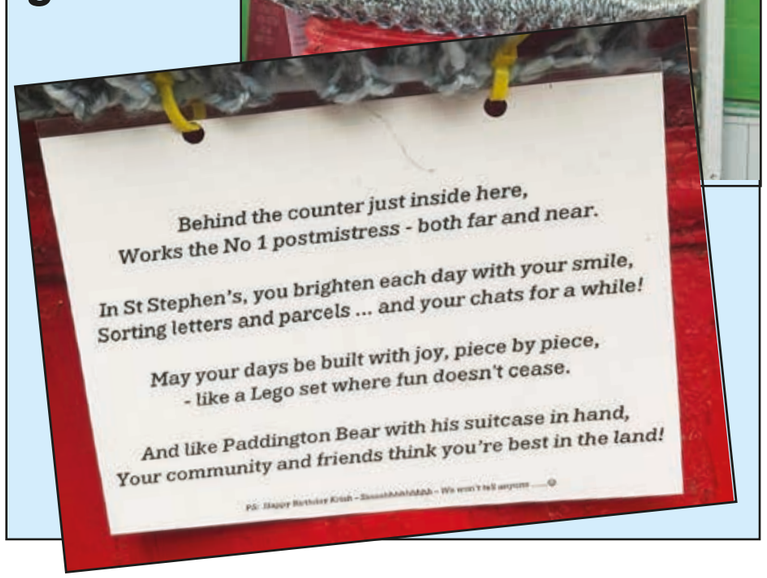


St Stephen's loves the secret crochet genius!







Open Gardens

What a year to choose to have this event once again!

Unrelenting heat and no rain meant that most people simply couldn't think of opening their gardens to the public but thankfully, a few hardy souls agreed and most of them had about thirty to forty visitors which was more than I ex-pected, as the day itself was roasting.

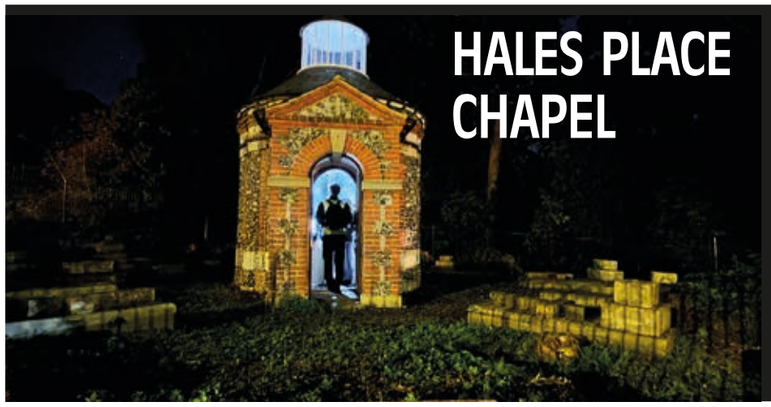
When it was over, those who had opened their gardens did a safari around the area which was lovely and our thanks go to all of them for making the effort and showing just how much can be achieved if you dedicate your time to your precious patch of earth.

PW









HALES PLACE CHAPEL

As many of you know, I am leading a new group set up to restore the interior of the chapel on Tenterden Drive. You may think that this is outside our area but it is the last remnant of the great mansion that used to sit along what is now The Terrace and part of the estate that covered the whole of our area from Downs Road, Broad Oak Road, Longmeadow Way, St Stephen's Hill and along past the old school, 4000 acres of orchards and fields.

The City Council has repaired the structure with a new lantern and woodwork and also cleared the surroundings which, fortunately or unfortunately, became so attractive to wildlife that the badgers have a sett in the grounds!

We started the group on the 250th anniversary of this lovely little building and the plan is to restore the interior and open the chapel to interested groups and make it a communal asset for St Stephen's.

Of course, we need money to do this and, if you would like to join the supporters' group, please email me and join us for a membership fee of £10.

PW