



Local events and happenings round and about

Hatfield Peverel Review

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

The editors are Jackie and Ken Earney. Contributions to 59 Willow Crescent, by email to keneaney@hotmail.com or by phoning 01245 381235.

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Copy for the April issue by Friday, 20th March please.

Diary Dates

Church dates page 14 onwards

Villaged hall dates page 7

Library dates page 9

February

- 14 Methodist Church coffee morning 10am
- 21 'Tea for Helen' coffee morning
- 21 Neighbourhood Development plan (NDP) workshop, see page 8 for details
- 25 Hadfelda WI
- 26 Folk Dance Club
- 28 Salvation Army coffee morning 10am

March

- 2 Parish Council meeting
- 4 Flower Club
- 7 St Andrew's coffee morning 10am
- 11 Wine Club
- 11 Annual Parish meeting Church hall 8pm
- 12 Folk Dance Club
- 13 Horticultural Society speaker meeting
- 14 Methodist Church coffee morning 10am
- 18 NDP village hall 3 - 8pm see page 8
- 21 'Tea for Helen' coffee morning
- 25 NDP Church hall 7.30pm
- 25 Hadfelda WI
- 26 Folk Dance Club
- 28 Salvation Army coffee morning
- 28 Spring Show, doors open 2pm
- 28/29 Langford and Ulting Art Show see page 12
- 31 WEA - AGM, 10am Scout & Guide HQ

April

- 1 Flower Club
- 4 St Andrew's coffee morning

Front cover - 1920s map, the frontispiece of The Township of Hatfield Peverel written by Miss Hope of Crix in 1930.

Hatfield Peverel over eighty years ago - times past and times present

On the front cover of this Review is a copy of a map used by Miss Hope in her book The Township of Hatfield Peverel published in 1930. You may have a copy of this history, or seen it in the library. It is fascinating reading of times long passed but of particular interest is the map on the inside front cover depicting the village as it was in - perhaps - the late 1920s. Do the sums - it makes this village scene over eighty years old. The initials MN Gepp are inscribed on the left hand corner of the drawing but there is no acknowledgement of the artist inside. Gepp and Sons are solicitors in Chelmsford, where they have been since the 1700s. We are now very aware that Hatfield Peverel, already much changed since the 1930s, will change again. That is progress. But if we want to have a say in how it looks in the future we must get our heads together and make sure the increase in housing allocations does not spoil our rural outlook. **Read the article below and on page 8. Your help is needed.**

Do you want a say on the future growth of your village?

The government wants an increase in the original housing allocations for Hatfield Peverel and surrounding towns and villages and Braintree District Council is now working on a revised Local Plan. The Parish Council has started the formulation of its own Neighbourhood Development Plan to provide an input to Braintree DC that will consider the needs of our village in terms of future housing. **Input from the whole community is needed to achieve this goal.** The explanatory article on page 8 gives the background to the original Local Development Plan, and where we go from here, with information on public drop-in sessions and workshops taking place between now and late March. **The last of these on Wednesday 25th March, Church hall 7.30pm, will be addressed by Clare Wright, a consultant from 'Locality', an organisation assisting on local planning issues.**



Our village is becoming a parking lot

Cllr Garry Cockrill, Chairman, Traffic Working Party
01245 697263 or cockrills@yahoo.co.uk

As I am sure you are all aware we have a number of parking problems in the village, mostly as a result of commuter parking for the station. In recent weeks several residents have contacted the Parish Council to ask what action we can take. The answer is that whilst it is not within our power to take our own action we can offer help, support and advice. With respect to this there are currently two applications to Braintree District Council for Traffic Regulation Orders which have been lodged by residents.

Both are requests for one hour parking restrictions, the first in The Street opposite D's Diner, and the second in Toulmin Road which also asks for resident permits to be granted.

Braintree has passed the applications to the Parish for our opinion, whilst making it clear that neither scheme will proceed unless supported by a majority petition of local residents.

I am therefore making this appeal for any resident interested either in facilitating or participating in such a petition to get in touch with me, Garry Cockrill, for the Parish Council, see contacts above.

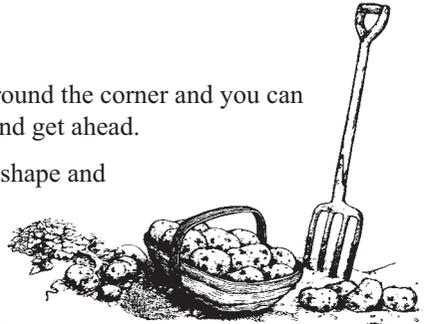
We currently have one resident willing to help out in The Street but need more volunteers to come forward. **I should point out that the Parish will not be organising this petition but we can put interested parties in touch with one another in order that the residents can raise their own petition.** This is the action that has also been recommended by the North Essex Parking Partnership.

On the plot at the allotment

Sean Pettit, HPAA Chairman, 01621 851929

The busiest time of year is nearly upon us, spring is definitely around the corner and you can see buds appearing everywhere so now is the best time to try and get ahead.

The most important thing is to get your beds in the best possible shape and ready to receive and this means incorporating some form of bulky feed. This can be in a number of different forms, but my favourite is well rotted horse manure. Riding stables will usually be glad to get rid of the stuff! But make sure any manure you use this time of year is well rotted otherwise the rotting process will use up valuable energy from the soil. One really great soil food is seaweed and we live close enough to the coastline to make this a viable alternative and an excellent feed. Seaweed is a superb soil balancer - dig it in or spread around growing plants and crops. Make sure you only collect loose seaweed. Any well-rotted compost from the compost heap will add to your soils structure and health but this can contain weed seeds so mulching or hoeing will be the order of the day to keep on top of the weeds early on.



Using pelleted or powdered feeds will be OK for a couple of years but you can't beat compost, manure and seaweed as these not only feed the soil but aid its structure to retain moisture in the dry months.

To chit or not to chit that is the question?

My seed potatoes came at the end of January and the big chitting job is in full swing. This should be done in a frost free light room around 10°C is best. There is a lot of debate on chitting whether it really is worth the effort so last year I did a little experiment with my first earlies by doing a row with chitted potatoes and a row with non-chitted using the same batch of seed potatoes, and the chitted row were three weeks earlier and had more tubers under the tops.

This year I have another experiment with my potatoes. A row of main crops will be chitted, seed potatoes cut in half doubling my seed potatoes. This will be interesting to compare the results against a whole seed potato, I'll be comparing them for size and quantity. I'll keep you informed - I wonder if it will affect the yield?

If this article inspires you to take up growing vegetables and you don't have an allotment, we have a few plots available, get in touch and you will never look back, gardening is in my opinion the most rewarding form of exercise, it keeps you fit, with fresh air in your lungs, great food on your table, sustaining indeed!

Apply today online at <http://www.hpaa.org.uk/contact-us.php> or give me a call on the number at above!

Spring is in the air!

Horticultural Society

Snowdrops, perhaps slightly later than last year, are out in force in St Andrew's churchyard, well worth a visit, and on a recent walk around the village I was amazed to see a row of daffodils against a wall, foolish things!

Our first evening event, on Friday 13th March in the village hall, is a speaker meeting entitled The Good Life. Doors open at 7.30pm for an 8pm start. Do come along to this free meeting and gather a few tips



from this light-hearted look at the reality of self-sufficiency.

Spring Show, Saturday 28th March

Village hall doors open at 2pm for the first show of the season including Spring bulb competition winners. Potatoes for the 'grow one tuber in a container' competition - great fun - will be on sale. The produce will be officially 'dug up' and weighed in September and the person with the heaviest yield will win £10.

Information from Clive Emberson on 01245 380704.

Carols at Sainsbury's

In December a group of singers from St. Andrew's Church, Hadfelda Choir and friends added to the Christmas atmosphere at Sainsbury's in Springfield by singing popular carols for the shoppers there. We were invited by Sainsbury's to provide festive cheer and at the same collected on behalf of The Children's Society.

It was definitely drier in the Sainsbury's foyer than at Hatfield Peverel railway station where the singers have been a regular pre-Christmas feature for the past 10 years. The singing was well received but in terms of the amount we collected, nowhere near as fruitful a venue as the station.



Art Group remembers a friend

Peter Walker (381798)

Last year finished on a very sombre note for the Art Group with the sad loss of Wendy Garwood, who had been a cornerstone of the group for many years. Her enthusiasm, talent and cheerful presence at the weekly meetings will be sorely missed. The annual Christmas lunch brought the year's activities to an end, and provided the entire group an opportunity to remember Wendy and her contribution to its' success over the years. The lunch, held at the Six Bells this year, was very successful and enjoyed by all concerned.

The commencement of 2015 has continued the uptake of new members, including the return of Lorraine Podlesny upon her retirement, and we welcome them all. We hope they will enjoy the friendly and informal weekly Monday meetings, which provide everyone with the opportunity to develop their artistic skills, having the benefit of regular input from tutor Trevor Harwood.

For details of Art Group activities, please contact Peter Walker on 01245 381798 or visit our website at www.hatfieldpeverelartgroup.co.uk

St Andrews home visiting group

The group has been visiting residents of Hatfield Peverel since its inception in 2007. The people we visit usually live alone and enjoy sharing a story, having a cup of tea and reminiscing over the 'good old days'! Often they have lived in the village all their lives and enjoy meeting up with friends at the monthly Lunch Club.



We are always pleased to welcome new visitors to our team. If you think you could offer us a few hours a week to take some joy and pleasure to our elderly residents please contact Belinda Hull, Group Co-ordinator 01376 5125450, or 07854 122728.

If you would like a visit from one of the team - we all love a chat and a cuppa - do let Belinda know on the number above. Alternatively, if you know anyone in Hatfield Peverel who you think might enjoy a call, please get in touch as above.

Parish Council News

Lisa Miller, Clerk to the Parish Council

Chestnut House, Church Road, West Hanningfield, Chelmsford, Essex

CM2 8UJ Tel 01245 403071

parishclerk@hatfieldpeverelpc.co.uk

Website

Don't forget you can view all Parish Council news on its new website which can be found at: <http://www.essex.info.net/hatfieldpeverel/>



Assistant to the Clerk

The Parish Council is looking to employ someone who lives within the Parish, ideally with an administrative background, to assist the Parish Clerk on a part-time basis. For more information and to register your interest, please email the clerk at the above address.

Co-option and vacancy

There is currently still one vacancy on the Parish Council. If anyone is interested in local issues and would like to find out more about what is involved, please contact the clerk on the above email address.

Planning

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

The following applications have recently been made

Erection of three dwellings at land adjacent to Walnut Tree Cottage, The Street. The Parish Council does not support this application; erection of a first floor bedroom extension at 99 Church Road; erection of single storey front extension, extension to front of existing garage and conversion of rear garage to shower room at 23 Ranulph Way; improvement to main farm access at Wood End Farm, Hatfield Road, Witham; erection of five dwellings at land adjacent to Ambleside, London Road. The Parish Council does not support this application.

Application for removal or variation of condition 2 of approved application for erection of stable block, hard standing and new tree planting at Belvoir, 35 Sportsmans Lane; erection of 1 dwelling on land east of Maldon Road. The Parish Council does not support this application. Erection of single storey rear extension at 1 Rock Cottages, The Vineyards; change of use of land for the stationing of containers for storage purposes and the storage of building materials, machinery and equipment at land adjacent to bungalow at Bovingtons Farm; demolition of an existing double garage and erection of 2 bay cart lodge with workshop area at The Nook, Wickham Bishops Road.

The following applications have been approved by the District Council

Demolition of existing outbuilding, internal alterations and raising part of the rear first floor roof at 1 The Limes, The Street; conversion of garage into annexe at Woolsmore, Maldon Road; erection of two storey side extension at 26 Gleneagles Way, Hatfield; conversion of garage to habitable space, new porch roof canopy, external cladding with render and brick plinth and new boundary wall at Scheherazade, Nounsley Road; erection of conservatory at 16 The Green; change of use of two bedroom dwelling into office accommodation for eight people at Brettons Field, 4 The Street; erection of single storey rear extension and internal alterations at Midmar House, Nounsley Road; application for a non-material amendment following grant of planning permission to two rear single storey extensions at Crofton, Station Road.

The following application has been refused by the District Council

Erection of a one bedroom bungalow for a disabled person at land adjacent to 63 Church Road.

Tree preservation orders granted

Work to trees at 5 DeVere Close, and Haven Court, Swan Close.

Council tax 2015/16

The Parish Council has been advised there will be a decrease of approximately 15% to grant and localism funding for the coming financial year. The decision was therefore made at the January Parish Council meeting to increase the Parish rate by 3.3%. This equates to an increase of approximately £1 per annum to council tax band D households.

We feel this increase is necessary in order to maintain services that the parish council is responsible for such as litter picking, street lighting and grass cutting throughout the parish. This increase has been kept as low as possible due to the parish council using some of its reserves for one off projects planned during the coming year, the largest being the purchase of a new burial ground and the completion of a Neighbourhood Development Plan. **Further information can be found on the website or by contacting the Parish clerk.**

Neighbourhood Development Plan

The Parish Council has started the formulation of a Neighbourhood Development Plan that will consider the needs of our village in terms of future housing. (In that process) input from the whole community is needed to achieve the goal. This has arisen from the need to provide an input to a revised Local Plan that Braintree District Council are currently working on, necessitated by the increase last year in national house building targets by central government. There is a comprehensive explanation of the reasons for this, and the process that the parish council is adopting to prepare our plan on page 9/the following page. The item includes the dates of public information drop-in sessions and workshops that take place between now and late March.

Parish Council meetings - village hall, 7.30pm first Monday in the month 2nd March, 13th April
Annual Parish meeting Wednesday 11th March - Church hall, 8pm

Think Summer, think Party in the Park

Mark Weale – Chairman

Summer days and Summer nights - for the 4th year running, Party in the Park will be held on the recreation ground on Saturday 11th July, 2pm - 11pm.

Building on the success of previous years and offering the local community a fun filled family event, the afternoon starts at an earlier time of 2pm to enable a full programme of activities for all ages. The traditional tug of war from days gone by has been reinstated, as well as support from our local singers, bands and community clubs amongst others.

We are always looking for volunteers to support this event. If you can help in any way please contact Mark Weale on Herbertweale@aol.com or on 381726.

Village hall happenings

Opening times 7 - 11pm

Bingo (third Thursday in the month)
19th February, 19th March

Brag (first Friday in month)
6th March, 3rd April

Poker (third Saturday in month)
21st February, 21st March

Darts Monday nights, ladies team Tuesdays

Booking for hall and meetings rooms

HPCA bookings@gmail.com
Phone Alan on 07741 140732

Village hall (after 7pm) 01245 381481

See Facebook under -
Hatfield Peverel village hall

Neighbourhood Development Plan - see editorial

Do you want to have a say on how the growth of your village is managed in the future? If so, why not get involved in the Steering Group to be formed under the new Executive Neighbourhood Development Plan Committee?

Braintree District Council produced a draft Local Development Plan last year. This was not submitted to the Planning Inspectorate as the Government now wants an increase in the original housing allocation - even more growth planned for the district.

Braintree District Council is developing a new Local Plan, and to achieve its housing targets many parishes will be affected by an increase in development. This includes Hatfield Peverel. Last autumn the District Council made a call for sites from developers and landowners, and approximately 300 sites across the district were received including thirteen for Hatfield Peverel and Nounsley. **The results can be viewed at www.braintree.gov.uk/callforsites**

On 12th January BDC's new Local Plan Sub Committee approved the Local Plan Issues and Scope Consultation Document for public consultation. The consultation period is for six weeks and will commence on 26th January. This is one of the first stages of producing a new Local Plan, and is the first stage of public participation.

The Parish Council is taking the opportunity NOW to develop a Neighbourhood Plan that considers the needs of our village. Input from the whole community is needed to achieve that goal. When the plan is made it will become a legal document, and will be used in planning applications by both Braintree District Council and the Parish Council.

There are three stages in the process of Neighbourhood Planning, Milestone 1 is in progress now

Milestone 1 An Executive Committee was formed under the Parish Council and an application submitted at the beginning of January to Braintree District Council for the Designated Area being the whole of the Parish of Hatfield Peverel and Nounsley. The six week consultation period commenced on the 22nd January.

Milestone 2 To prepare the plan the Steering Group will over the coming year ask to visit clubs and organisations to bring to attention the need to formulate a Neighbourhood Development Plan for the village, and to obtain your views. Surveys will be carried out: the first took place at the end of January and you are urged to complete and return it by 16th February. There will also be public meetings, workshops, drop in events, as well as the usual monthly Parish Council meetings, the Review, and the Parish Council website and notice boards will keep you up to date with information.

Milestone 3 Examination of the Plan and Community Referendum

If you are interested in joining the Steering Group or are able to help in any way then please email les.priestley@springmancons.plus.com 01245 380404

Dates booked for the public information and consultation sessions, to be held (except 25th March) in the the village hall, are

Saturday the 21st February between 10.30am and 1pm in the main hall – NDP workshop

Wednesday 18th March between 3pm and 8pm in the main hall – NDP exhibition/drop-in event

Wednesday 25th March 7.30pm in the Church hall - NDP meeting.

Who do you think they are?

A gentleman visited our library recently with this photograph found in his loft - you may have seen it displayed on the wall - and asked if anyone in the village recognised any of the people in the picture so it can be returned to any relatives. We are printing it here in the hope that someone might know who they are. If you do, can you please call in at the library and tell Elaine who will pass the information on. We will keep you informed.



Library happenings

A light and sunny place to visit with friendly staff, the library has plenty to offer. Local papers and information leaflets, books, computers - a volunteer will give free computer lessons, help and advice with community problems, and regular children's attractions. Here is a taster

Thursday 19th February 1.30 - 4pm

Fire awareness with Community Safety Officer Charlotte Stephens. Free smoke alarms

Saturday 21st February 10.30am

Talk on Alzheimer's awareness with Vicki Watson

Breastfeeding group every 2nd and 3rd Thursday

11am - 12.30pm - possible April start

Run by local health team, come to meet other mums. For details please ring 07795 612776

Book Group Chapter 4 – 4th Tuesday of month

RhymeTime every Wednesday 9.30am - 10am

Babes in arms to pre school - term time only

The Book Buzz Gang - children's book group first Saturday of month, 11.30am - 12 noon

Suitable for children 8 - 11 years.

Volunteers (14 years plus) needed



to help with the children's summer reading challenge. Call in for information and an application form

Library telephone number 01245 380988
available at times given below

Opening times

Tuesday 1pm - 5pm

Wednesday 9am - 1pm

Thursday 1pm - 5pm

Saturday 9am - 1pm

The Royal British Legion's 2014

Poppy Appeal raises £5070.72

Peter Archer, Poppy Appeal Co-Ordinator

£5070 is an exceptional amount for the village appeal to raise - an increase of almost £600 over the 2013 collection. Donations and the station collection showed a big increase.

To all those who donated a special thank you, and an even greater thanks to all those who participated in helping to raise the above.

I do hope we can continue to rely on your support for 2015.



From Mastermind to My Funny Valentine!

Peverel Wine Club – Vee Green, Secretary 01245 355723
www.peverelwineclub.co.uk or email
peverelwineclub@hotmail.co.uk

The club's annual Christmas party was as usual a lively event – a four-course supper provided by members and accompanied by our own choice of wines, followed by dancing to the music of local entertainer Ian Jordan, whose choice of songs soon had us up and dancing the night away. The Christmas raffle was in aid of Help for Heroes, and we were delighted to raise £95.52 for this good cause.



The new Club programme kicked off in January with a light-hearted quiz evening, with questions set by former treasurer Lindsey Glasman from the wilds of Devon, and ably hosted by chairman Graham Bushby. Six teams keenly participated in the quiz, and the eventual winners were Trigger's Broom, the team consisting of old hands Malcolm Jackson and Vee Green plus newcomers John Aishford, Maggi and Peter Conrad and Emma and Paul Wallace.

From February to May there will be a series of tasting evenings on a variety of themes. February's meeting on Wednesday 11th is entitled My Funny Valentine, and will be a selection of four wines loosely (very loosely) connected with Valentine's Day and introduced by guest speaker Neil Bull of the Essex Wine School, interspersed with some suitable games – so looks like a fun evening! If you think you might like to come along to any of our meetings, you would be very welcome. Please give Vee a ring beforehand to confirm attendance (and to ensure we have enough of everything to eat and drink!) on 01245 355723. The Club meets normally on the second Wednesday of the month at 8pm in the village hall, but with some exceptions, so it is always worth phoning first.

The Wine Club now has its own website, courtesy of the skills of Fred Brown (many thanks Fred), accessed either direct via

www.peverelwineclub.co.uk
or via the Hatfield Peverel site at

www.essexinfo.net/hatfieldpeverel/clubs-and-societies/
Take a look to find out more about the Wine Club, its activities and its history before you come along!

Walking in the wet... or dry!

Hatfield Peverel Walkers - Graham Bushby 01245 380472

Regrettably the November walk had to be called off as the almost continuous rains towards the end of November turned paths into quagmires and some rivers had overflowed onto the paths and roads in the area as well. This was the first cancellation for a long time but we then looked forward to our short walk on 18th December which ended at mid-day at The Wheatsheaf for the convivial annual Christmas lunch!

Our January walk saw sixteen intrepid walkers undeterred by the previous days showers set off by bus from the village hall, ably led by Sarah Dodson who, on arrival at Heybridge, gave us firstly a 'blue badge' tour around the old concrete cottages and outhouses originally built to house workers from the factory of E H Bentall & Co Agricultural Engineers. This part of the walk took nearly an hour and was followed by a bracing walk along the sea wall at Heybridge Basin to the café where lunch was taken followed by the return trip to Hatfield Peverel by bus in the early afternoon.

2015 walk dates (all Thursdays)

26 February, 26 March, 30 April,
28 May, 25 June, 30 July, 27 August,
24 September, 29 October, 26 November,
17 December.

I am looking for volunteer's to lead all of this years' walks - so please let me know which months you can do as that will be very helpful. All start from the village hall at 10am unless otherwise stated. New walkers are always welcome.

Computers are like air conditioners - open the Windows and they stop working properly.

Here's a look at what we've been up to through the year EMC - the Every Members Club

We had a lovely Valentines club day, pancakes galore on Shrove Tuesday (thanks to Sue and Vic for cooking and flipping endlessly), and a special Easter raffle selling handmade knitted chicks. (Thank you to Pat and Margaret. Easter will soon be upon us again ladies, so out with those knitting needles). We also had a lovely Easter meal. We've had fresh strawberry afternoons with home-made shortbread (Thank you Margaret. Feel free to make shortbread again any time - delicious!)

We've visited Hylands House and Flatford Mill and enjoyed lunches at both. Six or seven entertainers were organised ranging from a magician, Hatfield Peverel's very own Eleanor, and a Country and Western afternoon where checked shirts and cowboy hats were worn by many Ye ha! (Greta, you must teach us those fancy footwork moves). We still have our monthly fish and chip lunches together. We've had talks from the RSPCA, the police on road traffic investigations which was extremely interesting and well presented, Terry from CAB and our termly get-togethers with the children and teachers of Hatfield Peverel Infants.

On Remembrance day we went back to the 1940s enjoying a good old fashioned sing song. Members bought in an extensive range of memorabilia - Ernie still had his gas mask. Gents wore their medals proudly, some of the ladies were land girls and I attempted victory rolls for my hair (thank goodness for scarves as I just couldn't master it!) We sang, danced, ate spam sandwiches and remembered all who fought in both wars. A magical yet emotional afternoon.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank again the Party in the Park committee for their kind donation last year. Since moving into the main large hall, hearing guest speakers and bingo being called etc. has been difficult, so we've bought a PA system. This will undoubtedly be used also for sing-alongs and be enjoyed by all, so thank you so much Party in the Park! The remainder of the money was put towards our Christmas meal. We enjoyed a lovely Christmas party with festive jumpers worn by many and we even had Father Christmas and his helpers handing out our Secret Santa gifts (well done Neil, Paul and Sue - you looked amazing)

Our love and very best wishes to all our members who've been poorly or in hospital recently and we hope to see you back with us soon. (Remember I'm writing this early January to make it into the February edition)

Here's to a fantastic 2015 and may the club continue to prosper and offer company and friendship to all. We meet Tuesdays 1.30 - 3.30pm. Last Tuesday in the month is 12.45 - 3.30pm as it's fish and chip lunchtime. All warmly welcome.

We've come along way together guys haven't we? Lots of fun, friendships formed and memories made. Not bad for £2 a week eh?. *Thank you Emma, a great report - Ed*



Can the Citizen's Advice Bureau help you?

Hadfelda WI - Chris Marks



Terry Bard, our first speaker of the year gave us a talk on the Citizen's Advice Bureau - Witham Office. There are 338 bureaux with 6,000 paid staff and 21500 volunteers. Advice is free, confidential and independent. It was set up in 1939 when they covered things like: ration books, evacuation, homelessness and tracking lost members of a family due to the war. Nowadays it's more likely to be about Benefits, debt, housing, finances, tax and legal problems that are top of the list.

2.1 million people were helped with 6.6 million problems last year, for example, being made redundant can cause more problems for clients - loss of housing, debt, and relationship difficulties. 33% of them were regarding benefits, 29% debts, 8% housing. He told us a whole load of interesting facts about CAB. For instance, I did not know that they would go out to people with a disability.

They feed back to the government things that are making peoples lives more difficult due to new laws or legislation. They are also associated with Consumers Direct and Trading Standards so if a problem has been highlighted by their clients the relevant group can be alerted. It is a voluntary organisation and a worthwhile one to donate to if you ever find yourself in a spot of difficulty with legal jargon, forms to fill in, or problems with the Tax man, do give them a ring - they are very helpful!

Taking animals - especially dogs - into residential homes is great therapy for the residents and on 25th February Helen Beard will talk to us about Pets as Therapy (PAT). The pets have to be approved. On 25th March David Vroobel's talk is on The magic and beauty of diamonds and other precious stones.

Two interesting subjects, why not come and join us in the village hall, 7.45 for 8am. We always meet on the fourth Wednesday of the month and everyone is welcome.

Community Policing - reducing burglary



Police non emergency calls 101
(Use 101 also for local officer)
Emergency calls 999

Burglary hot-spots

Essex Police is currently engaged in an operation to reduce burglary, identifying and concentrating on areas which, following incidents of crime, are currently considered burglary hot-spots.

These areas will change in response to crime trends, and I will update you when, I receive the appropriate information.

Information is being sent out to Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinators and members, as well as other members of our local communities so they can assist the police by keeping vigilant, and through reporting any suspicious activity, which could relate to burglaries.

To report non-emergency incidents, or to give non-emergency information, please telephone 101, and, as always, dial 999 in an emergency.

Information about suspicious persons, suspicious activity and related vehicles, will help us to keep crime down.

Langford & Ulting 2015 Art Show

**Saturday 28th/Sunday 29th March
Langford Village Hall 10am - 5pm**

Over 100 artists from Essex and further afield
showing high quality work

Refreshments and homemade cakes

Information from Caroline Spong
01621 855220

email cspong777btinternet.com

Proceeds towards the village hall

Bursting at the seams!

All Girlguiding units continue to run well and have been very active - below are some of last term's activities

Rainbows finished the 'All about Me' Roundabout and have received their badges. They thoroughly enjoyed the Cinderella panto before Christmas. We did Christmas craft – cards and calendars, and went on a special visit to Fern Fairies bungalow to see their Christmas lights and Winter Wonderland. Thank you to Fern and Richard for a wonderful time and a special thank you to Richard for the brilliant photos taken to give to the girls. We had a Christmas party with games, prizes and a special chippy meal. Thank you to Mr Chips fish shop for the brilliant supper! The Rainbows are pictured below eating their supper. Also a special thank you to Barbara our District Commissioner for visiting and for the girl's gifts. Next term is as packed as the last with a special challenge badge, Thinking Day, Valentines, Mother's Day and Easter to celebrate!



Brownies last term completed the Culture Badge where we looked at games, traditions, celebrations, dance and crafts which make up our British culture. This term, which will encompass the Chinese New Year and Thinking Day, we are starting our World Culture badge and will be looking at foods from around the world, stories from other lands, making animal and tribal masks, jewellery, festivals, and cooking.

We are looking for new adult leaders to help at 2nd Hatfield Peverel Brownies. Now there is only one unit in the village our numbers have increased and we need volunteers to maintain our ratio of girls to adults. **If you are interested please go to: <http://www.girlguidingsexne.org.uk/Home/Contact+us/Contact+Form/> and fill in the form or alternatively, if you would like to speak to someone, please call 07757 636446 or our County Office on 01376 570464.**

Guides went on a night hike which was very muddy underfoot and we had hot drinks and home-made munchies! We have started the Craft Badge - tie dyed bags a huge success, very colourful (hands included). The girls planned and organised their own Go For It's – the themes were, Parties, Teamwork, Glamorama and Peace. We made our usual Christmas display for the library, (see photo above) and excelled ourselves this year by making three!

We have continued to help Barbara celebrate thirty years as a Guider (she was awarded in September) with various challenges from filling a small box with thirty different white things and Kim's games to more energetic challenges involving balls, ropes and hoops and thirty second speedy challenges.

This term, among other things we are looking forward to finishing off the Craft badge, enjoying a sleepover, being recorded for GENE radio, and making something for Mothers Day – ssshhh! don't tell them!

Girls from all units attended the Candlelight Carol Service at the Methodist church and did a presentation about the Christingle, finishing off with the Christingle song.



News from St Andrews

At the beginning of December St Andrews Church Choir led a Carol Songs of Praise, where the congregation chooses the carols and we sing them. Due to a failure of the new lighting system - a simple break in the wire - we adjourned to the Church hall - a good move as I felt I was much closer to the congregation and could see them all including the children. The collection goes to the Children's Society with money collected at Sainsbury's in Boreham, our railway station not being available to us this year, in the week before Christmas. We did not have a full-blown Christmas bazaar, but the special Christmas coffee morning raised, after donations, about £1,000. A great result with people coming together and enjoying each other's company. The following weekend a 'Messy Church' event combined fun with learning afresh the Christmas story, followed by a lunch. Children and adults under the direction of Mary Daw and Anna Tomlins with helpers, produced the greatly admired Nativity display at the back of the church.



St Andrews Junior School came up with a superb Christmas concert and Carol Service and the Infant School led two Carol Services. On occasions like these we realise our church isn't as big as we think it is! Every school concert and carol service was packed to capacity which goes to show the Christmas story still has the power to draw people into its embrace, and why not? How can one be unmoved by the story of God loving his people so much that he shed his God-like characteristics and came to live as we do, frail, vulnerable, subject to human limitations.

Services over the Christmas period were well attended. The Christmas Eve service 'The Greatest Gift' was packed out and Kathy Butler, from Witham Homestart gave the address before receiving the toys so generously given by the community of Hatfield Peverel. As in 2013 we revived our travelling nativity or 'Posada' where, at the beginning of December some Nativity figures left the church to go round the community. These "travelling nativities" are supposed to return at, or before Christmas Day. This reminds us the Nativity story is not a static tableau but an active drama involving real people.

We are now in the Epiphany season, now the less-romantically named Sundays before Lent. Readings concentrate for the most part on the revelation of Christ to the world, both Jews and Gentiles (non-Jews).

Lent is early this year and Ash Wednesday happens on 18th February. We will be running a Lent Course at the Vicarage; 7.15pm for 7.30pm on the Mondays during Lent. It will be repeated during a weekday (probably Wednesday lunch-time if there is any demand). Lent gives us a time to think on the life-changing events brought about by the life of Jesus of Nazareth before we get to the drama of Holy Week and Easter.

On Sunday 22nd we are holding a special Memorial and Thanksgiving Service at 3pm for those who want to remember loved ones who have gone to a 'further shore and a greater light' as the Nine Lessons and Carols Bidding Prayer puts it. Letters are being sent to those whose relatives have died in the last two or three years but this is a service for anyone to come along and if you wish someone to be remembered, please let me know on 380958 or, better still email SRNorthfield@aol.com

Other happenings

Saturday 7th February 10am - coffee morning in the Church hall in aid of church funds. Raffle, cakes, books, etc. Please come and bring others.

Wednesday 18th February - Ash Wednesday 9.30am Holy Communion at the Vicarage or 7.45pm Parish Eucharist in church.

Sunday 22nd February - Commemoration and Thanksgiving Service for the faithful departed. See above.

Saturday 7th March - coffee morning as above.

Saturday and Sunday 14th/15th March - Mothering Sunday weekend. Keep free and watch for details.

Carols for Christmas

Mother's Union - Jean Ashby



We celebrated the December meeting with our members' afternoon of readings and carols, taking it in turns to choose favourite carols and readings from the serious to the amusing, including stories of the Nativity as seen through the eyes of school children, written by Gervase Phinn. We wished everyone a happy New Year and good health for 2015.

13th January We held a short New Year communion service, followed by our AGM. Our leader Pat Curtis gave her report on speakers and meetings during 2014, and we gave her a vote of thanks for the work she does for our branch. By the rules of the MU she should have retired years ago, but with no one to take her place, Pat 'soldiers on' and we would be lost without her. We promised help and support. The treasurer's report showed a balance at the end of the year of £466.70. Joan Richardson would also like to retire so we desperately need a new treasurer. She is happy to show anyone the ropes if we can find a replacement Please think about it, we would be so grateful. Our faithful committee stays the same, we owe them our gratitude.

Methodist Church

We welcomed Irene Allen to speak on her work for the charity LEPRA in November. Leprosy has existed for centuries: it is believed to have been brought to Europe by the armies of Alexander the Great and Britain by the Crusaders. Sufferers have always had the stigma of outcasts and have had to exist outside the city walls as beggars, or in Britain, in specially built leper homes. Treatments were discovered and the illness can now be cured. The charity works to train medical staff to recognise the illness and provide funding for testing communities to reach the earliest possible diagnoses. After the service we held a lunch and donations raised £78 for the charity. Further information can be found on www.lepra.org.uk – they would welcome your support. During the service we blessed the children's Christmas boxes collected for Operation Christmas

Child and 34 boxes (our highest total ever) started their journeys to Zimbabwe and Zambia.

We were delighted to have Rainbows, Brownies and Guides with their families for our candlelit Carol service on 14th December. Our Church was decorated with hundreds of candles and looked very festive. The service, led by our Minister Rev Sue King, was a happy occasion. She retold the Christmas story and we brought the Nativity scene together with figures and animals hidden around the Church. The girls sang the Christingle song illustrated with one giant orange and other oranges all decorated with the traditional fruit, ribbons and candles. We hope the girls and their families enjoyed the afternoon, our congregation did. On 20th December we joined our friends at Witham for their traditional service of carols and readings.

Rev Sue led our Christmas Day service and thanked us for our gifts to the Braintree food bank over the past year. The Church at Witham had specially opened on Christmas Eve to give out last minute food. She spoke of one young mother who arrived with three children as they were packing up who had no food for Christmas – they were given food and goodies for the children and helped to get their bags back home. The volunteers were happy they had been open to help this family and show Christian love. At this service we were supporting the work of Action for Children, the Methodist charity which looks after neglected children, and our donations of £107 have been forwarded to help their work.

From April to December 2014 the Braintree area food bank has fed 2,119 people (1,328 adults, 791 children). We continue to collect tins and packets for the local food bank - thank you for your support.

Methodist Church members wish you a happy, healthy 2015 and hope to see you at our events

Regular events

Every Sunday 11am morning service
Every Thursday 10am - 12 noon Open Door - 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

Successful footballers come away with medals

Congratulations to the Infant School team who before Christmas took part in a five a side football tournament at Rickstones Academy. The boys won three games and lost one, finishing as runners-up. Each was presented with a silver medal. The team was Jack Buckingham, Alex Burgess, Ronnie Norman, Dylan Potter, Bradley Rolfe, Stan Smith and Jack Webb.

Well done boys!

Christmas bazaar raises £3,000

St Andrew's Junior School is delighted with the £3,000 raised by the JSA at the Christmas bazaar in December. Every penny is put back into the school for the benefit of the children.

In recent months money raised has purchased playground games, wet play games, picnic tables, a new multi-purpose stage system, all-weather play surfaces outside, helped towards improvements to Base 9 garden and paid transport costs for the children's trip to Cinderella

One hundred magical moments...

The WEA Spring term, 'My history of the world in 100 objects' our ten-week course with tutor Frances Boardman, began with a look at earliest evidence for human settlement. Stone tools, worked flints, treasures from Neolithic to modern times. An amazing collection of slides show us what a wonderful place our world is.



Tuesday, 31st March is our AGM when Sarah Moore, Area Learning Manager, will talk about the work of the wider WEA. Refreshments will be served.



A 'freeze' of snowmen

Thank you to Dempsey, Emilie, Jasmine and Morgan from the Infant School for their snowmen. Base 3 were looking at ice and snow - and probably hoping for more!

Autumn activities - a busy time for Scouts

The group has taken part in some great activities during Autumn. Please take a few moments to read what the youngsters have been up to, and if you think your son or daughter may be interested in joining our Group, pick up a membership form from the Post Office or the Library - the form can also be downloaded via our website www.hpscouts.org.uk **If you could enhance our programme of activities by giving a talk or demonstration on your hobby, or your work, please don't hesitate to call.**

Beavers show off their skills...

Beavers demonstrated impressive ten-pin bowling techniques at Madison Heights, and during a circus night, they tried juggling, diablo and uni-cycling. A new experience for many involved making and eating Sushi at a Japanese themed evening (*photo above*). The last meeting of the year was a Christmas party where Beavers were joined by a special guest who had travelled from the North Pole to hand out presents to everyone!



Cubs take a 60 second challenge...

Cubs took part in their annual sponsored event to raise funds for the community; activities included 'pegs on a line' and 'cotton reels on a string' – the highest scores, in 60 seconds, were 28 pegs and 30 cotton reels! Well done to the Cubs and many thanks to their sponsors. Sally Anne Turnbull was welcomed to the unit to assist with a new activity badge on disability awareness. During the evening the Cubs learnt Braille and how to communicate using sign language. They were taught how a hearing aid works and were given an insight into how difficult daily life can be if you use a wheelchair. During the spring term, a talk on first aid, a fitness evening and knots practice are planned.

Hello, Hello, Hello...what's going on here then?

Scouts were visited by PC Alan Marks who talked on the dangers of bullying at home, at school and online. Types of bullying - physical, mental and verbal – were discussed, along with general safety and drug awareness. PC Marks showed the Scouts his latest police uniform and the standard equipment he carries on a daily basis. Camping for Scouts means plenty of fresh air, lots of exercise and vast quantities of food! An evening cooking a staple camp meal, spaghetti bolognese, was not only enjoyable, but good practice for trips away. Each Patrol was given the same basic ingredients but used different seasonings to produce their own version. New Scout, Ryan Martin, was invested into the Troop.

Useful Contacts:

Website: www.hpscouts.org.uk

HQ Bookings: Chris Phillips, 07850 024578
phillips.chris@btinternet.com

Membership enquiries: Michelle Spicer,
hpscoutgroup@gmail.com, 01245 380630

Monthly Newspaper Collection:

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

Secretary: Suzanne Evans, 01245 382397
boons_calibre_travel@lineone.net



Back to normal after Christmas

Rita Thomson, Bowls Captain
(380038)



Forty bowlers had a great time at the Christmas party in December. John Franklin was in charge of the festivities and great fun was had by all.

League teams were in action in January, the A team had matches on 21st and 29th and the B team on 18th and 28th. Club competitions are under way, I wonder who will be playing in the finals on 20th March - there is always a surprising result.

The John Franklin open competition will be on 14th February. Eight teams are invited from short mat clubs around Essex. Its always a very competitive and enjoyable event. Lets hope Hatfield Peverel can come away as victors.

Harlequin Children's Centre

Sarah Mason, Cluster Manager - Witham and Braintree, mobile 07818 255619
Sarah.Mason@4children.org.uk

Good news for new mothers and babies in the village

We have been working with health visitors and Hatfield Peverel library so we can deliver a breast-feeding group every 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month from 11am - 12.30pm. Date to be confirmed. *See also under library news*

Witham cluster children's centres

All parents and children in the village are welcome to attend the free sessions which run in Witham at the Harlequin Children's Centre in Spa Road (01376 535270) and the Roundabout Children's Centre, Templars Primary and Nursery School, Crossing Road (01376 517973). These operate throughout the year and are not closed during term time. Access and times on Facebook.

A clear conscience is usually the sign of a bad memory

Winter walking, a cuppa and home made cakes

If you are out and about enjoying a winter stroll at the Essex Wildlife Trust centre at Fingringhoe, the Nightingale Tearoom is open for business - six days a week until 1st April



when it will be seven days. On offer will be home-made cakes and scones as well as soup and rolls. Sandwiches and other goodies to follow.



ESSEX
Wildlife Trust

The centre's telephone number is 01206 729678



Chestnut Book Club

An evening book club for busy and professional people in Hatfield Peverel, Boreham, Nounsley, Maldon, Witham and surrounding villages.

If you enjoy reading and would like to discuss and share views on a diverse range of books with like-minded people, this book club could be for you.

Meetings start at 8pm in the evening and are held every 5 or 6 weeks - rotating around members' houses, on an informal basis.

For more information, please contact:

Laura Wade
lauravwade@aol.com
Tel: 01245 381597 / 07774 294309

Useful telephone numbers

Please contact the editors for additions/errors.

Age Concern Essex	01245 264499
Anglian Water , 24 hours	0800 919 155
Braintree District Council	01376 552525
Clean Team ring number above and ask for Customer Services	
Witham Area Office in Witham Library	
- for walk-in enquiries only	01376 519625

Churches

St Andrew's (C of E), vicar	01245 380958
Methodist Church, minister	01621 853423
Salvation Army, officer i/c	01245 380842
Catholic Church, Witham, priest	01376 512219

Citizens Advice Bureau Witham	0844 4994719
Drop-in sessions Mon/Tue/Thur/Fri 10am - 1pm	
Appointments only Thurs afternoon 1 - 4pm	

Doctors, health services

Hatfield Peverel doctors' surgery	01245 380324
Boreham doctors' surgery	01245 467364
NHS - non-emergency helpline	111
Pharmacy, Hadfelda Square	01245 380130

Electricity - emergency	0800 7838838
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Essex County Council	01245 492211
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Essex & Suffolk Water 24 hours	0845 7820999
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First Essex Buses Ltd	01245 293400
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Gas - emergency	0800 111999
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Harlequin Children's Centre	01376 535270
Free support and services for children under 5	

Hospitals

Broomfield (A&E); St John's,	01245 362000
St Peter's, Maldon	

Libraries

Hatfield Peverel	01245 380988
Tuesday, Thursday 1 - 5pm	
Wednesday, Saturday 9am - 1pm	
Witham	01376 519625

Police non-emergency calls	101
(use 101 also for the local officer)	
emergency calls	999

Witham Police Station opening hours	
Saturday - Tuesday 9am - 5pm	
Wednesday - Friday 8am - 8pm	

Post Office	01245 380201
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Railway Information

National Express East Anglia	0845 6007245
National Rail Enquiries (24 hrs)	08457 484950

Registrar of Births, Marriages & Deaths

Witham, by appointment only	01376 323463
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Braintree, by appointment only 01376 320762

Relate	01245 258680
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Samaritans (24 hours - toll free)	08457 909090
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Schools

St Andrew's Junior School	01245 380131
Hatfield Peverel Infant School	01245 380220
Hatfield Peverel Day Nursery	01245 382450
Acorn Childcare	07580 834417

Social Services	0845 6037630
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Village Agent Richard Ould	0800 9775858
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Village Hall (after 7pm)	01245 381481
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Let us know of useful services to add to this list

Hatfield Peverel Parish Council

Committees and working parties

Planning (P), Traffic (T)	
Village Environment (E)	
Keith Bigden Memorial Ground User Group (KB)	
Country Park Focus Group (CP)	
External Audit Review (A)	
Football Pavilion (F)	
Neighbourhood Development Plan (N)	

Councillors (and their working parties)

Lisa Miller, Parish Clerk	01245 403071
parishclerk@hatfieldpeverelpc.co.uk	

David Broddle - Chairman	01245 382829
(P/KB/CP/A)	

George Boyd Ratcliff (T)	01245 380496
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Rosanna Briggs (E)	01245 381618
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Garry Cockrill Traffic chair	01245 697263
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Peter Endersby (E/KB/A/F)	01245 381919
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Colin Giffin (Planning chair/ Country Park chair/T/A)	01621 892351
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Bernard Heard - Vice Chairman	01245 380370
(P/T/A)	

Alan Ingram (Audit chair/E/CP)	01245 381880
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Les Priestley (A/E/N)	01245 380404
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Ted Munt (Football chair/E/A)	01245 381135
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Linda Shaw (N,T)

01245 382669

Diane Wallace (P/CP)	01245 381485
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District Councillors

David Bebb	01245 381065
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District and County Councillor

Derrick Louis	07918 721526
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The Street, circa the 1900s. Clarkes, the general store on the left, is where the Post Office stands today. The junction with Bury Lane is round the corner past the paling fence on the left. No traffic to be seen on the unmade road: a far cry from today when the road is busy with local traffic and that escaping jams on the bypass. How will it be in years to come with the promise of increased housing in the future?



13th 14th & 15th February Valentines Cream Teas
 prebook up to 24 hours in advance £10 per person; telephone 07777661477 or e-mail events@museumofpower.org.uk

15th March
Mothers Day with Vintage and Antiques Fair
 Stalls selling antiques and collectables
 Delicious breakfasts, mid morning snacks, lunches and 'probably the best cakes in Maldon' available in the Steam Pump tearoom
 Adult £2.50; (£3 between 9am and 10am); children free
 Rides on miniature steam train (extra charge)

22nd March - Science Sunday
 Mad science demonstrations and childrens activities throughout the day. Adult £5; senior £4:50; children (5 to 15) £2, under 2 free.
 Miniature steam train open (extra charge applies)
 "Marshall" the Lilleshall pumping engine will be run by compressed air and other oil / diesel engines will be running.

New Year's day walk

A cloudy overcast day but a pleasant four mile walk. We set off from the Nounsley play area - a good turnout of twenty plus and dogs - to Letch's Corner and the field paths towards Ulting Wick. By the roads round past Ulting Church and into Bumfords Lane, then taking the wet and muddy riverside path to the swiftly flowing Nounsley ford. Accident free and nobody fell in!



Continued up Nounsley Road to Catherine's for welcome tea, coffee and mince pies. Thank you to everyone for the refreshments.