

Hadstock Magazine



View from above St Botolph's Church on a sunny day!

FEBRUARY 2024

11 Issues for **£15.00**

(see back for information)

**SOME
PANTO
PHOTOS!**



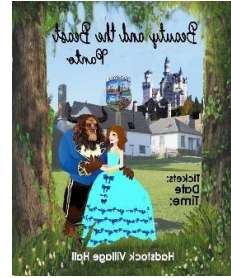
Beginnings - Editors Page

Dear Readers,

I am sorry that this magazine carry's some sad news.

I guess most of you will have heard by now about the death of Robin Betser in December and then Hamish McIlwrick in January. Both a great loss to the community of Hadstock who throughout their lives here put a great deal into this Village and in both cases also to Saffron Walden.

Robin to the Church there and in particular in the Choir and in Hamish's case the Saffron Walden Museum (there was a good article about him in the Museum's recent mailout)



I apologise also for this Magazine coming out late. I'm afraid I didn't get going with it soon enough after my break (No Mag. in January) and there is a lot in this one which takes time.

I am sorry too that there is to be a price rise. Do get in touch if you will find this difficult.

Also Hadstock Mag. has a new email address It is hadstockmag@btinternet.com

Please use this one to send items to the Magazine.

For now my best wishes

Sue

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THE COPY DEADLINE FOR THE MARCH 2024

MAGAZINE IS: -Saturday 17 February 2024

Disclaimer:

The views expressed in this magazine are submitted by readers and are not necessarily the views of the Editor or the Hadstock Parochial Church Council (PCC), and they cannot accept responsibility for goods or services advertised in the magazine, although advertisements are accepted in good faith. The Editor reserves the right to edit or exclude letters and articles that are submitted for publication, and no liabilities are implied or accepted.



Parish Church of St Botolph's FEBRUARY 2024

Jeremy writes... Being a Christian isn't always easy. We may have other things we would like to do with our time. We might have good friends who think that going to Church on a Sunday morning is a bit of a strange thing to do. Sometimes religious belief can seem a little at odds with a world built on rationality (I have issues with this last one, but that's for another month).

The main challenge I have with Christianity is other Christians. Not you, of course, but those other embarrassing ones who say and do things that are just plain silly or stupid, or worse. And here's the challenge for me. I might understandably want to write them off and put a clear distance between myself and their behaviour. I might even want to claim that they are not real Christians. Maybe they are not, but only God alone can call that one. Instead, I must accept that they are my brothers and sisters in Christ: Fellow Christians, albeit not very good ones, at least not by my estimation. Maybe I'm not always a very good Christian myself, at least not by my estimation.

That's difficult. It's far easier to turn your back on those who disappoint or disturb you. And, if you do it right, you can do it in such a way that it leaves you feeling justified and even smugly superior. It's just that does not seem to be Christ's way.

Just before Christmas, after long debates at General Synod, the Bishops authorised prayers that allow for same-sex couples to be blessed in a Church service. You may have views on this that range from "about time," to "so what," to "how can the Church of England even call itself Christian." It does, it can, and it is. It is well above your pay grade, and mine, to decide who is and who isn't accepted by God.

Our PCC's will be debating these changes and the authorised prayers over coming meetings and deciding how each parish should best respond. As individual Christians we must also decide how we respond. To do this I would like to draw your attention back to the pastoral principles introduced with the Living in Love and Faith discussions. Any Christian community would do well to take these to heart, as I believe they offer an excellent approach to being God's people together in all aspects of our common life.

continued

They are:

Acknowledge prejudice

Speak into silence

Address ignorance

Cast out fear

Admit hypocrisy

Pay attention to power

I truly believe that any Christian and any Christian community committed to these values will be richer and deeper in its faith and better equipped to live the life Christ calls us to in our place and our time. This is not an easy way. The easy way is to build barriers and retreat behind them, turning backs on all that unsettles and disturbs. The Pharisees of Jesus' day were faithful people who had done just that. He loved them, but he also grieved for them. We must resist any temptation, over any issue, to do likewise. That will sometimes be a very difficult thing to do. But, if we do it together, and if we do it trusting that Christ is with us, then it is at least possible. And it will show. And true faith is always attractive.

Jeremy

Jeremy Trew is Team Rector for Saffron Walden and Villages Team Area Dean for Saffron Walden, part of the Diocese of Chelmsford

The Rectory, 17 Borough Lane, Saffron Walden, Essex, CB11 4AG
01799 500947

You can read more of Jeremy's Trew's letters on the St Mary's website www.stmaryssaffronwalden.org where there are other interesting items too

Sad times in Hadstock

Robin Betser



On 21st December 2023 Tim Boyden sent the following message around the village. “It is with immense sadness that I have to tell the village of the death today of Robin.

Irene told me he passed away peacefully after his recent illness.

He has been such a presence in the village not only with the Church but also in all activities and his continued involvement in all parts of Hadstock’s life will be much missed”

I have to agree- Robin was a strong supporter of the ‘Hadstock Magazine’ and helped me a lot in the early days and was always helpful and encouraging in recent times. In fact, I suspect one reason that this magazine is late is that he isn’t around to chivvy me on to finish it.

Robin’s funeral was in St Botolph’s on 12 January and the church was packed. Many of the people coming from choirs that he had been in and from St Mary’s in Saffron Walden, so the hymn singing was very good, and a fitting way to celebrate his life.

Robin is now buried in St Botolph’s church yard close to the church he loved and to Irene at home, his partner of more than 20 years.

Hamish McIlwrick Sadly on 22 January we heard from Rod McIlwrick, Hamish’s brother, that he had passed away that afternoon very peacefully in



his room at Symonds House nursing home, with his close friends Anne and Tony Hogg beside him. Tony had known him since they were at primary school together in the 1950’s.

Hamish wished to be cremated and his ashes ‘put to rest’ at St Botolph’s. We will miss him very much.

More about Hamish and his life in Hadstock in March.

SERVICES AT ST BOTOLPH'S

FEBRUARY 2024



Sunday services this month are all at 9.00 am

Sunday 4 th February	Holy Communion Led by Andy Colebrooke
Sunday 11 th February	No Service at St Botolph's
Sunday 18 th February	Home Team Service 9.00am Led by Rob and Tim
Sunday 25 th February	No Service at St Botolph's

Morning Prayer takes place in the church each Tuesday at 8.30 am.

The church is open every day between 9am and 4pm for private prayer.

Details of how to receive the weekly email **Worship Bulletin** with details of service sheets, to be decided yet.

Hadstock Society AGM December 2023

If anyone attended, who is not already a member, and would like to join the Hadstock Society then please contact us on hadstocksociety21@gmail.com
Maggie Hartley Secretary Hadstock Society

A full report on Richards Dolby's talk 'Where is Assandun' at the AGM will appear in the March Mag

Hadstock - News, - Events, - Happenings, Reports



Hadstock Village Hall 100 Club
Winners for DECEMBER 2023 were: -

No.33	Stephen Nodes	£25.00
No.34	Marilyn Davy	£25.00

Then also the 2 extra prizes in December

No 31	Oliver Day and Ines Rodrigues	£75.00
No 86	Anna Wilson	£75.00

Congratulations to you all!

CANASTA

The Canasta Group in Hadstock have started playing again

If you are interested in joining then please call Irene on 891 385

Players and Beginners welcome.

ASHDON PRIMARY SCHOOL - Ashdon, Essex CB10 2HB - School Office - 01799 584219 - Website www.ashdon.essex.sch.uk. Ashdon Primary School is the catchment school for Hadstock Village with Essex County Council, currently, providing free transport for those children living in Hadstock to attend the school.

The school also has a before and after school childcare provision from 8am in the morning and until 5:30pm in the evening.

Visits to the school from Parents and prospective pupils are welcomed



The Hadstock Society

Have you looked at the Hadstock Archive website?

The archive can be reached directly from your browser address bar by entering: hadstock.org.uk/hadstockarchive

There is a second way you can reach the archive and that is through the main Parish site: hadstock.org.uk. Simply click on the link 'Community Archive' which is on the home page.

Richard Dolby, Hadstock Society

Elf Mail - Christmas 2023.

Thank you to everyone who supported Elf Mail this Christmas. Once again, we are staggered by your generosity. We donated £350 to the NICU at the Rosie Hospital, which will help premature and sick babies and their families.

Thank you again, and see you next year.



The Hadstock Elves

Matt, Isabel, Dan, Harry and new recruit Filipa

CHURCH FLOWERS –

- Is taking up a new hobby one of your New Year's Resolutions?

Throughout the year, a rota of villagers keeps our beautiful village church filled with fresh flowers. We would like some extra volunteers to join the team in 2024. You don't need to be an expert flower arranger or spend a fortune on it – garden flowers, hedgerow foraging or a bunch from the supermarket are all absolutely fine. Whether you are new to the village, have done it before but dropped off the list or just fancy giving it a go, please get in touch.

Isabel thefishes94@gmail.com



Thank you to everyone who joined in the Carol singing on the Green on the 23 December. We had a merry time with wonderful refreshments from Barbara and Toby. We raised more than £130 which was shared between EACH and Duchenne UK.

Thank you for donating so generously. Laura

The Hadstock Silver Band

Annual Christmas Concert in St Botolph's



The sound of the silver band's instruments resounded throughout the church building when they gave their free Christmas concert performance for the Village on Tuesday 19 December

They were all crammed in the space between the 2 transepts and below the chancel step. An ordered confusion of shiny metal in many shapes and sizes intertwined with chairs and flimsy music stands. Only the large drum kit at the back seemed to have plenty of room.

Guided by their Conductor, Di Pannell they produced an amazing sound. Di kept the evening moving along with one piece after another, including 3 solos, all in a wide variety of music styles culminating in some carols towards the end when we were encouraged to join in too. The players all were enthusiastic and very proficient and obviously enjoyed themselves greatly, and all the clapping they received after each piece. It was a really good performance. I really felt that Christmas was about to begin.

After the concert in the church there were refreshments provided, very generously, by the band members in the village hall along with the traditional free raffle (the Silver Band give everyone there a free raffle ticket)

We are very lucky to have such a talented group of people booking our village hall every week to practice their music and happy to attend our Fete in June to play and entertain us all.

Thank you to Di and the Hadstock Silver Band.

Sue - the Ed.

EVENTS, ACTIVITIES and Fun in 2024

BIN COLLECTIONS – Details of collections are a little chaotic at the moment as many of you will have heard that a mistake was made by the District Council in not applying for a licence to collect waste before the previous one ran out!

Watch out for updates on Hadstock info and on the District Council website.

At the moment leave out your black waste bins and small food waste bins.

No More Green Skips are planned until the Spring

Hadstock Parish Council

Next meeting in the village hall on **29 FEBRUARY 2024** at 7.30pm

Contact the Parish Clerk Sara Beckett hadstockparishcouncil@hotmail.co.uk for agenda details which are also sent out on Hadstock Info and put on the Village notice board by the shop. Details of the agenda are also published on the Parish Council section of the village website which is:- www.hadstock.org.uk

Hadstock Society – community history and heritage.

Secretary: Maggie Hartley at hadstocksociety21@gmail.com

Hadstock Village Hall see ad in this magazine for how to hire it. And the video on the Hadstock Village website – Village Hall

Hadstock Silver Band meets again on Tuesdays at the Village Hall for practice

Contact: Lesley Jenkinson 07766 54092 [Listen out for them...](#)

Bell Ringing practice night at St Botolph's on Thursdays. Contact: Gilbert Rowlandson 01223 892882 or Janice Snell 01223 892338 - [You can hear them all around](#)

Linton Area Learning Alliance (LALA) meets on Tuesday mornings in the Village Hall in Linton. Autumn and Spring terms. Contact Sue Mudge 01223 892737

Linton and District Historical soc. Meets Tuesday evenings Linton Village Hall. Monthly. Contact Margaret Creek 01223 893915 or email: ldhscamb@gmail.com

Art Classes in Hadstock for adults on Tuesday mornings and Friday mornings and afternoons in termtime; Sundays once a month, and children's' after-school art during termtime on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Contact Sonia 07890 509160

The Real Buck Smoothy?

One name from the history of Hadstock has stuck in my mind. It's catchy, a little unusual and crops up several times in the Community Archives from the 1700s and 1800s.

Buck Smoothy was the head farmer in Hadstock who reportedly told villagers before the Hadstock Bread Riot of 1795 that *"the market price (of bread) was 9d a loaf and if the baker refused this price, then they could not be hurt if they took their bread away"*.

Buck was also a significant farmer in the village during this period, farming over half the Parish land (almost 900 acres) and based at Manor Hall and Lower Farms. Before the Inclosure Act 1805 he was a tenant farmer for 645 acres of Lordship lands, farmed 112 acres of his own land, 45 acres of Church land and 90 acres for Thomas Buck of Linton (probably a relative). After the Act, whilst his own land holdings and Lordship lands had reduced, the Church land had increased to compensate for reduced tithes, so he farmed even more land.

Buck was born around 1755, but it is difficult to find a definitive record of his birth. He married Mary Wright on 8 January 1787 at St Botolph's Church, Hadstock. They had 10 children over 22 years, the first one born 6 months after their marriage: Thomas Buck, Stephen, Mary, Joseph, William, Richard, John, Sarah, Charles and Martha.

In 1816, Buck and Mary registered their ten 'children' with the non-conformist Free Church in Horn Lane, Linton. Their eldest son would have been 29. Their dates of birth were vouched for by a surgeon, who "attended Mrs Smoothy". This was the time when the meeting house was an old barn, which was pulled down in 1817 and the current building built in 1818.

What prompted him to move his family from St Botolph's and the established church, owners of land that he farmed, to a non-conformist church? Was he a benefactor to the Free Church?

Buck's Will dated 1832 is held in the Essex Record Office archives. He named his sons Thomas Buck and Joseph as Executors and gave them permission to sell off everything and make provision for the family. Specific bequests amount to £6,160, equivalent to over £570,000 today.

For his 'beloved wife Mary' he gives *"such part of my Household Goods and Furniture Plate Linen and China as she shall make choice of not exceeding in Value the Sum of Fifty Pounds to and for her own proper use and also the Sum of One Hundred Pounds in Money to be paid to her within six Calendar Months next after my decease..."*

continued

He also directs his executors to invest £1,000 in Trust for her ongoing support.

Buck's ten children are named in the Will, and each considered in different ways, with £10 given to each of them for mourning expenses. His three married daughters receive an equal share. Stephen receives only £100, and Richard might have had a problem managing his money. Buck makes it clear that Thomas still owes him £460!

He was clearly already wealthy or became so. As well as the value of the estate, he apparently could afford to employ a surgeon 'to attend' his wife in childbirth for all their children, with the surviving ones reaching adulthood.

He also seems to have had a strong sense of fairness in his dealings. Was it a belief in social justice that led him to advise villagers about their right to pay a fair price for bread in 1795, when he was a young father himself, and move to a non-conformist church?



What do you think?

Buck Smoothy is buried at the Free Church in one of the large tombs in front of the building, together with Mary. Buck died in May 1835 aged 80 years. Mary died in November 1853 aged 83 years.

Gill Butterworth
Hadstock Society

Community Archive References:

Riot in Hadstock.....in 1795: sworn deposition of Thomas Smith, baker of Linton

Landscape history of Hadstock Parish 1777-2020, Part 3: The 1801 Hadstock Inclosure Act, by Richard Dolby and Rick Albrow

Further research through www.Ancestry.co.uk

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Large Hall with garden,
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Kemi Badenoch MP

holds regular advice surgeries offering help and support for local residents.

If you would like to contact Kemi, you can email

kemi.badenoch.mp@parliament.uk

or call 0207 219 1943

Hadstock's Local District Councillor - Ashdon Ward:

Councillor John Moran of the Conservative Party

Contact :- cjrmoran@uttlesford.gov.uk or tel. 07496006467

or you can write to him c/o Uttlesford District Council
London Road, Saffron Walden, Essex CB11 4ER

Hadstock Spring Clean

Please put a note in your diaries to help with the annual litter pick on Sunday 17th March at 1000 hrs - meet on the Village Green.

This well-established (and very satisfying) event has volunteers walking along the verges of the village roads collecting the detritus deposited by passing motorists - to help maintain Hadstock in a neat and clean condition.

The more people we have , the quicker we finish !

Picking utensils and large plastic bags will be provided (and we have some hi viz clothing available - but bring your own if you have some) . Protective Gloves are also advisable. Thank You - we hope to see you then

Keith

Cllr Keith R Nuttall

Chair, Hadstock Parish Council

gallery above & beyond

Linton library

arts and minds

sharing Linton's stories

a collaborative place-based exhibition

celebrating artworks created during the Linton Mapping project across three venues: Gallery Above & Beyond, Linton Art Gallery & Studio, and Linton Library

Saturday 13th January to Saturday 17th February

celebratory sharing event Sunday 21st January 2 - 5 pm

LINTON PARISH COUNCIL

@arts_and_minds Arts and Minds www.artsandminds.org.uk

LINTON & DISTRICT
HISTORICAL SOCIETY
TUESDAY 20th FEBRUARY 2024
[A student - led revolution out of Cambridge with global impact - thanks to a local tobacconist, but no thanks to the University](#)
[Please come along to find out more from Nigel Fenner](#)
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Visitors and new members always welcome

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<https://uttlesford.foodbank.org.uk/>

Uttlesford Foodbank provides emergency food and care parcels to individuals and families during times of crisis. It operates out of a warehouse in Shire Hill Saffron

Walden. They are always looking for donations of food or money

and volunteers. Most of the Supermarkets in S.Walden and

Haverhill have a food donations box **If you need help look at**

<https://uttlesford.foodbank.org.uk/get-help/how-to-get-help/> or

phone 07531 436335. Local contact Lynne Smith - 4 Moules Lane,

[Tel:07707 766197](tel:07707766197)

Haverhill food bank at Reach Community Projects

Wisdom Facilities Centre, 42 Hollands Road, Haverhill CB9 8SA

Opening times: Monday to Friday 9am - 4.30pm

Tel:01440 712950 or Email: info@reachhaverhill.org.uk

Website: reachhaverhill.org.uk – for more information



Hadstock Village Hall 100 Club

THANK YOU '100 Club members' for your loyal support for this very important Annual Fund-Raising effort for the Village Hall. The money raised is vital to help us pay for the increasing costs of running the Hall each year.

We hope that you will be happy to continue being a member by paying the £20 subscription. It would be a great help if you could pay via online banking, well before 25th March. Thank you.

Hadstock Village Hall

Sort Code: 20-74-05 Account Number: 90437239
plus

WE NEED NEW MEMBERS!

Please get in touch to complete our list of 100 people.

For a year's subscription, two people have the chance, each month, to win £25. Plus there are four £75 prizes a year.

Don't hesitate to contact me if you would prefer to stop subscribing or have any questions at all.

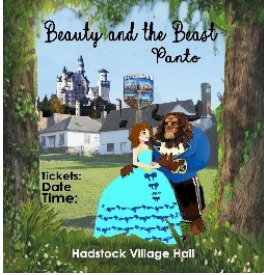
Thank You for supporting your Village Hall

Good Luck in the Draw!

Sarah Lockton sarahlockton@gmail.com

Tel 892987 Mob: 07553 884303

THE VILLAGE HALL - BEAUTY AND THE BEAST – THE PANTOMIME



THE STORY

At the tail end of one of our book group meetings in Autumn, we were talking about fund raising suggestions for the Village Hall and Laura Corob-Cook proposed a Pantomime. Well, that idea certainly flew!

Laura and Jill O'Dwyer decided that they would direct, Laura's daughter wrote a script, potential actors and stage crew were approached and rehearsals in the Village Hall

started on 20 September.

Tickets, for 2 Thursday performances on 21 December, went on sale at the end of October. The evening performance was sold out by 4 November and the Matinee performance a few days later. The cast agreed to one more performance on Wednesday 20 December. All three performances, 180 tickets, were sold out by 24 November. The pressure was on.

Meanwhile, rehearsals continued twice per week, more talent was recruited and the pantomime began to take shape. Of course, not only the actors were involved. There was all the support team needed to bring the pantomime to life: costumes, lighting, music, evening refreshments, props, prompt, backdrops, scene changes, curtains and adapting the hall and much more.

The resulting performances were a triumph. The audiences were entertained and very impressed and the resulting community spirit and good humour was heartwarming. Huge congratulations and thanks are due to everyone involved.

The amount raised after expenses was astonishingly £1,377 and this has all been donated to Village Hall funds. We are immensely grateful and intend to use some of the money to replace the village hall's elderly fridge, ceramic cooker hob and to purchase a safer, more user-friendly option to our very heavy and unstable wooden step ladders. Also, as we have just spent over £1000 to replace the old broken urinals in the gents, this boost to our funds is very timely! Thank you again to everyone involved.

Hadstock Village Hall Committee.

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST - THE PANTO'

The Panto' was very lucky to have the services of the excellent 'Hadstock photographer and video taker ' John Lockton.

Thank you John Here are some of his photos. On the next few pages.....







Hadstock Magazine



Merry
CHRISTMAS
&
HAPPY
NEW YEAR





Hadstock Magazine – Annual Subscription

It is a number of years since the price of the Magazine has increased. During that time the cost of printing has been rising and the annual loss absorbed by the Church has been increasing.

It has now been decided that the annual cost of the **11 copies** delivered by hand to each home monthly will increase with immediate effect to **£15.**

This still represents substantial value for a professionally produced and printed publication providing current village information keeping all who receive copies aware of what is happening around them.

With your copy of March's issue will come an invoice giving details of payment which will predominantly be via direct bank transfer. For any subscriber who has not paid their due within the next two months thereafter, no further copies will be delivered.

We very much look forward to receiving your continued support.

Hadstock Parochial Church Council.
