

LITTLE HADHAM

P A R I S H N E W S

SEPTEMBER 2026

Your local free magazine printed & distributed by St Cecilia's Church

**THE CHILDREN IN
THE TOWER... P.16**





LETTER FROM

The Rectory

A JOURNEY OF FORGIVENESS: ANTOINETTE'S STORY

Over the past few weeks in the benefice, some of our services have been Sermons in Conversation — moving beyond the traditional sermons to hear people share their lives, experiences and faith. We have listened, asked questions and discovered something of God through the stories of others.

One of the most moving was with Antoinette, who joined us with her husband, Yves, and shared her extraordinary journey of survival, faith and forgiveness. Below is a summary.

Antoinette was just 11 years old when the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi began in Rwanda. Hutu and Tutsi share the same country, language and much of the same culture, yet these identities became tragically caught up in division and violence.

One of Antoinette's deepest wounds came within her own family. Her aunt, a Tutsi, had married a Hutu man, and together they had five children. During the genocide, he killed his wife, leaving their children with the devastating reality that their father had killed their mother.

Antoinette herself also came terrifyingly close to death. She was standing in a line of people waiting to be killed by beheading and was only two people from the front when news came of a bank robbery in Kigali. The killers suddenly left, and Antoinette escaped certain death.

She spent considerable time hiding in the bush, trying to survive. The killing lasted 100 days — 100 days of hell on earth.

Years later, in 2014, Antoinette came to the United Kingdom as a missionary. Here she became a committed Christian, and her growing faith confronted her with the hardest question imaginable: could she forgive?

She discovered that the man who had killed her aunt was in prison in Rwanda and eventually visited him. As a follower of Jesus, she believed she needed to tell him personally that she forgave him. And she did.

He has still not apologised. Yet Antoinette continues to choose forgiveness.

What particularly struck us was her description of forgiveness as not as a single moment, but as a journey. Painful memories return and the struggle sometimes begins again. Forgiveness does not deny the wrong or pretend the pain does not exist. For Antoinette, it means choosing again to place that burden into God's hands.

Her testimony left us with a powerful challenge: "some wounds are deep, and some journeys are long, but with God's help, forgiveness can be a road we continue to walk one step at a time".

Rwanda today is a beautiful country where people fondly say, "God works around the world and on Sunday rests in Rwanda."

Today there is a deliberate emphasis on a shared Rwandan identity rather than division along Hutu and Tutsi lines. Perhaps there is a lesson there for the world: before all the labels that divide us, we are all human.

Our Sermons in Conversation continue to give us opportunities to hear first-hand stories of life and faith.

Come and join the conversation.

Revd Tayo Wale-Falope

LITTLE HADHAM PARISH NEWS

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To find out more about the life of our Church, please visit our website:

www.riverashchurches.org.uk

EDITORIAL DEADLINE

All articles for inclusion and payment for advertising in the next issue **must** be received by the **15th** of the month.

(BACS preferred, email the editor for details.)

Editor reserves the right to edit copy received, and add or omit pictures where necessary.

View the Parish News Online including back issues:

www.littlehadham-pc.gov.uk/parish_news.html



FROM THE REGISTERS OF ST. CECILIA'S CHURCH

We welcome into the family of the Church Charlotte Elizabeth Ying HARGRAVE McNALLY who was baptised on Sunday 9th August.

We commend to God's care Paul PROSSER (64) of Stortford Road whose funeral service took place on Tuesday 4th August.

We commend to God's care Alan WHITE (77) of Cradle End whose Ash burial took place on Wednesday 5th August.

ADVERTISING ENQUIRIES

If you would like to advertise in our magazine, please contact the editor at: **littlehadhampn@gmail.com** for more details.

The Parish News is funded and distributed freely by St Cecilia's Church. We really appreciate the support of all our advertisers to help cover our overheads and keep the Parish News in print. Please support them and shop local.

So if you run a business or service and would like to invest in your local magazine and reach over 500 homes each month with your product or service, we'd love to hear from you.

We offer ads at 4 different sizes and prices from a full page to an eighth of a page, with discounts for taking a year at a time. We can also insert flyers for a small fee.

You can also offer support by making a donation to the magazine, contact the editor for details.

The magazine is written by many contributors who report for themselves or for a club or organisation they represent. The church and production team does not necessarily agree with the opinions aired in any article printed here.

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LITTLE HADHAM GARDENING CLUB

ANNE WILLETT

Our next event is our Autumn Show in Little Hadham Village Hall on **Sunday 30th August**. All exhibits must be staged between 9am and 10:15am and the show will be open at 2:30pm until 3:30pm. Entry forms to be submitted to Gail Ellis (Hawkstone, Standon Road, Little Hadham, SG11 2DD) or by email to gailee34@yahoo.com and to be paid in cash or by bank transfer to Little Hadham Gardening Club: sort code 09-01-54; account number 12122901. If you would like to enter but don't have a schedule, please email Gail.

The show is open to all Garden Club members and all residents of Little Hadham and its hamlets.



GARDENING UNDER A HOSEPIPE BAN

A hosepipe ban focuses the mind. Suddenly every drop counts and the garden you've spent years building feels precarious. It reveals which plants genuinely earn their place, and which have been quietly depending on you more than they should.

Water is a finite resource. From the moment it falls as rain or comes out of a tap, it is part of a natural cycle that cannot simply be accelerated to meet demand. Gardening with that in mind is not a hardship, it is increasingly good practice.

TRIAGE: WHAT TO SAVE FIRST

Not everything in the garden needs equal attention. In a ban, triage is everything.

- Newly planted this season – plants put in during the last 6-8 weeks have not yet established a root system deep enough to find their own water. These are your priority.
- Containers – pots dry out rapidly and have no access to ground moisture. Water these daily if possible, ideally in the morning. Group pots together – this raises the local air humidity around the plants and means foliage shades the compost surface, both helping to keep moisture where it's needed. Placing saucers or trays beneath pots is a useful way to capture any runoff and let the compost draw it back up – but do empty them a few hours after watering to avoid the roots sitting in standing water for too long.
- Vegetables and fruit – if you are growing food, prioritise it. Ornamentals can recover from stress – bolted lettuce cannot.
- Established shrubs and perennials – most can cope with several weeks of drought once established. Trust them.
- Let the lawn go – brown lawns go dormant and will turn green again once regular rain returns.

Early morning is the best time to water – the temperature is cool so evaporation is low, and any moisture that lands on the foliage has the whole day to dry off. Watering in the evening is sometimes suggested as an alternative, but wet leaves sitting overnight can encourage

fungal diseases, so if you water later in the day, aim at the base of the plant and keep foliage dry. A deep soak once or twice a week to the base of the plant is far more effective than a daily sprinkle.

THE OVERWATERING TRAP

In hot weather it's tempting to reach for the watering can the moment a plant droops, but wilting in the heat of the day is often not a sign of drought – it's a plant conserving moisture by reducing the surface area exposed to the sun. The key is learning to tell the difference between temporary heat wilt and genuine drought stress.

A plant suffering from heat wilt, typically looks much better by morning or evening once temperatures drop, and the soil will still feel moist a few centimetres below the surface. The leaves may feel warm but won't be crispy or brittle. True drought stress is more persistent, the plant stays wilted into the evening and the following morning, lower leaves may yellow or drop, and the soil will be dry well below the surface. Leaves that feel dry, curled or papery are a more reliable indicator of genuine water need than a midday droop.

The most water-efficient garden is one where the plants suit the conditions in the first place. The principle is simple: right plant, right place. A hosepipe ban is a useful moment to take stock of what's working and what isn't – and to think about whether the plants you're fighting to keep alive are really suited to where they are growing.

If you would like a list of plants that survive dry conditions, email me on annemwillett@gmail.com.



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DOWN AT THE DOCTORS

ANDREW WILKINSON, PRACTICE MANAGER

www.muchhadhamhealthcentre.co.uk



This edition closely mirrors last September's update, where I shared our GP Patient Survey results and details of our flu and COVID vaccination clinics, and I am pleased to report that we have achieved similarly excellent results again this year.

We are delighted to share the results of the 2026 Annual GP Patient Survey, published in July. Our practice achieved an outstanding overall patient satisfaction rating of 92%, placing us second highest in Hertfordshire & Essex. Across all surveyed areas, our results were significantly above both the ICB and national averages.

A huge thank you goes to our fantastic team for their continued dedication to delivering high-quality care, and to our patients who took the time to complete this independent Government survey.

You can view our full results, along with those of every practice in England, at:

<https://gp-patient.co.uk/PracticeSearch>

I can now confirm the following vaccination clinic dates for the coming months:

FLU VACCINATION CLINIC

- Saturday 3rd October
- 8:30am – 11:30am
- Little Hadham Village Hall

If you are eligible for the flu vaccine, we will contact you by text or phone to book your appointment—please do not call the surgery. There is no change to the eligibility criteria this year, which includes those aged 65 years and over, and individuals aged 18 to 64 in clinical risk groups.

COVID-19 AUTUMN BOOSTER

- Saturday 10th October
- 8:30am – 3:00pm
- MUCH HADHAM HEALTH CENTRE

Please note there is a change to the eligibility criteria this year. The vaccine will be offered to those aged 75 and over, residents in care homes for older adults, and individuals who are immunosuppressed aged 6 months and over.

Housebound patients will be visited by our nursing team during October and November. If you wish to receive one or both of the vaccines, these will be administered during the same visit.

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LITTLE HADHAM PARISH COUNCIL

CAROLE PAGE

www.littlehadham-pc.gov.uk

Little Hadham Parish Council meets the first Tuesday of each month in the Village Hall. There is no meeting in August or January. All residents and press are welcome to attend the meetings.

MEETING DATES – ALL MEETINGS COMMENCE AT 7.30PM

	1 Sep	6 Oct	3 Nov	1 Dec
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Agendas are posted on noticeboards and the Little Hadham Parish Council website.

VISIT OF CHRIS HINCHLIFF – MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FOR NORTHEAST HERTFORDSHIRE - TO LITTLE HADHAM

FRIDAY 4TH SEPTEMBER FROM 16.30 AT LITTLE HADHAM VILLAGE HALL

Mr Hinchliff asks the residents of Little Hadham to join him to hear what matters to us, both locally and nationally. He recently joined many of his constituents from Little Hadham and the surrounding area at the consultation events on the planned data centre in Bury Green and the speculative development of 99 houses off Stortford road in Little Hadham itself. But, just as importantly, he wants to hear from you about your priorities so this will also be an opportunity for open discussion, to ask questions, share your views and hear a little about the wider work he carries out as our MP.



LITTLE HADHAM NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN: YOUR VOICE, OUR FUTURE

The Little Hadham Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group has reached a major milestone, and we want to thank

everyone who participated in our recent survey. We received a fantastic response from across the parish, with residents sharing their views through both digital forms and hard-copy questionnaires.

Our team has spent the last few weeks thoroughly analysing this data. Your feedback has provided us with invaluable insights into what matters most to our community, directly shaping the core objectives of our upcoming plan. Using your survey answers as a foundation, we have drafted a set of local planning policies, designed to protect the character of Little Hadham. We are now ready to share these with you. We have officially agreed on dates for our first public consultation events, where you can view these draft policies, ask questions, and give us your immediate feedback.

**Please join us at Little Hadham
Village Hall on either**

Sunday 20th September from 2pm–5pm

or

**Tuesday 22nd September
from 3pm–7pm.**

Your engagement at this stage is more critical than ever. As mentioned above, our parish faces mounting pressure from large-scale housing proposals and a robust, legally recognized Neighbourhood Plan is our best tool to influence how and where building happens across the hamlets. We urge all local

residents to attend these consultation sessions. Your active participation will ensure our final plan carries the legal weight needed to protect Little Hadham for generations to come.

LITTLE HADHAM PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE -

<https://littlehadham-pc.gov.uk/> We now have a new PC website and would ask for any ideas as to content.

ALLOTMENTS

We have 2 vacant allotments. If you wish to take on a wonderful project for the new year, please contact: clerk@littlehadhamparishcouncil-pc.gov.uk

LITTLE HADHAM COMMUNITY GROUP – FACEBOOK PAGE

The group is for residents to share information about the village: roads closed, trees down, events in the village, etc. This is our Facebook page and is about our village and what is going on.

LITTLE HADHAM RAMBLERS – OUR WALKS ARE SCHEDULED FOR:

Wednesdays



2nd September

7th October

4th November

2nd December

We start from the Village Hall at

10am, with a return between 11.30-12pm. There is a lunch available at the village hall. Always a delicious choice of soup, filled jacket potato or a main meal. A suggested donation of £5 for a beautiful lunch in a very social environment. Dogs welcome.



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ISABEL HOSPICE SEEKS VOLUNTEERS FOR POPULAR CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING CAMPAIGN

Isabel Hospice is already planning for its popular Christmas Tree Collection & Recycling campaign, which will return from 8 to 10 January 2027.

The annual initiative provides local residents with a convenient and environmentally friendly way to recycle their Christmas trees while raising vital funds for the hospice. The campaign generates around £27,000 each year, helping Isabel Hospice

continue providing care and support for patients and families across eastern Hertfordshire.

To help deliver the collection, the hospice is looking for volunteers to support the campaign. People with access to their own van are needed to collect Christmas trees across the area, while volunteers are also being sought to distribute leaflets in their local communities to raise awareness of the scheme ahead of Christmas.



Grace May, Community Fundraiser at Isabel Hospice said: “volunteers play a crucial role in making the campaign possible and helping it reach even more households each year.”

Anyone interested in supporting the Christmas Tree Collection & Recycling campaign can contact the Community Fundraising team by emailing communityfundraising@isabelhospice.org.uk or calling 01707 954 850 for more information.



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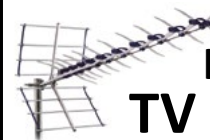
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QUASI VERSUS THE VILLAGE CHILDREN!

Quasi, Esmerelda & Fleur love the madness of Busy Week, as what seem like thousands of children (36) brighten up the church with life. Going up to the tower can be daunting for little people, but even the most nervous bravely went up the final ladder – some visibly shaking with exhilaration. One little chap had a tearful reunion with mum at ground level, but soon perked up when the youngsters got to play, ringing the bells and shooting themselves into the air – adults working hard to keep their fun within reason!

Much of the fun was the things the children say. Typically, the boys wanted to talk about precisely how much blood would come out of your ears if you were in the bell chamber when the bells rang out, and they all wanted to be the first ones to ring the 'cursed' bells (cast by a murderer, hanged for his crime). Quasi was a bit baffled when there were excited screeches from below him on the stairs of "Come quick! There's a chicken!!!" – Fleur later confessed it was just ancient graffiti (pictured)! We were also puzzled when some of the children asked, going up the spiral stairs, how they'd get down again – imagining parachutes, perhaps?! Kind helper Gemma, by her fourth trip up, was very taken with the idea of a lift!

Quasi then swapped groups with Esmerelda, who led a session on the handbells she had planned with military precision – I got a distinct look when we were five minutes late down the stairs! The first exercise was for the young ringers to find the handbells hidden

around the church – however the children were a bit too good at re-hiding the bells at the end of each session so she then had to do her own treasure hunt to actually find them again! Eventually, each of the four groups, having joined in with great enthusiasm and good spirit, managed an almost flawless 'grand finale' handbell performance of 'Three Blind Mice' to the delight of their parents/carers. Who would believe that, when quizzed, 90% of them had never actually heard of the nursery rhyme? With many thanks to the helpers who made this very active event possible.

Quasi



We are looking to recruit more ringers for Albury, Little Hadham and Much Hadham. If you would like to have a go, or if you have rung before and would like to join us, please contact us at hadham.bells@gmail.com.



“ TYPICALLY, THE BOYS WANTED TO TALK ABOUT PRECISELY HOW MUCH BLOOD WOULD COME OUT OF YOUR EARS IF YOU WERE IN THE BELL CHAMBER WHEN THE BELLS RANG OUT, AND THEY ALL WANTED TO BE THE FIRST ONES TO RING THE 'CURSED' BELLS (CAST BY A MURDERER, HANGED FOR HIS CRIME). ”



To find out more about bellringing, watch our short YouTube video: scan the QR code above.





SUNSHINE, SMILES & SUMMER ADVENTURES

August has been a busy and exciting month at Woodland Rangers, with our Summer Camp packed full of outdoor adventures, creativity and fun!

The children have enjoyed scavenger hunts, exploring the woodland and searching for natural treasures. We've made delicious campfire fudge, learning how to safely cook over the fire. We've also been blackberry picking and used our harvest for blackberry tie-dye, creating colourful pennant flags to decorate our woodland camp.

There have been plenty of opportunities for teamwork, with games including Capture the Flag and other fun challenges. The children have cooked lunch on the campfire, learning valuable cooking and fire-lighting skills, and made friendship bracelets to take home.

We've also been helping children develop practical woodland skills, including sawing firewood and whittling, building confidence, concentration and independence.

A real highlight this summer has been our fantastic team of young, enthusiastic summer staff. Their energy and creativity have helped us run more activities, support smaller groups and give the children more individual attention.

Having this brilliant team has also allowed us to host children's parties throughout the summer.

NIKKI & LOUISE

www.woodlandrangers.co.uk

 [woodlandrangersuk](https://www.facebook.com/woodlandrangersuk)

We've also held several successful Family Days, giving families the chance to enjoy the outdoors together, explore the woodland and cook sausages over the campfire.

We've been lucky with some lovely sunny weather too, and when things have warmed up, the cool shade beneath the woodland canopy has provided the perfect place to play and relax!





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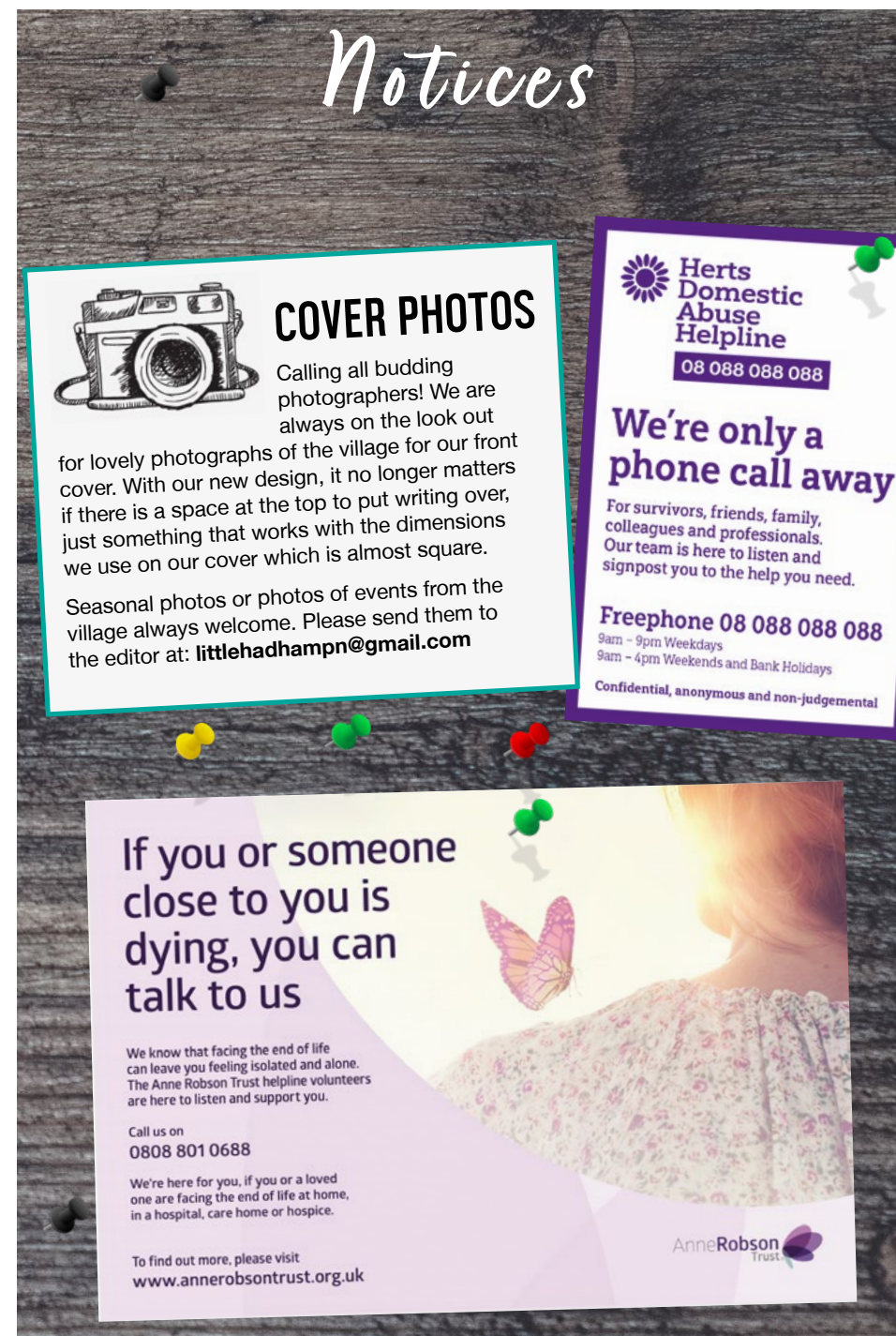
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LITTLE HADHAM VILLAGE HALL NEWS

MARK HALL

www.littlehadhamvillagehall.com | chair@littlehadhamvillagehall.com

As Chair of Little Hadham Village Hall I am pleased that we continue to play a full part in the community by reaching out to all our residents, and we are constantly looking at different ways to make this happen.

This month I would like to say a big thank you to two local organisations who have awarded our hall some grant money, which helps us to continue our outreach to local residents in the broadest ways possible.

Firstly from Home Instead who awarded us a £500 grant for our Digital Inclusion Classes which take place every Wednesday after the Open Café. In a world of increasing reliance on computerised devices whether they be Smart phones, PCs or Tablets, our classes are there to provide answers to questions, and we exist as a source of free help to those less familiar with computerised gadgets. The only things that people need to bring to the session are their gadgets and their questions and we will do the rest.

Secondly I would like to thank our friends at Herts County Council who have given us a "community connect grant" through which LHVH will be providing a fabulous Sunday roast in October of this year, more details to follow.

Thank you everyone for believing in us and giving us your ongoing support!

WELCOME CAFÉ: OPEN 10AM – 2PM

Enjoy a cup of tea or coffee or stay to enjoy a homemade meal. Our popular weekly Café is open again from Wednesday 2nd September. Sit and have a chat or ask us about any of the events and activities on offer at the hall. We would appreciate a minimum donation of £5 per person, if you have a home cooked meal.



Our volunteers work hard to ensure that the café can continue to open, by regularly volunteering their time and seeking grant funding where needed. Please support them and your village hall by making a suitable donation to cover the cost of the food and refreshments you have enjoyed.

FREE - DIGITAL INCLUSION: EVERY WEDNESDAY 1.30PM TO 3PM

Having issues with your digital device, laptop, iPad, mobile phone? Come along sit down and enjoy a cup of tea or coffee while one of our knowledgeable volunteers helps you at your own pace. No appointment is needed – just pop in whenever it suits you between 13:30 and 15:30. If you would prefer to get in touch first or ask a question before visiting, please give us a call on 07588 736610. We are here for you, and we look forward to seeing you soon.

BINGO EVENING – MONDAY 14TH SEPTEMBER 7PM – 9PM

Our events committee invite you to book up for another fun prize-winning Bingo & Ploughman's Platter. Tickets £14 per person.

Tickets are available now to book online via the village hall website. Visit: www.littlehadhamvillagehall.com See main menu – choose What's On / Events and scroll down to find link to book and pay.



RED CHAIR COMMUNITY CINEMA PRESENTS:

The Devil Wears Prada 2 (2025)
- Monday 21st September

Comedy / Drama

(Film synopsis on website) Cert 12A.

- Runtime: 2hrs 05mins.
- Doors Open 2pm - Film Starts Promptly at 2.30pm
- Entry tickets £5 per person
- Licenced Bar / Ice Creams / Tea & Cake

For full Autumn film programme, visit our website.

Keeping you busy and connected during the week

Details of events held at the hall are available to view on our website along with information on regular activities and fitness groups www.littlehadhamvillagehall.com. Contact Joan McKinlay M: 07789 098071 - email: vice-chair@littlehadhamvillagehall.com

If you would like to know more about anything in this article please contact Joan McKinlay on: 07789 098 071
or email: vice-chair@littlehadhamvillagehall.com



★ Quiz Night ★



SATURDAY 17th OCTOBER 2026

LITTLE HADHAM VILLAGE HALL

@7.30PM

★ Cost £15 includes a cheese platter ★

★ Teams/tables up to 8 people ★ Bring your own drink and glasses ★

★ Raffle prizes to be won ★

Please confirm numbers no later than **14th October 2026** to
lhbooths@gmail.com or **01279 771426**

WHAT'S ON IN SEPTEMBER @ LH VILLAGE HALL

See website menu for full details of 'What's On': www.littlehadhamvillagehall.com

'Drop in' - just turn up - **When contact details are listed** - please phone / email before attending.

Not all fitness activities start back the first week of September, please check with the group organiser.

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

MONDAY'S

Mum's Matter	10am - 11.30am	Drop in: Parents group supported by NHS Midwife.	
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TUESDAY'S

Pilates	9.30am - 10.30am	Claire	Email: cstacey1412@gmail.com
Art Club	11am - 1.30pm	Ashlyn	M: 07971 022736
Brownies	5.30pm to 7pm	Cassey	Email: littlehadhambrownies@gmail.com

WEDNESDAY'S

Welcome Cafe	10am - 2pm	Drop in: Coffee & Chat. (Lunch Menu)		DONATIONS
Digital Inclusion	1.30pm - 3.00pm	Drop in: Help with your digital device		FREE
Chair Yoga	11am - 11.45am	Mark Cox	M: 07368 293062	
Tai Chi	1pm - 2pm	Sarah Baker	M: 07740 701102	
Fit Steps	6pm - 7pm	Jacqui Howard	M: 07731 454228	

THURSDAY'S

Afternoon Bowls Club	2pm - 4pm	Mike	Email: mikebennett12@aol.com
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FRIDAY'S

Forever Fit	11am - 12pm	Daisy Osborne	M: 07585 309933
LH Bowls Club	7.30pm - 10pm	Annette Luedtke	Email: annetteluedtke@gmail.com

FORTNIGHTLY ACTIVITIES

Darts & Games Social	2pm - 4.30pm	Drop in: 1 st / 15 th / 29 th September	COST: £3
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MONTHLY ACTIVITIES - Please see website for full details

Community Brunch	10am - 12pm	Book via website: Thursday 10 th Sept.	DONATIONS
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EVENTS

- **Sunday 13th September - Antiques Fair** Entry £1.50
- **Monday 14th September - Bingo & Ploughman's Platter.** Booking & details online via our website - www.littlehadhamvillagehall.com
- **Monday 21st September - Red Chair Community (Afternoon) Cinema:** The Devil Wears Prada 2 (Cert 12A) - Comedy / Drama

CRISTINA HARRISON, CURATOR
hadhammuseum@gmail.com

THANK YOU! A huge thank you to Orlando and Sterling Docx for volunteering to work on our archaeology collection this summer. Together they completed a catalogue report for the finds from the excavations at the site of the hoped for museum store in the Forge gardens. This included diagnostic research, photography and collating the information in a report.

We are pleased to announce that we have been awarded a grant from Arts in East Herts!

Much Hadham's amazing Tudor murals are 450 years old this year! Join us to make a mural of your own!

Get up close and personal with the real thing in our wall painting room, find out how they were created, discovered and conserved. Be inspired by heraldry and Elizabethan devices and create your own design to take away.

ARTs IN EAST HERTS

Sat 24th October, 11am and 2pm.
Free Family taster sessions, using templates printed onto art paper.

11am and 2pm **Sunday 25th October**
and Friday 30th October

Explore the technique of using cartoons to create outlines, explore the medium of painting onto plaster panels. Create your own wall painting to take home. £10pp. Places are limited, booking is essential. Reserve your spot! Contact us!

If you would like to volunteer, explore work experience or student placement opportunities or just want to help in a one-off way, please get in touch. We welcome your input.

Email: hadhammuseum@gmail.com Mobile: 07483 113 345

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Please contact the editor for details: littlehadhampn@gmail.com

Little Hadham Gardening Club

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SUNDAY 30TH AUGUST 2026
- LITTLE HADHAM VILLAGE HALL -
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC AT 2.30PM

ENTRY FORMS VIA
LITTLE HADHAM PARISH
COUNCIL WEBSITE

TALKING BOWLS...OR SOMETHING

Much Hadham Bowling Club: Recreation Ground, Much Hadham SG10 6DL

The hot weather can wreak short-term havoc with our Green. It is not unusual for the grass to turn a little yellow, but not usually to the extent, or with the patchiness, we have experienced this year.

A "yellow" Green is invariably a faster Green, and adjustments to the weight of delivery must be made accordingly. The problem this summer is that we have something of a "patchwork of yellow and green", which makes judging the weight devilishly difficult. As the bowl travels from yellow to green, it gains speed, and then loses it again as the surface changes.

That, at least, is our reasoning for some less-than-stellar performances in our league matches so far this year. There is, however, not much foundation in this excuse, as the conditions are the same for both sides!

Ever optimistic, we look forward to the next match being different.

Integrating new members with the "old boys" can sometimes be a slow process, so a couple of weeks ago we ran a Mini Gala. Each newer member was paired with an established player, and each

pair played mini games against the other pairs. It appears to have been a great success and will almost certainly be repeated later in the season.

We also plan to extend our season into October, probably for the first time ever.

There's still time, therefore, for anyone wishing to try their hand at bowls. Come along to Much Hadham Bowls Club on a Wednesday evening and have a go. You never know - you might even enjoy it!

Jack



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Herts Domestic Abuse Helpline

08 088 088 088

hertsdomesticabusehelpline.org

Call freephone 08 088 088 088

Monday to Friday: 9am-9pm Weekends: 9am-4pm

Or confidential email: kim@mailpurple.org

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THE HUNDRED PARISHES SOCIETY

KEN MCDONALD, SECRETARY

www.hundredparishes.org.uk



We always encourage people to visit parish churches; they are usually the oldest building in any community and their interiors have great variety. Here, I will discuss one particular feature – the screen which forms a partition, both physically and symbolically, between the laity or congregation in the nave, the main part of the church, and the clergy in the chancel.

The screen, sometimes referred to as a chancel screen, often has a lattice design to allow people worshipping in the nave to see through into the chancel. Chancel comes from a Latin word meaning lattice.

Several of our churches have finely-carved 15th-century wooden screens including Albury, Finchingfield, Henham, Manuden and Wendens Ambo.

Some screens are called rood screens. Above these screens is a “rood” – a representation of Christ’s crucifixion, usually flanked by two saints, most often Mary and St John. Rood is a Saxon word meaning cross.

The Hundred Parishes has some fine examples of rood screens. They are usually carved in wood but in Stebbing and Great Bardfield parish churches (both dedicated to St. Mary) the 14th-century screens are carved in stone. This is a really rare feature.

Little Canfield’s wooden rood screen is believed to date from the 14th-century.

A carved 15th-century wooden screen can be found in Sawbridgeworth’s Church of Great St Mary with a depiction above it of the risen Christ installed as recently as 2000 AD.

The Church of Holy Trinity at Takeley has a relatively modern rood screen, installed around 1910 and featuring a wooden carving of Christ on the cross with a saint on each side.

I have named just some examples around The Hundred Parishes. Please explore our local churches, perhaps while following one of the walk descriptions that can be downloaded from www.hundredparishes.org.uk



Stebbing's stone rood screen



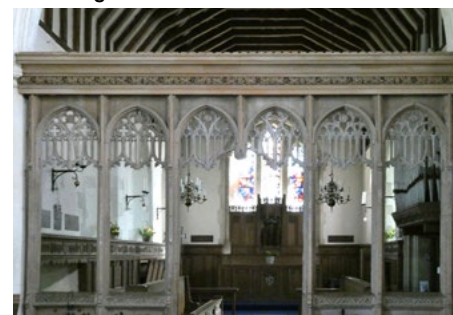
Great Bardfield's stone rood screen



Sawbridgeworth



Takeley rood screen installed



Albury's 15th-century chancel screen



Little Canfield's rood screen

THE GARDENS OF EASTON LODGE

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So, what do Gardens affected by drought and heatwaves offer? We have been thrilled that people are still enjoying their visits, despite the drought. There are lots of features and plants in the Gardens that look good still - roses, lavender, nepeta and gaura are all beautiful and really tough! On Thursdays through the summer, visitors appreciate the shady areas, slowly ambling along and stopping for a chat on the many benches dotted around the Gardens. And families play our Garden Games in the shade, and love the additional activities we provide on the Sunday

Open Days. We will have enough apples and pears, jams and jellies to ensure that our **20 September Apple and Bees day** is as good as ever, with apple and beeswax craft activities for children and of course our apple and honey cake tasting stall; local producers of cider and gin; and fun songs from Bishops Stortford Ukelele Society.

But we are also turning our thoughts to how we ensure the Gardens continue to look good in future droughts and heatwaves. The Gardens do not have a mains water supply, so we are rethinking our water storage arrangements, in the hope we have lots of

rain over winter to fill it! And we are starting our planning for autumn planting. This year we planted up two unused bays in the kitchen garden with robust perennials, which are doing well despite the drought. A pink one including achillea, alstroemeria and sedum spurium; and a blue one with delphiniums, scabiosa, verbenas and geraniums. There are 2 further bays and elsewhere a bare dark, dry, shady area to be redesigned, as well as the need to add planting to improve existing beds and borders.

The Gardens are open on Thursdays into the autumn, from 11am to 3pm, last entry 2pm. At 7pm on **Friday 4 September** there is a **Bat Walk** at the Gardens. And our **Apples and Bees Day on Sunday 20 September** is from 11am to 5pm.

For further details, please look at our website www.eastonlodge.co.uk. Advance tickets (at a discount) can be bought through Trybooking.com.

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The next meeting of The Hadhams History Society will be on **24th September** in the Green Room, Much Hadham Village Hall. This will be a talk given on The History of Audley End House and I am sure this will be very interesting.

Our October talk on the **22nd October** will be "The Value of Wills to Historical Research.

If anyone would like more information on the Society Meetings do get in touch with me katieh69@btinternet.com.

HADHAM CROSS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

KATHY HAMILTON

PREACHERS FOR SERVICES AT 11am

6th September	Kathy Hamilton	Congregational Church Hadham
13th September	Mike Hillyer	Oakwood Chapel Harlow
20th September	Tim Wells	Wormley Church (Harvest Festival)
27th September	John Fosker	Therfield Congregational Church

All are welcome to our Services at 11am every Sunday

Our next **COFFEE MORNING** will be on **Wednesday 9th September** 10am- 12 noon. Please do come and join us for coffee/tea cake and a chat.

Our next **AFTERNOON TEA** will be on **Thursday 24th September** 2 - 4pm. Again please do come and join us for cake/tea, coffee and a chat.

We would again like to ask if anyone is able to help us as Treasurer of The Congregational Church. This help is now urgently needed as our current Treasurer is retiring at the end of August. If anyone would like further information on this matter please do not hesitate to contact me - Kathy Hamilton 01279 843 756. Help with this post would be very much appreciated.

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Please contact the editor for details: littlehadhampn@gmail.com

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

BRENDA KAIN

THE NO NAME RECIPE

For all of you who have a glut of courgettes

SERVES 2

INGREDIENTS:

2 courgettes

Handful of cherry tomatoes

Clove

Garlic

Basil

Olive oil

Parmesan cheese

1. Slice the courgettes so that you have matchsticks
2. Slice tomatoes in half
3. Warm pan and add oil
4. Throw in courgettes, tomatoes and garlic
5. Fry on quite hot heat until the courgettes are slightly browned and the tomatoes have broken down
6. Add garlic, salt and pepper. Mix thoroughly
7. Turn out and sprinkle the Parmesan and basil

I have also added spinach to this which is lovely.





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BENEFICE OF: LITTLE HADHAM | MUCH HADHAM | ALBURY



Date	Day	Church	Service / Event	Time
06-Sep	Sunday	St Mary's Church, Albury	Trinity 14	9:15am
06-Sep	Sunday	St Andrew's Church, Much Hadham	Said Eucharist	5-5:30pm
13-Sep	Sunday	St Andrew's Church, Much Hadham	Trinity 15	9:15am
20-Sep	Sunday	St Cecilia's Church, Little Hadham	Trinity 16 - Pet Service	9:15am
24-Sep	Thursday	St Cecilia's Church, Little Hadham	Midweek Eucharist (BCP)	10:00am
27-Sep	Sunday	St Andrew's Church, Much Hadham	Trinity 17 - A Guide to the Eucharist	9:15am

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EVERY FOURTH THURSDAY OF THE MONTH



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