Hatfield Peverel

Review

241 - April 2014





Hatfield Peverel Review

Hatfield Peverel Parish Council publication. Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Council.

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Copy for the June issue by Friday, 16th May please

Local events and happenings round and about

Diary Dates

Church dates see pages 11/12 Village hall dates see page 18

April

- 19 Helen Rollson coffee morning, 10am
- 20 Museum of Power Easter Show
- 23 Hadfelda WI, page 12
- 24 Hatfield Peverel Walkers, page 12
- 24 Folk Dance Club

May

- 3 St Andrews coffee morning 10am
- 4 Museum of Power steam day
- 7 Flower Club
- 8 Folk Dance Club
- 10 Methodist Church coffee morning 10am
- 10 Plant sale and coffee morning, Oaklands, Nounsley, 10am - 12 noon
- 12 Parish Council meeting, village hall
- 12 Quiz night at Wheatsheaf for Helen Rollason
- 14 Wine Club
- 17 Helen Rollason coffee morning, 10am
- 21 Hadfelda WI
- 22 Folk Dance Club
- 24 Salvation Army coffee morning 10am
- 26 Beating the Bounds, see opposite page
- 29 Hatfield Peverel Walkers

June

- 1 Museum of Power Old Tyme Rally
- 2 Parish Council meeting, village hall
- 4 Flower Club
- 7 St Andrews coffee morning 10am
- 14 Methodist Church coffee morning 10am

Front cover: Cubs Tom Ruston and Jack Marshall with a batch of pizzas cooked in the Scout and Guide HQ's newly refurbished kitchen. Assistant Scout Leader Julie Davies is in charge of the oven. There were samples for everyone and large pizzas to take home for tea

Maldon District Council Local Development Plan

wo presentations were given at recent public meetings regarding the Maldon DC plan to build over 4400 dwellings in the Maldon area. As the majority are in North Maldon the current situation is that the B1019 Maldon Road would likely bear the brunt of HGVs and cars travelling to London, Colchester, the East Coast ports and Hatfield Peverel railway station. This huge increase in traffic will affect the whole of Hatfield Peverel as it will soon find rat runs through the village, free parking outside your house for commuting, shopping, dropping children off at the nurseries, Hadfelda Square, Co-op, clubs, sports facilities etc.

This increase in traffic will affect the whole village.

An Essex County Council Technical Paper, available on the village website, shows the Duke of Wellington roundabout already over capacity in the morning and evening and indicates horrendous queue predictions in Maldon Road and the Street by 2026 if Maldon growth occurs. It will inevitably impact on road user safety and air quality. The Technical Note recognises that the obvious solution is a new relief road linking to the A12, probably at Witham South turn-off, but this is considered highly expensive and that sustainable public transport options should be examined first as a cheaper initial option.

Hatfield Peverel Parish and Braintree District councils have subsequently made submissions to Maldon District Council highlighting the aspects in which they consider the Maldon Development Plan is not sound failing as it does to address positively the need for a new link road from Maldon to provide direct access to the A12 to facilitate the movement of the large influx of cars and HGVs needing to access the facilities to the north of Maldon.

The MDC consultation period closed on the 17th March, and the plan will shortly be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate. A hearing to approve or turn down the plan will be held by a Planning Inspector in late summer/early autumn. There will be an opportunity for individuals to make personal or written representations at this hearing. The village website will be regularly updated on the timing of the Planning Inspector's hearing as it becomes available. That information will also be announced during the regular monthly parish council meetings, and finally the June and August Reviews will also carry updates on the topic.

Update - the NHS 'Better information means better care' leaflet

Considerable concern has been expressed nationally about the inadequate information we have been given over this new system (page 3 February issue). NHS England therefore postponed the launch of care.data until the autumn giving the organisation the chance to respond to concerns expressed nationally by GPs and their patients. Remember, if you are unhappy with what you hear about the handling of your data, you can opt out.

Beating the Bounds - Southern Boundary

Ken Earney, 01245 381235, kenearney@hotmail.com

As suggested in the last year's June edition, I'm currently hoping I might be able to lead a party round the southern half of our parish boundary this year. It's roughly the same distance as the northern boundary, about nine to ten miles, and if it goes ahead it will be on the Spring Bank Holiday Monday, 26th May, and will start from Lynfield Service station at 10am

I've only just started contacting the relevant landowners and it will be towards the end of April before I know if it's on. Unfortunately the June Review will not appear before the date, so for readers who take the church parish magazine, there will be information in the May issue, and also in mid-May in the village news sections of the Essex Chronicle and Witham and Braintree Times. Failing all of these contact me by phone or email in mid-May to find out if it is going ahead.

Plots now at low tide

Allotment Association - David Goodey (01245 380389) www.hpaa.org.uk

ince the middle of March we have been able to get on the plots for about the last ten days. They have been unworkable for four months. The earth is very compacted and in some area 'green' with algae. Amusingly, after a period of dry weather, we have turned the water back on for the dipping tanks. Won't be long before a garden hose pipe ban I guess. However, a few days of sun has set us on our way and the earth is being tilled and the first early potatoes are in along with garlic, shallots, onions, etc. I have found potatoes on the plot that are so old I am thinking of declaring them Treasure Trove.

It really is nice to get out in the fresh air again and enjoy some physical exertion. The clocks changing at the end of March will help to get people out in the evenings for a bit of exercise.

We are fully let at the moment but no doubt some members will fail to emerge from their burrows after the long winter and we will have a few plots by the end of April or May. Not much else to report at this time of the year so I will leave you with the contact details for our letting officers. If you would like an allotment plot please contact John Cockell (01245 381646) for the old site next to the church or Paul Waite (01245 380429) for the new site next to the cricket pitch regarding renting a plot. Alternatively have a look at our website at www.hpaa.org.uk

Dumping - please, please, please take your rubbish away with you

If members on the new site have any rubbish please can they take it home with them, not leave it next to our compost corner. At the moment we have a pile of assorted rubbish, old metal items, broken plastic. If the members that put the items there would be kind enough to take them away it would be much appreciated. Thank you.

Please don't burn plastic items on bonfires

There seems to be a large amount of thick black plastic being burnt on bonfires - this is illegal, please take your plastic home and put it with your recyclable items.

Daffodils a delight at Spring Show

The delicate scent of daffodils filled the village hall on the last Saturday in March when the Horticultural Society held its annual Spring Show. In spite of early flowering due to the mild weather, there were daffodils aplenty, in all shapes, sizes and colours as well as a good showing of other spring flowers, cookery, children's exhibits, handicrafts and photography.

Teas, coffees and the usual wonderful selection of cakes kept the refreshment ladies busy.

First speaker meeting of the new year

'An introduction to organic gardening' by Ron Bates, chairman of the South East Essex Organic Gardeners' Association was held in the village hall in March. He had a large selection of leaflets and information

on organics and was happy to answer members' questions.

Plant sale/coffee morning Saturday 10th May

The annual spring plant sale will be held at Oaklands, Nounsley Road, between 10am and 12 noon. Excellent plants, excellent refreshments and time for a chat. Pelargonium plants for the competition will be available.

Afternoon garden walk, Sunday 22nd June

A medium-sized town garden at Barnadiston House, Chipping Hill, Witham with a wide range of unusual and insect friendly plants, fruit, heritage vegetables and succulents, all of which enjoy hot and dry conditions Meet at garden 2.30pm, admission £3 per person. Details and directions from Clive Emberson 01245 381704. Transport can be arranged if required.



[C/b

We have had lots of new experiences this term, we have been watching things grow. Our caterpillars changed into butterflies and our amaryllis has grown very tall. We are waiting to see what happens to our beans. We had a book week, where parents came into nursery to join in with our story time and songs. Our Mummies came in to play to celebrate Mother's Day, which we all enjoyed.

We would like to wish everyone a Happy Easter.

Next term is going to be busy working with the 'big' school to aid the children's smooth transition.

The nursery is managed by Belinda Wakelin, who has a BA Degree in Early Years and holds Early Years Professional Status, with a well qualified staff team.

As well as the nursery we run sessions before and after school for children up to the age of 8 years old. For availability of spaces please telephone 01245 382450.

Thank you to Nursery children Isla, Charlie, Joshua and Aimie for their drawings of Amaryllis lilies



embers of Hatfield Peverel Art Group have continued with their enthusiastic efforts despite the miserable monsoon-like conditions that prevailed for most of the winter months. Although the natural light quality was generally poor, at least the milder temperatures than last winter were some compensation! In any event, good work has been done in readiness for the up coming exhibition season, including a very rewarding all-day focus on the representation of dynamic seascapes masterminded by resident tutor Trevor Harwood.

We are looking towards this years' exhibition, which will return to the Salvation Army hall, and will comprise a Friday evening reception for members and sponsors, followed by the exhibition proper on Saturday 14th June, which is open to the public. This again coincides with the Country Fayre at St Andrews School, who will also be participating in our exhibition with pictures on display created by children at the school. There will be special features during the day, painting demonstrations and a children's workshop.

Exhibits will be available for sale, and will comprise works by both Art Group members and non-members. Non-members are very welcome to exhibit, and should contact me for an entry form (contact details below), which should be returned by **Friday 16th May, the closing date for entries.**

The Exhibition is open to all visitors from 10am to 6pm on Saturday 14th June, with first-class refreshments available throughout the day at very reasonable cost.

Should you wish to find out more about the group's activities, which holds its' weekly meetings on Monday afternoons from 2pm to 4pm in St Andrews Church hall, please contact me, Peter Walker, on 01245-381798, visit the website at www.hatfieldpeverelartgroup.co.uk.,' or visit us during a Monday session.

Parish Council news

Lisa Miller, Clerk to the Parish Council

Chestnut House, Church Road, West Hanningfield, Chelmsford, Essex CM2 8UJ Tel 01245 403071 email parishclerk@hatfieldpeverelpc.co.uk

Website - you can view Parish Council news on http://www.essex.info.net/hatfieldpeverel

Parish Clerk's change of email address and phone number

Following Lisa Miller's recent home move both her phone number and email address have changed. Although the sub-headings of the Parish Council news reports caught up with the change, her details listed under Hatfield Peverel Parish Council inside the back covers of the December 2013 and February 2014 editions did not. Our apologies to anyone inconvenienced by this. **For your records, full details as above.**

Planning

All planning meetings are open to the public. Notification of these meetings will be erected in village notice boards three clear days prior to each meeting.

The following applications have recently been made

Proposed loft extension at 16 Woodfield Way; erection of stable block, hard standing, new tree planting and change of use of the field for keeping of horses at Belvoir, 35 Sportsmans Lane; new roof and first floor extension to bungalow, first and rear single storey extensions and other alterations at The Hawthorns, Ulting Road; continued use of building as a Class C3 dwelling unit relying on shared amenity and parking facilities at the greater Providence Cottage site at Providence Cottage, The Street; demolition of existing conservatory, erection of single storey rear extension, removal of existing flat roofs to garage and pitch, replace with tiled lean to roof, replacement panel of timber cladding to front with render, render brick walls to existing porch at 14 Laburnum Way; erection of extension/alterations at Moor Gardens, Maldon Road.

The following applications have been approved by the District Council

Installation of sixteen ground mounted solar panels at Lakeland Fisheries, Wickham Bishops Road; replacement of detached existing double garage with detached triple bay garage and enlargement of side extension to dwelling house at Trees Farm, Spring Lane; erection of new 2 metre high garden fence at 30 Willow Crescent; erection of a single storey timber cart shed (revision to previous planning permissions, new vehicular access no longer proposed) at Shepherds Cottage, Church Road.

Reconstruction of existing main roof and enlargement of existing garage roof, both to provide additional accommodation and storage at 4 Yew Tree Close; application for a Lawful Development Certificate for a Proposed Development - erection of single storey rear extension at Catley, Maldon Road; application for a Lawful Development Certificate for a proposed development - erection of extension at 2 Beech Rise; erection of single storey rear extension at 1 Woodham Drive; display of glazed and wooden notice board at Lovibond Cottages, Maldon Road.

Tree preservation application granted - work to trees at 1 The Pines **Tree preservation application -** work to trees at 61 Willow Crescent.

Local development framework

The Parish Council held a public meeting on Wednesday 26th February to hear views from local residents on both the Braintree and Maldon Development Plans. It was great to see the residents taking an interest in local issues with a packed Church hall even having to turn people away. To allow everyone to have their say, those that were turned away were invited back to the Annual Parish Meeting on 19th March at which both



presentations were revisited with an additional presentation from the representative of the landowners of Stonepath Drive following a request to meet with the Parish Council.

Waste collections

Braintree District Council is undertaking a major re-routing exercise for all domestic waste collections as a result of a new Waste Transfer Station at Cressing due to be completed in 2014. This is likely to result in a change in residents collection days but these will not become operational until February 2015.

Community Park

At an Extraordinary Meeting held on 28th January 2014, the Parish Council agreed to proceed with taking on the Country Park with a view to running it as a Community Park. This is likely to be a lengthy process as Essex County Council has to commence legal proceedings to enforce the Section 52 Agreement dating back to January 1990 in which once gravel extraction was complete, the site would be restored and handed back to the Parish of Hatfield Peverel. The Parish Council is, however, looking for any volunteers who once the site is handed back to the Parish may be able to assist with either the development or the running of the Country Park. Any volunteers should contact the Clerk.

Parish Council meetings - village hall meeting room, 7.30pm first Monday of the month - 12th May, 3rd June.

It's a scam - fraudsters want your PIN and bank card

Remember - neither the police nor your bank will ever ask for your PIN or bank card. Do not give them to anyone – call Essex Police on 101, or in an emergency always call 999

Read this and keep your money safe

- * A fraudster telephones you pretending to be from the police or your bank.
- * They say there has been suspicious activity on your account.
- * They may reassure you by suggesting you hang up and phone them back to ensure the call is genuine. Don't be fooled! They stay on the line before convincing you to pass them your account details, PIN or even to transfer money.
- * They may send a courier to collect your bank card. With that and your PIN, they spend your money!

(Our Neighbourhood Watch officer reports that this is happening in the north and south of the county right now.)

The Met Police 'Little Book of Big Scams'...

...is a very useful little book gathering together lots of advice about various scams (like the one above) the police warn us about in their regular Neighbourhood Watch bulletins. You can find it at:

www.met.police.uk/docs/little book scam.pdf

Getting active

If you are involved in sports or physical activities, you and your club can access support/information through the 'Active Braintree District Network' http://www.activeessex.org/active-braintree/

- Information about funding for sports clubs and events
- Marketing and social media training to publicise your activities
- Accredited Coaching courses
- Connections to National Governing Bodies
- Inclusive disability training
- · Running 'Get Back Into 'Sessions
- Workplace Challenge.

Sign up for the e-newsletter to keep you up to date with all the news and latest opportunities.

Follow Active Essex on Twitter @ActiveEssex

Email us active.braintree@braintree. gov.uk with stories and events you are organising – we can help publicise your activities.

Active Braintree District Network

Braintree District Council Causeway House, Bocking End, Braintree, CM7 9HB 01376 552525 Ext. 2012

Two travellers and a dog...

Looking for a holiday with a difference? Read Tony Hocking's inspiring tale of an epic 2250km journey across Europe with Alison and Jessie (the dog)

'On a whim in the winter of 1933, the writer Patrick Leigh Fermour resolved to cross Europe on foot, from the Hook of Holland all the way to Constantinople. After reading his classic travelogue 'A Time of Gifts', the first of three memoirs of his between the wars adventure, we were inspired to set out on our own cross Europe trek and, at the start of September 2013, we donned rucsacs and a journey we could never have imagined began.



In Orio Litta, Lombardy. The mayor of the town took this photograph

Our walk started on a sizzling hot Thursday, the tail end of one of the best summers we could remember. Since April we had been working on a church restoration in Anstruther, on the south Fife Coast overlooking the broad mouth of the Firth of Forth. Our summer was five months of hard work, sunshine, wheeling seagulls and sea side fish and chips There was an unintended religious theme to our walk too, as we planned to follow an ancient pilgrimage route known as the Via Francigena from its starting point at Canterbury Cathedral, through northern France and the champagne region, down to the Jura and Alps where we would cross through Switzerland and into Italy via the grand St Bernard Pass. If we made it that far, we'd then head out along the Aosta valley, across the northern plains before our second pass through the Apennines to the Mediterranean. It didn't end there, with our route now turning a little inland and through the rolling hills of Tuscany to the final destination of Rome, a cool 2250 km away.

As you can imagine the Via Francigena started as a trading route for the Roman Empire rather than a religious journey to the eternal city. Today, remnants of its construction still form large sections of the walk, which varies between narrow tracks through mysterious dark oak woodlands to beautifully laid roman flagstones between avenues of cypress. Over the high ground and mountain passes, stone steps laid centuries ago are worn smooth by countless feet of travellers on their own personal journeys, religious or otherwise. History lines the route from start to finish too, as it passes through locations and events of centuries past that are woven into our view of Europe.

Walking a ridiculously long way is actually very easy. You get up, pack your rucksack and start putting



one foot in front of the other. After about 25km you stop. If you can do this for one day you can do it for many. If you want to make it a bit harder take your dog, and because you have a dog you'll need to camp (harder still). As far as we could tell, nobody had walked from Canterbury to Rome with their dog, camping or otherwise. We did hear of a young family who took a donkey and cart, a wild idea but one that does bear scrutiny when you think about it. For us though, shank's pony all the way, and that included Jess, our high mileage ginger lurcher.

Ask anyone who has set off on a long adventure and they will almost certainly say the most difficult part of all was starting. The mere act of closing the garden gate behind you feels so impossibly hard yet within seconds the most affirming. Yet with a carefully selected and very small bag of belongings, it is difficult not to giggle at the realisation that you have just escaped the velvet rut and toddled off down the road to something more exciting. This is the essence of any pilgrimage – the opportunity to experience the highs and lows of a journey and adventure through a foreign land, to

meet people with views different to our own but also opinions that are strangely similar.

With the dog days of summer long gone, we walked south as an autumnal wave began to break across northern Europe. Sometime we felt we were just in front, other times just behind. Cold rain lashed the Somme, aptly turning fields to mud and shrouding the river with thin mist. It was difficult to imagine the brutality that defines the region while we sat by our small tent on the river bank, the waters oozing through fronds of weed that occasionally touched the surface and sent small whirlpools spinning downstream. In time we reached the champagne region, sunshine returned and we passed through vineyards heavy with grapes that looked fit to burst. All around us bobbing heads were picking and snipping, chatting away in unrecognisable languages and dialects. It seemed the whole of Europe was represented in the exciting business of making champagne. With our own bottle safely secured, we whiled away an afternoon on the banks of a canal, the perfect picnic spot.

Every day we experienced something we thought might no longer exist - the kindness of strangers. On a



damp grey morning in France, we spotted someone riding through the stubble fields and pondered where they might be heading. As the lone cyclist drew nearer, we recognised the elderly lady who had opened a small camp site for us the previous evening. She slowed and stopped, and after brief conversation revealed the waffles she had made and brought out to us. We were delighted and confused by our good fortune. As each day passed the scene was repeated, and we realised we were being helped on our way. The end of summer harvest was translated into buckets of garden grown fruit and vegetables that somehow we squeezed into our rucsacs. Twenty

euro notes were pressed into our hands, coffees were shared and more than once we found ourselves put up for the night enjoying a hospitality we never imagined. It was our own time of gifts and it propelled us on.

In the last week of October we crossed the Alps and descended into an Italian late summer. Wood smoke was in the air and before the month was out we felt the approach of cooler weather. Our nights in the tent became steadily longer and with the end of European summer time we found ourselves tent bound for more than twelve hours at a time. Wide awake in the dark, we listened to unseen creatures foraging in the

surrounding undergrowth and played every Radio 4 quiz game we could remember. The early snow of winter was not far away and we woke one morning to five inches of fresh snow and a silence on the Apennine landscape. We swapped the excitement of reaching the Mediterranean for the realisation that the full length of Tuscany lay ahead, well over a month of walking.

When our shoes had worn through for the second time we realised how far we had come since that hot Thursday afternoon in Canterbury. Our last weeks had been a wish list of medieval hill top villages, olive groves and the strangeness that is Italy. In mid-December two figures and their dog slipped through the fog on the outskirts of Rome, Christmas decorations were in every shop window and hung from lamp posts and buildings. We counted our last steps down a narrow passageway and popped out into bright sun and St Peter's Square, exactly one hundred days after starting.

St Peter's Square, Rome. Jessie takes a well-earned rest at the end of a 2250km walk - or just over 1,400 miles



News from St Andrews

Ifind it strange to be writing about Easter when we are in the middle of Lent. Easter is late this year, and the clocks went forward during Lent. Lighter evenings hopefully will follow, and we should experience a lightening of mood with them. Easter is primarily a festival of hope, a commodity that is badly needed in the world today. It was the first Christian festival and it is to this that other Christian festivals look too. Without the resurrection there would be no Christianity.



For the moment we are in Lent and this year we are following a course from a book by John Pritchard entitled 'How to Explain Your Faith.' Its aim is to look at questions/statements people throw out to suggest that religion, God-worship, Christianity (call it what you will) isn't for the modern world. We have been meeting on Monday evenings in the Vicarage and Wednesday mornings in church. As I write we have had the first two sessions of five and it has certainly stimulated conversation.

Back in February we celebrated Bible Sunday and Candlemas. We held this in the Church hall which lends itself to being able to divide into groups around tables. Led by Mary Daw nearly 50 people came and looked at the way the light of Christ as seen in the Bible can be shed on contemporary situations.

In March a group called 'Meditation' gave a reflection in readings and songs on the life of Jesus. Written by Mike Wigley some years earlier, the five or six musicians that form the group have taken it all over the country, not just in churches but in religious communities and prisons, charging nothing but expenses. 'Meditation' was down to three players due to illness but the prayerful musicianship with which the reflection was delivered gave sixty people a wonderful start to Lent and looking forward to Easter.

Monthly coffee mornings are going well. Unless otherwise stated, they are held on the first Saturday of the month. This year we need to raise over £65,000 of which nearly £50,000 goes to central funds at the Diocese. With two old listed buildings one never knows what problems may turn up and we need to have a reserve for dealing with these as well as day to day expenses: heating, lighting, water as well as minor repairs. Churches are subject to H&SE rules as every other public building; if we are judged to be unsafe we are closed down until the safety work is carried out.

With Lent being so early, Mothering Sunday (March 30th) has happened. On the Saturday before a group of people, young and old, met and bunched together flowers and mixed the simnel cake.

If you use the Church hall you will see, on the shelf next to the Edward Bear notice board, a wooden box. **This is a prayer box and anyone can write a prayer request (paper provided) and place it in the box.** These will be removed every day and will form part of the private prayers said daily by your Parish Priest.

We have a Church website - standrewschurchhatfieldpeverel.co.uk and much of the information on the weekly notice sheets and the Parish magazine can be found on it, as well as useful information and photographs of events. Thanks to Mark Keenan for agreeing to be the webmaster. Alongside this is a Welcome Pack, the contents of which will eventually be transferred to the website. It is designed to be given to anyone who is new to the area or anyone who wants to find out more about our church and its activities. This can be obtained from the Vicar.

Happening over the next few weeks

Sunday April 13th: Palm Sunday Procession and Service

We meet at the Junior School at 9.45am and walk to the church singing songs and waving palms. This is a very special day when, in heart and mind, we begin to accompany Jesus on his fateful journey of the cross.

The service begins at 10.15am. At 6.30pm there will be a service of readings, hymns and anthems, led by the church choir and following the Passion of Jesus.

Monday 14th April (Holy Monday) - Messy Church: 9.45am to 12 noon.

A time of craft, worship with food at midday for all ages. If you wish to know more and to establish numbers for catering, please contact either Mary Daw 380566 or Anna Tomlins 380359. We would appreciate adult help so if you can lend a hand in any way, please contact Mary or Anna.

Wednesday April 16th (Holy Wednesday) - A Morning of Prayer for the Christians of North Korea.

North Korea is the most oppressive and paranoid regime in the world. Officially religion is non-existent; anyone practising it in any form, or even speaking about it is banished for life (which effectively means death) to one of the notorious labour camps which have been in the news recently. Despite this there are tens of thousands of Christians in that country who desperately need prayer. We begin with a service of Holy Communion at 9.30am, the church will then be open until 12.30pm. Come in any time and stay for as long as you wish.

Maundy Thursday 17th April 7.30pm service in St Andrews.

Good Friday 18th April 'The Way of the Cross' 2pm to 3pm.

A service for us all as we remember Jesus' final hour.

Easter Day 20th April 'Christ is risen!'

Join us in celebrating Christ's resurrection. Services at 8am, 9am (All Saints: Ulting), 10.15am, and an Ecumenical Songs of Praise at 4pm.

A Christian Meditation group meets monthly (next meeting 12th May; 6pm at 5 Gardenfield) and you will be made most welcome if you wish to try it out.

For more up-to-date information about St Andrews: Hatfield Peverel and All Saints: Ulting; look at the website or obtain our monthly Parish magazine.

Methodist Church

t the end of January we were joined with our friends from St Andrews and the Salvation Army for a joint Service led by Father Stephen and our own Minister, Rev Sue Lambert. We enjoyed the shared worship and finished off with tea and biscuits to end a happy afternoon.

In February our Church held our annual Covenant Service, which is a distinct Methodist service. It originated from the earliest days of the Methodist communities and was introduced by John Wesley, one of the founder members of the Methodist Church. It encourages an annual renewal of our commitment and challenges us to continue our faith in spiritual and practical ways.

We are now in the period of Lent leading up to our Easter worship. Traditionally at this time a treat is given up to show discipline to commemorate Christ's fasting in the wilderness for 40 days. At our Church we are linking with our sister church in Maldon to fill jam jars with loose

change which will be forwarded to the Water Aid charity. Currently 768 million people do not have access to safe water, that is 1 in 10 people. 700,000 children die each year from diarrhoea caused by unsafe water and poor sanitation. This charity works in 26 countries to provide clean water and proper sanitation. If you would like to read more about this work look up www.wateraid.org.uk

Special events

25th May 139th Anniversary Service at 11am led by Rev Peter Cutmore followed by refreshments

Regular events

Every Sunday 11am Morning Service Every Thursday 10am - 12 noon Open Door - come and join us for tea/coffee and friendly chat 2nd Saturday in month 10am -12 noon coffee morning and cake stall

1st Monday in month 7.30pm House Group

Wonderful work undertaken by Farleigh HospiceHadfelda WI

In February Fiona Ward talked to us about Farleigh Hospice. Some people tend to think of hospices as sad places but, as Fiona told us, this is not the case. We watched a video which showed us how much is done to help and support the whole family, especially the children. A lot of work is undertaken by a large group of volunteers and there was a very positive attitude both from staff and patients.

Andrew Notman was our speaker in March and he discussed the issue of GM crops. Apparently they are not really supposed to be grown in Europe, but it would seem some countries ignore the rules and grow them anyway. There would appear to be arguments for and against their development, as with any new and controversial products.

Our next meeting is on 23rd April which is Saint George's Day so come along on the evening wearing something red. After the AGM we plan to have a fish and chip supper. Please let Barbara Parkinson know if you are coming as we have to order the food. Although we were delighted to welcome several new members this year, it would be nice to have a few more people on the committee, it is not hard work and can be fun.

Speaker at our 21st May meeting is Amanda Sutherland who will talk on costume designing and accessories. We meet in the village hall at 8.45 on the fourth Wednesday of the month.

Stop Press - Marathon Man

On Sunday 13th April Bryan Hale from Hatfield Peverel will be running in the London Marathon for Farleigh Hospice. If you would like to support this valuable cause then please visit: www.justgiving.com/Bryan-London

Paper Mill lock for coffee Hatfield Peverel Walkers - Graham Bushby

In March twelve walkers set off on on a bright warmish morning following a cold snap the previous few days and enjoyed a pleasant easy going walk across the River Ter, over Nounsley Ridge and across fields, plank bridges, bypassing farm houses and eventually arriving at a now dried out Paper Mill Lock area. We naturally had to stop and sample the by now famous local tea/coffee and cakes which we can assure everyone are still at the same high standards!

Suitably refreshed we returned along the Chelmer & Blackwater Navigation towpath to the concrete footbridge negotiating on the way a couple of muddy areas where the sun and wind had not yet dried out the towpath from the floods. We rejoined the minor road at Cardfields and turned towards the River Ter at Nounsley ford, which is still over one foot deep, passed by the

closed off Sportsmans Arms and returned to the village hall. A round trip of about six miles in three hours including refreshment.

Our next walk is on Thursday 24th April meeting at 10am at the village hall and will be around Toppinghoe Hall and the beautiful bluebell woods which should be in full bloom by this time - a sight to behold! Dates for your diary for following meetings are 29th May, 26th June and 31st July.

For further information and any new members wishing to join please contact Graham Bushby on (01245) 380472.

Don't forget!

Langford Art Show
Saturday 12th/Sunday 13th April
Langford village hall 10am - 5pm

Party in the Park Saturday 12th July 2014

Chairman Garry Cockrill (01245 697263)

The snowdrops are over but the crocuses are hanging on as the daffodils burst out in a blaze of golden glory. So what do we do now? Look forward to the Summer and what better way than to think of a warm sunny July day with lots of entertainment at Hatfield Peverel's Party in the Park. Following on from the great success of last years' event we have even more interest for 2014.

The ever popular Loaded Dice are back on stage as is our own Mark Weale plus Ian Jordan and a new guest singer known as Cassey. We hope the Men of St Andrews (they sing a variety of styles of music) will come along and sing for us this year.

As far as outdoor attractions go your children can challenge themselves on the climbing wall or if they prefer to bounce up and down there is the bouncy castle or the inflatable slide! There will be plenty to look at: Essex Police with a squad car and Ernest Doe with a tractor? We may have a fire engine, and the Museum of Power will be coming.

For a different slant on live entertainment Warescot Farm will be there with everything from pony rides to sheep walking and lamb feeding and that's outdoors! Indoors there are all kinds of animal handling from the cute and furry to the slick and slithery.

With the children fully occupied there will also be plenty for adults. Apart from live music, the village hall bar will be open, and we hope to have a visit from New Hall Vineyard with some of their award winning English wine as well as our own superb Wine Club, and we will also be serving up some delicious cocktails again.

We look forward to hearing from all village clubs and organizations that they will be attending. If you have not received an invitation letter then please do get in touch with me. So, before you get booked up make **Saturday 12th July a date in your diary.** The event runs from 3pm to 11pm, and if last year is anything to go by it will be a highlight of what promises to be a glorious summer.



Gruffalos rubbed shoulders with the Queen of Hearts and the white rabbit chatted with the big bad wolf when boys and girls from the Infant School dressed as their favourite book characters to celebrate World Book Week. In this line up are some of the children in their colourful costumes

Infant School Governors wanted www.hatfieldpeverelinfantschool.com

An exciting opportunity has arisen to contribute to our community and make a positive difference to local children.

Hatfield Peverel Infant School is looking to recruit Governors in the near future. If you are interested please check the school website for information or contact the Chair of Governors at chair@hatfieldpeverel.essex.sch.uk who has an information leaflet we can send you.

The nightingales are on their way!

Essex Wildlife Trust Fingringhoe is gearing itself up for the welcome return of the nightingales (30 - 40



singing pairs last year). You are welcome anytime but bookings for the nightingale walks are essential

Tuesday 22nd April to Saturday 22nd May inclusive, 7.30 - 9pm

Tel 01206 729678 or www.essexwt.org.uk

From New World to Old Spice via the Orient Express!

Peverel Wine Club - Vee Green, Secretary (01245 355723)



three tastings in two months,
Sicilian wines in February introduced by Don Vito
Corleone, the Godfather himself complete with violin case,
and supported by his lovely wife Donna Carmela. None of
the audience dared to be other than fully appreciative of the
wines, which introduced different grape varieties as well as
international favourites and a traditional Sicilian Marsala
accompanied by Sicilian pastries. The second was a regular
invitation evening from Marks & Spencer's to taste a selection
of wines from around the world.

We returned to the village hall in March for Rivals of the Southern Hemisphere, tasting four white and four red wines from Australia, New Zealand, South Africa and South America, then deciding which were the favourites. The wines were tasted blind, members moved from one table to another between tastings, gaining a good cross-section of each other's opinions on the wine as well as catching up on the latest Peverel gossip. The white wines were good, but the overwhelming winner was a Tukituki Sauvignon Blanc from New Zealand which secured 75% of the votes! Opinion was divided on the reds; the New Zealand Pinot Noir secured one vote, the Chilean Carménère seven, the South African Pinotage fourteen and the Australian Shiraz the winner with eighteen votes. Whites and reds scores were added together, resulting in a tie between South Africa and Australia!

Our special evening in April was a virtual journey on the Orient Express, comprising a 3-course supper with complementary wines based on some of the courses from the original menu of the Orient Express. Members were invited to bring a bottle of wine from any of the countries the routes pass through, and to dress appropriately – as well as those in posh frocks and DJs, we had people in national costume, a few crowned heads of Europe, Turkish belly dancers and Hercule Poirots.

In May we are trying wines which go well with spicy foods — members are asked not to breathe too heavily on passers by on the way home! The tasting is £3 for members, £5 for guests, to include wine, cheese and biscuits - the perfect introduction to the club for anyone coming for the first time. Please give Vee a ring beforehand on 01245 355723 to confirm attendance and start times. We usually meet on the second Wednesday of the month at 8pm in the village hall, but it is worth phoning first.

Full house for AGM



atfield Peverel WEA's AGM was held in the Methodist Church hall at the end of March. The chairman reported on a successful twelve months with visits to the historical Chatham dockvards and Marks Hall, followed later in the year by a talk from two members of the Colchester Archaeological Society looking for the original building of the hall. Roger Mannion spoke on 'The Magic of the Theatre' and Colin Padgett on Christmas advertising, a light-hearted look at methods used tempting us to buy goods we don't really need.

The autumn course, 'Discovering timber framed houses in East Anglia' with tutor John Walker attracted a large number of students; the Spring term 'Ingatestone Hall - an Essex crown jewel' with tutor Margaret Mills looked at changing fortunes of the Petre family since the 1500s. There will be a visit to Ingatestone Hall on 29th April.

Officers and committee were re-elected en bloc - Lesley Naish, chairman; Terry Bard, vice chair; Catherine Voysey, secretary; Sarah Dodson, treasurer; Jackie Earney, publicity; committee Anne Falconer, Judith Witney, Kathy McGowan-Docherty, Eric Windus.

Speaker for the meeting Geoff Austin gave an excellent talk with slides entitled 'Hatfield Peverel: from Domesday to the Millennium' and everyone went home determined to look with greater care at our heritage, in particular those historical buildings that remain.

1st Hatfield Peverel Scout Group

(For boys and girls 6 - 18 yrs) Group Secretary: Suzanne Evans

he 1st Hatfield Peverel Scout Group was formed over 100 years ago; all units, Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers, are well subscribed and hold weekly meetings in the Scout and Guide HQ in Church Road. There is also an adult support group, known as the SASU, open to all adults with an interest in scouting.

All units have been very busy; the Cubs had a very interesting talk from Dr Butcher, as part of their keep fit challenge, and also enjoyed a visit from a chef, to help them gain their cooks badge (at work on the pizzas, right). A ten-pin bowling evening, held at Madison Heights, was a great success.

HQ refurbishment update

Last December the Scout and Guide headquarters closed down for its long overdue refurbishment: its first major overhaul since the new roof was installed in 1997. The new building re-opened on the 4th of February where the Scouts and Guides were greeted with three brand new toilets, including a disabled toilet, a modern kitchen (see cover photograph) and an extended entrance hall. Both Scouts and Guides would like to thank Len and Sandy of the Wheatsheaf for the free use of their barn during the refurbishment, Essex County Council for their contribution via the big society fund, Rowen Prigg for running the London Marathon in aid of our cause, and all our anonymous contributors for their kind support. The HQ committee is now working on stage 2 of the refurbishment - the main hall will get a well-deserved overhaul to take if forward another forty years.

Condolences

It was with great sadness that we learned of the death of Denis Ashby; Denis was a leader with the 1st Hatfield Peverel Scout Group for many years. Our sincere condolences to Jean and the family.

Monthly Paper Collection - first Saturday In order to raise funds, the Scout Group carries out a monthly paper collection. Please leave out your newspapers, cardboard and cereal boxes etc by 9am on the first Saturday of the month. Thank you. To those who kindly drop off their own



Cubs kneeding pizzas for their cookery badges under the guidance of chef Paul Freeman-Hacker The pizzas were then cooked in the oven in the newly-refurbished kitchen.

newspapers and cardboard, please be aware that, due to repeated vandalism, the skip will now be locked between the hours of 5pm and 8am.

Fund-raising

Everyone who shops on-line can help us with our fund-raising by using the Easy Fund-raising website. Just shop via:

www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/1sthpsg and a percentage of whatever you spend is donated to our Scout Group at no cost to you.

Useful Contacts

Group Chairman: Chris Phillips

phillips.chris@btinternet.com, 07850 024578

Group Scout Leader: Nick Nicholas

07841 597977, darrennicholas@btinternet.com **Group Administrator** (membership enquiries) Michelle Spicer, hpscoutgroup@gmail.com

Newspaper Collection Co-ordinator

Jonathan Dormon, 01245 382981 jonathan.dormon@btinternet.com

Group Secretary: Suzanne Evans, 01245 382397

boons calibre travel@lineone.net

Meeting times

BeaversMonday 4pm - 5.15pmCubsFriday 6.45pm - 8.15pmScoutsWednesday 7.30pm - 9pmExplorersThursday 7.30pm onwardsSASU adults only first Thursday 7.45pm onwards

Denis Ashby 1929 - 2014

Thank you to his family - Jean,
Russell and Kay - and
friends John Strange and
Ken Clements for this
small slice of memories of
Denis, a man of the village
who influenced so many
people - kind, thoughtful,
gentle, loving, humorous
and fun, principled, proud,
mischievous. He was a great

communicator with an aversion to pen and paper - he wasn't a good speller, and he would rather speak to people face to face and make them feel at ease. Those who knew him will read these words and think 'Yes, that was Den'..

remember him as 'Skip' with the Scouts and Akela with the Cubs. He insisted on taking the Cubs out for adventures after dark when a favourite place was 'The Church Yard.' After pointing out imaginary shadows running between the tomb stones, they said they were not afraid. Not sure if that was true but we had forgotten to ask our young lady assistant who now works in our surgery and takes pleasure in reminding me this is her payback as she is one of the blood test time nurses!

Lorry driving was another love: when his chance came to work full time he grabbed it and never looked back - his knotting skills from the Scouts were especially useful when roping and sheeting. He took local fruit produce in the summer to the London markets, leaving at 11pm and returning at 4 - 5am. I remember him planning his routes from his road maps. He got in a muddle with place names - if we said 'where are you going tomorrow Dad' and he replied Manchester we knew he meant Birmingham and vice versa.

Dad was a practical man. He enjoyed DIY and was good at it. Kay always had jobs for him at her place in Ireland, including a shed which he built on his own from scratch which proudly stands in her garden. He had the odd mishap. I remember a Sunday lunchtime when he was installing a new bath. He had the floorboards up in the bathroom, Mum had just plated up Sunday roast

in the kitchen when there was an almighty crash followed by a panicked scream from Mum - Dad's slippered foot was sticking through the ceiling and Mum lurching over the plates trying to protect them from falling debris and dust.

Next to Mum, singing was the other great love of his life. He had a terrific top tenor voice and sang in the Church choir for over 70 years (this is where he and Hubert became great friends), and in various choirs and societies including the Chelmsford Male Voice Choir.

The Dotted Note - John Strange remembers those choir days. I have sat with Denis in the choir most Sundays for the past thirty years and tried to keep in tune and tempo with him, he mostly had it correct but on occasions when one or other of us, consumed with our favourite hymn and not watching the music, when the composer has altered the timing of the tenor line by adding dot after a note so that it is held just a little bit longer. I would be followng the soprano ladies in front, then a finger would come across and point out the error - all very friendly, of course.

We holidayed from Devon to the Lake District. First it was camping: Dad packed up the frame tent, meticulously colour coded for easy assembly, on to the roof rack of the Morris Oxford Traveller and off we merrily went, Dad driving, Mum navigating. That was until a bad experience with a gale, when Dad had to rescue the tent from being blown over. Mum decided no more camping.

He was very active in his retirement, never happier when doing his garden or the numerous gardening jobs he did for his ladies, as well as keeping the grass in the cemetery well trimmed. He helped in the running of the Community Association, serving behind the bar, keeping the beer in pristine condition. Every Tuesday he cleaned the pipes and organised the cellar and used to proudly boast they sold the best quality IPA in the area as a result.

He was involved with the Royal British Legion and enjoyed talking to Infant School children about the meaning of the poppy, telling them tales of what he used to get up to as a boy during the war. He sold poppies at the station, and door to

door, another opportunity to chat. He was gone for hours. Not a problem in the age of mobile phones, Mum always knew where he was. But he never took his mobile with him! (*I can relate to that. Ed*)

He loved being grandad to my daughter Lauren. As a toddler she spent every Monday with Grandad Denis and Nana - off to see the cows in the field or to the swings at the rec.

Ken Clements remembers scrumping - not apples but peaches. We noticed peaches growing on the vicarage wall, then part of the Priory. How could we reach them from the churchyard side? Den thought if we stood our bicycles against the wall we could climb onto the crossbar, reach up, grab the top of the wall, pull ourselves up, and help ourselves. Easy. I was the first but due to my lack

of height I couldn't reach the top. Compliments on being a short a*** were ignored. Plan revised: Den would go up. All went well until he grabbed the top of the wall - it broke, quick exit from churchyard.

Jean and family would like to thank everyone who came to the memorial service for Denis on 7th March. It was wonderful to see the Church so full. His death was an awful shock to us all and I know he will be sadly missed by everyone who knew him. We have been greatly moved by all the beautiful cards and messages of sympathy and support we have received. They are very much appreciated. Luckily, our memories of Denis are mainly happy ones, and we hope that, in the future, whenever he is remembered, it will be with a smile.

Hubert Hull 1930 - 2014

Hubert was a larger than life character, generous to a fault, always ready to lend a hand to anyone with a need: during his working life one of his specialities was offering advice to those out of

work and hundreds of people were grateful for his expertise. His stories were

were grateful for his expertise. His stories were legendary, he had a tale for every occasion - some unrepeatable! We all have wonderful memories - below are, as Hubert would say, some tasters.

ubert was a local lad and lived most of his life in or around Witham. His passions were singing, cooking and knowledge of pubs and ales, though not necessarily in that order. As a young boy he was involved in amateur dramatics and was a founder member of Witham Choral Society. Throughout his life he sang with a number of groups, most recently the Beacon Hill Singers, local barber shop groups, Spring Bank Singers, Roundelay, and he made visits to Parcevall Hall in Yorkshire to sing madrigals.

On returning to Essex in the early 70s Hubert sang

with Wickham Bishops church choir for a number of years; played the organ at Faulkbourne, Bucklesham and occasionally at Hatfield Peverel church.

Reg Tozer, then vicar at Hatfield Peverel, invited him to become choirmaster in 1976 and he continued until he retired in 2001. He was able to challenge the choir with new music and to 'smile at it' and again 'watch the finger', even if it wasn't perfect. He was a stickler for pitch and didn't like anything flat! His sense of fun and the ridiculous endeared him to us all.

When he retired as choirmaster he was presented with a book of Cathedrals and over the ensuing years took himself off to visit many of them. He took great pleasure in listening to evensong at any church or cathedral he happened to be passing. Hubert continued to sing with the choir after he retired as choirmaster until very recently. A group of singers, 'The Incontinents', became popular entertainment at harvest suppers.

For many years Hubert was involved with 'Singing for Pleasure' and travelled around the country for singing weekends. He also belonged to Friends of Cathedral Choirs who used to stand in and sing when regular choristers were on holiday.'

Our love and best wishes to his wife Belinda, and their families, and all who treasure his memory.



Start of the summer season approaches

Bowling Club - Rita Thomson, Club Captain (380038) www.hatfieldpeverelbowling.org

n Saturday 15th February the JR Franklin Open Competition took place: two teams from Hatfield Peverel and six other teams from different clubs. It was an excellent day of bowling: Hatfield Peverel 1 got to the semi-finals but were beaten by Island Bowling Club from Canvey who went on to beat Wickford 9 - 8 in a very good final. Many thanks to J R and Janet Franklin for a lovely lunch.

The League teams are doing well in the Essex League, the A team is second in Division 4 and Hatfield Peverel B are in third place in Division 7 having won their last two games. The AGM was on 3rd March and the Jim Cowell trophy was played on 21st March with 42 bowlers taking part.

The working parties have been very busy getting the outside green ready for the start of the summer season at the end of April. Please come and see us at Wickham Bishops Road, or phone me for details.

Tea for Helen - a cuppa that cares

Helen Rollason Cancer Charity (HRCC)

Forthcoming local events

Saturday 19th April and Saturday 16th May Coffee morning 10am - 12 noon at YSH in The Street (remember, third Saturday in month).

Monday 14th April and Monday 12th May Quiz night at The Wheatsheaf hosted by Len and Sandie - call 01245 380330 to book a place (remember second Monday in month).

Sunday 11th May Ride for Helen

A sponsored bike ride (fifteen, thirty or sixty miles) around the lovely Essex countryside starting at Crix, Hatfield Peverel. **Register on-line at www.rideforhelen.co.uk**

Sunday 22nd June Vintage Fayre – at Crix.

Mobile Library Service to Manor Road, Nounsley

Ann Offord, Group Library Manager

The above stop, currently week 2 Wednesdays at 11.25 - 11.40, will cease from the 30th June. Where a stop has been discontinued due to low usage, a stop can be restored if circumstances change.

We hope to publish the revised timetables towards the end of May 2014 - the new timetables will be implemented on the 1st July 2014.

Village hall happenings

Come and enjoy a drink over the Easter holidays - normal opening times 7pm - 11pm

Bingo (third Thursday in month) 17th April, 15th May, 19th June

Brag (first Friday in month) 2nd May, 6th June

Poker (last Saturday in month) 26th April, 31st May

Darts Monday nights

All bookings for hall and meeting rooms

HPCAbookings@gmail.com Phone Alan 07741 140732

Village hall (after 7pm) 01245 381481

After-eight Social Club and dance

Maldon Town Hall

Dancing to 'Five Star'

Saturday 17 May

Doors open 8pm

Admission: free to members
Non-members welcome after 9pm £6
No bar – bring your own drinks and nibbles

Call Mike on 01621 856219 for information-Find us at www.aftereightsocialclub.co.uk

Useful telephone numbers		Schools		
Please contact the editors for addit		St Andrew's Junior School 01245 380131		
Age Concern Essex	01245 264499	Hatfield Peverel Infant School	01245 380220	
Anglian Water, 24 hours	0800 919 155	Hatfield Peverel Day Nursery	01245 382450	
Braintree District Council	01376 552525	Acorn Childcare	07580 834417	
Clean Team ring number above	and ask for	Social Services	0845 6037630	
Customer Services		Village Agent Sally Austin	0800 9775858	
Witham Area Office in Witham 1	Library	Village Hall (after 7pm) 01245 381481		
- for walk-in enquiries only	01376 519625	Let us know of useful services to	add to this list	
Churches		Let us know of useful services to	auu to this list	
St Andrew's (C of E), vicar	01245 380958			
Methodist Church, minister	01621 853423	Hatfield Peverel Parisl	1 Council	
Salvation Army, officer i/c	01245 380842	Committees and working parties		
Catholic Church, Witham, priest	01376 512219	Planning (P)	•	
Citizens Advice Bureau Witham	0844 4994719	Traffic (T)		
Drop-in sessions Mon/Tue/Thur/Fri 10am - 1pm		Village Environment (E)		
Appoinments only Thurs afternoon 1 - 4pm		Keith Bigden Memorial Ground User Group (KB)		
Doctors, health services Country Park Focus Group (CP)			ser Group (RD)	
Hatfield Peverel doctors' surgery		External Audit Review (A)		
Boreham doctors' surgery	01245 467364	Football Pavilion (F)		
NHS Direct	0845 4647	`		
Pharmacy, Hadfelda Square	01245 380130	Councillors (and their working p	•	
Electricity - emergency	0800 7838838	Lisa Miller, Parish Clerk	01245 403071	
Essex County Council	01245 492211	parishclerk@hatfieldpeverelpc.c		
Essex & Suffolk Water 24 hours	0845 7820999	David Broddle - Chaiman	01245 382829	
First Essex Buses Ltd	01245 293400	(P/KB/CP/A)		
Gas - emergency	0800 111999	Graham Bushby (T)	01245 380472	
Harlequin Children's Centre	01376 535270	Garry Cockrill	01245 697263	
Free support and services for ch	ildren under 5	Peter Endersby (E/KB/A/F)	01245 381919	
Hospitals	0.4.5.4.5.6.6.6.6	Colin Giffin (Planning chair/	01621 892351	
Broomfield (A&E); St John's,	01245 362000	Country Park chair/T)	01045 202002	
St Peter's, Maldon		Elise Gwyn-Williams (P/F)	01245 382883	
Libraries	01015 200000	Bernard Heard - Vice Chairman	01245 380370	
Hatfield Peverel	01245 380988	(P/T/A)	01245 201000	
Witham	01376 519625	Alan Ingram (Traffic chair/E/CP)		
Police, non-emergency calls	0300 3334444	Martin Pyke (T/E/A/F)	01245 380792	
Local Officer	07974 457258	Ted Munt (Football chair/E/A)	01245 381135	
Post Office	01245 380201	Eugene Murphy	01245 380113	
Railway Information	0045 (007245	(Environment chair, Audit chair) Alan Steele		
National Express East Anglia	0845 6007245		07739 398453	
National Rail Enquiries (24 hrs)		Diane Wallace (P/C)	01245 381485	
Registrar of Births, Marriages &		District Councillor		
Witham, by appointment only	01376 323463	David Bebb	01245 381065	
Braintree, by appointment onl Relate	01245 258680	District and County Councillor	01243 301003	
Samaritans (24 hours - toll free)		Derrick Louis	07918 721526	
·		Dellick Louis	0/910 /21320	
Both lists updated February 2014				



'Detectives' from St Andrew's Junior School, Shasanth Polala, Alex Curtis and Millie Knight look for clues to bring their investigation to a swift conclusion. Essex Chronicle photograph

Essex Police Museum under surveillance

lassmates from St Andrew's Junior School earlier in the year took part in a school activity day at the Essex Police Museum based at their headquarters in Springfield.

While half the year group spent the morning learning how the police gather evidence to solve cases, the other half took part in a crime scene investigation simulation where they worked as a team to search and log clues from a crime that had just taken place.

The day was led by museum curator Becky Wash. She explained 'Today's event is popular with schools as it covers local history, citizenship plus team-working and problem-solving. We use the case of the Moat Farm murder which

happened in 1903 to talk about how police would have investigated a crime in those day. The children have a chance to handle pieces of evidence and take to the stand in our original witness box which used to be in Southminster police station. Then we come up to date with our crime scene investigation, looking at how police gather clues today, and the importance of protecting crime scenes and not damaging evidence'.

Upstairs in the headquarter's assembly hall, another class is searching under tables, behind chairs and in corners for clues as part of their investigation. They must carefully log their findings and come together as a group to assess them. Armed with a clipboard Millie Knight carefully records her group's results. She says 'We have to be careful not to tamper with evidence as that could stop the crime being solved'.