

LITTLE HADHAM

P A R I S H N E W S

JULY 2026

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





LETTER FROM

The Rectory

ONE FOR ALL

Many years ago, a very wealthy man owned grand houses, horses, chariots, priceless paintings, fine cars, ships, and vast stretches of land. He had built a successful business and had more wealth than most could imagine.

When war broke out, his only son chose to enlist. The father begged him not to go, saying there were already enough soldiers to fight. But the young man was determined and eventually left for the front.

The father waited anxiously at home. As each letter arrived, he collected it himself and read every word with eager anticipation, learning of the hardships, the friendships, and the realities of war.

One day, a different letter arrived. Before he even broke the seal, his heart sank. Somehow, he knew it carried the news he had dreaded most. His beloved son had been killed in battle.

Heartbroken, the old man carried on as best he could, but life was never the same. Years later, he too died and, having no heir, instructed in his will that all his possessions should be sold at auction.

On the day of the sale, people travelled from everywhere, hoping to buy one of his many treasures. Collectors, investors, and dealers all had something in mind.

The first lot, however, was not one of the vintage paintings or valuable antiques. It was a simple sketch of the man's son. It had little artistic value and attracted almost no interest.

The auctioneer opened the bidding at £10. The room fell silent. He called repeatedly, but no one responded. Finally, a couple standing quietly at the back offered the opening bid. "Going once... going twice... sold!" announced the auctioneer. They paid and returned to their seats with the picture.

Then, to everyone's astonishment, the auctioneer laid down his gavel and declared the auction closed. "What about the paintings?" someone shouted. "The cars? The land?" cried another.

The auctioneer quietly unfolded a sheet of paper and read the owner's final instruction: "Whoever buys the picture of my son shall receive everything else."

Silence filled the room.

Whoever had the son had it all.

God's greatest gift to the world was not wealth but His Son. Whoever receives His Son, has everything that matters.

Every blessing,

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 commend to God's care Madeline Ann Bazley, (87) of The Smithy, whose funeral and burial service took place on Wednesday 27th May at St.Cecilia's Church.

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.

HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW YOUR CHURCH?

HELEN WALKER



Above the vestry door in St Cecilia's church is a monument to the Revd. Anthony Hamilton D.D.

Owing to its size and location it is difficult to read the full inscription, but he was evidently a well-respected and well-revered gentleman of his time.

Anthony Hamilton was born in London in 1739, the fifth son of Alexander Hamilton who was reportedly a solicitor. The Hamilton family appear to have owned the Debden Hall farm and estate although Anthony was raised in London.

Anthony was educated at Harrow school before studying at Corpus Christi college, Cambridge, where he graduated in 1760 with a Bachelor of Arts degree, followed in 1763 with a Master's degree and finally becoming a Doctor of Divinity in 1775.

Anthony married Anne Terrick, whose father was Bishop of London, in St. Georges church, Hanover Square, London in 1767. They had a daughter and four

sons before Anne died in December 1782 at the very young age of 40.

Anthony was ordained as a deacon in 1762 and priest in 1763, becoming vicar of Fulham, earning a living of £200 per annum. In 1770, Anthony became Archdeacon of London, a post which he relinquished in 1775 to become Archdeacon of Colchester. He was elected a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of London in 1773, and of the Royal Society in 1777.

In 1776, Hamilton became the rector of Much Hadham, including Little Hadham, as well as becoming vicar of St Martin-in-the-Fields, in London and appears to have remained in these posts until his death in October 1812 at Much Hadham, surviving his wife by almost 40 years. Anthony was also Chaplain to King George III. Records indicate that he is buried in the churchyard of St. Andrews, Much Hadham, although there is also evidence that his remains were buried in the churchyard of St. Nicolas in Loughton, where his wife and deceased infant children were also buried.

Anthony's eldest son, William, was a notable diplomat and collector of artefacts, securing among other things the Rosetta Stone, and contributing to the formation of the British Museum's collections. His second son, also Anthony, followed a similar clerical path while Terrick, the third son, pursued a career in Oriental Studies and translation.

The wording of the memorial, published in the Herts & Cambs. Reporter on 27 March 1908, is a testament to how well Anthony Hamilton was thought of by his parishioners:

Sacred to the memory of
The Reverend Anthony Hamilton, D.D.,
Rector of these Parishes.
Obiit October 4th, 1812, æ. 74.

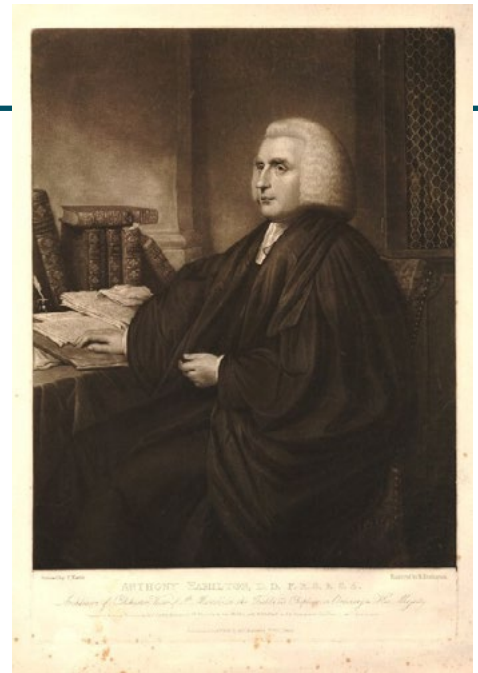
This excellent man passed a long life without guile and without reproach, the councillor of those who wanted his advice, the benefactor of the poor and the friend of the distressed.

He merited and obtained the love and esteem of all ranks of his parishioners. His delivery in the desk of this Church and his eloquence in the pulpit, were unrivalled. His voice, his countenance, and his gesture, were of the most accomplished order, while his manly diction, the energy of his arguments, his sound morality, and above all the truly Christian doctrines which he preached to reform the bad, and to confirm the good, struck conviction into the hearts of his hearers, and made all who had the happiness to be taught by him, admire and thank him for his exertions in their cause.

Neither the duties of his sacred office, nor the charms of society, of which he was a distinguished ornament, nor his cares of a numerous family, prevented him in engaging in other active pursuits, all of which tended to improve his fellow creatures, to extend the bounds of knowledge, and to dispense to the indigent the blessings of charity.

He departed this life universally regretted, but there are none who more lament his loss or who are more anxious to express their gratitude for his uninterested kindness and generosity, than those who have erected this monument to his memory.

The inhabitants of this parish love to repeat and hope to transmit to their children the worthiness of their deceased Rector, to whom they are indebted for a large part of the comforts they enjoy, and who truly practised the doctrines that he taught.



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LITTLE HADHAM GARDENING CLUB

ANNE WILLETT

There is no meeting in the village hall this month, instead we are visiting Hitchin Lavender Farm on the **7th July**. Details are on our WhatsApp group.

Our Autumn Show is not far off, so have a look at this year's schedule to see if there are any classes you would like to enter. Start planning now,

IDEAS FOR WATER GARDEN FEATURES

Water features enhance any garden, providing ornamental interest, soothing sound and a habitat for wildlife. Adding a water feature needn't cost a fortune. Something as simple as an attractive water bowl can make a real impact, reflecting light and neighbouring plants. Calming trickling sound can be generated by a rill or fountain, while a pond will allow you to grow aquatic plants to provide a home for newts, frogs and dragonflies.

1. Water rill - a formal decorative water feature that consists of a shallow, narrow channel or canal. It often features slowly flowing or trickling water and is used to create a peaceful ambiance and visual line in a garden.



2. Garden water bowls - can be placed anywhere in the garden, but they are particularly useful in shady areas where they help to bounce the light around. They are easy to set up



and come in lots of styles from pretty stone bowls to sleek metal bowls with a more contemporary look.



3. Ponds - will work in any sized garden or design style. They can be wildlife havens packed with plants or minimalistic, contemplative pools with linear boundaries.

4. Garden streams - if you are lucky enough to have a natural stream running through the garden that doesn't dry

up in summer, it can be surrounded with colourful moisture loving plants like candelabra primulas or ligularias.

5. Troughs and tanks - watertight troughs and containers can be filled with water to create interesting unique features.

6. Garden pouring jug - a terracotta olive jar has a romantic classical feel. Purpose made jugs with a hole for the pump to discreetly slit into are easy to find and can be a free standing feature that pours into a bowl.

7. Garden pebble piles - a pile of artfully placed stones and pebbles can conceal a pump and water reservoir beneath.

8. Fountain - decorative fountains are ideal if there is an area that



needs a focal point. There are lots of different styles to choose from including polished metal spheres and stone monoliths and columns.



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DOWN AT THE DOCTORS

ANDREW WILKINSON, PRACTICE MANAGER

www.muchhadhamhealthcentre.co.uk



Our commissioners have recently raised concerns about patient use of the generic practice email. This inbox is intended strictly for clinical correspondence and communication between healthcare professionals, and we have been asked to ensure it is used appropriately.

For patient enquiries, the correct and preferred route is via the "Contact Us Online" feature on the homepage of our website. It is quick (typically takes no more than a minute), straightforward, and crucially safer.

WHY DOES THIS MATTER?

When you submit a request online, it is automatically uploaded into your medical record and alerts the practice team immediately. Emails, on the other hand, require manual handling to be added to your notes. As with anything reliant on human processing, this introduces the risk of delays, errors, and potential safety concerns.

In short, the online system works smarter, not harder and it keeps your care safer.

HOW TO USE "CONTACT US ONLINE":

- Go to the practice website homepage
- In the purple box on the lefthand side is the "Contact Us Online" facility
- Click on the green box "Submit a new request"
- Choose from three options:
 1. Health problem / contact your GP
 2. Admin or routine request (e.g. fit (sick notes), reviews, screening and vaccinations)
 3. Online advice and information
- Confirm your request is not an emergency i.e. 999

- Enter details about your query (you can attach photos or documents if needed)
- Answer a few follow-up questions (e.g. duration, changes in symptoms, what help you need)
- Provide your contact details and preferred method of contact
- Review your answers and click Submit

The system is available 24/7, easy to use, and ensures your request reaches the right place without delay. Once received by the practice we will respond within 24 hours or sooner depending on the request (excluding weekends and bank holidays).

For those less confident with technology, we are, of course, still very happy to take your call. There is also a digital inclusion workshop held every Wednesday 2-4pm in Little Hadham Village, where support is available to help you use this service or get set up on the NHS App.

AND NOW, THE IMPORTANT BIT (THE POLITELY BLUNT PART):

From 15th July, we will no longer accept patient emails sent to the practice email address. Any such emails will be returned with instructions to use the "Contact Us Online" system instead. The practice email will remain in use solely for healthcare professionals and clinical correspondence. The pharmacy email **muchhadham.pharmacy@nhs.net** will remain open for ordering medication.

We appreciate your understanding and cooperation as we make this important change, one that ultimately improves efficiency, safety, and patient care for everyone.

Best wishes

Andrew

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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

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

CO-OPTION OF NEW COUNCILLOR

Mr. Simon Eddowes has been co-opted as a Parish Councillor and joins the Little Hadham Parish Council, effective from Tuesday 5th June.

LITTLE HADHAM NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Cllr Moore presented the initial survey results, which shows currently 20% of residents have submitted either an online survey or hard copy. You will all have seen and had an opportunity to complete the Little Hadham Neighbourhood Plan Survey questionnaire either by the hard copy delivered with the May edition of the Parish News, or the online version. We urge you to complete the questionnaire and let us have your views. There will be a public consultation in the Village Hall to share with you the results from the survey.

SURVEY RESULTS SO FAR

Subject	Very or Somewhat Important
The rural character of the village	100%
Protecting the River Ash	96%
Avoiding further flood risk	95%
Playgrounds, woods, green open spaces	100%
Maintaining distinct and separate hamlets	84%
Protecting cherished views	100%
Pedestrian paths and pavements	96%
Traffic volumes & speed	100%
Local employment opportunities	84%
Dark skies and the avoidance of light pollution	95%
Keeping the gaps between the Hadhams & from Bishop's Stortford	96%
Community amenities	95%

THE SUMMER FAYRE

The Summer Fayre is to be held on Saturday 18th July and tickets are on sale via the Village Hall website at a pre-order price of £5 per adult. Children are free. On the day, tickets will be £7. We still need more volunteers to help make the event as successful as possible on the day. Please contact clerk@littlehadham-pc.gov.uk

INFORMATION FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

- Parking from the Nags Head to the village hall is an ever-increasing issue and with several cars now using traffic cones to protect their cars, the hazards are becoming more difficult to navigate. A suggestion is for the creation of a passing place at the blind bend. This issues is exacerbated when farm vehicles try to use the road.
- Into the Smithy - a new footpath has been created and new parking for 14 cars. Clarion Housing has created the car park.
- The road between the crossroads and the Smithy is due to be resurfaced on 17th June so hopefully that will address the enormous potholes.
- The tipping at Hoecroft Lane where 51 sacks of what



appears to be a clearance of a cannabis farm has been cleared. Just a reminder, that if you do see fly tipping, please report this with as much information as you can (and ideally photos) to East Herts as soon as possible. If you can also report to the Chair or Clerk, we can also report and / or seek to escalate within East Herts. If you do witness vehicles or individuals fly tipping, then do try and obtain registration plates and any other identifiable information. But please do not put yourselves in danger

- Albury School closure - It looks as though HCC will be closing the school in September due to failing pupil numbers. The decision to close was called in by Cllr Pope for the Executive to look further at their proposal to close, but they have stuck with their original decision.
- The Local Government Reorganisation – it is expected to

hear a decision by the Government late July on makeup of unitaries in Herts. It is expected that we will have 4 unitaries in Herts with our area East Herts joining with North Herts and Broxbourne. Also expected that the EHDC election in May 27- will be cancelled and existing councillors term of office extended for 1 year. Unitary elections expected as a shadow authority in May 27.

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 next walk is scheduled for:

Wednesday 1st July

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.

HELP ISABEL HOSPICE BE THERE AROUND THE CLOCK

Life-limiting illness does not stop at night – and neither does Isabel Hospice.

This summer, Isabel Hospice is asking local people to support its Around The Clock Appeal, helping ensure patients and families across eastern Hertfordshire can receive expert, compassionate care at any time of day or night.

During the day, the hospice's Hospice at Home and Community Teams care for patients in their own homes, while doctors and nurses support patients and families at the Isabel Hospice Inpatient Unit. At night, the care continues. Night nurses look after patients at the Inpatient Unit and also answer the 24-hour advice line, so families caring for loved ones at home are never left alone with their worries.

A donation of £56 could fund a two-hour visit from a Hospice at Home



nurse, giving expert care to a patient and allowing their loved one time to rest. A gift of £210 could fund a nurse's shift answering the advice line through the night as well as caring for patients at the Inpatient Unit.

Your support could help make sure local families facing life-limiting illness always have somewhere to turn.

To donate, visit isabelhospice.org.uk/aroundtheclock or call Isabel Hospice on 01707 954 850.

FEEL GREAT THIS JULY BY DONATING YOUR UNWANTED BELONGINGS

Isabel Hospice is calling on local people to donate quality pre-loved items this July as part of its annual Donate to Feel Great campaign.

Now in its third year, the campaign encourages residents across eastern Hertfordshire to turn their summer clear-outs into vital support for local hospice care. Donations held through Isabel Hospice shops help fund specialist palliative and end-of-life care services for people and families across the community.

As wardrobes are refreshed, cupboards cleared and homes decluttered over the summer months, Isabel Hospice is asking supporters to think twice before throwing unwanted items away. Good quality donations can make a significant difference, helping the charity raise vital funds while also supporting more sustainable shopping and reducing waste.

The charity is particularly looking for quality donations including summer clothing, occasion wear, shoes, handbags and homeware. Every donated item helps in not one, not two but multiple ways: it gives unwanted goods a second life, diverts waste from landfill and raises funds for Isabel Hospice's essential services.

Jeff Abbott, Head of Retail at Isabel Hospice, said:

"What might be clutter to one person can become care for another. Every quality donation helps stock our shops, raises funds for our services and supports local families facing some of life's toughest moments. It's a simple act that creates a lasting impact across our community – and that's why donating really does feel great."

Donations can be dropped off at any Isabel Hospice shop during opening hours, at the convenient drive-through Donation Centre in Welwyn Garden City, or at one of the charity's Tonnes of Care mobile donation days taking place throughout July.

Supporters planning to donate larger quantities of items are encouraged to contact their local shop beforehand to check available storage space. To help protect donations from the weather and potential damage, items should not be left outside shops when they are closed.

The charity is also encouraging local businesses to get involved by donating surplus, discontinued or end-of-line stock. These donations can help reduce waste, support sustainability goals and generate vital income for hospice care across eastern Hertfordshire.

For more information about accepted items, shop locations and Tonnes of Care donation days, visit www.isabelhospice.org.uk.

This July, donate your unwanted items and help turn clutter into care.





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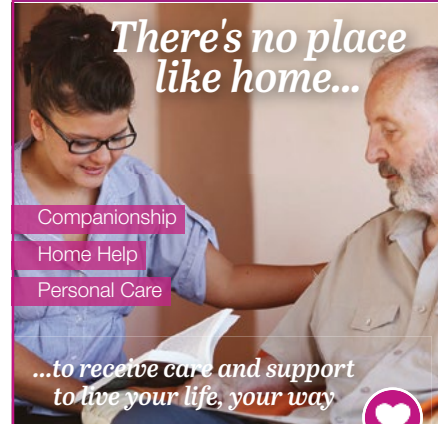
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MILLENNIUM WOOD

RACHEL SEIFERT rachel.seifert@gmail.com

June is the month when everything comes alive, and Millennium Wood is certainly no exception this year. The much-needed rain we have recently had (following the very dry Spring) has allowed the forest floor to spring to life and refilled the pond to a healthy level. Visiting today, there is a distinct earthy smell in the air, known as the petrichor. It is the pleasant scent of rain after a dry spell - and has been much welcome for the gardens and woodlands. In fact there is almost a rainforest feel with the wet dampness mixed with the warmth of the air as I wander around today.

The forest has been full of birds flitting around - robins, blackbirds, wrens, blue tits, great tits, long-tailed tits, tree creepers, and a blackcap. The birdsong starts early and goes on till late given we are heading to midsummer. For me though, this is the time of year for butterflies - and in the wood we have spotted meadow browns, speckled woods, peacock, and red admirals. Alongside the earlier brimstones and orange-tips.

The buttercups are still out in force, the dominant wild flower across the forest floor, and yellow flag irises adding a splash of colour to the very green pond area.

As another heatwave is about to hit us, do remember how much cooler it is under the natural shade and temperature regulators of trees. And in the blaring sun maybe consider heading to these or other woods for somewhere to escape the oppressive heat.



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LIFE MEMBERSHIP AWARD FOR ALBURY'S CHRIS GERBER

Quasi was delighted to be present when his friend, St Mary's Albury bellringer and very nice chap, Chris Gerber, was elected a life member of the Hertford County Association of Change Ringers. Proposed by the Association's Bishop's Stortford District, the election took place at the Annual General Meeting at Northchurch, Berkhamsted in April.

Chris was taught to ring at St. Michael's, Bishop's Stortford in 1998, along with many others throughout the country, as a 'Millennium Ringer'. He was in the band which rang at St Michael's at twelve noon on Saturday 1st January 2000, along with hundreds of other churches, to herald the new millennium.

In 2000, Chris moved to Albury and joined the band of ringers there although he continued to ring at Bishop's Stortford as well for many years. In 2008 he took on the roles of tower correspondent and steeple keeper from Alf (Jock) Kent who had died in the previous year. Jock had carried out the restoration of the bells at St. Mary's Albury in the early 1960s and over the years increased the number of bells from three to six, reusing two from nearby Wyddial.

Chris has been a regular attendee at the weekly Wednesday morning practices at St. Cecilia's Little Hadham but, unfortunately, ill health in the last couple of years - his wife had words after he fainted after ringing one Christmas morning! - has caused Chris to gradually curtail his ringing

activities. We have missed his gentle wit in the tower on a Sunday morning, but were pleased that his faithful service could be recognized like this.

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

Quasi



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 Est. 2022



JUNE ADVENTURES AT WOODLAND RANGERS

June has been full of adventure, creativity and nature-based learning at Woodland Rangers.

We were delighted to welcome back our baby group, The **Mini Muntjacs**. Parents have enjoyed connecting with other local families over a hot drink and chat in the fresh air, while babies explored the woodland through sights, sounds, textures and smells.

Our **Woodland Squirrels** have been discovering the wonderful world of mini beasts, searching under logs and tree stumps for tiny creatures and creating their own snails using wooden disks and clay.

World Ocean Day arrived with some very wet weather, but that didn't stop the fun! We embraced the rain, splashed in puddles, and created floating boats from corks and leaf sails. The children learned about the importance of protecting our oceans and caring for our planet while testing their boats on puddles around the woodland.

The **Home Education Group** enjoyed, making elder wood beads by hollowing elder wood and threading them into necklaces. This week they foraged for nettles and brewed nettle tea over the campfire.

We celebrated **British Flower week** by collecting buttercups and leaves to create Hapa Zome, the ancient

NIKKI & LOUISE

www.woodlandrangers.co.uk

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

Japanese technique of pounding fresh leaves and flowers onto fabric to create prints. Some children transformed their creations into flags, while others made thoughtful Father's Day gifts.

We're looking forward to celebrating **World Fairy Day** next week and can't wait for the summer holidays. We hope to see lots of local families joining us for woodland adventures in the months ahead!



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AVOIDING FASHION RETAIL SCAMS

I bought a jacket online and when it arrived it looked nothing like the images shown. The company said if I want a refund I must pay to ship it to an address in China, but the website claimed the brand was UK-based. Is this a scam and how do I avoid it in future?

This is a really frustrating situation and unfortunately it's becoming more common than you might think. It is in fact a type of retail scam and often leads to customers having refund rows with sellers who are misleading people.

These companies are known to convince people they're based in the UK by using deceiving brand names and having UK websites or postal addresses. Some create AI-generated images of fake products and boutiques - and even go to the trouble of making up backstories about the origins of the brand.

What they actually do, as in your case, is ship low-quality items from overseas that can look nothing like the images advertised. Shoppers are then asked to fork out for expensive international shipping fees if they want their money back.

Understandably, many people don't bother, because the cost of shipping takes a huge chunk out of the refund they'd receive. The scammers know this, and it's how they take advantage of people.

When sellers turn out to be based overseas, UK consumer laws are far harder to enforce, so it can be difficult to recover your money.

There are a few steps you can take to help you spot and avoid these scams:

- Research before buying from a company you haven't used before - check reviews on search engines and third-party websites
- Watch out for heavily discounted, too-good-to-be-true prices and "huge closing down" sales
- Be mindful of the targeted shopping adverts in your social media feeds - this is often how customers are drawn in
- Consider whether images used to advertise an item were created by AI. This can be difficult, but look for overly airbrushed images, inconsistent textures or distortions on the face and body
- Check the company's website delivery information. Overseas stores offer shipping to the UK in a much longer timeframe than a genuine UK-based brand would

If you have been caught out by this type of scam and you paid by debit or credit card, you may be able to get a refund. If you paid by debit card, ask your bank to use the 'chargeback scheme'. If you paid by credit card and the item cost less than £100, you can ask to use the same scheme.

If you paid by credit card and the item cost between £100 and £30,000, tell your credit card company you want to make a 'section 75' claim to get your money back.

The more people that recognise and report these scams, the more can be done. The Competition and Markets Authority (CMA) has the legal power to enforce UK consumer laws against traders which target UK shoppers but are based abroad, but they rely on people reporting it. If a company has broken the law, they can impose fines and website takedowns. You can report an issue to the CMA but they can't help people with individual cases.

Citizens Advice can offer support with individual situations and we advise you to report scams to us too - please call our Message Line 01920 459 944 or visit citizensadviceeastherts.org.uk for our advice options.

LITTLE HADHAM VILLAGE HALL NEWS

JOAN MCKINLAY

www.littlehadhamvillagehall.com | vice-chair@littlehadhamvillagehall.com

VILLAGE HALL CHAIR

For those of you who don't know me, my name is Mark Hall, newly elected in April as Chair of Little Hadham Village Hall. I would firstly like to pay tribute to the work and efforts of all the management trustees and volunteers, who I have got to know over the past months.

Our Village Hall continues to be a strong centre of activity for residents. Private hire bookings are increasing, and numbers of attendees at Community Brunch continue to grow steadily too. Our Wednesday Welcome Cafe followed by free participation at the Digital Inclusion workshop are very well received. The flagship events of the Brunch and Cafe demonstrate our strong commitment to reach out to our local community in a positive and meaningful way. Monthly Bingo evenings also continue to be well supported and have helped to bring people together to socialise, make friends and carry off lots of prizes along the way!

However, none of this would have been possible without the awesome participation of our volunteers who work so hard both at front of house and behind the scenes to make these events successful. I am truly blessed to be part of such a positive and can-do team. As the months continue to unfold, I would like our wonderful Village Hall to be known for what it truly is - a happy friendly community with a gentle healing touch!

Please note that volunteer and management trustee led activities such as Community Brunch, Welcome Café, Darts and Games and Cinema take a break in August. Many groups will run as usual throughout August, so please check dates with your group organiser.

BINGO EVENING – MONDAY 6TH JULY 7PM

Our events committee invite you to book up for another fun prize-winning Bingo evening which includes an option for food.

They are offering in your ticket price of £12, a tasty Hot Dog or Jacket Potato. If you do not wish to have food, tickets are £8.

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:



Hamnet (2025) -
Monday 13th July

Drama (Film
synopsis on
website) Cert
12A. Runtime:
2hr2 05mins.

Doors Open
2pm - Film Starts
Promptly at 2.30pm

Entry tickets £5 per person

Licensed Bar / Ice Creams / Tea & Cake

New Autumn programme
showing from September

LITTLE HADHAM SUMMER FAYRE – SATURDAY 18TH JULY

We are very excited to bring you a family day full of fun, music and activities. We have lots of music acts, craft stalls,

refreshments, licenced bar, Burger stall, Dog Show, tractors, classic cars, children's activities, photographer, face painting and much more. The event starts at 1pm and finishes at 10pm. Event programme available on the day.

Children's entry is free. Advance adult tickets are available to purchase online now via the village hall website at £5. Adult tickets on the day £7 per adult, get your tickets online in advance now and save! A wristband will be issued to paid adults to allow you to leave and return.

Free parking is available in the village hall car park, along the road, the school car park (A120) and field opposite the Nags Head. If you live locally and can walk, please do so to help alleviate traffic congestion on the day.

We are very grateful to Pestels Estate Agents, Herts County Council and Home Instead East Herts, for their financial sponsorship and to all the local businesses who have provided prizes for our Grand Draw. All proceeds from this event will go to support village hall maintenance and improvements. We look forward to seeing you there!

DIGITAL INCLUSION: FRIENDLY TECH & PRACTICAL SUPPORT

Where: Little Hadham Village Hall - When:
Every Wednesday, 13:30 – 15:30

Do you ever feel a little stuck when using your phone, tablet or laptop? Maybe you need help downloading a useful app, can't remember or reset your password, or you're not sure how to send photos to family and friends. Perhaps you want to sort out your energy bills and find a better, cheaper deal, or you'd like to learn how to spot and avoid common scams that target local people.

It's very common to find digital tasks tricky – and it can feel even harder if family or usual helpers aren't nearby. That's

LITTLE HADHAM VILLAGE HALL SG11 2BP

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Bring your friends & family!

MONDAY
6th JULY 2026
7.00pm to 9.00pm
£12 per person includes
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Book Online: www.littlehadhamvillagehall.com

EVENT SUPPORTED BY LITTLE HADHAM PARISH COUNCIL LHVH COMMITTEE & VOLUNTEERS

LITTLE HADHAM
SUMMER FAYRE
SATURDAY
18th JULY 2026

Open from: 1pm to 10pm
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Advance online payment: Adults £5 (+ fee)
Entry on the day: Adults £7
Children Under 16: FREE

Advance online payment tickets:
www.littlehadhamvillagehall.com



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exactly why we run our weekly support sessions here in Little Hadham, and we'd love to welcome you along. Our friendly, experienced team is on hand to give

you one-to-one help in a calm, relaxed setting. There's no rush, no confusing jargon, and no question is too small or simple. We can help you with things like:

- Downloading and setting up apps safely
- Resetting or updating passwords
- Managing your energy bills and finding cheaper deals
- Learning how to spot and avoid scams
- Sending or sharing photos from your device
- Any other digital or practical task you find difficult

Come along, sit down and enjoy a cup of tea or coffee while we help 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 736 610. We are here for you, and we look forward to seeing you soon.

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.

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

LITTLE HADHAM VILLAGE HALL
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MUCH HADHAM
FORGE MUSEUM
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 Welcome...

The Tudor Storyteller & Family Challenge Trail
Thurs 27th August, 11am - 4pm

No need to book, just turn up!
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WHAT'S ON IN JULY @ LH VILLAGE HALL

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
Chair Yoga	11am - 11.45am	Mark Cox	M: 07368 293062
Tai Chi & Qi Gong	1pm - 2pm	Sarah Baker	M: 07740 701102
Digital Inclusion	1.30pm - 3.30pm	Drop in: Help with your digital device	FREE
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
Fancy Feet (Children's Dance)	4pm - 5.30pm	Hannah	Email: fancyfeetacademy@hotmail.com
LH Bowls Club	7.30pm - 10pm	Annette Luedtke	Email: annetteluedtke@gmail.com

FORTNIGHTLY ACTIVITIES

Darts & Games Social	2pm - 4.30pm	Drop in: (30 th June) Tuesday 7 th , 21 st July	COST: £3
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MONTHLY ACTIVITIES - Please see website for full details

Community Brunch	10am - 12pm	Book via website: Thursday 9 th July	DONATIONS
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OTHER

Monday 6th July – Evening Bingo: £12 included Hot Dog or jacket potato. See 'Events' on website for details.
Monday 13th July - Red Chair Community (Afternoon) Cinema: Hamnet (2025) Cert 12A.
 Doors Open 2pm. Film Starts Promptly at 2.30pm. Entry £5. Refreshments available to purchase.
Saturday 18th July - LH Summer Fayre 1pm to 10pm. Children Free – Adults £5 in advance online / £7 on the day. Music throughout the day, children's activities, food concessions and much more.

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.

There was great excitement at Little Hadham Primary School last week as a team of our Year 5 and Year 6 girls proudly returned to school with a winners' trophy after competing against a number of local schools in a football tournament. Their achievement was truly outstanding and a testament to the hard work, determination and teamwork they have shown throughout the year.



While lifting the trophy was a wonderful moment, what made us most proud was the way the girls represented our school. They demonstrated excellent sportsmanship, encouraging one another, showing respect to opponents and officials, and playing with integrity throughout the competition. The smiles on their faces as they returned to school told the whole story – a mixture of pride, excitement and the joy that comes from working together to achieve something special. They have been fantastic role models for younger pupils and we congratulate them on a memorable success.

As always, life at Little Hadham Primary School has been busy, exciting and full of opportunities for children to learn both inside and outside the classroom.

Our Year 3 pupils recently took part in the HFL Maths Challenge, where they worked collaboratively to solve a range of mathematical puzzles and problems. The children demonstrated excellent teamwork, resilience and enthusiasm, embracing every challenge with confidence and enjoyment.

Across the school, children have been learning about the importance of caring for our environment. During a

Rights Respecting Schools assembly led brilliantly by Year 6 pupils, children explored World Bee Day and discovered the vital role bees play in pollinating crops and supporting our food supply. The assembly encouraged everyone to think about how small actions, such as planting bee-friendly flowers and protecting natural habitats, can make a difference.

Our youngest pupils in EYFS have been exploring the wonders of Planet Earth through Oliver Jeffers' book *Here We Are*. They have created displays showing contrasting environments from icy Arctic landscapes to fiery volcanoes, while also learning about doubling in mathematics, the life cycle of frogs and developing their tennis skills through determination and perseverance.

Beech Class have been learning about constructive feedback and teamwork through practical activities, whilst also beginning an exciting history topic about the famous engineer Isambard Kingdom Brunel. Meanwhile, Lime Class have returned from half-term full of enthusiasm, developing their understanding of decimals, writing imaginative adventure stories and learning about geography through our popular Learning Together sessions with families.

In Maple Class, pupils have been investigating the story of the Titanic and developing their journalistic writing skills. They have also explored maps of North America, strengthened their mathematical understanding of percentages and multiplication, and begun a new Design Technology unit focused on bread and healthy eating. Thought-provoking Religious Education discussions have encouraged children to consider important questions about honesty, courage and faith.

Willow Class have been stepping back into Victorian Britain through their fascinating study of Punch and Judy shows. Their research has inspired creative art projects, including making their own puppets using traditional techniques. Alongside this, pupils have been developing their cricket skills, exploring advanced coordinate work in mathematics and learning about Charles Darwin's voyage aboard HMS Beagle through diary writing inspired by his adventures.

One of the highlights of recent weeks has been welcoming parents and carers into school for our Learning Together mornings. These sessions provide valuable opportunities for families to share in their children's learning and celebrate the progress being made across the curriculum. We are incredibly grateful for the continued support shown by our school community.

As we move further into the summer term, it is wonderful to reflect on the many achievements, experiences and opportunities our children have enjoyed. Whether competing in sporting events, solving mathematical challenges, learning about the natural world or exploring history through creative projects, our pupils continue to demonstrate curiosity, resilience and enthusiasm every day.

We look forward to sharing more successes and celebrations with the parish community in the weeks ahead.



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10AM-5PM

SUNDAY 30 AUGUST
10AM-4PM



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Tea, coffee and cake

FREE ENTRY

WWW.MUCHHADHAMARTSOCIETY.CO.UK

Notices



COVER PHOTOS

Calling all budding photographers! We are always on the look out for lovely photographs of the village for our front cover. With our new design, it no longer matters if there is a space at the top to put writing over, just something that works with the dimensions we use on our cover which is almost square.

Seasonal photos or photos of events from the village always welcome. Please send them to the editor at: littlehadhampn@gmail.com



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TALKING BOWLS...OR SOMETHING

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

What a difference a few weeks can make!

Last month our two competitive teams were off to a flying start with comfortable wins in their Leagues but in the last 3 games our Seniors team gained just 6 points out of a possible 24 and our men's Evening team even worse with just 2 points from a possible 18.

Results must improve or, like our Government, questions will be asked about Leadership!

One Seniors match was postponed due to the weather. It was scheduled for 26th May which turned out to be the hottest day ever recorded, so a wise decision. But it did bring a comment from one member "I have played bowls for 47 years and have never had a game cancelled because the sun is shining".

Welcome to global change for "flaming June" so far hasn't lived up to its reputation and we have needed to don "wets" to play some matches.

We have gained some new members this year for both bowls and croquet which is pleasing but we still have more vacancies. If you fancy joining us do not leave it too long as the season evaporates at an unexpected pace.

Worth mentioning that we plan on extending our season this year, the milder winters are less harmful to the Green so we may as well take advantage of it.

For enquiries for bowls and croquet or both and/ or information please call 01279 842 637.

Jack

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THE HUNDRED PARISHES SOCIETY

TRICIA MOXEY, TRUSTEE

www.hundredparishes.org.uk



Last year's Royal Horticultural Society's State of Gardening Report revealed that gardens cover three times the size of the UK's National Nature Reserves. They support over 50 million trees and thousands of species, providing habitats for over half of the UK's butterflies, amphibians and reptiles, and more than 40% of birds.

Many of the listed buildings within the Hundred Parishes are surrounded by a private garden which enhances their setting, reinforcing their sense of place. They support a great variety of trees, shrubs and flowers - some native, others introduced - providing havens for assorted wildlife.

Gardens associated with such older properties will have been tended by many generations of residents, evolving over time as owners were influenced by fashionable trends.

Initially, they were stocked with native trees and shrubs, selected for their ability to provide fuel, timber, fence posts or fruits, while vegetables helped feed the family.

From the mid-17th century onwards, non-native tree species began to appear such as Cedars and Horse Chestnuts, these being planted initially within the estates of trend-setting wealthy landowners. By the mid-19th century, gardeners were able to source an increasing number of exotic species as diligent plant hunters discovered them in various parts of the globe and the precious seeds or small saplings were grown on in nurseries and then released for sale.

Engaging with a garden improves mental, physical and social wellbeing, with 77%

of gardeners reporting positive impacts on their mental health. Local residents have access to wonderful, extensive gardens such as Easton Lodge, Audley End House or Saffron Walden's Bridge End Gardens, but enjoying a private garden brings a great deal of pleasure too.

Our website www.hundredparishes.org.uk includes an Article on Gardens and the What's On page shows dates of specific local open gardens.



Saffron Walden – Audley End House garden.



Steeple Bumpstead – Horse Chestnut tree in Moyns Park



Saffron Walden – Bridge End Gardens.



Stansted Mountfitchet – Cedar trees at Hargrave House.



Much Hadham – Cedar at The Old Rectory



Steeple Bumpstead – pond in an open garden.

THE GARDENS OF EASTON LODGE

JILL GOLDSMITH

www.eastonlodge.co.uk



After the rains in early June ending the spring drought, we are hoping that more typical weather will enable the Gardens to continue to thrive and look lovely through July. We can always count on the waterlilies, nepeta and helenium in the Italian Garden. The Japanese style gardens in the dappled shade in the Glade retain interest from the range of shapes and colours of their foliage. The wildflower spiral, dahlias and vegetables in the walled kitchen garden have started growing at pace (and there should be a steady flow of fresh produce on sale). And we have our fingers

crossed that the lavender hedges, which we have renewed, will be just as attractive to the butterflies, bees and hummingbird hawk moths as the straggly old ones were.

In summer visitors enjoy the garden games on the croquet lawn... there's something for all the family, from the skill and interesting tactics in croquet to the clatter of large Jenga toppling to the ground! The Gardens are open on Thursdays, from 11am to 3pm, last entry 2pm.

And on **Sunday 12 July** we will have a range of additional activities on our Discovery Day, with the

Gates open from 11am, last entry 4pm. There will be a display of our native birds of prey by Fens Falconry and our archivists will share stories about the Countess of Warwick's love of animals. There will be other nature based activities, including pond dipping and children's craft; and a mini-concert from Harlow Concert Band from 11.30am. Refreshments will be available from the Trust's kiosk and from the Giggly Pig. For further details and timing, please look at our website www.eastonlodge.co.uk. Advance tickets (at a discount) can be bought through Trybooking.com.

CJ Gardening Services

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Our next meeting of The Hadhams' History Society will be on **Thursday 25th June**, in The Green Room Much Hadham Village Hall. Cristina Harrison from the Forge Museum will be coming along to give a talk on murals entitled "Why Paint on a Wall" and I am sure that this will be very interesting.

23rd July: Patmore Heath, Flora and Fauna

Our August meeting will be on the 27th August "Livery Companies of London" by Dave Willet.

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

HADHAM CROSS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

KATHY HAMILTON

PREACHERS FOR SERVICES AT 11am

5th July	Andrew Proudfoot	Therfield Congregational Church
12th July	Mike Hillyer	Oakwood Chapel Harlow
19th July	Kathy Hamilton	Hadham Cross Congregational Church
26th July	Ralph Evershed	Spicer Streey St. Albans

All are welcome to our Services at 11am every Sunday

Our next **COFFEE MORNING** will be on **Wednesday 8th July** 10am- 12 noon. Please do come and join us for coffee/tea cake and a chat.

Our next **AFTERNOON TEA** will be on **Thursday 30th July** 2 - 4pm. Again please do come and join us for cake/tea, coffee and a chat.

IMPORTANT PLEA -Due to retirement the Congregational Church requires the services of a Treasurer and Secretary. Any help that can be given to these two important positions would be very much appreciated. If anyone would like further information please get in touch with me - Kathy Hamilton 01279 843 756.

Church Deacons: Brenda Coleshill 01279 842 800 | Kathy Hamilton 01279 843 756

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT

BRENDA KAIN

HONEY, MUSTARD & LEMON CRUSHED POTATO & SALMON TRAYBAKE

Hello everyone

This recipe is a fairly new one for me and qualifies as it's quick, one tray and easy!

SERVES 4

- 750g new potatoes
- 2 tbsp olive oil
- 4 salmon fillets
- 200g asparagus (optional)
- 150g tender stem broccoli
- Zest of 1 lemon
- 100g cherry tomatoes
- Salt & pepper

DRESSING

- Juice 1 lemon
 - 1 tsp salt and 1 of black pepper
 - 2 crushed garlic cloves
 - 1 tbsp Dijon mustard
 - 1 tbsp olive oil
 - 2 tbsp runny honey
- Mix all the dressing ingredients together and set aside
 - Cook potatoes for 12 mins, drain and put in baking tray with some of the olive oil
 - Using the base of a glass or mug press down on the potatoes and crush them.



- (I find this better than using a masher as you get crispy edges)!
- Season well, add zest of lemon and roast for 30 mins turning them halfway through, top oven of aga, 180 fan or gas 5
- Meanwhile spoon the dressing over the salmon and veg
- Push the potatoes to the edge of the tray and add the salmon and vegetables and return to the oven
- Bake for a further 14 mins

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PARISH SERVICES JULY 2026

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Date	Day	Church	Service / Event	Time
03-Jul	Friday	St Thomas' Church, Perry Green	St Thomas' Day - Said Eucharist	6pm
05-Jul	Sunday	St Mary's Church, Albury	Trinity 5 - Sermon In Conversation - Women In Ministry	9:15am
08-Jul	Wednesday	Mark & Sue Stephens' Residence	Bible Study - Joseph	7:45pm
11-Jul	Saturday	St Cecilia's Church, Little Hadham	Hymns & Pimm's	5pm
12-Jul	Sunday	St Andrew's Church, Much Hadham	Trinity 6 - Sermon In Conversation - Surviving genocide	9:15am
15-Jul	Wednesday	Mark & Sue Stephens' Residence	Bible Study - Joseph	7:45pm
19-Jul	Sunday	St Cecilia's Church, Little Hadham	Trinity 7 - The Call of God	9:15am
19-Jul	Sunday	St Andrew's Church, Much Hadham	Blessing The Pets	5pm
22-Jul	Wednesday	Mark & Sue Stephens' Residence	Bible Study - Joseph	7:45pm
23-Jul	Thursday	St Cecilia's Church, Little Hadham	Midweek Eucharist (BCP)	10am
26-Jul	Sunday	St Andrew's Church, Much Hadham	Trinity 8 - Prayer: A Conversation with God	9:15am
29-Jul	Wednesday	Mark & Sue Stephens' Residence	Bible Study - Joseph	7:45pm

DONATING TO ST. CECILIA'S

As well as the Parish Giving Scheme, cheques and cash, we have now caught up with modern technology and have Contactless Giving in the Church. You can also donate via our QR code. — Thank you.



ALL ARE WELCOME TO JOIN OUR SERVICES