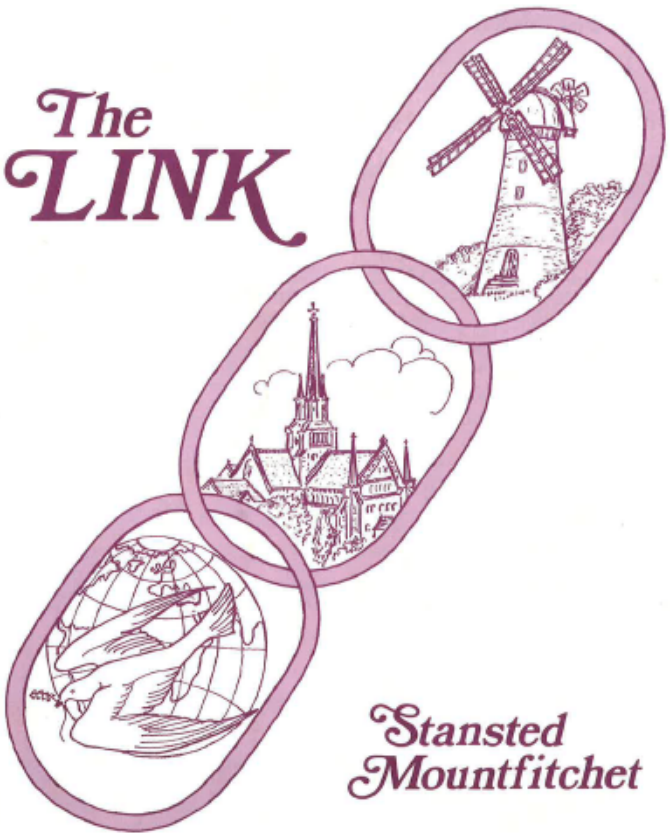


Mar 82

# The *LINK*



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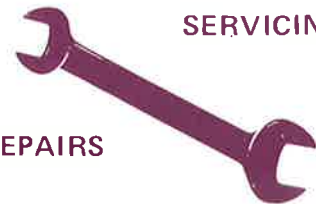
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TO KEEP A TRUE LENT

Is this a Fast, to keep  
The Larder Lean?  
And clean  
From fat of veals and sheep?

Is it to quit the dish  
Of flesh, yet still  
To fill  
The platter high with fish?

Is it to fast an hour,  
Or ragg'd to go  
Or show  
A down-cast look and sour?

No: 'tis a Fast to dole  
Thy sheaf of wheat  
And meat  
Unto the hungry soul.

It is to fast from strife  
And odd debate  
And hate;  
To circumsise thy life.

To show a heart grief-rent;  
To starve thy sin,  
Not bin;  
And that's to keep thy Lent.

Robert Herrick



The kind of fasting I want is this (Isaiah 58.6-7)

Copy for the April issue of The Link should reach 48 St John's  
Road by 12th March 1982



The Link is published monthly by the Stansted Association of Christian Churches.  
Annual subscription is £1.40. To order a copy please contact  
Mrs. Margaret Booker, Moorlands Cottage, Burton End. Tel. 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:** Held in St. John's, St. John's Road and St. Mary's,  
Church Road.  
Holy Communion – 8 a.m.  
Family Communion – 9.30 a.m.  
Matins – 11.15 a.m. (2nd Sunday)  
Holy Communion (1662) – 11.15 a.m. (4th Sunday)  
Evensong – 6.30 p.m.  
In Summer months some of these services held in  
St. Mary's. See notice in church porches for  
further details.

### 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:** 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.

# **Stansted Association of Christian Churches**

## FOOD FOR POLAND

Following an appeal by the Sue Ryder Foundation, SACC organised a collection of food and cash for Poland.

On Sunday, 7 February, the 14 cartons of food collected at St John's Hall on the previous day (in addition to £336.50p in cash) were taken to Bishop's Stortford, loaded on to a large van, together with Stortford's collection, and taken to Cavendish, Suffolk, the home of Lady Ryder.

On arrival at Cavendish, Lady Ryder welcomed us and we were able to tell her personally of the contribution made by Bishop's Stortford, Stansted and surrounding districts to her appeal. We then moved to her private chapel where she knelt in prayer to thank God for the kindness shown by our communities.

Afterwards, Lady Ryder invited us to ask questions:

Distribution: She informed us that the food was being distributed through the Church, her own 17 homes in Poland, and through the Ministry of Health. It was getting to the people in need, but the terrible decision had to be made as to whom to give the last tin of sardines. Every fortnight a telex is received by Lady Ryder to advise her of the next Diocese on the list to receive food.

Conditions: These were extremely bad. Queueing for food takes from 4 - 7 hours. Of course there are many people who are not physically able to do this, apart from those who have to go to work. Many people remained hungry.

A few other questions were asked but Lady Ryder was not able to reply to them fully. She said she had no obstruction from the Authorities in Poland and to maintain this co-operation, she felt that less said about some aspects, the better.

However, she has agreed to come to Bishop's Stortford some time in March to talk to people about Poland.

As we left, she asked us to convey her gratitude and good wishes to our communities.

Rita Yates

## **WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER**

(Interdenominational)

QUAKER MEETING HOUSE  
2.00 pm

Speaker:  
Mrs Jannice Porter  
(Missionary from  
Indonesia)

MARCH 5th, 1982



# Christian Aid



Support Christian Aid

by donating the cost of your lunch and eating  
a very frugal meal

on Wednesday 3rd March at 48 St John's Road  
on Wednesday 10th March at 29 Burnell's Way  
on Wednesday 17th March at 43 Gilbey Crescent  
on Wednesday 24th March at 5 St John's Lane

Come between 12.15 and 1.15 pm

## Christian Aid Week 1982 (10-15 May)

### MARKET STALL - SATURDAY 15th May 1982

Please help us stock the stalls by making cakes, Jam,  
Marmalade, Sweets: by growing Plants, Flowers or  
Vegetables: by collecting Books, Old Furniture, White  
White Elephants

and letting us have them to store:

Margaret Booker - 812684  
Margaret Burton - 814279

But please NO CLOTHES this year.

## With Lent

## in mind

### LENT SERVICES

Thursday, 4th March in United Reformed Church at 8.00 pm  
"Living with accelerating times"

Thursday, 11th March in Quaker Meeting House at 8 pm  
"Living with the ageing process."

Thursday, 18th March in St Theresa's Church at 8.00 pm  
"Living with bereavement"

Thursday, 25 March, in St John's Church at 8.00 pm  
"Living with death and resurrection"

Thursday 1st April in United Reformed Church Hall at 8.00 pm  
An Agape Supper



## Methodist

To Methodism in its early days the three-letter word 'ALL' was very important. It began four statements about the Christian Gospel on which John Wesley took an immovable stand. They were: All may be saved. All may be saved by grace. All may know they are saved. All may be saved to the uttermost.

I have already written on the first of these Methodist emphases and come now to the second. The way to a close relationship with God is available to all; all men are equal before the Gospel offer of Salvation or, as may be a better term today, wholeness. But the way to that saving relationship with God is through grace. And grace is love as we see it in Jesus Christ our Lord; love that is free, unmerited, unlimited, undistinguishing. It does not have to be earned or deserved. It cannot be exhausted. It does not pick and choose - is no 'respector of persons'.

Wholeness or Salvation is possible for you and me (and everyone else) because primarily it depends on God, on His attitude towards us, on His evaluation of us, on the life and resources that He makes available to us. If it depended on us, on what we could achieve or merit, one of two results would follow: we would either be snared into pride or driven to despair. Or, even worse, we might suffer a mixture of the two.

If the Kingdom of God were a moral and spiritual meritocracy it would be insufferable. It would consist solely of people intoxicated by their own importance and inflated by their own achievements. Such a megalomaniac society would make brotherhood, fellowship, sympathy and altruism impossible. Indeed it would not be a society, but a fragmented collection of isolated individuals all preening themselves with divisive self-importance. The nearest thing to Hell that I can imagine!

The alternative to such pride would be despair - people who had tried "to make the grade" for the Kingdom of God and who had failed. Such folk would be pitiable as they were forever trying to make excuses for themselves, or blaming other people, wallowing in self-pity, swamped by remorse, sunk in nihilistic hopelessness. In a very different way these also would be utterly "wrapped up in themselves" in a way that would make brotherhood, fellowship, sympathy and altruism impossible. Another kind of Hell!

But when Wholeness, Salvation, being in the Kingdom of God depend solely on God's free, unmerited, unlimited love as we know it in Christ, then the only contribution we can make (and indeed have to make if such Wholeness is to be ours) is to trust that love, to have faith in it. Hence St Paul's



great dictum (and Martin Luther's vociferous reiteration of it), "By grace are ye saved, through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God". The only possible consequences in a man's character when he finds Wholeness by utterly trusting God's amazing love are consequences like humility, joy, gratitude, magnanimity, compassion, loving-kindness. Of course these results do not come all at once and when they do come their presence in us ebbs and flows by reason of our human frailty. But the nearer we get to total trust in Christ's love the more such characteristics take hold of us.

We can live happily with people who have such qualities. It would be unthinkable to have to live forever with people who hadn't got them. Of such are the Kingdom of Heaven. And the more people there are on earth whose lives are made whole because they have been brought to trust God's mercy and love, then the more we shall have Heaven on earth. The Gospel principle, "All may be saved by grace through faith", is not a mere theological plaything. It is a foundation for making people fit to live with. And there is no more vital and practical a matter than that. The world is enormously bedevilled and divided by what follows in the wake of either pride or despair or both. It finds increasing healing, wholeness, by learning to live in contented trust of God's boundless love. See for yourselves by applying this truth to things like racial prejudice, world hunger, industrial disputes, ideological confrontation, the arms race etc. And when we do really apply it the first thing we say is, "Lord, change the world, beginning with me". Our hope lies in being saved BY GRACE.

Harold Fisher

We are all so delighted and thankful that Fred Boyd is now home and making a steady recovery. He continues to have our prayers and good wishes for a complete return to health.

.....  
 Fellowship Dates: 1st, 15th and 29th March.  
 .....

**Roman Catholic**

PARISH DIARY

March 1982

Retreat Afternoon: Saturday 6th March St Theresa's  
 Starting at 3.00 pm and ending with Evening Prayer  
 at 6.00 pm. Speakers Rev Harold Fisher and Fr  
 Donald Donegan.

Stations of the Cross and Benediction  
 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th March at 4.00 pm at St Theresa's

Lenten United Service at St Theresa's - 8.00 pm  
 18th March

Penitential Service - 8.00 pm St Theresa's 26th March



## The Road to Christian Unity - Pope Paul VI

John XXII pointed out that Christian unity is necessary because Jesus himself wanted it:

'I pray Father that they all may be one'

The Council responded with its decrees on ecumenism and Paul VI took the first steps along the road towards unity. We have made important advances.

This much is certain: we have worked with perseverance and have committed ourselves to the task, together with other Christian churches. In the world of today the only way the Church can respond to Christ's prayer for unity is by a genuine search for ways of drawing closer to other Christians. We must not be discouraged by the difficulties or we would be failing Christ.

Some people would like to turn back, saying they see only negative results. Their efforts harm the Church and cause religious confusion and indifference. It is fair enough to express such views and there must be a limit. We are at a new stage in the Church's life, which calls for deep responsible faith.

True ecumenical activity means an openness, a drawing closer, a shared investigation of the truth.

In no way does it mean giving up or diminishing what the Church has constantly believed and taught.

\*\*\*\*\*

### ST ALBANS INTERREGIONAL ECUMENICAL YOUTH FESTIVAL-

12 - 17th April in MUNICH, West Germany

- \* This Festival is for young Christian Adults of all ages
- \* From the UK, Germany, France, Spain, Holland, Poland, Switzerland and Sweden.
- \* To celebrate Easter and witness to a Gospel of Reconciliation through a call to freedom; freedom is something that can really be taken for granted. The Festival will help us focus on the extent to which in our own experience our lives are shaped by external forces and examine our use of freedom.

#### What Happens:

Workshops, Seminars, Missions, Guest Speakers, Concerts, International Liturgies, Sightseeing, Films and Discos.

#### How much will it cost:

£45.

Phone Peter & Jan King for details, 850469



# Church of England

FROM THE VICAR



This month we have had several funerals of devoted Christian people. George and Margaret Cannon from Bentfield Road died within a week of one another and they were very faithful communicant members of the Church. Then Bill Perkins, father of Marion Johnson, died very suddenly after having just made his communion at our Tuesday evening Eucharist. Except for the last two years Bill had lived in Cardiff and was a faithful member of St Germain's Church. He had worked there all his life and loved the place dearly. In coming to Stansted he entered fully into the worshipping life of our parish, making his communion every Sunday and Tuesday.

Bill had a hand in encouraging many boys and young men to offer themselves for the priesthood. Knowing this has reminded me of something I have wanted to mention for some time. If there is any young person, male or female, who feels that God may be calling them to full time ministry in the Church, then please speak to Father Andrew or myself. Priests, deaconesses and full time lay workers come from ordinary congregations and so we should at times present a challenge to our young people (and our not so young people) and ask, "Is God calling you to the ministry of His Church?" For those who want to find out more there are always vocational weekend conferences to which we can send them.

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## J U M B L E S A L E

20th March 1982  
at 2.00 pm  
St John's Hall

For collection on Friday 19th, please  
ring Doreen Newby on 812061

:0:0:0:0:0:0:0:0:0:

## THE FORUM

On Wednesday, 10th March, we shall be meeting in the home of Mr and Mrs Hollis, 105 Cambridge Road when Mr Michael Bland, Chairman of the Herts & Essex Border Centre of the National Trust will give a talk on the town of Ware, its history and people. The meeting begins at 8.00 pm.



## MOTHERING SUNDAY



As usual we will be distributing flowers during our Family Communion service on 21st March. There will also be an exhibition of our children's work in the hall where we will serve coffee after the service. We do hope you will all be there.

On the previous Sunday, Miss Susan Robinson will be having a stall in church after the service selling small items for children to give to their mothers. So, children, buy from us and support the St John's Appeal.

### PARISH REGISTERS.

#### Baptised:

7th February	Stephanie Louise Hall	79 Brook Road
	Martin Tofts	15 Gilbey Crescent
	Corinne Marie Hampton	39 Mountfitchet Road
	Neil Kenneth John Hampton	39 Mountfitchet Road

#### Married:

6th February	Martin Leslie Morgan, "Winterbeck", North Hall Road, Ugley, and Hazel Angela Nash, 40 Blythwood Gardens, Stansted
--------------	--

#### Departed:

29th January	George Arthur Cannon, 36 Bentfield Rd	87 years
3rd February	William Charles Sage, 28 Bentfield Rd	71 years
4th February	Margaret Staines Cannon, 36 Bentfield Rd,	94 years
15th February	William Perkins, 6 Park Road	78 years
17th February	Phyllis Elsie Patmore, 45 Bentfield Causeway	67 years

### STANSTED YOUNG WIVES

Our meetings in March are as follows:

2nd March - Mrs Rita Humphreys, an experienced local councillor, will be speaking to us about the role of women in local government. This promises to be a very lively and informative talk, so don't miss it!

16th March- We are again attempting to have a speaker from the NSPCC to speak on the work of this very special organisation.

We should like to remind all members that our AGM comes up in May (not all that far in the future) and that the hunt is on for replacements for resigning members of the committee. Could anyone interested please let any member of the current committee know, so that her name can be put forward at the AGM.

Remember, meetings are on the first and third Tuesdays of the month in term-time; tea is served from 1.30 pm with a speaker usually from 2 - 3 pm. Creche is provided by kind ladies of the church, who deserve a special mention for their generous donation of time - thank you, ladies!



## PARISH DIARY

### March

- 2nd House Communion at Old Lane House Church Rd 8.00 pm  
3rd House Communion at 1 Mary Macarthur Place 8.00 pm  
7th Preacher at 9.30 am The Rev'd Stephen Lowe, Team Rector of East Ham. "The Church in East Ham"  
8th PCC Meeting at 8.00 pm  
9th House Communion Wolvercote 1 St John's Lane 8.00 pm  
10th House Communion 22 Bentfield Causeway 8.00 pm  
14th Preacher at 9.30 am. Mr Martin Booth, Lecturer in Education at Cambridge University. "The Church in Thamesmead"  
16th House Communion at 19 Longcroft 8.00 pm  
17th House Communion 59 Blythwood Gardens 8.00 pm  
21st Mothering Sunday Family service with flowers 9.30 am  
22nd Parish Annual Meeting 8.00 pm St John's Hall  
23rd House Communion 43 Gilbey Crescent 8.00 pm  
24th Mothers' Union 2.00 pm  
House Communion at 66 Bentfield Gardens 8.00 pm  
28th Preacher at 9.30 am The Rev'd John Abdy, Vicar of South Woodham Ferrers. "The Church in South Woodham Ferrers" Stainer's Crucifixion 6.30 pm in St John's  
30th House Communion at 10 Hargrave Close 8.00 pm  
31st House Communion at The Vicarage, St John's Rd 8.00 pm

### April

- 2nd Concert of Light Music for violin, cello and piano 7.45 pm in St John's Church. In aid of St John's.

## CHURCH OF ENGLAND CHILDRENS' SOCIETY

"When I grow up and get a job I'm still going to live here as I've fallen in love with you and dad", - Richard, aged 8.

Richard was talking just six months after he went to live with his family. He is a young spastic lad who loves football and space projects.

He has his own piece of garden and is watching his own flowers grow.

Richard has a family and it is the most precious gift he has ever had.

Most of us take the gift of our family for granted. For many children like Richard it is a very special day when it is their own front door they open when they get home from school, when it is their own mum and dad who tuck them into bed at night.

The Church of England Childrens' Society cares for over 5,000 children every year. Many like Richard hoping for a home and a family, others have their own families but for many reasons they are not happy families.

The Society cares for children through its family and community centres where it is part of the community helping children and



families grow together; through its residential homes, many of which specialise in the care of the handicapped; through homefinding teams where we find homes for many older children or those disabled in any way; through teenage units where we help young people to grow towards independence; through special schools and centres where we can care for children with special needs.

The Church of England Children's Society is now embarking on its second century of caring for children. It has helped many children to have a happy family during that time.

When Linda wrote thanking the Society for "the gift of my parents" she said "I could write pages of their patience and devotion but it will suffice to say thank you to the Society for giving me such wonderful parents and thank you mum and dad for all you've done and all you continue to do".

For Richard, Linda, all the children who have a family and for all those who do not, we have put aside a week every year for families.

Family Week 1982 is from 28th March to 3rd April. During that week there will be a house to house collection in your parish as in all parishes throughout England and Wales. We ask that you help generously.

For further information, please contact:

Church of England Children's Society  
Old Town Hall, Kennington Road  
London SE11 4 QD Tel: 01-735 2441

LOCAL ORGANISER FOR HOUSE TO HOUSE COLLECTION:

Judy Goddard BS 812498

.....  
From 78 Years Ago.....

We thought you might like to read some delightful excerpts from the Parish Magazine of 78 years ago and will include one or two from time to time. In those days the Vicar did not mince his words about what he wanted to say to his flock! This one is dated November 1903:

"While I am speaking about children, I want to point out that the Prayer and Hymn books on the shelves in the Parish Church are NOT for children; they are for grown up people who know how to use a nice book, and have perhaps forgotten to bring their own. The children please must not touch them. And they are not for babies; I am told that when baby cries, or gets restless in Church, one of our nice mothers, give the children a Prayer and Hymn book for Christmas, if they have not got one, and next time baby wants something to suck in Church, lend her your Prayer Book, not mine."

.....Oh, Dear!

X

AN EVENING OF LIGHT MUSIC

for

Violin, Cellos and Piano

by

Clare and Fiona Watson and Iris Galley

FRIDAY 2nd APRIL AT 7.45 pm

Music by Kreisler, Debusey, Handel,  
Sammartini and Sant-Seans

Tickets £1.25p OAP'S & Children 75p

IN AID OF ST JOHN'S APPEAL

WORLD RECOVERY

On Saturday, 27th March, Mr Edward Heath is giving a lecture in Chelmsford Cathedral at 6.00 pm on 'World Recovery for both Industrial and Developing Countries'. We hope some of you will attend this lecture and if you need transport please see the Vicar.



# PAPER FOR POLAND

In Poland, where they have been discovering the Bible in a new way in recent years, Bible printing is no problem. The Bible Society in Warsaw produces Bibles in close working relationship with two of the country's largest printing houses.

The problem is paper. Barbara Enholc-Narzynska, who heads up the Bible Society's work in Poland, estimates they could sell with no difficulty half a million New Testaments a year in the 1975 translation for the next two or three years—but for that they would need upwards of half a million kilos a year of paper.

Poland is suffering from a severe paper shortage—and a severe shortage of foreign currency with which to pay for imports. This is why Bible Society in London is mounting a campaign to donate paper for Bible printing to the Society in Warsaw.

There are no problems with the import of paper from abroad, stresses Mrs Enholc-Narzynska. In fact, because of the countrywide paper shortage the large

printing houses are hungry for work.

The post-war translation of the Bible that is currently a main bestseller has been a real breakthrough for thousands of people. It is in modern language, and it has made an enormous impression, after the several hundred-year-old translation that was in use before. The Warsaw Bible Society office is constantly receiving letters of thanks — 'Only now do we realise what the Bible is about.'

Church bookstalls, from all the denominations, including the majority Roman Catholic Church, are now ordering by the thousand rather than by the score, Mrs Enholc-Narzynska says.

There are 200,000 of the colour illustrated New Testament now in print. And 'in print' means sold and in use. Personal shoppers are being restricted to one Bible per person in order to eke out stocks as they arrive from the printer!

(230 words)



# Society of Friends

## WHAT'S IN A NAME?

Think about it - what is in YOUR name? I ask because of an enriching experience recently shared with 13 other people. We didn't know each other but we had work to do together so, instead of being asked to "introduce ourselves and say a few words about ourselves", we were invited to share with the others what we each felt about our own first names.

What do they mean to us? Why were we given them? Do we like our name? What did our nicknames tell us about ourselves?

The results of these thoughts revealed much of ourselves to the others in the Group. For instance, Patricia had been so called because her parents had really wanted a Patrick and she told us what this had meant during the whole of her childhood. One man had been named after his grandfather and had always felt that he had been expected to be just like the old man - not himself at all, his name had never been his own.

Do you like your own name? Why not if you don't and why if you do? My own name has just three letters A.N.N. and I like it very much. I was given it because my Father believed in names that could not be 'mucked about with'. He felt that only Queens and Princesses needed E's on the end.

My name is very important to me because it is one of the very few things that is truly my own. My surname belongs to others but the Ann is all mine. Looking back, it astonishes me how rarely my family used it for I was known by a nickname (uncomplimentary so I'll not tell you!) which I hated. At school I was known as "Betty's sister" until one day I stamped my foot and shouted to an astonished Headmistress "I am not Betty's sister, I am Ann". Now there's a Statement of Identity!

I do not like being called Annie, though I quite like it when an Italian friend of mine calls me Anna. I get furious when my name is misspelt.

There is no need for me to continue about my name, for to do so would be inappropriate in this context. But, if I did so, you would soon learn something about my schooldays, my feelings on losing my own surname on marriage and many more things besides.

We all have strong feelings about our name. Indeed one woman told me of her wartime flight from a European country and of the traumatic effect of having to change her name for the forged papers. Not many of us actually choose what we want to be called, though we could if we wished and the choosing would give food for thought.

What is in a name?, We are. Our backgrounds, our personalities and perhaps, in some cases, our very identities are at stake. What's in your name? Think about it!

Ann

## **United Reformed**

### DIARY

8th March	8.00 pm	Stansted Guild.	Speaker: Mrs Doris Thomas.
15th March		Theatre outing to Saffron Walden	"The Land of Smiles" arranged by the Guild Committee
16th March	7.30 pm	Elders Meeting	
22nd March	8.00 pm	Stansted Guild.	Speaker: Mrs Cowan

Speakers at morning service during March:

7th	Rev E McIlwain
14th	Mr Brian Wright, Stansted URC
21st	Rev E McIlwain - Mothering Sunday and Family Service
28th	Mr B Engel of Bishop's Stortford

### CLAVERING UNITED REFORMED CHURCH TRICENTENARY

The URC of Clavering celebrates the three hundredth anniversary of its formation this year. Now part of the Stansted Group, it is one of the oldest former Congregational churches in England and is especially interesting in having records of its meetings from the earliest years. There will be a week-end of celebrations on 24th and 25th July at Clavering URC when, in addition to Thanksgiving Services, there will be a flower festival and an exhibition arranged by the Clavering and Langley Local History Group.

Watch next month for further details.





HOW THE UNITED REFORMED  
CHURCH TAKES PART IN  
WORLD MISSION

British churches have not always had missionary interests. The missionary conscience of the church was re-awakened by the great Spiritual Revival of the 18th century. Tremendous interest in far-away places was also aroused by growing trade and colonization, both taking place at the same time. By 1795 the London Missionary Society had been formed. Not by the churches, as you might expect, but by interested lay men and women of all major denominations.

It was the first truly ecumenical effort, but the LMS was definitely a Society rather than a church or group of churches. The LMS sent out such pioneers as Roger Williams, Robert and Mary Moffat and David Livingstone. It was not long before the denominations saw their power-base threatened by this outside force, with its world-wide vision and its nation-wide penny collections for missions. Not to mention the missionary fervour which it aroused! It wasn't long before Boards or Departments of Mission were set up by the denominations. As a result the LMS came to be almost solely supported by the Congregational churches.

Enter the United Reformed Church in 1972, when Congregational churches merged with the English Presbyterians. Two missionary efforts also came together and became the Council for World Mission or CWM. Instead of an all-English Board of Management the new Council was made up of representatives of all the churches, from Africa, India, the Caribbean, Malaysia, Madagascar, Samoa, Scotland, England, New Zealand and others.

Although the Council's offices are in London its staff is from England, Jamaica, Madagascar, Singapore etc., reflecting the reality of Mission in 1982. No longer do WE 'SEND' missionaries abroad. Those who do go from one country to another are sharing in World Mission. Through CWM the United Reformed Church is a Partner in Mission with some 30 independent churches world-wide.

In future issues of The Link I hope to describe some of these partner-churches.

Eric McIlwain

# Village News

## VILLAGE DIARY

### March

- 3 Frugal Lunch for Christian Aid - 12.15 - 1.15, 48 St John's Road
- 4 Community Services Liaison Worker and Assistant available for consultation at 52 Chapel Hill 10 am - 12 noon
- 6 Bentfield Primary School PTA Jazz Evening
- 10 Frugal Lunch for Christian Aid at 29 Burnells Way
- 16 Tennis Club AGM at 105 Cambridge Road, 8.00 pm
- 17 Frugal lunch for Christian Aid at 43 Gilbey Crescent
- 23 Stansted Millers AGM at Friends Meeting House 8.00 pm
- 24 10.30 am Royal British Legion Coffee Morning at Beverley House, 55 Chapel Hill  
12.15 Frugal Lunch for Christian Aid at 5 St John's Lane  
8.00 pm Annual Parish Meeting, Peter Kirk School, St John's Road
- 29 Conservative Joint Branch AGM at Youth Centre 8.00 pm to be addressed by Alan Haselhurst MP.

### April

- 1 Official start of Tennis Club season
- 3 Spring Sale for Chapel Hill Playgroup URC Lecture Hall 2.00 pm
- 26 Women's Own Spring Sale URC Lecture Hall

OoOoOoOoOoOoOoOoOoO

### ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

24th March 1982 at 8.00 pm  
at

PETER KIRK SCHOOL, ST JOHN'S ROAD.

Do you want information about Parish matters or have you any ideas, comments or criticisms? If so, then take the opportunity to meet your parish councillors and air your views at the Annual Parish Meeting

OoOoOoOoOoOoOoOoOoO

An Irish taxi hire firm recently advertised:

"Taxis for football matches, race meetings, weddings, funerals and other sporting events."

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The older generation thought nothing of getting up at 6 a.m. The younger generation doesn't think much of it either.



## THE SOCIAL SERVICES AND THE COMMUNITY

Many people may be aware of the Social Services Department but may not be aware of the ways in which we work together with the community in order to link those who are in need with those who are able to lend a hand. Often the need is very simple - somebody may need help with shopping or cutting his nails. Another person might live on her own and have nobody to talk to for weeks on end - a lift to a Club once a week would give her something to look forward to.

The Community Services Liaison Worker (CSLW) with the Social Services is responsible for making the necessary arrangements, and for liaising with other voluntary organisations.

As I am new to this post, I would like to take this opportunity of thanking those who already do so much to help the community in various ways. Perhaps they, and anybody else who would like to know more about the Social Services, would like to come and have a cup of coffee at 52 CHAPEL HILL, STANSTED, on THURSDAY, MARCH 4th any time between 10 am and 12 noon. We look forward to meeting you.

Gail Oliver      Community Services Liaison Worker  
Alison Barr      Assistant Social Worker

## STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET SENIORS' CLUB

The speaker at the meeting on 3rd February was Dr A Hazzard, MD, our local GP, who gave a most interesting and informative talk on 'How to keep out of trouble'. Dr Hazzard gave some very practical advice on dangers in the home, spoke on ways to keep healthy by sensible diet, and answered many questions on the common ailments of the senior citizens very fully.

From comments heard afterwards all present felt they had a most enjoyable and helpful afternoon, and hope this will not be Dr Hazzard's last visit to the Club.

Our speaker on the first Tuesday in March is to be Mrs J Rosheuvel whose subject will be 'Moving Home'.

## BRITISH RED CROSS SOCIETY (ESSEX BRANCH)

The Red Cross would like to thank you all for your generous donations to the "Drugs for Poland" Appeal.

Thank you, also, to Buntings, Mace's, Mount Pharmacy, and B & R Electrics for allowing the collecting boxes to be in their shops. Over the two week period we collected £30.36<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>p.

The Essex Red Cross News Sheet reported that:

"Over a ton of medical supplies to the value of £50,000 have now been despatched to Poland. The items which include antibiotics and syringes, have been specifically requested by the Polish Red Cross to support its work with children, newly born babies, and the elderly, who are at special risk during the current shortages.

The Polish Red Cross relief operation is being supervised and co-ordinated by a delegation of the International Red Cross based in Warsaw, from where they are in direct contact with Geneva via a recently opened Telex link. It is believed to be the only international relief organisation to have been able to establish a base in Poland".

Brenda Scarr

## ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

### Women's Section

At their monthly meeting on 21st January members heard a very interesting talk on "The Splendour that was Egypt". The arranged speaker had been unable to be present, and, at the last minute Major Broe kindly stepped into the breach.

His talk, illustrated by slides, highlighted the astonishing artistry and craftsmanship of the early Egyptians. Perhaps the most fascinating of the slides were those showing the interior and contents of the tomb of Tutankhamen.

Mrs Stevens thanked Major Broe for a most interesting evening.

Refreshments were provided by Mrs Brace and Mrs Jones and raffle prizes were won by Mrs Turner, Miss Wiffen, Miss Winckworth and Miss Saville.

The March meeting will be on Thursday, 18th, when we are to be given a demonstration of beauty treatment.

On Wednesday, 24th March, there will be a coffee morning at 10.30 am at the home of Dr and Mrs Gabb.

A Beetle Drive now takes place on the first Tuesday of every month from 2.30 pm to 4.30 pm at No.1. Blythwood Gardens.

Pat Clower

### WOMEN'S OWN

The attendance at our weekly meetings has been very good during the last two months, and we have had some excellent speaker.

At our Committee meeting it was decided to hold our Annual Spring Sale on Monday 26th April, also to give a donation of £20 to the Sue Ryder Fund for Poland.

All are welcome at our meetings, whether or not they are members, so if you are feeling lonely come along at 2.45 pm on a Monday afternoon to the Lecture Hall of the United Reformed Church (near the bottom of Chapel Hill).

### NATIONAL HOUSEWIVES' REGISTER

Local Organisers: Katy Dockerill Tel: BS 812997  
Libby Martin Tel: BS 812307

On Wednesday, 20th January, we held a successful wine-tasting evening to which husbands were invited. Richard Allaway gave an amusing and informative talk mainly on French wines and illustrated his talk with slides. We had plenty of practical experience as well, as Richard brought a quantity of wines on which we could practice our newly acquired wine tasting skills.

On Tuesday, 2nd February, Mrs Maureen Caton, the Officer in Charge at Hargrave House, and Tony Ridgewell (a member of the staff) gave a talk on the work done at the home for handicapped children and the problems they encountered. We were very sad to learn that a lack of country-wide facilities for young adults over the age of 16 means that Hargrave House is obliged to continue to provide places for these older children and unable to take in more younger children.

Future Meetings: Thursday, 4th March, an evening on the life and work of Michelangelo.

Wednesday, 7th March, Angela Khalil will give a talk on some of the countries she has visited.

Libby Martin



The National Childbirth Trust  
Education for Parenthood  
Stansted & District Group

Meetings for 1982 seem to have started quite smoothly (touch wood) and January's "info evening" was very helpful to parents with children of pre-school age. Local reception teacher, Mrs Rosemary Armstrong, gave a talk on "Preparing for School". To follow up, February's talk was entitled "Introducing your Child to Books."

In March, our evening gathering will be the Group's first AGM. We would appreciate your ideas and support at this meeting so do please come along - on Wednesday, 10th. New committee members will also be most welcome. The diary for March will be as follows:

- |        |      |  |
|--------|------|--|
| Friday | 5th  | Coffee for expectant mums and those with children under 1 at 46 Wethersfield from 10.30 am   |
| Friday | 5th  | Open House at 3 Coltsfield from 2.00 pm. We will have a professional photographer present to prepare inexpensive portraits of the children ready for Easter. |
| Teds   | 10th | AGM at 43 Gilbey Crescent at 8.00 pm for 8.30 pm, will include a short film and refreshments.  |
| Friday | 12th | Expectant mums and under 1's at 6 Brewery Lane from 10.30 am   |
| Monday | 15th | Open House at 26 Spencer Close from 2.00 pm  |
| Friday | 19th | Expectant mums and under 1's at 4 Spencer Close from 10.30 am  |
| Friday | 26th | Expectant Mums and under 1's at 41 Gilbey Crescent from 10.30 am   |

New faces are always welcome and if you want any details, contact Lesley Thomson on 012578.

SCOUT & GUIDE FETE

Once again the Scouts, Cubs, Guides and Brownies are arranging a Garden Fete for Monday, 3rd May (Spring Bank Holiday). We are fortunate enough to be able to hold it in Mr and Mrs Thomson's garden at Bentfield Place and we hope for your support on that day.

We would be very grateful for any donations of cakes, sweets, produce, bric-a-brac, jewelry, dolls clothes; in fact, anything saleable will find a home on one of our stalls.

It is hoped that parents will get their gifts to us in good time through their appropriate leader, but anyone who has difficulty in getting items to us may phone 012011 for collection or items can be delivered to 102 Cambridge Road anytime.

Thank you very much in anticipation of your help, and let's see you all at Bentfield Place on 3rd May.

June Riley

STANSTED CONSERVATIVES

29th MARCH 1982 - Annual General Meeting of the Joint Branch at the Youth & Adult Centre, Lower St, at 8.00 pm. Following the formal business, there will be a talk by Mr Alan Haselhurst, Member of Parliament for Saffron Walden.

### STANSTED AFTERNOON WI

At our first meeting of the year we welcomed two members from Elsenham WI, Mrs Johnson and Mrs Tulley.

In spite of the appalling weather we were about 40 members strong. We learned with interest that the next County Holiday is planned for Sri Lanka, but it is doubtful if any of us will be able to participate, much as some of us would like to!

We had a splendid magician entertain us. He explained that there are several types of magic; for example, illusionary. Then he showed us a way of folding a pound note - no I am not going to tell how - so that it came out, when unfolded, upside down.

Our tea was of the usual high standard with home-made goodies. All in all, our New Year Party was a real success.

C Francis

### STANSTED EVENING WI

Congratulations are in order this month to a new WI which has started in BIRCHANGER. All local members are pleased to welcome them into the MOUNTFITCHET GROUP of WIs as well as the largest women's organisation in the country - over 400,000 members at the last count and still going strong.

Our President, Mrs Brenda Ryan, was one of four Stansted Evening members who attended the formation meetings at Birchanger and she has issued an open invitation to all their members to visit our own WI.

In March our members are looking forward to hearing how the BBC Radio programme "Today" is put together. Our speaker Alan Ashton, who lives in Bishop's Stortford, produces the programme and his name is often to be heard in the 'credits' at the end of the broadcast.

Our meeting will be held in St John's Hall on Thursday, 11th March at 7.45 pm.

Pearl Wellings

### CHAPEL HILL PLAYGROUP

Spring Sale - Bric-a-Brac - Good as New - Jumble - Cakes etc. SATURDAY 3rd April 2.00 pm. United Reformed Church Hall, Chapel Hill Stansted

### SIDEWAYS NURSERY SCHOOL

A successful year of fund raising in 1981 has enabled Helen, Gwenda and Maggie to purchase some new materials for Sideways, all of which are being well tried and tested by the children.

### RAINBOW PLAYGROUP

Our Spring Term is now well under way, but before I tell you our latest news, perhaps I can catch up on a few of last term's activities.

Our main fund-raising event was a Jumble Sale and mini-Auction in November which proved to be a very successful day, raising £134.00 for Playgroup funds. December was a busy month for the children with outings to the Railway Station and the Airport. The older group also enjoyed a trip to



the primary school pantomime to see "Peter Pan".

Christmas parties were arranged for both groups and the older group presented their interpretation of the Nativity before parents and friends. A visit from Father Christmas followed, much to the delight of our young friends.

At the beginning of this term, the SMAP Theatre Company presented a preview of "The Story of Music" for the Playgroup at Triad in Bishop's Stortford. The children who managed to attend enjoyed the show immensely and sat enthralled throughout the performance. A cheque for 50% of the takings was donated to Playgroup funds following the performance.

We hope to involve the children once more in our next fund-raising activity, by holding a sponsored event during the summer term.

Before I finish, may I just mention that the Mother & Toddler group is still active at the Youth Centre on a Wednesday afternoon, 1.30 pm - 3.30 pm (with the exception of the second Wednesday in each month). It is now run on a voluntary basis by several of the mums, so come along for a cup of tea and a chat and let the little ones let off steam and play with the many toys available.

Any enquiries regarding Playschool, please telephone Ann Conroy, BS 812457, or Margaret Hill BS 814359, or call in at the Youth Centre between 9.00 am and 12 noon.

A Hudgell  
Secretary

#### HUF JOHNSON CLUB

The AGM, although not well attended, was very interesting. Tom Johnson, the Chairman, said it had been a very successful year and much kindness had been shown us. He commented on the success of our new equipment and the fact that not only those using it had much pleasure but also the audience.

Mrs Birwen Butcher has resigned as secretary but I'm glad to say we aren't losing her as she is devoting all her efforts to the creative side of Club evenings. We are all grateful for the magnificent way she kept us all informed, and for her very competent handling of a very busy position. Mrs Rosemary Wallis has kindly agreed to take over.

The evening was rounded off with coffee and an interesting talk by Mrs Horner on her work with handicapped children and we are glad to welcome her on the committee.

NOV. AN APPEAL FOR HELP. Some members who live out of the village do not have time to go home from school and then return for Club. For an indefinite period Marion Johnson has had four children to tea every Thursday. Combined with her full-time work as a teacher and having to prepare the hall for club, this is proving quite exhausting. Could anyone offer to have a child for approximately two hours on a Thursday evening? There are some people already helping and are enjoying it. If you can help, please ring Marion (BS 812234).

Betty Lockwood

## BENTFIELD COUNTY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Confused about the Maths your children do in school? Well, come along to our Maths Workshops on 2nd and 9th March from 7.30 pm until 9.00 pm and we'll shed some light on the weird and wonderful topic of Infant Maths.

Our PTA are holding a Jazz evening on 6th March. Tickets are only £2.00 each and that includes a super Buffet. Our Grand Draw will also be held that evening - lots of prizes including a TV. Tickets for both are available from Mr Pollard, 814734.

The recent election for Parent Governors resulted in the appointments of Mr David Martin (814092) and Mrs Janice Wray (815017).

Classes 4 and 5 enjoyed a great day out at St Albans. We all worked very hard in the museum and collected lots of information for our work on The Romans. We were fascinated by the Roman recipes - especially the one for stuffed Dormice!!

Classes 5 and 7 will be visiting the Field Study Centre at Pelham later this term. The centre offers a wide variety of natural habitats for the children to explore and a visit there often proves to be the launching pad for an extensive project.

Janice Wray

### NEWS FROM THE MOUNTFITCHET SCHOOL

The School gradually began to return to normal at the beginning of this term, although the first two days still had some villages inaccessible by coach and therefore the children were unable to get to school.

We were, however, open every day during the bad weather before and after the Christmas holidays, although we did close early some days in order to get the children home before dark. On the worst day only 40 pupils actually made it to school, with some of the staff. We were very sorry to have to cancel our annual Carol Service, though.

The School Wind Band kept going despite everything. On one occasion the members of the band battled through snowdrifts to keep an evening engagement, and they also played for the Carol singing of the Association of Churches in the streets of Stansted.

The weather improved in time this term for a group of pupils to visit the Model Engineering Exhibition at Wembley, and for some Second Years to go for a week to the Rural Studies Centre at Marchants Hill, in Surrey, to study the area. During this term, groups will also be staying at Bradwell Centre, as part of the Biology and Rural Studies 'O' level and CSE courses.

The Autumn GCE 'O' level results have just been announced, and the School was very pleased to achieve an 85% pass rate.

Members of the 5th and 6th forms are now approaching examination time, and we look forward confidently to another successful year.

#### School Uniform.

The School has just appointed John Lewis, Oxford Street, as uniform suppliers. From March 1982, representatives of John Lewis will spend a day each term in the School to supply

/continued



Mountfitchet School, (continued)

items of uniform which pupils may wish to purchase. For the new intake in September, John Lewis will be available at the School some time in July for parents of new pupils to obtain uniform for their children. A new item has been added for girls' uniform - a navy blue cloak - but otherwise the uniform will remain basically the same.

D W Pollard

STANSTED TENNIS CLUB

The Annual General Meeting of the Stansted Tennis Club will be held on Tuesday, 16th March 1982 at Little Fosters, 105 Cambridge Road, Stansted, commencing at 8.00 pm. We hope that members and parents of junior members will be able to attend.

Official start of 1982 Season - 1st April

Sunday Afternoon Tennis starts on Sunday, 4th April at 2.30 pm.  
Tea will be served every Sunday.

1st American Tournament (Seniors) - Sunday, 25th April, 2.00 pm

NSPCC Tournament (Ladies) - Tuesday, 8th June (if wet, postpone to 15th June). 9.30 - 12.30. Details later.

Wimbledon - 21st June - 4th July. There will be a draw for tickets.  
Please sign notice in Clubhouse if you are interested.  
(Seniors only)

Stansted Carnival - 26th June (Saturday)

Sports Association Sports Day. Hargrave Park - 24th July (Saturday)

INFORMATION FROM MRS JANET HOLLIS (CHAIRMAN) BS 812073

STANSTED MILLERS

The AGM of the Stansted Millers will be held on Tuesday, 23rd March at 8 pm in The Friends Meeting House. Following the business Mr Wallis of Millwrights International Ltd will give an illustrated talk on the restoration of Lacey Green windmill.

Mr Wallis's talk is particularly pertinent as Stansted Mill is, I regret, itself in need of urgent repair. Following the loss of a sail in a storm during the winter, Millwrights International Ltd were commissioned to conduct a thorough survey of the mill. Their report made disturbing reading as in addition to the replacement of the sails we learned that serious structural defects were evident in certain floors making the mill, in fact, unsafe for visitors.

Since that time Stansted Parish Council have agreed to advance sufficient funds to allow the more urgent repairs to be put in hand, so that, hopefully, the mill will be safe to open to visitors by Easter.

A restoration fund has been set up, started with a donation of £150 from the Stansted Art and Craft Market. It is anticipated that in order to preserve the mill a sum of £10,000 will be required; details of how you can help will be published soon. So watch this space.

Alan Lodge  
Hon Secretary & Treasurer

## HOUNTFITCHET GARDEN CLUB

There was a very good attendance at the latest meeting of the club, held on 1st February at Stansted Youth Centre Annexe, at which a Forum was held with three guest speakers, Major A Power, Mr A Wicks and Dr D Barker, all involved professionally with horticulture. Dr Barker is well-known for his development of the Potentilla "Red Ace".

The panel answered a wide variety of questions from club members in a lively and entertaining manner.

The club is now affiliated to the Royal Horticultural Society and has begun to plan for a Members' Produce Show to be held in September.

At the next meeting on 1st March, Mr Dennis Neate of Writtle Agricultural College will give a talk on "Propagation".

A Humphreys

OoOoOoOoOoOoOoOoOoOoOoOoOoOoOoO

We are pleased to quote the following letter received recently from a Link subscriber:

"I would like to pay tribute to the people who make this magazine such a worthwhile journal. It is indeed a link, not only between the different Churches and activity groups in Stansted, but a valuable way of letting people know that there are those who are doing their best for everybody in the village, regardless of their religion, colour, age, social standing etc.

When you have lost contact with your Church, or do not belong to any particular faith, it can be very difficult to ask questions of total strangers. This is where "Link" is so helpful. I was given my first copy by a friend, and on reading it was amazed to find that so much was going on in Stansted of which I had no knowledge.

After reading the little magazine for a few months, I made the decision to take part as fully as I could in Stansted life.

The "Link" is playing a valuable part by offering a bridge across which people can walk into a new community life, to be accepted by new friends and helpers, their lives enriched and made more meaningful by belonging to the village, instead of just "living" here.

Perhaps when you have finished with your copy of "Link", you could put it through a neighbour's letter-box, especially that of someone new to the area. You may be instrumental in helping another person towards a richer, happier, community life.

So, a big thank-you from me, and, I am sure, many others, to all those involved in the production of this splendid local magazine. Without it some of us might not have taken the steps towards becoming part of real local life.

JAN TAYLOR, 10th February  
1982 "



### STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET WINDMILL

The Mill is open between 2.30 and 7.00 pm on the first Sunday each month from April to October and every Sunday in August. Also open at the same times on the Sunday and Monday of the three Bank Holidays. Admission is 20p for adults and 10p for accompanied children. Parties can be catered for at other times—Ring B.S. 813159 for details.

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