

Little Hadham Parish News

November 2014



Rector of Parish: Revd. Giles Tulk
01279 842609

e-mail: muchhadhamrectory@gmail.com

Asst. Priest: Revd. Clive Slaughter
01279 844955

e-mail: cp.slaughter@virgin.net

Team Vicar: Revd. Stephen Fielding
01279 771892

e-mail: sfielding@hotmail.com

Churchwarden: Don Gibson 771325

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

Letter from the Rectory



When the Saints Go Marching In

From an early age I inherited an interest in traditional jazz from my father as we listened to his old records, featuring among others Louis Armstrong, Bix Biederbeck and the then young Chris Barber, Acker Bilk and Kenny Ball. One of the earliest songs I remember listening to was Kenny Ball's jazzmen playing When the Saints Go Marching In. I am sure many people are familiar with the chorus of the song:

*Oh, when the saints go marching in
Oh, when the saints go marching in
Lord, how I want to be in that number
When the saints go marching in.*

The reason why I mention this is that on Sunday 2nd November the Church celebrates All Saints Day. Many people who are familiar with the major Church festivals such as Christmas and Easter may be unaware of All Saints Day and that it is such an important date in our Church calendar.

So what do we as a Church celebrate on All Saints Day? The short answer is the communion of saints. This is our belief as a Church that all of God's people, both on earth and in heaven are part of one communion. Because of our common communion with and through Jesus Christ, our prayers are joined together with the heavenly community of Christians. Therefore on All Saints Day we remember all the saints who have gone before us. Some saints, such as St Cecilia, are well known, and have their own special day in the Church calendar. But on All Saints day we remember all the saints, both known and unknown. This covers all those people who have died in the Christian faith: our family and friends, famous people and all those we have never met or even heard of but who in their lives quietly demonstrated their Christian faith.

What a wonderful thought that those we remember on this day are praying with us and for us in heaven, and that one day we will join them. Which brings us back to the hope expressed in the final two verses of the song:

*Lord, how I want to be in that number
When the saints go marching in.*

God Bless, Reverend Giles

Save our Library Bus

The time has come again to try to save the parish's access to a fortnightly mobile library service. East Herts Council have opened a consultation called "inspiring libraries" looking to make needed financial cuts. [See article, p8] Unfortunately they are proposing to replace the Mobile Library Service with an expanded Home Library Service. The Home Library Service delivers books and recordings to the homes of customers who are unable to access their local library because they are housebound, have a disability or mobility difficulty, or care for someone at home.

This solution doesn't cater for the children in our community gaining a great deal from visiting the mobile library, many of which are unlikely to visit the town library in the buses absence.

continued on page 21

Parish Council News

Bypass and Flood Alleviation Scheme Consultation 16th Oct to 3rd Dec.

During October, Herts County Council and the Environment Agency held an exhibition in the Village Hall where people could see the designs that are being put forward into the planning application and residents could make their own views known to the experts involved in this project. This included how the decision making process will work, and visual images showing what the road will look like and the visual impact it will have on the countryside. It showed where the road will be screened from view and where it will be visible at the flood alleviation section that will help take 68 homes out of the 1 in 100 year flood threat. It also sought views on traffic calming for the current A120 for when the bypass is opened, so that rat running can be prevented. The Parish Council were present and ensured that the planners were in possession of all the known views from the residents. The consultation information is now available to view at County Hall, or via their website at www.hertsdirect.org/a120consult where you can continue to submit your views until 3rd Dec. If you know of any one that is not aware of the bypass and its potential effect on the Parish, then please pass on the details so that they can be part of the consultation.

Flooding:

The Parish Council is continuing to work with the Multi Agency group and Oliver Heald MP on the continuing flood issues in the village, at the A120 traffic lights, The Ford, Chapel Lane, Green Street, Millfield Lane, and Ashcroft Lane. There is to be a Review meeting for progress held in the Late Autumn at the Village Hall. If you have any concerns on flooding that you would like presented at this meeting, please

let the Parish Council know.

Planters:

Last year the Parish Council installed two Planters that were maintained with the help of residents. They have helped to improve the visual amenity of the Parish, and as such a further Planter is to be installed near to the Village Hall, and one to be installed at Bury Green. If you would like to help keep the Planters looking good, then please do help out with plants through the year, and watering.

Potential Housing Development at Ashcroft Farm:

At the last Parish Council meeting we received a presentation from a developer expressing an interest to build 15 houses at land at Ashcroft Farm. Whilst LHPC cannot comment until a planning application is made, it was thought it would be useful to bring the information to the attention of the Community. Residents raised various concerns regarding access, parking, road safety joining the A120, flooding, sewer blocking, etc, and the developer stated he has taken these concerns on board and is changing his plans. To date a formal planning application has not been made.

Trees at The Ford:

These are to be lopped for safety issues by a team of village volunteers. Anyone with tree knowledge and good equipment, or just able to lend a hand, please contact Jono Forgham, Chair LHPC.

Road Safety:

There are continuing safety concerns about cars 'rat running' and speeding through Cradle End, Millfield Lane, Bury Green, Acremore Street and Ford Hill and through Westland Green. The Parish Council are looking into any options available to help reduce this problem.

continued on page 8

Talk about being a 'country bumpkin' but I visited the Westfield Centre at Stratford for the very first time this week. I was taken by a street-wise friend who knows more about London than most Londoners do! I was amazed at the transformation of the area – from dirty to decidedly dishy with tourists in abundance, all thanks to the aftermath of the Olympics. With the stadium looking almost within touching distance and the Olympic Park right there, it looks and feels good. Despite the Olympics being on our doorstep, I seemed to be the only person who didn't go because I was never successful when I applied for tickets for the events I loved ... and consequently never got nearer than our telly to watch the Games!

For any of you who have not, as yet, ventured into the Westfield Centre, I advise you to go. It's huge, glitzy and very American. I loved it! You need comfortable shoes, lightweight clothes and boundless energy. Most of our well known brands have a shop there with the most up to date merchandise available. There's also an M&S (for those who feel cheated if there isn't one) plus a John Lewis department store. And, of course, there are dozens of eating places offering food from around the world. While we ate salads from Morocco we listened to a pianist, watched visitors sampling freebie chocolates and viewed a nearby cookery demonstration! Wow, I could hardly concentrate on eating!

Although untried, as yet, there is also casino, a 17-screen cinema and a bowling alley too. But now I know it's all there, I'll be back.

PS We took the (slow) train from Stortford straight through to Stratford. It couldn't be easier!

Adverts removed

Remembrance Day Service: 9th November

For several years the number of people attending Little Hadham's Remembrance Day Service at the War Memorial has steadily increased from the twenty or so in the early 1990s to more than 120 last year. This year we will meet there on **Sunday 9th November at 10.50am** to pay our respects to those who, 100 years ago, left Little Hadham to defend our country, and failed to return.

This Service is traditionally 'lay led', meaning it is conducted, not by a priest, but by a local person who has a long connection with our village. In past years Mick Grace has always filled this role and has done so with great distinction. Sadly, Mick died last December and so the Church has asked Edward Middleton, another long time resident of Little Hadham, to take Mick's place and lead us in this the Centenary Year.

We hope you will join us to pay your respects to those local men who 'gave their todays for our tomorrows.

[Cover picture shows a good turn-out at the Memorial Service.]

Conkers!

The Museum hosted its 5th Conker Championships on Sunday 12th with great support in the categories. Visitors and contestants enjoyed a beautiful afternoon with delicious hot dogs and soup. The Forge was in full swing and congratulations to all who took part and thank you for supporting the event.

Thank you also to all the volunteers who put in a tremendous amount of hard work to prepare for all weathers. Incidentally, you may notice the Conker tree will be having tree maintenance carried out, in readiness for a great season next year.

If you missed the WWI Exhibition, you can still see it for free. It is a stimulating experience for all ages to read the personal stories from our communities and see the Year 5 and 6 art exhibition from St Andrew's School.

07949 577760 www.hadhammuseum.org.uk

Adverts removed

Village Halls Survey

ACRE (Action with Communities in Rural England) undertook a survey of village halls across England. The survey returned 1,300 responses, (13%) that were used to derive the statistics for this report. Key findings of the ACRE 2014 Village Halls Survey* include:

- Hall volunteers make a total commitment worth almost £85m annually, at a notional rate of £7 an hour.
- The average age of a village hall committee member is 58 – the age range stretches from 18 to 98.
- Each village hall hosts an average of nine life events, such as weddings, christening parties or wakes each year – a grand total of 90,000 gatherings.
- More than 15,000 events to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee were held at village halls in 2012
- Village hall users and volunteers munch their way through a total of 47,500 packets of biscuits each week – washed down by 743,000 cups of tea. That's nearly 2.5 million packets of biscuits and 38.6 million cups of tea each year – or 9.6 million litres (2.1 million gallons).

An estimated £11m has been invested in work on village hall buildings in the past four years.

The most popular uses for village halls are preschool and nursery groups; fitness classes; dance classes; clubs and groups for older people including luncheon clubs, retirement clubs, the University of the Third Age; and organisations for young people – including Scouts and Guides, youth clubs, and Girls' and Boys' Brigades.

The survey showed the growth in popularity of fitness classes, particularly Pilates and Zumba, and dance activities from ballet to salsa. Around 1,000 village halls, or 10%, host a community

continued on page 7

Adverts removed

Village Halls Survey, continued from page 6

enterprise such as post office, community shop, coffee shop, library, cinema or farmers' market. However, almost a quarter of all halls don't derive any financial benefit from this activity. More than 90,000 individuals, small businesses and professionals use England's village halls to earn their living, or part of it, during the year. Some of the more unusual activities at halls include Appalachian clog dancing, calligraphy, a big breakfast, a 'Friendly Friday' drop-in evening, curling and stick dressing. Nearly a quarter of halls were built before World War I, while an estimated 600 were built to commemorate World War I or individuals who perished during that conflict.

For more information about the village halls service, visit www.acre.org.uk

Tim Hayward-Smith or Kath Sexton can be contacted on 01707 695504 for information and advice.

Jack May Trust Fund: Save the Date!

Russell Savory will be giving a talk in aid of the Jack May Trust Fund on Saturday 7th March 2015 about Stow Marie's Aerodrome. Russell will speak of the aerodrome's history, the restoration work and the amazing wildlife that can be found there. More details to follow over the next few months.

Adverts removed

Parish Council News, continued from page 3

By-way at Westland Green:

The Green is currently looking very good thanks to the work of Mr Stigwood cutting the grass, and the HCC Footpaths working on the by-way. The surface of the by-way has been restored using materials to help prevent off roaders digging potholes, and becoming stuck. There are some wooden posts being installed soon at the sides of the by-way to help keep vehicles on the route so that if vehicles drive elsewhere on the Green then the Police can take steps to deal with it. Especially useful

would be any video/photos that you could upload to Bishop's Stortford Police on their Twitter site so that they can take action, <https://twitter.com/BStortPolice>.

Next Parish Council is Tuesday 4th November at 8pm in the Village Hall. We now use the main hall so there is plenty of space, and there is also a hearing loop installed for the hard of hearing. Please come and let the Councillors know what you would like to see happen in our village, and listen to the work that is being carried out.

Delivering 'Inspiring Libraries'

Following the public consultation in 2013, the County Council has developed 'Inspiring Libraries' – a new strategy that sets out our ambitions for Hertfordshire Library Service over the next ten years. 'Inspiring Libraries' is based on three main themes:

please turn to page 18

Adverts removed

Little Hadham & Albury Garden Club

We had a really interesting talk in September from Richard Ford on Ornamental Grasses. He gave us lots of ideas of how to use them in the garden and combine them with other plants for spectacular effects.

Our next meeting is on Tuesday 18th November at 8pm in Little Hadham Village Hall. We have a speaker from RHS Hyde Hall coming to talk about Dry Gardens (writing this in mid-October I hope it has stopped raining by then!).

Our Club Supper is on Saturday 29th November please contact Karin Green for information on 771532.

Little Hadham & Albury Social Club

Richard Thomas visited us again this evening and gave another excellent talk, this time 'The Lee from the Old Ford to The Thames'. He had historic information and maps of The River Lee in the East End of London, its tributaries and development right up to the huge alterations brought about with London's winning the bid to hold the Olympic Games in 2012. Fascinating.

Our 11th November meeting is Jonathan's annual nature notes in our Parish, plus details of holidays he has taken. Because he contacts his birding colleagues we usually have an excellent attendance, but everyone is welcome – 7.45 for 8pm.

Adverts removed

Little Hadham School

Believing and Achieving

Our 'Outstanding' grade for Behaviour and Safety from OFSTED in June contributed greatly to our most recent success - the accreditation of the National Equalities Award. A great deal of work went in to the compilation of the evidence portfolio which clearly demonstrated our commitment to making Little Hadham Primary a fully inclusive school! Only four other schools in Herts have achieved this award, so we are very proud of this acknowledgement.

We welcome our village friends to join us for our very special Remembrance Assembly on 11th November at 10.45am, which is even more special this year with the WW1 Centenary. This is just a part of our week long World War 1 Theme Week, where we will be helping the children to understand the enormity and impact of the events from 1914-1918.

By popular demand, we will again be hanging out our Christmas presents in the trees outside school to promote our Christmas Bazaar, which takes place on 30th November from 12-3pm, so do look out for them and come along and start off your Christmas celebrations with us!

Thank you for your continued support.

Liz Stockley, Headteacher

Albury Acorns Are you looking for a nurturing pre-school for your 2 to 5 year old child? We are a facility offering an invaluable introduction for your little ones to the social and learning skills they will need when they start school. Along with having great fun and making wonderful friends our children enjoy lots of activities from singing, dancing, dressing up, painting and cooking, as well as benefit from playing in our secure outdoor area and taking lovely countryside walks in the village! Sessions run from 9.15am to 12.15pm, with an additional hour for lunch for the older children, daily (excluding Wednesdays at present) at Albury Village Hall. We currently have space available in all sessions, so if you are interested in visiting and seeing our lovely environment and what we can offer your child, please contact Sue on 07826 303560 or email alburyacorns@live.co.uk Watch your little Acorns grow!

Adverts removed

The Indian summer continues, with temperatures still way above average as I write. (19th) A month where migrants were hard to come by apart from one or two exceptions.

Bird wise, all very quiet around the parish with the regular birds all in place but no sign of the winter visitors. Tawny owls and little owls remain in fine voice, with up to 5 tawnies calling all night around The Ford, including one individual that took up a calling post on our roof on the 14th. This is the start of the owl courtship and territory building as they lay eggs early in the New Year. Other noteworthy birds around the parish were: chiffchaffs at several sites, 2 red kites visiting the hill opposite the pub for a few afternoons in early October, cormorants over Hadham Hall and the return of coal tits to our garden, feeding on insects that rest in the fruit trees.

Visits away from the parish have taken me to Kent, a weekend at Portland Bird Observatory and a day in Norfolk. All gave views of rare birds, with this wryneck at Portland Bill being a particular highlight. At Cley, North Norfolk, notable birds were several yellow browed warblers, a firecrest, grey phalarope and this stunning adult male snow bunting (overleaf) that I discovered along the shingle. This is early for these to be arriving and, with other birds cropping up early from Scandinavia and Siberia it could be the start of a good early winter for birds, but also an indication that we are



continued on page 16

Adverts removed

What's on in November

in the Village Hall unless otherwise stated

4 Tue, Parish Council, 8pm. Everybody welcome to come along.

5 Wed, Film of Little Hadham Goes to War, 8pm. Admission on the door £2, includes refreshments during the interval. See p13.

6,20 Thur, Mobile Library, See p13.

7 Fri, Royston Lions Barn Dance, 7.30 for 8pm, Presdales School, Hoe Lane, Ware. for Isabel Hospice. Tickets £12.50, include f&c supper and choc ice, from 01707 382500.

9 Sun, First World War exhibition, St Mary's, Albury, with an opening of the church on **Nov 11** at 7.30 to hear about men lost to Albury.

11 Tue, Remembrance Assembly, 10.45am, at the LH Primary School. We welcome our village friends to join us.

11 Tue, LH & A Social Club, 7.45 for 8pm. **Jonathan's Nature Notes:** local round up of sightings within the village for 2014 and then the Birds of Sri Lanka, Everybody welcome with tea and coffee served during the interval.

11 Tue, War Horse - 'Being Joey,' 8pm, St Andrew's School MH. Local girl Ruth Rogers played 'Joey' in 'War Horse' for 2 years. Hear the story behind this West End hit show and its star Joey. Tickets £10 (a hot supper will be served by Hopleys). Refreshments will be served or you are welcome to bring your own wine. To reserve tickets, email hadham.museum@btinternet.com, 07949 577760 or from the Museum.

12 Fri, A Night with the Overtures, 60s tribute band, for Isabel Hospice. Tickets online at: www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/a-night-with-the-overtures-tickets-12849684753.

15 Sat, Stepping Out, MH Drama Group at MH Village Hall, tickets £25 each - to include a Fish and Chip supper. Info. 01279 842140 or Barbara@thedohertys.info.

15 Sat, Isabel Hospice Lights of Love Ware 4pm-4.45pm, Van Hage, Pepper Hill, Ware, SG12 9RP. Join us in remembering loved ones. Names will be entered in a Book of Love, which following the ceremony, will be at the nearest Isabel Hospice shop. Online entry for the Book of Love at <http://www.isabelhospice.org.uk>.

18 Tue, LH & A Garden Club, 8pm. 'Dry Gardens', a talk by a speaker from RHS Hyde Hall.

19 Wed, Hadhams' History Soc, 8pm, LHVH, "The History of the Bishop's Palace, Much Hadham," by Cristina Harrison.

20 Thur, Way Inn Coffee Morning, 12.30-1.45pm, rear of Village Hall. Enjoy a cuppa, or soup and a roll with your friends.

29 Sat, Farmers' Market, 8.30 - 11.30am. Come and do your Christmas shopping here!

29 Sat, Christmas Bazaar, St Elizabeth's SG10 6EW. Santa's Grotto and market. Info: 01279 844355.

29 Sat, Garden Club Supper. Please contact Karin Green for information on 771532.

30 Sun, Christmas Bazaar, 12-3pm, LH Primary School. Start off your Christmas celebrations with us!

30 Sun, Reflections at Christmas, 4pm St Elizabeth's Chapel, SG10 6EW, Light a candle for a loved one, followed by mulled wine and mince pies.

30 Sun, Christmas Fayre noon-6pm, the Forge, MH. Santa's Grotto, reindeer guests.

Coming soon

Dec 5, **Christmas Fair** Furneux Pelham School.

Dec 5, **Santa Dash,** Fun Run one mile for St Elizabeth's. Info: 01279 844355.

Dec 6, **Ware Choral Handel's Messiah.** Tickets 01920 462346, £15 reserved, £13 unreserved.

NOTICEBOARD

BY POPULAR REQUEST

LITTLE HADHAM PARISH PLAN GROUP PRESENTS

The filming of **LITTLE HADHAM GOES TO WAR**
8PM ON WEDNESDAY 5TH NOVEMBER 2014

LITTLE HADHAM Village Hall

ADMISSION on the door £2.

Includes refreshments during the interval

Please could all residents of Green Street, and all those who drive or walk along Green Street contact the local council whenever the lane is flooded. I have contacted our local MP Oliver Heald regarding the flooding of the lane. My home was flooded in February and I am anxious that if nothing is done it could happen again. The regularity and level of flood water is of concern.

Contact can be made via www.hertsdirect.org/highways or www.hertsdirect.org/a120consult or to Oliver Heald at oliver.heald.mp@parliament.uk

Elaine Lummis

Top tips for being dog savvy

- Where possible dispose of dog faeces in a designated dog waste bin
- If you can't find a dog bin, bag your pet's faeces and take it home for disposal
- If no other option is available, pick up any mess and seal it well using a bag which can then be carefully placed in a standard public litter bin

Love dogs? Hate dog fouling? If you know of someone who persistently fails to pick up after their pet, report them in confidence by calling 01279 655261.

Furneux Pelham School Fireworks Display Sunday 2nd November

Gates open at 5pm, display at 6pm. Hotdogs, bar, glowsticks and yummy things.

Family ticket (4 people) £20
Adults £6, children £5

Pre-purchased tickets include a hotdog. No charge for pre-schoolers (hotdogs can be purchased on the night)! Please contact Michelle Rose on 01279

777024/07811 862336
email: mich_rose@hotmail.com
for further information and to purchase tickets

6th & 20th November Mobile Library

Nag's Head from 13.30 - 13.50

The Smithy from 13.55 - 14.15

Bury Green from 14.30 - 15.30

A fortnightly service.

The Dame's Diary

... and so it begins again, a strange, almost bizarre metamorphosis that has been seen in this village for over 40 years but remains, nonetheless, mysterious and, at times, irrational. Intelligent people, all of whom have positions of trust, who serve or who have served us daily over years, start to behave in odd ways.

One may run a Post Office; another may spend days heroically curing the sick. One, it is rumoured, was trusted over many years with the education and moral formation of a legion of young people. Does one other bravely and daily ride a big red fire engine? Yet these stalwarts of the community start to sing in strange voices, to dance in disjointed movements and most alarmingly, try on dresses, if they are men, and don trousers and boots, if they be women. Common sense has vanished.

Of course, it is the Village Panto. What else could produce such a total collapse of decorum and self-respect? This year, so it is said, all of this is in the cause of Ali Baba. He is in pursuit of Abadan, a right crook, but at the same time he, himself, is the target of the beautiful, lithesome Salmonella, she who runs the Fish and Chippie in the old Bazaar. I suspect there is no way he will avoid her romantic snares. There are, however, many weeks of what these strange people called "the Cast" refer to as "Rehearsals". Will their course of true love run true? I'll let you know in the next issue.

All My Love, Salmonella

Adverts removed

Health Watch Summary

On 24th September Healthwatch Hertfordshire (an independent 'incorporated body' with links to the Care Quality Commission) launched their "Accessing GP Services" report. The report looked at how local communities viewed ways in which they could contact, and access their doctors' surgery. The team stated that 'Stort Valley and Villages' were chosen for this project as they seemed to have more concerns than other areas regarding satisfaction with GP services. The report aims to identify these issues and to suggest solutions which can be used locally and across the county.

Surgeries which the report looks at include the Much Hadham Health Centre. The survey team conducted interviews with as many residents within Little Hadham Parish as possible in May and June by, for example, setting up stands at the monthly Little Hadham farmers' market in the Village Hall, and by spending a day on the East Herts mobile library bus as it travelled through our Parish.

Comments about the Much Hadham Surgery included complaints such as:

- It's difficult to get an appointment same week
- Reception put calls immediately on hold
- There are privacy issues at reception
- The receptionists' people skills could be improved
- More information about the online booking system is needed.

continued on page 18

Adverts removed

Nature Notes, continued from page 11

in for a sharp, cold snap.

In all this year, I have now recorded over 70 birds within the parish out of the total I have seen since 2008 of 104. Still a few that will turn up over the next few weeks. A strange record was of 4+ black tailed godwits migrating over Allen's Green at 10pm on the 12th. I only identified these on call as it was too dark to see them as they headed south west. Coincidentally 3 black tailed godwits were found at Tring Reservoirs the following morning!



The undoubted highlight of the reporting period was finding a strange micro moth in the trap on the 15th. I potted it, put it in the fridge and returned to identifying it that evening. Being only 1 cm long and well marked made this a little difficult, but eventually I thought I had nailed it, contacted the county recorder who not only confirmed it as I thought, a *Diasemiopsis ramburialis* but also gave me a few details. Only about 20 sites have recorded them in the UK and almost all on the coast. It is a migrant moth from Northern Africa and will have made its way north with the help of the warm southern breezes we have

continued on page 17

Adverts removed

Nature Notes, continued from page 16

been experiencing. Only one other record for Hertfordshire, taken in 1963, so indeed a good moth to see. Other autumnal moths have been trapped, taking my moth count for the year to over 3500 moths of over 330 species. Still 20 or so to trap before the really cold weather sets in. I had planned an evening out with the trap but a night of heavy rain put paid to that.

I am presently seeking woodland advice from several agencies as to how to progress with the management of Millennium Wood in Millfield Lane. I am planning on putting together a 5 year management plan for this site to help develop the area for wildlife. I hope to have more news next month.

Until we get the first good frost there will be a few butterflies and dragonflies on the wing around the parish, so do keep a lookout for them. If you see any, please do let me know, as with an Indian summer, all recorders are keen to find out just how late in the year a creature can go. On a Nature Walk to Much Hadham (19th) the 8 of us saw a red admiral butterfly in Ford Hill and 2 common darter dragonflies on the footpath towards Winding Hill, so they are still there. Please text/phone 07805571551 or email jforgham@hotmail.com with any news, photographs or a request for an identification. I always enjoy receiving these and endeavouring to help sort out what your mystery creature is.

As always, all updates of local nature and, further afield can be seen at <http://littlehadhambirding.blogspot.co.uk>.

Adverts removed

Health Watch Survey, continued from page 15

There was also positive feedback:

- The surgery is flexible with children, always able to get an appointment for them quickly.
- Quick referrals to hospital
- Pharmacy on site
- Branch surgeries operating from surrounding villages such as Little Hadham Village Hall.

The survey draws overall conclusions about the effect of perceived failings on patients; for example, [patients] unable to get an appointment when they want are more likely not to seek any care at all. It goes on to recommend numerous improvements for surgeries including 'annual audit of appointment demand, particularly ahead of extending opening hours'.

Unfortunately Much Hadham surgery have yet to give the Healthwatch team their response to the recommendations, although I understand that these have been prepared. The report, available online (<http://www.healthwatchhertfordshire.co.uk>), will be updated with their response once received. The Parish Council have hard copies of the report also. If you would like a copy please contact Councillor Liz Lloyd-Williams.

Delivering 'Inspiring Libraries', continued from page 8

- The library as a vibrant community asset
- The digital library – exploiting technology for the benefit of residents
- The library as an enhanced gateway to reading, information and wellbeing.

By 2024, Hertfordshire Library Service aims to have a network of libraries that are valued local assets at the very heart of the communities they serve. We want them to attract more
continued on page 21

Adverts removed

I am very pleased to say that Oonagh Morris, our Nurse practitioner, will be returning to the practice, initially part time, in early November after a period of ill health. We will all welcome her back and very much value her clinical knowledge, work ethic and sense of humour which have been missed over the last few months.

As mentioned last time, the seasonal influenza vaccines have arrived and many of you will have already been jabbed. This year all children aged 2 to 4 (birthdays from 1.9.12 to 2.9.09 inclusive) are eligible for the nasal vaccine and those under 2 or between 5 and 16 can also be vaccinated if they are in an "at risk group". Please ring or pop in for more information.

The shingles vaccine programme has also been extended this year and all those aged 70, 78 or 79 on 1st September 2014 are eligible; that's those with birthdays 2.9.43 to 1.9.44, 2.9.35 to 1.9.36 and 2.9.34 to 1.9.35. Once again, ring or pop in for more information. On 17th September I attended the Hunsdon over 60s club Harvest Lunch in Hunsdon Village Hall. We had very nice food and the company was wonderful, despite most being over 70 and only 3 of them male! Many thanks to the committee, especially Mollie Wiseman and Diana Gee, and to Owen Whittaker for keeping glasses charged; I even won a bottle of red wine in the raffle. Thankfully, my curly brass instrument stayed at home!!

Adverts removed

Little Hadham Cricket Club

Neil Oxborrow

The first Sunday in September saw Little Hadham Cricket Club entertain Reed. Batting first the visitors scored 234 for 5 with Tom Peacock and David Barnes taking two wickets apiece. In reply Hadham were bowled out for just 93 with only Alan South (35), James Law (18) and David Barnes (10 not out) reaching double figures.

The following Sunday saw Hadham travel to North Weald where batting first the home side scored 207 for the loss of 4 wickets, with Alan South taking two of the wickets to fall. Once again Hadham never looked like reaching their target, despite Martin Hallmark's valiant 55. This time though the last pair at the wicket did manage to hold on for a draw as Hadham finished their innings on 126 for 9.

The following week saw the club play a rare Saturday fixture with an away match at Hockerill. Little Hadham batted first amassing a total of 138 for 6 wickets. This however was not to prove enough as Hockerill reached their target for the loss of 6 wickets, thereby winning the match by 4 wickets. The following day Thorley were the visitors to Bury Green and batting first Little Hadham were bowled out for just 59. Only Alan South (14), James Law (14) and Paul Mason-Smith (10) reached double figures. In the Thorley innings Paul Mason-Smith and David Barnes managed to take two wickets apiece, however, Thorley still reached their target and won the match by six wickets.

The club is always looking to attract new members of all ages and ability, if you are interested please contact our club captain Alan South on 01279 651603.

Adverts removed

Save our Library Bus, continued from page 2

Elderly residents who do not count themselves as having a disability might not choose to visit town in the absence of the bus either. The proposal fails to address social benefits of visiting the bus, or the pleasure of browsing and choosing a book.

The consultation is also exploring opportunities to develop and improve the service to customers with disabilities and mobility difficulties through, for example, supporting people in the use of e-book readers, and home to library transport. Some people may find these services worthwhile to take up if available to them, others may not. Mobile library users may be unwilling or unable to use the online system to choose and order books, or might fall outside the Home Libraries Service criteria.

The consultation is looking to put all libraries into a tier system. Our nearest library, Bishop's Stortford, will be listed as a tier 1 library (offering the broadest range of stock and services, open for the longest hours). While this is positive for our community there is of course a cost to visiting the library, both in transport and in parking terms as well as the additional inconvenience.

Some of you might have had the opportunity to talk to the Senior Manager on board Mobile A last month about the scheme. It is also important that as many people as possible fill in feedback forms (which can be picked up in all Hertfordshire libraries, collected from Mobile A as it does its rounds of the Parish, or completed online at <http://www.hertsdirect.org/services/libraries/inspiringlibraries>). Please take the time to comment, making Hertfordshire libraries aware of the massive loss to our community that losing the library bus forever will represent.

Delivering 'Inspiring Libraries', continued from page 18

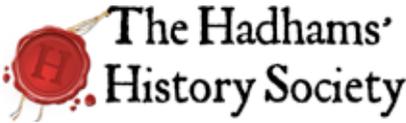
visitors and be open for longer hours. We also expect them to cost the taxpayer less. Due to ongoing reductions in national funding and increasing demand for key services such as adult social care, Hertfordshire County Council needs to save £147 million over the next four years. The Library Service expects to contribute £2.5 million to these savings, whilst retaining libraries in 46 communities and modernising its services.

As part of the 'Inspiring Libraries' strategy, the library service is planning a number of specific service developments, including proposals to reorganise libraries into three different tiers, replace the mobile library service, introduce new technology and improve library buildings.

A public consultation, seeking residents' views on these proposals is taking place between 29 September and 7 December 2014. The consultation will include questionnaires in libraries and online, drop-in sessions in each library and engagement with partners and stakeholders. Further information is available at <http://www.hertsdirect.org/inspiringlibraries> including the online questionnaire. We would encourage use of the online questionnaire where possible, but paper copies are readily available in all Hertfordshire Libraries. We can provide additional assistance for anyone who finds it difficult to access the questionnaire (please telephone 0300 123 4049).

Andrew Bignell, Head of Libraries & Heritage Services

We recently launched the Hundred Parishes Society, an initiative to raise awareness of a large area of northwest Essex, northeast Hertfordshire and southern Cambridgeshire that is particularly notable for its exceptional depth of heritage. Those who live here may take our ancient countryside and wealth of listed buildings for granted, but visitors are usually surprised when they discover the charm of our villages and small market towns and the attractive countryside in which they sit. Until now, the area's anonymity has probably been due largely to the lack of a name, so we have created one that we hope will eventually become as well-known as the Chilterns or Constable Country. We have called the area the Hundred Parishes to recognise that it contains just over 100 administrative parishes, including Little Hadham. Whilst the whole area enjoys a recurring set of special characteristics, each parish has its own identity. We hope that our initiative will encourage both residents and visitors to learn more about the area and will inspire them to explore and cherish it. We have launched a new website www.hundredparishes.org.uk to explain the idea more fully. It includes an introduction to each parish, a series of walks from railway stations and a short introduction to a number of notable people associated with the area. The website shows regular events and local attractions and there is a 'What's On' page that lists opportunities to learn more and to get to places that you may not know. The Society is a registered charity and the website includes details of how to become a member for a nominal subscription of £10 a year per family or organisation. Whether or not you become a member, we hope you will make regular use of our website and that it will inspire you to increase your knowledge and enjoyment of the Hundred Parishes.



Helen Gibson our September speaker has, with her late husband Adrian, spent a considerable time studying timber framed buildings and like him is an acknowledged expert.

Adrian had gained considerable insight into old timber construction techniques during his career as a woodwork teacher. Helen focused her talk on buildings in Herts and Essex where in medieval times there was virtually no stone available for building. This necessitated the use of timber frames with flint and other material being used as infill. Joints between the timber beams are characteristic of the building period and can be used as a guide to dating. The method has been confirmed by dendrochronology (tree ring data) and C14 dating. Barns at Cressing are particularly fine and the wheat barn, built by the Knights Templar, dates from about 1260. Some timber joints used in its construction are only found elsewhere at Westminster Abbey. Timber barns had their roofs built first and these were hipped to reduce weight. Trees providing the timber were grown close together to get consistent thick wood. Helen described several characteristic joints, e.g. Notched Lap joints at Thorley Hall and Sandonbury and Scarf joints at Place House in Ware all dated late 13C. The latter type is a particularly strong and complex joint for joining long beams end to end. There are a number of examples of buildings with crown posts in the two counties particularly fine ones are at Place House and The Priory in Ware. Aisled Halls with cross wings feature in many manor houses, but where building needed to be concentrated e.g. as in terraces, houses were

continued on page 23

Heating Oil Syndicate

Our next order will be submitted during the first week of November. Do feel free to spread the word – we have grown to 103 members! In September we paid a 49.7p/lit – everyone was delighted! Can't promise the same this time but the savings we make, typically, are substantial so email me or call me to join IT'S FREE! cam2403@hotmail.co.uk or 01279 898591. Best wishes, Carmela

On Sale Now

Following the huge success of *Little Hadham Goes to War* ON SALE NOW **Little Hadham 1900-1914 History of Our Village & its People** Price £10-00 wonderful read, lots of nostalgia, many local houses & locations mentioned - available from village Post Office, Maggie Smith 771568, Angela Fardell 771697 or Carmela Piccolo 898591. It is also available by post from Mike Smith 771568, email: mike.s1937@gmail.com; P&P £2 extra to anywhere in the UK, which enables it to be sent to someone as a gift.

Little Hadham Goes To War is now available as a DVD of the last night's production, also priced £10 plus £2 P&P from Mike Smith

Harvest Supper

On Saturday, 11th October, about 70 people from Little Hadham celebrated the Harvest with a grand supper, arranged, as usual, by Hilary Davies and Karin Green. The meal was excellent and the Four Hills Trio, who played well known 'oldies' throughout the evening, provided a good basis for warm conversation and much laughter. Colin Brookbanks proposed a vote of thanks to Hilary and Karin for organising, yet again, a great occasion, and made a point of mentioning Ann Fuller and the five youngsters - Emily, Beth, Holly, Ed and Joel, who served the meal and washed and cleared up - "These young people," he said, "are the future for our village". The £190 raised from the evening's ticket sales and drinks, (and an impromptu auction of a large marrow by Jono Forgham) went to The Bishop's Appeal which this year helps to educate young women in Egypt.

History Society, continued

box shaped with the roofs in line e.g. as in Saffron Waldon and West Street in Ware. Many fine buildings were discussed and the whole talk was well illustrated.

Helen impressed us all with her knowledge and the way she described her subject. She offered to act as a guide to Cressing Barns on a suitable date (probably on a Sunday) next summer.

I'm sure many members will take advantage of this offer.



Caden and Leon Hider (with parents Rachel and Neal) of South Cottages who were christened at St Cecilia's church on 12th October 2014.

November diary for Little Hadham and Albury

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

2 Sunday

All Saints

9.15am

Family Holy Communion, Much Hadham

11.15am

Holy Communion, Albury

No Service this day at St Cecilia's, Little Hadham

9 Sunday

Remembrance Sunday

9.15am

Holy Communion Service, Much Hadham

10.50am

War Memorial Service, Little Hadham

16 Sunday

Trinity 22

9.15am

Holy Communion, Much Hadham

11.15am

Family Holy Communion at St Cecilia's, Little Hadham

23 Sunday

Christ the King

9.15am

Special Benefice Holy Communion, Much Hadham, Service with Blessing of Clive & Marcia's marriage

No Service this day at St Cecilia's, Little Hadham

26 Wednesday

Mid-week Communion

10.00am

Holy Communion, St Cecilia's, Little Hadham

30 Sunday

Advent I

11.15am

Benefice Holy Communion, Albury

No Service this day at St Cecilia's, Little Hadham

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

The Register:

3.10.14: Roger PYATT, died aged only 32 years. He lived in Little Hadham all his life.

12.10.14: Christening of twins, Caden and Leon HIDER

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, Jute House, 85a Bradford Street, Bocking Essex, CM7 9AU e-mails: 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