

LITTLE HADHAM
PARISH NEWS

OCTOBER 2013

Harvest Supper

Village Hall

7pm for 7.30pm

12th October 2013

Tickets £8.50 from Frank Green
(771532)

All are welcome

Rector of Parish: Revd. Giles Tulk
01279 842609

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Asst. Priest: Revd. Clive Slaughter
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Log on to www.littlehadham.com for issues dating back to May 2006

Letter from the Rectory

Dear friends in Little Hadham

What are our priorities?

Earlier this week on the Radio 4 Today Programme I heard the Chancellor of the Exchequer saying that the coalition government's priority of reducing government expenditure was having the desired result as the economy was starting to grow in a sustained and balanced way. However, at the same time he acknowledged that the achievement of the Government's priority had a cost attached to it, in that many people had seen their standard of living reduced. Because the reality is that if we are serious about achieving our priorities there will always be a cost attached. The cost for a student of wanting to get good 'A' level results to get to university will be the many hours of study and revision which stop them doing other more enjoyable things. Parents make many sacrifices as part of prioritising their children's upbringing.

The 19th century American philosopher, Henry David Thoreau, expressed the cost of achieving our priorities in the following way: the price of anything is the amount of life you exchange for it.

As Christians our challenge is to ensure our lives do not become so full of other priorities, that all clamour for our immediate attention, that our Christian discipleship gets pushed further and further down the list of priorities. Because the important priority for all of us should be our faith in Jesus Christ and how we live it out in our lives. So the question for us is how much of our busy lives do we give up to achieve this?

God Bless.

Reverend Giles

Rural Ramblings

Cherry Mardell

Well, the harvest – what there was of it – was safely gathered in. It was about half of last year's crop, which is bad news all round. Tightening of the belt is being called for! And I got to thinking about that. For all my faults, I do TRY and use up food; I do cook what veggies and fruit we have; I bake cakes and freeze surplus produce. We seldom throw out food. Our chickens see to that. They love stale bread, slightly sour grapes (whatever happened to those luscious grapes we used to buy?), the windfall apples and plums. They go mad for left-over rice, potatoes and greens. They dug up all our onion sets, so instead of having enough onions for the whole winter, I have just one bag full. They denude all my flowers and leave their poo on our doorstep, (to be swept up by an ever-more irate husband!).

Our alpacas thrive on carrots (cut up small as they only have teeth on their bottom jaw and I always worry larger bits might get stuck in their very long windpipe). Second best are apples – eating variety only, (they tend to spit out the cookers I try and mix in with the others!). I must

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Harvest Supper

Saturday 12th October Village Hall 7pm for 7.30pm

Priced at £8.50 a head, tickets for this year's Harvest Supper in the Village Hall are now on sale. Available from Frank Green on 771 532, book your seat early, as tickets will be limited!

Parish Council News

A120 Bypass

Due to concerns recently raised by parishioners it has become apparent, following a meeting back in the summer, that Little Hadham Parish Council needs to clarify its position in relation to this long standing and very important matter. As it stands Hertfordshire County Council's Highways Department is presently seeking/bidding for funding in relation to the delivery of the A120 bypass, so far it has approximately 90% of the funding required. The plans were agreed over the period 2007/8, the route agreed was the northern route. If Herts Highways are successful in their bidding and they have all the funding required to deliver the bypass then the process of delivering the project will go ahead. In 2007/8 LHPC together with the community (there was a local authority area-wide referendum conducted at that time) gave its full backing and support to this project. This position has not changed - so in summary in 2013 LHPC backs and supports this project as it did in 2007/8. Please visit: www.thehadhams.com for more information - you can read the most recent letters LHPC has written to MPs, Local Authority Officers and all other interested parties. Also readily available is all past LHPC documentation relating to the matter. If anyone needs further clarification do please contact us - we are always ready to listen, help and to act on your behalf.

Bishop's Stortford North

Letters of concern have been written to MPs, Local Authority Officers and all other interested parties in relation to the above project - in particular LHPC has written to those involved in the delivery of roads and schools. You can read the letters at: www.thehadhams.com. If you feel strongly about these matters or any

other issues arising from these proposals you too can write letters - the more letters written the bigger the impact! LHPC encourages the community to make its voice heard - use your right and let the authorities know your viewpoints. Remember road problems and traffic will increase and secondary education in Bishop's Stortford is at over capacity NOW - if you care about the future make sure you take part.

Potholes and Road Repairs

The Community can report any road repairs at: www.hertsdirect.org/faultreporting or call 0300 1234047.

Flooding issues.

LHPC are continuing to work with the agencies and the MP Oliver Heald to improve the flood problems in the Parish. The Environment Agency have agreed to clear the silt that has collected in the River Ash by the footbridge by the Nag's Head PH, and to remove the concrete weir at the back of the Parish Park. **They also ask to remind people to not have bonfires in the river bed** as the leftover debris just washes down the river and causes a blockage and flood risk to others.

Playground Repairs

Following a recent inspection by the authorities LHPC has agreed to carry out repairs at the Village Hall playground - Mike Foskett will be carrying out the work in the near future. Full use of the playground is not affected; do continue to enjoy it and have fun!

The Village Pump

Cllr Wendy Woodgate is to test her painting skills soon - she's volunteered to paint the village pump (opposite The Nag's Head) - thank you and good luck Wendy!

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Rural Ramblings, continued from page 2

be Tesco's hero – I always opt for the biggest and ugliest carrots, those left at the bottom of the nearly empty polythene sack. .they are so much quicker to cut up each morning than the pretty, tastier small ones.

And, talking alpacas, I have now halter-trained Clyde, one of my youngsters. After a bit of a shaky start – with him cavorting about and me, on the other end of the lead rope, trying to avoid being trampled on – we came to an agreement. He is now much safer and looks almost as if he enjoys our walks around the yard and field – provided he can still see his mates!

By the time you read this the leaves will be falling from the trees and the farm will be much more visible. At least it will please those passengers on our local bus route. They'll be able to look over and see farming in the raw. Spare a thought for me as I haul huge bags of hay, whatever the weather, to my herd!

What is happening to Bishop's Stortford? If you want to eat out, buy from a charity shop or have your hair done, then you're in luck. But for most other things, the place is a dead duck! If landlords were less greedy and the local council didn't have such high rates, then many more small retailers would open up offering something different. But as things stand right now, it is only the 'big boys' who can afford the huge outlay to come to Stortford. I know all about progress, but for those of you, like myself, who have made Stortford their home for nearly half a century, don't you miss the way it used to be?

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Parish Council News, continued from page 3

HELP PLEASE!

Folks, don't forget LHPC has organised a couple of working days when we hope to tidy the pond at **Bury Green on Sunday Oct 6th and the Millennium Wood on Sunday Oct 13th**. Please come along and lend a hand, it'll be a struggle without you!

Air Ambulance Service

LHPC has said in the past that it would only donate to local groups; however on this occasion it has agreed to make a small donation of £20 to a vitally important cause: The Air Ambulance Service. We encourage the community to do the same - if you can do please donate at: www.theairambulanceservice.org.uk

Parish Clerk's Salary

LHPC has agreed to raise the wage of our Parish Clerk by 1%. You might be interested

to know that the job of the Parish Clerk is a truly diverse one; he/she must be the font of near enough all knowledge (!), must be able to take notes and type, must research allsorts of subjects, deal with correspondence, attend Parish Council meetings and external meetings when the need arises and carry out all manner of other administrative work. Their work is usually conducted in the background of life and is hardly ever praised or even acknowledged - so LHPC on behalf of all the community says Thank You Bev for all the diligent hard work and good guidance you deliver week in week out and steady as you go don't spend the extra £1 a week all at once!

Next Meeting It would be great to see you on **Tuesday 1st October @ 8pm** in the Village Hall - everyone is welcome!

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As we entered late summer Cokenach were the visitors to Bury Green. Batting first the visitors were bowled out for 150 with David Barnes taking 5 wickets for 30 runs and David Wheatley 3 for 33. In reply Little Hadham cruised to victory off just 22 overs, with David Wheatley scoring 62 and James Law 47 not out.

Bank holiday weekend meant two matches for Hadham, the first of which was a home game against Little Hallingbury. Once again the visitors batted first, however this time scoring a massive 274 for 4. The total was always out of reach for Hadham who eventually managed to obtain a draw, ending on 140 for 7, with Neil Oxborrow scoring 57 not out.

The following day saw Potter Street arrive at Bury Green and on this occasion Little Hadham batted first. Hadham reached a total of 206 for 7, with Neil Oxborrow scoring 69 and David Wheatley 57. In reply Potter Street lost wickets at regular intervals and were eventually bowled out for 167, thus ensuring a Little Hadham win by 39 runs. The pick of the Hadham bowlers were Graham McKay with figures of 4 for 47 and David Wheatley 3 for 36.

The first Sunday of September meant an away trip to Hatfield Heath. On a lovely September afternoon Hatfield Heath batted first scoring exactly 200 off their 40 overs with Ben Law taking 3 wickets for 37. Initially the Hadham reply started well however despite 7 players reaching double figures nobody went on to score more than 24 and were eventually bowled out for 134, thereby losing by 66 runs.

The first full weekend of September meant fixtures on both the Saturday and the Sunday for the club. Royston were the visitors on Saturday and batting first reached 235 for 5, with David Wheatley taking four of the wickets to fall for 39 runs. The Hadham reply was always

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Private Fostering in Hertfordshire

Do you know someone under 16 who is living away from their parents? If so you may not realise that Hertfordshire County Council needs to know.

Private fostering is when a child under 16 (under 18 if they are disabled) lives with someone who is not a close relative for 28 days or more. There can be many reasons why a child doesn't live at home and their parent has arranged for someone else to care for them.

However, many parents and carers are not aware of this and do not notify the local authority, even though this is against the law.

"We need to make sure that all children and young people are safe, happy and doing well, so it's important that we know about Private Fostering arrangements.

"By notifying us of an arrangement, we are able to give advice and support to the young person, carers and parents to ensure that the arrangement is meeting the young person's needs," said Richard Roberts, cabinet member for children's services.

He added: "It's really important that we are informed about a child who is being privately fostered. It is a legal requirement that the parent or carer let their local council know so that we can offer help and support, where needed, to the children as well as the carers. If you are caring for a child or young person who is not a close relative, and you expect them to be staying for more than 28 days, please get in touch."

For more information about private fostering log onto www.hertsdirect.org or if you know of a child or young person who is not living with their parents, call Hertfordshire County Council's Customer Service Centre on 0300 123 4043.

You can also visit www.privatefostering.org.uk/public to find out more.

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Our new season opens on Saturday, 19th October at 7.30pm in St John's, Stansted when The Alburni String Quartet, who played at the club's inaugural concert in 1996, will be making a welcome return. Karin Leishman (violin), Peter Pople (violin), Matthew Souter (viola) and David Smith (cello) will be playing three great works of the quartet repertoire; Beethoven's Quartet opus 135, Janacek's "Intimate letters" and Borodin's second quartet from which some of the luscious melodies in the musical "Kismet" were taken.

Tickets, Adults £15, are available from Stansted Carpets, Chapel Hill, Stansted; Nockolds Solicitors, Market Sq., Bishop's Stortford; Sonia Levy, 31 Chapel Hill, Stansted (01279 815282); or at the door on the day. In a change of admission policy children and students under 18 may now attend without charge.

Future concerts this season are:-

Sunday, 15th December 2013, Cambridge Chorale (making a return visit)

Sunday, 26th January 2014, Louise Alder (soprano) & John Paul Ekins (piano)

Saturday, 22nd March 2014, Kammerphilharmonie Europa, the famous chamber orchestra, founded in Cologne, comprising young musicians from 18 European countries.

Check out our website for general information - www.musicatstansted.com or, if you have a specific enquiry, please email us on info@musicatstansted.com.

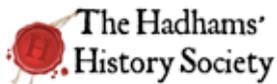
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Hadfest pics

from Andrew Macpherson



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At our August meeting Stephen Ruff displayed some of his large collection of Much Hadham memorabilia. Members and guests were pleased to see unique photographs of the life of the parish, its buildings, street scenes and events, friends, acquaintances, forebears, characters, sports teams, etc. Also on display were railway memorabilia, and a large number of pamphlets, bills, tickets, minute books etc., taken from everyday life over many years. Of particular interest was a photocopy Stephen had made of Jean Page's handwritten notes made shortly before the publication of her book "A Millennium Scrap Book". As many of you will know, Jean's original and more detailed scrap book has been missing for some time. If anyone knows the whereabouts of the latter, please get in touch.

We plan to arrange a similar evening during 2014 to enable members to display their own Hadham memorabilia and several have already agreed to contribute. Also, at some stage, we will be seeking volunteers to help catalogue Stephen's extensive collection, which will eventually be donated to the Forge Museum.

Upcoming Events

Monday October 7th, 8:00pm, Green Room, Much Hadham Village Hall, "Chaldean Estate - A History" by Gordon Morrison. A History of the Chaldean Estate built up from archaeological finds found by Richard Maddams and Kevin Easton.

Monday November 11th, 8:00pm, Much Hadham Forge Museum, "World War 1 Exhibition". An opportunity to view the WWI collection. Please bring along any WWI memorabilia to the museum.

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Garden Club Show



A big thank you to all who exhibited, helped, made cakes (and ate them) and came along to the show. We had 223 entries from 41 people. A few new faces were exhibiting for the first time and all of them had at least one of their entries make a 1st, 2nd or 3rd place.

Another thank you to Pat & Mollie Gough who have donated a Junior Shield; until now we have had a very small cup for the winner of the Junior Competition, so now hopefully, in the coming years, those who have won the Junior Shield might go on to win the Senior Shield.

The inaugural winner of the Junior Shield was Holly Ellis who gained the most points in the Junior section. The Judges were very impressed with the standard of entries, and for the first time this year we had an entry which included live frogs and a newt (well done to Nadja and Elke Smit).

The standard was high in the adult sections with Vivienne Jones and Gail Ellis tying for the Domestic Cup, Christine Crace winning her first cup in the Flower section and our very own Mollie Gough winning in the Vegetable section. She also won the prize for the best Flower and the best entry in the show. Frank Green won the Men's Domestic Cup for his Sticky Malt Loaf beating Joel Ellis and last year's winner Gary Law. Bryan Jones entered for the first time and came a creditable third. Frank also won best Fruit entry in the show.

Then came the totting up of the points overall to determine the winner of the "Garden Club Shield" (a first place gets 3 points, 2nd place 2 points, and 3rd place 1 point). The tension mounted and by a winning margin of 3 points Gail Ellis won the shield.

It really is a lot of fun, so if you haven't entered before please do so next year, you really never know; you might win. Put the date in your diaries now – Saturday September 6th 2014..



What's on in October. . . in the Village Hall unless otherwise stated

- 1 Tue, Parish Council**, 8pm. Everybody welcome.
- 6 Sun, Antiques Fair**, 9.30-4pm, BS Football Club, Woodside Park, Dunmow Road, CM23 5RG. (Nr M11, J8. Admission £1. Refreshments and snacks available.
- 8 Tue, Coffee Morning** for Isabel Hospice, 10:30 - 12:00. Come to our fundraising coffee mornings, held the 2nd Tuesday of the month at Markwell Pavilion in Bishop's Stortford. Enquiries 01279 755320.
- 8 Tue, LH & A Social Club**, 8pm. 'Chocolate for Chocoholics.' Wendy Smith will display her products and orders can be placed. Everyone is welcome. £1.50 admission covers refreshments and you have the chance to win on the raffle. Info: 771580 or 658585.
- 10, 24 Thur, Mobile Library**, See p 13.
- 12 Sat, Harvest Supper**, 7.00 for 7.30pm. Tickets from Frank Green on 771532, book your seat early, as tickets will be limited!
- 12 Sat, 80s Charity Night**, 7.30-11pm, Wodson Park Sport Centre, Ware SG12 0UQ for St Elizabeth's. Tickets £12.50.
- 13 Sun, 4th Annual Conker Championships**, The Forge, Much Hadham. 4th Annual Forge Conker Championships. Get a team together or enter as an individual. There are categories for kids, youths, men and women and fun conkers and craft for the under 7s. Entry: £3 per player, £1 adult spectator, 50p children. Conkers is a fun, local day out for all the family with food, bar, raffle and free entry to the museum. Entry forms available from Londis and the museum website, www.hadhammuseum.org.uk.
- 15 Tue, LH & A Garden Club**, 7.30pm.
- 17 Thur, Way Inn Coffee Morning**, 10am-12 noon, rear of Village Hall.
- 17 Thur, Isabel's Big Quizathon**, 7pm. Eleven pubs in Herts will be holding a quizathon in aid of Isabel Hospice. The Silver Fox, Hertford Heath, The Catherine Wheel, Albury, The White Horse, Burnham Green, The Bull, Watton-at-Stone, Great Eastern Tavern, Hertford, The Brookmans, Brookmans Park, The Sun, Lemsford, The Fox, Aspenden, The Eight Bells, Hatfield, The Angel, Ware and The Greyhound, Bengoe, Hertford. Sign up and help us raise vital funds. Contact the pubs directly to take part.
- 20 Sun, Spooky Halloween Fun**, Easton Lodge Details: www.eastonlodge.co.uk.
- 26 Sat, Farmers' Market**, 8.30 - 11.30am.
- 28 Mon-2 Nov, (Half-term) Arts Award Week**: The Forge, MH. A second chance to complete Arts Award at Explore Level for 10-16 year olds. Daily, 10am-3pm, please see website for full schedule. Cost: £50, places strictly limited to eight. Booking is essential.
- 31 Thur, Brocket Hall Charity Golf Day**, 8am - 5:30 in aid of Isabel Hospice. Sponsored by The Athena Network. A great day of golf at this prestigious course with bacon baguettes to kick off the day, followed by a shotgun start on the Palmerston course returning to the clubhouse for lunch and prize giving in the Oak Room. £500 per team. Email emma.lippiatt@isabelhospice.org.uk.

... and after?

- 9,10 Nov, "Come and have a cuppa"**, Armistice Weekend, The Forge MH.
- 10 Nov, LH Antiques Fair**, 9.30 - 4pm.
- 7 Dec, Cambridge Chorale**, Braughing, p 13.

NOTICEBOARD

I would like to say a big
thankyou, for all the get well
cards I received when I broke
my elbow and was in hospital.
People are so kind.

Doff Homett.

Braughing Music Society -

Cambridge Chorale

Directed by Julian Wilkins

This prize winning choir presents a
glorious evening of music: songs, seasonal
favourites, organ pieces and the chance to
join in!

Saturday 7th December - 7:30 pm

St Mary's Church, Braughing

TICKET PRICES

£15 Premium; £12 Standard; £10 restricted view

Telephone Box Office: 01763 289073

www.braughingmusicsociety.co.uk

10th and 24th October Mobile Library

Nag's Head from 13.45 - 14.05

The Smithy from 14.10 - 14.30

Bury Green from 14.45 - 15.05

A fortnightly service.

A period where summer ended most abruptly, with a sudden decrease in temperatures and a regular fall of rain. In many ways, these conditions are not bad for bird enthusiasts. As from mid August, migration continues to increase and if the weather is fine with little wind and clear skies most migrants continue non-stop on their southerly travels. However, rain and winds can force them to take shelter and this was the case on the 24th August. The weather in East Anglia was particularly poor; heavy rain and high winds and so rarities were turning up all along the Norfolk coast. However, I was at home and eager to check local habitats. This I managed to do on the next day, Sunday. I headed out to Hadham Hall and all points east to town. As I approached the pond by the hall I heard a double high pitched piping call: a green sandpiper. A new bird for the parish (number 101). I endeavoured to get a reasonable photo, but light and distance conspired against me. Next, in the bushes by the small pond east of the hall, I heard another low pitched call, a redstart, an uncommon Hertfordshire bird. This showed itself very briefly before disappearing back into the cover of the willow. Number 102 for the parish. Redstart shown here, a photo from Norfolk on 28.08.13. Almost immediately, I noticed another small brown bird in the bushes, a pied flycatcher, female. Number 103 for the parish and a real rarity in Herts. Only 3 recorded within the whole county this year. Quite unbelievable when you consider I didn't see a new parish bird for 34 months and only



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LH Cricket Club, continued from page 6

struggling to keep up with the required run rate and in the end the match was drawn with the home side finishing on 144 for 6. Martin Hallmark 52 not out and Tom Peacock 44 not out were the main run scorers.

On the Sunday Little Hadham travelled to Reed where batting first in a match interrupted by rain the visitors scored 159 for 7, with David Wheatley scoring 66 and Ben Law 45. Despite the match being reduced to 36 overs per side, Reed easily cruised to victory with 5 overs to spare losing just 3 wickets in the process.

October Fixtures

Sun 6th Albury Ron Oxborrow memorial cup Home 12.30

The club is always looking to attract new members, so if you are interested in playing cricket and therefore help support your village side, then please contact us on the numbers below 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. Please contact either Martin Hallmark 01279 771033 or Alan South 01279 651603 for further details.

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SSE News: Ryanair Deal at Stansted

Issued by Stop Stansted Expansion 19 September 2013

Michael O'Leary's claim that an extra 7,000 jobs will be created by its latest deal with Stansted Airport owners Manchester Airport Group (MAG) has been described by Stop Stansted Expansion (SSE) as wild exaggeration of the worst kind because it could raise false hopes and it could also be seized upon by developers in their attempts to justify the need for ever more local housebuilding.

The reality is that this Ryanair deal for the next ten years will do little more than return Stansted to its 2007/08 peak, at which time the airport employed about 2,000 more people than today.

Highlighting the airport's recent employment record, SSE points out that if the Michael O'Leary school of logic were to be applied, Stansted would have lost over 6,000 jobs in the past five years, in line with the fall in annual passenger numbers from 23.8 million to 17.6 million.

"Quite plainly - and thankfully - that scale of job losses has not happened," said SSE's economics adviser Brian Ross, "Michael O'Leary's claim that 1,000 jobs are created for every extra million passengers is a wild exaggeration. In reality, low cost airlines generate about 300 jobs – including indirect jobs – for every million passengers"

SSE has also expressed surprise at the about-turn which MAG appears to have undertaken to
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prop up falling passenger numbers. The airport has planning permission to handle 35 million passengers and 264,000 commercial flights annually and is currently operating at only half those levels.

“When MAG bought Stansted it said that it wanted to make the airport more broadly based, with more airlines and more destinations”, Brian Ross continued, “Ryanair already accounts for three quarters of all Stansted’s passengers and this deal will entrench Ryanair even deeper as the dominant airline at Stansted and reinforce the airport’s reputation as nothing other than a mecca for cheap leisure flights, especially since it comes on top of a similar deal that MAG did with easyJet a few months ago. In other words, this is just more of the same and MAG has done exactly the opposite of what it said it would do at Stansted.”

Brian Ross concluded: “In one respect however we can fully understand MAG’s decision to strike a deal with Ryanair: Stansted has run up losses of £206m in its past three financial years and in the past 12 months it handled its lowest number of flights for 14 years. Something had to be done and, ultimately, it’s a commercial decision for MAG to decide how best to use Stansted’s spare capacity.”

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Down at the doctor's

Dr Paul Haimes

Just a short one this month as I'm writing this, whilst on holiday, between rounds of golf in the rain! Not another holiday, I hear you say, but regular time off is essential in any job in order to maintain sanity although golf does tend to counteract the benefits somewhat!

By the time you read this we will have switched to a new, allegedly improved, computer system. The so called "go live" (or more like "judgement") day is/was on 29th September so please bear with any problems, confusion, delays etc. that may occur; over and above the usual, that is!

Also at the end of September is the beginning of the Flu jab programme or "silly season" as some like to call it. There will be extra sessions organised, some possibly on a Saturday morning, so please ring or check the surgery notices/website for further information.

Apples!

We have not long moved in at Cradle End and we have an abundance of apples on about three trees and we will not be organised enough this year to do anything with them, so we were wondering if anyone else would like them for juice or cider or something.

If anyone is interested please call me on 07980 841 914.

Samantha

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Nature Notes, continued from page 14

had one new one in January of this year and suddenly 3 in half an hour. All of these, except perhaps the green sandpiper, are migratory birds that had been forced to land because of the weather. I was keen for more so the following Wednesday, I set off early for Norfolk. In short, 95 species, including one bird I came across that rarely visits the UK. A citrine wagtail that I found near Weybourne. Also, unusual for Norfolk were several warblers and a wryneck, a small and strange woodpecker. A super day.

A trip for 3 days to Portland bird observatory was next and again, the weather helped me to see some rarities, whilst also permitting me to watch good seabirds migrating along the channel. All in all, a very busy and enjoyable time.



Back home, I continue to catch new moths, with my annual total for garden captures now fast approaching 200 species. Also, many dragonflies are still on the wing, especially the darter family. These are usually the small red ones that alight on grasses and posts, especially around ponds, gardens and in the Ash valley. A female shown here, just emerged hence the yellow colour.

As autumn continues, there will be the emergence of many forms of mushrooms, especially if the rain we are having at present (17th Sept) continues.

Many of these mushrooms are indeed edible and incredibly tasty but for each one that is, there are several that are poisonous and one that may be deadly. If you are unsure about a mushroom, simple rule: leave well alone. I have already had several enquiries about ones growing locally, these were indeed the edible variety. Having said that, has anyone seen Catherine and Phil recently?

I plan to continue to watch out for migrants passing through the village as well as keeping an eye open for the first winter arrivals, the redwings and fieldfares etc. You may have noticed over the last week or so that the blue and long tailed tits have returned to your garden following breeding in local hedges and woods. Soon, the coal tits and maybe goldcrests will appear, especially if you have any conifers in the garden. Good luck if you are keeping an eye open for these colourful, endearing and tiny creatures.

<http://littlehadhambirding.blogspot.co.uk> for daily updates and any enquiries, please email at jforgham@theprimaryworks.co.uk or phone 07805571551.

Finally, a pleasant late summer photo from New Road looking towards Ford Hill. Just to remind ourselves of what a blue sky looks like!!



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Little Hadham & Albury Social Club

We enjoyed a lovely evening when Lyn Croot gave her talk 'I had a dream'. As Lyn said, we all have dreams and she was fortunate to be able to live her dream by becoming an accomplished scuba diver. She took us to coral reefs and we saw beautiful creatures of the deep. She also fell in love with the the Caribbean Islands and is a devoted fund raiser for their people. We are hoping she will talk to us again in the future.

'Chocolate for Chocoholics' is the title of our meeting on 8th October. Wendy Smith will display her products and orders can be placed. We will arrange for all orders to be delivered to one address, for distribution at our November meeting. Think Christmas, but find a good hiding place to prevent early consumption!

Everyone is welcome to our meetings. After our talks there is always time for a chat over refreshments and you could win a raffle prize. For information phone 771580 or 658585.

Press Release 20.9.13

issued by Stop Stansted Expansion

SSE has welcomed the announcement today [20 September] that Geoff Muirhead, the former chief executive of Manchester Airports Group (MAG) is stepping down from the Airports Commission. The Airports Commission, led by Sir Howard Davies, is currently examining the need for additional UK airport capacity and is due to report with a shortlist of options in December. Geoff Muirhead's role on the Commission was called into question by SSE because of his links with MAG who could be beneficiaries of any decision to expand Stansted Airport which MAG now owns.

The campaign group first raised the issue of a potential conflict of interest with Mr Muirhead last November on the day his appointment to the Commission was announced. Subsequent correspondence with Sir Howard Davies and the Secretary of State for Transport, then led SSE last month to issue a formal notice of judicial review proceedings unless Mr Muirhead resigned. SSE is however disappointed that it has taken so long for Sir Howard Davies and the Secretary of State to recognise that it was untenable for Mr Muirhead to remain in post.

Peter Sanders, Chairman of SSE, said: "By ignoring our concerns and allowing the matter to drag on, Sir Howard Davies and the the Secretary of State have potentially compromised the work of the Commission already and created the possibility of considerable extra delay, which is in nobody's interests."

"Given that Mr Muirhead has been actively involved as a member of the Commission for almost a year we now need to know to what extent the work of the Commission may already have been tainted," he continued. "It is only when we have answers to the questions sent to the Secretary of State and Commission by our legal advisers that we will be able to ascertain how much of the Commission's work to date may need to be revisited."

Mr Sanders concluded: "It is important to make clear that SSE's purpose in pursuing this action has always been - and will continue to be - to ensure that the issues regarding potential airport expansion are examined fairly, impartially and independently, and that this is seen to be the case."

SSE Community Calendars for 2014

The 2014 edition of Stop Stansted Expansion's (SSE's) much-loved Community Calendar is now on sale across the region, featuring beautiful views of homes and heritage in the shadow of Stansted Airport. All proceeds from sales of the calendar, the twelfth to be produced, will be used in the continuing campaign by SSE to fight off the threat of an extra runway or runways at Stansted Airport.

The Airports Commission appointed by the Government under the chairmanship of Sir Howard Davies has received about 50 proposals for extra runway capacity. The new owners of Stansted Airport, Manchester Airport Group, have put forward three proposals for Stansted:

- **an extra runway to the east,**
- **an extra runway to the north-west**
- **a four-runway airport to replace Heathrow as London's hub airport.**

SSE argues that these proposals make no economic sense and would be disastrous environmentally.

As in previous years, the A3 format calendars are priced at just £6 and will be on sale at some 30 shops across the area, as well as from a sales team drawn from SSE's members. The SSE campaign office can also arrange gift mailing at a small extra charge.

Further details together with a list of stockists can be found on the SSE website at <http://www.stopstanstedexpansion.com/calendar.html>

Adverts removed

Campaigners unite to urge Airports Commission to provide safeguards for local communities

Stop Stansted Expansion ("SSE") is one of seven airport campaign groups who have joined forces in writing to Sir Howard Davies, Chairman of the Airports Commission, calling upon him to safeguard local residents against airport-related blight.

The Commission is due to produce an interim report at the end of this year and, if it concludes that the UK needs more airport capacity, it will publish a short-list of options. The Commission's final report won't be published until mid-2015, after the next general election and it will then be for the Government of the day to take any final decisions.

Brian Ross, SSE Economics Adviser said: "We know from past experience that, as soon as any short-list of airport expansion options is published, every single area on that short-list will be hit by generalised blight and local residents will experience not only stress and anxiety, but immediate difficulties in selling their homes."

Brian Ross added: "The UK already has more than enough airport capacity but Sir Howard Davies has opened a Pandora's Box by inviting airport expansion proposals from all and sundry. As soon as he publishes his short-list, local communities will be blighted for years, even if no new runways are ever built."

The last time that Stansted was short-listed for major expansion, in 2002, £570 million was wiped off local house prices in the first 18 months of the threat, affecting an area of about 150 square miles. There is now the prospect of history repeating itself.

The aviation industry mostly agrees that the UK could justify only one additional runway over the next 25 years. Thus, if a handful of options are short-listed, most of the areas which will be blighted will have been blighted unnecessarily. And yet those who have submitted proposals to Sir Howard Davies, whether for expansion of existing airports or for totally new airports, have not so far been asked to pay a single penny towards addressing the problems and costs of blight that their proposals will cause.

The campaigners' letter to Sir Howard Davies asks him "to make it a pre-condition for being short-listed for the promoter of an airport development proposal to undertake to introduce fair and reasonable arrangements to address the problem of generalised blight arising from their proposal within three months of being short-listed and to operate such arrangements for a minimum period of two years."

Mr Ross concluded: "Those who are promoting airport expansion projects must take some responsibility for the consequences. They cannot simply be allowed to dine out for free on their airport expansion dreams, leaving local residents to pick up the tab."

Email 'Paper-free' in the subject line to htfp@clocktower.co.uk to receive a perfect copy of the Parish News. Give it a try and save us time and money!

Parish Picnic and Fun Day at St Cecilia's



St Cecilia's Church was blessed with good weather and a wonderful atmosphere when it threw open its doors and grounds on Sunday 15th September for a combined picnic, beheading enactment and teddy bear parachute jump from the Tower!

At least 50 children and 60 parents from local villages attended and enjoyed the best free afternoon's entertainment for many a long year, despite the weather forecast which had threatened rain and gale force winds.

The event was organised by Karin Green and Judith Crimes, with assistance from several other local people. The Rector, Giles Tulk, in attendance, provided the novel idea and parachutes for the teddy bears' leap.

Adam Davey and Andrew Gibson risked life and limb to ascend the narrow, spiral staircase of the 600 year old Tower to safely launch 33 teddy bears from the 100 foot battlements whilst the bears' owners, young and old, watched with great concern from below. All of these 'lifelong friends' were rescued on landing with some relief and no little triumph. One poor teddy bear, however, was temporarily trapped in a nearby plane tree, but skilful work by Jon Fardell with a lengthy pole soon freed him from the branches. Another, caught up in a fierce gust of wind, sailed 100 yards into a farmyard garden, but he too was brought safely home.

Angela Fardell's 'screenplay' of the beheading of Lord Capell in 1648, was re-enacted with great enthusiasm by many over-keen children. Jonathan Forgham (chairman of the Parish Council) volunteered his neck for this gruesome event and, happily, emerged unscathed!

A team of local bellringers led by Claire May gave a short demonstration then instructed and helped several very young children in the skills needed to practice this ancient art.

Nicholas Jardine, gave a short recital on the Church Organ with additions by 12 year old Adam Gibson who entertained his audience with Bach's Allegretto in F.

The afternoon was rounded off with delicious cakes and tea served by ten Little Hadham Brownies as qualification towards their 'hostess' badge.

Tesco's very generously donated sweets for the hungry children and photographs were taken by Helena Marrington. Altogether a very enjoyable day, and, we understand, Messrs Green and Crimes are already working on next year's event which will include abseiling down the Tower – any volunteers?

October diary for Little Hadham and Albury

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

6 Sunday

Trinity 19

9.30am

Matins at St Cecilia's, Little Hadham

11.15am

Parish Communion & Sunday School at St Mary's, Albury

13 Sunday

Trinity 20

11.15am

Harvest Service and Sunday School at St Cecilia's, Little Hadham
(Please note new time)

20 Sunday

Trinity 21

8.00am

Holy Communion at St Cecilia's, Little Hadham

9.30am

Village Hall Service, Little Hadham

6.00pm

Evensong at St Mary's, Albury

27 Sunday

Trinity 22

11.15am

Parish Communion at St Mary's, Albury

No Evensong at St Cecilia's, Little Hadham until April 2014

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

The Register: *There have been no entries in the Register this month*

Prayer Chain

Within our congregations we have a network of people who will receive prayer requests. Whatever the problem, worry, anxiety or personal need, when received, will be forwarded to the people on the chain who will pray immediately for each request for a period of time.

All requests will be confidential.

Please ring anytime: Janet: 842671, Karin: 771532

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.