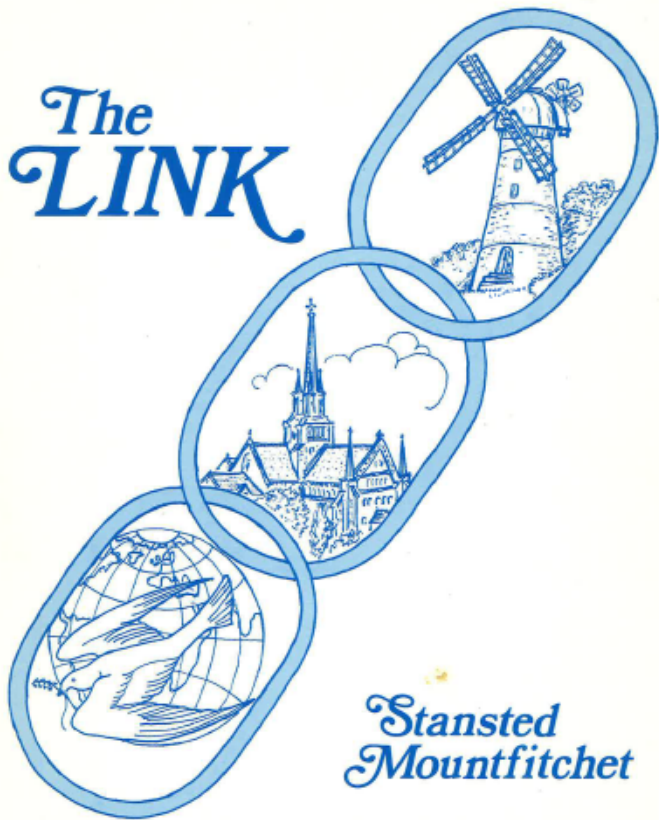


1 Aug 83

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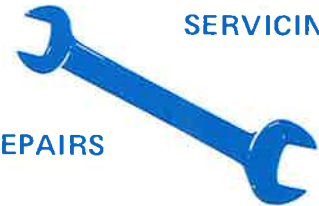
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The LINK needs a Typewriter

Up to now we have been able to have the use of a typewriter through the kindness of the Vicar, the Rev. Barry Rose. He has allowed his study to be taken over for the typing of the LINK for at least two days every month for the last three years.

We are very grateful to him.

The LINK committee feels we cannot impose on him any longer and we must raise funds to buy a typewriter which will meet our needs. It will probably cost at least £200 even if we buy a good second-hand one - and it has to be in good condition so that the type-written sheets can be clearly reproduced for our readers.

So will you help us?

Please come to a Coffee Morning on 7th September at 10.30 at 48 St John's Road

Bring and Buy and other stalls

Come and make a link with the LINK.
Meet the people who co-operate in producing it and delivering it to you each month.

Copy to reach 48 St. John's Road by
11th August for September issue and by
15th September for October issue.

THE LINK

The Link is published monthly by the Stansted Association of Christian Churches.
Annual subscription is £1.40. To order a copy please contact
Mrs Jan Taylor, 27 St John's Crescent, Tel: 813891.

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.

Meets in Quaker Meeting House, Chapel Hill.

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

Services: Morning Service with United
Reformed Church - 8.30am.

A modern Christian fun-chorus for young people has this line in its recurring refrain: "But I just thank you, Lord for making me Me". It's a jolly thing to sing, but usually far from easy to do and not really done by the majority of people. Some psychologists tell us that about ninety per cent of adults undervalue themselves in varying degrees, from timidity to self-hate. Prof. John Powell, S.J. points to most crucial matters when he writes, "Obviously all (personal) growth begins with joyful self-acceptance. Otherwise one is perpetually locked into an interior, painful and endless civil war."

To undervalue or doubt or despise ourselves undervalues and spoils or even ruins our relationships with other people. Such attitudes to ourselves may make us depressed, frightened withdrawn, tongue-tied, etc. and so in various ways out us off from other folk. On the other hand a low view of our own worth may lead us to be jealous, envious or covetous of other people's abilities, achievements or possessions. When poor self-esteem blinds us to the good things in our lives we readily resent the good things in the lives of others. Another result of undervaluing ourselves may be a censorious, complaining, back-biting or grudging attitude towards others. It helps to ease the pain arising from our self-despising when we accuse others of being no better or even worse, somewhat like the Methodist who felt better about the parlous state of his congregation by saying "The Baptists are no better, thank God." Then, paradoxically, self-doubt, etc. may lead us into boasting, one-upmanship, arrogance, etc. The man who doubts himself feels he has to make a strong impression, has to score over others, has to show himself better, and so on. Little imagination is needed to see how these things badly spoil human relationships.

Our Lord told us we were to love other people as He has loved us and that we were to love our neighbours AS OURSELVES. That surely means that we are to love ourselves as our Lord loves us. And He loves us as we are, "warts and all". He loves us simply because that is all His nature can and will do. And He loves us not because of anything we are or have done to deserve or merit His love, but simply because we are there and His heart will always love. Of course our Lord is not happy about the bad things in our lives. But such bad things do not stop Him loving us. He clearly sees that in one way or another those bad things are cries of pain and need. And without love, most of all His love, there would be no help or healing.

It is in this way we need to learn to love and evaluate ourselves, to accept ourselves and become ourselves. Without such proper self-love we are not really able to love other people or God in a full and free way. To be at peace with ourselves is the beginning of being at peace with our fellows and is a vital part of our being at peace with God. Think about it. My love to you all.

Harold Fisher.

Advance Notice: Annual Church Council, 26th
September 8pm at the home of
Alan and Catherine Dean.

St Theresa's Church, Millside.

Priest: The Rev'd David Chapman
12 Millside (flat above Church).
Tel: 84382.

Services: Sunday Masses - 8am and 10.30am
and at Hathers - 8.45am.

**Holy Days - 9.15am and 8pm
and at Hathers - 7pm.**

Dear James

Patience, patience: I have written to you only twice, after all. Thank you for your letter. I take note you said "even as I going to give you something really Christian?"

Alright, here you are, but I consider you are not ready for it, nor do I expect you to grasp its full implication.

The best source of knowledge of God, of His nature, His perfections and His works, is the word of God contained in the Gospels. Here Jesus shows Himself to us in His earthly existence, in His doctrine, in His love. Jesus Christ is God's revelation to us.

Jesus, the God-Man, is the perfect model for all mankind. Your life should be lived according to the principles He has laid down and He has himself lived. God Our Father has urged you to imitate Him when He spoke from the cloud at the Transfiguration: "This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased; hear Him." You can be pleasing to God only in as far as you resemble His Son Jesus.

It is that last sentence that needs a lot of explanation, but you are not ready for it yet.

Let me give you a comparison. I understand you like, you appreciate music, all kinds of music, especially the music of what we call the classical composers. Do you know, have you heard, do you like "Le Sacre du Printemps" by Stravinsky? The first time I heard that music I considered it utter musical balderdash. I could not hear any tune, melody, harmony, I could not hear any rhythm. Although I listened over and over again, to me it was utter cacophony. Yet I know many people liked it. Concert halls were packed to hear it. Why? What was wrong with me? What was I missing.

Some years later, after I had become thoroughly acquainted with a lot of music, I again borrowed the record of "Le Sacre du Printemps". To my amazement I heard the music, I accepted the harmonies, the rhythms thrilled me. Now it's one of my favourites and I can rehearse the whole extraordinary music in my mind, hum and whistle pieces of it. The first time I was not ready, I was not abuned to it.

Much the same applies to the understanding and the practice of the teaching of Jesus. Many people cease to believe and accept Jesus, because they lack a good firm foundation.

I trust you have a New Testament. Right; will you then, please read carefully, and reflectively what Jesus said as reported by Luke, Ch 6, verses 46 - 49.

Hope you are keeping well.

Sincerely and God Bless you

Fr David

BARBEQUE
3rd September
Waltham Hall,
Bambers Green,
Takeley
5.30 pm

John Latham has offered to hold another Barbeque at his farm on Saturday 3rd September. Everyone enjoys these events, as there are tractor and pony rides for the children and it is lovely at the Farm. Tickets are £2 for adults, £1 for children between five and four teen years, and those under five free. Please buy tickets before the day, so that we know how much food etc, to buy. All are welcome, and tickets will be available from 7 Burnells Way (812338) or 2 Millside (813836).

On Saturday 1st October to celebrate the 25th Anniversary of St. Theresa's, we have invited Fr. Jim Brand to come and talk to us at 7.30pm and will have a shared meal afterwards. Fr. Jim proved to be a very popular speaker with our friends from other denominations on his last visit and we would welcome everyone to share this celebration with us. So please put the date in your diary - 1st October.

Church of England

- Clergy:** The Rev'd Barry Rose
The Vicarage, St John's Road.
Tel: 812203.
- The Rev'd Anthony Bundock
43 Gilbey Crescent.
Tel: 814463.
- Deaconess Margaret Booker
Moorlands Cottage, Burton End.
Tel: 812684.
- Services:** Held in St John's, St John's Road and St Mary's, Church Road.
- Holy Communion - 8am
Family Communion - 9.30am
- Holy Communion (1662) - 11.15am (2nd and 4th Sundays)
Evensong - 6.30pm.
- In summer months some of these services are held in St Mary's. See notice in church porches for further details or ring one of the clergy.

FROM THE VICAR

When Victor and Norah Allard left Stansted in 1980 not only did we lose a much loved priest, we also lost our Enrolling Member of the Mothers' Union. It was Queenie Sweet who



came to the rescue and she has done a marvellous job these last 3½ years. When she took over Queenie made it clear she did not want the job for ever and so was delighted when Margaret Booker offered to help with the MU and become Enrolling Member. I am so grateful to Queenie for all she has done and continues to do in this parish. She is someone who will always try and say 'Yes' when asked to help and of course she will continue to put her efforts into the MU.

When the MU meets in St John's on 20th September for Holy Communion at 2.30 pm I will institute Margaret Booker as Enrolling Member and enrol two new members.

The MU was founded to help mothers in bringing up their children before the days of clinics and the National Health Service. In this country the MU has modified and adapted its role in changing circumstances and often today it provides an opportunity for women to exercise Christian Ministry in the parish in many different ways. It is a world wide organisation and does a great deal of valuable work. So we wish Margaret Booker well and she seeks support for the task of leading the MU in this parish. During these last few weeks we have been thinking about Christian Ministry and one thing is certain - the MU can provide an opportunity for Christian women to exercise that ministry in the home and in the parish.

* * * * *

I hesitate to say farewell to members of our congregation who have not actually left Stansted. There can always be a failure to sign the contract and the deal falls through. But it seems fairly certain that Reg and Pam Wellham and Susan (Christian is already living in Cambridge) will be leaving Stansted this month for Oxfordshire. The whole family have been a marvellous support and have performed many roles. We thank them all and wish them every happiness in their new home.

* * * * *

I am delighted that Mrs Pat Clower, 2 Clarence Road, has agreed to be our new electoral roll officer and she has already been appointed by the PCC. If you are not on the roll please speak to her.

God Bless.

MOTHERS' UNION

The years programme ended with a very happy and successful lunch party in the garden of Mr and Mrs D Turner of Bentfield Road. For the September Spectacular we are responsible for making the scones and cakes for teas. All contributions to the Vicarage by 3rd September. In September after the Corporate Communion the Vicar will be showing a film on Partners in Mission.

Queenie Sweet

REFLECTIONS ON THREE WEEKS AS
A DEACON

My first thought as I reflect on my experience of Diaconate ministry so far is that my first three weeks in Stansted has gone much better than I could have dared to hope. Everyone has been so welcoming and so kind. And there is so much going on in Stansted which makes the Parish such an exciting place for me to serve my apprenticeship!

These first three weeks have, of course, been very hectic for me - so much to learn, so many new relationships to be made, so much going on in our period of Celebration and Renewal highlighted, for me, by the excitement of the Bishop of London's visit, the joy of the joint service with the Methodist and URC congregations in Stansted and the simple pleasure of games and barbecued sausages with our young people in Hatfield Forest.

I am learning, too, that I cannot hope to depend on my own talents alone; for making mistakes is part of what it means to be human. Indeed, for all that has gone so well in these

first few weeks, I have been struck in my reading by Leon Roy's haunting sentence, "There is only one sadness, the sadness of not being a saint". There is a lesson for us all in this for it is only when we accept ourselves as we are, warts and all, that we can begin to love ourselves and each other - as indeed God loves us - in our human weakness and imperfections.

FROM DEACONESSE MARGARET

The first four weeks of being a Deaconess have sped by, interspersed with some memorable events during the Celebration and Renewal weeks. A truly marvellous way to start a new ministry. It was good to have representatives of all the Churches at the Ordination service and I can't thank everyone enough who put so much effort and thought into making sure that everything was a celebration. It is really good to be back as part of Church and village life again, and my cross that you have given me will always be a reminder of your support during my year in Cambridge and the kindness and helpness you have shown me since. Thank you all from the bottom of my heart.

Margaret.

THE SUN SHINES ON US AGAIN!

Once again the tiny tots group were able to enjoy and share a picnic together in beautiful sunshine at Harlow Park.

After eating our lunch we visited the children's zoo where once more the animals delighted and thrilled the children and one man was heard to exclaim "Oh look, it's got three horns, do you think it's a new species". But when the sheep turned right round it only displayed the regulation number of horns - such a disappointment!

Leaving the animals to recover we went on to the adventure playground whereupon the children disappeared to the bottom, top and middle of various pieces of equipment and proceeded to work up an enormous thirst that proved to be our ally for getting them away when the time came, which was all too soon.

Thank you to Tony and Barry for coming with us and again to Barry for so bravely and ably conducting the Tots services for the last few months.

It would be nice to see even more mums (or dads) and under 5's at our services on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month, so come and join us at our meetings and make some new friends!

PARISH DIARY

August

19th Anniversary Service for the life of Miles Gilbey Rowledge who lived in Stamford for over 70 years. St Mary's at 3.00 pm.

29th Hatfield Forest Picnic 12 noon to 5.00pm

31st Children's Church Teachers Meeting 3.00 pm

September

4th September Spectacular 2.00 pm to 5.30 pm

13th Tiny Tots Service 2.15 pm

19th FCC Meeting 8.00 pm

25th Harvest at St Mary's - all services including 3.00 am and 9.30 am at St Mary's.

October

2nd Harvest at St John's - all services there including Bransong which will take place in St John's every Sunday until 22nd April 1984

SEPTEMBER SPECTACULAR

Sunday 4th
September

Attractions include
Sinhago Steriford
Town Band
and

Original Sideshow!

ST MARY'S SCHOOL
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PAPA WIGGS

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ROUPEY & FARM

ROUPEY & FARM

ROUPEY & FARM

ROUPEY & FARM

ROUPEY & FARM

HAVE YOU SERVICED? ...

Extensive work is now in progress on St. John's Church.

This stage of the repair work is an act of faith as we still need £3,000 to pay for it.

Can you give a donation?

Can you make a covenant? Remember that with a 40% DCS grant £100 committed means £250 for the Appeal Fund.

Can you make us an interest-free loan?

If so please see Peter Pavitt (842557) Alan Corbushley (813040) or the Vicar, 0000000000

Thanks to Barbara Mercer and all who sponsored her on a sponsored climb which raised a magnificent £90 for St John's Appeal.

Several more of our congregation took part in the sponsored cycle ride on 23rd July. Results to be published later.

0000000000

Thank you ...

Hilda Seymour would like to say thank you to all who sent her get well cards when she was in hospital. Our thoughts and prayers have meant a great deal to her. She wishes to thank also those who gave lifts to her sister May to the hospital and to the clergy who visited her.

She hopes her friends will continue to support her and visit her at home.

0+0+0+0+0

Parish Registers

Baptisms

3rd July Louise Danielle Shrimpton
41 West Road.

Marriages

25th June Philip Brooker, Gailford, and
Honor Wilson, 19 St John's Road

Philip Overo, Soham and Sally Little
30 Millfields.

15th July Peter Curtis, Much Hadham and
Kim Baker, 8 Clarence Road.

Deaths

27th June Herbert Thomas Jiggins, 6 Stoney-
field Drive, 79 years.

22nd July Violet Victoria Silcock Wickens,
5 Hatfield Road, 82 years.

0+0+0+0+0

The Summer Garden Party at 5 St John's Lane raised £400. for the Home Farm Trust at Oxford House, 92 Day.



Society of Friends

Quaker Meeting House, Chapel Hill.

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

Meeting for worship: Ilam.

A week or two ago I was lucky enough to go to General Meeting in Saffron Walden. This is a meeting for Friends from Cambridgeshire and Suffolk as well as from Essex. We had as our speaker Fortunato Castillio, a psychiatrist practising in London who is the son of a Mexican Quaker Pastor. The title of his talk was "Are Quakers Martyrs?", and he started (in order to put our minds on the right track) by reading the first 8 verses from Chapter III in Ecclesiastes. "To everything there is a season".

He deplored the fact that Quakers have acquired a reputation for being "very good", a reputation sometimes deserved and sometimes undeserved, exactly like any other cross section of society. This reputation tended to frighten away people who might otherwise find what they were seeking in the Society of Friends, and certainly alienated young people.

He was splendidly forthright and funny about self-made martyrs who delight in monopolizing selfishness and in making other people feel inadequate because they are less busy than themselves. By this time there was a lot of audience participation and lighthearted badinage about the pleasure or displeasure of washing up. But underlining all the fun was the deeply felt message to us all to try and not think of Mary and Martha as in competition with each other but rather as representing two vital aspects of life which we must try and combine in ourselves.

It is impossible adequately to convey the impression that this discussion or "thinking aloud" (it couldn't be called a lecture) made upon the meeting. The clearest message that I picked up was "Do keep a sense of proportion."

Nancy Tennant

United Reformed

Chapel Hill

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

Group Secretary: Miss Dorothy Oswald
3 White Bear.
Tel: 814758.

Services: Morning Service with Methodist Church -
9.30am in Quaker Meeting House.

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

"A SIGNIFICANT ANNIVERSARY"

Protestants came rather late into missionary work having spent over 200 years in doctrinal debate and the development of national churches (e.g. English, French Reformed, German Lutheran etc). There was also a survival factor involved. So mission in the sense of "foreign mission" arrived in the late eighteenth century along with a variety of Missionary Societies.

One of the earliest of these was the London Missionary Society (LMS for short - acro-

nyms are not a new thing!) and one of its greatest missionaries was Robert Moffat. August sees the 100th anniversary of his death. He was sent to a place called Kuruman in 1820 and there he stayed for 50 years. (A more famous missionary, David Livingstone, married his daughter.) Moffat was called "one of God's gardeners" because he planted seeds not only of Bible teaching and Christian faith but also of general education, better methods of cultivation including irrigation, new building methods, and his printing shop led to a trade school called the Moffat Institute.

Robert Moffat was the first translator of the Bible into an African language and he printed it too! So he was a kind of one-man Bible Society! Altogether a worthy to remember, 100 years on.

Anglican, Congregational, Methodist and Presbyterian churches are joining in the new Kuruman Moffat Mission Trust to renovate some of the old mission buildings and create a modern Conference Centre. In this way the ministry begun by Robert Moffat 160 years ago will be continued into the 21st century.

Think also on this: it was 9 years before Moffat baptised his first converts. Such incredible patience and devotion! And today the church in Africa is the fastest-growing Christian community in the world.

XXXXXXXXXX

August Services for METHODIST/U.R.C.

9.30 am at the Quaker Meeting House

7th August Mr E McIlwain - Holy Communion
14th August Mr H Fisher - Family Sunday
21st August Mr E McIlwain
28th August Mr H Fisher
4th Sept. Mr E McIlwain - Holy Communion

XXXXXXXXXX

SPECIAL EVENING SERVICE - 6.30 pm at the U.R.C.

14th August - The Rev. T. Phillips of Dunmow

SACC

ONE CHURCH, ONE FAITH, ONE LORD

As a child I obediently (if reluctantly) went to Sunday School, because it was "good for me." This kind of religious experience culminated in my being confirmed into the Church of England at 17, though I had't a clue what it was all about. Nor surprisingly then, I stopped going to church soon after I left home at 18 and entered into an agnostic phase, attaching labels to myself as fast as I discovered them. Much later, I became convinced, by reading about Quakerism, that Quakers and I shared certain fundamental experiences and beliefs. And so, 18 months ago, I joined the Society of Friends and became a Quaker by membership. Soon afterwards I received a very deep spiritual experience in the form of the St Alban's pilgrimage, a week-long festival of ecumenical worship, work and sharing. Since then I have deepened my ecumenical experience by going again to St Albans and by taking part in a young people's prayer group. At the same time, though not a Quaker out of the traditional mould, my conviction to Quakerism has been strengthened and I have been grateful for the Society's absence of rules and regulations concerning what thou shalt do and with whom thou shalt do it.

As a "cradle Catholic" I accepted, happily and without question, the rites and traditions of my church. Friday fish, Saturday confession, Sunday Mass (in a foreign language!), the Lenten ashes, the May procession, the clouds

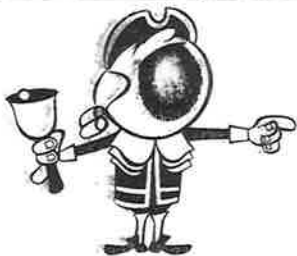
of incense and sprinkling with holy water - these were all a natural part of my childhood and adolescence. Any doubts that may have arisen out of that crucial point in a young person's life, leaving home to go to university, were dispelled by the great revival in the Roman Catholic Church brought about by the Second Vatican Council. I only really began to question the relevance of my faith in my everyday life during my late twenties. Then I came to Stansted and my faith was renewed, first by becoming part of the real parish family that exists here in St Theresa's Church and secondly by my involvement in the Charismatic Movement. In the past four years my faith has been strengthened by my participation in the ecumenical life of the Stansted churches. I have attended almost all the United Services but have always felt myself to be a guest in the home of a well-loved friend, but a guest nevertheless.

With these different backgrounds we both attended the United Parish Communion in St John's Church early in July. And we did not feel like guests, we were completely at home and "at one" with the rest of the congregation. We were there by right, as equal members of the Christian Church. For the first time in our lives, after 14 years of marriage, we received Communion together. It was a truly uniting experience. We believe that the Holy Spirit has brought us along different paths to this turning point in our lives and, we hope, in the life of the Church in Stansted. We can proclaim "one Church, one faith, one Lord".

Peter and Ann Webb



Village News



FUTURE EVENTS

August

3rd 2.30pm Royal British Legion Fete at Beverley House, 55 Chapel Hill (home of Dr. & Mrs. Gabb)

September

3rd St. Theresa's Barbeque at Waltham Hall, Bambers Green Takeley

7th 10.30am LINK Coffee Morning at 48 St. John's Road. Proceeds for purchase of typewriter.

11th 12 - 4.30. Royal British Legion Barbeque at Watermill Farm, Hazel End.

FOR THE RECORD

In response to a letter from Mr. R.F. Wells of Bristol, we append the following Footnotes to the articles "Memories" by May Jordan (February issue) and "Stansted's Schools at the Beginning of the Century" by Jane Freeman (June issue).

(1) Rather than being a Roman Road, it is more likely that Cambridge Road was developed as a through-road in the seventeenth century and later became a turnpike road.

(2) The Fountain was erected in 1871 and was the gift of Henry Parry Gilbey and Walter Gilbey.

(3) The Recreation Ground was given to the village in 1867 by the squire, William Fuller Maitland. (This was before James Blyth came to live here). He also donated the present cricket pavillion.

(4) Both Stansted Schools grew out of earlier Sunday Schools. A "Free School of Industry" as well as a Sunday School were started by the Rev. E. May in 1829 in connection with Stansted Old Meeting (now United Reformed Church). They were both held in the vestry, but in 1835 a small "British School" was erected at the side of Chapel Hill (almost opposite the entrance to Woodfields). In 1862 the present building facing Chapel Hill was put up and accommodated Girls, boys and Infants, being converted to the use of Boys only in 1911. The Girls' School was the long red-brick building nearer to St. John's Church. The building referred to in the article was used as a domestic science centre where girls did cookery and laundry from Tuesday to Friday and boys did carpentry on Mondays.

(5) The National or Church School building was financed by the Vicar, the Rev. Josias Torriano in 1838 (see foundation stone).

(6) F.A. Dearch became headmaster of the Church School some years prior to 1914 while D.G. Mitchell became headmaster of the British School about 1920.

(A number of the dates mentioned are recorded in "A Short History of Stansted Mountfitchet" by H. I. Sanders, published by the Parish Council in 1973.

A Prayer at Night

In her contribution "Thank you Jane Freeman" in the July issue, May Jordan included one line of a child's prayer.

Judy Goddard writes as follows:-
"It revives memories for me; not of the British School but of my father tucking me up in bed and teaching me the prayer -

Lord keep us safe this night
Secure from all our fears
May angels guard us while we sleep
'til morning light appears.

It is simple but comforting. I thoroughly recommend it."

MOUNTFITCHET GARDEN CLUB

Our July meeting was well attended on a lovely evening by about 50 members.

The Chairman told us that a very successful stall had been manned at the Carnival by hard working and enterprising members, and a profit of £65 had been made.

The founders of our club, Mr. & Mrs. Humphreys, were attending their last meeting before moving to their new home in Somerset on July 28th and presented the club with a vase of a most unusual design for the Spring Show. A lovely surprise for us all but the members

Garden Club continued

could not let them go without a token of our appreciation of their hard work and enthusiasm as Chairman and Secretary since the club was founded over 3 years ago, and they were presented with a lovely crystal vase with a flower motif. They were both surprised and delighted. And still the presentations were not over; our Chairman, Mr. Williams, then presented Mrs. Humphreys on behalf of the club with a plant trough containing a good variety of plants for the new Day Centre.

Then we settled down to the more serious part of the evening with a speaker from Unwins seeds giving us advice and information about new varieties of flowers and vegetables, including a breakthrough in growing strawberries from seed. Altogether a most happy, satisfying and instructive evening.

The next meeting will be on Monday August 1st at the new DAY CENTRE at 8pm. Mr. Henderson from Harlow Garden Club will be speaking on "Preparing entries for Shows."

Gwen Harbridge

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION WOMEN'S SECTION



A coffee evening in the United Reformed Hall made a profit of £29 on 16th June. Winners of guessing number of beads in a jar and the weight of the cake were Mrs. Stevens and Mrs. Brett. Raffle winners were Mrs. Gabb, Mrs. Tyson, Mrs. Traveller, Mrs. Trundle and Mrs. Johnson.

On August 3rd at 2.30pm there will be a mini garden fete at No.55 Chapel Hill by kind permission of Dr. & Mrs. Gabb - Bring and Buy, Produce Stall, Raffle.

There will not be any monthly meeting on 18th August.

Pat Clower

NATIONAL CHILDBIRTH TRUST THE MILK RUN

- ARE YOU BREASTFEEDING - Have you a little milk to spare?
DO YOU HAVE TRANSPORT - Have you a little time to spare?
DO YOU WORK IN THE HERTS AND ESSEX HOSPITAL?
Could you deliver milk to the hospital?

The Special Care Baby Unit at Harlow hospital depends on expressed breastmilk for its premature babies. Most of the babies are in the unit for their low birth weight - a baby may weigh below 2lbs and be 10-12 weeks premature. The babies are nursed in an incubator at first and are then transferred to an open cot in the Special Care Nursery. When the babies are able to take milk they are initially tube fed hourly with expressed breastmilk (EBM). The amount of milk the Unit needs from day to day varies depending on the number of babies in the Unit at any one time. If they have any spare breastmilk it is frozen for future use.

The Unit is dependant on breastfeeding mothers donating milk and they often run short of milk. For the past twelve months a number of breastfeeding mothers in Stansted have been collecting breastmilk, freezing it and delivering it to me. Yvonne Woodham has taken the milk into the Unit twice weekly and the staff are always very grateful, often needing the milk there and then.

Mothers with young babies have a very busy day (and night!). So it would be much easier for them if the milk was collected from their homes. It would also be more use to the Unit if the milk was delivered fresh 3 or 4 times a week. Transport goes from Herts and Essex Hospital in Bishop's Stortford daily to Harlow Hospital and the Casualty department has a fridge in which we can leave the milk.

However to do this we need people with transport who are prepared to collect bottles of EBM from mothers' homes and deliver it to me or to someone who goes into Herts and Essex Hospital regularly. If we have enough volunteers this can be done on a rota basis. If you have transport or work in the Herts and Essex Hospital and feel you could help with the Milk Run please contact me.

If you are a breastfeeding mother and feel you have some milk to spare please contact me. The milk can be obtained by expressing by hand or with a hand pump, collecting the milk into a sterile container. Drips of milk can also be collected into a specially designed shield. I supply the sterile bottles and I also have shields and hand pumps available for mothers to use. Your milk will be gratefully received - loz daily will be almost enough for a tiny premature baby for one day.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the mothers who have donated milk. I would also like to thank Yvonne who has taken the milk in regularly for us during the past twelve months.

Dr. Catherine A. Leek, MB BCH.
(Breastfeeding Counsellor for N.C.T.)

STANSTED TENNIS CLUB

Tennis coaching for seniors has been arranged for the following Saturday afternoons at 2pm - 13th and 20th August, 3rd & 10th September. There are 4 vacancies.

There will be Junior Coaching starting on 16th August to 19th August (4 lessons).

The Club T-shirts are very popular and are selling well - £4 for adult sizes and £3.30 for Juniors. Janet Hollis now has a supply of T-shirts and people who are interested are welcome to try them on.

The Club Finals Day will be held on Sunday 11th September. There will be a Cheese & Wine at lunch-time and a Barbecue in the evening. Details of the Club and Coaching from Janet Hollis - 812073.



STANSTED SENIORS CLUB

The new Day Centre looked very attractive and welcoming when we arrived on 20th July for the party given by Mrs. Page and Mrs. Owen Hughes. It was good to see the armchairs and items of kitchen equipment the seniors had given. We had a delicious tea served from the new spacious kitchen and everyone enjoyed the lovely sandwiches and cakes.

Members signed a card to send to our chairman, Mrs. L. Winch, who has been ordered a month's complete rest.

Mrs. Irwin's parties are on August 3rd and 17th.

The chiropodist will be at St. John's Hall on August 17th.

TYPISTS NEEDED!

Some time ago people were kind enough to offer their services as typists for the LINK and we were very grateful to those who were able to help.

Now that we have adopted a new format it is necessary to use a large type face, and the Vicarage typewriter is the only one available to us until we acquire one of our own.

Some of the typists who volunteered are not free to go to the Vicarage during the daytime - is there anyone able to do this and to share the typing. Please contact Mair Muir 812289.

THE NEW DAY & COMMUNITY CENTRE

An official ceremony took place at the new Centre on 27th July. The Chairman of Uttlesford District Council, Mr J Tivendale, performed the opening ceremony and so began the life of Stansted's newest venture.

Day Centres are established in many towns and villages and often have different functions. The Day Centre in Stansted is for the use of its senior citizens - that is, any man or woman aged 60 years and over may use the Centre as a meeting place to join friends over a cup of tea or coffee, maybe have lunch together after a visit to the library or after shopping in the village.

There is an extremely pleasant room where snacks and drinks may be bought at reasonable prices. Nothing is subsidised but only small profits are to be made so one can be sure of getting a fair deal.

There are toilet facilities including those for wheelchair users. Later in the year a chiropody service will be operating.

The Day Centre is manned by a host of helpful volunteers. In fact, so many kind people have offered help at the snack bar that a reserve list is now in existence.

If you are a senior citizen and haven't already been to the Day Centre, do go along any time between 10.00 am and 4.00 pm on TUESDAYS, THURSDAYS AND FRIDAYS; take a friend and make it a habit to use Stansted's latest amenity.

As the Parish Council contributed to the cost of the Centre it has been built in a most spacious way. It is available for evening lettings to bona fide village organisations at a cost of £3 per hour. Further details from Mrs B Scarr at the centre (815091).

The LINK needs a Typewriter

Is there anyone out there with an office typewriter about to be replaced which they think might suit us? It must take a carbon ribbon and have a large type-face (10 characters to 1" - pica). The carriage must be at least 14" long.

Please contact Mair Muir, 48 St. John's Road. Tel. 812289.

On Thursdays when we have our meetings it is quite amazing how busy everyone is. It rather resembles an ant hill with everyone rushing around with no time to spare.

Certain of the games and toys are very popular and several members clamour to have a turn. One small boy was longing to "Have a Go" on the billiard table and we eventually managed to give him a cue, his nose was just level with the table so he wasn't very successful but he was happy.

Paper, glue and crayons are well liked and get scattered everywhere - it's always advisable to look before you sit. One lad spends an entire evening taking all the bricks, toys and books etc. out of a cardboard box and then very solemnly putting them all back again. We rather like that as usually they are all tipped out and the "happy helpers" pick them up.

Another boy loves paper and dances around all the time tearing up strips of paper and waving them in the air. Quite often a handful of grubby, soggy, tatty paper is thrust in your face.

Sometimes you can be firmly grasped by arm or hand and marched round and round the room - after several tours it seems like a mini-marathon.

There are frequent squabbles over who should push the pram - it's not only girls who like to push. In fact with the strange loads that get piled on the pram it looks as if a member or members are about to take to the road!

Suddenly, however, all this changes, chairs are lined up, the hub-bub ceases and the film starts. Oooh it was peaceful. Everyone gathered round and watched the space shuttle. This was enjoyed by all but it was much more fun when the members saw themselves on the screen. There were shouts and claps and calling out of names and much laughter.

The biggest cheer and loudest clapping came when our "Mr Johnson" appeared on the screen. No doubt that he was the star of the evening!

I believe he is still awaiting his Oscar!

Betty Lockwood

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

BARBEQUE

The Annual Barbeque in aid of the Royal British Legion will be held on Sunday 11th September from 12.00 to 4.30 pm at WATERMILL FARM, HAZEL END.

There will be many more sideshows than in previous years including a Model Steam Locomotion with 100 yards of track and a model flying aircraft display.

Food will be cooked by Jerry Lane as usual and he will also provide the bar.

Car Parking is free.

Tickets, priced at £2.50 per adult and £1.75 for children under 14, are available from:-

Major Power	814270
Mr. Cheal	813128
Mr. Wagstaffe	Albury 423
Mr. Pavitt	812567

or by asking any member of the Men's or Women's section who will pass on requests to the above.

Pray for the usual fine weather!

HARGRAVE HOUSE LEAGUE OF FRIENDS

At the time of writing this we have just learned that Essex County Council Social Services Committee have decided that Hargrave House will be closed and the majority of the children moved to Hollycroft, Sandon, Chelmsford. Most people in Stansted and anyone who has been reading the local papers will know of our fight to prevent this happening, and we do thank everyone who has given us support in this. We have some consolation in the feeling that the educational and medical facilities available to the children at Hollycroft will have been improved as a consequence of our fight.

However, the fact remains that when Hargrave House closes there will be an urgent need for short term care places for mentally handicapped children in West Essex, and as far as we are aware there are no plans to provide such care. This decision therefore affects not only the children who live now in Hargrave House, but also other mentally handicapped children and their parents in West Essex. This is a problem about which we will be pressing the County to find some solution.

To come back to some more cheerful news about the support Hargrave House has received from the community recently. We must congratulate Doug Harris who raised a total of £140 for Hargrave House when he ran in the London Marathon. This is the second year that he has run for Hargrave, and we all admire the hard work and training he put in in order to improve his time.

At the Carnival we ran several stalls and were very pleased to raise about £200 on a beautiful sunny day. Staff and residents entered a float for the first time, and the children really enjoyed the dressing-up and the whole afternoon.

As the closing down of Hargrave and the gradual moving of the children to Hollycroft can be expected to take quite a long time, any money raised locally will still be used to provide extra pleasure and comfort for the residents. We thank you for past support and hope for your continuing support.

Rachel Ives

Stansted Art & Craft Market

The fifth annual Stansted Art & Craft Market will be held at the usual venue of the Youth & Adult Centre, Lower Street, on Saturday and Sunday, 15th and 16th October, and it is hoped that it will be bigger and better than ever.

Light refreshments will be available during opening hours (11.00 am - 6.00 pm) and there will be a wide variety of original art and country crafts on display, including plenty of Christmas gift ideas.

As usual, proceeds will be given to local worthy causes.

MAKE A NOTE IN YOUR DIARY NOW

G P D Wright (812599)

ST. MARY'S C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL

PTA Superteam's Day

The PTA held a very enjoyable Superteam's Day. Although the weather was extremely hot many children and parents turned up to join in the fun of the afternoon. The Superteams was won by the Vikings. A very exciting rounders match between children and parents ended in a draw.

The evening ended with a family disco and lots of food and drink. Many thanks to PTA and teachers for a lovely day.

Area Sports

A team of children took part in the Area Sports at the R A Butler School. The boys tied with Bentfield School for the second year in succession.

Talent Competition and Music Hall

This event seems to be getting more popular each year. Mr Compton in his Moss Bros suit introduced and entertained the audience between acts. The acts varied from musical to comedy. The winners in each group were Music - Adrian Peck (violin), Song & Dance - Michelle Dunn, Natalie Sullivan, Rebecca Clear, Gymnastics - Karen Hawkes, Comedy - Marianne Smith, Sharon Palmer, Terence Reed, Andrew Keener.

This super evening's entertainment concluded with a sing-song of music hall tunes.

End of Term Service

The end of the term and the leavers' service was held in St John's Church. Many of the children took part in a lovely service and with pictures and readings told us of the history and ministry of the church in Stansted. Further work was on display in the school. The highlight of this was a visit to the school by the Bishop of London.

The term's communion service was held in the school. This was led by the 4th year children who reflected on their years at St Mary's. Each of them was given a beautiful olive cross from the governors of the school. It was also goodbye to two of the teachers, Mrs Lowe and Mrs Boreman. We send them and the 4th year children very best wishes for the future.

RAINBOW PLAYGROUP

Stansted Carnival day seems quite a long way behind us now but wasn't it a beautiful day. The Playgroup leadees and mums once again did us proud. Cinderella was our theme with the float divided into kitchen and ballroom scenes, Cinderella, before and after, white mice, king and queen, Buttons, Footman, Lizards, and of course our Prince Charming. They all looked splendid and seemed to enjoy their day. We should like to thank Mr A Hawkins who lent us the lorry and to his nephew, Peter, who drove so carefully on the day. We didn't lose anyone over the side and with 23 children on the back of a builders lorry, that was quite an achievement. We

We also had two stalls on the field which once again proved very popular with the children and raised enough money to cover all our carnival expenses with a little over for playgroup funds.

The children are still attending the infant assemblies at St Mary's School and the older group have been on a visit to Hargrave House to use their 'bouncy' room which they enjoyed tremendously.

During the term we have had a visit from a local fireman and from a nurse. Dressed in their uniforms, they managed to captivate their young audience and answer lots of questions, but of course the fun part was being able to try on various items of their uniforms.

Last month, Harlow Town Park was our destination. 23 children, 2 playgroup leaders and four mums descended on Stansted Station at the start of our trip. Children clutched their packed lunches and swimming gear as we made our way, firstly to see the animals and then to cool off in the paddling pool. The children had a great time splashing around and a lot of swapping seemed to take place during their picnic lunch. Children always seem to prefer what someone else's mum has packed! It was all over much too soon and many of the children were reluctant to leave the pool to start our journey home. We travelled by train to Bishop's Stortford, then by 'bus to Stansted where a lot of tired children were met by mums. A good time was had by all!

Many of the children will be starting school in September, and we wish them all well.

Playschool will resume on the 5th September and Mother & Toddler group is still operating every Wednesday afternoon (except 2nd Wednesday in the month) at the Youth Centre. Mother & Toddler group begins again on 7th September.

Any enquiries regarding playschool - please ring Anne Conroy, 812457 or call at the Youth Centre during our morning sessions.

Have a good holiday.

Ann Hudgell
Secretary, Rainbow Playgroup.

SIDEWAYS NURSERY SCHOOL

Our summer term at Sideways has been a busy one both in and out of Playgroup. The children have been treated to stories and songs by Jane Lake who came to visit us twice from Bishop's Stortford Library. In muddy May, the older children, and their wellies, made a now regular trip to the Mountfitchet School farm, and loved having a close look at calves, ducklings, chicks and pigs. A Bring and Buy Sale and Raffle helped to boost funds at half-term as did the splendid array of cakes and savouries which comprised our contribution to the local Carnival.

For budding train drivers June 13th was a day not to be missed; British Rail kindly provided a quick tour of Bishop's Stortford station (the steps proved fascinating!) but of course the highlight was a train ride from Stansted to Stortford and back, including a long inspection of the driver's cab.

Term ended, in blistering heat, with a Sports Day and picnic, thoroughly enjoyed by all those not yet suffering from measles - German or otherwise! Please, mums, note that Sideways Autumn term begins on Monday September 5th, and features an exciting Saturday afternoon entertainment; watch out for details!

Happy holidays Jill Oxley (815178)

HADHAM HALL SCHOOL - Little Hadham

The Hadham Hall Society would like to thank all the parents who supported the fete and mini-marathon. An overall sum of £1500 is the expected total and this is a terrific boost to school funds.

NATIONAL HOUSEWIVES REGISTER

Local organisers: Libby Martin 812807
Sharon Frogley 812617

Our 'Family History' evening at the end of June was fascinating. Two of our members had delved into the past and provided us with some very interesting tales of their forbears. A third member then gave us advice and information on tracing the histories of our own families, with illustrations from her own experience of this extremely interesting hobby.

In July we had two meetings, the first was to take a brief look at some of the discoveries made in medical research in recent years. Two of the topics covered were (a) the so-called 'Test-tube babies', when we heard the step-by-step details of how this technique is performed and (b) food-additives, their possible effects on the human body. Both subjects, and others touched upon more briefly, gave us much food for thought.

The second July meeting was our book group where we discussed the legends and romances surrounding King Arthur, and their interpretation by different writers. The current book-list is: "Children at the Gate" by Lynn Reid Banks; "Katherine" by Anya Seton; and "Cack-handed War" by Edward Blishen.

We would like to congratulate local organisers Sally and Libby on the births of their respective daughters in May and June. As Sally is moving to Colchester soon, leaving me to assist Libby as joint local organiser, we would like also to give her our best wishes for the future in her new home, and with her new NHR group.

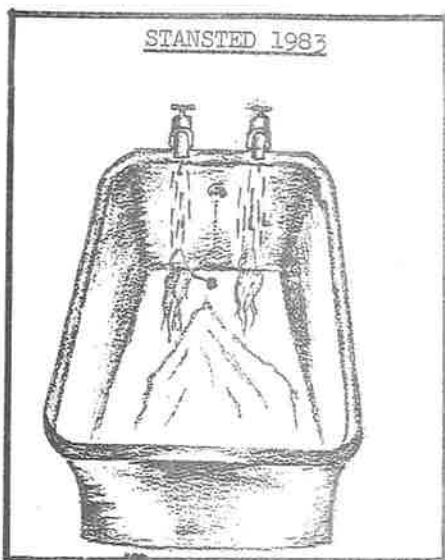
Our group's plans for August are:
Monday, 1st: Scrabble and word games: Wednesday, 24th: Outing, with children, to Harlow Park: Tuesday, 30th: 'Stress' - its causes and cures.

Further details can be obtained from Libby or me.

Sharon I Frogley

STANSTED SINK A WELL APPEAL

In 1983 Stansted's water is fresh,
clean and flows freely from our taps.



Was it always like that?
Is it like that everywhere?
(More in next month's LINK)

Michael Dyer (814059)



STANSTED EVENING W.I.

Don't be put off from joining us - As you will see from the poem - no-one is perfect. This parody of a certain comic opera song is published with apologies to G. & S.

I'm not a model member of the modern
women's Institute
I seem to have been born, alas with not
a single attribute
Although I sing Jerus'lem with the fervour
of the best of them
My musical ability falls far below the
rest of them
My efforts at a sandwich cake, most members
would decline to touch
I cannot even knit a square which Euclid
would define as such
A flower arrangement done by me is
strangely asymmetrical
And any form of craft I try is equally
non-technical
You'd better not depend on me for drawing
or geography
Dramatics or photography, general know-
ledge or topography.
But if at the eleventh hour you're despe-
rate for a substitute
I'll try to be a model member of our very
modern institute.

Pearl Wellings



AFTERNOON W.I.

Flower Power came to Stansted when eighteen Womens Institutes from Essex and Hertfordshire competed for the "Streeter Floral Challenge Cup."

The theme was a "Wedding Anniversary", a subject very suitable for a flower arranger's skills.

The winners were HUNSTON W.I. with their interpretation of a China anniversary. The judge was Mrs. P. Leigh from Thaxted.

A large number of non W.I. members came to view with their husbands. "What a lovely show" said one.



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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