

*Hatfield Peverel*

# *Review*

*244 - October 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 December issue by Friday, 14th November please. Any ideas? Its Christmas.**

# Local events and happenings round and about

## Diary Dates

Church dates page 12 onwards

Village hall happenings page 18

### October

- 11 Methodist Church 10am coffee morning and cake stall
- 18 Helen Rollason coffee morning 10am
- 15 Infant School/Junior School open day, see back page
- 18 'An evening of light music', page 18
- 22 Hadfelda WI, page 7
- 23 Folk Dance Club
- 25 Salvation Army coffee morning
- 31 Halloween party, village hall, page 18

### November

- 1 St Andrew's coffee morning 10am
- 3 Parish Council meeting, village hall 7.30pm
- 4 Allotment Association AGM, 8pm village hall
- 4 WEA 'History of salt in Blackwater, page 18
- 5 Flower Club
- 6 Horticultural Society AGM
- 6 Folk Dance Club
- 8 Methodist Church coffee morning 10am
- 12 Wine Club
- 15 Helen Rollason coffee morning 10am
- 19 Infant School/Junior School open day
- 20 Folk Dance Club
- 22 Salvation Army coffee morning
- 26 Hadfelda WI

### December

- 1 Parish Council meeting
- 2 WEA 'Wildfowl habitats' page 18
- 4 Folk Dance Club
- 5 St Andrew's Christmas coffee morning

*Front cover - Terling ford during the annual Hatfield Peverel Pram Race taken 'somewhen in the 60s. Many thanks to Dick Dawson for this photo - further pram race photos on page 11*

## Love your wild friends!

Green leaves are with us in abundance but soon we will wake one cold morning and find them strewn over the lawns. Autumn is almost here. Update on our garden friends - no more Scruffy gathering up scraps but three rats of various sizes keeping the fallen apples under control. Seeing them bouncing across the grass with a giant-sized Bramley is an amusing sight but something has to be done. We borrowed a humane trap and although the owner has been successful with peanuts, our lot are not nut eaters. Internet junkie Ken learns a rat's favourite food is peanut butter. Change diet in trap and, success, we catch three squirrels - whether same brainless one with a penchant for peanut butter we don't know. Help - answers on a card please.

## By-election turnout - correction

The turnout figure of 53% given for the 24th July by-election on the Election Results page of the BDC website was grossly inflated due to a data processing input error for which the BDC Democracy Manager has apologised. Apologies from us for not picking up on it in the letter on page 17 of the August edition. The Formal Declaration of Results on the Notices and Consultations page of the BDC website gives the true figure of 17.7%.

## Money for bright ideas supporting local initiatives

Braintree District Council has allocated up to £125,000 in the latest round of the \*Mi Community Fund for bids for bright ideas that support local initiatives to help improve life for others in the community. Ideas must fulfil three criteria:

- 1 Show initiative, resourcefulness and benefit to the community
- 2 Evidence that the idea has local support and has been discussed with and is supported by the local district councillor
- 3 Be sustainable

Events and celebrations cannot be funded nor an organization's running expenses. **Outline bids must be submitted by 31st October.** Applicants will be advised of the outcome of Stage 1 and successful applicants will be invited to proceed to Stage 2 as explained in the prospectus.

Further details including application forms can be obtained from the Mi Community Team on 01376 552525, or email [julba@braintree.gov.uk](mailto:julba@braintree.gov.uk) [www.braintree.gov.uk/info/200353/mi\\_community](http://www.braintree.gov.uk/info/200353/mi_community). \* *For Mi, read My!*

## Do you qualify for help from the Hatfield Peverel Feoffees?

Notice is hereby given that applications are again invited from those who might qualify for help from the Feoffees Charity. In view of the desire of the Feoffees to help where there is real need, attention is drawn to the following.

The Feoffees cannot apply its income to:

- a The relief of taxes or rates, or use the monies where Social Security Benefits would apply
- b The giving of recurrent grants
- c Any applicant who is not in genuine need, or is undeserving of help.

Applications must be sent **in writing by 10th November 2014** for the annual distribution.

Applicants **must** include:

- a The reason for the request
- b The applicant's age
- c The applicant's residential address.

Applications must be sent to;  
The Chair of the Feoffees, c/o Quince Lodge, The Street, Hatfield Peverel, Chelmsford, CM3 2DY.

## A good home for your unwanted furniture?

[www.chelmsfordfurnitureproject.co.uk](http://www.chelmsfordfurnitureproject.co.uk)

The Chelmsford Furniture Project is a charity that helps people on low incomes to furnish their homes. They welcome donations of serviceable unwanted household items, large or small, for the bedroom, living room, kitchen, bathroom, and items outside the house. This is another excellent way to dispose of items you no longer need and want a better home for than the local council tip. All donations will be collected free of charge. To arrange a collection ring 01245 352918.

## And it's goodbye from him!

David Goodey (01245 380389)

hpaa.org.uk

After five years as Chairman of Hatfield Peverel Allotment Association I am 'retiring' at our AGM in November. In those five years we have continued to modernise and become a very successful association. We have been fully let for the majority of that time and have a written constitution and set of rules and conditions of membership. We have an excellent web site and member's web store and I instituted a newsletter process. We quickly moved to a situation where we have nearly 90% of our members on email communication, have fenced and gated the new site and added many new water tanks to both sites. Sadly I have had to preside over two rent increases to cover the loss of our subsidy from the Parish Council. However, we have made ourselves financially healthy and have 130 members who utilise the allotments and enjoy the social nature of this pursuit.



I have been fortunate enough to have had a succession of excellent committees. I must personally thank John Cockell and Paul Waite who have both put in tremendous work as letting officers, work party coordinators and, in Paul's case, previous Treasurer. Mick Seaman and Alan Ingram have handled our potato and seed sales with great efficiency each year. Sean Pettit's production of our website is a minor miracle and he has now introduced an all singing all dancing ordering system for members' plant needs. Barry Faber is my trusted Treasurer and Julia East my enthusiastic Secretary. I also thank Barbara Richardson for coordinating the annual competition and all the other committee members for their unerring support.

And now some sad news. David Russell's many allotment friends were very sorry to hear of the sudden death of his wife Beryl. Together they were part of the allotment scene and we shall all miss her, watering and tending Dave's plants when he was out and about or off on one of his cycling jaunts.

That's me done. I hope you have enjoyed my frivolous sense of humour in this column as much as I have enjoyed writing it. *Thank you David for your input - always on time. We shall miss you. Ed.*

## Autumn Show - results hot off the press!

It's been a tricky growing year but there was a colourful display of flowers and good size vegetables, the result of some long and heavy showers of rain, at the Horticultural Society's Autumn Show. When the doors opened at 2pm one such shower kept visitors at bay until later in the afternoon: then the home made cakes and cups of tea rapidly disappeared.

President John Upson then presented awards to the following -

Beddow Cup (vegetables and fruit) Banksian Medal, and Best Tray **Dennis Dawson**; Murphy Chemical Cup (chrysanthemums) **Neville Bright/Hedley Janes**; Roy Turner Cup (best exhibit, classes 50 - 57) and Jaques Vinall Cup

(pelargonium competition), **Neville Bright**; Isted Cup (dahlias), Best Dahlia, Basil Frost Trophy (best individual exhibit), Rose plaque (other flowers), **Deborah Farthing**; Bowl Trophy (cookery) **Andy Smith**; Best Battenburg Cake **Jenny Clemo**; Kynaston Trophy (handicrafts) **Virginia Strange**; Gilder Cup (children) **Alex Buckley/Maria Farthing**; Shutter Trophy (photography) **Val Barrett**; Leslie King Trophy (best allotment old site) **Pete and Steph Gammon**; Cramphorn Cup (best allotment new site) **Phil and Sheila Turner**; Potato competition **Margaret Bennet**; Best Vase **Trina Butcher**.

### AGM and pumpkin competition Thursday 6th November

The meeting - to include the celebratory cheese and wine - will be held in the village hall meeting room, Maldon Road. Come and join us.

## Every Members Club goes from strength to strength...

The popularity of the Every Members Club is growing - so much so that in September we moved into the main village hall to accommodate the ever growing numbers. We celebrate our third year anniversary in November and as a club we are extremely proud of how far we've all come together. We continue to thrive, offering a club like no other (words used by members). You will find us a friendly bunch, accommodating, supportive and above all fun!

The club, named by its members, is 'what it says on the tin' a place for everyone who wants to make solid and genuine friendships and enjoy plenty of fun along the way with members ranging from 55 to 92 years!

We have recently enjoyed lunch at Hylands House, cream teas at Flatford Mill, live entertainment, a very inspirational talk by Paul and Sue's daughter Michelle about her charity work, concerts from the children of Hatfield Peverel Infants, and we celebrated Phyllis and Charlie's Diamond Wedding Anniversary and Pearl's 90th as well as the usual shenanigans that a Tuesday afternoon brings.

Our special thanks for their continued support goes to Vic and Kay from the Community Association, the committee from Party in the Park for their much appreciated donation and club member Michael for his kind donation also. We must also say a huge thank you to our very own Paul and Sue Scolding who dedicate hours of thought and organising to ensure the smooth running of the club and its continued success.

In the larger hall, our opportunities for more fun and frolics are endless and we are busy making plans to create bigger and better Tuesday afternoons. (The cake/snack table could run the length of the entire hall now guys so get baking!

Here's to another fantastic year and a warm welcome to anyone who wishes to join us.

**Club times - 1.30 - 3.30pm. Fish and chip lunch and raffle - last Tuesday in month 12.45 - 3.30pm) £2 donation on the door.**

### Arthur's exhibition

We in the EM Club are always thinking of interesting events, not just listening to music, talks, bingo and outings, and so a suggestion to hold an art exhibition of pictures painted by one of our first members was voiced and adopted.

Arthur, 92 years old in September and a very talented artist, offered to draw and colour in pastels pictures of our pets free of charge. It is difficult to tell the difference between the photographs he used as guidance and the resultant paintings; he painted cats, dogs, horses and even a parrot. Unfortunately

Arthur is now registered blind having lost his vision and so is unable to paint any longer. To celebrate his exhibition a suggestion was made to present Arthur with a cup suitably inscribed, and as you can see from the photo above he was overjoyed. Arthur had brought in additional paintings he had done over the years; we were delighted and these were offered to us to purchase at a reasonable price - all monies donated to Club funds.

All in all the afternoon was a great success - we members just know how to enjoy ourselves.

*Written by Brenda Holland and Pat House.  
Pictures by Neil Brown.*



## **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**



### **Co-option and vacancy**

Linda Shaw was recently co-opted onto the council. However, there remains one vacancy. If anyone is interested in local issues in the village and would be interested in joining an active Parish Council, then please contact the clerk.

### **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**

Conversion of garage into annexe at Woolsmore, Maldon Road; reconstruction of garden wall with revised gate position and crossover at Hill House, The Street; erection of conservatory at 16 The Green; erection of two storey side extension at 26 Gleneagles Way; 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 two storey side extension at 1 Kimberley Cottages, Maldon Road.

**Scoping opinion request** - outline planning application for the erection of up to 850 dwellings, primary school, local centre and associated infrastructure at land adjacent to Lodge Farm, Hatfield Road, Witham.

### **The following applications have been approved by the District Council**

Conversion of garage roof space to form additional bedroom at 1 Rainbow Mead; erection of first floor extension at 7 Stonepath Drive; erection of single and two storey extensions and internal alterations at 11 Gleneagles Way.

### **The following applications have been refused by the District Council**

Erection of bungalow at land rear of 12 Mortimer Road; application to open on Sundays and Bank Holidays 5pm to 10pm at Hatfield Tandoori, Maldon Road.

### **Tree Preservation Orders granted**

Work to trees at 2 The Pines and 7 The Pines – this has been part granted and part refused.

### **Neighbourhood Plan**

At the last Parish Council meeting Jan Cole from the RCCE gave a brief summary on having a Neighbourhood Plan for development in the village. Councillors agreed to look into this option in view of Braintree District Council not submitting the Local Development Plan last June, and the New Plan which is now in progress. This will be discussed in more detail at the October Parish Council meeting.

### **Grass Cutting at the Strutt Memorial playing field**

The grass contractor has raised concern that when he is cutting the grass on the recreation ground residents are allowing their children and dogs to chase the mower. When he intervened recently, he was met with a torrent of abuse which is unacceptable as he is only trying to do his job. Residents are therefore kindly asked to keep their dogs and children away from the mower so he is able to cut the grass quickly and safely.

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

**Parish Council meetings - village hall 7.30pm first Monday in month 3rd November, 1st December.**

## Presentation time, donations from this year's successful Party in the Park

In July the working party for PIP presented cheques of £300 each to Father Stephen on behalf of St. Andrews Luncheon Club, Barbara Walker and Jenny

Clemo on behalf of Brownies and Girl Guides, and Emma Morris, Paul and Sue Scolding on behalf of Every Members Club. Funds were raised at the very successful Party in the Park in July of this year. The presentation took place in the lounge bar of the Community Centre and Mark Weale, PIP's Chairman for 2015, presented the cheques as retiring Chairman Garry Cockrill was unable to attend.



## All the world's a stage... Hadfelda WI -Chris Marks



Our August meeting was well attended and actor Ken Lodge was heard even at the back of the hall. His talk 'All the world's a stage' conveyed how he worked at the Civic, Mercury and Southend Theatres in Shakespeare, comedy and rep where they do a 12-week stint in the same theatre but playing a part in eleven plays! That's a lot of lines to learn. He did readings from 'The Wind in the Willows' and the poem 'Macavity the Cat'.

Eight members went to the Group Meeting - we did not win the poetry competition. The County Show is on 13/14th June at Hyde Hall, Chelmsford. The Baton Relay to celebrate 100 years of WIs will stop at Chelmsford Cathedral on 26th November and will make its final stop in Essex at the London Cruise Terminal with a reception by Thurrock College and Grays Town Bank and tea with musical entertainment by 'D' Day Darlings. The baton will be handed over to Kent Federation.

In September Keith Lovell, a retired Vicar from Noak Hill now living on Mersea Island, related interesting bits of information about Essex especially Tiptree and the Wilkinson family. The village may have got its name from Mr Tipper who owned most of the land then and the big tree on the heath - Tipper's tree! Marmalade is known world wide as

as a British thing although we do not grow oranges. The first marmalade was made from limes and given to sailors for scurvy because it contains vitamin C, hence (*British*) sailors were called 'Limeys'.

Wilkinsons has been making jams and preserves in Tiptree for 125 years - these are sold in 60 countries and found in most hotels, cruise ships and airlines. London's Selfridges in Oxford Street has the best display of stock - two lorries a day make deliveries to London. Staff members were accommodated on the estate in places like Damson Cottages and Cherry Lane and many still live here. There are no public houses on the main street due to the first owners of Wilkinson's not wanting his workers to frequent them. They had their own pension scheme before most other places had a similar scheme.

Keith also mentioned village signs: Great Wigborough has a Zeppelin in the corner of their sign as one came down in 1916, and on the Feering sign is a pea pod; Mr King of Kings Seeds lived in Feering and grew a new strain of pea which was sent to London on the train from Kelvedon. It became known as Kelvedon Wonder when it should have been Feering Wonder!

Speaker at the open meeting on **22nd October is Mark Lewis who will talk on 'Keeper of the Light - Lighthouses'**. On **26th November Barry Kauffman's talk is 'Wildlife in the garden'**, and its **our Christmas 'do' on 10th December.**

## Alan Ernest Doe

1929 - 2014

Alan was a member of a family which has been a major part of the local communities in Ulting and Hatfield Peverel for over a hundred years. He was a much loved husband, brother, father and grandfather and a well respected agricultural engineer and businessman. He was a friend to many, generous, a creature of habit, an upholder of traditions and a man whose word could be relied upon. He had a deep sense of responsibility to both his own family and those who relied upon him for their employment.



*Alan Doe in front of a display of his company's famous Triple D tractors which were built at Ulting in the late 50's and early 60s*

Alan was born on St George's Day, 23rd April 1929 - the elder child of Ernest Charles Doe and Blanche Florence Doe. He spent many happy hours with his grandfather Ernest Doe, who had founded the business as a blacksmiths shop in Ulting in 1898. Ernest Doe & Sons Ltd can trace its roots back to that blacksmiths shop. Alan's father was the first to realise that tractors were going to displace horses on the land and would provide the way forward.

From early days farms, farming and machinery were important parts of Alan's life. He attended King Edward VI Grammar School (KEGS) in Chelmsford, where it is said that if you lifted the lid of his desk you would find an array of toy tractors. He recalled helping the war effort in 1940 during school holidays by driving an Allis Chalmers Model B tractor with his grandfather behind him on the binder.

In 1951 Alan married farmers daughter Jill Davies at High Beech in Epping Forest. He and Jill built Appledore, the house in which they brought up their three children, Diana, Colin and Marian, who all work for the family business. He was immensely proud of his seven grandchildren. His life long friend was John Upson, who sadly died in 2003. They were at school together, John was Alan's best man, and for many years they were church wardens at St Andrew's, Hatfield Peverel.

A major part of Alan's life was devoted to the family companies and the family farm. He was immensely proud that his grandfather passed on the family farm to him, an enterprise which Alan duly nurtured and in which he took a keen interest. He never lost his love of farming. Two days before he died he was out in the field watching his new combine at work.

The family companies were a huge driving force in Alan's life. He was still working five days a week in the businesses he had helped grow. Ernest Doe & Sons, Colchester Tractors, Colchester Tillage and Doe Motors were the main enterprises, although there were several others. He regularly met with his fellow Doe Motors directors on Saturday mornings.

Being a man who loved his family greatly, it will come as no surprise that Alan's concerns extended to his greater family - the employees of the companies for which he was responsible. He was a frequent visitor to hospital beds of sick employees. He knew virtually everyone by name and he took an interest in their children. He was immensely proud that successive generations of the same family would choose to work for him - grandfathers, fathers, sons and daughters.

One of his greatest joys was to present long service awards to his employees each year. No wonder his employees were happy to call him the Guv'nor!

But Alan was not all work. He had a love of music, jazz in particular. In his youth he had built radios and in later years enjoyed buying old radios and bringing them back to life. Being an engineer by training he was good at fixing things that had broken - making them better than when first made. He loved hi-fi too and was always adding to and improving his hi-fi set up. This involved playing music at volume 11 just to see what it could do.

It was a privilege to know Alan Doe. He was very much loved and will be greatly missed by us all.

*Thank you to Derek Marriott, Alan's son in law, for these extracts from his reflections*

## **A good Christian man**

*Extracts from Revd Stephen Northfield's address at Alan's funeral service*

**A**t my first PCC meeting - the Parish Priest is the Chair of the meeting - I wondered what might happen. It was about bricks, the size of bricks used on the newly completed Church Hall and some mistake concerning them. The discussion was quite extraordinary but with astute minds like Alan and John working on the subject, probably not. I was glad, as new kid on the block, that the said bricks were not being thrown around.

Alan could seemingly be completely in his own world during discussions at meetings but would suddenly intervene with a couple of sentences summarizing what had been said and proposing a course of action. He intensely disliked flannel and spin. Before he resigned as Churchwarden he went to a meeting about the future of ministry in the Diocese. He saw this as a softening-up process for getting rid of clergy: what annoyed him was this was seen as allowing the church to flourish in new and exciting ways. To Alan, and to many of us, it was like saying get rid of half of your lorries and half of your staff and your institution will be better off.

His many acts of generosity to St Andrews and

Ulting Churches and communities are numerous. If a need arose without fuss or ceremony it would happen. One Remembrance Sunday I came into St Andrews at half past seven to take the 8am service and found the church very warm and the air choking. A catastrophic collapse of the heating system had caused carbon monoxide to be pumped into the church as well as heat - the fire brigade checked there was no fire. Knowing how cold St Andrews can be in winter Alan found a barn heater - it warmed the church up in 5 minutes flat. It had to be switched off during the service because it made too much noise, but it did the trick. Alan's concern did not stop there. A new component was needed but would take a week to get. When he saw it was a matter of transport he sent his men to Shropshire to collect it and bring it down to us. We were back in action in two weeks.

I will conclude by saying that Alan's life as a Christian, his philosophy if you like, was firmly based on the first two commandments; 'love God and love your neighbour.' I can say without a shadow of doubt, he had them written on his heart. Finally I would like quote something one of our parishioners, who was sadly unable to be with us, said of Alan 'there was nothing to dislike about him' After a tribute like that what more can be said?

## **Poppy appeal, help needed**

**Peter Archer, Branch Secretary 01245 381286  
email: [hatpevrbl@aol.com](mailto:hatpevrbl@aol.com)**

**L**ast year, in 2013, our Poppy Appeal raised £4476, £1150 from the door to door collections. This year we already have a donation of £131 to start the 2014 village appeal.



**If you can help with our Poppy Appeal** with house to house collections, or by taking a collection box and a tray of poppies to your work place, the branch would be grateful. Contact me on the number or email above if you would like more information.

On Sunday, 9th November at 3pm, the village Remembrance Service will take place at St Andrew's Church. We look forward to seeing you.

## Bring on the mud...

The Tough Mudder is a twelve-mile obstacle course designed by British special forces - some call it the world's hardest assault course ever. As well as a half marathon over mixed terrain, the course can include crawling under electric fences and scaling walls - with the added challenge of a lot of mud!

The Tough Mudder is coming to England on 25th and 26th October this year and taking part will be an enterprising and brave nineteen year old Alice White who lives in Ferndown Way, Hatfield Peverel, and her friend Aimée from Colchester. Alice has been hospitalised for mental health issues - the psychiatric unit helped to save her life - and is raising as much money as possible for the mental health charity Mind which provides individuals and their family support regarding mental health without any government funding. Alice says 'Whenever I listen to the news, it is all mental health cuts but I want to do this because I had a fantastic service that has enabled me to do the things I am doing and still be here'



It will be a tough challenge: Alice wanted to join the Army but is a type 1 diabetic and as she says 'this is as close as I will get'. Her diabetic nurse said the challenge is against medical advice but , says Alice 'never mind, I'm young'. Her training includes at least ten miles of running a week, training with Chelmsford City ladies football club and sessions with the Marines, via her college.

To take part in this event the girls have had to raise £115 each for entrance fees: all fees are donated to Help for Heroes. Alice has already raised over £600 for Mind, and would like to thank everyone who has so far helped her with her challenge.

If you would like to make a donation, no matter how big or small, Alice and Aimée's online giving page is [www.justgiving.com/AliceAndAimeeMud](http://www.justgiving.com/AliceAndAimeeMud) or a donation through the door of 2 Ferndown Way in a envelope with your name on it to be passed to the charities involved so they can give their thanks.

And when the mud has settled, what will Alice do next? 'When I have finished my college course, I hope to go to university to become a mental health nurse so I can go back into the system and help other people. It's not like an X Factor sob story but I have the insight, I've been there as a patient, so I would like to go back and help'

Best of luck, Alice and Aimée, we'll keep our fingers crossed the mud is not too deep!

You may be too late this year, but if you fancy a challenge and are over eighteen years old, this may be for you. Tough Mudders are held worldwide and are ideal for raising monies for your own personal charity, or to take part and test yourself. The course can take four hours plus and you do need to be reasonably fit.

### **Flu vaccination days** The Laurels, Boreham /Sidney House Surgery, Hatfield Peverel

The above clinic will be held on the following dates

| <b>Day</b> | <b>Date</b>         | <b>Time</b>   | <b>Time</b>   | <b>Venue</b> |
|------------|---------------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|
| Wednesday  | 15th October        | 08.30-11.30pm | 14.00-18.30pm | Sidney House |
| Saturdays  | 11th & 25th October | 08.00-11.30am | —             | The Laurels  |

No appointment necessary - you may attend either venue



## **Pram race relived...**

*The response to our request for photos and reminiscences of the pram race exceeded expectations. It's surprising what we keep in our attics! There was only room for a pageful this time, the rest - and maybe others? - will appear in the Christmas issue. Meanwhile...*



Over sixty years ago the first pram race was held in Hatfield Peverel village, we think the brainchild of Mr Hildersby from Brewery House who ran the Methodist Church youth club. This was in 1950. The following year with news of the race broadcast by youth club members competition had grown and competitors met at the station car park (photo top left) for the start of the race, a seven mile course including an exciting run through Terling ford, especially damned for the occasion, where racers were bombarded by bags of flour from



watchers on the bridge.

The route back went to Terling Hall Road, passed Crix and into the village via Remembrance Avenue, Maldon Road to the finishing line on The Green. Winners were, below, Peter Prentice, Paul Stewart and John Cresswell in the pram.

Again at Terling ford, in 1959 the centre picture is of Denis Ashby (in the pram) with Roy Weavers and John Young.



Terling ford was the action place, deep water, spillages, water fights, good for photographs. Above the winning team of Kevin Ppear (striped shirt), Richard Howard and Richard Head are cheered on as they make for the bank. We think this is in the 1970s.

## News from St Andrews

Before writing this article I had the pleasure of cutting the Vicarage grass (or some of it). Usually this is simple; the grass minimal with the broad-leaved weeds making it look untidy. This year spring has sprung again! Far from being simple it was like hay-making! The churchyard team have had the same problem; the mower clogs up on the large volume of grass, along with the less-than-rotted grass from last week! But it is definitely autumn; nights are feeling chilly but everything is remarkably green. We have had the St Andrews Harvest Festival but most of the harvest has been gathered in since middle to late August. As last year, we supported the Braintree and Witham Foodbank and also WaterAid, two very worthwhile causes.



Although August is a time when not much seems to be happening, in reality quite a lot happens. There are weddings and baptisms; also funerals, including one for a former Churchwarden Alan Doe. His legacy of unstinting generosity and graciousness to the church and to the community will live for ever in the minds of all who had the pleasure of knowing him. As last year we had a Messy Church event at Crouchmans entitled Messy Journeys. Led by Mary Daw and Anna Tomlins it looked at the theme of journeying, both physical and spiritual, through craft, worship, games; all this with a 'Bring and share lunch'.

With our two schools, we will be supporting 'Samaritan's Purse' (the shoe boxes!) and we continue to support the Colchester Women's Refuge. We are also affiliated to Open Doors which is committed to supporting Christians and their families who are being persecuted for their faith - we are supporting an Open Doors initiative to provide family survival packs for those who have fled into the mountains to escape the murderous ISIS regime. Each one costs £70 and our church and village have contributed enough for 7 packs. Those who receive these cannot thank us personally (it would be too dangerous) but we know they are thankful. In November, we will hold a 'Secret Service' to try and enter into the world of the persecuted Christian, albeit in a small way. Look out for posters in October/November. Open Doors also asks us to pray for persecuted Christians; we are having Prayer Mornings once a quarter in the church with a mixture of Bible readings, prayer and quiet. The emphasis is on quiet prayer - look for posters and entries in the Parish Magazine. We also run a time of quiet prayer and contemplation entitled 'A Quiet Space' every second Monday of the month. This is in someone's house, lasts three-quarters of an hour and is peaceful time of listening, silence, prayer and music. Anyone is welcome, there are no beginners; we are all learners.

There is a potential difficulty looming which requires someone with good computer skills and patience. Our Church magazine relies on the generosity of our advertisers to keep it afloat and costs low. **We desperately need someone to chase the letters sent out to remind advertisers it is time to renew.** It happens once a year, about now, so advertisements are ready for the printers by December. If anyone can help with this, please have a word with me, the Vicar tel: 380958 or email [SRNorthfield@aol.com](mailto:SRNorthfield@aol.com) Ride and Stride (formerly Essex Churches Sponsored Bike Ride) took place took place in September and three people bravely set off early that morning. Half the money raised by sponsorship comes back to us; the other goes to the Essex Churches Trust. A coffee morning and toy sale held on 6<sup>th</sup> September raised £477.72 - thank you to Mary Daw for organising it and everyone who took part.

### Some useful dates to put in your diary:-

**Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> October** – 7.30pm concert at St Andrews Church.

**Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> October** – Morning of Quiet Prayer at St Andrews 9.30am to 12.30pm.

**Saturday 1st November** – 10am coffee morning in the Church Hall.

**Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November** – 9.30am Samaritan's Purse box filling in Church Hall.

**Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> November - Remembrance Sunday:** A Service of Remembrance and Dedication will be held at 3pm including an Act of Remembrance and there will also be an Act of Remembrance at the Family Service, which begins at 10.15am.

**Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> November** – 11am (begins 10.45am) An Act of Remembrance at All Saints: Ulting.

**Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> November - ‘The Secret Service’ at 10.15am: St Andrews Church.** This is a service especially designed to express solidarity with fellow Christians in parts of the world where they actively persecuted for their faith. Such a service would be advertised by word of mouth or gesture, obviously we have to advertise ours. Look out for posters at the beginning of November.

**Please note: there will be no Christmas Bazaar this year but there will be an extra coffee morning with a Christmas theme on Saturday 6th December.**

**Samaritans Purse.** Now is the time when we collect gifts for children in an as yet unspecified place of dire need. These are basically the same as last year, toys, teddies (small), toiletries (no glass or liquids), hats, gloves, scarves, stationary and sweets (no chocolate). Please note - soft toys have to be new; this is due to various regulations imposed by the customs and border authorities in the recipient countries.

If you prefer to give money, then a gift of £2 will offset the cost of sending one box. If you are a taxpayer, there is a Gift Aid declaration and envelope with the leaflet. At present, for every £1 given, the taxman adds an extra 28 pence (56 pence for £2, so for every £8 gift-aided, another box goes free, or, to put it another way, for every £100 gift-aided, another £28 is added - 14 boxes worth!). Now that is not to be sneezed at.

**Carol ‘Songs of Praise’** - We hope to have another of these, possibly on 2<sup>nd</sup> December at 6.30pm. Monies go to the Children’s Society. Just come along; it’s good fun as well as making a merry noise to the Lord.

**Please remember in your prayers** those living in Terling Hall Road, Terling Road, Toulmin Road, Ulting Road, Vicarage Crescent, The Vineyards, Wickham Bishops Road, Willow Crescent, Witham Road, Woodfield Way, Woodham Drive, Yew Tree Close.

## Mothers Union

**I**n September Fr Stephen conducted our Autumn Communion Service; he spoke on St Peter and the trouble he got into with the High Priests when he started preaching about God’s forgiveness through Jesus Christ, and told the people they could approach God in prayer directly without going through a priest. This did not suit the establishment: Jewish priests made a good living from bringing God’s forgiveness to a sinner for a fee of a sacrifice in the temple. They gave rulings on legal and moral matters and were well rewarded by Roman authorities for keeping the Jewish population under control. It seemed to them Peter and the apostles were proclaiming Jesus as the new King, and his death was a sufficient sacrifice for the forgiveness of sins, also proclaiming a new law of love for all. Peter and his pals were ordered to “shut up”

There was no way Peter could do this; Jesus had ordered him to spread the good news of

God’s love, his forgiveness and the resurrection to eternal life. The apostles had done this and keeping silent would be to disobey Jesus but speaking out would disobey the nation’s rulers.



Jewish rulers treated the apostles with contempt and said they had no authority. Peter’s authority was that a lame man he had cured, in the name of Jesus, was now walking and praising God. He asked the priests who it was right to obey- God or them? He implied it is possible for laypeople to know the will of God if we pray, consult the Bible, seek guidance from councillors, and obey our conscience. We may then understand what God wants us to do and obey his will.

Our next meeting is on Tuesday 7th October when our speaker will be Mrs. Loy, who will talk to us about Fair Trade. She will be bringing along some goods to sell so spare cash in our purses might be a good thing! Everyone is welcome.

## Harvest celebrations at the Salvation Army

Celebrations started with a Saturday evening cabaret, using small groups of artists suitable to the relatively small building. Staging was loaned by St Andrew's Junior School and a colourful backcloth with a harvest theme erected. Brass music was provided by a quartet led by Deputy Bandmaster Paul Mitchinson from Southend. The group presented pieces of a harvest flavour but included the march 'Peveler' written by Derek Jordan for the corps 1991 Centenary. Dialogue drama was by Darren Middleton and James Martin with items on a biblical theme. Professional singer Ian Jordan, raised in the village, gave his services free and with his singing and interaction with the audience help to create a very happy and relaxed atmosphere. Tea and scones were served, and the brass quartet lead the singing of 'Bringing in the sheaves' to close.



Sunday morning was a harvest 'songs of praise' led by the corps' own brass trio. Two altar services took place, one with monetary gifts, the other with food later delivered to the local Home Start office.

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## Methodist Church

On 4th August we joined in an ecumenical service at Ulting Memorial, led by our Minister Rev Sue King, to remember those in our village who had gone to war 100 years earlier to serve in World War One. Together with about 30 residents with an age range spanning 70 years we took part in a simple service. The bells of Ulting Church were rung at 11am and poppies laid at the foot of the memorial with the words of the war poet Laurence Binyon echoing down the years 'They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old -'

Our village service contrasted vividly with the major services held throughout the day in cathedrals across Great Britain and the service held at dusk at the war memorial in Mons, Belgium attended by our royal family and many European dignitaries. At this cemetery, many are buried together from both sides of the conflict commemorating their sacrifice with equal dignity.

More thought provoking is the spectacular display of large ceramic poppies being progressively planted to cascade down the ramparts of the Tower of London and fill the moat to suggest 'Blood swept land and seas of red'. Eventually 888246 poppies will be planted by Remembrance Day on the 11th November to represent every British fatality during that first Great War.

In our prayers at the Ulting memorial service, we pledged to be good neighbours to care for those in need. Our Church continues to support local people by contributing food and toiletry items to Braintree food bank for people in crisis. At our Harvest Festival on 21st September we celebrated our first year of contributing to this scheme - we have forwarded 290kg (640lbs) weight of items, a tremendous effort for our small congregation and local supporters. Items of non-perishable food (with a 6 month life span) and toiletries can be left at our Church during Sunday service or at any of our events. St Andrews is collecting for the same scheme. **We hope you will support us in this work which has a direct impact on helping local people.**

### Special events

**Sunday 16th November 11am** - our service includes a talk from a LEPRA representative (fighting diseases of the poor), followed by lunch  
**Wednesday 26th November** - Celebrate, a service of praise and worship. Refreshments from 7.30pm followed by service at 8pm

### 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

## Arresting, harvesting and sampling festive delights!

Pevel Wine Club – Vee Green  
Secretary (01245 355723)

[www.pevelwineclub.co.uk](http://www.pevelwineclub.co.uk)

email [pevelwineclub@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:pevelwineclub@hotmail.co.uk)



Langford

Phone 01621 843183

E: [enquiries@museumofpower.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@museumofpower.org.uk)

Our last two meetings have been different yet enjoyable. August saw us at the Essex Police Museum in Springfield. Volunteer guide Roger Johnson met us in the museum and talked us through various exhibits, the history of the Essex Police force and the origins of the Police Museum. We then toured older parts of Police Headquarters including the former Chief Constable's lovely house and secret garden, plus the stable blocks and dormitories of Victorian times before coming up to date with a visit to the control room – the calm centre of the continuous whirl of emergency calls.

September was the start of the autumn programme and a jolly Harvest Supper; a ploughman's platter followed by home-made apple crumble and cream, washed down by our own wines, beers and ciders. There was much rivalry to win the Cowpat Competition and even more NOT to win the marrow in the raffle! Supper was accompanied by the Wurzels' Greatest Hits, which only slightly marred proceedings, and all were proficient in 'ooh aaring' by the time we went home! We welcomed visitors and prospective new members Paul and Donna Boreham and Lorraine and Henryk Podlesny.

October is our only serious meeting of the year – the AGM when we review past activities and financial position and carry out elections. This year Bob Hill is standing down, and we look forward to a flood of volunteers to replace him! We are grateful to Bob and his wife Barbara for their work for the club, particularly in running the raffle so efficiently.

The meeting on 12th November will be the highlight of the year when we have invited a well-known, well-recommended guest speaker to introduce a selection of supermarket special wines for Christmas, each to be accompanied by an appropriate festive snack. Guests are welcome; costs £5-£6 per person to cover wine and food. If you would like to come to this special evening, please ring Vee to confirm attendance on 01245 355723. The Club meets normally on the second Wednesday of the month at 8pm in the village hall, but it is worth phoning first.

*The Wine Club has its own website, courtesy of Fred Brown (many thanks Fred), accessed direct via our website above or the Hatfield Pevel site*  
[www.essexinfo.net/hatfieldpevel/clubs-and-societies/](http://www.essexinfo.net/hatfieldpevel/clubs-and-societies/)

Delicious breakfasts, mid morning snacks, lunches and 'probably the best cakes in Maldon' are available in the Steam Pump tearoom

Entry to museum £2.50 for non ticket holders includes cup of tea and cake.

**26th October Vintage/Antiques Fair**  
10.30am - 4.30pm  
Stalls selling a wide range of antiques and collectables

Adult £2.50 (£3 between 9am and 10am); concessions Senior citizens/ students (on production of a current student ID card) £2; **children free.**

Miniature steam train will be running (extra charge applies)

**7th December Santa Special**  
Miniature steam train rides to see Father Christmas with a present for children included in the cost.  
**Must be pre-booked from Maldon Tourist Office (telephone 01621 856503).** Early booking recommended.

**Tickets now on sale**  
Adult or child £8 each (includes gift and refreshments). We are not able to carry children under one year of age.

**Tea party for Helen Rollason Dorothy Carder**



The tea party held on 6th September successfully raised £103.90 for the charity. Thank you to everyone who supported this afternoon and donated raffle prizes.

## New website jam-packed with useful information

1st Hatfield Peverel Scout Group  
(For boys and girls 6-18 yrs)  
Group Secretary: Suzanne Evans  
[www.hpscouts.org.uk](http://www.hpscouts.org.uk)

We are very excited to announce the launch of our new, professionally designed website, jam-packed with useful information for existing members and those seeking to enrol their child/young person in Scouting activities in Hatfield Peverel. There are sections on fund-raising, how adults can become involved with the Group and how to hire our HQ for your private function. **Please visit our site and take some time to browse through the pages;**

there is a lot of information, some you will already know, and some may be new. If you have any comments or ideas for future enhancement of the site, or would like to get involved with the Group, please feel free to email our Webmaster and Group Administrator, Michelle Spicer, at [hpscoutgroup@gmail.com](mailto:hpscoutgroup@gmail.com)



**Beavers** enjoyed an informative visit to the Toby Carvery in Chelmer Village (see photos and reports from Luca Polito and Rowan Gowers). They discussed healthy eating, identified different fruits and vegetables, learnt how to correctly lay a table and chatted to the chef about his work. The highlight of the day was a lovely roast dinner served in the restaurant.

**Cubs** started the term with an evening of 'getting to know you'. They took great interest in a talk on international scouting, where they learned about World Scout Jamborees, and enjoyed looking at a display of items that leaders had acquired at past events. A meeting which involved printing with vegetables was messy, but enormous fun!

### Fund-raising

Everyone who shops on-line can help us with our fund-raising by using the Easy Fund-raising Website. Just shop via <http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/1sthpsg> and a percentage of whatever you spend is donated to our Scout Group at no cost to you.

### Monthly paper collection - first Saturday of each month

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. To those who kindly drop off their own

newspapers, please be aware that, due to repeated vandalism, the skip is now locked between the hours of 5pm and 8am. Thank you for your continued support.



### Useful Contacts

Group Chairman: Chris Phillips, 07850 024578  
 phillips.chris@btinternet.com

**Group Scout Leader:** Nick Nicholas, 07841 597977  
 nicknicholas1990@gmail.com

**Webmaster and Group Administrator** (membership enquiries): Michelle Spicer, hpscoutgroup@gmail.com

**Newspaper collection co-ordinator:**  
 Jonathan Dormon, 01245 382981  
 jonathan.dormon@btinternet.com

**HQ bookings:** Neelima Polala, 07411 922912  
 neelimapolala@gmail.com

**Group Secretary:** Suzanne Evans, 01245 382397, boons\_calibre\_travel@lineone.net

### Meeting times

**Beavers** Monday 4pm-5.15pm

**Cubs** Friday 6.45pm-8.15pm

**Scouts** Wednesday 7.30pm-9pm

**Explorers,** Thursday 7.30pm onwards

**SASU (adults only),** first Friday in the month 8.30pm onwards (Jo Oldfield, 01245 381756)

*Now the Scout Group's new website is up and running, we shall no longer publish 'useful contacts' or groups' meeting times.Ed.*

## Goodbye football pavilion Hello the quiet life?

Trevor Meredith writes in response to Susan Blythe's letter in the August Review

*Is saying goodbye to football on the rec really the key to ridding the village of certain types of behaviour?*

*Stopping actual organised league football matches is just ridiculous. The behaviour that is referred to by Susan in her letter is not the behaviour of grown men playing a game of league football on a Saturday or Sunday morning, it is the behaviour of bored teenagers that have nothing else to do. Whether there is a football pavilion there or 'grass and trees' will bear no impact on how certain people treat the area.*

*Most of the villagers I have spoken to are keen for the rec to be used as a home ground for the local football teams.*

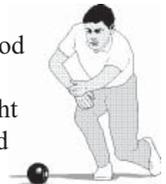
*We don't wish to have a bar facility or even a tea room, just changing facilities and the support of the Parish Council and the local community.*

## Short mats have a good summer

**Rita Thomson, Club Captain (380038)**

[www.hatfieldpeverelbowling.org](http://www.hatfieldpeverelbowling.org)

**S**hort mat bowlers have had a good summer, winning most of the friendly matches played. Finals night is in October. The club's singles and pairs are going well.



The outside season has been very busy and we have had some good results. The Midweek League team finished second and has got promotion, so we will be in Division 4 next summer. Well done to all players who took part. The outdoor season has come to an end and on finals day in September Sheila Butler beat Sheila Fullbrook, and in the pairs Sheila Butler and Roger Thomsett won over Ann Holliday and Andrew Hoare.

The summer has been a lovely season, good bowling and good company. Well done everyone, thank you for your support and your help.

## Challenging new course for Autumn

# WEA

‘Current controversies in the world of science’ with tutor John Pickard got under way on 30th September with a look at renewables and nuclear power - and excellent it was too! This ten week course will discuss further controversies which will affect us now and in the future: fracking, genetic engineering, global warming, stem cells and cloning. Our lives will never be the same again. Interested? **Join us in the Scout and Guide HQ, 10am start**, each week a different topic.

Our series of evening meetings began on 7th October with a talk on Stow Maries aerodrome with Roger Smith. This will be followed by

**Tuesday 4th November** - ‘History of salt extraction on the Blackwater’ with David Newman

**Tuesday 2nd December** - Wildlife and habitats of North Essex and Suffolk with Alex Bass.

These meetings are in the Methodist Church hall, 8pm start. Tickets are £5 to include refreshments.

Contact Lesley Naish, 01245 380837, or Terry Bard, 01245 381289, for further information.

## Village hall happenings

See Facebook under Hatfield Peverel village hall  
Normal opening times 7pm - 11pm

**Halloween party**, Friday 31st October  
Everyone welcome to the village hall lounge 7pm till late. Fancy dress - prizes for the best child and best adult costumes. Refreshments.

**Bingo** (third Thursday in month) 16th October, 20th November

**Brag** (first Monday in month) 3rd November, 1st December

**Poker** (last Saturday in month) 25th October, 29th November

**Darts** Monday nights

### All bookings for hall and meeting rooms

HPCAb bookings@gmail.com

Phone Alan 07741 140732

**Village hall** (after 7pm) 01245 381481

An Evening of Light Music  
in  
**Saint Andrew's Parish Church**  
Hatfield Peverel  
Featuring  
**Vintage Brew**  
**The Saltire Singers**  
**The Men of Saint Andrews**  
With  
**Guest Piper Clare Pring**  
on  
**Saturday 18th October 2014**  
At  
**7.30 pm**  
**Entrance £5.00**  
**includes light refreshments**



*St Andrew's Christmas Coffee Morning*  
10.00am - 12.00 noon  
Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> December

Coffee - cards - curios  
Cakes - Cream Scones  
Chat and a Raffle



## Open house for tea and cake

A seat in the sunshine at Mary Hills house and garden in Baker Avenue in September when she held her annual tea party for Macmillan cancer support. £316 was raised and Mary would like to thank everyone who came and her friends who helped and donated raffle prizes.



## 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 Direct 0845 4647

Pharmacy, Hadfelda Square 01245 380130

**Electricity - emergency** 0800 7838838

**Essex County Council** 01245 492211

**Essex & Suffolk Water** 24 hours 0845 7820999

**First Essex Buses Ltd** 01245 293400

**Gas - emergency** 0800 111999

**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

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

Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri 9.00am - 5.30pm

Wednesday and Saturday 9.00am - 1.00pm

### 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

Braintree, by appointment only 01376 320762

**Relate** 01245 258680

**Samaritans (24 hours - toll free)** 08457 909090

### 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

**Village Agent** Sally Austin 0800 9775858

**Village Hall** (after 7pm) 01245 381481

## 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)

### 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

**Rosanna Briggs** (E) 01245 381618

**Garry Cockrill** Traffic chair

01245 697263

**Peter Endersby** (E/KB/A/F) 01245 381919

**Colin Giffin** (Planning chair/ 01621 892351

Country Park chair/T/A)

**Bernard Heard** - Vice Chairman 01245 380370

(P/T/A)

**Alan Ingram** (Audit chair/E/CP) 01245 381880

**Leslie Priestley** 01245 380404

**Ted Munt** (Football chair/E/A) 01245 381135

**Linda Shaw** (T) 01245 382669

**Diane Wallace** (P/CP) 01245 381485

### District Councillors

**David Bebb** 01245 381065

**District and County Councillor**

**Derrick Louis** 07918 721526



## Hatfield Peverel Infant School St Andrew's Junior School Open Days



Wednesday 15th October  
Wednesday 19th November 2014

**Guided tours around both schools with the two Head Teachers**  
**Refreshments provided by the schools' governors**

Are you thinking about infant and junior school places for your child? Then take this opportunity to see the Infant and Junior Schools of Hatfield Peverel in action. See the children and staff at work in the classrooms and around the school, talk to the head teachers and governor representatives, enjoy informal conversation over a cup of coffee – find out what we can offer!

Tours are scheduled during the morning and afternoon and last about an hour. To find out more and to arrange a tour on Open Day, please contact the **Infant School Office on 01245 380220**.

Church Road, Hatfield Peverel, Chelmsford, CM3 2RP (Infants), CM3 2JX (Juniors)  
01245 380220 (Infants) 01245 380131 (Juniors)  
[www.hatfieldpeverel.ik.org](http://www.hatfieldpeverel.ik.org) (Infants) [www.hatfieldpeverelstandrews.ik.org](http://www.hatfieldpeverelstandrews.ik.org) (Juniors)

### **Have I done something wrong? Speech app bites back at technology abuse**

Has anyone experienced what I believe is a previously undiscovered threat to human life from over-engineering in new technology. My 76-year-old mother recently bought a new mobile phone. She was sitting quietly and alone in her house at night, trying - but repeatedly failing - to send a text using the unfamiliar system. She finally gave up in exasperation and shouted: "Well \* off then" at the phone. A voice replied, with the eerie calm only mastered by HAL: 'Have I done something wrong?' She did not know the phone was equipped with a speech app and is still in a state of physical and emotional collapse.

*Dr Emma Wilson, Birmingham*

Smart phones in the US are more direct. An American friend recalled the time he roundly abused his phone, to be reproached by its sweet-toned voice reminding him that 'I treat you with respect'.

*Pat Lyes-Wilsdon, Bristol*

*Both from the Guardian's Letters spot recently. An app, you ask? It's a programme on your mobile phone, app - short for application - another gobbledegook term to creep into our language!*

### **And now we know...**

*From a Marconi Veteran on one of a number of online forums serving that fraternity.*

Brains of older people are slow because they know so much. People do not decline mentally with age, it just takes them longer to recall facts because they have more information stored in their brains, scientists believe. Much like a computer struggles as the hard drive becomes more full, so humans also take longer to access information, it has been suggested.

Researchers say this slowing down is not the same as cognitive decline. The human brain works slower in old age, said Dr. Michael Ramscar, but only because we have stored more information over time. The brains of older people do not get weak. On the contrary, they simply know more, but just may not be able to access the information.

Older people often go to another room to get something and when they get there, they stand there wondering what they came for. It is NOT a memory problem; it is nature's way of making older people do more exercise. *Yes, I knew that's what it was - Ed!*