

LITTLE  
HADHAM  
PARISH NEWS  
FEBRUARY 2013



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

## Letter from Angela Fardell

*We heard recently that the 2011 Census revealed that Christianity had declined by 13% and that only 54% of the population professed to be Christians. Of that percentage most people said they aspired to be a better person through their faith, those being brought up as Christians carrying on their family traditions of baptism, a Christian education and church-going. And the rest? 14 million people said they had no religion at all. No religion! No spirituality, no beliefs – what do they fall back on when life gets tough, and when other people let them down who do they turn to?*

*Christians have Jesus. Christians have someone who listens to them, knows when they are struggling with work or relationships, money problems, sickness and personal difficulties. No-one is immune to the stresses and strains of modern life. Christians know how to find a quiet place in their minds and talk it over with Jesus because we believe in something greater than ourselves and our faith is spiritual and deep within ourselves. It is not ghosts or science fiction, the Da Vinci Code or mediums talking to “the other side”. We can’t see Jesus but we know from history that he lived and he taught us how to live, and that he died for us.*

*You don’t have to come to Church to be a Christian, but sharing with others those quiet places of the mind gives us strength and courage as we pray, not just for ourselves but for everyone – including the 14 million!*

Angela Fardell

**Adverts removed**

## Letter from the Team Vicar

*It's always a delight when people ring me and ask if they can get married in one of our churches or if they can bring their children to be christened.*

*I've had lots of requests of this kind already this year and it's terrific. The churches of our team exist for you, and if you would like to make use of them, just be in touch. That's what we're here for.*

*Meanwhile, we've had a lovely letter from Chris Boulton, now well settled at Bromley College. I am shortening my letter this month to make space for his.*

*With every blessing*  
Stephen Fielding

### Greetings from Bromley College.

*I can hardly believe that four months have passed since I moved from Much Hadham. It has been a period when I have been settling into strange urban surroundings and getting to know a whole group of new people. Bromley is such a bustling and international town, and a far cry from the lovely surroundings of the Ash Valley. Yet the College is a tranquil haven in the midst of emergency vehicle sirens and late night buses.*

*I miss you all very much, but keep myself busy; and I have to say that the Collegians and Trustees have been very caring and welcoming. I am learning new skills and beginning to meet others from neighbouring church communities. This week I have been invited to preach at St Mary's Bromley. At least one intention is being fulfilled, in that I am spending more time reading and studying. The trouble is that at my age it seems to go in one part of the brain and straight out the other!*

*As the College was built in 1666 we are already beginning to plan our 350th anniversary for 2016, when our Patron the Archbishop of Canterbury will be coming. I realise this is a brief span in comparison to the wonderful ancient parishes of the Ash and Quin Valleys, but something worth noting.*

*I thought of the lovely celebrations you must have had over Christmas, and all the hard work your clergy team and others have put in. I continue to pray for you all, and was delighted to hear that a new Team Rector has been appointed, even though he will not be in place until early April. He and his wife are really lucky to come to such lovely parishes. Make them truly welcome.*

*I particularly miss the children, the Sunday schools and local schools in MH Albury and LH; but Barnabas sends his love. He feels a bit under-employed at the moment. He will no doubt get chance to demonstrate his usefulness soon.*

*I never had chance to say properly THANK YOU for all my generous gifts and lovely letters you wrote. So a big THANK YOU. The large cheques you gave me enabled me to buy my new upright piano, which I play often and with mixed results! I think of myself as a sort of poor man's Daniel Barenboim: my neighbours employ a less flattering comparison!*

*With all my love and best wishes.*  
Chris Boulton

## Road and Sewer Flooding – Little Hadham

December has seen the highest River Ash levels so far this year. The Environment Agency have cleared again the litter and rubbish dumped in the River that was causing blockages. If you see any debris in the River Ash or have any concerns about flooding, please help protect homes at risk of flooding by reporting it to the Environment Agency who will take steps to clear debris and to find out who dumped it there. This can be done by ringing the EA Incident Line 24/7 on 0800 80 70 60. You can leave details anonymously and they will follow it up.

There have also been several incidents of the highway flooding. If you decide to drive through floodwater, please be careful and drive slowly. Some motorists have been accelerating hard at the water resulting in pedestrians getting drenched and the bow wave caused by their car pushing water into roadside properties at the traffic lights junction with the A120, and at The Ford.

Floodwater has also been entering the sewer system as there is not a separate surface water drain in the village, causing the lids to lift in the highway and effluent to run along the road at Albury Road, the traffic lights junction, outside the Village Hall, outside the Pub by the bus stop. Please be wary of walking through this. It has affected the sewer from Albury through to Much Hadham. Thames Water have been contacted about this as it is now a regular occurrence. If you find this is happening to you please ring the Thames Water response on 0845 9200 800 as the more people that register this problem the better chance we have of having something done about it. Also, check your water rates as if Thames Water have charged you for surface water drainage you can ask them for a refund.

For more information on flooding, preparing a flood plan for your home, or if you would like to sign up to automated flood warnings direct to your home phone or mobile, there is a lot of information on the Environment Agency website on the link below:

<http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/homeandleisure/floods/31624.aspx>

Current River Ash Levels at Little Hadham can be seen on this link:

<http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/homeandleisure/floods/riverlevels/136490.aspx?stationId=7346>

You are also welcome to contact Cllr Graham Pearson who is the Parish Council liaison with the Environment Agency for Flooding.

Phone on 07896 606918 or email to [grahampearsonlhpc@gmail.com](mailto:grahampearsonlhpc@gmail.com)

### Calling all foodies!

Join our next big fundraising event, the Great Essex & Herts Feast, by getting your friends together during March and hosting your own food orientated party. You can choose to entertain your friends however you wish, whether it be a fish and chip supper, coffee morning or a black tie dinner! The key objective is to raise money by asking guests to make a donation to Essex & Herts Air Ambulance Trust. If you are stuck for inspiration, visit the Herts Air Ambulance website to feast your eyes on some delicious ideas!

Please register at [HertsAirAmbulance.uk.com](http://HertsAirAmbulance.uk.com) or call Wendy Marcon on 0845 2417 690

## Little Hadham & Albury Social Club

*As the Club didn't meet in January, this is a reminder for our February 12th meeting, which is our Annual Dinner, 7 for 7.30pm in the Village Hall. If you would like to come along, Jan, of Clouds Catering, has given us until 5th February to give the final number. For details and menu please contact 771580. Everyone is welcome; if you haven't been to a monthly meeting you will be welcome, or if you haven't been for a while, it will be great to see you.*

*Abigail, who has recently moved to Albury and attends our meetings, has organised a social evening with a talk by The National Trust, in Albury Village Hall on February 28th at 7.30pm. This sounds like an interesting evening, and everyone will be welcome.*

*We look forward to meeting you at our monthly meetings during the year. It is still only £1.50, including refreshments, plus the chance to win a raffle prize. There is no yearly joining fee and we are a happy group of neighbours and friends. Our year covers monthly talks, social evenings, one or two trips during the year, our annual dinner and there is no age limit – we would love to see some younger members (we are not an OAP Club, that's official). For information please contact 771580 or 658585.*

*This really happened on Christmas Morning at St. Thomas' Church, Mow Cop, Staffs. The Vicar asked the congregation if anyone had opened their presents before attending church. A young teenage girl said yes and she had received a Tablet. A member of the congregation murmured 'I have loads of them every morning!'*

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# WANT TO GIVE SOMETHING BACK?

WE ARE  
MACMILLAN.  
CANCER SUPPORT

Do you have some spare time and want to give something back to help people affected by cancer?

Macmillan in Hertfordshire are always looking for new volunteers to help raise more funds for people affected by cancer. Throughout the county we have Committees and Fundraising Groups who are always looking for new members – these groups organise exciting events and collections in their local towns and in 2012 raised over £100,000.

Moreover, we greatly need more volunteers to take up other roles including cheerers to support fundraisers at runs and local sporting events, local collections volunteers, and Macmillan speakers to help spread the word about the great work of Macmillan.

Every day in the UK another 822 people are diagnosed with cancer. We want to be there to reach every one of them and we need your help to do this. For more information please call the Macmillan Fundraising Support Centre on 0300 1000 200.

Macmillan Cancer Support, registered charity in England and Wales (261017) Scotland (SCO39907) and the Isle of Man (604)

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## Traffic Light Issues – an update

*As of today (18th Jan.) the police have spent 3 of the promised 5 sessions at the lights and so far have stopped and issued tickets to 45 people. Most of these have been for running the red lights from the side roads on to the A120 whilst a small minority have been for other offences, such as mobile phone usage.*

*By the publication date, the police will have completed their time observing driving behaviour at the lights and LHPC will be actively involved in discussions with them and other agencies to see where we can go to continue to eradicate selfish, thoughtless and dangerous driving habits at the lights. We shall certainly be looking at introducing modern technology that will continue to trap drivers running the red lights and overtaking stationary vehicles who have correctly obeyed the red light. The Herts and Essex Observer will also continue to run articles regarding these developments. LHPC would like to publically thank C.I. McDonald, Chris Hunt and their team for the time they have given to the local campaign to make our traffic lights a safer place for all pedestrians. Also, thanks to Helen and Justine for getting up at an unearthly time on 17th Jan to take part in a live interview for BBC Radio Three Counties who have also shown an interest in these issues. This interview went out live at 6.30am so, not surprisingly, not too many residents will have heard it. Also mentioned was the incident where the police had to remove 7 children from an overcrowded bus. This is a matter for the police and Herts County Council, with the parish council being briefed upon developments. If you have any concerns about this issue please contact your county councillor.*

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## Traffic Light Issues, continued

*If you have any comments regarding this issue please note that at least one member of the local constabulary will be giving a brief talk about their actions at our next parish council meeting on Tuesday 5th February. This presentation will precede the meeting, beginning at 7.30pm so please come along any time after 7 for a chat and refreshments. The police have spent a lot of man hours helping our campaign and this will be an opportunity to hear about future plans, raise questions of concern and to thank the police for their sustained support. Do come along.*

## 'Upkeep of a Country House'

*Folks – May I please ask that lots of parishioners from Little Hadham show their support for the "Up Keep of A Country House" event Abigail from Albury has organized? It promises to be a great evening; an interesting National Trust talk plus wine and nibbles (See p 13). Abigail has literally only just moved to Albury and is already trying to make a difference in gathering together friends past and present from Albury & Little Hadham for this special social evening. With our support Abigail's efforts will be greatly rewarded! If anyone needs a lift to Albury on the evening of Thursday 28th February or if you can help with offering a lift to folk do please contact me - my new home number is 01279 898591 or 07825 177322.*

*Many thanks - Carmela.*

*Adverts removed*

## Nature Notes Dec/Jan: The Century Arrives Jonathan Forgham

At last, a new bird species for the parish! In freezing conditions on Jan 17th I set off for a wander around Hadham Hall and areas towards Stortford. At the lagoon there were the usual suspects, little grebe, mallard, coot and 8 mute swans (a parish record). However, on the far side of the water was a pair of ducks, immediately recognisable as wigeon (right). These are duck that breed in the Russian tundra and arctic but



overwinter in huge numbers in the UK. The century bird and it only took 5 years. Faster than a Boycott innings I appreciate, but still hard work as it has been 34 months without seeing a new species. I suspect that the next will now come along quickly. Just to show how fortuitous this find was I returned in bitterly cold weather the following morning and there were no birds on the icy lagoon at all.

This highlight came in weather that was most conducive to waterfowl moving to new waters as little else has been seen recently due to temperatures falling below freezing. However, a wander around the village on the 3rd gave great views of a tawny owl (left) near South

*continued on page 14*

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*Saw a very sad map today, showing the spread of the Ash trees' attacker, Chalara fraxinea over the UK. Red dots show outbreaks all over the country, but in Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex and Kent the red dots are thick and fast. That area – frighteningly close to us – is by far the worst hit, so it looks like you might be saying a fond farewell to ash trees in your garden before too long. When Dutch Elm disease happened, my husband cut down all the elms from the perimeter of our home. He planted, in their stead, ash. Now those lovely trees stand 60 ft high and, during the summer months, shield us from the heavy traffic which ruins our peace and privacy for most of the year. It obviously won't happen overnight, but the future for our ashes looks bleak.*

*The birth of a new year usually heralds resolutions by the dozen. I didn't make any at the time, but suddenly this week I realised that I had to get to grips with all the rubbish which had accumulated in and around the house.*

*I began in the bathroom. A clear-out of old make up seemed a gentle starting point. I went through three baskets overflowing with all kinds of stuff, sorted and threw out old and shrivelled tubes and pots, and was left with . . . three baskets, neatly tidied, but still overflowing! Then I made my worst mistake. I counted my lipsticks. Now some ladies will immediately know what I'm going to admit. But the total (excluding the four lippies nestling in the depths of my handbag) was 23! Even I am aghast! In fact, it has thrown my resolve to the winds. How does one get over such unbelievable wanton excess!*

*Maybe the resolution wasn't such a good idea after all. Maybe the house wouldn't seem like home if it was all shipshape and Bristol fashion! Maybe I'll just take a break and watch the telly these dark evenings, in front of a roaring open fire. . . and hope those lipsticks are not upstairs, reproducing baby lippies to frighten me further!*

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## Jack and the Beanstalk: a review

*Those who braved the snow on Friday were rewarded with a Pantomime to remember. Due to the snow, a somewhat reduced audience was still full of anticipation and not disappointed. A hilarious evening was had by all, except perhaps for poor Neil Oxborrow...but more about that later.*

*Jack and the Beanstalk was directed in the traditional Little Hadham Panto way by newcomer Maggie Smith. She brought her considerable experience to the good ideas in John Morley's script, and the cast threw themselves into it with gusto.*

*Panto stalwart Doc Haines gave his all in a new role as the baddy, Fleshcreep – Edmund Blackadder meets Russell Brand? Thwarted by the Vegetable Fairy whose ineptitude was charming was the redoubtable Anne Senior. Sophie Maddell returned as Princess Melanie, the highlight of which was her admirable rendition of "I Dreamed a Dream".*

*Wooing the princess was accomplished new comer Lauren O'Neill as Jack, who of course won the day. Audiences were slightly bemused by the involvement of Merlin and the Sword in the Stone, and the 2nd Act started with a bizarre but brilliantly costumed chorus of Age of Aquarius – hilarious for those old enough to remember such garb (my young companion totally disbelieved that we actually wore clothes like that).*

*Another newcomer, Dee Dee Gyasi, clanged onto the stage as Clarence Clanger and smiled*

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**Adverts removed**

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

**2-24 Snowdrop Gardens**, Bennington Lordship, nr Stevenage, Herts SG2 7BS. 12noon. Free parking, Refreshments, Sorry No Dogs. Adults £5, concessions £4 (not Sundays). Under 16 £2, Under 12 Free. A donation from the proceeds will go to Isabel Hospice.

**3 Sun, Antiques Fair**, 9.30am-4pm, Golf Club, Dunmow Road, BS. Refreshments available. Admission £1.00.

**5 Tue, Parish Council**, 8pm, preceded at 7.30pm by Police who will give a brief presentation to give residents details of their recent campaign at the lights, to field questions and, hopefully, to receive thanks for their endeavours on our behalf, so please come along any time after 7 for a chat and refreshments.

**12 Tue, LH & A Social Club Annual Dinner**, 7 for 7.30pm. If you would like to come along, Jan, of Clouds Catering, has given us until 5th February to give the final number. For details and menu please contact 771580. Everyone is welcome; if you haven't been to a monthly meeting you will be welcome, or if you haven't been for a while, it will be great to see you.

**14 Thu, Valentine's Day Concert**, 8pm, Rhodes Centre, Bishop's Stortford. Herts and Soul Choir, which includes a number of Little Hadham residents, are celebrating their 3rd Birthday with a Valentine's Day Concert in support of the Royal British Legion. The choir will be singing love songs - pop, gospel, rock and musical theatre. We look forward to seeing you there! Book your tickets direct with the Rhodes Centre 01279 651746.

**14, 28 Thur, Mobile Library**, see p13.

**16 Sat, Quiz Night**, Little Hadham School Friends Association. Please contact the school, if you would like to reserve a table, 771285.

**20 Thur, Way Inn Coffee Morning**, 10am-12

noon, rear of Village Hall. Meet and make friends over a cuppa.

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

**23 Feb - 2 Mar, Iceland Winter Volcano Trek**. Discover the rugged beauty of Iceland on this 5 day trek past vast frozen lava fields, up volcanoes and over glaciers. After your trek enjoy the delights of Reykjavik such as the Blue Lagoon thermal baths! Minimum sponsorship for Isabel Hospice is £2700. Please contact Emma Lippiatt on 01707 382547

**26 Tue, Garden Club**. Ploughman's Lunch at 12noon, (please book by telephoning Karin Green 01279 771532) followed at 1pm with a talk by Robin Carsberg about Italian Lakes. What a lovely thought, as we sit surrounded by snow and freezing cold.

**28 Thur, Albury Social evening & Talk by the National Trust**, 7pm for 7.30pm start, Albury Village Hall. A social gathering, with a talk from the NT on conservation, housekeeping and 'putting the house to bed'. Entrance fee £2.00pp includes a glass of wine or soft drink plus a few nibbles. All proceeds will go to village projects. If you have any questions or suggestions about the evening please contact [soho91@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:soho91@hotmail.co.uk)

## ... and after that?

March 9 **Concert at Haileybury** in aid of Isabel Hospice. For more information please contact Annie Thomas on 07743 697776 or 01920 466867

March 16 **Isabel Hospice Sunset Swim** Entry £12 adult, £5 child. Information contact Katie Robertson in fundraising on 01707 382500.

March 26 **Garden Club AGM**

April 14 **Over 60s Fun Night**, Standon.

# NOTICEBOARD

## *The "Way Inn" Coffee Morning*

3rd Thursday of the month - **10am to 12 noon**

*Welcoming old friends and neighbours*

*Hopefully many new ones*

*Pop in and enjoy tea, coffee and biscuits etc*

*Plus a very friendly, chatty get-together*

*Always at Rear of Village Hall*



## 14th and 28th February 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.

Would YOU go  
'paper-free'?

Choose the green  
version of the Parish  
News by choosing  
to receive your copy  
online.

Email 'Paper-free' in  
the subject line to  
[htfp@clocktower.  
co.uk](mailto:htfp@clocktower.co.uk) and save us  
time and money,



## National Trust Talk & Social Evening Albury Village Hall, Thursday 28th February

Presented by the:



National  
Trust

A talk from the National Trust focusing on the  
conservation of country houses and the closing of the  
house over winter, known as 'putting the house to bed'.

There will be an entrance fee of **£2.00 per person** which  
will include a glass of wine or soft drink plus a few nibbles!

If you have any questions or suggestions about the  
evening please contact Abbi: [soho91@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:soho91@hotmail.co.uk)

**7pm for 7.30pm start - All proceeds will go toward village projects**

## Nature Notes, continued from page 8

Cottages along with nuthatches, tree creeper and stock dove. The treat for me was a marsh tit in woods near Westland Green, the first I have seen for a long time, anywhere. A bird that is certainly struggling in Herts. and sadly, will probably go the same way as its almost identical relative, the willow tit, ie extinct in our county.

On the 10th I was fortunate enough to be booked to give a bird lecture at Sandwich Bay Bird Observatory, so spent the morning birding at Dungeness. Phenomenal is the only word.

12000 razorbills, 8000 guillemots (both sea faring auks) plus 3000 great crested grebes feeding on the English Channel. In all my years of birding (50) I had never witnessed such numbers of these birds. Whilst at Sandwich Bird Obs I also observed a dartford warbler, an irregular breeding bird for the UK along with 7 splendid snow bunting on the beach near the golf course.

On the 19th Dec. I took a day to travel around the county, stopping at Tring Reservoirs, Stockers Lake at Rickmansworth and Tyttenhanger gravel pits near Hatfield. Here, I was taking a couple of

folk birding. We managed over 70 species for the day, including red crested pochard, red kite, smew and goldeneye. A cracking day out.

On a few of the warmer nights I have run the moth trap in the garden and the year total now stands at 3 species, with a spring usher (above) a good find on the 11th January. Other species have been winter moth and several pale brindled beauty.

Along nut walk I came across the first flowering plants of the year, some aconites, their yellow petals certainly brightening up a dull morning.

Over the following couple of months the tawny owls will continue to call and begin raising their young whilst the familiar sound of woodpeckers "drumming" their territorial message will also be heard throughout local woods.

Regular updates and photos can be found at <http://littlehadhambirding.blogspot.co.uk> and please do contact me regarding any mysterious sightings. A photo does help along with a description, however brief. [jforgham@theprimaryworks.com](mailto:jforgham@theprimaryworks.com)



Folks - Quick reminder, during winter more than ever, do please drop a tin of dog or cat food into the BIG ORANGE BINS at either Tesco's or Sainsbury's - The Animal Rescue Centre at Foxdells are forever grateful for all the donations given throughout the year - I pass their THANKS on to you all.

Carmela 07825 177322

## Down at the doctor's

Paul Haimes

*This month I have good news for all non-swimmers. As part of our extension building we have managed, hopefully, to cure the car park of flooding (except in extreme circumstances, as we saw recently opposite the Old Crown!) It was proposed to close the car park for re-surfacing on Friday 18th January, snow permitting, so all should be completed by the time you read this.*

*As should the extension itself. The extra consulting room is already subject to territorial claims and, not surprisingly, is already being fully utilised! It will be very useful, initially, for each doctor to use it in turn whilst we re-decorate and spruce up the existing rooms.*

*Our new dispensary staff have now settled in and survived the silly season that is, invariably, the Christmas/New Year rush. We dispensed just over 11,000 items in December, a record. All staff; the receptionists, whose job it is to process the prescriptions prior to ordering and dispensing by the girls in the dispensary were all very busy and coped admirably. However, I ask you to not add extra pressure by running out of medication, needing it by the next day or by putting in extra holiday requests at a moment's notice. Our staff do more than ever before; dispensing to St Elizabeth's, and Ashview Nursing home in Widford, in addition to providing some elderly patients with dossette boxes.*

*We need 72hrs (or 3 working days) to cope safely with the prescription workload so please help us to continue to provide a safe and efficient dispensing service to Much Hadham and surrounding villages.*

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## Little Hadham School

*Believing and Achieving*

*If we thought that it couldn't get better than singing at the Royal Albert Hall – think again! Last month, our Year 5/6 children joined with 7,000 other children from around the south of England to sing at the 'Young Voices Concert' in the O2 in London. In their singing lessons, the children learned a wide range of different song medleys to sing together, ranging from disco, rock through to psalms, and sang to a packed O2 Arena. It was absolutely fantastic!*

*This month back in school, all the children will be joining together in 'Sign2Sing', a national event, where the children learn specific songs and use sign language to raise awareness of the difficulties deaf children face each day. We do enjoy singing at Little Hadham!*

*Looking further ahead, our FRIENDS Association are running their annual 'Quiz Night' on Saturday 16th March, so please contact the school if you would like to reserve a table.*

*Thank you for your continued support.*

Liz Stockley, Head Teacher

### A message from the Friends of Easton Lodge

*As an addition to the opening times listed last month on page 5, please note that the grounds of Warwick House are not included in the tours and that there will be no general admittance to the public; it is for pre-booked groups only. The owners of Warwick House are often bothered by people wandering on their land thinking the gardens are open and we want to try and stop this happening as much as we possibly can. Thank you.*

*Adverts removed*

## Keep Warm, Stay Well funds available to local groups

*With temperatures set to drop over the next few weeks, elderly and vulnerable people living in a cold home could be at risk of serious illness and even death.*

*Hertfordshire County Council has been awarded a £395,000 share of the Department of Health's Warm Homes Healthy People Fund to help older people and those on low incomes who are struggling to keep warm in their homes this winter. Homeless people will be provided with warm clothes and food and some housing shelters will have extended opening hours.*

*Some of the money is available to voluntary organisations, social enterprises and community groups working with people who are at risk. It can also be used to support local authority initiatives aimed at these vulnerable groups. Are you running a project which does not already have funding and can deliver support to vulnerable people living in cold housing, or those who are homeless? If so, Hertfordshire County Council is inviting applications from you to receive funding. All funding must be allocated by 31 March 2013. Terms and conditions apply to all applications and more information can be found at [www.hertsdirect.org/hertshelp](http://www.hertsdirect.org/hertshelp) or call Andy Nazer on 01438 84111.*

*Keeping warm in the colder months is vital and can help prevent illnesses. Those who already experience a long term health condition, such as severe asthma or a chest or heart complaint, face the additional risk of having a stroke or heart attack in cold conditions. Ideally older people, very young children and those in poor health should heat their living room to 21°C during the day and the bedroom to 18°C at night.*

*If people are struggling or they're worried about family members, friends or neighbours, they should contact HertsHelp on 0300 123 4044 (local call rate), as there is all kinds of support available from a whole network of partners who are working together to protect those most at risk in our community. For more information about HertsHelp, visit [www.hertsdirect.org/hertshelp](http://www.hertsdirect.org/hertshelp)*

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# Superfast Broadband

## **Register for superfast broadband and help improve opportunities for your children.**

*High quality internet access is essential for many aspects of modern life – especially education. So Hertfordshire County Council wants to improve broadband in the county – particularly in areas which currently have no access or suffer very slow speeds. And we need your help.*

*Not everyone can access superfast broadband. From town to town, and even street to street, connection speeds vary significantly. Although our schools are already connected to broadband services, through the Hertfordshire Internet and Connectivity Service, teachers, students and parents will all benefit if the county council is successful in bringing better broadband services to our homes.*

*We have some funding to improve our broadband – but not enough to make all the improvements we want to. So we need to demonstrate to our suppliers that investing in broadband services in the county would be worth their while.*

*The more people that sign up to say they would like superfast broadband, the more likely we are to improve broadband provision in the county.*

### **How do I sign up?**

*You can register your support online at [www.superfastforherts.org/home](http://www.superfastforherts.org/home) by completing our short survey. It should take no more than three minutes to complete and will instantly show support for our campaign.*

*If you do not have online access you can call us on 01438 737350 and our customer service*

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**Adverts removed**

## Superfast Broadband, continued

centre can register for you.

Please note that by signing up you are not committing yourself to buying any broadband services.

### **What happens next?**

Once you have registered your interest, you can see how many people have registered for superfast broadband in Hertfordshire and your local area through the map on our website.

The more people in Hertfordshire interested in taking up faster broadband that we can show our suppliers, the more fibre we should be able to lay with the funding available, so please spread the word.

More information on the campaign is available via our website: [www.superfastforherts.org](http://www.superfastforherts.org).

## Sale of Stansted Airport – Press Statement

### **Issued by Stop Stansted Expansion 21 January 2013**

Stop Stansted Expansion (SSE) welcomes the news that BAA is to sell Stansted Airport to Manchester Airport Group. SSE Chairman Peter Sanders commented: "Our hope is that we can build a constructive relationship with Stansted's new owners based on maximising the benefits of the airport and minimising its adverse impacts."

*Adverts removed*

## Jack and the Beanstalk: a review, continued from page 11

joyfully throughout the evening.

Aided and abetted by the usual couple of buffoons (Richard Mardell, and welcome back Colin Brookbanks), King Satupon (David Locke) courted the gorgeous Dame Trot (Robin Gregory), almost too believably – he's a rather worryingly excellent Dame and the scene was pretty unforgettable.

Simple Simon (Gill Stigwood) needed more "kids" in the audience, but carried on regardless in true panto style, much to everyone's delight and Daisy the cow (Marge Ellis, Cathy Wheatley) is a definite possible candidate for Strictly. How Ian Bailey survived in the Giant's costume is anyone's guess, the effect was quite scary.

Jill Stigwood gave her usual inimitable performance as Mrs Blunderbore and the chorus amazed us this year with an age range of 14 to 80, assisted by the gorgeous dancing of the Jenny Myhill girls. The choruses were upbeat and catchy as ever, I wanted to get up and join them. The costumes and sets were stupendous and it was obvious how much work had gone into them, but the stunning growth of the beautiful "beanstalk" from centre stage leading to more amazing sets in "Cloudland, stole the show. Don't worry Neil, the obstinate roller only caused huge entertainment for the band and captivated audience - never once did I look at my watch. I can't end though without a mention of the "Men's Dance".

The girly dancing of Docs Haines and Brookbanks with Richard Mardell, brought the house down; from Saturday Night Fever to Gangnam style – brilliant.

**Adverts removed**

## CVS Community Car Scheme

### Need a lift or like to volunteer?

*The Council for Voluntary Service has introduced a new social car scheme to help people living in Ware, Hertford, Bishop's Stortford and surrounding villages who struggle to use public transport due to age, frailty or impaired mobility to get around.*

*If you do not have access to a car or someone who can help you out, this scheme might be right for you to cover your transport needs for essential health and social appointments (doctor or hospital appointments, church visits, visiting friends and relatives, shopping etc.). Volunteers are paid 45 pence/mile directly by the client.*

*We are also looking for volunteer drivers. If you enjoy working with people, are compassionate and reliable, have a clean driving licence, a car and some time to spare, we would like to hear from you.*

*For detailed information please visit [www.drivenbythecommunity.org.uk](http://www.drivenbythecommunity.org.uk) or contact us on 01920 466942.*

*Adverts removed*

## Minestrone Soup Serves 6

*A soup to fill you up and keep blood sugar levels level.*

*2 tbsp olive oil*

*1 onion diced*

*1 clove garlic, roughly chopped*

*2 carrots, peeled and diced*

*2 sticks celery, diced*

*400g can chopped tomatoes*

*1 large sprig basil, chopped or 1 tsp dried basil*

*Salt & pepper*

*400g can cannellini beans drained and rinsed*

*Half spring pointed cabbage, chopped*

*The best way to make this soup is to cook the ingredients as you can. Gently heat the olive oil in a large saucepan, add the garlic and onion and gently fry while you peel and dice the carrots. Stir them in and then the celery. Stir in the tinned tomatoes and then fill the can with water, twice, and mix into the vegetables with the basil. Season and simmer for 30 minutes. Mix in the drained cannellini beans, the chopped cabbage and simmer for approx 15 mins. To serve sprinkle with grated parmesan cheese.*

*I find the soup tastes even better the next day. If you don't want soggy cabbage, put in enough for the first day and then add remainder the following day.*

## Little Hadham Parish Council is Back!

Our First Meeting of 2013

Village Hall on

Tuesday 5th February

We promise, as always, a busy agenda @ 8pm

Everyone Most Welcome!

*Adverts removed*

## Church footpath

Over the Christmas period those faithful souls who attended St Cecilia's Church for the Candle Light Carols, Christingle or the School Epiphany Service will remember struggling across soggy, uneven and slippery grass from the car park to the Porch.

The long hoped-for footpath to link those two locations has not been built due to many legal and other difficulties, but the generosity of Robert & Dorothy Collins in providing the car park for the use of Church goers must be acknowledged. Therefore, preliminary discussions with the Diocese have taken place regarding construction of a footpath.

It is thought that the total build cost will amount to about £7,000 and this is on top of our recent roof, damp repair and other bills of £16,500. Although some grants were awarded in respect of the earlier repairs it is anticipated that the Church will have to shoulder most of the costs of the new footpath.

Some years ago the Village Hall Committee found itself in a similarly pecuniary position and advertised for local people to sponsor or pay for a square yard (or was it a brick?) of its car park. The Church is to follow that example and hope to find enough donors before work on the footpath commences.

Further progress will be announced in the Parish News in due course.

## A date for your Diary

**Over 60s Fun Night, Sunday 14 April, 5.30pm – 9pm  
at The Community Centre, Standon**

The cost will be only £3 per ticket which will include a fish and chip meal, pudding, coffee/tea and drinks, free bingo and a free raffle both with prizes. There will also once again be a 1-hour show by a professional troupe entitled 'That's Entertainment'.

Tickets for the event can be obtained either from Standon Post Office or myself direct (01279 842625) and we can also arrange a limited number of transports to and from the event for any attendees with special needs.

We can accommodate up to roundly 120 senior citizens naturally on a first come first served basis.

Denis Olliver

## Useful phone numbers

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

**Environment Agency Incident Line:**  
0800 807060

**Smell Gas?** Call free on 0800 111 999

**Mobile Library info:** 01438 737333

**Police non-emergency phone number:** 101

**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, 771 697

**Water/Sewage problems, call Thames Water**  
on 0800 376 5325

# February diary for Little Hadham and Albury

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

## **3 Sunday**

### **The Presentation of Christ**

9.30am

Sung Matins at St Cecilia's, Little Hadham

11.15am

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

## **10 Sunday**

### **Sunday before Lent**

9.30am

Shared Communion & Sunday School, St Cecilia's, Little hadham

## **13 Wednesday**

### **Ash Wednesday**

10.30am

Team Communion at St Andrew's, Much Hadham

## **17 Sunday**

### **Lent 1**

8am

Holy Communion, St Cecilia's, Little Hadham

9.30am

Village Hall Service, Little Hadham

## **24 Sunday**

### **Lent 2**

11.15am

Parish Communion, St Mary's, Albury

*No Evensong at St Cecilia's, Little Hadham*

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

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## **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**

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



**Valentine's Day Concert, see p12**

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

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

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