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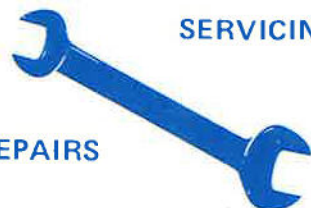
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Copy should reach 48 St John's Road  
by 17th February for the March issue  
and 17th March for the April issue.

:-:-:-:-:-

STANSTED - AS IT WAS

MEMORIES

by May Jordan

We moved to Stansted Mountfitchet from London in 1910. A quiet small village, rather dull we thought, but oh dear how wrong we were. It was peaceful not quiet, so friendly and one of the largest villages in Essex.

It was surrounded by large houses and farms where the "Gentry", as they were called, lived who were friends to all. The village itself was divided in two by Chapel Hill, at the top being Cambridge Road, built by the Romans. This was the heart and hub of the village. The Doctor's surgery was there. He always patted you on the head and popped a sweet into your mouth. The taxidermist, whose shop fascinated all the children with its stuffed animals and birds. The clock maker's shop. He went round to all the big houses winding the clocks every week. Joey Ticker, we all called him. We never knew his real name. Then the saddler's shop where the harness, reins and whips were made, which smelt of lovely leather and soap when you went in for leather boot laces. He went round in a pony and trap to all the farms to collect the things that needed repairing and sometimes for a treat he would take some of us children with him. The cross roads where the fountain stands was built to commemorate Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee. In those days there was a chained iron cup and water, and also a trough where the drovers and the cattle refreshed themselves as they came from Bishop's Stortford Cattle Market, the men with long sticks prodding the cattle along.

Over the cross roads to the village stores. This was a large busy store where you could get everything you could possibly want. They ran a Harvest and Christmas club and after harvest had been gathered in and harvest money paid to the workers, the whole family would go to "Greens Stores" and be fitted out from top to toe. Then the bank who shovelled and weighed up golden sovereigns without a thought of bank robbers. The cycle shop that built the cycles for the workers and had the first car in Stansted. The lovely china and toy shop with the busy weavers of baskets etc. at the back of it. Mr. Perry was the weaver and his daughter was a member of the newly started Women's Institute and his grand-daughter is still a member. Mr. Perry gathered the osiers from the watermill where the water-cress beds were. Then the busy wheelwright with his smith's shop.

Down Chapel Hill - first the fire station where the horse had to be caught before they could start out to the fire. The Post Office; the Chemist's shop who made pills, cough mixture and also tested your eyes. The Windmill and the recreation ground just off the hill - the Mill belonged to Lord Blyth. The recreation field for the children was given by Lord Blyth. The most popular place and the delight to all was the village blacksmith. There were always a crowd of children gazing over the bottom half of the smithy's door watching the huge fire, sparks flying as the smithy hammered the red hot shoes while the horse waited to be shod.

Lower Street, the lower end of the village, had the London North Eastern railway station and the pony and traps waiting to take people home. The engine yard where they had huge steam engines with beautiful polished brass all over them, whistling and puffing out black smoke as they chuffed along the road to the farms. The shop that made pork sausages and the little baker's shop with its open fire and big ovens that made lovely hot Huffers.

Around these three roads were the houses of the workers. The children played in the fields and on the recreation ground or in the road - skipping, hoops, tops, hop scotch, cigarette cards. But when the children on the top road saw the Royal Mail van with the two lovely horses racing to the post office, and the children from Lower End heard the evening train whistle, all knew it was time for home where the copper was hot and the tin bath brought into the scullery for our nightly wash. Then hair brushed and in night attire, we would listen to mother reading a chapter of Swiss Family Robinson or The Secret Garden.

There were lovely sweet shops dotted about everywhere in front rooms; little shops all with rows of bottles full of sweets, and counters full of open boxes of sweets - not one wrapped or covered in any way, but all were delicious.

The lamp lighter, with his long pole, lit gas lamps. The milkman who came to the door, poured milk out of a measure into your jug. The road man had a sack and a stick with a nail at the bottom to pick up the litter.

Our spiritual needs were well looked after with two Churches, three Chapels, big Sunday Schools. Sunday School anniversaries and treat were a highlight, when we were taken out to a farm in a hay-waggon for tea and given a bag of sweets and a sixpence at the end. Two schools "British" and "Church" saw to our education.

The great event of the whole year was May Day when the Fair came to the village, or rather when the whole village went to the Fair. Swings, roundabouts, stalls of rock, darts, hoop-la, all gaily painted, and the huge steam engine that made the coloured lights and the music that could be heard all over Stansted. Mum, dad and the whole family went together, the most exciting time of the whole year.

Memories - Isn't it good that, as you grow older, you only remember the happy times.



# Village News

## FUTURE EVENTS

### February Events:

- 12th - 8.00 pm - 12. St Mary's PTA Social Evening
- 18th - 3.30 pm Bentfield Primary School Jumble Sale
- 23rd - 10.30 am Coffee morning in aid of Windmill fund at Salings, Millside. Admission 20p.
- 24th - 8.00 pm SACC Lenten Service at St Theresa's

### March Events:

- 3rd - 8.00 pm SACC Lenten Service at Quaker Meeting House
- 7th - Last day of application for tickets for Evening WI French trip.

### Thank You Notes

#### Christmas Dinners

I wish to thank all the kind people who willingly provided and delivered Christmas dinners to those who needed them. They provided some of the village's lonely old people with a Christmas Day visitor as well as a dinner; both are probably equally welcome. Thank you.

Judy Goddard.

#### Carol Singing in aid of the Samaritans

Following the carol singing during the week before Christmas we are very happy to be able to forward a cheque for £112.00 to the local branch of the Samaritans. We wish to express our thanks to the singers, to those who donated so generously and to those who provided hospitality at the end of each evening.

Peter Clark  
Judy Goddard  
Peggy Honour

◊ ◊ ◊ ◊ ◊ ◊  
REGULAR CONTRIBUTORS  
◊ ◊ ◊ ◊ ◊ ◊

#### HUW JOHNSON CLUB

Our Christmas party took place on 16th December and as usual was a great success.

The tables looked very inviting loaded with food and goodies of every kind. When everyone had arrived tea was tackled with much enthusiasm. In no time at all the scene had changed completely and the tables resembled counters in large stores after the first day of the sales!

When it was obvious that no more food, jelly or ice cream could possibly be managed it was action stations - we all scurried around clearing tables, chairs and crockery; floors were swept and like magic everything was ready for the disco.

Loud, loud music and flashing lights and club members and guests took to the floor. I am sure the variety of dancing at our disco's is quite unique.

Later in the evening Father Christmas arrived and handed out all the gifts which added to the pleasure and excitement. After games which included musical chairs it was time to go home. Another Christmas party over and the last event of the year but we look forward to 1983 and all the forthcoming activities for the Club.

Betty Lockwood

### NATIONAL HOUSEWIVES REGISTER

A meeting point for the lively minded woman.

Local Organisers: Katy Dockerill SS 812997  
Libby Martin SS 812807

We always welcome new members to join us for stimulating discussions on a wide range of topics. Please contact either Katy or Libby for further information.

We started off the New Year with a meeting on 13 January to discuss the book, 'The Lively Minded Women.' This book charts the history of NHR from its origins in the early 1960s to the present day.

Future Meetings: Thursday 10 February - video evening. One of our members will have taped a selection of programmes for us to pick one for discussion. Tuesday 1 March - Fund raising auction. Monday 21 March - Speaker from Amnesty International.

Book Group: The next meeting will be on Wednesday 30 March and the books to be discussed will be: The White Hotel, D.M. Thomas; Jude the Obscure, Thomas Hardy; and Unreliable Memoirs, Clive James.

Katy Dockerill

### STANSTED EVENING W.I.

Now that Christmas and New Year festivities are over we are settling down to organise our extra events for the forthcoming year. Our monthly programme looks set to satisfy a variety of interests this year with talks on wholefoods, houseplants, drama, gold and silver and Hargrave House to mention just a few.

We need to raise money as usual, and propose to start the ball rolling with that faithful standby - A JUMBLE SALE! This will be held during February so look out for posters and the village diary in the library. We also plan to have a mini May market to sell good things made and given by our members - again watch out for details.

Plans are going forward also for a shopping trip to France on Saturday 12th March. The coach will leave and return to Stansted and will also cross the channel with us so that hypermarket fans can have a door to door service too. Husbands of members are welcome as is anyone else who would like to join us. You will need a passport size photo if you don't have your own passport, and further details may be obtained from me - telephone no. 812614. The list will have to close on Monday 7th March so come on and save up for a super day out either buying up the wine and cheese or enjoying a good meal and the French atmosphere.

THE NATIONAL CHILDREN'S TRUST  
Stensted & District Group

Meetings continue to be well attended, and we hope that everyone is enjoying themselves. We have our A.G.M. on 7th March and anyone who is a National Member is invited to nominate for the committee - please contact existing committee members if you would like details. New ideas are always more than welcome from anybody - so if you have any suggestions, do let us know.

February Diary

Friday 4th, Under 1's and Expectant Mums at 60 St John's Road 10.30 - 12 noon. Friday 11th, Under 1's and Expectant Mums at 26 Longcroft, 10.30 - 12 noon. Thursday, 17th, A film "Through the Eyes of a Child" to be shown by BRENDA CROWE (an ex-advisor to the Pre-School Playgroup Association) at St John's Church Hall at 8.00 pm. Entry incl. refreshments 50p. This should be an eye-opener to all parents! Friday 18th, Under 1's and Expectant Mums at 52 Wetherfield 10.30 - 12 noon. Monday, 21st, Open House at Quaker Meeting House from 2.00 - 4.00 pm with a Bring and Buy sale of home produce, plants, unwanted Christmas presents (we all got some!) etc. Friday, 25th, Under 1's and Expectant Mums at 10 Cawkell Close 10.30 - 12 noon.

Don't forget - 7th March is the A.G.M. together with a talk by Dr Denis Hardy on "Sleep in the Early Years".

Chris Nash is to be our new Post-Natal Support Co-ordinator, so if you have any queries or need help, please contact her on 812757, or Janice Proud on 814453 or Cathy Leek on 813069.

BENFIELD COUNTY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Our carol singing just before Christmas raised £37.00 which we have handed to the Parish Council to buy something for the old people's Day Centre which is in the process of being built.

The P.T.A. are organising a Jumble Sale on 18th February at 3.30 pm in the school hall. If anyone has any jumble for us please bring it along to school or ring 815817 to arrange collection.

Janice Wray

ST MARY'S C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL

PTA Social Evening

The PTA will be holding a social evening on Saturday 12th February from 8.00 pm - 12 midnight. There will be a "Chinese Auction" ... wrapped and unwrapped items will be auctioned. This should prove a very interesting affair for those willing to take a chance. Who knows you might be lucky and get an antique for a few pence. Do come and support the event. The PTA are working hard to raise funds for equipment for your children.

We will be having a supper, light music and there will be a bar. Tickets are £1.50 each and are available from the school secretary or the following committee members: Linda Kelsey, Catherine Dean, Chris Williams, Sue Reed, Ian Poole, Alan Truman and David Lloynds,



## STANSTED AND DISTRICT CND

The Greens - who are they?  
what are they?  
where are they?

An introduction to the philosophy of the Green Movement and its relationship with the Peace Movement in this country and Europe.

This is the subject of a public meeting to be held on 25th February at 8.00 pm in the United Reformed Church Hall. The speaker will be David Taylor from Green CND. All welcome.

## THE MOUNTFITCHET GARDEN CLUB

After a fascinating talk on the growing of Chrysanthemums by Mr F Brown of Sping, the Mountfitchet Garden Club held a very enjoyable New Year Party with sherry and a variety of goodies made by the members.

The February meeting will take the form of a film show, with two films on the year in the garden, provided by Murphy Chemicals.

Do come along and find out what you should be doing, and when.

Sharon I. Frogley

## STANSTED TENNIS CLUB

A most successful and enjoyable Christmas Dinner was held on the 9th December at The Bull Inn, Much Hadham. Twenty four people attended and we had a most pleasant evening with excellent food.

Despite some wet weather, a hard core of 12 to 14 people continues to play tennis, with great enthusiasm, on Sunday mornings at 10.00 am. All Senior Members are welcome and coffee and refreshments are served.

|||  
NEW CONTRIBUTORS  
|||

(After more than two years in existence, The Link is glad to have new contributors.)

## SAERE SPORTS CLUB

This Club has been running for the last two years to provide opportunities for recreation and sporting activities for young people between the ages of 5 - 18 years.

Sessions are held at Mountfitchet School in the evenings - 4.30 pm for an hour, and are led by qualified instructors.

Courses for the coming year include Archery, Badminton, Gymnastics, Judo, Multi-sports, Popmobility, Trampoline, Tennis and Association Football.

Why not ring 703262 for details?



### FIRST TIME MUMS GROUP

This is a very informal friendly group designed specially for first-time mothers. Its a good idea to start coming as soon as you stop work so that you get a chance to make some new friends before your baby is born.

We meet once a week on a Tuesday afternoon from 2.00 - 4.00 pm at Crafton Green Clinic (off Chapel Hill near the Library) and on the 2nd Tuesday each month we have a speaker on a topic suggested by members of the group. Next month, 8th February, we have invited Dr Jones, one of our local GP's, to come and talk.

If you would like more information or need a lift to get to the Clinic, then ring either Hilary Pinder on 814218 or Merilyn Huntley on 814482.

### MOUNTFITCHET MACHINE KNITTING CLUB

Machine knitting is not so much a hobby as a disease, and once you have caught it, it tends to be progressive and very difficult to cure. (Not that many of us want to be cured!)

Our club in Stansted has been knitting for just over a year now. Our members come not only from Stansted, but Stortford, Harlow, Hatfield Heath, Manuden and other surrounding villages, and ages range from teenagers to grandparents. Some of our members are beginners, using old machines, others have all the latest gadgets, but most are in the middle. Some knit for profit, but most knit for family and fun. The only qualification needed is an interest in knitting by machine.

We meet twice a month. The first Wednesday, when we have a qualified instructor; and the Thursday after the third Wednesday, when we compare notes amongst ourselves. Each meeting has a theme, e.g. Multicoloured knitting (Fairisle, pictures, stripes etc.) using up odd scraps of yarn, designing your own patterns, etc. There is a "wool shop" where we can buy yarn for as little as 10p per ounce, and of course, we always have a "cuppa" and a biscuit.

Most of us have found that the best way to improve our knitting is to compare notes with fellow enthusiasts. The club encourages us to be more adventurous, and with adventure comes spectacular successes - lovely knitted dresses with a soft drape that only knitting can give, individual sweaters that could cost £100 upwards in the shops, or even curtains or bedspreads. But we can also get spectacular disasters - when the club members can give genuine sympathy and a few helpful suggestions to put it right.

Although minimal at the moment, we are trying to build up a library of useful books and gadgets which can be borrowed by club members.

If you own a knitting machine, or are thinking of getting one (we can give unbiased opinions on choice of machine and where to get it) why not come along and join us?

Ring Kathy Hartnell, 813161, Liz Jordan, 814438, or Gina Barber, 812105 for details.

### S.O.U.N.D.

Have you heard the SOUND? Stansted's new, non-party, society dedicated to securing the future of our children in peace and freedom. Yes the SOUND is here at last to give another point of view. The Society Opposing Unilateral Nuclear Disarmament is the society to join if you support:

World Peace: Religious and political freedom: Democracy and human rights: Self-determination for nations of all sizes: Freedom of choice: OR if you are opposed to war but believe in defending your society: Object to suppression of freedom, as in Poland: Reject unprovoked aggression, as in Afghanistan: Are grateful to the older generation and our forbears for defending our liberties: Recognise that avoidance of, at least, world war for nearly 40 years is partly due to the balance of nuclear arms: Believe that many wars since 1945 have been caused by the imposition of a totalitarian, ATHEIST regime on peoples who could not defend themselves.

If you believe in MULTI-LATERAL DISARMAMENT support SOUND by telephoning your name and address to Richard Shervington on 812011 or Janet Hollis on 812073.

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### ONE OF OUR ADVERTISERS HAS MOVED:

Rene, Irving and Tim Sanders thank all their many friends in Stansted for their kind and encouraging good wishes after fire destroyed their business in Silver Street last August.

We are now in Takely Street (near the Old Mill Public House) and extend a warm welcome to you all to visit us and share our enthusiasm over our extensive warehouse premises offering larger selections of all quality secondhand furniture, household items, and in fact the mixture as before - but more so.

\*\*\*\*\*

Lots more space and excellent parking area at SANDERS SECONDHAND FURNITURE CENTRE, BS 871555 or BS 813159



# Stansted Association of Christian Churches

## CARING FOR OUR NEIGHBOURS

A talk and discussion on the subject of welfare benefits and Stansted's former Street Warden Scheme

in St Theresa's Church, Millside on Monday 31st January at 8.00 pm

Refreshments served

PLEASE COME

.....

## 1983 LENTEN SERVICES

### Jesus, who is he?

For centuries people have wondered about who Jesus really is. Is he Teacher? Friend? Liberator? Lord?

Christians have seen him as all of these, and more. We hope that the talks at our services will help you to decide who you think Jesus is.

Thursday 24th February in St Theresa's Church  
Thursday 3rd March in Quaker Meeting House  
Thursday 10th March in St John's Church  
Thursday 17th March in United Reformed Church  
Thursday 24th March in United Reformed Church Hall  
(Agapé Supper)

at 8.00 pm

## United Reformed

One of the significant statements in the Book of Acts concerning the Early Church is that "they had all things in common". (Acts 2:44)

One of the obvious features of the church today is that we do not have all things in common.

This ought to be an incentive for us to emphasize what we do hold in common. Did you see the midnight mass on the telly on Christmas Eve? I did. It was from a Roman Catholic parish church. When it came to the distribution of the Sacrament the three officiating clergy were assisted by 6 lay members (i.e. housewives, business men,) and 2 nuns. A total of 11 persons, clergy and lay gave communion to the congregation.

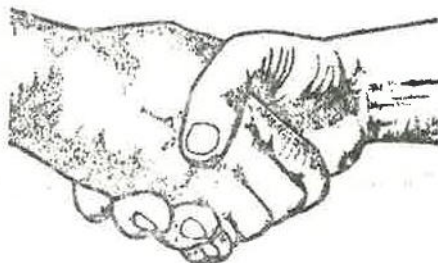
"How like our U.R.C. elders," I thought, "who as lay people assist in the distribution of the elements". And, in each case, the clergy offer the Prayer of Consecration on behalf of the people. We do have much in common, really.

Beginning in March the U.R.C. and Methodist congregations of Stansted have agreed to join in an exploration of what we have in common. For four months we shall be sharing in worship and ministry. Services will be held in the United Reformed building, beginning with Holy Communion on Sunday 6th March. Mr Fisher and Mr McIlwain will conduct the service and lay members of each church will assist in the distribution of the elements.

The time of the services will be 10.00 am which is a new time of service for all concerned.

You may wish to support this new venture with your presence as a sign that we are moving in the right direction. Such interest would be much appreciated and warmly welcomed.

Eric McIlwain



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February Services - 11.00 am

- 6 - Rev. Eric McIlwain
- 13 - Mr B. Engel of Bishop's Stortford
- 20 - Rev. Eric McIlwain, Family Service
- 27 - National Youth Sunday. Service conducted by Young People

March

- 6 - 10.00 am Methodist/U.R.C. - Holy Communion  
Rev. Harold Fisher, Rev. E McIlwain

Stansted Guild

- 31 January - Miss D Whiffen
- 14 February - Rev E McIlwain
- 28 February - Mr Peter Brown

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STANSTED U.R.C. ANNUAL  
GENERAL MEETING

TUESDAY 15 February - 7.30 pm

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REMINDER - Lenten Services begin THURSDAY 24 FEBRUARY AT  
ST THERESA'S

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## Methodist

Following the failure of the Proposals for Covenanting for Christian Unity last summer the United Reformed Church in Stansted took an initiative. Our U.R.C. friends felt that since their national body and the Methodist one had both voted in favour of the Proposals by a large majority, then at our local level we ought to seek closer relationships between our two churches. Accordingly they made an approach to us and after a few months of discussion and planning our two congregations will be worshipping together on the first Sunday in March. Services will be at 10.00 am and will be for an experimental period of four months initially. Worship will be held in the U.R.C. premises from the beginning of March to the end of June. Side by side with this members of the U.R.C. community have been invited to join the Methodist Fortnightly Fellowship meetings held on Mondays at 8.00 p.m.

We have no idea, of course, how this venture in Christian Unity in Stansted will work out or what the next steps may be. But we believe on both sides that we have been led by the Holy Spirit to make this venture. We pray that it will be richly blessed by God and that it will be begun, continued and fulfilled in mutual love, trust and a single-minded desire to glorify God and serve His Kingdom in Stansted. We invite our fellow-Christians and, indeed all praying people in our village to pray for God's blessings to be known and His will to be done in this matter.

It may be that this venture will be the beginning of wider and more embracing attempts to find closer Christian relationships at the "grass roots" level in Stansted. We rejoice in the very good relationships we already have between all the churches, but it may be that God has yet fuller relationships in store for us here. At least we need to be sensitive to any promptings His Spirit may give us.

My warmest good wishes to you all.

Harold Fisher

Fortnightly Fellowship dates and venues:

7th February	56 Rainsford Road
21st February	5 St John's Lane
7th March	White House, Ugley Green



## Roman Catholic

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### ST THERESA'S CHURCH

TUESDAY 8th FEBRUARY - 8.00 p.m.

You are invited and very welcome to spend an evening, with Father James Brand, which promises to be Lenten food for thought for us all. Father Jim is a true example of Christian evangelism with a message for everyone.

\*\*\*\*\*

## Society of Friends

After much hard work and worry we are glad to be able to share our pleasure at a Meeting House restored, if not to glory, to soundness and strength.

The woodwork of our Meeting House had been in bad condition for some time - that much we knew. What we had not realised was just how badly it had deteriorated and what a huge amount of work needed doing to put it all right. Investigations showed the problem to be just as alarming as we feared - if not more so! We knew we were to be faced with a huge bill but it was only when work actually started on replacing the timber that the extent of our problems were revealed.

Our main problem (apart from the obvious one of money) proved to be finding a builder with the necessary expertise who was willing and able to undertake and commence the work before another winter set in. A further concern was to ensure the people who use the building during the week should not be too inconvenienced by the building-works going on around them. Further problems cropped up as the work proceeded in that our big sliding doors proved to be unsound, unsafe and not up to the Regulations - then we realised all the new wood would need painting and that

some of our electrical wiring, previously hidden behind panels, had become unsafe ... and so on.

That ALL these problems have been solved fills us with gladness and we want to say "Thank You" as follows (it sounds like "The House that Jack Built" - but it is our Meeting House that has been rebuilt) -

To Elliott-Leyford Limited the firm who restored the wood-work and also restored our faith in Builders. They came, they saw and they estimated - they arrived on time, at the time they said they would. They worked and told us exactly, at every stage, just what we were up against and everyone who worked on site was helpful, co-operative and extremely efficient.

To David Martin, our Surveyor who advised, who patiently explained and who kept his eye not only on the building works but on our worries and concerns - truly we could not have done without his skilful guidance.

The Playgroup - "Thank You" to everyone here for without your help and co-operation when windows were taken out, when building works cluttered up your play space and when workmen were 'in and out' - the job would have taken so much longer.

To our Methodist Friends, who share our Meeting House for their concern, their practical help and encouragement and their financial support - we are grateful and we know you share our delight at the final results.

£4,600 - yes, Four thousand and six hundred pounds - that is the final bill and we are having to dig deep into our reserves. To everyone who has done so, to everyone who has yet to do so and to anyone who would like to do so "Thank You" for helping us.

Provided we take good care of it, our Meeting House should now stand firm and true for the next twenty years.

Ann Dudenberg  
Clerk to Premises Committee



# Church of England

## VICAR'S NOTES

A few months ago I wrote that Fr Andrew would be moving to a new parish some time in the first half of 1983. I can now tell you that he has accepted the post of Team Vicar in the Borehamwood Team Ministry in the Diocese of St Albans. His last Sunday with us will be Easter Day. There is no need to say that we shall miss him, Janice, Emma and Justin but of course we wish them every happiness in their new parish. Many of you will want to be associated with a leaving gift for them and the churchwardens are willing to receive your contribution.

!!!!!!!

I write after the first week of the Partners in Planning exercise and can say that the planning team are delighted that to date nearly 80 people have taken part and have enjoyed meeting together and discussing the future of our Church. Later we shall publish the results of our thinking and planning.

!!!!!!!



Lent always presents us with an opportunity to take stock of our Christian life and this year, on Monday 14 February at 8.00 pm in St John's we are having a short service of penance and forgiveness. The small group that planned the Lenten programme suggested that before Lent begins it would good to have a time in church to reflect and to seek God's forgiveness together. It could also be a time when we plan our Lent rules. I hope you will be there. Other details of our Lent programme are set out elsewhere but I would like to mention the sermons on Sunday mornings.

We have invited four preachers to come to the Family Communion and share with us their thoughts on 'Christian Concerns'. On Sunday 20th February Canon Edward Finch, who is Director of the Department of Mission is speaking on 'Poverty in Britain'. At the Diocesan Synod Meeting on 16th October last year the Synod passed overwhelmingly the following resolution:

"This Synod calls on the Church in the diocese to discover and stand beside the poor as a prime duty of Christian discipleship."

Canon Finch has prepared a document on this subject and I am pleased he is able to come and share his thinking with us.



Then on Sunday 27th February Sister Doreen Boylan, a Roman Catholic sister who is a Canoness of St Augustine's Community, is coming to speak on her work in East London in a multi-racial situation. She has been working in a project called ZEBRA which is bringing together black and white Christians. Her subject is "Christ in a Multi-Racial Society". On Sunday 6th March Canon Peter Marshall, who is deputy Director of Training in the Diocese, is coming to preach on 'The Nuclear Debate'. The whole subject of nuclear armaments is one which is causing a great deal of discussion and debate amongst us. Canon Marshall is going to help us by giving theological reflections on the subject. His talk will be followed by half an hour formal but open discussion in the hall as indeed will the sermons by Canon Finch and Sister Boylan. I therefore hope many of you will find the time to stay for a while and make use of these preachers who will have travelled some distance to be with us.

On Sunday 20th March the Rev. Robert Brown, Liaison Officer for the Department of Education at U.S.P.G. will be our preacher. As usual books will be on sale in church for two Sundays before Lent and, of course, we will be stocking books which are relevant to our Lenten preaching subjects.

If you want more details of our Lent programme, then pick up the publicity card available at the back of the church.

May God bless you and your home.

\*\*\*\*\*



SHROVE TUESDAY SOCIAL  
15th February - 8.00 pm  
St John's Church Hall.

Menu:

Chilli Con Carne, rice, pate, cheese,  
pancakes and wine

Adults £1.

Children 50p

AN EVENING WITH THE FAMILY

\*\*\*\*\*



### CONFIRMATION 1983

Confirmation classes have begun for those wanting to be confirmed on 19th June 1983. More details from the clergy.



MOTHERING SUNDAY

13th March

Flowers given out at  
Family Communion  
9.30 am

On Mothering Sunday  
We thank God for our Mother  
and our Mother the Church.

MOTHERS' UNION

The M.U. meets on Wednesday 23rd February in St John's Church at 2.30 pm for a short communion service. This is followed by tea in the church hall. Fr Andrew will be our speaker this month and as it will be his last meeting with us we hope it will be well supported.

Parish Diary  
February

- 8th Tuesday Club - 8.00 pm The Vicarage
  - 9th Children's Church Leaders Meeting - 8.00 pm  
9 Spencer Close
  - 14th Service of Penance and Forgiveness - 8.00 pm St John's
  - 15th Shrove Tuesday Social - 8.00 pm Church Hall
  - 16th Ash Wednesday St Mary's School Communion 9.30 am in  
St John's - All welcome. Holy Communion 10.30 am  
(not 10.00 am). Sung Eucharist 8.00 pm
  - 20th LENT 1. Preacher at 9.30 am Canon E Finch.  
Songs of Praise 6.30 pm.
  - 22nd House Communion at 3 Wetherfield - 8.00 pm
  - 23rd House Communion at 6 Park Road 8.00 pm
  - 24th Unity Service at St Theresa's 8.00 pm
  - 25th Youth All-night Vigil in St John's Church
  - 27th LENT 2. Preacher at 9.30 am Sister Doreen Boylan
- March
- 1st House Communion at 1 Mary McArthur Place - 8.00 pm
  - 2nd House Communion at 7 St John's Road - 8.00 pm
  - 3rd Unity Service at Quaker Meeting House - 8.00 pm
  - 6th LENT 3 Preacher at 9.30 am Canon Peter Marshall.  
Youth Service at 6.30 pm

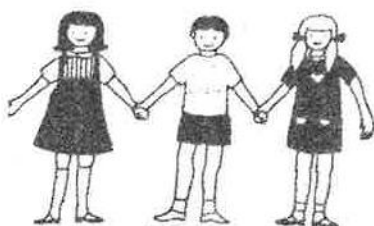
## YOUTH VIGIL

It is always being said by those who are in the know that young people are part of today's Church and not just the Church of tomorrow. But how do they go about taking that place? Well, maybe here's a chance! On Friday 15th February we are planning an All-night Lenten vigil for the young people of St John's. It will probably run from 7 or 8.00 pm on the Friday through the night to an early morning Eucharist and breakfast together on the Saturday morning. Our theme will be "Rich and Poor: Christians in a divided world". We hope to have workshops for painting, drama, music and worship during the night as well as a full length film sometime in the small hours of Saturday morning! If you are confirmed and interested, why not give me a ring about it? Keep your eyes peeled for information and programmes nearer the time.

Andrew Proud

## ST JOHN'S JUNIOR CHURCH

### "That was the year that was"



To write this diary of activities, I have had to refer back to our register, because I could not remember all the activities of a very busy year. Of course, Junior Church is not only for Sundays, and in common with our mother church, we have in the past year extended our fellowship in other outside activities.

In January and February 1982 we showed a series of USPG missionary films, with subjects on Ghana, Korea, and the "Testimony of Chief Seattle."

In March we assisted with the Mothers' Day service and the children mounted a display of their work in the hall. The 'Good Friday Project' took place in April. In May we had a well attended picnic and Treasure Hunt in Gripper's Wood at Stoneyfield Common. Later in the month we went on the Parish outing to Windsor Castle and some of us attended Evensong in St George's Chapel.

On a windy day in June we went to Westminster Abbey and a childrens' rally at the Central Hall, finishing up boating through a thunder storm at Alexandra Park Lake. Also in June we attended the Centenary celebrations for the Bishop of Colchester (we will know if ever the need arises again that "Abbey Fields" is in fact right in the middle/

of Colchester Garrison). And later on in the month a large number of children and adults were confirmed by the Bishop in St John's, among whom were some former Junior Church pupils. At the end of July we had our annual summer picnic at Landbeach near Cambridge, despite the thunder bugs!

After our summer break, September saw us involved in the Harvest Festival arrangements. Our stall at the Christmas market in November was very successful. In the week preceding Christmas, members of the Junior Church sang carols to Senior Citizens in three homes in the neighbourhood. On the 19th December we all gathered in St John's for our Christingle service by candlelight.

And that was 1982; but what of 1983?

Just as the star moved to where Jesus lay, St Luke tells of a movement within God's church in Acts 2:13. The God of the Bible is a God who moves. We must in turn move, creating as we go more opportunities for the spreading of the Gospel message. On Sunday, January 9th, the Junior Church began a fresh year, and I moved on. Ann Canroy, a valued teacher, is taking over as leader from me, to enable me the time to prepare for the next project, the formation of an "Adventurers Club", a world-wide childrens' organisation sponsored by the U.S.P.G. This club will be open to existing Junior Church children; children from other denominations or children with no religious connection at all. We will meet every Friday evening in St John's Hall from 7.00 - 9.30 pm. Age range 8 - 15 years. The first meeting will be on 18th February when we will be doing a project on Tanzania and showing some films. Please see notice board for further details.

God Bless.

Brian Wallis

Parish Registers  
Departed

4th January	Frederick Harwood Johnson	Aged 84 years
7th January	Sidney Arthur Lord	aged 82 years

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