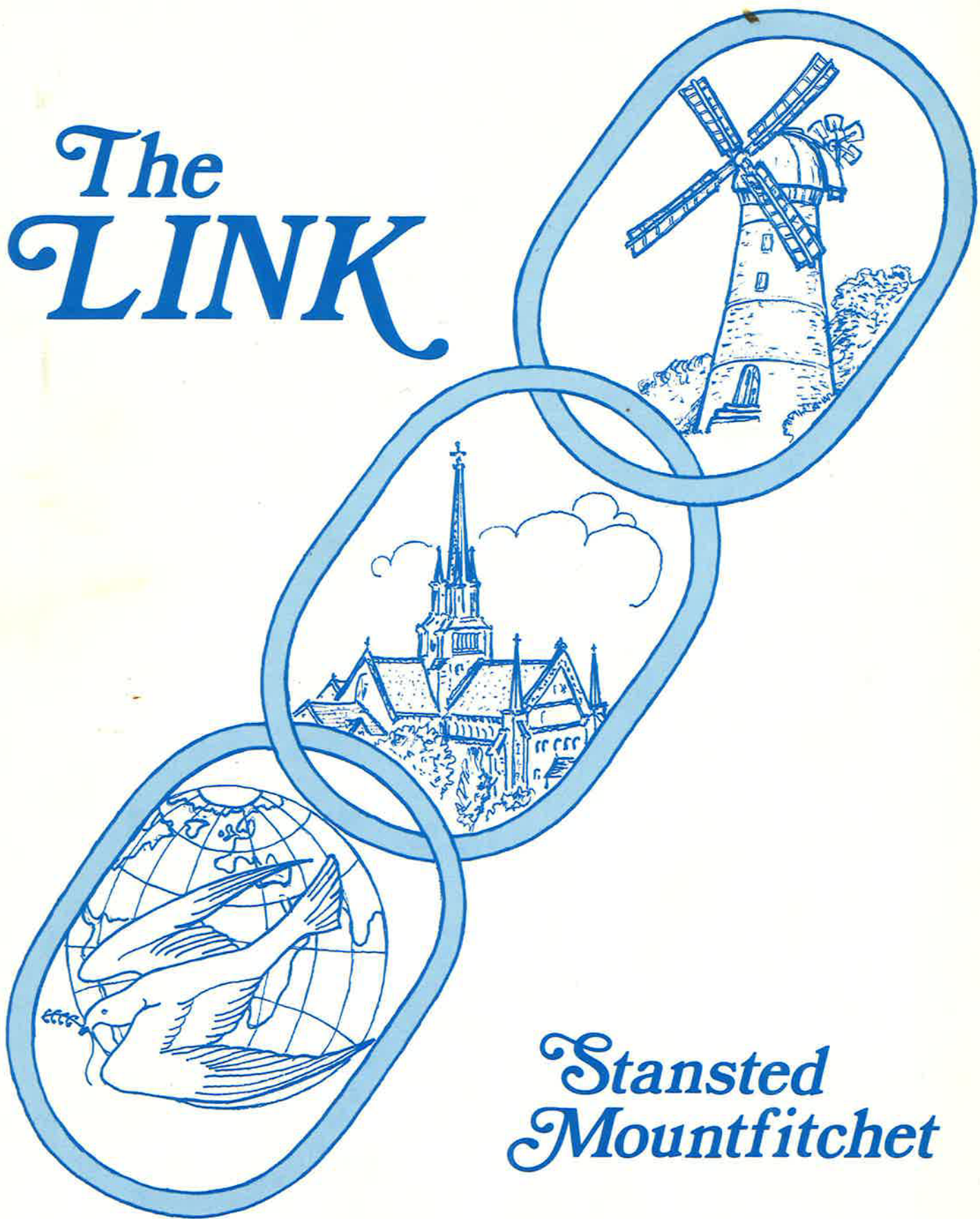


May 83

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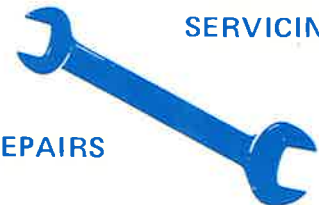
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CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 16 - 21 MAY

United Service at St Mary's Church on Sunday 15th May  
at 6.30 pm

Street Collection during week.

A Bring and Buy Market will be held on Saturday morning,  
21 May 10.00 - 12.30 at the Quaker Meeting House, Chapel  
Hill. Articles for sale including cakes, books, toys,  
groceries, plants, white elephant, etc. can be stored  
by Margaret Burton (814279) or taken to the Stall.

:-:-:-:-

"THINKING AHEAD FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY"

This will be the theme for the next full meeting of  
S.A.C.C., on Wednesday 8th June at 8.00 pm in the United  
Reformed Church Hall, the last such meeting before the A.G.M.  
in September. It will be an important meeting, for we  
shall be thinking together about the way S.A.C.C. has changed  
since its inception in the mid-60's, and how the people and  
churches of Stansted want to use it as a vehicle for Christian  
Unity in the future.

The joint worship of the Methodist Church and the United  
Reformed Church in Stansted, and the Christian Unity aspira-  
tions of the St John's Church house groups, are recent  
indications of ways forward locally. At the same time, how-  
ever, communication and planning within S.A.C.C. may have  
become less effective, something to be rectified if we are  
to listen to one another effectively, and respond with events  
and action which match the needs of the time.

What do you want from S.A.C.C. in the future? We hope  
to engage in more open planning, rather than leave this to  
the Executive, so it is important that everyone's ideas are  
brought together. Margaret Booker and Richard Bush will  
be introducing the meeting with past and present perspectives,  
using the constitution drawn up in 1965 to help: it may be  
that alterations would be desirable and these could be pro-  
posals from the meeting for the A.G.M. in September. What-  
ever the outcome, our objective will be, as the meeting  
theme states, to think ahead for Christian Unity.

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Copy should reach 46 St John's Road  
by 19th May for the June issue, and  
by 16th June for the July 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, 14, Cawkell Close, 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.

### 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.

Holy Communion (1662) – 11.15 a.m. (2nd & 4th Sundays)  
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. David Chapman, 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

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

# Stansted Association of Christian Churches

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## Please help through Christian Aid

### To a Charity Poster

Every morning the bus is late:  
so every morning,  
for perhaps five minutes,  
we look at each other across the traffic.  
You,  
in your far-off, third world land,  
looking out of a poverty so utter  
that I can scarcely realise  
the thousand subtle miseries  
that lie behind the word;  
and I,  
vaguely uncomfortable ...  
not because of what I have,  
but because I can't react  
to your appeal to my compassion,  
but with pitying indignation  
at your final exploitation.  
I don't suppose you knew - or cared -  
that by the click of a shutter  
you were transformed  
into a million posters  
complete with slogan  
designed to flaunt your wasted limbs,  
your agony, before countless  
careless  
incurious  
vaguely uncomfortable people,  
into  
just another hypodermic  
in the numb and blackened arm  
of the first world public conscience.

Elizabeth Gordon.

## Society of Friends

On Sunday 17 April, a group of us joined Friends from Bardfield, Dunmow, Haverhill and Saffron Walden at Bardfield Meeting House for a Family Day. Children, who had been looked after at the house of a Friend, joined us for the final part of our Meeting for Worship and thereafter we enjoyed together a 'bring and share' lunch.

The Cambridge University Light Entertainment Society gave us a delightful programme in the afternoon with sketches and other items and got us to join in community singing that appealed to all ages. We then had a choice of taking part in a Poetry Reading in the Meeting House or taking the chance of a break in the rain to go for a walk round Bardfield. Friends who took the longer route were unfortunate in being caught in heavy showers but those of us who had opted for a shorter walk were lucky to arrive at the Cottage Museum and so could both take shelter and learn something about the life of ordinary folk in past times.

It was such a happy occasion and we are now looking forward to another Family Day at Haverhill on 5th June when swimming will be the main afternoon activity.

Ruth Bush

At our own Meeting House on Saturday 7th May an Evening Gathering has been arranged to begin at 7.30 pm. This will take the form of a 'bring and share' buffet supper (food suitable for forks or fingers, please). Husbands, wives and teenage sons and daughters of members and attenders are welcome. As an extra 'treat', Peter Webb is kindly going to tell us something of his experience in Africa.

## Methodist

My dear Friends

In his play "King Lear" William Shakespeare portrays the king as treating his daughters Goneril and Regan with very great kindness and prodigal generosity. They respond at first with large affectations of love and gratitude and honour. But before long they appear in their true colours - ungrateful, unloving, hard, taking all their father's immense goodness for granted as their right. They then move on to indifference, dishonour, meanness, harshness and cruelty. Through the rest of the play Lear is seen regretting his goodness and renouncing his daughters with increasing bewilderment, bitterness and despair.

So Shakespeare gives us a spectacular and exaggerated

instance of a fairly common human failing - taking gifts and kindness for granted, ignoring them, being indifferent to them, even despising them and giving back neglect, unkindness and hardness. The kind givers may well ask themselves if it is worth being loving and generous towards such wretches and resolve to end all such large-heartedness in the future.

Surely God would have been justified in reacting in that way to mankind's response to His gift of Jesus Christ. Had God so wished He could, presumably, have taken His despised and rejected Son quietly back again into His eternal glory without any word or sign of it being given to the human race. But the Father did not do that. He raised Jesus from the dead in such a way and manifested Christ's risen life in such a manner that the most wonderful gift which man had repudiated was given back to us again. This surely is something that ought to come home to us as we re-live and ponder the events of Christ from Easter to Pentecost.

Here we see the incredible magnanimity and graciousness of the Father, what He essentially is, as He gives His most precious gift back to us and goes on offering Christ to men and women. He never forces His gift upon us yet never fails to make Jesus available to us, waiting with astounding patience for our uncertain and frail response. Perhaps it is even more astounding that we can still refuse God's gift.

God grant us receiving and adoring hearts. My love to you all,

Yours sincerely

Harold Fisher.

Methodist business meeting: 2nd May at 56 Rainford Road  
Fellowship Meeting: 16th May at 14 Spencer Close

## United Reformed

METHODIST U.R.C. SERVICES 10.00 am

### May

- 1 Rev E McIlwain - Holy Communion
- 8 Rev D Youngs of Saffron Walden Methodist Church
- 15 Rev E McIlwain - Family Service
- 22 Mr J Gill of Bishop's Stortford
- 29 Rev H Fisher

### June

- 5 Rev E McIlwain - Holy Communion

Quiet Reflections on Lent/Easter 1989

One looks back over the Lenten Services with a sense of great appreciation and thanksgiving. Appreciation of the way in which the Agape Supper was arranged and for the spiritual blessings received. Thanks for the way in which our Stansted churches can all - repeat, all - come together as we do, not only in Lent but throughout the year, in worship, in the Link and in Christian Aid.

One must honestly say, however, that there is at least a tendency for each church to support its own service by attending in greater numbers at the 'home fixture' than at the 'away matches'. There is the old story about the Curé d'Ars who, on retirement was to receive a great keg of wine from the village. Secrecy surrounded the gift and villagers took their individual contributions to the huge keg at night and very stealthily. When the great day arrived and the presentation made and the spigot turned - out came ... water! - or at least very diluted wine. Many thought they could add water and their little deception wouldn't be noticed.

Perhaps we could all make sure of our own attendance and if we did I am quite sure that the wine of worship would have extra flavour and bouquet.

So, well done for the first village Good Friday Service! Good Friday is a busy day and it was a joy to see so many out at 7.30 in the evening. May it go on from strength to strength.

And, closer to home, our Methodist/U.R.C. Easter Service was a joy for all and a proof (if any were needed) of the blessing which is attending our fellowship together.

Eric McIlwain

*Roman Catholic*

HEAR THE WORD OF THE LORD AND FOLLOW ...

"Come to me, all you who labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me; for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls".

We have read and listened to these words of the Gospel many times in many different moods and with many different degrees of faith and trust. Because the Word of God is a living and life-giving word it touches our lives and challenges us in the normal events of our every-day existence.



When the Lord speaks to us in words like "Come to me", He is really inviting us to leave aside the cares of the moment, if we can manage it, and spend a short while with Him in prayer, during which time He listens to all our problems. He is offering us the opportunity to rest a while in His presence, so as to recover our balance and put everything back in its proper place. "And I tell you not to worry .... How little faith you have " (Luke 12: 22 and 28)

Our lives today are so fast and so competitive that we need to protect our spirits. We need to know that the Lord is close by. We need to listen to Him saying to us again and again, "I will give you rest".

We must do as Mary did, in spite of Martha's protest - spend time with the Lord even when everyone is calling for our attention.

Jesus is a very gentle friend. He is the "Good Shepherd" who does not drive the sheep but calls them. They follow Him because they trust in Him and feel no fear while they are close to Him. When Jesus says to us "Come" He is leaving us free and at no time does He try to force or coerce us into following Him.

When we read or listen to the Lord's word and when we pray for guidance from the Holy Spirit, we become aware of His will for us at that time and we try as best we can to respond. We are drawn to Him by our faith and by the awe and wonder He inspires in us. We are like the first disciples who ask, "Where do you live, Rabbi?" (Jn 1:37) and again we hear that lovely little word of Jesus, "Come and see" (Jn 1:39). He gives no explanation or guarantee other than Himself and His Word. He simply issues the invitation and leaves us free to respond.

The Lord calls and we are free to say yes to Him or like the rich young man to turn away sad. "I tell you the truth, whoever hears My words and believes in Him who sent me has eternal life". (John 5:24)

Carael

#### THE FIFTH ST ALBANS INTERNATIONAL ECUMENICAL YOUTH FESTIVAL

Once again groups of youth from many parts of the country met for a week of Easter celebration in the beautiful Abbey Church of St Albans, extending their fellowship to groups from Spain, Germany and Northern Ireland.

The theme of this year's festival was "Jesus Christ, the Life of the World". This theme was explored in workshops consisting of Drama, Movement, Music, Art and Worship.

The festival is a tremendous breaking-down of the barriers that have been erected between denominations. Ignorance is a hindrance to understanding and participation by

all in Lutheran, Catholic and Anglican forms of worship brings more awareness of the unity which is inherent in all of us who worship the same Jesus Christ.

It was particularly exciting that this year a group came from Northern Ireland who were deeply moved by the openness they experienced from fellow Christians of all traditions. Talks and discussions were held every afternoon where views were aired. At least we were talking, even if disagreeing on some points.

However, the festival is one also of fun and laughter as well as serious thinking. This is expressed when the youth play their guitars and sing to each other, swim, dance to disco music, and participate in evening musical concerts.

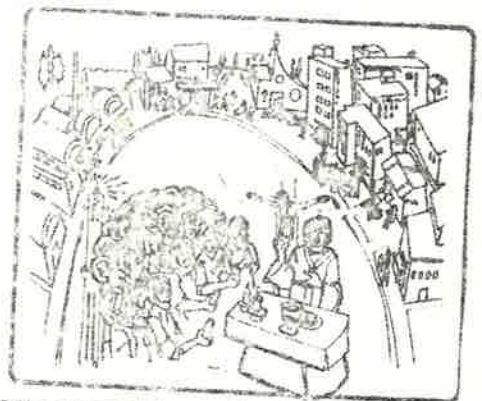
The last evening of the five-day festival is particularly enriching when the culmination of working, playing and worship is brought together in a midnight service. A candlelight procession begins the service, during which drama and movement sketches are played out and music groups perform in their particular style; this taking place in the Abbey amidst exhibits from the art workshops and everything highlighting the theme of "Jesus, the Life of the World". The service finishes with the handshake (or hugs and kisses) of peace and with over 300 participants this takes some little while. There are tears, laughter, smiles and a warmth which expresses the deep fellowship experienced over the week.

Many will again, hopefully, meet up next Easter at the 6th St Albans Festival to greet old friends and new, and to explore another dimension of our Christian faith, leading to more understanding and unity.

## Church of England

### VICAR'S NOTES

From 24th June to 10th July we have a CELEBRATION AND RENEWAL event and soon we shall be publishing details of the full programme. Our aim is to celebrate God's love as shown us through the ministry of His Church - a ministry shared by bishops, clergy and laity.



There are several highlights in our programme. Graham Leonard, once a curate here in Stansted and now Bishop of London, is coming on Wednesday 6th July to preach and preside at the Eucharist. We are grateful that he is prepared

to spare the time and visit us in Stansted. At the service we thank God for his ministry and as we renew our baptismal vows so we pledge to take our part in God's work of ministry and service in this place.

On 26th June we will be focusing our attention on ordination. Tony Burdock, our new curate, is to be ordained deacon in St James', Colchester. He comes to us in great expectancy eager to exercise a pastoral and preaching ministry among us. We look forward to welcoming him and his wife, Pat, and their two children, David and Jennifer. At the same service Margaret Booker is to be ordained deaconess, an ancient order of ministry in the Church. Margaret, and her husband, Geoff, have made great personal sacrifices so that there may be a Fuller ministry in this place. Margaret is training for the non-stipendiary ministry and has paid for her training herself which is an expensive matter. We are grateful for her dedication and many will rejoice with her and Geoff on 26th June. But the ministry of the Church in Stansted is shared with our fellow Christians. What a fitting climax, then, to our celebration to have with us on 10th July at our Parish Communion the Rev'd Eric McIlwain and the Rev'd Harold Fisher with their people: we three will preside at the Eucharist and all may receive communion. Obviously our Roman Catholic friends cannot share this occasion with us but we have their good wishes and with a joint Anglican/Roman Diocesan Pilgrimage to Bradwell on 2nd July it may just be possible to respond to the invitation by the Bishops of Chelmsford and Brentwood and send an inter-church party of pilgrims. I do hope that you will respond to our CELEBRATION AND RENEWAL 1993. If you do, it could be an exciting time.

\* \* \* \* \*

We are sad to report the death of Mr Robin Chester who all his life had been a member of the church and in latter years was an altar server at St Mary's. Earlier in his life he gave a great deal of his time to young people in the Scout movement and there were several former Scouts at his funeral at Birchanger Church. He died soon after his sister, Judith, and we pray they may both rest in peace.

\* \* \* \* \*



A reminder that from Easter Day until the last Sunday in September the 8.00 am Holy Communion on the 2nd Sunday of the month, the 11.15 am services on the 2nd and 4th Sundays and Evensong at 6.30 pm every Sunday all take place in St Mary's. Watch out for the few occasions when arrangements concerning the evening service may differ - for example on 8th May, which is St John's Patronal Festival, Evensong is in St John's. There is no Evensong at all on 17th July when we have an outing. The 9.30 am Parish Communion on 22nd May (Whitman) in St Mary's.



## St John's Church Appeal

### NORTHCOMING EVENTS

A reminder about our Bier Keller in St Mary's School Hall on Saturday 11th June. Tickets are now available (£2.50 including supper) from Cathy Clay - 812751 or Susan Ardern 814992. Celebrity Guest: Tom

Paulin, principal cornet player with Grimthorpe Band. One of the best players in the country. His recent record will be on sale.

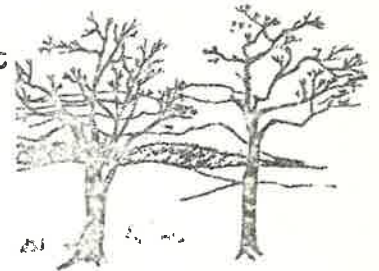
On Saturday 18th June we have a stall on Bishop's Stortford Market. Cakes, plants and items for sale are wanted - also volunteers to man the stall. Please contact Susan Robinson - 813629.

Our thanks again to those who took part in the Sponsored Slim and raised the magnificent total of £192.10 for the St John's Appeal Fund.

Susan Ardern

### DEANERY RETREAT

10th - 12th June there is a Deanery Retreat at Pleshey. The retreat conductor is the Rev'd Colin Travers of Waltham Abbey. The cost is £20. Why not have two days quiet and peace? For details contact the Vicar.



### PEDAL POWER

We intend joining in the Sponsored Cycle Ride organised by the Friends of Essex Churches and the Suffolk Historic Churches Trust to take place on 23rd July. One half of the money raised goes to the Friends of Essex Churches, and the other half to our Appeal Fund. The ride can be as short or as long as the rider wishes.

### PARISH REGISTERS

#### Baptisms

20th March  
3rd April

Hazel Josie Adamson, 36 Longcroft.  
Cathryn Elizabeth Homes, 45 Chapel Hill.  
Christopher Duffield, 14 Croasdale Road  
Claire Philippa Blow, 6 St John's Road  
Robert Edward Manning, 46 Wetherfield  
Alex Jon Travis, 40 Bentfield Gardens  
Zoe Ann Banks, 27 Sunnyside.

#### Marriages

9th April

Mark Leonard Dedman, 101 West Road, Sawbridgeworth  
and Vanessa Tabor, 4 Clarence Road.

#### Departed

15th April

Rose Perry, formerly of Cambridge Road,  
Aged 97 years.

## PARISH DIARY

### May

- 2nd St Philip and St James Holy Communion 9.00 am  
7th Family Evening - Bring and Share supper 7.30 pm  
8th St John's Patronal Festival Parish Communion 9.30am  
Sung Evensong 6.30 pm (8.00 am and 11.15 am services  
at St Mary's)  
9th PCC Meeting 8.00 pm  
10th Tiny Tots Service 2.15 pm Tuesday Club, 8.00 pm  
11th Confirmation Class outing to Greensted Church.  
Leave St John's 6.30 pm  
12th ASCENSION OF OUR LORD. St Mary's School Eucharist  
9.30 am in St John's. All welcome. Sung Eucharist  
8.00 pm in St John's.  
15th Preacher at 9.30 am The Rev'd Bill McKee on the  
work of the Church Army. Unity Service at 6.30 pm  
in St Mary's.  
16th Meeting to plan Christmas Market - 8.00 pm in St  
John's Church  
19th Archdeacon of Colchester's Visitation to take place  
in St John's.  
22nd Whitsunday Holy Communion 8.00 am in St John's  
Family Communion 9.30 am, Holy Communion,  
11.15 am and Evensong 6.30 pm - all in  
St Mary's.  
24th Tiny Tots 2.15 pm  
25th Mothers' Union 2.30 pm

### June

- 2nd Corpus Christi - Thanksgiving for the Eucharist  
Holy Communion at 7.30 am and 9.00 pm  
10th - 12th Deanery Retreat at Pleshey.  
11th Bierkeller in St Mary's School Hall. Tickets £2.50  
15th Confirmation Rehearsal 8.00 pm  
18th Market Stall in Bishop's Stortford in aid of Appeal  
19th Confirmation by Bishop of Colchester in St John's  
10.00 am

### GOOD FRIDAY PROJECT

As one of the parents who managed to squeeze their way into a packed St John's Church at 2.00 pm on Good Friday I would like to say a big THANK YOU to Marion Johnson and her gallant helpers for giving up their time to help 200 children on the Good Friday Project.

Painting, singing, movement and dance, cooking, films, you name it, it was there for all to take part in and enjoy and perhaps bring home to the children that Easter means more than chocolate eggs and Hot Cross Buns. My children are already asking if they can go to next year's project!

A Grateful Parent

Letter from Father Andrew ...

Dear Friends

Janice and I and the children would like to say how very grateful we are for the great kindness and generosity that you showed to us in our time in Stansted, and especially in presenting us with such lovely gifts. There are many things which we will remember about you all and we feel confident that there are many precious memories and insights that we will carry forward in our future ministry.

We are now very well settled in our new home and parish; it was lovely to have so many of you send us cards when we moved in - like so many blessings; if you are ever in the neighbourhood please pop in and see us. We'd love it. God Bless and thank you.

With our love and best wishes,

Andrew.

What is this?



No, it is not the path of a drunken spider - it is the campanologist's way of writing 'Stansted Mountfitchet'.

Ringling a bell full circle, with its system of wheel, stay and slider to enable a man, or woman, to control it, is almost unique to the British Isles. Outside the British Isles most bells are either hung 'dead' - the bell itself does not move; or hung with a lever and spindle - this enables it to be chimed but not controlled like the British bell. The ways of varying the position of the bell in the sequence of changes have been handed down through many generations of bellringers.

As well as the special magic of bells ringing out after a wedding, church bells have been used to call the faithful to worship. Prior to church use, they were used for secular purposes, such as village feasts and special occasions. The bells were usually hung in churches simply because in most villages the church was the tallest, most substantial building.

At Stansted we have a peal of 8 bells, the oldest of which was cast in 1671 by an itinerant bellfounder called Michael Darbie, and the newest were cast in 1902 by Mears and Stainbank. (M & St. are still in business at the Whitechapel Bell Foundry in London). The bells are unusual in the fact that the ropes hang anticlockwise. The bells are supported on a heavy oak frame dating from the early 18th century and are rung from a wood panelled ringing chamber. There is a wealth of interest and history in the tower. The people who built it, the people who commissioned the bells and those who cast them, and of course the ringers, remembered on the peal boards, who have rung there.

If you find the subject of bells and ringing interesting, or if you just like listening to them on a warm summer evening, just pause to think who could be ringing them. Could it be you? We have only 3 locals who regularly ring St Mary's bells, the rest of our ringers are made up of people from surrounding villages. If Stansted bells are to continue to ring for parish events we need more local ringers, preferably adults. Practice night is on Mondays 7.30 pm to 9.00 pm, and we ring for most of St Mary's services. Private lessons for beginners can be arranged if preferred.

I will be happy to give a talk on bells/ringing to any interested group of people, or individuals will be welcome to come around for a chat on the subject.

Gina Barber, Tower Secretary, Tel. 812105, 17 Rainsford Road



\* \* \* \* \*

Henry and Diane Cooper have now left Stansted and they will be moving to West Runton in Norfolk soon. They both served the church during the many years they lived here and of course Diane will be remembered for her flower arranging. We thank them both for all they did and wish them every happiness in their new home.

\* \* \* \* \*

May God Bless you and your home.

# Village News

## FUTURE EVENTS

### May

- 2nd 2.30pm Fete at Bentfield Place in aid of Brownies, Guides, Cubs and Scouts
- 7th Hargrave House Jumble Sale at St. John's Hall
- 14th 10.00am W I May Market at URC Hall
- 16th-21st Christian Aid Street Collection
- 18th 10.30am Coffee morning for Windmill funds at "Savages", Lower Street
- 21st Bring and Buy Market for Christian Aid at Quaker Meeting House. 10.00 am

\* \* \* \* \*

### STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET WINDMILL

The Grand Draw in aid of "The Windmill Appeal Fund" took place in the crowded windmill on Easter Monday. The major prize winners were:

£50 Marks & Spencer Voucher	I Neville, Blythwood Gardens
Air Joy Ride	I Adair, c/o Bullfields, Hertford
£25 Groceries	Peter & Sue, c/o Queens Head Stansted

A list of other prize winners is available from either Alan Lodge (BS 814360) or Mrs. Stevens (BS 813562).

Many thanks to all who sold and bought tickets and to all who donated prizes. Our thanks, also, to Mrs. Stevens for organizing the draw. Over £160 has been donated to the appeal fund.

As part of our fund raising effort we are contemplating holding a photographic competition. However, before we finalise details we would welcome comments and/or suggestions from interested parties regarding procedures and classes. Suggestions should be directed to Mrs. Honour (BS 813160) Mrs. Stevens (813562) or Mr. Lodge (BS 814360).

Alan Lodge

PLEASE SUPPORT THE NEXT "WINDMILL COFFEE MORNING" TO BE HELD AT "SAVAGES", LOWER STREET, BY INVITATION OF MR. & MRS. P. JONES ON 18th MAY 1983 at 10.30am.



STANSTED PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION

To all members and prospective members:-

Please note:-

ANNUAL MEETING  
to be held on  
Monday 16 May at 8pm  
in Youth Centre Annexe, Lower Street

Christine Rowley  
(Hon Sec)

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HUW JOHNSON CLUB

Dr Leek took the chair for the first time at this year's A.G.M. and a very successful meeting took place with a better attendance than usual. A new committee was formed all keen and full of ideas for the club. It was voted for a donation of £10 to be sent to the Crafton Green Senior Citizens Day Centre as a gesture of help from one section of our community to another.

Films are now added to our Thursday evening entertainment. Chairs are drawn up in rows and we almost expect usherettes with torches to appear, such is the atmosphere - also to hear the familiar call 'chocolates, ices, cigarettes'. (Oops, I think my age is showing.)

Now a rather unusual request to families with girls. I expect you are wondering what I am about to say and well you might! We are appealing for girls' underwear. Because of various handicaps of our members accidents often take place and whilst we have a good supply of boys' underpants there seems to be a shortage of the equivalent for girls.

I hope you realise I am trying to be very tactful as I don't wish to offend any readers. However the necessity is there, so could you please pass on any outgrown "garments" - dare I say it, Knickers.

Any helper of the club will be glad to accept them from you or better still why not bring them in one Thursday evening and have a coffee with us.

Thank you for your help which I am sure we shall receive - you always respond to our needs.

Betty Lockwood

## STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET SENIORS' CLUB

It was pleasant to see two young ladies and one young man arrive at the first meeting in April with mysterious costumes. They were Mrs. R. Thomson Mrs. D. Cooke and Mr. Peck, and we soon found out that we were in for a treat. The ladies sang lovely Ivor Novello songs, an old favourite "Little old lady passing by", "Bless this House" and an amusing parody of "Nymphs and Shepherds". We then saw the costumes, as Mrs. R. Thomson dressed as a little girl in a nightdress and recited a very funny poem "What's the good of a birthday if you can't do what you like" and another on "Getting your ears pierced". Mr. Peck sang "Ring of Bright Water" beautifully. A most professional group, and we are most grateful for their visit to Stansted. They were thanked by Miss Turner who had taught one of them at school many years ago!

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## ROYAL BRITISH LEGION Women's Section

We had an interesting talk with slides on 17th March when Mr. Hester, warden of Hatfield Forest, told us about his work. He explained that a Nature Trail was started a couple of years ago and that the lake has been re-stocked with fish. Four pairs of nightingales frequent the forest and a pair of great crested grebes returned last year and three youngsters have been hatched.

At our meeting on 19th May Mrs. Sayers is coming to tell us about her collection of Musical Boxes.

Pat Clower

\* \* \* \* \*

## WOMEN'S INSTITUTES

### Afternoon

Birthday posies were given out to three of the 38 members who attended our April meeting. To commemorate her 50th wedding anniversary Mrs. Fanny Watson was presented with a floral arrangement. The speaker was Mrs. Peggy Jennings who gave an interesting talk on Metal Thread Embroidery.

The competition of a piece of embroidery was won by Mrs. Fuller.

£15 was raised on a produce and cake stall for W.I. funds.

Mrs. A. Boyd

W.I. cont'd

Evening

This has been our programme planning month, when ideas are pooled for speakers and events in 1984. Any Institute is only as good as its programme so we hope that ours will encourage more people to join us on the 2nd Thursday in each month at 7.45pm in St. John's Hall.

If you don't want to come on your own at first, our officers' phone numbers are on the notice board in the library so one of them will arrange for you to be looked after.

Quite a few people have joined our W.I. over the last 2 or 3 years so we thought it might be helpful as well as enjoyable to hold a 'new members' meeting. The idea is that committee members and a V.C.O. (Voluntary County Organiser) can answer questions and explain more about our movement and its aims in an informal atmosphere. Refreshments will of course be provided, so if you are new and belong or might want to get to know us better, come along to the United Reformed Church Hall at 8.00pm on Monday June 13th.

Arrangements are in hand for a day trip to Bath on Saturday June 11th. A guided tour of the City's sights can be arranged and this will still leave time for shopping and your own sightseeing. The cost of the return coach trip is £7.50 and I understand that there is no charge for the city tour. Non members are of course more than welcome to join us - more details from me on 813614.

Yet another date for your diaries! Make a note to come to our May Market on Saturday 14th 10.00am to 12 noon at the United Reformed Church Hall. There'll be lots to buy and everything up to the usual excellent W.I. standard - cakes plants, toys, books and white elephants!!

Pearl Wellings

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Stansted Afternoon Institute is organising "The Streeter Floral Challenge Cup Competition" to be held in the United Reformed Church Lecture Hall, Chapel Hill, Stansted on Wednesday 29th June 1983.

Theme:- "A Wedding Anniversary".

The Hall will be open to view entries from 6.30pm. Visitors will be made welcome. The presentation of the cup will be made at 7.30pm.

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NATIONAL HOUSEWIVES REGISTER

Local Organisers: Katy Dockerill Bishop's Stortford 812997  
Libby Martin Bishop's Stortford 812807

We are always happy to welcome new people who would like to join our informal discussion group.

## National Housewives Register cont'd

On Monday 21st March we were pleased to have a member of the Bishop's Stortford and Harlow Amnesty International Group. We have all heard mention of this non-political pressure group which gives aid and support to non-violent victims who have been imprisoned for what they have thought and said but few of us knew how an individual could contribute. Letter writing is their main channel through which they bring to the attention of governments and politicians in those countries where the atrocities happen the plight of those prisoners. Lillian Hamilton brought a great deal of interesting information with her which included a list of those unfortunates which Amnesty can claim to have been instrumental in their release or provision of more humane prison conditions.

On Wednesday 30th March we discussed three books which most of us had managed to read with varying levels of enjoyment. For our next book meeting on Wednesday 20th July the theme will be King Arthur. We have left the choice of books to the individual hoping for a wide choice which we can then compare and discuss.

## Future Meetings

Thursday 12th May:- This is our planning meeting for the next programme. Please come armed with suggestions so that we can have a wide and interesting programme with something to suit everyone. As usual food and wine will be provided so please phone Isabel in good time to arrange your choice of dish for the evening. Remember no meat allowed; this evening is strictly vegetarian.

Wednesday 25th May:- What do we do with elderly relatives who cannot or will not look after themselves any more? A general discussion which we hope will help those faced with the problem to think more clearly. Please note that the meeting will take place at Angela Khalil's home and not as stated in the original programme.

Bibby Martin

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## The National Childbirth Trust - Stortford and district Group

Our Open house in March proved to be very popular. The display of Easter eggs, chocolate bunnies and other confectionery looked very tempting and lots of orders for Easter were taken. The little ones enjoyed the Easter bonnet competition and congratulations go to the Searle brothers who won. It was obvious that lots of hard work went into all the entries. On Tuesday 17th May there is an Open House from 10 am till noon at 22 Alderbury Road. Put this date in your diary if you like a bargain as there will be a Swap Shop. An

N.C.T. cont'd

ideal opportunity to boost the children's clothing supplies. If you have any clothes or toys you wish to sell please ring Sally (814129).

A most illuminating talk was given by Dr. Cathy Leek to the first time mothers' group that meets at the clinic every Tuesday afternoon. Why do our toddlers constantly play with the stereo despite repeated reprimands? Why do they resist coming home from the swings after promising faithfully to do so? Why won't they eat the appetising food we've cooked? Realising that toddlers are little more than babies helps to explain some of these problems and that they have poor memories and don't really understand much of what we say. With luck those of us who heard the talk will have more insight into our child's actions. On the 5th May there will be a video on Safety in the Home - a topic which we all need to know more about.

Don't forget about the talk by John Cobb - author of BABYSHOCK - on Friday 6th May at 8pm in St. John's Hall. He will talk about the effect of a new baby on family relationships.

Local membership costs £2, £1 of which goes to National funds and the rest ensures that you receive the diary sheets the newsletters, information of meetings of interest from Headquarters and covers personal insurance if you host any of our events. If you are interested please contact Marilyn Huntley (814482).

Jenny Adamson

Other contacts: H. Lary Pinder - chairman 814218, Cathy Leek Breast feeding counsellor 813068, Chris Nash - Post-natal supporter 812757.

\* \* \* \* \*

St. Mary's C of E Primary School

Easter Play

The drama group presented their Easter play in St. John's Church. It was a very moving play depicting the most important event of the Christian calendar. The children under the guidance of Mrs. Johnson, Mrs. Jordan and Mrs. Catton had worked very hard during the Spring Term to present the passion, death and resurrection of Christ. Most of the play was mimed. A group of older children spoke the main parts and their voices rang loud and clear to the back of the church. The choir sang beautifully to old and new hymns.

## St. Mary's school cont'd

### Mrs. Keeling's visit

Once more Mrs. J. Keeling visited the school with a selection of her unusual pets. This time she showed the children a garter snake, a salamander, a kestrel and a ferret. After a very interesting talk and question time afterwards, the children were allowed to touch the animals.

### Netball Tournament

Each year the netball team takes part in the netball tournament at SaffronWalden County High School. All Junior schools in the area are invited. After a few years of near misses, the netball team came back to school with the coveted cup. Many congratulations to the team who are: Jessica Kelsey, Marianne Smith, Anna Marie Parker, Jeannette Stone, Sharon Palmer, Sara Diamond and Louise Petchey.

Many thanks to Mrs. J. Cowell and Mrs. W. Downing who have coached the teams over the past five years. They are "leaving the school" this year so it was rather special for them that the team won the cup.

### Presentations to Mr. Catton

At the final assembly on the last day of term the children said goodbye to Mr. Catton. They had been collecting over the past few weeks for a present and they were as excited as he was when he started to unwrap his many presents. Most of them were for the garden, including a hedge trimmer, watering can and sundial. The staff and governors of the school held a surprise party at Mrs. Jordan's home in the evening. The staff bought him a cover tracksuit and sports equipment.

### Forthcoming Events

May 2nd to 5th: A group of 4th year children will be going to Kalkreuth on an environmental studies course.

Friday May 24th: Infant Day festivities - dances, songs and crowning of May King and May Queen.

### The Mountfitchet Garden Club

In spite of torrential rain all day, Monday April 11th saw a magnificent display of blooms at the Mountfitchet Garden Club's spring show. The show, combined with the Annual General Meeting, made a very impressive end to the club's second year. Our inexperience was evident, apparently, in the wording of the show schedule but at the end of the seeding the judge gave us a brief talk on organising a flower show. We look forward to improving our standards in the future, but hopefully without losing our enthusiasm.

The next meeting, at the Youth Centre, will be a slide show entitled "Great British Gardens". This will be held at 8pm on Monday May 9th, the second Monday in the month.

S.I. Frogley

## SOUND - Society Opposing Unilateral Disarmament

Four representatives of SOUND met with four members of the committee of Bishop's Stortford CND just before Easter and a useful discussion ensued in a most co-operative atmosphere. We achieved agreement on a number of points of principle. Indeed our disagreements were not on long range objectives but on methods of achieving those objectives. At the end of our meeting we agreed the following statement:-

'CND and SOUND agree that current levels of nuclear weapons can inflict an unacceptable level of destruction on the world's civilisation. Therefore they both support nuclear disarmament. Whilst both organisations also support the aims of multi-lateral nuclear disarmament, CND believes that unilateral nuclear disarmament by the United Kingdom is the necessary precursor to this end in order to break the present nuclear deadlock. SOUND believes that this aim is more likely to be achieved by the retention of a UK nuclear capability shared with our NATO allies whilst phased and balanced reductions take place on both sides.'

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## NEWS FROM THE MOUNTFITCHET SCHOOL

### SCHOOL PLAY

Staff and pupils of the School recently presented the play 'The Thwarting of Baron Bolligrew' by Robert Bolt to full audiences in the School Hall. The play is ideally suited for schools to present, since it is easy to involve both adults and children, and, of course, scenery, costume and prop construction was carried out by other staff and pupils. Even the Science Department was able to show off its prowess by providing suitable beards and flashes during the performance, and the School Wind Band provided music for the occasion.

The play is at the same time both hilariously funny and seriously moralistic, and involves witchcraft, dragons, a duel and audience participation - just about all the ingredients which go to make an enjoyable evening. The casting was superb, and the performances had the audience in fits of laughter all during the evening.

### NEW EQUIPMENT

The County Council was able to grant the School additional funds during the last school year which have been used to purchase new audio-visual and computer equipment.

The Resources Department has been able to greatly improve and up-date its facilities, with the acquisition of a large screen projection television set which allows large groups to watch video programmes. This 4'2" screen has already proved

very useful and is greatly appreciated. Also new to the Department is colour video camera equipment, which can be used either on location with a portable recorder, or in a static situation with a normal machine. It uses new compact video cassettes which make the equipment smaller and lighter. Already it has been used to make a permanent record of the school play, to video the recent trampolining championships held at the School, and future plans include the making of programmes within the curriculum and the filming of a year on a local farm to be used by the Rural Science Department.

The School now has four video recorders and colour television sets in different parts of the School, and this has enabled the much better use of this medium of educational aid.

Other equipment, such as electronic typewriters, are all an important investment in the future of the School, and the new computers, both RML and BEC, expected shortly will mean a much greater emphasis on the new technology in our curriculum.

The School is now one of the best equipped in the area, and we hope that parents will come and see what we have to offer in this now very important field.

#### FAREWELL

We were sorry to have to bid farewell to three members of Staff at the end of the Spring Term. Miss K. Hickson (R.E.), Miss A. Koster (Art) and Mr. J. Friend (Office Studies) have all moved to other places, and we wish them well.

#### NEW INTAKE MEETING

The meeting for next year's pupils and parents will be held on July 18th, when John Lewis will be in School to supply school uniform, and there will be an opportunity to meet members of Staff and learn more about the School.

However, we do hope that parents of pupils due to transfer from Primary School next September will visit us at any time to see what this School has to offer for their child before finally making up their mind about where to send them. We will always find someone to take them wherever they wish in the School during a normal working day.

DWP

\* \* \* \* \*

#### STANSTED BOWLING CLUB

If you want to learn to play bowls apply to Stansted Bowling Club for further information on courses for beginners to be held at Thaxted Bowling Club on the following dates: 29th April, 3rd and 6th May. (Fee £3.00 per session).



### 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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