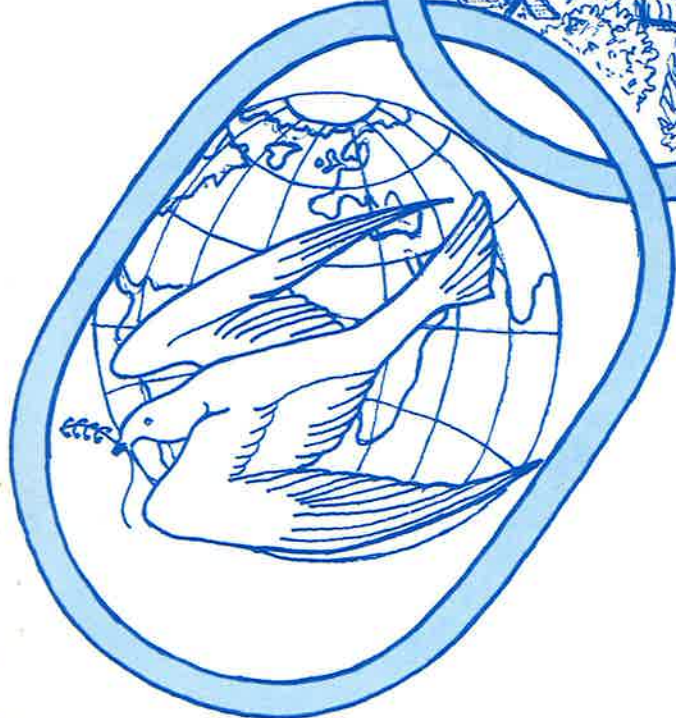
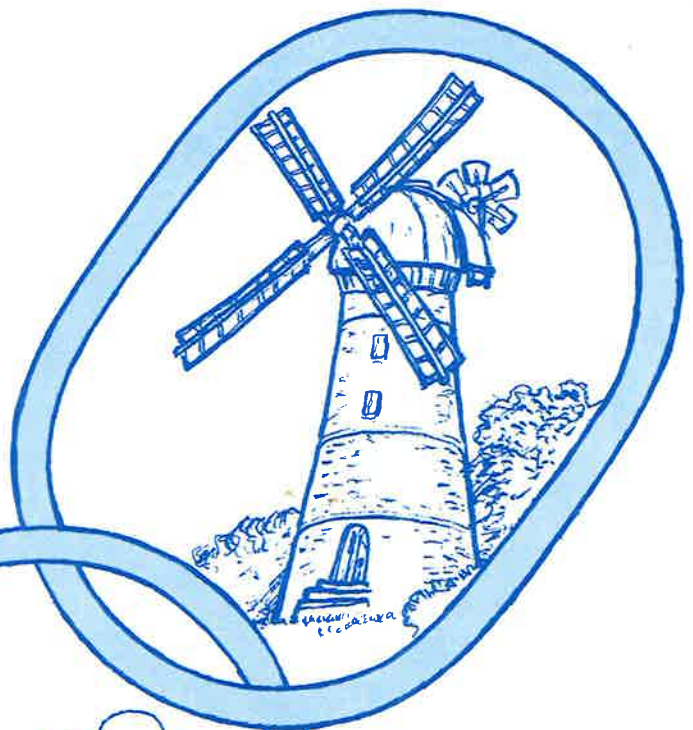


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TO EVERYONE IN STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET

WE WISH

A PEACEFUL AND HAPPY NEW YEAR

.....

Now that the Magazine has been in existence for four months and seems to be fulfilling a need in the village - its circulation has reached 910 copies - we shall be glad to extend its scope. Please do write to us about village and community matters which you feel need an airing.

.....

We are very grateful to the staff and pupils of the Mountfitchet School for their help in producing the first two issues.

Volunteers from the village have now been organised into a production team as follows:

- Typing - Mrs Joan Freeman
- Lay-out - Mrs Judy Marshall and the Rev'd E McIlwain
- Duplicating - Mr John Newby
- Collating - Mrs Janet Townsend and assistants.
- Distribution - Mrs Margaret Booker and a team of fifty valiant helpers.

The use of an electric scanner for cutting stencils is given to us each month by St Theresa's while the Anglican Church allows us to use its duplicator.

.....

Copy for the FEBRUARY issue should reach 48 St John's Road by 12th January 1981

.....

When contributors are supplying copy, will they please remember that what they write will not be published until the 1st day of the following month. What may be a "future event" in the mind of the contributor has become a "past event" by the date of publication.

.....

THE LINK

The Link is published monthly by the Stansted Association of Christian Churches.
Annual subscription is £1.20. To order a copy please telephone
Mrs. Margaret Booker 812684.

†††

Items for publication (news, letters, articles, etc.) should be delivered to
Mrs. Mair Muir, 48 St. John's Road. Tel: 812289.

Opinions expressed in this magazine are given freely and do not necessarily represent those of the SACC, its member churches, village organisations or advertisers.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND

Clergy: The Rev'd. Barry Rose, The Vicarage,
St. John's Road. Tel: 812203.
The Rev'd. Andrew Proud, 43 Gilbey Crescent.
Tel: 814463.

Services: At St. Mary's, Church Road.
Holy Communion – 8 a.m. (2nd Sunday)
Matins – 11 a.m. (not 1st or 3rd Sunday)
Choral Communion – 11 a.m. (3rd Sunday)
Evensong – 6.30 p.m. (summer months)
At St. John's, St. John's Road.
Holy Communion – 8 a.m. (not 1st or 2nd Sunday)
Parish Communion – 9.30 a.m.
Evensong – 4 p.m. (winter months)

METHODIST CHURCH

Meets in Quaker Meeting House, Chapel Hill.

Minister: The Rev'd. Harold Fisher, 2 South Road,
Bishop's Stortford. Tel: 54475.

Services: Morning Service and Sunday School – 9.15 a.m.

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

St. Theresa's Church, Millside.

Priest: The Rev'd. Joe Tuohey, 12 Millside,
(flat above Church). Tel: 814349.

Services: Sunday Masses – 8 a.m. and 10.30 a.m.
and at Henham – 9.15 a.m.
Holy Days – 9.15 a.m. and 8 p.m.
Confessions on Saturday after 10.30 a.m. Mass

SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

Quaker Meeting House, Chapel Hill.

Local Contact: Mrs. Mair Muir, 48 St. John's Road.
Tel: 812289.

Meeting for worship: 10.45 a.m.

UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

Chapel Hill.

Minister: The Rev'd. Eric McIlwain, 18 Cambanks,
Union Lane, Cambridge. Tel: (0223) 313152.

Group Secretary:
Miss Dorothy Oswald, 29 Bentfield Causeway.
Tel: 814758.

Services: Morning Service with Junior Church – 11 a.m.

For details of services at Clavering, Newport and Widdington
please ring the Group Secretary.

Methodists

METHODIST NEWS

Mankind has always been asking questions, and by and large we have also been answering them. We are fascinated by Mastermind and programmes of that ilk, because they allow us to measure our knowledge against that of the experts; even though the result may be somewhat deflating for our ego! A student may complain about the hard questions in an examination but in reality it is the answers that are evasive. Hamlet's "To be, or not to be?", and Pilate's "What is truth?" are easy questions, but the answers are best left to philosophers. Jesus was asked many deceptively easy questions, such as "Who is my neighbour?", and "Which is the first commandment of all?" His answers to these and other, sometimes loaded questions, form the basis of some of His most important teaching. Our preachers on the seven Sunday mornings between 2nd November and 14th December shared some of these "Questions Jesus Answered" with us, and showed how Jesus did not "pass" on a single one. His answers are as relevant to us now as they were to His Disciples and the hypocritical Scribes and Pharisees 1950 years ago.

Our materialistic society has brainwashed us into believing that money and happiness are synonymous; that is in spite of the fates of pop idols such as Elvis Presley and tycoons such as Howard Hughes. Jesus taught a different philosophy and in His challenging 'Sermon on the Mount', He inverts many of the tenets of our secular society. "Happy are the poor" and "Happy are the peacemakers" are just two of the paradoxical Beatitudes that we are studying in our fortnightly Monday Fellowship meetings.

On 7th December we had great joy in welcoming MARK PHILLIPS into full membership of the Church. The Church is the Body of Christ and as such we cannot be complete Christians until we are members of it. We pray that Mark will receive the blessing of the Holy Spirit and that he will remain Christ's faithful Soldier and Servant to his life's end.

FELLOWSHIP MEETINGS on Mondays at 8.00 pm

12th January	56 Rainsford Road
26th January	5 St John's Lane
9th February	6 Woodfield Terrace

Society of Friends

FRIENDS ABROAD

Anglo-French Reunion in London

A one-day reunion of French Quakers and French-speaking British Quakers was held in London recently as part of the programme of exchanges and fellowship which members of the Society in both countries have been working to develop. After Meeting for Worship and a picnic lunch, there were some short talks so that we could hear of the projects and concerns of French Quakers, who are so very active although few in number - only one hundred and forty or so scattered widely over the country.

Hélène Angèle is one of the founder-members of Action des Chrétiens pour l'Abolition de la Torture, which was founded in France in 1972 as a result of a visit by members of Amnesty International to Paris the previous year. Hélène, now 72 years old, is still an active supporter of A.C.A.T., which now has nine million members.

René Varin, who is the Vice-President of the Corps Mondial de Secours (International Rescue Service), spoke of the help given to the victims of natural catastrophes by the organisation since its inception in 1972. C.M.S. is a body of volunteers who spend some time each year training for their tasks of catastrophe prevention, rescue work and reconstruction. They are ready to depart at a moment's notice and can thus save many people who might have died of thirst during the three days it takes for other organisations like the Red Cross to deploy their resources. René Varin hopes that training for C.M.S. may eventually constitute, for conscientious objectors, a viable alternative to national service.

Gilbert Lesage of the Quaker International Centre in Paris, emphasised that French Friends, being so few in number, welcome all the contacts they can make with British Friends. He assured us that they will receive a warm welcome at the homes of individuals and at Charbonnières Castle, S.W. of Évreux, where hotel and camping facilities (and delicious home grown food!) are available all the year round. In case it might be thought strange that Quakers should like to live in a castle, Henri Schulz, one of the co-owners, explained that when he and a group of Friends bought Charbonnières, it was just one of the many French castles left to decay because nobody could afford the upkeep.

The reunion ended with Antonie Van As-Arioni's description of what she calls her 'Cage Ouverte' situated in the hamlet of Barlonges, 50 miles from Paris, where she

teaches weaving. At present the 'Cage' consists of her own house and garden, but she hopes to develop it into a conference centre and retreat where people can enjoy the quiet of the countryside and live a communal and simple life.

Anthea Lee

(Information about the above can be obtained from the following addresses:-

Centre Quaker International, 114 rue Vaugirard,
75006-Paris, France
Henri Schulz, Chateau de Charbonnières, 28330-Authon-
du-Perche, France)

.....

A FRIENDLY WELCOME IN THE U S A

Whilst on a visit to friends (with a small 'f') in the United States, I had the enjoyment of visiting Friends (with a capital 'F') in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

The people and the surroundings of the Meeting for Worship were so very different from Stansted, but the welcome was every bit as warm, expressed as it was in the phrase "Hi, Friend - glad to know you." Grand Rapids Friends meet in the Community Centre in a rather impoverished part of the city, so our Meeting took place amidst pin ball machines, one-armed bandits and the remains of last night's Disco. Our circle of chairs created a quiet oasis of friendship for the 20 adults and 13 young Friends who met for worship.

It is the custom of English Friends to meet in silence, but the Grand Rapids Friends sang lustily prior to settling to their silence; it just so delighted me to sing a hymn, to the tune of John Brown's Body, telling of the exploits of one Lucretia Mott, an early American Quaker who did good works amongst the slaves.

The meeting was glad to receive Greetings from Friends of Stansted, England, - indeed, I nearly found myself saying "Li'l ol' England"! Grand Rapids Friends formed a wide cross-section of social mix, age and colours. One very elderly lady expressed "real pleasure" at meeting me, for she had been born in Manchester and had gone to the U S A as a young bride prior to the First World War. Another Friendly face there belonged to a lady cycling her way across America, from Meeting House to Meeting House.

I felt very much "at home" worshipping there - that simple expression is not out of place, for the Christian way of life leads us to think of men and women all over the world as members of the family of God.

The Friends of Grand Rapids send their Greetings to the people of Stansted, England.

Ann Budenberg

United Reformed

EPIPHANY

With January comes the Christian Season of Epiphany, when the Church reflects on its mission to show forth 'the light of the knowledge and glory of God which shone from the face of Jesus Christ.' The Wise Men in the Christmas Story stand for the wider world outside the circle of Israel into which Jesus was born. The church at its best has always recognized its missionary obligation. Indeed, without the missionary work of St. Paul and the early apostles there might not be a church at all. It is said that St. Thomas went to India to found the ancient Mar Thoma church there. St Francis Xavier was a tireless missionary, reaching out to China and Japan in the first half of the 16th century. In the same century Jesuit missionaries were sent to French Canada and many were martyred. The first hospital in Canada was founded by Sr. Jeanne Mance at Montreal just a few years later. The protestant missionary movement began when the protestant churches began to recover from the intense nationalism which ha in part, produced them, along with the great nations of Europe, more or less as we know them today. It took rather a long time for this to happen and it was 1791 when William Carey published a little book called "An Enquiry into the Obligations to Use Means for the Conversion of the Heathens" (they ran to long titles in those days and we must forgive our forefathers the seeming spiritual arrogance of the word 'heathen' which we would not use nowadays.)

Then, in 1792, at the Nottinghamshire Baptist Association he preached his famous sermon based on Isaiah 54:2-3 (lengthen your cords and strengthen your stakes). In October 1792, at the home of a lady known as Widow Wallis, the FIRST Society for the work of foreign mission was formed and the protestant missionary movement was begun. (Apart, that is, from churches sending pastors to their own people in the Americas etc.). In offering himself as a missionary, Carey said, "I will go down into the well, if you will hold the ropes". In the whole history of the missionary movement most of us have had the important task of "holding the ropes" for those who have gone out as missionaries. Epiphany is always a call to Mission. Time to get a new grip on the ropes. William Carey's motto was "Attempt great things FOR God, expect great things FROM God" - Not a bad motto for a New Year and Epiphany 1981.

E A McIlwain

NOTICES

- 13th January A.G. Meeting 8.00 pm
19th January Guild Meeting "Holiday Slides" -
Mrs M Cowan
26th January Cambridge District Meeting, Duxford
2nd February Guild Meeting, The Rev'd Barry Rose.

U.R.C.

We are attempting a new venture during Sunday Services - a creche for children from infancy to 5 years. Supervised programme will allow parents with small children to attend church.

All are welcome.

Church Register

Baptisms:	Michael Francis George Linegar	21st September
	John Richard Parker	16th November
Funeral:	Alexander Allan Ross	1st December

Church of England

FROM THE VICAR

At the time of writing this letter I have just collected our altar copies of the Alternative Service Book. They are very handsome volumes and I can only marvel that the price per copy is £14. The pew editions of the ASB are also very well produced and are very good value. The trouble is that the publishers underestimated the demand and many people cannot get hold of the edition they want. We must now wait for reprinting.

What I am so delighted about is that some of the congregation are bringing their books to church and following the readings from the Bible. I am also delighted that people are looking carefully through the book and are finding within its pages many good things. It is already apparent that we now have a book which will enrich the worshipping life of the Church and deepen the spiritual lives of us all.

Of course, what most people are interested in is the two Holy Communion Services - Rite A and Rite B. Rite A is a revised Series 3 and its texts are used by many of the English speaking Churches throughout the world. Rite B is a slightly revised version of Series 2, which we have been using in this parish for many years. Our Church Council has decided that for a period of six months we shall use both these services. We shall use Rite A at the Parish Communion and at 8 am on the 3rd and 5th Sundays. Rite B will be used at other times. The Church Council are also considering whether one Communion service a month could be according to the Book of Common Prayer. We plan three worship workshops in Lent and will discuss the matter then. Matins and Evensong will continue as before.

Many parishes in this country have discovered a fresh richness and vibrancy in their worship when they have used new forms and I am sure we shall find the same. The important thing is to look for the parts you find good and refreshing and as a foretaste, here is part of the Eucharistic Prayer:

Accept through him, our great high priest,
this our sacrifice of thanks and praise;
and as we eat and drink these holy gifts
in the presence of your divine majesty,
renew us by your Spirit,
inspire us with your love,
and unite us in the body of your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

STANSTED YOUNG WIVES

The speaker at our last meeting was Kathy Selwood from K.C. Sewing Machines. She demonstrated the very latest computerised machine which did just about everything you could ever want from a machine and answered our questions about any problems we had with our own sewing.

The proceeds from the Jumble Sale held at the beginning of November amounted to £47.

Please remember that we meet in St John's Hall every 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month at 1.30 pm - but as we do not meet during the school holidays, our next meeting will be on 20th January 1981.

Many of you now know that Alan and Jennie Kimberley have bought a house in Wimbish and are moving early in January. When they came to Stansted they quickly involved themselves in the work of the Church and in the life of the village and they are going to be missed. Alan, as churchwarden, has been a great support to me and I have valued his friendship and advice. They have both done a great deal for the social life of our parish and, of course, they and the family have shared with us their musical talents. We thank them and wish them every happiness in their new home.

Many of you also know that Keith Turner, after 20 years as organist and choirmaster at St Mary's, feels it would be good to have a rest and a break. I do not need to say how much he will be missed and how devoted he has been. He has given so much of his time, energy and enthusiasm. He has achieved a standard of excellence in the music of our worship which has enriched many in their search for God. We thank him for all he has done and are glad to know he is willing to help out from time to time. It will be difficult to replace him and I ask for your prayers as I look for someone who can take the lead in the music of our worship.

NEW PRIEST AT FARNHAM

Please pray for the Rev'd Bernard Ottaway who is to be made priest-in-charge of Farnham on Saturday, 17th January at 3.30 pm. We hope he and his wife will be very happy in their new parish. Many people in Stansted know them through their work with senior citizens.

CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALITY TODAY

Our Deanery Synod has arranged three evenings on Christian Spirituality to take place in St John's Hall on Wednesdays, 14th, 21st and 28th January. These evenings will be led by the Bishops of Chelmsford and Bradwell and will begin at 7.45 pm with coffee, and close at 9.15 pm. To cover the cost of these evenings, there will be a charge of 50p for the three occasions and tickets are now on sale.

We would like to stress that these meetings are open to everyone and we look forward to support from other churches in Stansted and the surrounding area.

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

Every year from 18th - 25th January, Christians pray for unity according to God's will. As the 18th is a Sunday our theme for the day will be Christian unity and all the weekly Eucharists will be offered with the same intention.

DID YOU KNOW THAT

.....we have a monthly Holy Communion to pray for the sick? Every 1st Tuesday in the month we publish a prayer list and hold our evening Communion at 7.30 pm to pray especially for those who are sick. If anyone would like a person to be included on the prayer list would they please see one of the clergy. As 6th January is the Feast of the Epiphany, our January service will be held on the 13th.

MOTHERS' UNION

A reminder that we will be having our annual party on Wednesday, 28th January at 2.30 pm in the Church Hall.

Queenie Sweet.

PRAM SERVICE???

It has been suggested that we should have pram services on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday each month at 2.30 pm in St John's Church. Please let the Vicar or Fr Andrew know if you think this is a good idea and are willing to support it.

CALENDAR AND DIARY

Holy Communion is celebrated on Tuesday at 7.30 pm, Wednesday at 10 am, Thursday at 7.30 am and Friday at 8 am unless otherwise stated below.

January

- 6th Epiphany of our Lord Holy Communion 9 am;
Sung Eucharist 8 pm in St John's.
- 11th Epiphany 1
- 12th PCC Meeting 8 pm
- 13th St Mary's School Managers' Meeting 2 pm in
the vicarage.
- 14th Bishop of Chelmsford on 'Christian Spirituality
Today' 8 pm in St John's Hall.
- 17th The Rev'd B Ottaway to be licensed as priest in
charge of Farnham. Service at 3.30 pm.
- 18th Epiphany 2 18th - 25th Week of Prayer for
Christian Unity.
- 20th Lent Planning Group. 8.15 pm at 43 Gilbey Crescent.
- 21st Bishop of Bradwell on 'Christian Spirituality
Today' 8 pm in St John's Hall.
Holy Communion at Mead Court 10 am
- 25th Epiphany 3 Unity Service at 6.30 pm. No Evensong.
- 27th Infant Baptism Think Tank Meeting at 8 pm
in the Vicarage.
- 28th Bishop of Chelmsford on 'Christian Spirituality
Today' at 8 pm in St John's Hall.

February

- 1st Epiphany 4
- 2nd Presentation of Christ in the Temple Holy
Communion 7 pm.

PARISH REGISTERS

Departed

- 25th November Ronald Bishop, 45 Woodfields, Aged 59 years
- 27th November Doris Marguerite Perkins, 6 Park Road,
Aged 76 years.

Roman Catholic

Silence is a Prayer

Silence is a thing that is easily broken.
There are the noises that come from outside.
There are the images, that is the pictures from all my
senses, that come from outside and inside.
There are the distractions.
Distractions break silence.
They kill attention.
By trying hard,
little by little,
I can overcome distractions,
not pay attention anymore to noises or images.
I can look attentively at just one thing...
I can also shut my eyes.
If a noise penetrates my ears
I do not move;
I do not turn my head.
And in this way I become responsible for my own silence.
To know how to make silence is to know how to make
oneself strong and free.
It is to make oneself able to attend to the one thing
that matters.
I can make silence alone.
I can make silence with some of my friends.
When we reach the point of making silence, all together,
to pray,
that is even better.
A beautiful silence in the presence of God is already
a prayer.

A Prayer Group meets every Wednesday, non-denominational,
everyone is welcome. Phone ANN WEBB 812088.

NEW YEAR MESSAGE FROM FR JOE TUOHEY

Let me wish all 'LINK' readers a very happy and peaceful
New Year at the beginning of 1981.

It is a time for new resolutions which should be taken
seriously if we are to continue growing in God's Love.
Perhaps we need to reassure ourselves of God's generosity
in helping us to follow the Christian way of life more perfectly.

The Eucharist and the Sacramental system are, for many
Christians, the means of Christ's special way of helping us
to carry his will out in "Loving God and our neighbour".

In helping our children to understand Christ's wonder-
ful gifts to us, it must be seen in us, that it is not just
going to church on a Sunday, but rather as a result of our
going to church, our daily life becomes more Christ-like.

For our children who are due to make their first Holy Communion in June 1981, we have already started Saturday morning sessions for both parents and children, 9.30 am in St Theresa's Church. The days in January 1981 are Saturday 17th and 31st. These sessions help both parents and children to grow in God's love.

Again wishing you all the best for 1981,

Yours most sincerely

Fr Joe Tuohey

.....

HEALING MASSES

St Theresa's	14th November
St Helens, Brentwood	22nd November

Both these services were very successful and it should concern us more and more that it is obvious in today's world we need to find a way to integrate Christ's healing ministry into our daily lives. We go off to the doctor for so many aches and pains; he gives us a prescription to cure the symptoms - not the cause of our suffering. What most of us really need is the love of Christ to assure us that we are not unloved and alone in our suffering. In today's rushed and pressured society we need to cure the source not the symptoms. We need our loving community maybe more than ever before. We need to talk and communicate on a very deep loving level. We need to learn to relax and lean on Jesus Christ for his love is powerfully healing. We must be his eyes, his hands, his feet and reach out to those in need. At our Healing Mass in Stansted, Fr Peter Cullen from Brentwood came to lead us. He spoke of the need to trust God and encouraged us to open ourselves more completely to the Holy Spirit. With Fr Joe Tuohey and Paul Conrad, he prayed over us for whatever we most needed healing for, and many of us felt a new life beginning from that time.

There are many different kinds of healing apart from physical which is maybe the easiest to understand through the Gospels, though it is not the ultimate form. Far more important, in my opinion, is inner healing which is the healing of past memories and hurts, whether self-inflicted or done to you unknowingly by others. This form of healing is very gradual in most cases, although it can come like 'thunder or lightning', and enables us to stand up before Christ and man, making us able to receive the love of Christ and letting it flow out again to those around us.

"If one of you is ill, he should send for the elders of the Church and they must anoint him with oil in the name of the Lord and pray over him. The prayer of faith will save the sick man and the Lord will raise him up again, and if he has committed any sins, he will be forgiven. So confess your sins to one another and pray for one another and this will cure you."

James 5: 14 - 16.

ROME - 1980

It was with great excitement that we planned our first trip to Rome and finally on a dismal Sunday in the autumn we took off from Luton Airport and incredibly after a couple of hours we were there!

We stayed at a large friendly monastery just outside Rome in the village of Grottaferatta. On our first morning we were woken at 6.30 am and this was to be the pattern of our stay - some mornings we were called at 5.00 am. These early calls were made in order to miss the rush hour traffic into Rome. In fact we were only caught once and it was a phenomenal sight with hundreds of cars packed solid all hooting and nothing moving.

The weather was warm and sunny, just right for sight seeing. It was one of the most hectic weeks of our lives, but we saw so much, the Colosseum, the fountains including the famous Trevi Fountain of 'Three Coins in a Fountain' fame. There were fifty of us on the pilgrimage and we made many lovely friends.

We were privileged to have our own Mass said in St Peter's at the altar of St Gregory by the Chaplain who was travelling with us. We visited all four Basilica's in Rome, St Peter's, St John's Lateran, St Peter and St Paul and St Mary Major. We were struck by the richness of the frescos on the ceilings and walls of these churches - some were breathtaking.

Wednesday was the day we had long awaited - the day of the Audience with his Holiness Pope John Paul II. We were lucky enough to be at the front of one of the barriers in St Peter's Square and after arriving at 9 am on a lovely sunny day, we waited until just after 11 am when we saw the Swiss Guards, standing to attention, about a hundred in all, and into view came the Pope's white Land Rover. The crowd went wild and so did we. He shook us by the hand as he drove slowly past. He then went to the top of the steps and gave his sermon in about six languages, the theme being the sanctity of marriage. Afterwards, he went on a 'walkabout' much to the horror of his bodyguard as they never know what he is going to do next. He then decided to come our way again and he asked us where we came from; of course we said we were English - he smiled, shook hands with us again, blessed us and went on his way. We were photographed with the Pope by one of the official Vatican photographers and this picture has since been received and framed. We were so lucky and privileged to meet our Church's Leader on earth, and it is a day we shall never forget.

Later on in the week we went to Assisi and Florence and the Catacombes where we heard Mass in very cramped conditions and could just imagine the persecuted Christians in early Rome. We visited the Tivoli Gardens with literally

Village News

COUNTY LIBRARY

Stansted Library is moving to its new premises in the former Telephone Exchange at the top of Chapel Hill. The Library will be closed on Saturday 17th January and Tuesday 20th January.

It will re-open at the new premises on WEDNESDAY, 21st JANUARY, 1981.

GARDENING CLUB

We still need a few more people before a meeting can be arranged to establish a village gardening club. If you are interested, please contact MRS RITA HUMPHREYS (BS 814475), The Cottage, Burton End.

WEA IN STANSTED

The Stansted branch of the Workers' Educational Association is re-forming in January. The first course of 10 lectures will be on "The Making of the English Landscape", with particular reference to our own area, and the syllabus sounds fascinating.

Meetings will be held on Monday evenings from 8 - 9.30 pm at the Quaker Meeting House, Chapel Hill, Stansted, starting on 19th January. Course fees will be reduced for pensioners, unemployed and full time students. Do come and support our new branch. Full course fee for ten weeks is £6.00 - reduced rate £4.00.

Full details from:

Tricia Johnson	BS 812797	(Secretary)
Mr R W A Scarr	BS 813080	(Treasurer)
Mr H G Griggs	BS 813525	(Chairman)

WOMEN'S OWN

The Women's Own have had a busy month with good speakers and some wonderful slides of the Holy Land shown by MRS BEARMAN. On 10th November we had our 62nd Anniversary tea when we were entertained by MRS KING and MRS WARNET with their guitars.

A further 12 knee rugs have been knitted and given to the Hospital League of Friends.

Forthcoming speakers:

5th January	- MRS HEWITT
12th January	- NURSE SIMMONS
19th January	- FATHER ANDREW

STANSTED WINDMILL

Sunday, 6th October, saw the end of another season of open days at Stansted Windmill. This last season, possibly as a result of the economic climate or the effects of the M.11. robbing us of passing trade, showed a reduction in the number of visitors. Nevertheless, a total of 1,938 visitors passed through the mill, not including the many private parties. According to the visitors book we had visitors from as far away as France, Germany, Hong Kong, Australia and the USA and apparently have even had visits from The Incredible Hulk and Superman, but there could well be a connection here with the many school parties we have had.

The Mill, which is in an excellent state of preservation, complete with its three pairs of stones and control gear, was left to "the inhabitants of Stansted" by the late Lord Blyth in 1935. Management of the Mill is the ultimate responsibility of Stansted Parish Council but everyday running and general repairs are entrusted to the volunteer body "The Stansted Millers". More specialised work is conducted by appropriate craftsmen and this includes re-pointing which is to be undertaken in the spring.

Funding the preservation work is met partly from the rates, partly from door takings and partly from government grants (which are conditional invariably upon the Mill being open to the public). It is, therefore, important that sufficient volunteers are available to keep the Mill open to visitors for the benefit of both the Mill and visitors. Any person interested in joining 'The Stansted Millers' should contact me in time for the new season, beginning next Easter.

ALAN LODGE (814360)

STANSTED TENNIS CLUB

On Sunday afternoon, 9th November, a Junior Match was held at Stansted Tennis Club against Elsenham Tennis Club.

JOANNA SCARR, ALISON HAMMOND, LLOYD FIELDER and PAUL WILLIAMS represented Stansted and a variety of mixed ladies and men's doubles matches were played, with great enthusiasm, until it was too dark to see the ball!

Unfortunately, Stansted players were beaten, but everybody very much enjoyed a pleasant and friendly afternoon of tennis and tea; a return match will be arranged in the Spring.

The Tennis Club Committee held its Annual Christmas Dinner at the Old Hoops Restaurant in Saffron Walden on Friday, 12th December.

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

Poppy Day Appeal - We are glad to have the opportunity to report the result of the Poppy Day Appeal in Stansted and District. The total is in excess of £1,050 - the first time ever that we have broken the £1,000 barrier. This could not have been achieved without the hard work of all helpers, for which I, as organiser, would like to say a public thank-you.

E F CHEAL

SERVICE COMMITTEE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

The Coffee Morning held at Little Fosters raised the sum of £61 to help with the work of the above Committee.

We are glad of all the money you can spare and we do need members. If you served in the Armed Forces during 1939/1945, were a National Serviceman, are a retired regular, or a Territorial, why not join us?

W E N E E D Y O U

Mrs Stevens at 1 Blythwood Gardens (BS813562) will be pleased to hear from you.

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION WOMENS' SECTION

The November meeting was opened by the Chairman, MRS STEVENS, who announced that seven members had won the area needlework cup and MRS GABB, President, presented certificates to the successful members:- MRS VENABLES, MRS LITTLE, MRS NEWBY, MRS STEVENS, MISS TROTT, MISS TAME AND MISS WINKWORTH.

A Beetle Drive run by MRS P HUTLEY took place and prizes were won by MISS TAME, MRS M JOHNSON and MISS DAVIS.

Mrs P Hutley, Press Reporter
BS 814559

STANSTED WOMEN'S INSTITUTE (Afternoon)

MRS B SCARR was elected President for the third time at the Annual Meeting in November but no election was necessary for the Committee as just 12 members were nominated. The Secretary, MRS WALKER, presented the Committee's Report on the year's activities and MRS KNOTT gave the financial position. There are now 69 members. Mrs Scarr gave the President's Report and thanked her Committee and helpers for their support. MRS FRANCIS gave the Group Committee report and MRS JORDAN, the Drama Group. MRS ROBINSON was pleased she had not had much sick visiting to do. MRS JONES reported on handicrafts which included the winners of the knitted mittens, MRS MELLER coming first, MRS GILBERT second and MRS COOK a close third.

The Competition Cup was won by MRS JONES.

During normal business time, the merits of speakers and the level of subscriptions for 1982 were discussed.

JANUARY 14th - NEW YEAR PARTY

.....

STANSTED ART & CRAFT MARKET

Following the untimely death of Sir Peter Kirk, the Member of Parliament for Saffron Walden, the first Market was held in 1979 to raise funds for the Peter Kirk Memorial Fund which provides scholarships for young people to study projects relevant to modern Europe and European institutions.

1979 was so successful, raising £500 for the chosen charity, that the decision was made to repeat the event in 1980, on 11th and 12th October, with the emphasis on village involvement, and selecting as principal beneficiary, the Herts and Essex Cardiac Unit Appeal Fund.

Despite the cool weather and the even cooler economic climate, the numbers attending were high, business was brisk and the Cardiac Appeal has received from us £500 towards its worthy cause.

The Market Committee would like to see this become an annual village event and plans are already being made for 1981. However, as with all voluntary organisations, help and ideas are always needed and the Hon Secretary will be pleased to receive names of additional helpers and welcomes suggestions towards improving the market. We wish to provide what will satisfy popular demand, and would prefer in 1981 to benefit a charity within the village itself.

Winners of the raffle this year were: MRS FISHER, DR RICHARDSON, MR COOPER, MRS SWANN, MRS JEVEREAK, MRS BROWN, MRS BUTLER, MR WARR, to whom the prizes have been distributed.

Our thanks go to all those who kindly helped us in so many ways this year.

GEOFF WRIGHT Hon Secretary
(BS 812599)

S T A N S T E D C A R N I V A L 1 9 8 1

HELP!! Needed to organise the proposed Carnival on 27th JUNE 1981 in support of the Herts & Essex Cardiac Unit Appeal.

We require help in organizing side-shows, craft and village 'organisation' stalls. Are you handy with a hammer or paint brush? Have you any imaginative ideas? If the answer is yes, we need you urgently. Come and join us at our next meeting on TUESDAY, 6th JANUARY at 8.00 pm at Stansted Hall - or contact MRS ROBINSON (Secretary) BS 812755 or MRS STEVENS (Chairman) BS 813562.

RED CROSS

TOY LIBRARY FOR HANDICAPPED CHILDREN. We are pleased to tell you that the Library will be open every Thursday from 3.00 pm until 4.30 pm. at the Peter Kirk School canteen. All the family are welcome. Enquiries - MRS SUE REED (BS 812461) or MRS JUDITH RICHARDSON (BS 813463).

YOUTH GROUP - We are hoping to run a youth group (10 yrs - school-leaving age) in the New Year. This will meet on a regular basis and there will be instruction in First Aid and Home Nursing etc. If any young people are interested, would they kindly contact BRENDA SCARR, 63 Lower Street, (B 813080)

STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET EVENING WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

At the Annual Meeting of Stansted Evening WI, MRS JUDY COLLIVER, retiring Secretary, presented the annual report. She reminded members of the many activities which had taken place throughout the year. These included both swimming and cookery classes, the 'Scene 80' Handicraft Exhibition and participation in the annual flower arranging competition for the Streeter Cup.

MRS JUNE RILEY, retiring President, thanked all members of the committee for their support and hard work throughout the year, and MRS ANN CONROY, Treasurer, gave a reassuring financial report. MRS G BULTEEL announced that MRS SALLY SMITH was this year's winner of the competition cup. Runners-up were MRS S OSBORNE and MRS J CALVER. A new Committee was elected with MRS BRENDA RYAN being declared President for the forthcoming year.

After a break for refreshment, several members gave short talks on various subjects. These ranged from humorous accounts of teaching, nursing and eccentric relatives to the more serious history of folk singing, delightfully illustrated by the singing of a traditional song. These talks were most entertaining and thoroughly enjoyed by everyone.

P E A C E G R O U P

"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you; not as the world give do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid."

During One World Week, last October, a speaker from Pax Christi gave a wonderful talk to the S.A.C.C. on the subject "Justice, Peace and World Development." This talk provoked much discussion which was continued in the three house Bible study groups which met in the following weeks. I am concerned that the spirit of fellowship and desire for world peace that was engendered at these meetings should not die for lack of support. I would like to start a Peace Group in Stansted, to meet in each other's homes at regular intervals. The aim would be to study issues of peace and justice in a relaxed and prayerful atmosphere and to decide what actions could be taken to promote world peace. The group will be non-political and ecumenical. If you are interested in joining such a group, please phone me, ANN WEBB. 812088.

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace
Where there is hatred, let me sow love,
Where there is injury, pardon,
Where there is doubt, faith,
Where there is despair, hope,
Where there is darkness, light,
Where there is sadness, joy."

THE STANSTED YOUTH AND ADULT CENTRE

The Youth Centre currently operates for Seniors on Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays, 7 pm to 10 pm and for Juniors on Wednesdays, 6.30 pm to 8.30 pm. For an attendance fee of 10p per evening, the members are able to enjoy many leisure time activities which include Karate, darts, snooker on full-size table, discos, pool, juke box, coffee bar, craft evenings, visits to and by other clubs and also outings.

We held a disco for our Juniors on 17th December and for the Seniors there was a visit to the London lights on 19th December, our final evening before the holidays.

On 23rd December, the members prepared a Christmas Dinner (turkey and all the trimmings) to which were invited a number of senior citizens from our village. This was followed by a disco.

Our Adult Education classes this term have been many and varied and were extremely well supported. Full details of classes can be obtained on request. The new term commences on 12th January 1981. VACANCIES DO EXIST in some of our classes and anyone wishing to enrol should contact the Warden, MR H WEBSTER (BS 343319) mornings or evenings.

STANSTED SCOUTS

Early this year, Stansted Scouts invited the whole Hatfield Forest Scout District (Stansted to Stebbing) to join with them in their annual fund-raising for a local charity or cause. The District chose as beneficiary this year the need of the local Multiple Sclerosis Society branch to replace their ageing mini-bus. Much planning came to a head on 5th July when three coaches containing 160 walkers (Scouts, friends plus a three man contingent from Dunmow Police) left Stansted for Ravenscar, Yorks, the start of the 42 mile "Lyke Wake Walk."

On 29th November at Stansted Scout HQ, Mr John Salmon, District Commissioner, together with two scouts, DAVID RYAN and CHRIS HANSLEY (who has now completed the walk twice) took pleasure in presenting to MR R DAVEY, Chairman of Harlow, Bishop's Stortford and District Branch of the Multiple Sclerosis Society a cheque for £2,431.71 towards the purchase of a new vehicle.

GEORGE RUSSELL

K E S T R E L S

(Stansted Ranger Guides and Venture Scouts)

We have had several investitures this term. The venue for investiture is usually left to the prospective member to select and in September four of our girls were invested high up in a tree in Hatfield Forest - this involved everyone present climbing the tree and it was a pretty tight fit! Those responsible for this choice were SANDRA CASTRO, NICOLA GOODVIN, FIONA HARVEY and FIONA WHITEHEAD. In October we visited Hertford Police Station and we had a very interesting tour; while we were looking at the cells, we invested CHRIS ALLEN, JOANNE REAVELL, JULIE WHITEHEAD, DEBBIE NICKLIN and KENT GRANT, who is our new Chairman. On a rather saner note, ALISON NORRIS and JANET LAMBERT chose to be invested at our AGM in November. Whatever the venue chosen for an investiture, they are all undertaken seriously and hopefully they are memorable events.

We are now planning our programme for the New Year which will include Youth Hostelling and mountaineering, and camping at Easter.

G U I D E S

1st Stansted Guides held a successful Christmas Bazaar on 6th December. The proceeds went towards their general funds. There were many sideshows devised and run by the Guides themselves and a well stocked refreshment corner.

Guides, continued

The 2nd Stansted Guides have welcomed the following girls into their Company:

ALISON THURGOOD, HELEN PARRISH, HELEN ROSE, KAREN CASTROL, SUSAN MARSHAL, JACKIE HAWKINS and KAREN FREEMAN.

B R O W N I E S

All three Brownie packs are visiting the pantomime in Harlow in the New Year. The 1st and 2nd Stansted packs used the proceeds of their Christmas Card sales to pay for the trip whilst the 3rd Stansted pack put their profits towards a new pennant.

There have been quite a number of enrolments recently:

2nd Stansted: NATALIE BELL, RUTH PALMER, PHILLIPPA BROWN, SARAH HCUMSELL, NICOLA GROOME,

3rd Stansted: LISA HOWARTH, LAURA HAWKESLEY, ANDREA NEWBOLT, CLAIRE GARNER, NADIA PIRRIE, REBECCA JUDD.

We are collecting used stamps to raise money for The Year of the Disabled. Any contributions towards this would be gratefully received and can be placed in the collecting box in the Library.

HUW JOHNSON CLUB

A Typical Evening

Thursday 5.45 pm - 7.15 pm are approximately the hours of our Club meetings. It may start earlier or carry on later but no-one really worries.

The children get cracking as soon as they arrive and proceed to try out all the games, jigsaws, building bricks etc. and we get some weird and wonderful creations - architects of the future perhaps?

The climbing frame and slide are very popular and usually a game of table tennis is taking place and causes a lot of fun when the balls whizz around the room and have to be chased.

Orangeade and biscuits are in great demand and the same faces appear at the hatch hoping for another - and another! Often it is birthday time and the arrival of the birthday cake causes great excitement. We sing 'Happy Birthday' with some very original harmonising and everyone has a slice of cake.

Some very devoted helpers think up great ideas and show the children how to make pictures, cakes, Christmas cards and so on. The children are so proud when they really make something themselves.

The evening normally finishes with a few songs around the piano; then it is home for the children and a good clear up in the Hall.

We would welcome anyone who would like to come and have a coffee with us and to see what a club evening is really like - who knows, you may decide to join us more often.

BETTY LOCKWOOD

SIDEWAYS NURSERY SCHOOL

The Annual General Meeting of Sideways Nursery School was held on Thursday, 27th November, in St John's Hall. MRS JUNE WALKER chaired a successful meeting with over fifty parents and committee members attending. On show were all the new toys and equipment bought from fund-raising events during the previous term. Two new committee members were elected and the meeting ended with a cheese and wine supper.

Next January we hope to start the New Year with a sponsored slim which we hope will not only raise funds but repair the damage to our figures caused by Christmas festivities!

SARAH LEDGER. 813122

THE MOUNTFITCHET SCHOOL P.T.A.

The Mountfitchet School Parent Teacher Association have been very active in fund raising and social activities. They make a large annual donation towards the cost of maintaining the school coach.

In recent months they have provided the school with a chicken rearing unit, a glockenspiel, an electric sander, a three-jaw chuck, a large number of 'A' level reference books for the school library, a donation of £300 towards the coach, purchase of new crockery and, recently, a Christmas tree for the festive season.

The money to supply these extras for the school is raised from social functions within the school. The last two discos have starred David Wayne from Capitol Radio, and have been very well attended by over 250 parents and friends on each occasion. Our next dance will be on St Valentine's Day, 14th February, when music will be supplied live by "After Eight" a group who perform at the Garden Hotel in Cambridge.

The school coach is an excellent asset for the school and allows the children to undertake many visits which would otherwise not be possible. It has recently been used for theatre trips to 'My Fair Lady', 'The Merchant of Venice', 'Ginger Bread Man', for a week's holiday for the younger pupils and for various sporting events.

A pudding recipe which takes only a few minutes to prepare and which will impress your visitors.

Here's what you need and what you do: A few ginger-nut biscuits, one saucerful of coffee, one saucerful of sherry and some whipped cream. Dip each biscuit, first into the coffee and then into the sherry - snadwich them together with the cream and form into a long roll (allow two or three biscuits for each portion) - cover with whipped cream and chill before serving. (As a bonus, this freezes very well). Your visitors may not be able to decide just what it is they are eating, only that it is delicious.

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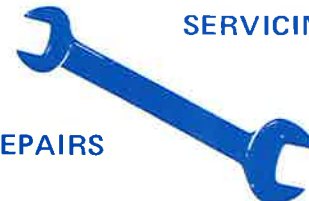
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