## Great Hallingbury Autumn 2012 Highlights

**Two Beauties** 

Photograph courtesy of Janis Allen

An independent publication giving news on matters affecting Great Hallingbury

### Councillors

Parish Council Chairman: Mr. Martin Mugele Tel: 654270 Marston Farm, Leapers Lane, CM22 7TR email: v.mugele@btinternet.com

Parish Council Vice-Chairman: Mr. Ronald Coultrup Tel:655144 Pantiles, Bedlars Green, CM22 7TL email: rc@coultruponline.com

#### Parish Councillors:

Mr. David Barlow Tel:657182 128, Bedlars Green, CM22 7TL

Mr. Christopher Goodlife Tel: 654852 Pryor's Peace, Bedlars Green, CM22 7TL email: thegoodlife@talktalk.net

Mr. Andrew Noble Tel: 653039 Lewismead, Tilekiln Green, CM22 7TQ email: agnoble@aol.com

Mr. Alex Russell 98, Woodside Green, CM22 7UJ

Tel: 656647

Tel: 07785 588909 Mr. Tom Streeter Harps Farm, Bedlars Green, CM22 7TL email: tom@streeterfarms.co.uk

Mr. Alan Townsend Tel: 465790 7 The Grove, CM22 7TT email: ftownsendpc@btinternet.com

#### Clerk to the Parish Council:

Mrs. Freda Townsend Tel: 465790 7 The Grove, CM22 7TT email: ftownsendpc@btinternet.com

Website: www.essexinfo.net/great-hallingbury-parish-council

#### Uttlesford District Councillors

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Mrs. Lesley Well Tel: 01279 725910 Barn House, Wrights Green Lane, Little Hallingbury, CM22 7RFemail: cllrwells@uttlesford.gov.uk

#### Essex County Councillor

Mrs. Susan Barker Tel: 01245 231250 Little Garnetts, Bishops Green, Barnston, Essex, CM6 1NF Fax 01245 231810 email: cllr.susan.barker@essex.gov.uk

#### Member of Parliament

Sir Alan Haselhurst MP House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA email: alan.haselhurst.mp@parliament.uk

#### Member of European Parliament

Mr. Geoffrey Van Orden MEP 88 Rectory Lane, Chelmsford, Essex CM1 1RF email: gvanorden@europarl.eu.int 01245 345188

### Editorial



What a wonderful picture the two horses make on the cover of this issue. They were photographed by Janis Allen, who lives in the Rodings and works in the village, when she attended a ploughing competition. To my inexperienced eye, they look like a beautiful

The clear identified line of pair of Shires. this breed comes from the 1200's when King John imported a hundred stallions from the Low Countries to breed the heavy horses needed for battle.

You can read all about the Shire Horse in a small booklet entitled, The Magnificent Shire, published by the Great Hallingbury History Society, researched and written by Ernie Field and still available from Christine Coultrup (cj@ *coultruponline.com* or 01279 655144).



#### ed by Great Hallingbury History

#### Celebrations

Since the last issue of *HIGHLIGHTS* IN May, everything seems to have been happening; the Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebrations, the Hallingburys Flower Show - both reported in this issue - and, of course, the London 2012 Olympics.

#### *Olympics*

Now I am not an Olympaholic and I found enough to criticise but even I was carried along by this great show and spectacle. It must now be considered by even its worst critic to have been an exceptionally successful sports event.

It made me think about how shortlived records are. They are made to be broken as the athletes strive ever faster and higher. Logically, there must be a limit when the human body cannot be made to break any more records. There must be a finite time in which 100 meters can be run. To move a body from one point to another must always take some time. I wonder what it is.

I can, of course, remember much of what I watched on TV of the London 2012 Olympics but I find I can recall very little of previous Olympic Games. Strangely, what I do remember is mainly on black and white film. I can still picture clearly a non-Olympic event when Roger Banister broke the 4 minute mile and Jesse Owens at the Berlin Olympics but opening ceremonies are really a blur for me, except for LA in 1984 when those space rocket men lifted vertically into the air over the stadium.

On the grim side, amongst the things I would rather not picture, was my feeling at the time of the inappropriate and damaging image of the Black Power salutes of American athletes on the podium in 1968. Then the horror of the barbaric slaughter of the Israeli athletes by Arab terrorists in Munich, which I noticed didn't get much of a mention this time when I heard the history of the Olympics recounted. But enough of that. It was, to labour the phrase, a wonderful golden occasion generating warm feelings for our country.

#### A happy day

Having said all that, the happiest and warmest event for me in this recent period was the simple Prize Day ceremony held in Howe Green House School in Great Hallingbury. It was a privilege for me and



my wife, Christine, tobeinvited again to this year's annual prize giving day on

Saturday, 14<sup>th</sup> July, in the Marquee in the School grounds. It was my fix for the year to see and feel all about me promise, hope,

sincerity, optimism, satisfaction and the sheer joy of being young. No cynicism here, no carping, totally devoid of pessimism, all around us was happiness and a sense of achievement.

Remember the ages range from 2 to 11 and, from the beginning, we were impressed by the school orchestra's playing an English Folk Song melody. The children were settled in their seats with an easy orderliness. The upbeat tone was set by the headmaster and the presentation of the wealth of prizes for a wonderful array of achievements was carried out briskly with gentle discipline and good manners.

The key speech was given by an 'old boy', Ken Odrick, Head Boy at Howe Green House in 2003/4, a young man at university, amazingly eloquent and lucid for his age - for any age, in fact. The final year head girl and boy each gave their impression of their time at the school with some rather entertaining personal anecdotes. The choir sang - and what a choir, teachers and children - and,

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of course, there was a laudable speech by the Chairman of the Governors.

The audience was naturally full of proud parents and they and the school had much of which to be proud. When every day there is a diet of stories in the media of failures in education, schools and families, for me this annual occasion is an antidote to the prevailing pessimism.

#### Jobs

I hope that, by the time the children complete their academic studies to start work in the outside world, the economy will have recovered and there will be real jobs to be filled. Different I hope to some such as I have seen advertised in recent months and I have seen many more like these.

Oxford City Council - Workplace Travel Coordinator Camden Council - 4 Outcomes and **Development Officers** Enfield Council - Senior Travel Awareness Officer Oxford City Council -Business Improvement Manager Performance Improvement Manager **Business Improvement Partner** Department for Business, Innovation & Skills - Deputy Director, Stakeholder and Ministerial Engagement Peterborough City Council - Schools Carbon Reduction Officer Ealing Council - Media Officer London Borough of Richmond upon Thames - Low Carbon Communities Coordinator

#### The Future

But this is looking 10 years or more ahead and it is difficult to imagine what the world will be like then. Even so, this is what most of us should be thinking about right now, projecting how we would like to see our nation and what needs to be done right now to achieve it. I might just give that some thought for *Highlights*. But having half promised so rashly in the last issue, I am being pressed to write more about my early life in the East End of London before and during WW11, so I will be trying to do something on that first.

Would you believe it! I am in the garden in the sun for only the second time this year writing this editorial.

Editor

### WANTED! PHOTOGRAPHS

We always seek photographs of people and places around the village.

PLEASE HELP - let us have copies of any of your photographs which may be of interest.



## OUCH!!

A motor mechanic was removing a cylinder head from the motor of a BMW M3 when he spotted a well-

known cardiologist in his shop.

The cardiologist was there waiting for the service manager to come and take a look at his car when the mechanic shouted across the garage, "Hey Doc, want to take a look at this?" The cardiologist, a bit surprised walked over to where the mechanic was working on the BMW.

The mechanic straightened up, wiped his hands on a rag and asked, "So Doc, look at this engine. I opened its heart, took the valves out, repaired or replaced anything damaged and then put everything back in. When I finished, it worked just like new. So how is that I make £20,000 a year and you make £500,000 when you and I are doing basically the same work?"



The cardiologist paused, leaned over, and then whispered to the mechanic..... "Try doing it with the engine running."

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The Devil

A few minutes before the church services started, the congregation were sitting in their pews and talking.

Suddenly, Satan appeared at the front of the church.

Everyone started screaming and running for the front entrance, trampling each other in a frantic effort to get away from evil incarnate.

Soon the church was empty except for one elderly gentleman who sat calmly in his pew without moving, seemingly oblivious to the fact that God's ultimate enemy was in his presence.

So Satan walked up to the man and said, 'Do you know who I am?'

The man replied, 'Yes, I do.'

'Aren't you afraid of me?' Satan asked.

'No, definitely not.' said the man.

'Don't you realize I can kill you with one word?' asked Satan.

'Don't doubt it for a minute,' returned the old man, in an even tone.

'Did you know that I can cause you profound, horrifying AGONY for all eternity?' persisted Satan.

'Yes.' was the calm

reply.

'And you are still not afraid?' asked Satan.

'Nope,' said the old man

More than a little perturbed, Satan asked, 'Why aren't you afraid of me?' The man calmly replied, 'Been married to your sister for 48 years.'



# C.M. Rowlands

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#### Great Hallingbury Parish Council Highlights

Annual Meeting and Ordinary Meetings held on 1<sup>st</sup> May and 2<sup>nd</sup> July, 2012

Present at one or both meetings: CIIr M. Mugele (Chairman), CIIrs R. Coultrup, D. Barlow, C. Goodlife, A. Noble, A Russell, T. Streeter and A. Townsend.

Also Present: Mrs F Townsend (Clerk) and members of the public.

#### **Appointments**

CIIr M Mugele was elected as Chairman for a further year and CIIr Coultrup as Vice-Chairman.

#### Working Groups

Planning: R Coultrup, M Mugele, A Russell Airport: D Barlow, R Coultrup, A Noble,

T Streeter, A Townsend Emergency Planning: C Goodlife, M Mugele, A Noble, A Russell

Police & Neighbourhood Watch:

D Barlow, C Goodlife, A Russell, A Townsend

Parish Plan: D Barlow, C Goodlife, M Mugele Housing: R Coultrup, C Goodlife, M Mugele

#### Representatives

Road Safety: A. Townsend Transport: A. Russell Health: A. Townsend Footpaths: G. Morris (non-council member) Tree Warden: A. Townsend

#### DatesofMeetingsforYear2012/2013

2<sup>nd</sup> July, 3<sup>rd</sup> September, 5<sup>th</sup> November, 2012 and 14<sup>th</sup> January, 4<sup>th</sup> March, 25<sup>th</sup> March (Annual Parish Meeting), 13<sup>th</sup> May (AGM), 2013

#### Speed Gun

In response to a question from the public, the Council confirmed that the speed gun has been purchased, a team trained and is being operated.

#### The Old Elm

Work had been carried out at The Old Elm for a new treatment plant to stop pollution to the ditch.

#### The Old Post Office

A resident had raised a problem with the position of the garage at The Old Post Office which encroaches on council land. It was resolved that the Chairman make a visit to the residents of the Old Post Office to talk about the land there. In July, it was reported that Councillors had met informally to discuss further the land in front of the 'Old Post Office' which is parish land or 'waste of the manor'. It was agreed that a letter be sent to the residents to arrange a meeting to discuss the land, which has been done.

#### New house opposite the Sir John Houblon

The garage that has been built encroaches on the green where the old pump stands which is National Trust land. Uttlesford has been contacted and it was later confirmed that the National Trust is pursuing the matter but they are dragging out the process. The Clerk was to write to the National Trust to ask them to move on with the process as the Parish Council is not happy with the dispute going on for so long. In July, the Clerk reported she had contacted Adrian Clarke at the National Trust and, in a letter date 12<sup>th</sup> June, Mr. Clarke advised that the National Trust has agreed with the owners of the building plot that the entire structure will be removed from the National Trust land which will be restored to green.

#### Hallington Wood

In response to a retrospective planning application in May, Councillors recommended that a septic tank or klargester should not be allowed as the mains drainage connection is only a few yards away. Drainage is a big problem in this area and no membrane is shown on the plan to keep the water from seeping into the basement. Nearby ditches drain into the pond adjacent to the excavations made. In July, it was reported that an informal meeting had taken place with Bedlars Green residents who were complaining about the verges around the pond being cut up by heavy vehicles. Also it appeared that excess water from the building site behind the pond is being pumped into the mains drain. It was resolved that the Clerk should write to the owner of the new site 'Hallington Wood' to ask that the pond area is re-instated; and that she should write to Thames Water to check that no unlawful connection to the sewer has been made.

#### Highways

Various pot holes around the village had been reported to Highways but, even though some had been marked, repairs had not yet been made (May). The Clerk had pursued the authority but there were no dates for the repair programme as yet. She was to continue to expedite repairs and write to County Councillor Susan Barker to request support. The repairs were still reported as outstanding in July and the Clerk was asked to remind the authority that large agricultural vehicles would soon be using this road and, with drivers trying to avoid pot holes, a serious accident could be caused.

The Highway Rangers Service for cleaning signs, cutting back verges etc., has been passed to Uttlesford District Council and they do not yet have enough people employed to do the work. Many villages are experiencing similar problems. In July, CIIr Alan Townsend, who is again serving on this panel as DALC representative, reported that the Uttlesford Highways Panel has been reformed and has asked for a list of schemes other than repairs. CIIr Townsend commented that, at a meeting of the panel held on 18<sup>th</sup> June, all parishes still seem to have the same problem of work not being done, due mainly to changes within Highways' organisation. Complaints regarding pot holes should now be addressed to Rissa Long and it was resolved that the Clerk should again report the pot holes directly to this person. **CIIr** Townsend also reported on planned schemes for a zebra crossing in Hatfield Broad Oak and a roundabout in Hatfield Heath.

#### Housing Survey

Moira Groborz, Housing Enabler for the RCCE, had met with Councillors on 18<sup>th</sup> April to review the outcome of the Housing

Survey and the next steps to be taken. The Parish Council had formed a working group of three Councillors to work with the Enabler on finding a Housing Association who will assist with decisions on the site, design and numbers of houses to be built. The working group had visited similar sites in Wimbish, Rickling, Clavering and Matching Tye. Other plots of land were also being investigated. In July, the Housing Working Group reported that, further to their visits to other 'affordable housing' sites in Uttlesford, it had concluded that the best design and layout was Hastoe's development in Clavering. The Working Group proposed that the Parish Council approve and confirm that there is a need for affordable housing in Great Hallingbury, that all suitable sites should be considered and that we continue the process with the RCCE Enabling Officer who will advise the next actions required. All Councillors present were in agreement with these proposals and it was resolved that a notice be put onto the Parish Council notice boards to ask people who may have a potential site to contact the Chairman or Clerk.

#### Post Box

Royal Mail had acknowledged a letter from the Clerk regarding the damage to the post box at Bedlars Green saying the box had been repaired. A further letter with photo had been sent to the head office in London to show them the situation to which the Royal Mail advised that they will relocate the box and until then it will be closed.

#### Hundred Parishes

The CPRE Chairman had written to introduce a new group of volunteers whose initiative is to increase awareness, enjoyment and protection of a large area, some 350 square miles, in north west Essex, north east Herts and south Cambridgeshire, including our Parish. They will be looking at establishing the Hundred Parishes Society as a registered charity. In July, more information had been received and the Chairman had attended a constitutional conference on 25<sup>th</sup> June. The general opinion of councillors was that Great Hallingbury would not benefit from inclusion in this scheme.

#### Essex Police

The Hatfield Heath Neighbourhood Policing Team telephone number has been changed to 07989 174801 covering South Uttlesford. In July, it was reported that that Essex Police would be disposing of some police stations in the area, including the one at Hatfield Heath. The Council had written to oppose this closure and sale of the building in March 2012. However, it was now confirmed that Hatfield Heath police station is surplus to requirement and will be sold.

#### Grants

Forms for a UDC Community Project Grant and ECC Big Society Fund were passed to CIIr Ron Coultrup for the Village Hall Committee.

#### Enforcement

It had previously been reported that spoil dumped on land at the rear of the Sir John Houblon public house was unlawful. The Clerk had reported this to Uttlesford Enforcement Team who were told it was from the publican's own land and therefore no action had been taken. However, Councillors agreed that a waste license should have been obtained as the soil is from a nearby site. The Clerk confirmed in July this had again been reported to Uttlesford.

A new building has been erected to the rear of Chestnuts for which no planning permission had been sought.

It was questioned whether the converted garage/stables at The Old Elm should have sought planning permission. In July, it was noted that planning permission for this garage had been given in 2006.

The Council resolved that the Clerk should contact the UDC Enforcement Officer on these matters.

#### Code Of Conduct

The Parish Council agreed to formally adopt the new Code of Conduct in its entirety. Councillors will complete the necessary Declarations of Interest forms for submittal to UDC.

#### Jubilee Celebrations

The Diamond Jubilee Celebrations

organized on  $2^{nd}$  /  $3^{rd}$  June had gone very well. Saturday was very well attended and the weather was good. Everyone seemed to enjoy the events of the afternoon which had included Mrs Lily Este, our eldest resident, crowning the Jubilee Queen and planting an Oak tree to be a commemorative marker of the occasion. The bench, newly installed by the entrance to the Village Hall and with a commemorative plague, was also unveiled. The Sunday afternoon saw a well attended church service to give thanks for Her Majesty's long reign. A delightful afternoon tea was then served in the church. Income for this Jubilee Weekend came from a grant from Uttlesford's New Homes Bonus and ticket sales. Expenditure left a deficit of £113.54 which will be met from Parish Council funds.

## *UDC - Consultation on Proposals for a Draft Local Plan*

Cllr Ron Coultrup had examined the extensive documents and provided comments for Councillors consideration. Much discussion took place and Cllr Chris Goodlifc reported on information from the South Community Forum meeting regarding industrial areas now included for housing. It was resolved that the Clerk and Cllr Coultrup put together comments for the Parish Council which would be circulated to all Councillors before submission to Uttlesford.

#### Planning

Application decisions (the Council's comments are shown in brackets)

Application No.//Site and Development//Decision UTT/1908/11/LB//75 Woodside Green //Removal of 2 French doors on rear elevation and replace with 5 door bi-folding oak door//Consent (no obj.)

UTTI1925/11/AV// Thremhall Park, Start Hill// Retrospective application for freestanding advertisement sign//Refused (no obj.)

UTT/25651111FUL// Hallington Wood, Bedlars Green//Erection of new dwelling// Consent//(This application is retrospective as the work had begun and comments are included above)

UTT/0074/12/FUL//3 The Grove//Erection of two storey side extension and first floor rear extension// Consent (no obj.)

UTT/0076112/LB// Cobbs Barn, Woodside Green// Proposed internal alterations// Consent (no obj.)

Continued page 10

UTTI1952111/FUL// Howe Green House School// Construction of classroom block//

Consent (No objections to original plans - revised details of the proposed classroom block remain the same except turned 90 degrees. No objections)

UTT 1025 8112/FUL & UTT/0259112/AV// Thremhall Park//Erection of 2 condenser units, external balustrade to front steps, ventilation louvers to roof and satellite dish.

Erection of internally illuminated sign//Consent// No objections raised.

UTT/0562112/FUL//3 Howe Green Moat Hall// Erection of single storey ancillary building for garden room/storage//Consent//No objections as this proposal is smaller than the previous application for this site, but conditions as before regarding this to remain ancillary to the main dwelling.

UTT/0492112/FUL// Tocher House, Start Hill// Proposed change of use from DI (non-residential training) to BI (sales and light industry)//Consent// No objections raised.

UTT/0953112/LB// Cobbs Farm, Woodside Green//Reform original door opening and internal alterations//Consent//No objections raised.

Applications received for comment and dealt with by the Planning Working Group:

UTT/0342/12/FUL// Unit 1, Stansted Distribution Centre//Relocation of existing tyre store and erection of new portacabin//No objections raised. UTTII046112/FUL// The Old Elm, Tile Kiln Green// Erection of detached garage//No objections raised. UTTI1071112/FUL// Old Tithe Hall, Start Hill//Two storey front, single storey rear and first floor side extensions//No objection raised.

Applications dealt with at Parish Council meeting:

UTT/0482112/FUL// The Old Elm, Start Hill// Conversion of stables to form residential dwelling// Whilst no objection in principal to the building, the additional access close to the junction with the B1256 is considered a danger.

UTT 11100112/FUL// Plot C, Newlands, Church Road//Amendment to approved application UT 1083111 O/FUL to provide garage to plot C//No objections raised.

Copies of the official minutes of Parish Council meetings are posted on the Parish Council notice boards around the village.

## Hester the Hedgehog



I'm Hester I'm a hedgehog With spines all sharp and prickly When I make love it's with great care And very very quickly.

I hide away in wintertime, In compost dead and rotten. Curled up in a cosy ball With my head round to my bottom.

I do a really useful job And never am a pest I love a drop of bread and milk And always do my best

When spring arrives it's then I awake And trundle around the garden Eating up the worms and slugs (Burp) Oh I beg your pardon

So spare a thought for hedgehogs For you never know your luck Could be me your old friend Hester Hibernating in the muck. Anon

## Autumn Quiz

1. Who wrote the Poem Ode to Autumn?



- 2. Why do leaves change colour in Autumn?
- 3. Prior to the 16<sup>th</sup> Century what was Autumn known as?
- 4. What language does the word Autumn come from?
- 5. What is the current world record for the biggest pumpkin?
- 6. When did the tradion of celebrating the Harvest Festival in churches begin?
- 7. Who had a hit in the UK in 1978 with 'Forever Autumn'?
- 8. What animal should you always check for in a bonfire before you light it?
- 9. Who wrote the lyric 'Autumn leaves'?
- 10. The Battle of Trafalgar was fought on 21<sup>st</sup> October, 1805 but where is Cape Traflagar? Answers on page 13



## This is NOT a Government Warning

Sometimes when I reflect back on all the wine I drink I feel

shame. Then I look into the glass and think about the workers in the vineyards and all of their hopes and dreams. If I didn't drink this wine, they might be out of work and their dreams would be shattered. Then I say to myself, "It is better that I drink this wine and let their dreams come true than be selfish and worry about my liver." Jack Handy

I feel sorry for people who don't drink. When they Wake up in the morning, that's as good as they're going to feel all day. Frank Sinatra

When I read about the evils of drinking, I gave up reading. Henny Youngman

When we drink, we get drunk. When we get drunk, we fall asleep. When we fall asleep, we commit no sin. When we commit no sin, we go to heaven. So, let's all get drunk and go to heaven! <u>Brian O'Rourke</u> And saving the best for last, as explained by Cliff Clavin, of Cheers. One afternoon at Cheers, Cliff Clavin was explaining the Buffalo Theory to his buddy, Norm. Here's how it went!

"Well ya see, Norm, it's like this. Α herd of buffalo can only move as fast as the slowest buffalo. And when the herd is hunted, it is the slowest and weakest! ones at the back that are killed first. This natural selection is good for the herd as a whole, because the general speed and health of the whole group keeps improving by the regular killing of the weakest members. In much the same way, the human brain can only operate as fast as the slowest brain cells. Excessive intake of alcohol, as we know, kills brain But naturally, it attacks the cells. slowest and weakest brain cells first. In this way, regular consumption of beer eliminates the weaker brain cells, making the brain a faster and more efficient machine.

That's why you always feel smarter after a few beers."



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Forthcoming surgeries are shown below. No appointment is necessary but it is advisable to phone (see page 2) to confirm times have not been altered.

Saturday, 1st September

**STANSTED** 10.45 - 11.30 am Parish Council Office, Crafton Green SAFFRON WALDEN 12.00 - 12.45 pm The Old Armoury, 3 Museum Street

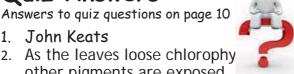
Friday, 12th October 5.15 - 6.00 pm BROOMFIELD Broomfield Community Centre, 158 Main Road DUNMOW 6.30 - 7.15 pm

Friday, 9th November THAXTED 5.45 - 6.30 pm Guildhall, Thaxted SAFFRON WALDEN 7.00 - 7.45 pm The Old Armoury, 3 Museum Street

## Quiz Answers

Answers to quiz questions on page 10

1. John Keats



- other pigments are exposed 3. Harvest
- 4. French
- 5. 1,818.5 lbs on October 15, 2011 in Quebec Province
- 6. 1843 when Revd Robert Hawker invited parishioners to a special thanksgiving service for the harvest at his church in Cornwall
- 7. Justin Hayward reached number 5 in UK Charts
- 8. Hedgehogs
- 9. Johnny Mercer
- 10. Atlantic Ocean, off Southern Spain

## News from the Gardens of Easton Lodge

The volunteers have been working very hard and the gardens are looking lovely the Italian Garden especially is a riot of colour.

We have the results of our photo competition and launch of our 2013 calendar at the Open Day on September 16th; this year the calendar has been generously sponsored by Malcolm Danford Estate Agents. Judges Rachel Warne and Mike Perry of David Lipson Photography, will be at the gardens to announce the winners. The photographs will be on display in Dunmow Library from September 18th and the calendars will be on sale at open days, through the website www. eastonlodge.co.uk and in some local shops.

October 21st is our last open day of the year and we will be having a spooky Halloween trail for children to enjoy. There will also be our usual guided tours at 1pm and 3pm and soup will be back on the menu alongside our other delicious homemade treats.

The gardens will then be closed until Snowdrop Sundays next February/March time. However there will be gardening going on right through the year (weather permitting) and we always need new volunteers - not just for gardening - whatever the season so why not email enquiries@eastonlodge.co.uk or leave a message on 01371 876979 if you are interested? Website www.eastonlodge. co.uk. Helen Carter



### THE WAR YEARS

#### Part Fifteen: Bombay - A new phase, a new life.

It was so crowded aboard the S.S. Boissevain I had to sleep in the passage beside the pantry where I worked but, after reporting sick, I was placed on a top bunk in the sick bay and a delightful breeze came through the porthole until we hit the open sea when this was shut. It was approaching monsoon time and the ship wallowed and rolled leaving me hanging onto the bed rails. They started giving me a course of M and B tablets, designed to cure everything. My quinsy got bigger.

We arrived in Bombay, (Mumbai) on July 21<sup>st</sup>, 1945, the day the monsoon broke and six inches of rain fell that morning. Officials decided I would not disembark until the next day but it still rained and I was soaked.

The RAF sick bay was in Worli, on the ground floor of a maternity hospital. (Worli was the poor quarter of Bombay where Ghandi often visited). In the sick bay I soon finished my course of tablets and was told to go. I tried to protest by gesticulating but they thought I was 'swinging the lead'. Eventually a doctor was



Typical monsoon in India

called. Not only was he amazed at my throat but perplexed because the tablets had failed. He decided to lance the throat abscess (not advisable) and ordered sterilised instruments but while these were being prepared the quinsy broke. No suggestion of malingering now but, despite my weakness, they bundled me on a bus to Bandra Convalescent Nunnery.

Bandra itself was an exclusive part of Bombay where the well to do paraded in their finery amid pavements red with chewed betel nut! The Nunnery, staffed by elderly Nuns, was a sparse building with plenty of bed bugs residing in the bed framework but amazingly, because of my infected bloodstream, they sought sustenance elsewhere. Sitting in the grounds one had time to reflect and watch large 'flying fox' bats suspended from trees. In the evening the sun seemed to drop from the sky into the sea rather rapidly leaving no twilight.

The monsoon continued at intervals, everywhere was damp. I felt much better, however, on August 6th when, washing up breakfast utensils, it was announced an atom bomb had been dropped. On August 10th, the day the war ended, I reported back to the Transit Camp at Worli. No celebration, in fact my spirits were dampened when I almost



Rioting in Bombay

collided with Pilot Officer Henry, the thorn in my side at Langar. Now, it would seem, it was pointless rejoining my Unit. In fact I did not see them again.

Each day I wandered around Bombay, witnessed deformed beggars, got caught in a riot and rescued by a shop keeper when Ghandi visited. I could easily have disappeared without trace!

Suddenly, on August 29<sup>th</sup>, came a posting to Bhopal, in Central India, to an airfield on

the estate of the Nawab, the President of the Chamber of Princes. It was rather a long train journey.

#### **Bhopal - Unwanted**

It was August 31st, 1945, when I presented myself at the Camp. It was obvious I was not wanted. The war was over and I spent time visiting the City. I found also I was eligible for State Tax even on my poor pay. Furthermore, no animal could be slaughtered until ten years old. Many Air Force raids were being made at night on the Nawab Estate to get fresh meat. In a short time, I was eating deer, peacock, porcupine and anything else which became available. The sacred cow, however, was allowed to wander at will in the Camp.

On October 6th I was detached and sent to Agra, the home of the Taj Mahal. It was a further day's journey by train and upon arrival joined eleven airmen, including Officers, all based on an American Camp whose main task was to fly supplies over the 'hump' to China. The Americans, having arrived direct from the States, were not sociable or diplomatic. Nevertheless, they gave us a billet and I was placed on 'kitchen police' duties which entailed noting each meal served in the cookhouse. As this was a four hour stint, one could indulge in a meal at each end of the shift. The meals were great but the American eating habits left a lot to be desired.

Apart from an Airspeed Oxford, our Air Force was given unsuitable American planes such as a Grumman dive bomber. I flew in it on a test flight sitting back to the pilot. In a dive towards the earth the wings whistled and shook in a frightening manner. Apart from that, it didn't take long to service our parachutes which were in short supply and I was sent by the Oxford to Lahore to replenish stocks. It was just after an earthquake and the whole atmosphere took on an eerie glow.

On return one could spot the Taj Mahal from afar beside the River Jumna. It was a building I admired especially by moonlight when the few remaining jewels in the dome caught moon rays and burst into fire. Towards the end of my stay I went frequently to the Taj when airmen came from afar to view the building before returning home. Sometimes I sat on the seat outside and contemplated my future as a newly married man. I treasure the photo taken years later when Princess Diana sat on the same seat also in pensive mood.

Relations with the Americans deteriorated still further when Lend Lease<sup>\*\*\*</sup> finished. They turned us out of the cookhouse, our billet, and steamrollered the plane spares we had so that we couldn't fly. Eventually we obtained bell tents and with a few bricks built our

own primitive oven on which to cook frugal rations. While scrounging wood for the fire I was able to visit other notable buildings in the area namely Agra Fort and Fatphur Sikri, an abandoned City. More airmen eventually arrived and we were able to form a football team

*E.Field* (Notes from the diary)

\*\*\* Lend-Lease was the program under which the United States of America supplied the United Kingdom and other Allied nations with equipment between 1941 and 1945 in return for services such as rent on air bases.





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#### 17

#### **Essex Police** Hatfield Heath Police Station

Letter sent by Chief Constable to Parish Clerk



Thank you for your feedback about the proposed sale of Hatfield Heath police station. We appreciate you taking the time to respond and are grateful for your views.

As you are aware from our previous communication, Essex Police have to find £42 million per annum in recurring savings by 2014/15, which means that we have had to make some difficult decisions regarding our asset base (police stations and buildings) in order to maintain our investment in front line policing for your neighbourhood.

We are writing to let you know that at the Finance and Audit Committee on 25th June 2012, having taken all feedback into consideration, Essex Police Authority made the decision to confirm Hatfield Heath police station as surplus to requirement. This means that we will be looking to put Hatfield Heath police station on the market in the future and will shortly be assessing a timetable for this process.

We can assure you that your Neighbourhood Policing team will continue to work tirelessly to keep your community safe, and PC Brad Healey remains allocated to the Hatfield Heath area (including surrounding villages). In addition, through our recent restructuring programme and new shift patterns, we are maximising the number of officers available to investigate crime, police the streets and respond to emergency incidents. We have introduced a new model of borderless policing, supported by new resource tracking software in our Force Control Room. We are also installing Mobile Data Terminals in our police vehicles which allow officers to stay out on patrol for longer in your area, rather than returning to police stations such as Great Dunmow to complete administrative tasks. These developments provide the

Force Control Room operators with fast time information and enhanced mapping systems to locate and deploy the closest available police officers and PCSOs quickly and efficiently.

Your nearest Front Counter facility will remain at either Great Dunmow police station, which is open Monday to Saturday from 12pm to 6pm, or Harlow police station, open Monday to Sunday from Sam to midnight. There is an external telephone/ intercom outside each building for non emergency assistance, connecting you to the Force Switchboard when out of hours assistance is required by members of the public. The '999' number should still be used for all emergency calls, or you can call 101 for all nonemergency enquiries. Further information on how to contact us is available on the Essex Police website at www.essex. police .uk/contact us.aspx. Your local Neighbourhood Policing team are as you are aware based from Great Dunmow police station, but remain actively patrolling your villages.

Thank you again for your involvement in this process.

If you have any further queries about the Estate Disposal programme, please contact Jules Donald at Essex Police on 01245452600.

## **Police Beat Surgery**

PCSO Joanna Trevail-Philips will be holding a 'Beat Surgery' and will be available to provide help and information at Little Hallingbury Post Office on the following dates.

10 to 11am on Thursdays:-

6 September 4 October 27 November 6 December NEW POLICE CONTACT NUMBER 07989 174801

## **Great Hallingbury Diamo**



## ond Jubilee Celebrations







Photographs pages 18 - 21 by courtesy of Christine Coultrup, Alex Russell and Alan Townsend

#### **A Break in the Clouds** Great Hallingbury Village Diamond Jubilee Celebration Saturday, 2<sup>nd</sup> June, 2012



A small committee was set up to plan and organise a village event to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee of Her Majesty The Queen. It comprised representatives from the Parish Council, St. Giles' Church, WI and the History Society, with the Parish Council guaranteeing the cost of an event. A modest celebration was considered to be appropriate and decided upon.

Virtually every town, village, hamlet, school and so on would also be holding events of varying complexity over the period of Saturday to Tuesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> June. It was agreed by the committee to hold the Great Hallingbury celebration on the Saturday, Coronation Day, by having a party, mainly for children accompanied by adults, on the Village Hall field and a special service, followed by tea and cakes, on the Sunday afternoon.

A warm, balmy Miss Marples' summer's day it was not but, remarkably, it stopped raining. The sun did peep on us long enough for it to be quite comfortable.

To mark the event, a new seat in front of the Village Hall was inaugurated and a young oak tree was planted by our eldest villager, centenarian Mrs. Lily Este, who also crowned the young Great Hallingbury Jubilee Queen. The best decorated hat



competition was won by Shirley Goodlife, who with husband Chris, had set a popular topical treasure hunt quiz. Davids Barlow and Mugele cooked the barbeque and other refreshments were produced by the WI. Geoff Morris with Val and Martin Mugele stepped up the strength of the refreshments at their stall. The children's games were skilfully supervised by Martin and Val's granddaughter, Kate, with proud father David looking on.

For me, the highlight was the Brownies' Maypole Dance, very difficult to do and immaculately performed. The high, high highlight was, when everyone joined a circassian circle dance, to see Martin Mugele, chairman of the organising committee, introducing original and unique complex steps to that simple dance. What fun they all had.



The special church service on the Sunday did not get the good weather but was well attended. The service compiled by the Church centrally was thoughtful and the all local readers were fluent and interesting. The refreshments by the WI were wickedly delicious.

Thanks go to organising committee, Martin Mugele, Parish Council Chairman, Jan Baldwin WI President, Heather and Philip Hays from St. Giles' Church and Christine Coultrup, Chairman History Society.

The event broke pretty well even and thanks go to Councillors Lesley Wells and Keith Artus for the grant money which came via Uttlesford District Council from a mysterious Government distribution relating to new Housing. Seems a bit like the recycling of tax payers' money to me, but we didn't look a gift horse in the mouth.



## Great Hallingbury Manor is under new Ownership & Management



To celebrate "The Manor's" new ownership and to thank our neighbours in Great Hallingbury and the surrounding area for their ongoing support, we would like to offer you a special deal. For every four full paying adults booked for lunch or dinner we will offer you a **complimentary bottle of** "Sommeliers Choice of Wine" as well as unlimited pure water. Please call us on 01279 506475 to book your table and quote "HH2012" upon booking.

#### £5 per person Festive Period voucher.

Valid for Christmas parties, December Lunches (excl Sun), Christmas and Boxing Day, New Years Eve Gala and New Years Day Jazz Brunch Maximim discount per group booking is £100. Not combinable with any other offers. Booking is essential

Delicious Sunday Lunch with amazing value!!! 2 courses – just £12.50 3 courses – just £14.95 Book 4 adults and receive a bottle of Sommeliers Choice of wine on the house

After a period of turbulent times, Great Hallingbury Manor Hotel and its Lakeside **Restaurant is now part** of the Surya Hotels collection. With three other individually styled hotels in the East Anglia region, this small hotel group prides itself on high standards, good quality and excellent guest care. Many positive changes have already been made at "The Manor", one of these changes is the appointment of Jonathan Bonn as the new General Manager. Jonathan has over 25 years of international hotel experience and his vision is to raise the standard of service and quality and bring it back to the 4 star standards "The Manor" was previously renowned for.

The team at The Great Hallingbury Manor would be delighted to have the opportunity to welcome you back as a regular guest of ours.

Advertisement

## Great Hallingbury WI

It has been a busy few months for Great Hallingbury WI.

It started in April with visitors from neighbouring WI's, together with our own members, filling the village hall for the ever popular "Flog-it" evening. Once again this proved to be a successful fund raiser for our WI. Thank you to all those you supported this event.

Next came a trip organised by The Federation of Essex WI's to the London 2012 Olympic Park. The day included a visit to The Greenwich Heritage Centre with an amazing exhibition of embroidery work by local embroiderers, a delicious lunch, a guided tour of the Olympic park and a visit to Westfield Shopping Centre. On the day we visited there were just 100 days to go before the opening ceremony.



Just to show that the WI is not all "Twin Set & Pearls", the Roothings Group meeting held at Matching had a touch of Bling & Bollywood as we were entertained by Shrimathi Susanna, a classically trained Bharata Natyam dancer. Susanna gave a



truly inspiring demonstration of story telling, mine, and exquisite costume through dance.

Following the classical performance members were invited to learn some Bollywood moves and as you can see from the photographs everyone certainly got into the Bollywood spirit.

During the Diamond Jubilee Weekend the WI played their part in



the Village activities providing refreshments during the Saturday BBQ and on Sunday following the Thanksgiving Service at the church.



Our meeting in June was organised by the members. This is something that we do every year as a thank you to the committee for all their hard work in organising a programme of speakers and events. A very informative Wine tasting session was given by Majestic Wine of Bishop's Stortford with wines originating from various regions in France. The French feel to the evening continued with a delicious buffet of French bread, Cheese and Pate.

Beverly Moore

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## Youngsters hit hardest by recession

RURAL youngsters face extra barriers when trying to finding work, training and education, warns a report. The speed at which youngsters have become unemployed or unable to find training and education is increasing faster in rural areas than in larger towns and cities, it claims.

The report looks at barriers for rural young people not in education, employment or training (NEET). While the recession means there are clear associated challenges for all young people across England, young people in rural areas frequently have to travel greater distances to work, training and education, with opportunities further limited by the high cost and low availability of transport.

There are also concerns that the additional cost of delivering employment and training services in rural areas is leading providers to focus on more highly populated parts of the country.

The report calls for the appointment of a government minister for young people, who would act as a focal point and representative for rural youth affairs across central government. RCCE chairman, Stuart Burgess, described the future of young people as one of the most important issues facing England's rural areas.

Rural Services Network/Rural Communities Commission report

## Places I Have Been

I have been in many places, but I've never been IN CAHOOTS. Apparently, you can't go alone. You have to be in Cahoots with someone else.



I have been IN COGNITO, but no one recognized me there.

I would like to go to CONCLUSIONS, but you have to

jump and  $l^\prime m$  not too much on physical activity.

I have been IN SANE. They don't have an airport; you have to be driven there. I have made severa trips there, thanks to my friends, family and work.





I have also been IN DOUBT. That is a sad place to go and I try not to visit there too often.

I've been IN FLEXIBLE, but only when it was very important to stand firm.



Sometimes I'm IN CAPABLE and I go there more often as I'm getting older.



One of my favorite places to be is IN SUSPENSE! It really gets the adrenalin flowing and pumps up the heart!

And, sometimes I think I am IN VINCIBLE but life shows me I am not!

I have been IN DEEPTROUBLE many times; the older I get, the easier it is to go there.





## Stop Stansted Expansion



Celebrates Its Tenth Birthday

There was only time for a brief pause during a busy Stop Stansted Expansion (SSE) committee meeting on 3rd August to celebrate the campaign group's tenth birthday. After a quick group photograph and a slice of cake, it was back to work dealing with the Government's latest consultation on future aviation policy.

SSE Chairman Peter Sanders later took time out to reflect on the origins of the campaign group, back in the summer of 2002, when the Labour Government published airport expansion proposals for the South East, including proposals for up to three additional runways at Stansted which would have made it bigger than any other airport on the world.

The following year the Government finalised its policy, settling for one extra runway at Stansted which it wanted to have operational by 2011 or 2012. Peter Sanders commented: "When you consider that we had to do battle with both BAA and the might of the Government, it was quite an achievement when Stansted's owners finally threw in the towel on the 24th of May 2010 by withdrawing its second runway planning application".

Mr Sanders continued: "Once again, however, the present coalition Government is re-visiting the issue of airport capacity in the South East and SSE is working hard trying to prevent a repeat of the threat of Stansted becoming another Heathrow. But make no mistake: if the threat does re-emerge, we will resist it with as much determination as ever."



## **Rural Speed Limits**

MANY rural roads could see their speed limits reduced from 60mph to 40mph under new guidance to local authorities, aimed to help improve safety, which was published for consultation in July.



Road safety minister, Mike Penning, said, "It is vital that speed limits are suitable for local conditions and councils are best placed to determine what these limits are, based on local knowledge and the views of the community."

The national speed limit on the rural road network is 60mph on single carriageway roads and 70mph on dual carriageways. In 2010, 68% of road deaths in Britain occurred on rural roads and 49% of road deaths occurred on single carriageway rural roads subject to the 60mph national speed limit.

The consultation suggests a 40mph limit be considered on single carriageway rural roads where there are many bends, junctions, access points or substantial development. A 40mph limit should also be considered where there is a a strong environmental or landscape reason or where there are considerable numbers of vulnerable road users. On C roads and unclassified routes, the consultation suggests a 40mph limit where the road has a predominantly local access or recreational function.

The guidance also incorporates recent changes that give local authorities increased flexibility to implement 20mph limits and zones where doing so improves road safety and quality of life.

Young rural drivers cover 31% more miles a year and, combined with their relative inexperience on often dangerous country roads, they are at a higher risk of an accident than many other motorists.

Rural Services Network



Photographs by Diane Cormac and Beverly Moore

## Great & Little Hallingbury Flower Show 2012

The deluge stopped just long enough to give a bright day for the annual Hallingburys Flower and Country show, this year held at Harps Farm with the kind hospitality of Tom and Emma Streeter.

I understand that the garden produce entries were down because of the preceding weather but, for all that, they appeared good to me. The number of entries across the board was excellent, as was the quality.

The food all looked and smelled really tempting and I had the impression that all the stalls were busy. I particularly noted that Great Hallingbury Manor Hotel was back again with a promotional stall. The music and dancing entertainment was remarked upon for its quality.

The highlight for this magazine was Great Hallingbury winning the tug of war over Little Hallingbury, refereed by the respected and inimical Roger Graham of Gaston Green, Little Hallingbury.

Editor



The winning Great Hallingbury tug of war team





## Pure Logic

It is said this is a story which is perfectly logical to all males.



A wife asks her husband, 'Could you please go shopping for me and buy one carton of milk, and if they have eggs, get 6.'

A short time later the husband comes back with 6 cartons of milk. The wife asks him, 'Why did you buy 6 cartons of milk?'

He replied, 'They had eggs.'

(I am told if you're female, you're going back to read it again! Males will get it the first time.)



## A Blonde's Last Ride

This is the story of a blonde (brunette, readhead to suit) flying in a two-seater airplane with just the pilot. He had a heart attack and dies.

She frantically calls, "May Day! May Day! Help me! Help me! My pilot had a heart attack and is dead. I don't know how to fly. Help me! Please help me!"

All of a sudden she hears a voice over the radio saying: "This is the tower. I have received your message and I will talk you through it. I've had a lot of experience with this kind of problem.

Now, just relax. Everything will be fine! Now give me your height and position."



She says, "I'm 5'4" and I'm in the front seat."

"O.K." says the voice from the tower. "Repeat after me: Our Father. . . Who art in Heaven. . . .."



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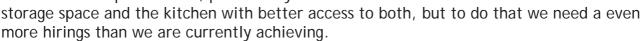


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## Great Hallingbury Village Hall

The Great Hallingbury Village Hall has been described as *among the nicest* to even *the very best* in the area. Thankfully it is well used by the village and farther afield.

The Village Hall Trustees would like to continue our improvements, particularly the





It is a lovely, well proportioned hall with a very serviceable side room and an adequate kitchen: a quality facility which deserves to be hired out all the time without a break.

The hall is currently used by such diverse organisations as the Bowls Club, a Table Tennis club, WI, History Society, Toddlers

*The Peachey Room* Group, Sewing Group, Brownies, Dog Club and Yoga. It is ideal for birthday parties, anniversary parties, weddings, funeral receptions and other meetings. There is still availability to hire some weekday mornings and afternoons and all day Saturdays and Sundays.

If you are having a celebration or want to have regular meetings in the hall, please contact the Secretary, Rita Storr, on rita.storr@btconnect.com or 01279 659220 and get

our competitive rates. And if you hear of anyone who might need a hall, please put in a good word for Great Hallingbury Village Hall.



Two views of the main hall







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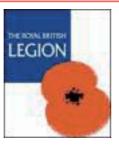
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## POPPY COFFEE MORNING



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## Bank of England

A Scotsman walks into the Bank of England in Threadneedle Street, London and asks for the manager. He tells the manager that he is going to Australia on business for two weeks and needs to borrow £5,000.

The manager tells him that the bank will need some form of security for the loan, so Hamish hands over the keys and documents of new Ferrari parked on the street in front of the bank. He produces the Log Book and everything checks out. The manager agrees to accept the car as collateral for the loan.

The bank's General Manager and its officers all enjoy a good laugh at the rough looking Scotsman for using a £120,000 Ferrari as collateral against a £5000 loan. An employee of the bank then drives the Ferrari into the bank's underground garage and parks it there.

Two weeks later, Hamish returns, repays



the £5,000 and the interest, which comes to £15.41.

The manager says, "Sir, we are very happy to have had your business, and this transaction has worked out very nicely, but we are a little puzzled. While you were away, we checked you out and found that you are a multi millionaire. What puzzles us is, why would you bother to borrow "£5,000"?

Hamish replies: "Where else in London can I park my car for two weeks for only £15.41 and expect it to be there when I return?"

## **Great Hallingbury Local History Society**

#### Recent Events

#### 90<sup>th</sup> birthday presentation

In celebration of the 90<sup>th</sup> birthday of our President, Ernie Field, the History Society presented him with a leather bound edition of articles he had written for *Great Hallingbury Highlights*. Included were the series on the *History of the Parish Council, Pepys of the Past* and *Amongst the Stubble*. This was a fitting climax to this year's AGM.

The articles will be published in several booklets later this year.

#### **Hylands House**

Our speaker in May was Nick Wickendon who talked about the History and Restoration of Hylands House in Chelmsford. It was a fascinating talk and, in July, the History Society arranged for members to visit Hylands House.

Built originally as a red-brick Queen Anne House, it was later renovated, extended and given a stucco frontage to bring it up to date in the Georgian period. After a chequered history under a number of owners, use as an officers hospital during the first World War and for nursing training and the headquarters of the SAS during the second world war, the house fell into disrepair but, with the grounds, became the property of Chelmsford Borough (now City) Council.

To stop the house being demolished, a group of volunteers attracted a grant from English Heritage and the slow task of restoring the house - and raising a lot more money - started some 20 years ago. The fabric and decor of the house have been restored as they were in 1842. It is now used for conferences and functions but the elegance of the original house shines through.

#### Forthcoming Events

The History Society will be welcoming three speakers between now and the end of the year.

On September 12, Jennifer Ward is returning to Great Hallingbury to talk about the

*Religious Houses of Essex.* A retired lecturer, Jennifer is such a knowledgeable and enthusiastic speaker she holds our attention and we will enjoy yet another very interesting talk from her.



On October 10, another previous speaker returns to our Society. This will be Georgina Green whose talk is called *Keepers, Cockneys and Kitchen Maids.* She will be looking at life before, during and after the Great War in relation to Epping Forest and the grand houses around

it.

Lastly, Stephen Nunn will be visiting us to speak on *Barges on the Blackwater*, in which he discusses the historic link between Maldon and the Thames Sailing Barge



and studies some of the surviving barges that can still be seen at the town's Quay.

We are also planning an outing on October 29 when we will have a private tour of the highlights of the Museum of London and visit the museum of the Bank of England – more details below.

#### History Society Outing - 29th October 2012

Private tour of the Highlights of the MUSEUM OF LONDON Visit to BANK OF ENGLAND MUSEUM and presentation covering its HISTORY

Coach will leave Great Hallingbury at 9 am Price £35 per person Contact Christine Coultrup cj@coultruponline.com or 01279 655144

**OPEN TO MEMBERS + NON MEMBERS** 

## **Hatfield Forest News**

With the uplift in the weather, the Forest has been well-visited and this income has been very valuable coming on top of poor visitor numbers in the rainy months. Our summer holiday events for kids have had terrific take-up. We have lots of fun activities available each Wednesday.

We also recently opened our new **Discovery Room** so come down and look at what makes a Georgian picnic, enjoy dressing up as a wealthy or peasant child, do some creative brass rubbings, hunt for bugs and then visit our Georgian Shell House.

We are also looking forward to our Annual festival. *Woodfest* has music, entertainment, stalls and interactive demonstrations and will be held in the Forest 7<sup>th</sup> 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> September.

In our *Shop* we have recently introduced Red Poll beef, grazed on our meadows, 'Woodfest' T Shirts, fallow deer soft toys and, on the way, a Hatfield Forest collector's mug, designed and made by Alison Gardiner.

The **boats** have been well received on the lake and lots of visitors have taken **bikes** out from the bike hire centre. We have a range of children's and adult bikes available and a number of tag alongs and trailers for your children.

The *Conservation Teams* are once again out clearing scrub around London Bridge. The *sheep* are currently up at Elman's Green and on the right hand side up the main plain when heading out towards South Gate. Please keep dogs on leads near the sheep and cows and don't forget to keep the Forest clean and tidy by taking your rubbish home and picking up your dog mess off the paths or flicking it.



#### Things to do in September.

- Hire a boat
- Hire a bike
- Woodfest 7<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> September
- 50 things to do before your 11 <sup>3</sup>⁄<sub>4</sub>

We also have the *Great British Walk* to come in September and October. Hatfield Forest has been chosen as a 'super tier' property so we will have increased marketing support and lots of walks for visitors to enjoy.

On a final note this year we are repeating the *oral archiving of peoples memories* of Hatfield Forest through the years. This will be held in the lake area on the 22<sup>nd</sup> September. If you are interested in learning some new interview skills and would like to volunteer please get in touch and, equally, if you have any have stories to tell call us on 01279 870678 or hatfieldforest@nationaltrust.org.uk.

*In 2013*, the Lord Chamberlain's Men will be performing Shakespeare's *As You Like It* on 9th June and we are very close to securing a children's play for August. Suffice it to say, 'WoodFest' will have its usual weekend in September which leaves us with space for an event in July which we are looking to fill with an open air picnic concert by the Café, possibly something Jazz and/or Soul themed.

We look forward to seeing you at Hatfield and as always thank you for your support.

Hannah Morrice , Visitor Experience Team Leader



## How Low Brow can you get?

The Grim Reaper came for me last night and I beat him off with a vacuum cleaner. Talk about Dyson with death.



I went to the cemetery yesterday to lay some flowers on a grave. As I was standing there I noticed four grave diggers walking about with a coffin. Three hours later and they're still walking about with it. I thought to myself, they've lost the plot!!

My daughter asked me for a pet spider for her birthday, so I went to our local pet shop and they were £70!!! Blow this, I thought. I can get one cheaper off the web.

I was driving this morning when I saw an AA van parked up. The driver was sobbing uncontrollably and looked very miserable. I thought to myself that guy's heading for a breakdown.



My neighbour knocked on my door at 2:30am this morning. Can you believe that, 2:30am?! Luckily for him I was still up playing my bagpipes.

My girlfriend thinks that I'm a stalker. Well, she's not exactly my girlfriend yet.

A wife says to her husband, "You're always pushing me around and talking behind my back." He says, "What do you expect? You're in a wheelchair."



Local Police hunting the 'knitting needle nutter', who has stabbed six people in the last 48 hours, believe the attacker could be following some kind of pattern.

Just got back from my mate's funeral. He died after being hit on the head with a tennis ball. It was a lovely service.

19 men go to the cinema. The ticket lady asks, "Why so many of you?" Mick replies, "The film said 18 or over."

## ATHEIST IN THE WOODS

An atheist was walking through the woods. 'What majestic trees! What powerful rivers! What beautiful animals!', he said to himself

As he was walking alongside the river, he heard a rustling in the bushes behind him. He turned to look and saw a 7 foot grizzly bear charge towards him.

He ran as fast as he could up the path. He looked over his shoulder and saw that the bear was closing in on him.



He looked over his shoulder again and the bear was even closer. Then he tripped and fell on the ground. He rolled over to pick himself up but saw that the bear was right on top of him, reaching for him with his left paw and raising his right paw to strike him...

At that instant the Atheist cried out, 'Oh my God!'. Time Stopped. The bear froze. The forest was silent.

As a bright light shone upon the man, a voice came out of the sky. 'You deny my existence for all these years, teach others I don't exist and even credit creation to cosmic accident. Do you expect me to help you out of this predicament? Am I to count you as a believer?'

The atheist looked directly into the light. 'It would be hypocritical of me to suddenly ask you to treat me as a Christian now, but perhaps you could make the BEAR a Christian?'

'Very well', said the voice.

The light went out. The sounds of the forest resumed. And the bear dropped his right paw, brought both paws together, bowed his head and spoke: 'For what I am about to receive, may the Lord make me truly thankful, Amen.'

## The Olive Branch in the Hallingburys



The Summer bring-and-share lunch was held on 19th June in the lovely garden at Latchmore Hall by kind invitation of Peter and Sheila Davies (the weather was excellent). £115 was raised for the Jaipur Limb charity by raffle and donations.

#### Summer Outing to Bury Cathedral

At mid-day on Tuesday 7th August, 16 happy and enthusiastic souls set off from the village car park for the annual Olive Branch outing which, this year, was to the Cathedral at the picturesque Suffolk town of Bury St. Edmunds.

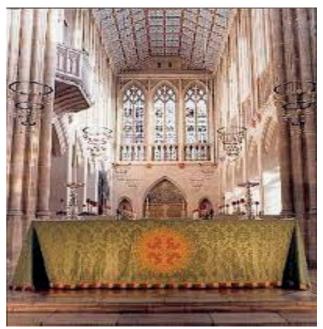
After a short, rain interrupted journey we arrived in the town and had sufficient time, before our conducted tour, to sample the culinary delights on offer at the cathedral refectory, wander through the beautiful Abbey Gardens or browse the shops. By 2 o'clock prompt everyone had succeeded in meeting up with our guide.

The meeting place was the font, a most elaborate and decorative focal point. As tradition demands, it is immediately inside the door. However, the original Great West Door is no longer in regular use and a new north door now forms the main entrance, but the font remains one of the first things that visitors will see. The intricate and colourful carvings are Victorian and cover up the really old font itself. A very interesting feature, whenever a baptism is held, is the raising of the Victorian structure by means of large counterweights.

The history of St. Edmundsbury pre-dates not only 1066, the beginning of the 'Royal' dynasty in England, but also King Canute. St Edmund ruled the country from West Suffolk and was beheaded by marauding Vikings for refusing to renounce his Christian Faith. There is a story of a wolf, having found the head, being totally bewildered when it began to 'talk' to the animal. Subsequent archaeological tests have verified that St. Edmund was indeed beheaded, but the wolf story cannot be proved !

Graphics of the church/cathedral/abbey illustrated many aspects of the building. Immediately obvious was the size and scale of the whole complex; we were standing in the nave yet this was dwarfed by the adjoining Abbey which no longer exists except for one wall. Also noticeable was the very close proximity of two other parish churches (one of which still stands today)

The cathedral has been extensively enlarged; although the nave is virtually original (except for the ornate ceiling that is now painted and no longer bare wood) the tower has been re-furbished and considerable sympathetic building has taken place beyond the tower. One only needs to look at the stonework which matches exactly the original to realise the effort that went into this restoration undertaken by Dykes Bower and completed in 2005. Bury's efforts were rewarded in one of the most light, airy, yet traditional cathedrals you are ever likely to visit. On the north side, one section of the building under certain conditions gets so much light that it appears almost white and rejoices in the name 'transfiguration'!





Returning to the tower, we were able to stand underneath

and look up and enjoy the highly decorated ceiling. Arather nice attention to detail was a strategically placed mirror

to enable those with weary neck muscles to appreciate the magnificent view. Halfway up the tower were arranged the shields of

each of the dioceses in the country but fortunately a chart was provided so that we could identify the Chelmsford shield. Moving on, a large tapestry and two small sculptures were pointed out; one sculpture was of a wolf with a head and the other of Mary holding Jesus but in a most unusual pose: think of holding a baby out of a bath and you have the idea as that was exactly the inspiration behind the piece.

Our tour concluded with the party joining the small congregation for afternoon prayers.

Following this, we sat down to a nice cream tea and the coach collected us outside the main door. The earlier rain had long gone making the return journey more pleasant and 5.20pm saw us back in Little Hallingbury.

Highlights of the day? A very impressive cathedral. A well-informed and caring guide who acknowledged that some people needed a sit-down every now and then. We can certainly recommend the cathedral and Abbey Gardens for a day trip.

The downside? One thing that did spoil the day somewhat; having taken a number of photographs with his new camera/phone, Lionel unfortunately lost his camera and a search and re-tracing of steps failed to find it. But if you are going to lose a valuable piece of equipment, a cathedral is the place to do it, as it was found and handed in later!

Brian Beaumont

#### St Giles' Services September 2012 – December 2012

Septem		- December 2012	
Sept 2	8 am	Holy Communion	
Sept 9	10 am	Morning Prayer	
Sept 9 - Teddy Bear's Picnic for children who have been baptised in the Hallingburys. 3pm in the Rectory Garden			
Sept 16	8 am	Holy Communion	
Sept 23	10 am	United Benefice Family Communion at St. Mary's	
Sept 30	10 am	Harvest Festival	
Oct 7	8 am	Holy Communion ***	
Oct 14	10 am	Morning Prayer	
Oct 21	8 am	Holy Communion ***	
Oct 28	10 am	Family Service	
Nov 4	8 am	Holy Communion ***	
Nov 11	10.55 am	Remembrance Sunday Service	
Nov 18	8 am	Holy Communion ***	
Nov 25	10 am	Family Service	
Dec 2	8 am	Holy Communion ***	
	6pm	Advent Carol Service at St. Mary's	
Dec 9	10 am	Morning Prayer	
Dec 16	8 am	Holy Communion ***	
Dec 23	10 am	Family Service	
	6 pm	Service of 9 lessons and Carols	
Dec 24	3 pm	Crib Service	
	11.30 pm	Midnight Communion	
Dec 25	10 am	Family Communion	
Dec 30	10 am	Holy Communion Common Worship	

During winter months, 8 am Holy Communion is usually held in 'Centuries'.

Midweek service of Holy Communion at 9.30 a.m. every Wednesday at St Mary's, Little Hallingbury.

Services of Holy Communion are from the Book of Common Prayer unless otherwise indicated

Both St Giles' and St Mary's have a Children's Corner with activity packs for use by families at all 10 am services and there is a Junior Church held during the 10 a.m. Common Worship Holy Communion at St Mary's.

## Calendar

#### September 2012

- 3 Parish Council Meeting Village Hall 8 pm
- 4 Olive Branch St. Mary's 2.15pm
  6 Police Beat Surgery Little Hallingbury Post Office
- 10-11 am 7-9 Hatfield Forest Woodfest
- 9 Teddy Bear's Picnic see page 35
- 11 Friendship Club
- Library Van Bedlars Green 2.10pm 2.25pm
   Woodside Green 2.35 2.50 pm
- 12 History Society *Religious Houses of Essex* Village Hall 8pm
- 15 Village Hall Quiz Night Village Hall 7.30 pm
- 16 Easton Lodge Public Open Day, Photography Competition Results & Calendar Launch 12 noon-6pm
- 22 Hatfield Forest Oral Archiving
- 26 Library Van Bedlars Green 2.10pm 2.25pm Woodside Green 2.35 - 2.50 pm
- 26 Women's Institute Jackie Marshall-Ward Upstairs, Downstairs, Lucky Dip - Village Hall 7.45pm
- 29 Harvest Flowers & Cream Teas St. Giles' Church 2 - 5 pm & 30th 2 - 4 pm

#### October 2012

- 2 Olive Branch St. Mary's 2.15pm
- 4 Police Beat Surgery Little Hallingbury Post Office 10-11 am
- 9 Friendship Club
- 10 Library Van Bedlars Green 2.10pm 2.25pm Woodside Green 2.35 - 2.50 pm
- 10 History Society Keepers, Cockneys and Kitchen Maids - Village Hall 8pm
- 19 Poppy Coffee Morning Howe Green House School 9 - 11 am
- 21 Easton Lodge *Public Open Day* 12 noon 6pm
  24 Library Van Bedlars Green 2.10pm 2.25pm
- Woodside Green 2.35 2.50 pm
- 24 WI Social Evening in the Village Hall at 7.45 pm
- 29 History Society outing *Museum of London* and *Bank* of *England Museum*

#### November 2012

- 5 Parish Council Meeting Village Hall 7 pm
- 6 Olive Branch Mrs Marion King, Fiji St. Mary's 2.15
- 7 Library Van Bedlars Green 2.10pm 2.25pm Woodside Green 2.35 - 2.50 pm
- Friendship Club
   History Society Barges on the Blackwater Village Hall - 8pm
- 21 Library Van Bedlars Green 2.10pm 2.25pm Woodside Green 2.35 - 2.50 pm
- 27 Police Beat Surgery Little Hallingbury Post Office 10-11 am
- 28 WI Going, Going, Gone! 50 years as an Auctioneer by M. Logan in the Village Hall at 7.45 pm

#### December 2012

- 2 Village Hall Quiz Night Village Hall 7.30 pm
- 4 Olive Branch St. Mary's 2.15pm
  5 Library Van Bedlars Green 2.10pm 2.25pm
  Woodside Green 2.35 2.50 pm
- 6 Police Beat Surgery Little Hallingbury Post Office 10-11 am

## You are warmly invited to



## Great Hallingbury Harvest Flowers & Cream Teas

St. Giles' Church Great Hallingbury

## Saturday 29th September 2pm to 5pm & Sunday 30th September 2pm to 4pm

Harvest Stalls Cream Teas Fun for all the family!

Highlights is an independent publication, at no cost to the Parish, compiled and edited by R. C. Coultrup, Pantiles, Great Hallingbury. This Newsletter is not the official record of the Great Hallingbury Parish Council; only the Minutes of Meetings are the true record. Neither the Council nor contributors are responsible for the accuracy of the contents. Content of advertisements is the responsibility of the advertiser. Contributions and dates for the diary would be welcomed. Thanks go to everyone who has contributed or helped in its production and distribution. Editor: 01279 655144 or highlights@coultruponline.com