

LITTLE HADHAM PARISH NEWS

SEPTEMBER 2025



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

Letter from the Rectory

Language and Cross-Cultural Misunderstandings

"That is why it was called Babel, because there the LORD confused the language of the whole world. From there the Lord scattered them over the face of the whole earth".

Genesis 11:9 NIV

Language is our primary tool for communication, but words can easily lead to confusion, especially when we travel or relocate to places where meanings shift. Even when speaking a shared language, words may carry very different connotations.

My Personal Experience

About 30 years ago, while visiting the UK on holidays, I was approached by someone who seemed lost — this was before the advent of digital maps. The stranger asked, me "Are you local?" I was taken aback and nearly responded according to my understanding. In Nigeria, to be called "local" was to say the person was unrefined, backward, not exposed, indeed a derogatory label. I must state that English is Nigeria's official language due to British colonial history. Before I had an opportunity to respond in a suitable manner to what I perceived as an insult, he clarified that he was searching for a specific street and simply required assistance, asking if I was familiar with the area. I wonder what would have happened if I had responded according to my understanding.

I hear Dundee is a charming city in Scotland, and it is the home to the football club Dundee United. However, in Nigeria, calling someone "Dundee or Dundee united" is an insult, which implies slowness to learn, unintelligent and foolish. Expressions that would be

considered inappropriate today. How that evolved remains an absolute mystery.

Other Word Traps

"Mate" means friend here; in Nigeria it refers to someone of the same age group or status.

In America, "pants" means trousers. Elsewhere, it refers to underwear.

Loonie: In Canada, this refers to a one-dollar coin (named after the loon bird), but in other places, it might be understood as "crazy person."

We all love gifts. But if you said to a German "I have a gift for you" it means "poison."

Brat: In English, it's a misbehaving child; in Russian, it means "brother."

Even my name is not spared. Tayo, (usually the shorter version of the full name), meaning "of joy". For me, it's my name, but in Filipino, it means "us" or "we" (including the speaker.)

Share Your Stories

Have you encountered words or phrases that caught you off guard or made you laugh? Feel free to share your experiences for inclusion in the October edition of this parish magazine. Please send to revdtayoreplies@outlook.com Keep your contributions brief, and if preferred, use your initials rather than your full name.

Enjoy your summer exploring the quirks of language!



Revd T.

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

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.



From the Registers of St. Cecilia's Church, Little Hadham

We commend to God's care

Brian Peter Smith (92) formerly of Little Hadham, whose burial of Ashes took place on 4th May

Lilian Margaret Rees (91) of Cradle End, whose funeral service took place on the 2nd July

Nina Myrtle Pringle (53) of Albury Road, whose burial of Ashes took place on 5th July

Margaret Anne Dunne (75) of Hunsdon, whose funeral service and burial took place on 16th July

Pet Service



*Sunday, 21 September
9:15 at St Cecilia's Church*

*Come and join us as we thank God for our
pets and bless them.*

All are welcome—pets and their humans!

Bike N' Hike

Peter English is again riding round Churches in the area on **13th September** for the annual Beds and Herts Historic Churches Trust. You can support him by sponsoring his ride, last year he visited about 20 churches. Half of the money raised goes to our church and the rest to the Churches Trust which give out grants for Church repairs, which we have needed in the past.

If you'd like to sponsor Peter, contact Karin Green Tel. 771 532 or churchwardenstcecilias@gmail.com.



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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

2nd Sept	7th October
4th November	2nd December

Agendas are posted on noticeboards and the Little Hadham Parish Council website.

County Councillor to attend September Meeting

Cllr Pope, our local Hertfordshire County Councillor will be attending the September meeting and will be available to answer any questions which residents may have. Please do come along to hear about the work the County Council are currently involved with in and around Little Hadham and to find out what their priorities may be going forward. Cllr Pope has also been involved in the Highways meetings which the Parish Council are regularly having with the Highways team and Hertfordshire County Council.

Highways meetings with Hertfordshire County Council

The Parish Council continue to meet regularly with the Highways team to discuss both highways issues within the village and potential plans for improvements following the bypass.

At the August meeting, the highways team fed back the results from the speed and traffic surveys which they have recently conducted in and around the village. Whilst the survey results showed that there was generally good compliance with the 30mph speed limit on Albury Road and The Ford,

the average speed limit on Stortford Road was above the speed limit.

The highways team continue to work towards a design for Phase 3 of the post bypass works which will encompass traffic calming measures on Stortford Road. This work is likely to be implemented in 2026/27.

As a result of the ongoing dialogue between the Parish Council and the highways team, we have been able to secure the following improvement works to the village:

- Improved access kerbs at the bus stop near to The Smithy
- Pedestrian crossing on The Ford near to The Smithy
- Bollards to protect the pump on The Ford, particularly given the recent work undertaken by the Parish Council to conserve and preserve the pump and village sign

It had been hoped that a new footpath could be constructed between the Smithy and the bus stop layby. However, due to existing tree roots, this was not possible. The County Council Highways team have two proposals which will be discussed at the September Parish Council meeting as to a way forward in

respect of this matter and residents are invited to attend to share their views.

Should you have any matters you wish for us to raise with the Highways team, please do contact the Parish Clerk or, better yet, come along to the next Parish Council meeting to discuss.



New bus stop at the Village Hall

Residents will have seen that there is now a very fancy new bus stop and shelter at the Village Hall. It is hoped that this will improve access to the Village Hall, particularly as the Village Hall continues to grow and people come from further afield.

Little Hadham Ramblers

Walks are scheduled for:

- Wednesday 3rd September
- Wednesday 1st October
- Wednesday 5th November
- Wednesday 3rd December

We start from the Village Hall at 10.00, with a return between 11.30-12.00. There is a lunch available at the Warm Spaces Café. Always a delicious choice of soup, filled jacket potato or a main meal. Dogs welcome.

The walks will be loaded onto the Parish Council website through Komoot.

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.

There is also a Little Hadham Community Group – Facebook Page for residents to share information about the village: roads closed, trees down, events in the village etc.

Fault Reporting in our village

Lastly, when you notice anything in the village that needs attention, notify the Parish Clerk, who will follow these up with Highways during our regular meetings. Then you can also:

- Log into Hertfordshire County Council website
- Click on 'Fault Reporting'
- Report the fault.

You can then provide the reference number to the Parish Clerk who can follow up with Highways should the matter persist.

Further information, questions or comments

Should you have any questions or comments on anything contained within this article, please do get in contact with the Parish Clerk who will be happy to provide further information, where possible. Alternatively we are always welcoming of new faces at the Parish Council meetings and the next is due to be held on 2 September 2025.

clerklittlehadham@gmail.com | 01920 870 809 | 07825 011 975

Down at the Doctors

Andrew Wilkinson, Practice Manager

www.muchhadhamhealthcentre.co.uk



We are pleased to share the results of the 2025 Annual GP Patient Survey, published in July. I am delighted to report that our practice achieved an outstanding overall patient satisfaction rating of 92%, placing us second highest in Hertfordshire. Across all surveyed areas, our results were significantly above both the ICB and national average.

To put this in perspective, compared with neighbouring practices, our overall satisfaction rating was between 10% to 25% higher.

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

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

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

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

Flu Vaccination Clinic

Saturday 4th 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 include those aged 65 years and over and individuals aged 18 to 64 in clinical risk groups.

COVID-19 Autumn Booster

Saturday 18th October

8:30am – 5pm

Little Hadham Village Hall

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

From 1st September, eligible patients will be able to book through the National Booking System. We are pleased that Little Hadham Village Hall is listed as a local vaccination site.

We strongly encourage you to book at this venue. If the clinic is underutilised, it may be withdrawn — meaning patients would need to travel further afield to Bishop's Stortford or local pharmacies for their vaccine.

Housebound patients will be visited by a PCN (Primary Care Network) nurse during October and November. If you wish to receive one or both the flu and COVID-19 vaccines, they will be administered during the same visit.

Thank you for your continued support.

Andrew



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Rachel's Pooch Pals

Rachel Purvis

Hey! I'm Rachel, the paw-roud owner of Rachel's Pooch Pals! You would've seen me and my cockapoo Missy in our beautiful Parish as we've been supporting our local residents with their Pooch Pals since 2022.

Whether it's Dog Walking, "Pop in and Plays", sleepovers or simply feeding your fur babies and giving them some cuddles then Missy and I are here to help!

We've recently had an exciting re-brand so look out for us and give us a wave when you do!

Here's some lovely testimonials from local Pooch Pal Paw-rents and if there's anything we can do to help, please get in touch via the details below or in our new advert on page 21. We look forward to meeting you and making some new Pooch Pals very soon xxx

"Rachel has been walking our Labrador, Fleur for the last 18 months and we wouldn't be without her now. Fleur and Missy have become best friends and Fleur is always very excited to go out with her. Rachel has also done some "pop in's" for us and will go out of her way if we need her to help us out with Fleur. I cannot recommend Rachel more highly."
Sam, Fleur's Mum, Wellpond Green

"Rachel is a true animal lover and always puts animal welfare before anything else. She always has a smile on her face and it's a pleasure to



know her. She walks our cockapoo's every weekday, they so look forward to her arriving! She has also done a couple of sleepovers which are a real treat. Lulu's acceptance of other dogs has improved massively since she has been walking with Rachel."
The Bhatts, Lulu & Marley's Paw-rents, Little Hadham

"Rachel's Pooch Pals is fantastic. Rachel is friendly, reliable, and clearly adores dogs. Most importantly our dog absolutely loves her. I couldn't recommend her more highly!"
Gail, Ruby's Mum, Little Hadham

Rachel's Pooch Pals

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Be a volunteer at the Village Hall

John Kennedy made a famous speech at his inauguration in January 1961. In it he said, 'Ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country.' This has been quoted many times since. It is still true today.

The Village Hall is at the heart of our village. It is close to the actual geographical centre of the village as well. Over the last 5 years or so, there have been many improvements to it, the painting and decoration, a new kitchen, new tables and chairs, new windows and doors, new curtains, new equipment, tidying up of the whole site, and more besides. We have seen, thanks to the hard work of Jan and Joan, an amazing number of groups and activities which take place regularly in the village hall. This includes activities for all ages, babies to senior citizens. The monthly Community Breakfast, running for over two years now, has also been a fantastic success.

All the income from these activities has helped the village hall to save up money for all the above improvements. The new floor to be completed this summer is a necessary but expensive improvement. A lot of this could not have happened without the support of regular volunteers who pick up a paintbrush, wait at tables,



or support events. The village hall needs more volunteers. Its future depends on more of our residents giving as much time as they can to keep this success going.

Yes, it can be hard work! Yes, you might not be sure what you can offer! I decided to volunteer a few years ago, and I haven't looked back. There are lots of advantages as well. You can make a difference. You can contribute your ideas and experience. Younger residents can benefit too. Universities and employers are always impressed to read about this volunteering in applications.

So, please volunteer. Look on the village hall website for details on all that is going on. Read the monthly Parish News for regular articles as well.

Go along to the village hall and meet other volunteers, speak to Jan and Joan to talk about what you can do. I enjoy being a volunteer. I'm sure you will too.

Dave Willett

Little Hadham Gardening Club

Anne Willett



Salvia officinalis 'Purpurascens' (Sage)

We had an enjoyable visit to a garden called Dragons at Boyton Cross on the 5th August with 17 members and friends attending. Lovely day with coffee and cake.

We don't meet in September but if you haven't decided yet on your entries for our Autumn Show on the 31st August, there is still time, so have a look at the Schedule which can be found on Little Hadham Village Hall website or contact Gail on 07800 764 414. There will be refreshments in the afternoon, including home made cake. Come along and join in.

How to grow herbs at home:-

Herbs such as basil, oregano, chives and rosemary are easy to grow, providing you with fresh, tasty leaves to use in soups, stews, casseroles and salads, as well as desserts and cocktails. Herbs have other uses too – many have long been valued for their medicinal properties and are still found in herbal remedies today.

Most herbs thrive in full sun in a sheltered position. You can grow them on the windowsill, in pots outdoors or straight in the ground. Sow seeds of annual herbs like basil and coriander every couple of weeks to provide fresh leaves throughout summer. Plant perennial herbs such as oregano, rosemary, chives and mint in pots or in the ground and harvest the leaves as and when you need them. Save seed from annual herbs at the end of the year before composting the plants, but keep hold of your perennial herbs – they should grow again the following year.

Mint - is really easy to grow but best grown on its own in a pot, as it can take over other herbs growing along side it. There's a huge range of mint to grow, from regular spearmint to chocolate mint and even ginger mint. Add fresh chopped leaves to boiled new potatoes or use to make mint sauce.

Chives – another easy to grow herb, chives have a mild onion like flavour and edible purple flowers which bees also love. Grow in full sun. Add fresh chopped leaves to salads and soups, and add the flowers to salads.

Parsley – is a biennial herb, but it's best to grow it as an annual, sowing seed every few weeks. Unlike most herbs, it's best to grow in partial shade where it's less likely to bolt into flower. Parsley has many culinary uses, working particularly well in soups and stews.

Coriander – is a staple ingredient in Thai, Chinese, Japanese, Indian and Middle Eastern dishes. All parts of the plant are edible – leaves, stalks and seeds (which have a wonderful, orangey aroma). Sow coriander seed every few weeks for a continuous supply of fresh leaves throughout summer.

Rosemary – has an unmistakable aroma and can be picked all year round for use in soups, sauces and stews. Grown in full sun in moist and well drained soil. Trim mature plants back to stop them becoming wood.

Thyme – is small in stature but big on flavour. It's delicious paired with roasted veg, soups and roasts. It makes a fine addition to gin too. Like mint there are very many cultivars of thyme, with different scents and flavours – lemon thyme is excellent with fish.

Sage – another mediterranean herb, sage makes a wonderful addition to risotto, pasta and gnocchi recipes. Grow in well drained soil in full sun.

Dill – is easy to grow, tastes great, looks good and is very beneficial to pollinating insects when in flower. It's perfect for using in fish dishes and can be added to herb salads.

Basil – no herb garden is complete without basil. There are lots of differently flavoured types to grow, which are perfect for adding to salads, pizzas and pasta dishes.



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A Summer of Adventure and Fun!

From the moment it began, Holiday Club has been buzzing with excitement and unforgettable moments!

Every day has been packed with outdoor adventures, creative crafts, and joyful friendships. There's truly no better place for children to be than under the shade of the trees, exploring the woodland and soaking up the sunshine.

Our young adventurers have learned incredible new skills - from whittling sticks and sawing firewood to using hammers to press leaf prints onto fabric. They've used drills to create feather display stands, crafted elder wood bead jewellery with secateurs, and explored getting creative with natural resources making woodland animals from pinecones, acorns, and clay.

Blackberries have been a highlight! We've foraged them to make delicious apple and blackberry crumble on the campfire, blackberry jam, tie dye, juice art, and more. Campfire cooking has been a daily delight - especially the s'mores!

Team games like capture the flag, relay races, and parachute play have brought laughter and a wonderful sense of togetherness. Children

Nikki & Louise
www.woodlandrangers.co.uk
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have even mastered fire lighting using flint and steel, building confidence and independence.

When it's time to unwind, hammocks strung between trees offer the perfect retreat.

This summer has been so much more than just a holiday club - it's been a magical journey of new friendships, unforgettable experiences, and a deep connection to nature. The memories made beneath the trees will last a lifetime.





Little Hadham Primary School is excited to announce the launch of its brand-new school lottery in partnership with Your School Lottery! This exciting initiative is a fun and rewarding way for families, friends and the wider community to support our school while being in with a chance to win.

The first draw will take place on **Saturday 13th September** and weekly draws will continue every Saturday. Tickets cost just £1 per week and each ticket enters you into a weekly draw for a local cash prize - guaranteed to be won by someone within our lottery community.

All profits from the lottery go directly to Little Hadham Primary School, helping us to make valuable improvements that benefit our children. Our current fundraising goal is to improve our library area to create an even more inspiring environment and further encourage a lifelong love of reading.

Whether you're a parent, grandparent, friend of the school or a local resident who wants to support education in your community, taking part in our school lottery is a simple and impactful way to help.

Join via **yourschoollottery.co.uk** and search for Little Hadham Primary School. Or scan the QR code below. Thank you for your support - and good luck!



YOUR SCHOOL LOTTERY

WE'VE LAUNCHED A LOTTERY

Buy your tickets now to help our fundraising

- Tickets cost just £1
- Drawn every Saturday at 8pm
- All profits go to our school with a local cash prize every week
- You can sign up now, ready for our first draw on Saturday 13th September!

To start supporting, visit:
yourschoollottery.co.uk
and search for: Little Hadham

Gamble Aware

Apple Day

Saturday 13th September
11am - 3pm

Please come and join us at the community orchard- (below the allotments and just down from the Nags Head).

Bring apples and bottles and have a go at making fresh juice. We will have some spare apples if you haven't managed to find any.

Everyone Welcome.

See you there.

Caroline

Little Hadham Community Orchard

Apple Pressing Day 2025

Donations welcome

Sat 13th Sept 11am-3pm

Bring your apples & a bottle

Everyone Welcome

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Little Hadham Village Hall News

Joan McKinlay

www.littlehadhamvillagehall.com

Maintenance Update

During the year management trustees identify maintenance and improvement priorities for our 55-year-old building and plan for the August closure. This year we put in place a plan to refurbish the main hall floor. After the work started, challenging issues meant that refurbishment of the floor was no longer viable. The difficult decision was made to have a full main floor replacement at a cost of £23,616. While replacing the floor was not planned, it has provided a longer-term solution and a more modern feel to the village hall.

Volunteers gave up their time during August to tidy up the hall grounds and fill up an 8-yard skip with rubble, old chain link fencing etc along with items no longer needed from the exterior storage containers. Well done to all who helped during August to get work done, not everyone had their photo taken! To find out about volunteering roles please ask us or select the 'News' tab from our website menu. www.littlehadhamvillagehall.com

What our volunteers say about the power of volunteering

'Yes, it can be hard work and yes, you might not be sure of what you can offer, however, I decided to volunteer a few years ago, and haven't looked back... you can make a difference.... contribute your ideas and experience'. – Dave Willett



'Painting the village hall with all the other volunteers was great fun. I got to know new people; there was a real team spirit, and we could admire our results. No great expertise needed, just enthusiasm' – Alice Dain

'I am helping to ensure the village hall continues to thrive. It's lovely to be with others helping the local community and making new friends' – Anon'

'I find volunteering very rewarding, helping others out in the local community and especially the main pins that have worked so hard to get the village hall to the standard it is today, it is an absolute pleasure to be involved' – Anon

'Our volunteering fostered connection, turning strangers into friends through shared activities... beyond helping others it also enriches our own lives, improving mental well-being, reducing stress and offering purpose... volunteering gave us belonging, joy, and meaningful relationships. It truly transformed our experience of village life' – Jan & Ella Bisschoff

Next Stop – Little Hadham Village Hall!

A big thank you is due to our Parish Council for working with East Herts DC to get a bus stop installed on both sides of the road outside the village hall. This is a tremendous asset for the hall and will make life easier for many of our hall users and has the added benefit of making the hall more visible too!

Welcome Café: Open every Wednesday from 3rd September.

Our volunteers will again be serving up refreshments and a lunch menu every Wednesday between 10am and 2pm. We are grateful to Hertfordshire Community Foundation (HCF) for awarding us £2k grant funding towards hall hire costs. Our Welcome Café is looking for help with setting up tables and chairs, cooking, and serving. If you are interested in a volunteering role in our Café, or any other volunteering role with us, please get in touch. Phone Joan McKinlay

Little Hadham Village Hall - SG11 2BP

Join our
Welcome Café
team

We are looking
for volunteer
cooks
to help in our
kitchen

If you like to cook and can help
on a regular basis please let us know

For details, please contact:
Joan McKinlay, Vice-Chair
M: 07789 098071



on M: 07789 098 071 or pop into the
café any Wednesday for a chat.

**citizens
advice**

Citizens Advice 'Pop Up' Advice Session:

Wednesday
10th September
- 10.30am to
12.30pm

Come along to our Welcome Café and talk to Citizens Advice representatives offering free, confidential and independent advice. Their friendly advisers can help you with a range of topics including Power of Attorney, Energy Efficiency, Benefits, Debt and much more.



Red Chair Community (Afternoon) Cinema

Red Chair Community Cinema presents a programme of monthly afternoon

screening of recent film releases. See website for further dates and titles. Supported by HCC Locality Budget Grant Funding of £945.

Monday 15th September: Mr Burton (2025) Cert 12A

Entry is £5 per person.

Refreshments available to purchase.

Doors open: 2pm Film starts: 2.30pm

'Love to Sing': Starting Thursday 25th September - 10am to 11am

'Love to Sing' will be held on the first, third and last Thursday of the month between 10am and 11am in the Elm Room. Cost is just £7 per session, pay as you go. To express your interest, please contact Jenny via email: jennysalmon123@yahoo.com or phone her on: 07823 884 445

Hands on Sourdough: Tuesday 25th September - 10am and 12pm.

Led by Ella Bisschoff, you are invited to join her for a 'Hands on Sourdough' session. Cost is

just £5 to cover ingredients. Book via the village hall website or phone Ella M: 07970 249 787.

Bingo Evening: Monday 6th October - 7pm

Gather up your family and friends and have a fun night out at our Bingo Evening on **Monday 6th October between 7pm and 9pm**. Cost is £8 per person to include a welcome drink, nibbles and prizes. (Please note that as a charity we are unable to issue cash prizes). Bar available for wine, beer and non-alcoholic drinks.

Spaces available to book online via our website or email: judithwheeler1@aol.com

Details of these and other events are available to view on our website along with many more 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

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What's On in September @ 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

Brownies	6pm to 7pm	Email: judithwheeler1@aol.com
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WEDNESDAY'S

Welcome Cafe	10am - 2pm	Drop in: Coffee & Chat. Lunchtime menu
Druman Chair Yoga	11am - 11.45am	Mark Cox M: 07368 293062
Tai Chi & Qi Gong	1pm - 2pm	Sarah Baker M: 07740 701102
Digital Inclusion	2pm - 3.30pm	Drop in: Volunteers help with your digital device
Fit Steps	6pm - 7pm	Jacqui Howard M: 07731 454228
Tai Chi & Qi Gong	7.30 - 8.30pm	Sarah Baker M: 07740 701102

THURSDAY'S

Love to Sing	10am - 11am	Jenny Salmon M: 07823 884445
Afternoon Bowls Club	2pm - 4pm	email: mikebennett12@aol.com
Hatha Yoga	7pm - 8pm	Kirsty Smith M: 07903 035180

FRIDAY'S

Forever Fit	11am - 12pm	Daisy Osborne M: 07585309933
LH Bowls Club	7.30pm - 10pm	email: annetteluedtke@gmail.com

FORTNIGHTLY

Turn Up & Play Scrabble	2pm - 4.30pm	Tuesday 9 th / 23 rd September
Darts & Games Social	2pm - 4.30pm	Tuesday 16 th / 30 th September

MONTHLY - Please see website for full details

Little Hadham Ramblers	10am start	Wednesday 3 rd September
Community Breakfast	10am - 12pm	Thursday 11 th September

Bereavement Group meeting every third Tuesday of the month and Bereavement session 1:1 every other Tuesday from 10am - 12.15pm

By appointment only. Jan Williamson H: 01279 771272 or Ron Bunce M: 07903 194991

OTHER

Antiques Fair - Sunday 14 th September 9.30am to 4.00pm. Entry £1
Red Chair Afternoon Cinema - Monday 15 th September. Doors Open: 2.00pm. Entry £5
Hands on Sourdough - Thursday 25 th September. Contact Ella M: 07970 249787
Little City (Children's role play) - Friday 26 th September. email: leanne@littlecityuk.com

See website our under 'What's On' for full details: www.littlehadhamvillagehall.com
Where contact details are listed, please phone/email before attending.

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St Cecilia's Church Bells

Quasi

A church tower can be separated into 3 sections (sometimes four).

At the top there is the belfry, which is the area in the bell tower where the bells are hung in a wooden frame. Each bell is fixed to the axle of a large wooden wheel and the axle is pivoted in ball-bearings across the frame. A rope is tied to the wheel spokes, runs partly round the grooved rim and falls via holes and pulleys to the ringing chamber below.

Next is the clock chamber where the huge clock mechanisms are. Some need to be manually wound up weekly or even daily, however many have been updated to be automatic.

The ringing chamber can either be on the ground floor or on the first floor. The ropes come down in a circle in order of bell size usually clockwise. I have yet to ring in

one where it is anti-clockwise and can only imagine how difficult that would be to adapt to. Fluff coloured section, called a 'sally', on each rope helps the ringer ring at backstroke. Ringers stand in an inward-facing circle behind the ropes, so they can see the other ringers. Floor mats are on the floor to prevent rope wear and not to stand on. Sometimes a ringer has to stand on a box to enable them to reach to ring. If the ringing chamber is on the first floor then at ground floor is the choir vestry which maybe used for various church purposes.

A spiral staircase in a corner of the bell tower provides access to all levels.

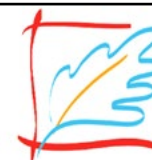
If you want to give bell ringing a go and keep the tradition going, go to <https://riverashchurches.org.uk/river-ash-churches-bellringers/> for more information.

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ARTs

IN EAST HERTS

Corinna Hartwig

Dear Creatives

My name is Corinna and I am writing on behalf of East Herts Council to invite you to take part in Arts in East Herts and list a low cost event, activity or performance on the Arts in East Herts showcase programme.

Arts in East Herts, now in its second year, is an initiative to boost participation in arts and cultural activities. Running through September and October 2025, it will showcase the rich artistic and cultural tapestry of East Herts through a series of exhibitions, performances and workshops.

This cultural extravaganza promises to inspire, educate and entertain, enabling local arts organisations to connect with

a wider audience. Arts in East Herts will give residents of all ages and all backgrounds the opportunity to enrich their lives with creativity this Autumn.

To find out more and to take part, take a look here www.eastherts.gov.uk/arts-and-culture-east-herts/arts-east-herts

Please submit your free entry as soon as possible as we are firming the programme up right now.

With kind wishes

Corinna
Community Builder
Community Alliance Broxbourne
& East Herts

SUNDAY ROAST @5TH SIN

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Participants must be aged 11+ years, no upper limit.

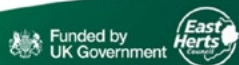
ARTs

IN EAST HERTS

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The Hundred Parishes Society

Ken McDonald

www.hundredparishes.org.uk



Since the launch of the Society in 2014, its website has continued to evolve and expand as a resource for the local area. It is hoped that this article may help people make the most of www.hundredparishes.org.uk. You are encouraged to step through the menu to get a feel for what is available. If you want to look something up, you might try either Parishes, What's On, Articles or Walks.

Parishes holds the key to lots of things. From either the map or the alphabetical listing, select an individual parish to find out a little about its history, the nearest walks or details for a pub or tea room. Introductions include ideas for further reading and links to useful websites.

What's On lists future events in chronological order. Many entries have a link to further information. We are pleased to give publicity to any event that promotes local knowledge or culture, exploration or conservation.

Articles offers local insight into a wide range of topics.

Walks has general guidance and then three options: Station walks, Quiet Lane walks and Other walks. Scroll down the list to find one that suits your need in terms of location and distance. Then click on the walk number to call it up. The first few paragraphs will describe distance, terrain and opportunities for refreshment. When you find a walk you like, print it to take with you. [Control, P] is a useful shortcut to start printing.

Feedback is a way of telling us of changes or something we have missed – perhaps a pub closure, bus route change, additional activity for What's On, or website links or phone numbers that no longer work.

I hope these notes have been useful and may make your visits to the website more rewarding.



**The Hundred Parishes**
An introduction to
CHICKNEY




Location: 4 miles northeast of Stansted Mountfitchet, Ordnance Survey grid square: TL5728.
Postcode: CM6 2BY. **County:** Essex. **District:** Uttlesford. **Access:** north off B1051.
No bus service. Population: 38 in 2001, approx 34 in 2011, not yet declared for 2021.

Chickney and the City of London have one thing in common: they each cover one square mile. But there all similarities end, for Chickney is a complete antithesis of a city – in fact it is perhaps the ultimate rural parish. Its main thoroughfare is an unsurfaced byway. Its population of around 30 is thinly dispersed, and its few listed buildings are mostly well hidden.



Yet Chickney has one little gem – a remote Saxon church that is one of the oldest in the Hundred Parishes. St Mary's closed in 1972 and is now cared for by the Churches Conservation Trust. It is hidden down a gravel track about 600 metres off the B1051.



**The Hundred Parishes Society**

Home	WELCOME
Introduction	We hope you will make regular visits to this free resource and be inspired to discover more about the Hundred Parishes. We try to keep all information up to date and welcome feedback if an update is required or something does not work as it should.
Parishes	Please select one of the sections from the menu on the left. If this is your first visit, we recommend that you start with the Introduction. If you like what we are doing, please support us by going to the Membership section where you can apply to join the Hundred Parishes Society at a cost of only £10 a year for a household or organisation. Members receive monthly emails with news, snippets of local history and suggested activities that are consistent with the Society's aims.
Attractions	
What's On	The Parishes section links to short introductions for each administrative parish.
Walks	Our Walks can be freely downloaded and printed. The descriptions give route guidance and information about what is to be seen along the way. There are three groups: Station Walks, which start and finish at railway stations, Other Walks which suggest a parking place, and Quiet Lane Walks which avoid footpaths. Routes range from 1 mile to 17 miles.
Visiting	The What's On page is regularly updated for local events that offer an opportunity to engage with heritage, culture or the outdoors generally. Please use the Feedback form (at the bottom of the menu on the left) to advise us of any additions or changes. If an attraction appears to be open or an activity taking place, we recommend you check with their website before making a special journey.
People	
Articles	The Articles section includes brief introductory essays, mostly illustrated, on a diverse range of subjects, each with focus on The Hundred Parishes.
Reading	Visitors to this website are welcome to copy the text and images for personal use or to pass them on in the interests of spreading knowledge and understanding of the Hundred Parishes, but no content may be used or reproduced for commercial purposes.
The Society	The Society's hardback book, The Hundred Parishes: An Introduction, has now sold out. However, it can be viewed or borrowed at local libraries.
Membership	Can you identify the photo? We regularly change the image on the right of the banner that appears at the top of each page of the website. The last image showed part of the ruins of Tilly Abbey in the parish of Great Easton and Tilly. If you have taken a good panorama photo that we might use, please email it to hundredparishes@btinternet.com .
Links	
Feedback	

**The Hundred Parishes**
Quiet Lane Walks – number 301
Hatfield Broad Oak village and lanes – 3 miles (5 kms)

This walk is entirely within the parish of Hatfield Broad Oak. The section through the village is similar to Walk 125.

The route description starts and finishes at the small car park just west of the parish church. Alternatively, you may join this circular walk anywhere along the route.

There are two pubs in the village; if you wish to take refreshment before or after the walk, you are advised to book in advance – Cock Inn, CM22 7HF – 01279 718306 – www.thecockinn-hatfieldbroadOak.co.uk and Duke's Head, CM22 7HE – 01279 718586 – <http://www.thedukesheadbho.co.uk/>

Start and finish: The route description starts and finishes at the car park in Priory Lane, to the west of the church. The car park approach road turns north from the sharp bend in B183 as it enters the village centre. (Ordnance Survey Grid Reference: TL545166 – Postcode: CM22 7HD).

The route can be followed on Ordnance Survey Explorer Map 183. A diagram of the route is provided at the end of the description.

**The Hundred Parishes**
An introductory article about DRAGONS

One of the aims of the Hundred Parishes Society is to raise awareness of the rich and diverse local heritage. It is exceptionally preserved in the rural and town landscapes handed down by past generations and there is also a rich vein of local history, culture, customs and legends. Amongst the local legends, some relate to dragons.

Henham's dragon is commemorated on the village sign and in the name of its parish magazine, *The Henham Dragon*. The appearance of the "flying serpent" was reported in 1569. The creature was described as eight or nine feet long, having been seen by several men.

In Henham's church, on the screen between nave and chancel – low down on the nave side on the left and very difficult to see – are two tiny carvings whose date of origin is





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Talking Bowls...or Something

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

Apart from a couple of soakings, we have enjoyed incredible weather with our sweaters left for the moths in our sports bags. By the time you read this all our competitive league matches will sadly be over for another year, with just the second leg of the Pamart Cup on Saturday, 13th September against Hoddesdon & Rye Park - we lost the first leg, so are thirsty for revenge; and another cup match against Standon on 20th September.

In the Seniors League, with 3 games to play at the time of writing, we are still battling for third spot, 1st and 2nd places being out of reach. Three tough games against fellow contenders. Sawbridgeworth, Epping and Stansted, so our metal will surely be tested.

The Men's Evening league have just 2 games to play at the time of writing and we hope to end higher in the League table than last year.

The last weekend Friendly match was 24th August but the Green will continue to be in use until late September, so there is still time to come along and "try your hand".

Croquet will continue on the Green until the Bowls Green closes for winter when, weather permitting, members will continue on the field.

Our weekly Club night every Wednesday evening carries on year round when we gather for drinks, chats, cribbage etc to which all are invited.

Following on from last years' success, the Club House will again this winter be turned over to THE HUB.

Details of some of their exciting events are shown opposite.

Winter well, Jack



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News from the Venue Hub at Much Hadham Bowls Club

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

THE HUB: where great events are happening

Our programme of events last winter seem to have "hit the spot" with varied events from Bingo to Fine Dining, all were very well attended and it seems with a very high satisfaction level.

Encouraged, we are repeating just about all of those again this winter plus a couple of new ideas so do make a note in your diary.

Every Wednesday COMMUNITY TEA/COFFEE & CAKE

from 2.30 - 4.30pm, £1.50 pp

OCTOBER EVENTS

Saturday, 4th Cabaret Night. A repeat of last year. Jill Oxborrow with her fine voice entertains - includes a 2 course dinner. £17.50 pp

Saturday, 18th A fun evening with a Quiz and Bingo Baked potato with excellent trimmings included. £7.50 pp

Friday, 31st Halloween Evening with Tony B our resident DJ - dress the part, enjoy the fun soup and finger food included. £12.50 pp

Some future major events (with further details next month)

Sunday, 9th Nov NEW! Afternoon Beetle Drive with Pete Reed

Sunday, 30th Nov Ware Rhythm Band

Saturday, 6th Dec Fine Dining

Saturday, 10 Jan "Elvis" returns

Sunday 25 Jan Robbie Burns

Tables for 6 to 8 are also available for groups. GF and V options if requested in advance for BOOKINGS please call 01279 842637

The Bowls Clubhouse, Recreation Ground. Much Hadham SG10 6DL

THE GARDENS OF EASTON LODGE

Jill Goldsmith
www.eastonlodge.co.uk



As predicted, picking fruit and jamming has kept many of us busy in August, which means we will have a fantastic jam and jelly tombola at our Apple and Bees Day on Sunday 21 September. The plum trees have been covered in fruit, with the various heritage varieties ripening in quick succession. The first plums were the Early Rivers, a variety developed and named by the Rivers Orchard in Sawbridgeworth, which lives up to its name "Prolific". And our huge raspberries started cropping and selling at the beginning of August, swelled by the rains in the second half of July. Visitors have also been buying our vegetables through the month and we have planted more, so we should be cropping summer vegetables well into the autumn, together with later season produce: the sweetcorn, peppers and squash.

August is family time in the Gardens, as it's a relaxed space for children in the school holidays, with a variety of

garden games. Our volunteers worked on many additional traditional fun activities for our August Sunday Open Day. And we had a grass coil basket weaving workshop in the Gardens at the beginning of the month and cordage making at the end of the month.

This year the flowers and perennials have been growing strongly after the drought, so hopefully the dahlia border will be looking more like its best by September and the other borders will also fill out again. The roses will still be stunning and the walled kitchen garden as welcoming as ever. We remain open for visitors on Thursdays, from 11.00-3.00, through September and October. And we will have fun activities and stalls for our Apple and Bees Open Day on 21 September. There will be live music from the Rock Choir and Harlow Concert Band and various local produce stalls, as well as our own apple juicing and cider for sale. For more information go to www.eastonlodge.co.uk

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The Hadhams' History Society had a very interesting meeting in July when Cristina Harrison came along to give a talk on "The History of Hadham Palace" - also mentioning in her talk about the birth of Edmund Tudor in Hadham and the various residents and Institutions that occupied the Palace. The meeting was very well attended and enjoyed by all.

Our September Meeting on the **25th September** will be given by Mike Clark "The Value of Wills to Historical Research" and I am sure everyone will find this very informative and helpful while tracing their family tree and ancestors.

Details of our October meeting will be circulated when this has been arranged.

Just to mention that I still have one or two books for sale that have been written by Martin Adams - "The Names on Much Hadham War Memorial" - I will bring these along to the next meeting.

We always welcome new members to join us - you will be made very welcome. We do have an excellent programme arranged and if anyone would like further details of meetings/programme please do get in touch with me (Kathy Hamilton) katieh69@btinternet.com.

Hadham Cross Congregational Church

PREACHERS FOR SERVICES AT 11am

7th Sept	Tim Wells	Wormley Church
14th Sept	Mike Hillyer	Oakwood Chapel Harlow
21st Sept	Roger Amos	Sawbridgeworth Congregational Church
28th Sept	Andrew Proudfoot	Therfield Congregational Church

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

Our next **AFTERNOON TEA MEETING** will be on **Thursday 25th September**, 2 - 4pm - All are welcome for tea/coffee cake and a chat.

All are welcome to join us on Sundays at 11am - you will be very welcome.

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



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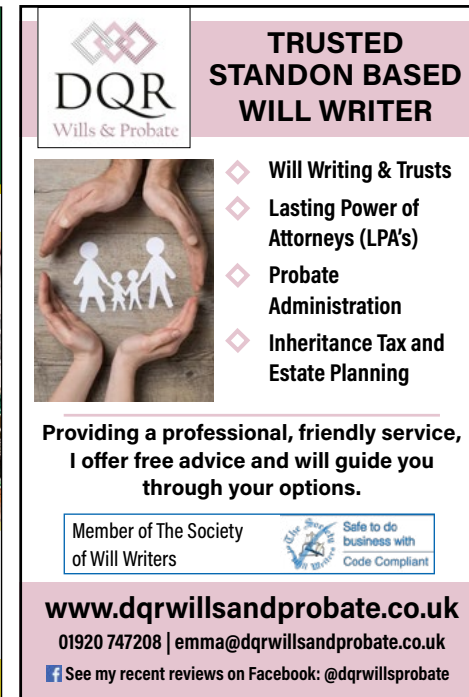
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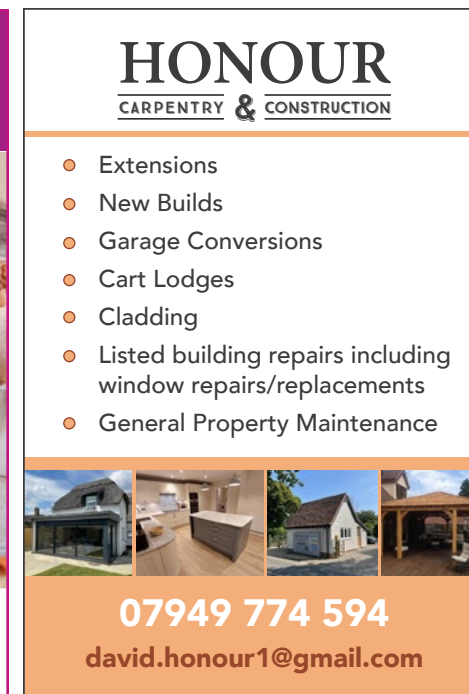
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Rural Ramblings: *The Tech Edition*

Lucy Ventura

Dear readers, I am writing as a guest author – the middle-aged, 'good with com-pu-ters' daughter of your own Rural Ramblings' Cherry.

During a recent visit to Little Hadham, as I attempted to find a missing message on her smartphone, Mum turned to me thoughtfully and asked, 'Do you have friends who also... have mums like me?'

I assured her that yes, I do, and it's become quite the shared experience amongst my generation.

Whether it's the app she needs to install, the form she can't complete, or the email she forwards with the panicked message, 'IS THIS A SCAM??? LUV, MA' (spoiler: it always is), tech troubles are never far away.

Her little office is adorned with countless sticky notes detailing step-by-step instructions. One note, permanently Sellotaped to the top of her laptop, reads, 'How to attach a document to an email.'

Both her phone and computer screens are zoomed in to maximum size, which means half the buttons disappear off the edge and websites look completely different from how they're meant to appear.

Her password choices keep me awake at night.

When I need to reach her, I ring the house phone. But even that's become complicated since the old landline was replaced with a modern digital system. Try explaining to someone from the rotary dial generation that they now have unlimited lines! When the kitchen phone rings whilst she's talking on the sitting-room one, she looks astounded, as if witnessing actual magic.

That same evening that I was hoping to find her lost message, I had a suspicion. 'I bet your mobile phone doesn't even ring,' I said, and called it from across the sitting room. Sure enough, the screen lit up bright as day – but not a sound. We both laughed.

'Look,' I said, pointing to the tiny button on the side, 'you've switched the sound off.'

'Oh!' she exclaimed, 'I didn't even know that was there.'

'Well, at least you can see the notifications when you have a missed call,' I offered.

'Oh yes,' she nodded enthusiastically, 'I've seen those.'

I bet you have, Mum!

I might laugh at her technological struggles, but I'm impressed with her determination to keep trying. It's like watching someone knit from a pattern – the steps are mysterious, but she has the end result clearly in mind. I also empathise with how frustrating it must feel to be left behind by a world changing so quickly. I hope when it's my time, I'll handle it with the same resilience and good humour that my mum does.

*Lucy's note – I found this information online – perhaps readers struggling with technology might be interested in the **Digital Inclusion Workshop** held every Wednesday afternoon at The Little Hadham Village Hall. Supported by friendly volunteers, it's a drop-in session for help with mobile phones, laptops, and iPads. 2:00–3:30pm, refreshments provided.*

Contact Jan Williamson on 07710 325 363 for details.

Age UK also offers digital skills support – visit www.ageuk.org.uk/our-impact/programmes/digital-skills/ for more information.



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Benefice of: Little Hadham | Much Hadham | Albury

	Trinity 12 7th Sept	Trinity 13 14th Sept	Trinity 14 21st Sept	Trinity 15 28th Sept
St Andrew's Much Hadham	5-5:30pm Benefice Said Eucharist <i>Tayo</i>	9:15am Benefice Holy Communion <i>Tayo</i>	5-5:30pm Benefice Expressive Worship <i>Tayo</i>	
St Cecilia's Little Hadham			9:15am Benefice Pet Service <i>Tayo</i>	
St Mary's Albury	9:15am Benefice Holy Communion <i>Tayo</i>			9:15am Benefice Holy Communion <i>Tayo</i>


OTHER SERVICES:

Thursday 25th September 10am Little Hadham Communion *Tayo*

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