

*Hatfield Peverel*

# *Review*

245 - December 2014





# Local events and happenings round and about

## Hatfield Peverel Review

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

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**Copy for the February issue by Friday, 16th January please.**

## Diary Dates

Church dates page 16 onwards

Village hall dates page 20

### December

- 13 Methodist Church coffee morning/cake stall
- 13 Folk Dance Club Christmas party
- 17 Story time in the library, see page 13
- 18 Hatfield Peverel Walkers, page 12
- 18 Folk Dance Club
- 20 'Tea for Helen' - Helen Rollson coffee am

### January

- 1 New Year's day walk, see back page
- 3 St Andrews Church coffee morning 10am
- 5 Parish Council meeting, 7.30pm village hall
- 7 Flower Club
- 10 Methodist Church coffee morning
- 14 Wine Club
- 15 Folk Dance Club
- 17 'Tea for Helen' Helen Rollason coffee am
- 24 Salvation Army coffee morning
- 28 Hadfelda WI
- 29 Hatfield Peverel Walkers
- 29 Folk Dance Club

### February

- 2 Parish Council meeting
- 4 Flower Club
- 7 St Andrew's Church coffee morning
- 11 Wine Club
- 12 Folk Dance Club
- 14 Methodist Church coffee morning

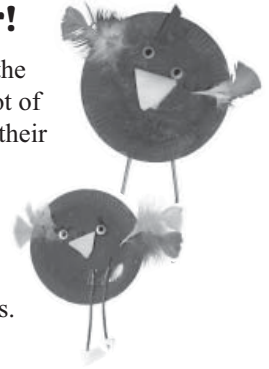
*Front cover - Alice White of Ferndown Way, on the right, seen here in October with her friend Aimee Quinney at the finishing line of the 'Tough Mudder' challenge, having just successfully completed the course near Winchester. She succeeded in collecting over £800 in support of the mental health charity Mind. Report on page 7*

## We wish you a merry Christmas and a happy New Year!

It has not been the best of years but according to the papers yesterday it has been the warmest since records began. I find that hard to believe, we seem to have had a lot of rain, then hot sunshine, then rain which has meant the constant whirr of mowers as their owners struggle to keep the grass down, but yes, it has been warm!

Ken and I would like to thank you for your contributions over the year: emails, phone calls, suggestions, photographs, the list goes on. Thank you to our printers who have been with us since year one - that's 245 issues. Makes one feel old! And to Marel and Ron, our distributors, and our deliverers too who go out in all weathers.

May you all have a happy and peaceful time with family and friends.



## Personal data in GPs' records

We reported in the February and April 2014 issues of the Review the controversy surrounding the botched publication of the NHS England's 'Better Information means Better Care' leaflet. It attempted to explain the proposed requirement for GPs' medical records data to be uploaded to the NHS England Health and Social Care Information Centre, and its implications for us as GPs' patients, particularly with regard to personally identifiable data. (The principal concern was and is the possibility of data being available to commercial organisations unconnected with your medical treatment.) The information contained in the leaflet was inadequate and its release and distribution was badly handled. As a result the launch of the proposed system was postponed 'until the autumn'. The issue has gone quiet since then. Look for further information on the NHS Choices website [www.nhd.uk/caredata](http://www.nhd.uk/caredata)

However, as we explained at the time, you could write to your GP requesting that you did not want any personally identifiable data held in his/her records to be transferred to this new central data centre. Copies of 'Dissent from secondary use of patient identifiable data' forms are available at the surgery which makes the task of doing so straightforward. Just go to the surgery in Strutt Close and ask for one or more of the forms at the reception desk. As and when further information comes out about the introduction of the new system you will be able to opt back in if you change your mind about your earlier decision.

## Remembrance Service, Sunday 9th November

A large number of worshippers attended the Remembrance Service conducted by Father Stephen Northfield at St Andrew's Church. Stephen extended a warm welcome to all concerned, especially the many organisations.



The Royal British Legion Standard was carried by Captain Pippa Fowler and Geoff Jordan played the last post for the two minute silence, then reveille. Organist Howard Southgate was accompanied for the hymns by the Salvation Army band.

Wreaths were laid by the Royal British Legion, Essex Police, the Parish Council, Guides, Scouts

and the Women's Institute. Guides Ellie Hale and Ellie Barclay shared a reading whilst Army Cadet Daniel Martin read the poem In Flanders Fields.

Lt Col Derrick Louis spoke of his family background and his commitment to the Army Reserve. He told of his duties he undertook when he went for six months to Afghanistan this year. Much of his involvement was the preparation for handing the responsibilities to the Afghans, especially the Army. He spoke of the pleasure of receiving letters and cards from home, keeping him in touch with his family.

The Scouts and Guides took a collection at the end of the service for the Poppy Appeal which raised £322.81. (*See Service of Remembrance at Infant School, page 7*)

## Hello from me!

Sean Pettit (01621 851929), [www.hpaa.org.uk](http://www.hpaa.org.uk)

After the Allotment Association AGM I find myself having to fill some pretty big shoes, those of David Goodey, who has retired from the chair. I am personally pleased and more than a little relieved he decided to stay on the committee, his guidance and helpful advice always welcomed and sought after. He left us in great shape too, and I wish him all the best for the future.

A little about myself, I have always had green fingers and cherish the days I spent digging and toiling away with my dad in the veg patch in our garden as a boy, the mechanics of turning over soil and digging in compost every autumn ready for the spring planting was always my favourite time of the year. I know most people say planting or picking is their favourite time, but my dad said you will get nothing out if you put nothing in and that's quite a life lesson too, a message which I carry with me today.

I have been in the HPAA for a few years now and have made many new friends. Hours spent on the plot with people are always remembered and cherished. Whether it be idle chitchat (or as my little lad William says 'cracking your jaw again Dad?' whenever he's impatient to get on with another task), or a proud grower showing off their hard earned produce, I am always interested.

The allotment has also captivated William for many hours, he's only nine but a helpful lad and enjoys his sessions on the plot - are far better than sitting on the PlayStation gaming. He's learned so much too, which is another desire of mine to encourage all parents to teach their children to become growers, and get some fresh air and exercise. You will remember those days forever, as I do the days spent with my father in our garden.

If you don't have time for an allotment save space in your garden to grow some vegetables. You'll be surprised how much you can grow in the smallest of spaces, and if you have spare time apply for an allotment. We have a few plots available and would love to see you join us. It is not expensive; an average 4 rod plot costs as little

as £20 per year. The satisfaction you'll get and bonds you will build are priceless.

This time of year I dig and dream of bountiful harvests to come, meticulously planning my plots, ordering seeds, reading the latest advice on what to grow. Most that know me on the old site know I have a passion for the unusual. My philosophy is why grow the standards we can easily buy down the supermarket. I grow some of these of course, but this past year I had great crops of cucamelons, golden Hubbard's, turks turbans, winter buffy balls, tomatillos and lemon crystals to name a few, many of those were a new taste to my family and I and a great talking point with friends when sharing a meal with them.

If these few words inspire you to pick up a fork and start digging a vegetable plot then brilliant. And if it has moved you to join us, even better. We welcome you with open arms.



## What a whopper!

This giant winning pumpkin grown for the annual competition at the Horticultural Society's AGM in November by Hedley Janes weighed in at 264lbs. It has since been cut up and enjoyed in hearty soup and pie form in homes around the village. Hedley is on the left with Clive Emberson. The rest of the meeting went off smoothly with chairman and committee re-elected en bloc, and reports of an interesting and profitable year.



## The Autumn witch



Autumn curses the sky over cast  
 Casting spells with her ancient wand  
 Sneaking, looking for any green leaf survivor  
 Spellbinding the leaves golden

Bewitched golden, glistening trees  
 Are conjured up as one of her spells  
 The whirling leaves fall to the ground  
 preparing to be used in a potion.

Autumn witch smiles at her wonderful  
 world  
 Rides lightning bolts of magic  
 Hurts her enchanted wand  
 Cackling with pleasure

Just when her golden world is perfect  
 Her power suddenly weakens and the  
 trees stop listening to her commands

She watches her siring forest turn white and  
 cold wizard winter takes over.

Mourning, admitting she has lost  
 winter wizard banishes Autumn witch to her  
 leafy hut  
 where she watches and remains until it is time for  
 Autumn to come again.

by Jessica



## **Soldier Autumn**

By Rafe Louis

*Soldier Autumn defends the earth,  
 Protecting us from the scorching heat,  
 Waiting, approaching his fearless enemy,  
 Emerging from tall soldier trees.*

*Camouflaged in greenery, standing trees  
 Are waiting for their uniform to change.*

*The leaves are descending  
 Stripping the trees from their costume.*

*Soldier Autumn snarls at their appearance,  
 Blows commands from his misty breath,  
 Salutes the thunderous thumping of leafy boots,  
 Controls the land with his troops.*

*Just when he conquers his land,  
 Control suddenly slips from his dewy grasp.  
 He surrenders to his opponent  
 Warrior Winter marches through the frozen  
 barracks.*

*Retreating, slowly his power vanished,  
 Autumn stands at ease,  
 Where he gazes and guards his army  
 To begin the battle again.*

Thank you to Jessica and Rafe from  
 St Andrew's Junior School for their poetry,  
 two very different aspects of Autumn

## **An early start to the festive season!**

**Peverel Wine Club – Vee Green, Secretary (01245 355723)**

**Access our website direct at [www.peverelwineclub.co.uk](http://www.peverelwineclub.co.uk) or via Hatfield Peverel site at [www.essexinfo.net/hatfieldpeverel/](http://www.essexinfo.net/hatfieldpeverel/) email [peverelwineclub@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:peverelwineclub@hotmail.co.uk)**

The Club's 37th AGM took place in October when Chairman Graham Bushby reflected on an enjoyable year with a virtual journey on the Orient Express and cruise round the Mediterranean, plus wine tastings including Sicilian specialities and wines good with spicy food. Treasurer Linda Fisher reported a successful financial year. Bob Hill retired from the committee and club members Ann Riddleston and Jim Lane were elected on, the remainder of the committee is unchanged.



November's meeting was another highlight, an event entitled Supermarket Specials. We welcomed guest speaker Neil Bull AIWS, owner of the newly-opened Essex Wine School, where those interested in increasing their knowledge of wine can attend courses in Chelmsford and Colchester – an unusual idea for a Christmas present? See [www.essexwineschool.com](http://www.essexwineschool.com)

For this special meeting we were joined by visitors from the Beacon Wine Circle in Wickham Bishops and the Maldon Wine Appreciation Group. Nearly 70 people enjoyed a tasting of six wines particularly suitable to drink with Christmas lunch, each accompanied by appropriate food tastings from smoked salmon paté through turkey with trimmings, mini Yorkshire puddings with roast beef and cauliflower puree (not horseradish, which has a horrible effect upon any wine!), two cheeses and a slice of Christmas cake. The wines sampled were on offer in local supermarkets, many of which have good offers on wines for Christmas. An excellent time was had by members and visitors - we look forward to Neil's visit in 2015.

We are looking forward to our annual Christmas party in December, when we shall be tucking into a 4-course supper provided by members and accompanied by our own wines, all to the sound of live music provided by local entertainer Ian Jordan, making a return visit after being enjoyed so much last year.

The new programme begins in January with a light-hearted quiz evening, followed each month by a variety of wine tastings, trips out and sociable meetings. You would be very welcome to come to any of our meetings - give Vee a ring beforehand to confirm attendance (and to ensure we have enough 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 always phone first.

## **Replicating 'Old Masters'**

**Hatfield Peverel Art Group - Peter Walker (381798)**

The Art Group continues to provide for its members an ideal platform for enjoyable social camaraderie while producing excellent work under the expert guidance of regular tutor Trevor Harwood. Meetings are held on Mondays during school term in the church hall, from 2pm to 4pm, with refreshments at 'half time'. A recent extended painting day coordinated by Trevor gave members an opportunity to replicate 'Old Masters' of their choice - a popular subject with some impressive results.

We have welcomed two new recruits this term, Anni Bunting and Sue Holt, and we are pleased that Lynden Elsom has returned after deciding not to move away from the area after all. Despite her health issues, we are very thankful to see Wendy Garwood's lovely smile at many of our meetings.

The next few weeks will bring us surprisingly quickly to the group's Christmas festivities, a seasonal mini-party on the last session of term (8th December), followed by the Christmas lunch at the Six Bells on Monday 15th December. For members and their partners, it is always looked on as the highlight of the year for those who attend, and also an opportunity for me to thank members and supporters who have contributed to the success of the Art Group over the past year.

For details of Art Group activities please contact Peter Walker on 01245 381798 or visit our website at [www.hatfieldpeverelartgroup.co.uk](http://www.hatfieldpeverelartgroup.co.uk)

## Alice White's 'Tough Mudder' challenge

Chest deep in mud, neck deep in ice cold pools of dirty water, electric shocks and so many more elements that we do our best to avoid in our every day lives. Tough Mudder is more than a fitness challenge, it's a way of life. Testing physical fitness at the highest level, but also mental grit and determination. You will not survive the course if you are not mentally and physically prepared for each step of each mile, and each challenge set on each obstacle. Many attempt the challenge, but only the toughest complete it. Thirteen miles of mud over varying terrain with 22 SAS-set assault course obstacles - there is no other event on the planet like Tough Mudder.



Alice White of Ferndown Way, Hatfield Peverel, took part in the challenge on the 25th of October 2014, raising £230 for the charity Help for Hero's through entry fees, and a further £830 for 'Mind' the mental health charity. There is still a live 'just giving' page to add to Alice's total - [www.justgiving.com/AliceAndAimeeMud](http://www.justgiving.com/AliceAndAimeeMud)



She has also bravely, or stupidly, signed up to do the challenge again when it next comes to England in 2015 - so if you are feeling up to the challenge and want to get stuck in the mud, don't be shy!

Alice says 'It was the most rewarding thing I have achieved in my life to have raised such a large sum of money, for charities which are so close to my own heart. I would like to extend my thanks to everyone in the village for their support which has enabled me to raise £830 for 'Mind'. The justgiving page is going to stay open until January, and it would be amazing to reach £1000 which is

twice the amount of my initially set target. I completed the challenge in 3 hours and 50 minutes and I loved every single step and obstacle! I cannot wait to do it again in 2015, I would definitely recommend it to any thrill seekers within the village. It's amazing what you can achieve with a bit of focus, training and determination. I'd personally like to thank everyone who has donated, I know first hand how much of a positive impact funding this charity will have to current and future sufferers of mental illness, and let's see if we can make the grand total to £1,000 by January.'

## Service of Remembrance at the Infant School

Peter Archer, Branch Secretary

Tel: 01245 381286.

E: [hatpevrbl@aol.com](mailto:hatpevrbl@aol.com)



Members of the Royal British Legion, Guides and friends attended a morning Service of Remembrance at Hatfield Peverel Infants School on Tuesday 11th November.

The children stood as a candle was lit at 10:59. At 11am, the Last Post was played by Mattias Archer on the flute and Standards of the Royal

British Legion and Guides were lowered. After the standards were raised, Captain Geoff Fowler gave a short talk about his army background and places he had been to.

A question and answer session then followed from many of the children concerning Captain Fowler's uniform, medals, his background and purpose of the Poppy.

At the end of the Service, incidental music was provided again by Mattias on the flute, accompanied by Barbara Mason on the piano. Special thanks to Diane Price for her attendance on behalf of the Scouts and Guides.

## **If you enjoy driving and meeting people, you may be able to help**

**Viking Community Transport\***, which offers support to people in Maldon and the surrounding areas, including Hatfield Peverel, needs more volunteer drivers.

**T**he slight decline in numbers of our volunteer drivers and the amount of time they are able to give, is causing a problem for us with transport for our members, both regular and ad hoc trips. **We provide transport for passenger journeys for individuals and groups using mainly volunteer drivers, and demand in some areas is increasing.** They are required to help people at risk of isolation: due to age, disability, mobility problems or unsuitable or inadequate transport.

**For these people YOU may be their only opportunity to visit healthcare specialists, to socialise or even to go out shopping.** Last year we merged with Colchester CVS who operate a similar transport scheme in their area. They are a not for profit organisation and a registered charity and Viking is treated as a separately accountable project within CCVS, part funded and supported by ECC and Maldon District Council. **Braintree Community Transport also operates in Hatfield Peverel and is in need of volunteers.**

If you can help please contact Paul Harris, Co-ordinator, Viking Community Transport on 01621 843164 and he will give you more information.

\*Viking Community Transport is a project of Colchester Community Voluntary Services.

## **Scout's newspaper skip - cardboard cartons**

**A** plea from the Scouts concerning the use of the skip for recycling of waste paper. **Please** consider other users when depositing paper in the skip and **flatten any cardboard cartons** you wish to deposit. Also, no plastic other than bags containing your newspapers and magazines please. Other types of plastic are not acceptable to the waste recycling company. Thank you.

## **Arla Dairies – odour issue now resolved?**

**A**s residents will be aware over the past four years Arla Foods has been actively working to resolve recurring odour issues emanating from the effluent treatment plant at the south west corner of their site. A village liaison group, coordinated through Cllr David Bebb, has been meeting on an ongoing basis with key Arla staff, as well as Environment Agency staff to lobby and be updated upon progress. A considerable amount of investment has been made by Arla over this time into installing a number of engineering solutions, with incremental odour improvement, but not completely eliminating the odour problem

A year ago Arla made a decision to make further substantial investment into installing the very latest technology - a membrane bioreactor plant. This new plant has proved so efficient that the quality of the treated liquid outflow sent to the Witham sewerage works now attains a new order of purity such that the Anglia Water outfall charge reduction more than covers the electrical cost of running the compressors serving the new plant, giving a cost neutral solution. However, the biggest impact, following the summer commissioning period and subsequent evaluation period, is that Arla is now confident that it is now fully on top of odour management.

On a recent visit to the new plant the Liaison Group was very impressed, current evidence points to the distinct prospect that the long odour saga may now, to all intents, be resolved. The Liaison Group will continue with twice yearly meetings with Arla, and be kept abreast of the situation.

Itohan Oyediran, Operations Director at the dairy, comments: 'Working with our local community is a key priority for us. We have worked closely with the Liaison Group and local Environment Agency Officers who have supported us in making improvements. We are confident the significant investments we have made into our effluent treatment plant will resolve any issues.'



## A milestone year for Helen Rollason Cancer Charity

HRCC marks 15 years with a variety of events.

We celebrated our 15th anniversary and thanks to all our supporters it was another amazing fund-raising year, enabling us to help support people living with cancer.

In Spring, our gold bond place marathon runners achieved their own personal challenges while raising more than £20,000 for HRCC and in April, the fund-raising team at HRCC headquarters gained three new members who helped organise the inaugural Ride for Helen bike ride which started at Crix. An impressive 630 cyclists battled early morning bad weather to cycle distances of 15, 30 and 60 mile routes, through some of Essex's finest countryside and raised more than £38,000, a staggering amount.

The weather was very different in June when the sun shone for our annual Vintage Fayre again at Crix. A variety of stalls, music, visits from Minion characters, children's entertainments and a parade of vintage cars made this a true family day out.

August, September and October were full of fun days and Tea for Helen events, helping to mark the charity's anniversary. One such local fun day at The Wheatsheaf Pub in Hatfield Peverel even had the pub landlord Len taking part in the ice-bucket challenge. Through to November and it was lift-off for the first HRCC bespoke trek as 18 star trekkers took to the Himalayas on an amazing adventure, raising more than £57,000. They included Owen Elliott a Methodist Church member from Hatfield Peverel. There is still a chance to sponsor him: **log onto his internet site [www.justgiving.com/Owen-Elliott1](http://www.justgiving.com/Owen-Elliott1)**

It was a fantastic month for fund-raising as our ingenious supporters came up with a wide variety of ways to raise money, from 1940s dancing, quiz nights, glamorous balls, skydiving to fishing matches. To end the month our Fund-raising Groups organised their Christmas Fayres and the charity held its annual Carols for Helen at St Andrew's Church in Hatfield Peverel. The local community was given its first taste of Christmas with singing from local choirs, and warmed with mulled wine and mince pies served by the Hatfield Peverel Fund-raising Group. *(See photo and report on page 21.)* The evening raised just over £370 for Helen Rollason as well as giving villagers their first taste of Christmas.

HRCC's year has been achieved because of our dedicated, enthusiastic supporters - the charity receives

no Government funding. From volunteering in a shop, jumping out of a plane, holding a charity golf day, or organising another type of fund-raising activity, the fantastic efforts by have meant that HRCC has been able to help those living with cancer once again this year.

The fund-raising team at HRCC is planning a calendar of events for 2015, a highlight of which will be an even bigger and better Ride for Helen. Take up the challenge, sign up for Ride for Helen 2015 at [www.rideforhelen.co.uk](http://www.rideforhelen.co.uk) or if you would like to volunteer on the day visit the Ride for Helen website.



## After lunch Christmas crackers



- 1 How many species of ants are there?
- 2 Who composed the music for *West Side Story*?
- 3 Give the Christian names of the following composers: (a) Tchaikovsky, (b) Toscanini, (c) Shostakovich, (d) Delius
- 4 Which city was known as 'Auld Reekie'?
- 5 What is the Bayeux tapestry, when was it made?
- 6 Supply the missing words in these quotations  
(a) 'Marriage is popular because it combines the maximum of temptation with the — of opportunity'  
(b) 'I polished up that handle so carefuller, 'That now I am the — of the Queen's Navee!'  
(c) 'I feel no pain dear Mother now But oh, I am so dry! O take me to a — And leave me there to die'
- 7 Which German actress became famous after appearing in *Blue Angel*?
- 8 Who was (a) the first man in space (b) first man to leave an orbiting space-ship and walk in space?
- 9 Can you complete the titles of these books (a) *Silas —*, (b) *A Moveable —*, (c) *— Herries*, (d) *Native —*
- 10 Name the Englishman who crossed the Atlantic in *Sea Egg*, the smallest boat ever to make the crossing?
- 11 Who wrote *The Life of Ian Fleming*, published in October of this year?
- 12 Edward Lear talks about a 'runcible spoon' in his famous poem, 'The Owl and the Pussycat'. What is a 'runcible spoon'?
- 13 Who painted these masterpieces (a) *Marriage a la Mode*, (b) *The Last Supper*, (c) *The Birth of Venus*, (d) *Night Watch*?
- 14 The camel doesn't store water in its hump, so how can it go for so long without a drink?
- 15 Where did the most spectacular public orgy of 1965 take place?
- 16 A hummum. Ride it, sleep on it, or bath in it?
- 17 What have Lulworth Skipper, Peacock, Camberwell Beauty and Tortoiseshell in common?
- 18 Whose pseudonyms are these: (a) Nicholas Blake, (b) Colette, (c) Fougasse, (d) Torquemada?
- 19 What do these abbreviations stand for: (a) WHO, (b) HIM, (c) PEN, (d) FANY?
- 20 How long is a nail?

Answers to Christmas Crackers on page 22

## Keeper of the light Hadfelda WI - Chris Marks



Our speaker in October was Mark Lewis - a pharologist - interested in lighthouses! The first lighthouses were built by the Romans to stop frequent shipwrecks and were piles of wood kept burning by their many slaves.

Churches near the coast were used as their towers were the tallest buildings. Oil lights and candles provided the light but these were not bright, especially in fog, so there were still shipwrecks. (No longer visible from the sea, the church at Blakeney in Norfolk acted as a lighthouse in those far-off days). In 17th and 18th century with bigger and faster ships trading better lights were needed and mariners had to pay 'lighter dues' for the upkeep of the new lighthouse. As these were not well attended Henry VIII decided there was a need for them to be more regulated and Trinity House was started to pay the keepers and to train them to the same standard. Keepers had to learn to cook, clean and sew and live on their own for months as well as keeping the light burning.

The lights revolved on a bed of mercury and it is thought the vapours given off affected the keepers and made them hallucinate and even go mad. There was a great challenge to build the lighthouses - Eddystone Lighthouse was first made of timber with a lantern on top - it stood there for 5 years before succumbing to the elements. Some lighthouses took years to complete as the sea is so bad most of the year and the rocky outcrops so hazardous to get to with the necessary building materials needed. These days everything is automated and only one person looks after all the lighthouses using a computer in Harwich.

In November Barry Kauffmann talked on 'Wildlife in the garden' and our Christmas do is on 10th December.

The first meeting (always the fourth Wednesday of the month) is 28th January. Do join us, everyone is welcome.

## What has the Girlguiding Group been up to?

**D**uring the summer, leaders held a refreshment stall and Tombola stall at 'Party in the Park'. The fund-raising was successful and raised a good amount which goes towards the running of the Scout and Guide HQ (*photo right*). The group is running extremely well with many girls on our waiting to join lists. We have very active units: the following is just a brief account of what we have been up to.



**Rainbows** have been working on the 'All about me' Roundabout. They covered their own books, we took photos of each of them to put on the front and they brought in pictures of themselves now and as babies and had to match them up! They studied a potato and found out they were unique and had to remember which one was theirs, they then made Mr Potato Heads. We made heart shaped biscuits, put them in a box and had to say who they were for and why. We are also doing activities about ourselves including tie dyeing T-shirts.

We visited Hatfield Library and learnt how to borrow and return books and listened to a story. We also found out what other services the library offers. A big thank you to the staff for letting us visit (*photo below*).

We had hot dogs and sparklers for bonfire night and we will be doing Christmas craft and having a special visit in December as well as a Christmas party.

**Brownies** - 1st and 2nd Hatfield Peverel Brownies have now merged. Sadly Diane Tween has left us but we say a **huge** thank you to Diane for the many years that she has given to Guiding. With increased numbers, parents have been very supportive to the leaders in helping at meetings.

The Brownies have been working on their Artist Badge using different mediums such as paints, pastels and wax crayons. They have produced some amazing work.

**Guides** have been out of doors for most of the Summer, cooking outside and exploring the village, We have taken the opportunity to set the girls a challenge, a sort of treasure hunt! They followed clues to locate different things in the village and identify them - the name of the person on the plaque at the library was one of the questions. Can anyone say who and why without looking?.....hmmmm!

One group of Guides set a penny walk challenge. They went into the village and tossed a coin to decide which corner to turn. All of them came back with an amazed look on their faces as many of had no idea how many jetties (alleyways/cut throughs?) and dead ends there are in Hatfield Peverel - great fun!



As the nights are shorter now we are turning our minds to making the indoors more exciting. Guides are off roller blading at Colchester.

All units took part in the recent Remembrance Day Parade and have been invited to the Candlelight Carol Service at the Methodist Church in Hatfield Peverel in December.

Brownies and Rainbows are looking forward to attending the Division event, the Panto – Cinderella.

## Why not join us for a game of table tennis?

Andy Simmonds



The 2014/15 playing season is progressing well with teams entered in the Chelmsford League from Division 2 down to Division 5 and in cup competitions throughout the season. There are regular practice tables during the league season when new members may come along and get to know us. We are also looking for more experienced players to form a further team

Home playing night is Tuesday and we play league matches in the village hall in Maldon Road in excellent conditions, top class equipment, and a bar.

Our annual meal out will be on 20th February at The Lion Inn, and we have already booked 27th March 2015 for our annual club quiz.

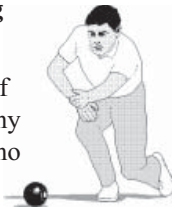
Anyone wishing to play or to re-start their playing career would be welcome, so please give us a call. Leave your contact details with either Neil Freeman on 01245 382249 or myself Andy Simmonds on 01245 381020 or 07932 057 205.

## Outside green put to bed

Rita Thomson, Club Captain (380038)

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

The outside green was put to bed in October. Four tonnes of feed and dressing was spread: many thanks to the seventeen helpers who brushed and spread.



The summer indoor finals were held in October and Chrissie Harris beat Irene Richardson. The bowling was very good and the pairs saw Chrissie playing with John Douthwaite winning over Ron Jarvis and Steve Spooner. The club's quiz night was on 6th December.

The winter Tuesday League is under way and in the short mat South Essex League both teams have got some points! The A team has got promotion so the teams are of a high standard.

On behalf of the Bowling Club best wishes for a happy Christmas and good playing in the New Year.

## Improvements for Hatfield Peverel Cricket Club

Tim Phillips, chairman

[mole\\_moley@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:mole_moley@yahoo.co.uk)



After a long hard season, we look to improve our clubhouse facilities this winter, and to add to our playing membership.

**We are looking for players of all ages and abilities to play on Saturdays/Sundays next season. We also run under 11s, under 13s and under 15s teams, and would love to see our thriving youth set-up bolstered by new additions.**

This winter also sees the start of a new fundraising initiative in the form of the Hatfield Peverel Cricket Club sports predictor, where every month participants try to predict the outcome of three different sporting events - if you predict correctly, you win a cash prize. If you are interested in playing the sports predictor then please contact Chris Phillips, 07967 719096, [hpcsports@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:hpcsports@yahoo.co.uk)

It leaves me to wish everyone associated with the club a Happy Christmas and New Year, let's hope 2015 is a successful year for HPCC.

## 3-hour walk for HP Walkers

Graham Bushby (01245 380472)

Eleven walkers enjoyed the October ramble from the village hall out to the railway viaduct and River Ter, across the fields to Toppinghoe Hall and back to the village, a round trip of about five miles in pleasant weather and good company.

Due to wet ground the November walk was cancelled but to celebrate Christmas we will meet again on 18th December for a short stroll before enjoying lunch at The Wheatsheaf.

Happy Christmas to everyone - weather permitting in the New Year we will be back on track with the usual fourth Thursday in the month meeting at 10am in the village hall car park. Dates for your diary are 29th January, 26th February.

**New Year's Day walk, see details on page 13.**

## Christmas celebrations with Hatfield Peverel Nursery

We have had lots of new experiences again this term. We celebrated St Andrew's Day and Diwali. For St Andrew's Day we made Loch Ness Monsters and did some Scottish dancing to Scottish music. We celebrated Diwali by making Divas and eating Indian food for snack. Our Grandparents came into play at the beginning of November. They had great fun with us. *(Thank you to Isabel, Anna and Evan for their lovely Christmas pictures)*

We made cakes and brought teddies into nursery for Children In Need and through the generosity of our parents we raised £89.35.

The children are in the process of producing their own newspaper.

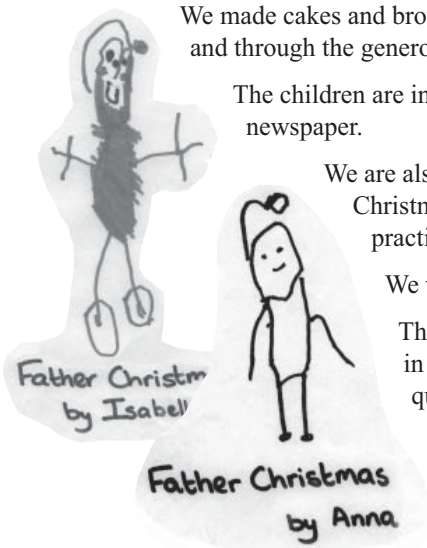
We are also preparing for Christmas. We are making Christmas puddings, Christmas cards and decorations. The children are practising their Christmas songs to sing to their parents.

We would like to wish everyone a Happy Christmas.

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

As well as the nursery we run sessions before and after school for children up to the age of 8 years old.

For availability of spaces please telephone 01245 382450.



## Welcome to the Library

The library has a Christmassy feel: near the back window children from the two schools have a wall poster depicting the panto Aladdin and a Christmas tree decorated in the French custom with shoes underneath waiting for le père Noël, and there is a colourful display of the three kings created by the Guides.

**Story time** for pre-school children - Wednesday 17th December between 9.30 and 10am.

**Book Group** meets 3am, 4th Tuesday of month.

**Book Buzz game** for 8 - 11 year olds will be held monthly starting on the first Saturday in February between 11.30am and 12 noon. Ring the library for details. This is a young persons book game.

The library is for you to use, it has spoken word books and DVDs and you can request special books. There are three computers, you can use the internet, and the library catalogue, look at Which reports and read the newspapers. **Give us**

**feedback on the services we offer, good and bad, we are here to help you.** See library times on inside back page under useful telephone numbers.

### Scout's newspaper skip - cardboard cartons

A plea from the Scouts concerning the use of the skip for recycling of waste paper. **Please** consider other users when depositing paper in the skip and **flatten any cardboard cartons** you wish to deposit. Also, no plastic other than bags containing your newspapers and magazines please. Other types of plastic are not acceptable to the waste recycling company. Thank you.

### Please keep the cans coming!

*Sheila Peear would like to thank all who have passed food and drinks cans to her in aid of Essex Air Ambulance. So far this year the collection has raised over £300.*

## Beavers ...going dotty

1st Hatfield Peverel Scout Group

(For boys & girls 6-18 yrs)

Group Secretary: Suzanne Evans

A strange incident took place at the HQ one Monday afternoon - Beavers arrived covered in spots! Red spots - measles? But yellow spots, blue spots, green spots - an outbreak of some strange tropical disease? Thankfully no! Beavers were taking part in the 'Wear Dots...Raise Lots' campaign for the RNIB, and had dressed in spotty clothing and painted dots on their faces, to raise funds for Braille books. The children attempted to read a Braille book and then decorated cakes to sell. **A fantastic £55 was raised for this worthy cause**, many thanks to all who donated and well done Beavers.



Halloween night; these ghoulish nasties (in edible sweet form) were used to decorate cup cakes, which were taken home and eaten at leisure.

### Scouts - good news and bad news

Firstly the bad news. Sadly, Tony Price has made the difficult decision to step down from his role as Scout Leader. A dedicated stalwart of the 1st Hatfield Peverel Scout Group for many years, Tony still intends to remain with the Group although in a less demanding capacity. Many thanks, Tony, for the unfailing enthusiasm, commitment and knowledge you have brought to Scouting in Hatfield Peverel, long may it continue.

Now the good news - Nick Nicholas, who has done a sterling job over the past few years as our Group Scout Leader, and has been instrumental in moving the Group forward and consolidating Scouting in the village, will be taking over the helm of the Scout Troop. Well done Nick!

If anyone would like to help by taking over from Nick as GSL, please make contact via our website or speak to a leader/committee member.

### SASU - getting crafty

Scouting for grown ups! (SASU) has recently enjoyed a Christmas crafts evening and a bonfire party. Their next major event is a Christmas Bake-Off competition which they are all looking forward to - watch out Mary Berry! In addition to social activities, the unit has assisted with the Cub's sleepover and the Remembrance Day Parade and Church Service.



### Cubs - how fast can you get changed?

Cubs enjoyed a fabulous visit to the Life Boat Station in Burnham-on-Crouch, organised by local RNLI fundraiser, Ken Harrison. The children were challenged to dress in the

lifeboat crew's standard sea kit in a minute or less - they couldn't do it but fortunately the Burnham-on-Crouch lifeboat crew can! There are two lifeboats at Burnham and the Cubs were able to explore them both. Many thanks to Ken for organising this trip. An October sleepover, themed 'Native American Indians', involved an evening of craft activities, themed food and amazingly some sleep!

Blood shot eyes, batty bats, slimy snails and long-legged spiders were the order of the day for

## Remembrance Day parade 100 years commemorated

The sun shone and it wasn't too chilly as Scouts and Guides lined up to parade from the HQ, along Church Road, to St Andrews. What a magnificent sight they were, with their smart uniforms, white 'poppy' scarves and brightly coloured flags. On arrival, the flag bearers formed a guard of honour as everyone entered the church for the hour long service to remember the fallen.

### Below are prayers written by the Beavers for the occasion

*Dear God*

*I wear my poppy because I have a good life, and I say thank you to all the soldiers in all the wars*

*By Ryan*

*Dear God*

*100 years ago many soldiers went to war and many of them died. At the Tower of London there are thousands of poppies to help us remember them.*

*By Thomas W*

*Dear God*

*Thank you for our freedom because all the soldiers in the war were brave.*

*By Jude*

### Useful contacts

Website: [www.hpscouts.org.uk](http://www.hpscouts.org.uk)

**HQ bookings:** Chris Phillips, 07850-024578,  
[phillips.chris@btinternet.com](mailto:phillips.chris@btinternet.com)

**Membership enquires:** Michelle Spicer,  
[hpscoutgroup@gmail.com](mailto:hpscoutgroup@gmail.com), 01245 380630

**Monthly newspaper collection:** Jonathan Dormon,  
01245 382981, [jonathan.dormon@btinternet.com](mailto:jonathan.dormon@btinternet.com)

**Secretary:** Suzanne Evans, 01245 382397, [boons\\_calibre\\_travel@lineone.net](mailto:boons_calibre_travel@lineone.net)



The plaque in the photo was chanced upon by Rosemary and Brian Bailey (*eternal damnation for not using Brian's photo*) on a walk on the North Cornwall coast path earlier this year. It is on the cliff-top at Pentire Head and is engraved with the poem 'For the Fallen' by Laurence Binyon which he composed at that spot in 1914.

*For the Fallen*

*They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old.  
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.  
At the going down of the sun and in the morning  
We will remember them.*

## News from St Andrews

The phrase 'Christmas seems to come earlier and earlier' is common currency these days and to some extent that is true for our churches as well, although the season really begins with Advent. In Hatfield Peverel, it began in September when gifts were gathered for the Samaritan's Purse project. Under the direction of Dorothy Keenan, assisted by Mary Daw and willing helpers, as a church we filled 110 boxes with toys, woollens, trinkets and toiletries. Our two schools contributed about 200 boxes - as a village we have done our bit! These were blessed at a special service in St Andrews and will have reached their destination in Swaziland, one of the smallest and most deprived countries in Africa.



Remembrance Sunday was a day to remember. With the amazing and poignant display at the Tower of London, poppies are back in fashion. The anniversary of the 1st World War has added to the popularity of remembering those who have given, and are giving, their lives to preserve our freedoms. Our church was full for the 3pm service, and we had our usual Act of Remembrance at both the All-Age Service and the 3m service. We processed from the Scout headquarters, in excellent weather, under the watchful eye of Essex Police. People took photos and video footage and many looked out of their windows and stood at front doors in Church Road as we went along. Many thanks to everyone who made that afternoon so memorable. On Tuesday 11th, Armistice Day, a Service of Remembrance was held in All Saints, Ulting.

Later that month we had a Secret Service. This was held in the Vicarage, mainly to remove us from our comfort zone. The intention was not to re-create a service (that would be play-acting) it was to learn about how Christians survive and worship in countries where places of worship have been shut, Christians tortured and imprisoned and Bibles banned.

During December we had a special Christmas coffee morning rather than a bazaar. **There will be Messy Christmas workshop on Saturday 13th December at 10am** (including a light lunch at 12 noon) followed by **a Nativity Service on the following Sunday at 10.15am**. These events are truly All-Age and anyone is welcome. If you wish to take part in the Nativity Service, come along at 9.45am to get ready.

We have entered the season of Advent, a reflective season when we think on not just the coming of Christ at Christmas but about how he is always coming. We are called upon to remember God's greatest gift was the sending of his own Son. **On Christmas Eve at 4.30pm that theme of giving is reaffirmed when people bring toys to be distributed by Witham Home-Start to children in our area less fortunate than themselves.** It is wonderful to see the sanctuary area around the altar carpeted by parcels and gifts.

**Let us look forward to Christmas.** In St Andrews, we will have a special Carol 'Songs of Praise' on 7th December at 5pm, a little earlier than usual. This is a fund-raiser for the Children's Society. The Nine Lessons and Carols Service will take place on 21st December at 6.30pm, Christmas Eve sees the 4.30pm Toy Service 'The Greatest Gift', and the 11.30pm Midnight Mass. On Christmas Day there will be a Family Carol Service at 10.15am with Holy Communion for those who wish to receive it. Full details can be found in the enclosed Christmas Card. We look forward to welcoming you to any - or all - of these.

### New Year 2015

**Coffee morning** 10am, Saturday 3rd January, St Andrews Church hall

**Ulting Carol Service** 4pm on Sunday 4th January at All Saints

**Church open for prayer 10am to 12 noon at St Andrews.** This is a new venture and it is intended that this should happen every two or three months, usually to coincide with an event in the Church's calendar. **The next opening is on Saturday 23rd January** and the event is the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.





**Thanksgiving and Commemoration Service for the faithful departed on 22nd February** in St Andrews at 3pm, to remember loved ones who have passed away. Letters will be sent out after Christmas where I have records of those who have died so their names can be added to the Memorial List which will be read out during the service. There will be the opportunity to light candles in memory as well. There will be appropriate music and prayers. If you would like to come, or have someone

remembered, please contact the Vicar: **by letter** to The Vicarage, Church Road, Hatfield Peverel, Chelmsford, CM3 2LE.S; **telephone:** 01245 380958; **email:** SRNorthfield@aol.com

## **Fair Trade/Tradecraft - offering workers a fair price**

**Mother's Union - Jean Ashby**

In October we welcomed Mrs Loy who gave us an interesting talk about Fair Trade/ Tradecraft, a Christian organisation started 40 years ago to enable workers in third world countries, no matter what their religion, to obtain a fair price for the goods they produce. They lived in abject poverty, struggling to earn enough to feed their families and keep themselves alive, and were at the mercy of middle men who pay less for goods than they are worth. People producing them were too poor to choose.

With the help of Fair Trade and other organisations, modern technology and better education, lives of many workers have changed for the better. Although still hard, they have a chance of getting a fair price for their goods.

We enjoyed Mrs Loy's talk and the range of lovely things she brought for us to buy. She did a roaring trade during teatime and we all went home with shopping bags heavier than when we arrived!

### **4th November**

Our friend Owen Daw was welcomed to our November meeting. His talk - Screaming Gargoyles and Chubby Cherubs - was a description of the restoration work he has been involved with over the years on various Church

buildings in Essex and Suffolk. He showed us interesting slides of the many kinds of decoration which occur both outside and inside most churches. The gargoyles referred to are water spouts designed to carry excess water away from the walls of the building so were made with open mouths through which it escaped. (*Below, frieze from St Edmund's Church, Southwold.*)

We asked Owen why some of them have such ugly human faces, and he told us the stonemasons who carved them worked under their own independent licence and were allowed to carve anything they liked. If there was someone they particularly disliked, some of them were cheeky enough to make a grotesque image of that person in stone to be attached to the church. Not all gargoyles are of humans however, and Owen also showed us slides of animals, birds and even angels that adorn many of our churches. Cheeky Cherubs are usually found inside the church, sometimes in a stained glass window and sometimes have the faces of real children in the glass.

Owen has worked on Colchester Castle at various times where every elevation has had restoration work done to it using various kinds of stone examples of which he brought along to show us. His talk helped us to look at the features of our English churches in a very different way.

**Suggestions for speakers for 2015 welcome.**



## Methodist Church

Food Bank collections were celebrated at our Harvest Festival in September, our first year of collecting items for the Food Bank at Braintree which gives to needy families in this area.

During the year we have collected 291kg (642lbs) of food - a fantastic achievement for a small church. Thank you to our supporters who have made this possible. The food bank at Braintree is well stocked with basic items following harvest collections but is asking for **items to give out as Christmas treats to their clients such as tins of turkey and ham, biscuits, children's sweets and toiletries**. Christmas edible items should have a 'best before' date of at least 31st January 2015. If you are able to help it is appreciated.

### Bible Sunday

Our service on the 29th October, led by our Minister Rev Sue King, reflected on the work of the Bible Society which promotes access to Bibles around the world. Rev Sue, after delays and frustrations, has moved into a more comfortable Manse and has recovered her books and belongings from storage. When setting up her study she counted 29 Bibles in her possession, old and modern translations and foreign language versions. The Bible is the most translated book and is now in 500 languages out of over 7000 spoken languages. It is illegal to own or read one in some countries but remains cherished by billions of people around the world.

Rev Sue spoke about the importance of the Bible. So many books become superseded, such as instruction manuals, cookery books and maps but the Bible with its human stories of love, hate, greed and loss offers an insight into the values which are still meaningful today. In Colossians 3, verse 12 (Paul's letter to the people of town near Ephesus) he instructs us to 'clothe ourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. Be tolerant with one another and forgive' - moral guidelines which are still relevant today.

### Trekking around the Himalayas for the Helen Rollason Charity

One of our members, Owen Elliott, has returned from his five-day hike in the mountains of the Himalayas to raise funds for this local charity based in our village. So far his group has received sponsorship of over £62000 which will be used to purchase more equipment or treatments for cancer sufferers. On the following page is a photograph of Owen at the finishing line, and a few lines about his trek.

### Operation Christmas Child

Once again we filled shoe boxes with gifts of clothes and toys which are sent to children affected by wars, famine, disasters, disease and poverty in Africa, Eastern Europe and Central Asia. Last year nearly 1 million boxes were donated in the UK. We enjoy collecting these gifts to be sent on their journey and given to a child as a symbol of the true meaning of Christmas, and of God's unconditional love.

### Special Christmas Services and events planned

**Sunday 14th December** 4pm - Carols by Candlelight Service, led by our Minister with the Guides and Brownies. Festive refreshments to follow.

**Sunday 21st December** 10.30 am Carol Service at Witham Methodist Church

**Thursday 25th December** 9.30am Christmas Day Service led by our Minister

**Sunday 28th December** 11am Sunday Service

### Regular events

**Every Sunday** 11am morning service, everyone welcome

**Every Thursday** 10am - 12 noon Open Door - come and join us for tea/coffee and chat

**2nd Saturday in month** 10am - 12 noon Coffee morning and cake stall

**1st Monday in month** 7.45pm House Group- Bible study.

## £62,000 and counting...

A trek in the mountains of the Himalayas is not everyone's idea of a relaxing break. In November, to raise funds for the Helena Rollason charity, eighteen trekkers, including Owen Phillips (*seen left, at the finishing line*), spent five days trekking in gruelling conditions. On his return Owen gives us a glimpse of this wonderful experience.



*Back in the UK safe and sound after a fantastic holiday seeing magnificent scenery with fellow trekkers. We were fortunate enough to have excellent weather so could see the Annapurna range of mountains in its full glory.*

*Reaching the highest point of the trek at sunrise we spent some time remembering those who had died from cancer which was very emotional. This trek proved both physically and emotional challenging but worthwhile .*

*Our group of eighteen trekkers have raised £62,000 so far. This money will help sufferers and their families come to terms with this terrible illness, so thank you very much my friends for your sponsorship, it has gone to a good cause.*

**It is not too late if you would like to support Owen, log onto his internet site [www.justgiving.com/Owen-Elliott1](http://www.justgiving.com/Owen-Elliott1).**



## Gardening is good for the brain!

Allotmenters from the new site came away with the trophy at the annual village quiz - now in its third year - in aid of the Soldier, Sailor and Airman Families Association (SSAFA). A very successful evening with eleven teams taking part in a seven round quiz, which although not of Mensa standards did tax a few brains particularly in a low scoring final round where several teams attributed the quotations in questions one to ten in the wrong order to the persons who said them! In third place was a team from Nounsley, second place the Parish Council (who were last year's winners) and first place a team from the new site allotments (adjacent to the cricket pitch).

Local businesses and pubs/restaurants/bistros - with one notable exception which was very

anti- everything and is always looking to hire staff - contributed to the raffle, for which we are very grateful. Please use your local resources. The grand sum of £456.76 was raised for the charity.

Next year will be the turn of the Royal British Legion when we look forward to an even bigger turn out and more clubs and parent/sports teams entering. Perhaps an organisation/business would be willing to sponsor a Village Quiz trophy to be competed for annually - suggestions or thoughts to the Editor please.

## You know you're too old for computers when...

*...you think a hard drive is what happens on the first tee.*

*...you approach a computer brandishing a crank handle. (Crank handle? You've got to be over 70!)*

## Village hall festivities

Come to the village hall over Christmas and enjoy a warm welcome and a celebratory drink in a friendly atmosphere. Children are welcome.

**Normal opening times** 7pm - 11pm  
Closed Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's day.

**The Christmas draw board** is open, come and buy your tickets for the annual lucky draw - last tickets from bar 18th December

### December dates for your diary

**Thursday 18th Bingo** 7.30 for 8pm

**Saturday 20th Christmas draw**

**Wednesday 24th Children's party.** Doors open 4.15pm. Mr Happy starts at 4.30pm. All ages, everyone welcome

**Christmas eve Games night,** darts and pool - members only

**Wednesday 31st New Year eve disco** starting at 8pm - members only.

### All bookings for hall and meeting rooms

HPCAbooking@gmail.com  
01245 381481 after 7pm (village hall number - if unanswered please leave a message)

Phone Alan on 7741 140732

See Facebook under Hatfield Peverel village hall.

**Yearly membership to the Community Association is £5.**

## Children in Need

The Nursery children baked cakes and brought in their teddies, Infants held a non-uniform day based on a Superhero theme and the Junior School enjoyed a bad hair day, wore pyjamas and held a cake sale - anything goes! Combined monies totalled £818, a fun day raising a fantastic amount.



## Did it all start with a bang is there anyone out there?

Tuesday 9th December was a sad day. Our WEA course on 'Current controversies in the world of science' came to an end. A dry subject you may say but under the tutelage of our lecturer John Pickard we were kept fascinated by his knowledge and the easy way in which he put it across. Global warming and fossil fuels, GM crops, fracking, food - is it good for you?, life on Mars and other places, and will robots take over from us were some of the subjects discussed, subjects that not so many years ago we would have considered improbable and laughable. John, you are wonderful - shall we see you again if the little green men don't get to us first!

The series of Autumn evening meetings continued with, in November, 'The history of salt extraction on the Blackwater' with tutor David Newman. We are so familiar with our Maldon salt that it came as a surprise to hear that many such sites have been developed over hundreds of years along the Blackwater.

At the December meeting Alex Bass brought to life the wildlife habitats of North Essex and Suffolk looking at birds along the coastal areas including Minsmere and Fingringhoe.

**Looking ahead to the Spring term**

**My history of the world in 100 objects** with tutor Frances Boardman is our ten-week spring course starting on Tuesday 13th January 2015 at 10am in the Scout and Guide HQ. **Ring Lesley Naish on 01245 380837 or Terry Bard, 01245 381289, for information.**



## Local charity hits the right festive note!

It was far from a silent night when Helen Rollason Cancer Charity (HRCC) hosted its annual Christmas celebration. Held at St Andrew's Church, the congregation enjoyed festive singing from of a trio of choirs.

St. Andrew's Church Choir, Hadfelda Choir and twenty children from the choir of the local Junior School in Hatfield Peverel, where the charity is based, entertained the Christmas crowd and helped to raise £375 for HRCC.

The school choir rounded off their performance with a rousing version of Jingle Bells complete with festive attire (*see photograph*). The pupils were accompanied by choirmaster Julie Andrews and headmaster Chris Janes, who said: 'It was a most enjoyable evening, and I am extremely proud of the children who sang beautifully.'

One of the carol service readers was Fiona Farrell, a supporter of HRCC: 'What a lovely start to the festive season. I particularly enjoyed the St. Andrew's Junior School choir. It was a perfect evening which also helped to raise money for the Helen Rollason Cancer Charity.' Father Stephen Northfield presided over the service, which concluded with mulled wine and warm mince pies served by the charity's Hatfield Peverel fund-raising group. The evening was sponsored by Paul Mason Associates.

\* If you would like more information on the work of Helen Rollason Cancer Charity, or would like to get involved then call 01245 380719 or visit: [www.helenrollason.org.uk](http://www.helenrollason.org.uk) or find HRCC on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. Or, how about texting HRCC465 to 70070 to donate £5.

## Congratulations to Derek Clark Mayers

After a lengthy course of study, Derek Clark Mayers was ordained as deacon by the Bishop of Chelmsford, the Rt Revd Stephen Cotterel (? spelling), in Chelmsford Cathedral on Saturday 29th November. His formal title will be the Revd Derek Clark Mayers, although he wishes simply to known as Revd Derek.

He will hold a non-stipendiary position serving as Asssistant Curate in the parishes of Hatfield Peverel with Ulting, Wickham Bishops and Little Braxted. Before commencing his duties he is required to read a legal declaration in all three parishes, which he did at Evensong in St Andrews on Sunday 29th November. To mark the occasion the choir sang an anthem requested by Derek that has a special resonance for him, 'Lead me Lord' by Samuel Wesley.

## Letter spot

Susan Blythe would welcome the return of weekend football to the rec

*'Just read Trevor Meredith's response to my letter last month - no one was sadder than I to say goodbye to the footballers or the old pavilion on the rec. I loved to see them play, old and young, at the weekends and I also liked the floodlit training sessions mid week. - it all brought some life to the recreation ground. The lads were always charming and good fun too, and the pavilion muffled the sounds from the MUGA pitch, an extra bonus! I would support wholeheartedly the return of weekend football.'*



## Answers to Christmas Crackers on page 10

1. 6,000 species. 2 Leonard Bernstein. 3 (a) Peter Ilyich, (b) Arturo, (c) Dmitry, (d) Frederick. 4 Edinburgh, because of its smokiness and dirty streets. 5 A linen sampler giving a vivid pictorial record of the invasion of England by William the Conqueror in 1066, made about 1080. 6 (a) Ruler, (b) Maximum, (c) Brewery. 7 Marlene Dietrich. 8 (a) Yuri Gagarin (Russia), (b) Alexei Leonov (Russia). 9 (a) Marner, (b) Feast, (c) Rogue, (d) Son. 10 John Riding. 11 John Pearson. 12 A kind of fork with three broad prongs used for pickles. 13 (a) Hogarth, (b) Leonardo da Vinci, (c) Botticelli, (d) Rembrandt. 14 A camel's physiology enables it to conserve water by not sweating until 104° F. 15 Stage of Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, in the production of Schoenberg's Moses and Aaron. 16 Bath in it, it's the original name for a Turkish bath in England. 17 All are butterflies. 18 (a) Cecil Day Lewis, (b) Mme. Henri de Jouvenal, (c) Cyril Kenneth Bird, (d) Powys Mathers. 19 (a) World Health Organization, (b) Her Imperial Majesty, (c) Poet, Essayists and Novelists Club, (d) First Aid Nursing Yeomanry. 20 1/16th of a yard.

### Solution to crossword on back page

**Across** - 1 Arborescent. 7 Absent. 8 Once. 10 Stones. 14 IMF (International Monetary Fund). 16 Plumb it. 18 Survey. 20 Pyre. 21 ie. 23 Yells to. 26 Fen. 28 lc (lower case). 29 Onion. 31 Estate Agent.  
**Down** - 2 Robot. 3 Odeon. 4 ENT. 5 Coo. 6 Tree. 9 Namby. 11 Oar. 12 Epées. 13 Sly. 14 Imp. 15 Fir. 17 Teen. 18 Style. 19 Villa. 22 Iona. 24 ECS. 25 Toe. 26 Foe. 27 Enn (-ui = ennui). 30 IG.

*Thank you all for these further shots of the Pram Race. From top: competitors on their way to the start in station yard; just before the start (both thought to be of the first time the race was held); in the ford at Terling and after the race in the rec'.*

## 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  
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

### 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/  
Country Park chair/T/A) 01621 892351

**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

*Both lists updated December 2014*

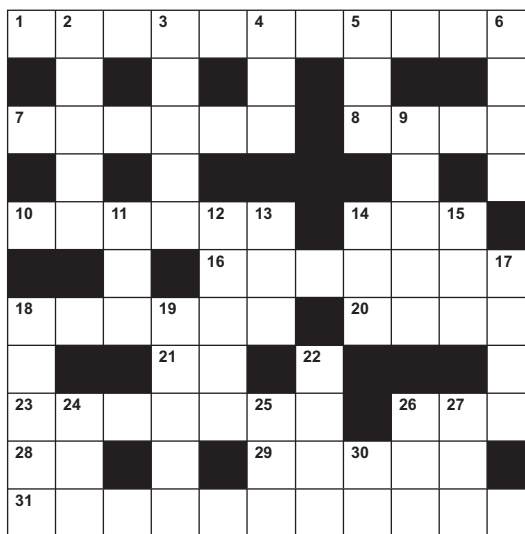
## Crossword Number 25 – Christmas 2014

### Across

- 1 Maybe the 'plastic, tinsel and fairy-lights' sort; - having the shape of 6 down?  
 7 Don't be this and miss the festivities.  
 8 No second chance here.  
 10 Little red rooster, still rolling.  
 14 I'm fooling nobody especially not this reserve. (1.1.1)  
 16 Ensure you install this precisely, and vertical? (5.2)  
 18 Examine carefully and avoid troubles later on?  
 20 Bonfire.  
 21 That is to say; in other words.(1.1)  
 23 The disco is so noisy, he ..... his friend.(5.2)  
 26 Low-lying and marshy but the place to see wildlife.  
 28 Not a capital! (1.1)  
 29 Nearly always with sage for a tasty stuffing?  
 31 Property salesman and manager? (6.5)

### Down

- 2 An automaton which could be a valuable help when it comes to party giving?  
 3 Once a common name for cinemas; an old musical venue.



- 4 Just Ears, Nose and Throat (1.1.1)  
 5 You may be saying this when you open your presents!  
 6 Red Riding Hood would see this in the woods.  
 9 .....pamby, weak or insipid.  
 11 Don't put your's in, leave it to the Boat Race!  
 12 These are duelling swords.  
 13 The ... look, that tells all?  
 14 A mischievous sprite might start to impress?  
 15 If you have a live

Christmas Tree it is, likely, to be one of these.

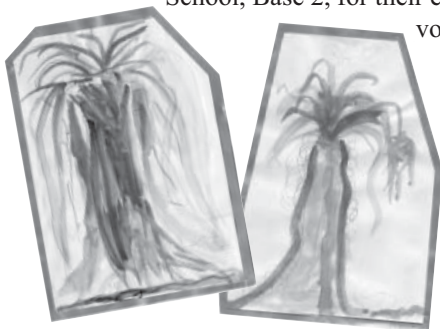
- 17 One of those years between childhood and responsibility? (abbr)  
 18 Form of design, production, make you may have.  
 19 Santa Claus comes down the chimney here in the village!  
 22 Only a Hebridean island hidden here.  
 24 European Communication Satellite (1.1.1)  
 25 From head to ..., you look wonderful this holiday!  
 26 Forget your enemies and enjoy the celebrations —  
 27 — been no excitement (without you and I)!  
 30 Intellectual Genius? (1.1)

Solution on page 22

©FW 2014

## Ending with bang...

Thank you to Sam and Ashley from the Infant School, Base 2, for their exploding volcanoes.



## New Year's Day walk

There will be a walk on 1st January, route not yet decided, but we will meet in the lay-by opposite the Nounsley play area to set off at 10am. A number of walks have been either postponed or cancelled during the current year due to impossibly wet or flooded underfoot conditions. If it's like that in the run-up to New Year's Day then it would be best to wear wellies.

Contact Ken Earney on 381235 or Catherine Voysey on 382595 if you have any doubt that the walk going ahead.