts Local Development Plan

Mike Carver (Executive Member Planning Policy & Transport East Herts Council) attended October's meeting and gave a talk. He encouraged us all in the community to give our view point on 'local development between now and 2031'. Parishioners will, no doubt, be aware that the future need for housing is great; it is estimated that the 8,500 houses proposed will not be enough to cover future local demand. How do you feel about local housing development and all that goes with it? Where do you think the extra houses should be built – in the big towns? In the big villages? Scattered around all the towns and villages? You can send your viewpoint either by letter to East Herts or go on line and complete the questionnaire by 25th November 2010 - <http://eastherts-consult.limehouse.co.uk>. The Parish Council will submit its response shortly after November's meeting.

Ashcroft Farm

As the Ashcroft Farm development nears completion we are pleased to report that the two affordable houses for rent to local families are now allocated and that the remainder of the houses are up for sale. As far as the matter of the parcel of land promised to the school is concerned this is not running smoothly at all; the county council is dragging its heels over the matter and making all involved very frustrated. We hope to report better news next month following yet another meeting to be held shortly.

Well Done Jono!

Congratulations to Parish Councillor Jonathan Forgham; he has at long last been successful in securing the funding for the publication of his book covering the natural history/biodiversity of our parish. Eventually the book

will be sold locally and in town, with all costs involved in publication being covered by the grant. This is great news for our community because ALL profits from the sale of the book will go towards future Little Hadham Parish Plan Group events. Thank you Jono for all your hard work; we wish you every success – you deserve it!

Works to bridge over the Ash

"The sooner it's over the better" – let's just hope for reasonable weather and you never know the works might just be completed on schedule. There have been many concerns over pedestrian safety, lots of problems with rat-running, extra traffic. etc. Herts Highways tried to convince us that there would be "very little disruption" – they could not have been more wrong. At least walking to school should be a little easier as the bridge works have moved to the other side and the pavement on the south side of the bridge is reopen. Only umpteen more weeks to go – as always watch this space for more news.

Damage to War Memorial

There's good news and bad news on this particular topic! The bad news is that the wall surrounding the War Memorial has suffered several more impacts delivered to it by drivers rat-running trying to avoid the hold up at the traffic lights. The work required now is quite substantial. This is frustrating news to say the least especially after so much money and effort was put towards making it look superb for last year's Remembrance Sunday. The good news is that the parishioner who is to carry out the work is not fazed by the additional work and it is promised that the work will be complete in time for this year's ceremony in November.

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2011 Census – can you help?

As you may be aware, the 2011 Census is fast approaching. Taking place on the 27 March next year the census will provide an accurate snapshot of life in England and Wales. Information from the census is used to make important decisions around future policies, planning, services and funding for local communities.

Recruitment is now under way for over 35,000 temporary part-time and full-time vacancies to help make the census a success and it's important we get the right people to make sure every community is properly represented.

We thought these jobs might be of interest and we are hoping you can help by spreading the word about the vacancies and directing local people to our dedicated recruitment site:

www.censusjobs.co.uk

Recruitment for the following roles will take place this year, with more vacancies becoming available next year:

- *Census Co-ordinators: lead and motivate a team of up to 15 field staff (recruitment started from 20 September 2010)*
- *Special Enumerators: deliver questionnaires to organisations such as care homes, hotels, prisons etc. and collect completed forms (recruitment started from 4 October 2010)*
- *Census Collectors: contact householders to collect completed census questionnaires and assist where required (recruitment starts from 1 November 2010)*

continued on next page

Adverts removed

2011 Census, continued

You can help us in a number of ways, such as:

- Apply for a role by visiting www.censusjobs.co.uk
- Display information on your notice boards (a small number of posters and postcards are available on request)
- Publish articles in relevant publications
- Email interested staff, group members, family and friends
- Provide links from your website to www.censusjobs.co.uk
- Follow us on Facebook and Twitter

School News

We enjoyed our Harvest Celebration in St Cecilia's where the children sang their harvest tributes beautifully. I would like to thank everyone as £214 was raised towards OXFAM Unwrapped Gifts. Hopefully, we will be seeing you at our **Christmas Bazaar** on Sunday 5th Dec., 12-3pm. Lots of stalls are being organised and Santa is refurbishing his grotto especially! Senior Citizens are invited to our KS1 Nativity Dress Rehearsal and refreshments on Monday 6th Dec. at 10am and the Dress Rehearsal of 'Carols Around the Tree' at 2pm on Monday 13th Dec. On Wednesday 15th Dec. we are holding our 'Carols by Candlelight' Service in St Cecilia's at 6.30pm. which is a very special way to celebrate Christmas. Hope to see some of you there. For those of you with pre-school children, may I remind you of our Thursday morning 'Mini Movers' Club and Wednesday afternoon 'Musical Minis'.

Thank you for your continued support.

Liz Stockley

Adverts removed

Sign up to Hertfordshire Constabulary's new 'Community Messaging' and stay in touch with your local police service – **Hear it Direct from Us !**

Community Messaging uses the award-winning Online Watch Link (OWL) to send regular news to anyone with a Hertfordshire home, or work, postal address.

It is a fast, straight forward and accurate way to give you direct information about how we are policing the county and about policing in your own neighbourhood.

Living or working in such a safe county, you may not feel the need for more information about policing but you may be interested to hear about a local issue that's been dealt with, such as reducing dangerous driving near a local school, or about offensive graffiti that's been cleared up or even to hear about opportunities in your area to meet and chat to one of your Neighbourhood officers.

After signing up, you will receive one or two messages a fortnight. Simply input your name, address and contact details on line at 'Community Messaging – Hear it Direct from Us' on www.herts.police.uk .

If you are also interested in receiving information from your county council, delivered direct to your inbox, please visit www.hertsdirect.org/emailalerts for more information or to subscribe.

**Hear it
direct
from us**

**Community
Messaging**

Adverts removed

Down at the doctor's

I am delighted to announce that Dr McBay, after a short and relatively pain-light labour, gave birth to a 7lb7oz baby boy, Oliver Gregory, at 3:30am on 13th October. If anyone wishes to send a card, please drop it into the surgery and we will make sure she receives it.

Another exciting development in recent weeks has been the possibility of extending the health centre to include two new consulting rooms. We have a provisional grant, subject to certain conditions, from our friends at the PCT and the extension will hopefully allow us to develop certain "in house" services such as counselling and physiotherapy. We are still at the early stages but a planning application has been submitted and I will keep you informed.

Flu jabs are in, albeit a little later than usual and extra clinics, some on Saturday mornings, are being set up. Please phone for details.

**ALBURY
ART & CRAFT SHOW**



13TH AND 14TH NOVEMBER
11.00 – 4.00 BOTH DAYS

GREAT CHRISTMAS GIFT IDEAS
RAISING FUNDS FOR ALBURY VILLAGE

Adverts removed

Little Hadham & Albury Garden Club

In September the Bressingham trip was a fantastic day out – the sun shone all day and the grounds were beautiful. A good time was had by all.

November is hard work in the garden so see how many jobs you can tick off – digging, leaf clearance (make some leaf mould by putting the leaves in black plastic bags, put a few holes in the sides with your fork and stack away in a corner for a year – two if they are oak leaves), dividing large perennials, last planting of daffodils, narcissus bulbs and crocus corms, lag outside taps before you get caught by the frosts, plant some garlic (they will be ready to harvest at the end of July) and a general tidy up of the garden. Then it is time to sit back and plan next year.

Our next meeting is on Tuesday 16th November 7.45pm for 8pm at Little Hadham Village Hall and it is on “Plants of the Southern Hemisphere” by Mr R Carlsberg.

Our club supper is on Saturday 27th November. Tickets available from Karin Green, 771532, and Barbara Taylor, 771987.

Much Hadham Horticultural Society and Allotment Club

*will be holding their AGM/Social Evening **Friday 26th November** 8pm in Much Hadham Village Hall. The evening will include presentation of certificates to cup winners followed by a talk entitled ‘The History of Much Hadham’ by Bryan Smalley.*

Come along and enjoy a glass of wine, home-made mince pies and nibbles

ALL WELCOME

Adverts removed

BAA should accept court verdict and sell Stansted

Issued by Stop Stansted Expansion 13 October 2010

Stop Stansted Expansion (SSE) has called on BAA to accept today's ruling by Lord Justice Maurice Kay in the Court of Appeal and sell Stansted Airport without further delay. Welcoming today's decision by the Court of Appeal, SSE Economics Adviser Brian Ross commented: "We urge BAA to accept the Court of Appeal's decision and relinquish control of Stansted without any more delaying tactics, such as an appeal to the Supreme Court. It may be in BAA's commercial interests to try to delay the inevitable for as long as possible but creating further uncertainty would not be in the interests of either the local community or the airport's employees."

This is the latest step in a long running saga which began in 2006 when the Office of Fair Trading launched a market study into BAA's dominant position in the UK airports market. There followed a two year study by the Competition Commission (CC) which concluded (in March 2009) that BAA should sell Gatwick and Stansted and either Edinburgh or Glasgow. BAA has since sold Gatwick but for the past 18 months it has been embroiled in protracted legal proceedings where it has been challenging the CC ruling in respect of Stansted and Edinburgh/Glasgow.

Mr Ross concluded: "A change of ownership at Stansted Airport would at least create the prospect of establishing a meaningful and constructive dialogue between the airport management and the local community – something which BAA were never prepared to engage in. There is, of course, always the risk that the new owner could be worse than the devil we already know but in this particular case we believe that risk is extremely small."

The Court of Appeal refused BAA's application to appeal to the Supreme Court although BAA can seek to have this refusal overturned.

Adverts removed

Rural Ramblings

by Cherry Mardell

I know I am not alone in saying there is little to commend getting older. October has, for me, been one long month of doctors, dentists, hospital visits, flu jabs and repeat prescriptions .

Just this weekend I had close contact with a being from hell. To give it its proper title, I had to wear a blood pressure monitor for a solid 24 hours. Some of you, I am sure, have already experienced it. For me, it was a first.

The band is strapped to your arm while the battery operated monitor is secured round your waist. And, officially, it should take your blood pressure every half hour.

Mine was more temperamental. Sometimes my arm was squeezed alarmingly on the half hour. Other times it happened every 15 minutes. Sometimes, as if to further my pain, it would give me a double whammy within minutes. Occasionally it would bleep before and after the pressure was taken, while at other times it would say nothing, and before I had time to drop my arm to my side (doctor's orders) my arm was being blown up to a degree I didn't know was possible. No doctor has EVER inflated that armband to the degree the machine did!

The wee small hours were an even worse nightmare. The monitor was stored under my pillow, but this gave it extra power to whirr away in my ear before each gripping experience. Each time I would just doze off minutes before the next pump-up happened.

As the following day wore on I got to counting how many more pumps I had to bear before the fiendish thing came off – which it did, exactly 24 hours after I was first attached to it.

I returned it to the hospital with a note describing its volatile nature, and ended up saying "Perhaps it needs a check up". They were not amused!

Adverts removed

Little Hadham & Albury Social Club

At our October meeting Marigold Hodge and Stephanie Stroud, who I am sure most of you will know, spoke to us of the need for Grove Cottage in Bishop's Stortford.

Grove Cottage is an organisation to help and support children and adults who have special educational needs. Though they come under the Mencap flag, they get no financial support from them, therefore funding is a huge problem. The nursery can take ten children but is the only specialised nursery in the Herts., Essex and Suffolk area. Club evenings are held for the older members. A Grove Cottage 200 Club is now available. The subscription is £3 per month, with a monthly draw of £300 once there are 200 members – we have membership forms to enable you to join. £1,000 per week is needed to run Grove Cottage, so please seriously consider the 200 Club. Please put Grove Cottage on your support list and help our neighbours.

On **9th November**, Jonathan Forgham will again give his yearly overview of natural history in the area, plus tell us of his recent trip to The Camargue, with photographs. Everyone is welcome, refreshments included in the admission fee of £1.50, plus take a chance on the raffle and browse through our charity books.

For information tel. 771580 or 658585.

Barbara, Binnie and Ennis.

Harvest Supper

Karin and Hilary would like to thank everyone who helped to make the Harvest Supper such a great success. From the sponsors of the raffle, the apple crumble cooks, the band and the bar, to the young ladies doing the washing up, it was a wonderful evening raising £254.48 for the charity Fruits of Justice. Thank you too to everyone who bought tickets and supported us.

Adverts removed

What's on in November ...

in the Village Hall unless otherwise stated

2 Tue Parish Council 8pm.

6 Sat Secondhand Book Sale for Stop Stansted Expansion. 5000 good quality secondhand books at the Old School House by the Four Ashes Crossroads, Takeley, 9.30am – 3pm. Most will be priced at 50p for paperbacks and £1 for hardbacks. Wrapping service available for those in really fine condition – or from the rarer editions section – if you'd like to offer them as gifts. More information is available from SSE on 01279 870558 or info@stopstanstedexpansion.com.

9 Tue LH & A Social Club, Jonathan Forgham will tell us of natural history in the area, and of his recent trip to The Camargue, with photographs. Everyone is welcome, refreshments included in the admission fee of £1.50, plus take a chance on the raffle and browse through our charity books.

10 Wed The Local History of the Hadhams, 8-9pm "Roman Pottery Kilns 200-400AD at Bromley Hall Farm" An illustrated talk to be given by Chris Lydamore, from Harlow Museum. Tea and biscuits in the interval. Sponsored by Lt.Hadhams Parish Plan Group.

11-13 "Ladies Day", a play by Sawbridgeworth Players at Victoria Hall Theatre, Old Harlow. Info. 07966 885 227. See page 16.

11, 25 Thur Mobile Library see across >

13, 14 Albury Arts & Craft Show 11 - 4pm

14 Sun Antiques Fair 9.30 - 4pm Free entry with advert on next page. Hot food available.

16 Tue LH & A Garden Club, 7.45 for 8pm "Plants of the Southern Hemisphere" by Mr R Carlsberg.

18 Thur The Way Inn see across >

18 - 20 "Mixed Doubles", See page 20.

26 Fri MH Horticultural Society AGM, 8pm in MH Village Hall. Details on page 8.

27 Sat Farmers' Market 8.30 - 11am

27 Sat St Elizabeth's Christmas Bazaar, 1pm-4pm. This is a popular annual event for early Christmas shoppers! Bring your children to meet Santa and try their luck on some of the many game stalls. Get together with friends and enjoy some the homemade refreshments that will be on offer. Free entry, everyone welcome!

27 Sat Garden Club Supper. Tickets from Karin Green 771532 and Barbara Taylor. 771987

30 Tue "There goes the Bride", a farce. Sadleir Drama Club, Standon Village Hall, 8pm. Tickets £6 from Standon Post Office. **Also on 2nd 3rd and 4th December.**

... and after that?

Dec 4 **SSE Celebratory Party**. Tickets (£10) must be booked in advance, include supper with licensed pay-bar. Info. 01279 870558.

Dec 4 **Braughing Music Soc**. See poster p13.

Dec 5 **music@stansted**, 3pm, St John's, Stansted. Future concerts are on 30 January and 12 March. Info: www.musicatstansted.com

The "Way Inn" coffee morning

Come along and meet friends and neighbours over a cup of tea or coffee.

Third Thursday of the month
10.00am until 12 noon in the Village Hall
(Rear entrance of village hall, by Post Office)

11th & 25th November Mobile Library

Nag's Head from 13.45 - 14.05

The Smithy from 14.10 - 14.30

Bury Green from 14.45 - 15.05

This is a fortnightly service.

Braughing Music Society -

Candlelit Concert

**Music for Advent and Christmas
with carols for audience
participation**

The Fairhaven Singers

**Saturday 4th December - 7:30 pm
St Mary's Church, Braughing**

TICKET PRICES

£12 Premium; £10 Standard; £8 restricted view
£12 at the door

Telephone Box Office: 01763 289073

www.braughingmusicsociety.co.uk

Adverts removed

'Excavations at Bromley Hall Farm' 10th November, 8pm

An illustrated talk by Chris Lydamore from Harlow Museum. Tea and biscuits will be available during the interval.

Large scale organised production of pottery in the Hadhams area began in the Iron Age/early Roman period, and developed into what we might consider as a site producing on an industrial scale. This continued until the end of the Roman occupation. Peak production was reached in the 3rd and 4th centuries AD when Hadham and Hadham type potteries were a major local supplier. These products can often account for 75%, or more, of the pottery recovered from local Roman sites. Although the majority of Hadham products were utilitarian coarse wares, the majority of the product range also included fine wares, mortaria, Roman-Saxon wares and local copies of imported "samian ware". The importance of Hadham products has for many years been overshadowed by other large scale Romano-British production sites such as those in the Nene Valley. The overall significance and scale of the Hadham pottery is now gaining wider recognition

Using original photographs and illustrations, Chris Lydamore will present an outline of the archaeological excavations carried out at Bromley Hall farm during the 1960s under the direction of Bernard Barr. This will be followed by a brief discussion of some of the issues relating to these Hadham products, which later excavations and research currently present. Chris is hoping to bring along a couple of museum volunteers. They are both experienced local archaeologists who have spent a considerable amount of time looking at and working with Hadham Ware. He is keen to promote and progress the study of Roman pottery and Hadham Ware in particular. They will be very pleased to examine any samples which you might bring along with you, and to try to help identify any sherds of pottery that have been found locally. If, by the end of the evening, audience members have developed an "appetite" for all things Roman, there will be a small selection of simple Roman recipes to take away.

Adverts removed

NATS postpones airspace changes yet again

Issued by Stop Stansted Expansion 15 October 2010

Stop Stansted Expansion (SSE) has welcomed the announcement this week [13 October] by National Air Traffic Services (NATS) of a further postponement of its plans to introduce new flight paths and stacking areas for the Terminal Control North (TCN) area.

NATS originally intended to introduce the airspace changes in 2008 but the scale of the public outcry across Essex, Hertfordshire, Suffolk and Cambridgeshire following the publication of the proposed new flight paths and stacking areas convinced NATS that it needed to go back to the drawing board. Revised proposals were due to be published in October 2009 but this was subsequently changed to October 2010. In announcing this latest postponement NATS has not given a revised date but hints that it will be at least two to three years before any new proposals are tabled.

In explaining this latest postponement, NATS pointed to the recent downturn in air travel, as a result of which there is less urgency on capacity grounds to achieve the changes. UK air traffic levels are not expected to return to their (peak) 2007 levels until at least 2013/14.

When flight paths and stacking areas are moved there are always winners and losers but the changes proposed by NATS in 2008 would have imposed far more overflying upon rural communities including many areas which had not previously been affected by flight paths or stacking areas. Bishop's Stortford and Saffron Walden would both have been hit hard by proposed new departure routes and, further afield, two new stacking areas were proposed

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Adverts removed

Sawbridgeworth Players invite you to attend – “Ladies Day”

a play by Amanda Whittington, directed by Sue Warren. Thursday 11th to Saturday 13th November at Victoria Hall Theatre, Bury Road, Old Harlow. Curtain up at 8pm

So you work in a processing factory in Hull, all day spent up to your arms in fish, literally, and you find out that Royal Ascot is re-locating to York – just for one year. York’s just down the road – how about you take some friends from work, get dressed up and attend – Ladies Day!! Find out what happens when Pearl, Jan, Shelley and Linda ditch their overalls, escape the fish factory and head for a day of a lifetime. When the champagne starts flowing, so do the secrets.

Backed with music from Tony Christie (Amarillo), this is the ‘feel-good’ play that we all need to get through the dark autumn nights. Come along and put a smile on your face and some warmth in your heart! For more information contact Sue Warren 07966 885 227

Please note that cigarettes may be smoked on stage.

SSE continued from page 15

which would have adversely affected those living in South Suffolk and South Cambridgeshire. SSE Campaign Director, Carol Barbone, commented. “We hope that NATS will now be able to combine its original plans with the wider project it is working on for a longer term redesign of flight paths and stacking areas over southern England. A long term strategic approach is what is needed, not piecemeal chopping and changing which creates unnecessary blight and uncertainty for people on the ground.”

Adverts removed

Macmillan Coffee Morning raises £400

I just wanted to thank everyone from far and near who supported the Macmillan Coffee Morning in Little Hadham Village Hall on 24th September. We all had a great day with lots of fresh coffee and homemade cakes and managed to raise almost £400, which was a great improvement on last year's efforts. A special thank you for all the lovely comments I received about my cakes! But really the day would have been nothing without the support of all those who came along. So, on behalf of Macmillan Cancer Support and everyone whose lives are touched by the fantastic work that they do, a very big and heartfelt THANKYOU!

Helen Walker

Socks – again!

How quickly it comes around – but the homeless population in Cambridge grows and they still need socks. So please let me have as many pairs as possible by Saturday December 11th. (Ashford House, next to the Nag's Head.) Thanks to all who contribute,

Ann Clayton

Adverts removed

Nature Notes, September/October

A busy month with the previously mentioned trip to The Camargue taking up several days, plus a few early morning wanders around the parish in what continues to be fine weather.

I arrived in The Camargue on the 26th Sept, returning 29th and spent my time walking, birding and recording dragonflies and butterflies. Weather was a balmy 28°C with a clear blue sky. Perfect conditions. In all I recorded over 70 species of bird, 9 butterflies and 8 dragonfly species. The flamingos were ubiquitous whilst most other summer visitors had migrated but I was lucky enough to record 1 roller, several red kite (shown here) along with 1 black kite, many Sardinian warblers and a peregrine falcon.



My talk on the 9th November at the Village Hall (7.45pm) will include an illustrated talk on this trip along with an update on my local records for 2010. All are welcome, with a small charge on the door that will include coffee, biscuits and cake. I look forward to seeing you there.

However, the highlight bird for the month, and probably the year, was finding a ring ouzel at Ash Valley golf course on the morning of 12th October. A migratory male, as usual for this species, very shy and even after half an hour, it refused to pose for a decent photograph. This bird will have made its way down from the northern hills, heading to Africa with about 6 – 10 recorded each autumn in Hertfordshire. Only my second record, the first being April 2008, so indeed a good bird to witness.

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Adverts removed

Nature Notes, continued

On my walks I also recorded several bullfinches, my first redwing of the autumn and good numbers of linnets and skylarks.

Other good birds for this period were: large numbers of lesser black backed gulls near Clintons Farm, a grey heron near The Lordship, meadow pipit in Chapel Lane and goldcrests in my garden. This great tit posed nicely on a local signpost.



With the sunny weather continuing, I spent several hours noting the plants that were still flowering in the verges. Yarrow, red clover, celery leafed buttercup, scentless mayweed, poppy and smooth hawk's beard were all found along with 1 comma butterfly and 2 red admirals. With the temperature dropping to low single figures over the last 3 days, I suspect that may well be the end of this year's butterflies. They will either die from cold, or look for a good hibernating place, such as garden shed or hole in a tree.

Finally, a weasel trotted in front of me on 13th October as I walked down Nut Walk after a trip around Hadham Hall ponds.

Other good news arrived this month when I received confirmation of a successful grant application from Awards for All. This now means I can publish my book, *The Natural History of Little Hadham 2008 – 2010*. I am hoping that copies may be available at my talk; otherwise I shall give details on how to receive a copy in next month's parish magazine. All profits will go to Little Hadham Parish Plan Group so that further events such as the Fun Run can take place.

Advert removed

Much Hadham Drama Group presents

Mixed Doubles

An Entertainment on Marriage

Much Hadham Village Hall

18-19-20 November 2010 at 8 pm



Tickets £7 BOX OFFICE 01279 843427

An amateur production in association with Samuel French

“Mixed Doubles”

is an anthology of short playlets and monologues based on the theme of marriage. All the monologues were written by George Melly, and the playlets are by various well known playwrights such as Alan Ayckbourn, Harold Pinter, Fay Weldon, and David Campton among others. The evening starts with the vicar at the wedding and a couple going off on honeymoon, proceeds through affairs, holidays and anniversaries and finishes with an elderly couple sitting in the cemetery contemplating their lives. Like a successful marriage, there is a lot of humour throughout these pieces but there are also more serious moments.

Adverts removed

Nasty Notes from an Ugly Sister *(the prettier one)*

CINDERELLA!!!

Well, my sister (the uglier one) was absolutely right about her being an upstart. Born with a silver spoon in her mouth she undoubtedly was and daughter of Baron Hardup she may well be, but WE'LL GET HER! This Buttons bloke is so besotted that we should easily be able to manipulate him with our devilish charm and deviously nasty ideas (oh yes we will!) Mother has the Baron wrapped around her little finger so he won't have a clue what's going on (oh no he won't).

Me and my sister (the uglier one) had our first night out recently, looking for men (with a view to marriage, of course). There weren't many about with the money, looks and physique that we so obviously deserve (oh yes we do!) but we have heard that there's a very handsome prince living nearby who is about to come of age. Ooooh, I can't wait to get my claws into him; he won't be able to resist me (oh no he won't either!)

We had better make sure that Cinderella doesn't meet the royal heir or she will charm him with the flutter of an eyelash. Best we keep her locked up in the cellar if he calls.

Free to a good home: 2-seater cream leather sofa. New owner to collect. Contact Helen on 01279 771001 or thesnellings@btopenworld.com

Adverts removed

Historic Talk

Folks please mark 10th November 8-9pm Village Hall as a definite date on your calendars; Little Hadham Parish Plan Group is organising a wonderful evening of local history! Chris Lydamore from Harlow Museum is visiting us and will give an illustrated talk on Roman Pottery Kilns 200-400AD at Bromley Hall Farm, Little Hadham. We hope to see lots of parishioners there; please make the time to come to what promises to be a very interesting talk on local history. See you there.

Police Locality Meeting

A meeting is to be held in High Wych updating Parish Council members on Policing in our area. Parish Councillor Mary Wilkinson will attend and then update us on any relevant information at the next Parish Council meeting.

Thank you

We had a good number of parishioners in the audience at October's Parish Council meeting, thank you folks for making the time! Want to know more about your village? Join us first Tuesday of each month (except Jan. & Aug.) Village Hall 8pm.

THANKYOU from Mary and Michael Snyder

We should like to thank all our friends in Little Hadham for your good wishes for our move to Hampshire, after over 17 happy years in the village. We are looking forward to our new life and being near our family, but we will miss you all very much. You haven't seen the last of us, though. We'll be back!!

Adverts removed

Church noticeboard

Carol Service at St Cecilia's

It is planned to hold a Carol Service at St Cecilia's on Wednesday 15th or 22nd December. The format will be similar to Nine Lessons & Carols but with a greater involvement by the congregation. On Tuesday 23rd November at 8pm there will be a Choir meeting in the church when a programme of carols, dates and other matters will be decided and an informal carol singing practice held. Those who wish to join us at this meeting are cordially invited to come along, participate in the discussions and sing.

Harvest Supper

The Harvest Supper on Saturday 9th October at The Village Hall was described as one of the best for years and was heartily enjoyed by all 80 people who attended. The hard work by so many volunteers and back room staff,

and organisation by Hilary Davies and Karin Green, helped this annual event surpass itself, and the musical input by The Martyn Stogdon Trio (who will form part of next year's concert at St Cecilia's on 2nd July) had everyone's feet tapping. £254 was raised for an extremely worthwhile charitable cause in Uganda named the 'Fruits of Justice' where one village has lost everything to drought. The Harvest Service collection at St Cecilia's the next morning increased that total to £440.

Locking/unlocking church

Volunteers are sought to assist with the locking and unlocking of St Cecilia's. We try to keep the church open throughout the year for visitors and those needing a temporary place of quiet – additional helpers would be very welcome. Please contact one of the church wardens for more information.

Adverts removed

November diary for Little Hadham and Albury

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

7 Sunday **3rd before Advent**
9.30am *Matins at St Cecilia's, Little Hadham*

14 Sunday **Remembrance Sunday**
10.50am *Service at War Memorial*

21 Sunday **Christ the King; Feast of St Cecilia**
8.00am *Holy Communion at St Cecilia's, Little Hadham*
9.30am *Little Hadham Village Hall Service*
6.00pm *Evensong at St Mary's, Albury*

28 Sunday **Advent**
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

There have been no entries in the Register this month

Remembrance Sunday

This year the Remembrance Day Service at The War Memorial (starting at about 10.50am) will be marked by wreaths being laid, for the first time, by representatives of The School and The Brownies. Do please come along, join in the Service, and remember those who gave their lives on our behalf.

Sponsored Cycle Ride

Peter English, Dimitri Smit and Tony Skidmore rode forth and got round some 30 churches in the Bishop's Stortford area - collecting a record amount of £1057.15 in sponsorship support! Well done chaps, and many thanks to those who sponsored our trio.

Half of the money raised will be remitted to our church, St Cecilia's in Little Hadham, the other half goes to the diocese.



Come along and join us for a story and activity during the service at St Cecilia's.

We will be meeting the 2nd Sunday of each month and will start with a taster session on Sunday 13th December.

If you are 4 or over we would love to see you, and if you are a little bit younger you are welcome to bring a grownup with you.

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