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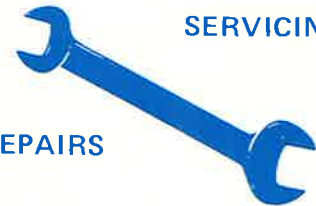
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M. COLLINS Family News

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THE LINK HAS GOT A TYPEWRITER!In fact, it has Two

As we are about to enter our fourth year of publication, we have been doubly fortunate.

Two kind donors have come forward bearing typewriters.

One is through the generosity of Mr. A.F. Wetzel of Blythwood Gardens. Mr. Wetzel has a Marine Insurance Assessors business in the City of London and has lived in Stansted for twenty-five years. He said his attention was drawn to our appeal by his wife. So perhaps we should say: "Thank you Mr. and Mrs. Wetzel".

The second has come through the kind offices of Mr. G. Wright of Brewery Lane who brought our appeal to the notice of the banking firm of Williams & Glyn. The Bank's help is cordially acknowledged.

WE ARE GRATEFUL INDEED TO THESE GOOD FRIENDS OF THE LINK

And we are grateful too to the many other people and organisations in Stansted who have sent us donations. In addition, the LINK Coffee Morning was wonderfully supported by the village. (Details on another page).

We have at present a total of £222.

A portion of this will go to buying further typewriter equipment and thereafter keeping things in good trim from month to month.

With the use of two typewriters, all we have to do now is to build up a rota of two typists for each month so that no one has too hard a job. Volunteers most welcome.

Copy to reach 48 St. John's Road by
13 October for November issue
10 November for December 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.

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 - 8 am
Family Communion - 9.30 am
Children's Church - 9.30 am
Creche - 9.30 am

Holy Communion (1662) - 11.15 am
(2nd and 4th Sundays)
Evensong - 6.30 pm

Holy Communion is celebrated on:
Tuesday - 7.30 pm
Wednesday - 10 am
Thursday and Friday - 7.30 am

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.

Vicar's Notes

It has been a very busy year in the parish: some would say we have been far too active. But looking at the diary for the next few months it looks as if we may have fewer events to plan and organise. Perhaps then we can focus on what we all know are the essentials of the Christian life - worship and prayer.

Last year in our Stewardship Renewal we committed ourselves to the 'One Hour Principle' - one hour a week for worship, one hour for prayer and study, one hour for service in the community, one hour's wage given to God through the work of His Church. There is food for thought when we consider that there are well over 300 persons on our communicants list and yet the average number of communions per Sunday is 135. The strength of any Christian Community lies not in its business but in the commitment of its members to meet week by week to give God praise, thanksgiving and worship.

For this reason we have many services - 3 or 4 on Sundays and Holy Communion every Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. I would like to know whether another Communion at 7.30 pm on Sundays would be helpful to some. Please let me know what you think.

When it comes to our own prayer life we need to remember this calls for commitment and perseverance. It is not always easy and sometimes we need help in various ways. Let me then recommend to you the course being organised by our Roman Catholic brethren 'In Search of God' which is to take place every Thursday evening in Advent at 8 pm. Let me also remind you of our

book stall which always has books on prayer for sale. You might also like to know that St. John's Church is open every day for private prayer and meditation. We have tried to form a prayer group on several occasions but we have not had much success but we are always willing to try again. Have a word with me, Fr. Tony and Deaconess Margaret if you are interested.

* * * * *

Whilst on holiday I visited St. David's Church, Exeter, which was designed by W.D. Caroe (the architect who built St. John's) and discovered that the Vicar, Fr. Michael Smith and I were both from Maidstone and indeed were ordained about the same time. A strange coincidence that made us feel we should try and 'twin' the parishes.

St. David's is a large and magnificent church and considered by many to be Caroe's finest work. You may remember in our Appeal Brochure that Sir John Betjeman writes "As a youth I allowed my enthusiasm for Comper to blind me to the merits of the Architect, W.D. Caroe. Of course, St. John's, Stansted Mountfitchet, must be saved. It is equal in quality to St. David's, Exeter".

May God Bless you and your home.



Children's Church

Every Sunday morning at 9.30 am the Children's Church meet in St. John's Church Hall. Children over 3 years of age are always welcome to attend.

On Saturday 29th October there will be strange and mysterious goings on in the Church Hall when the children have a Halloween Party.

PARISH DIARY

October

- 3rd Senior citizens Harvest Service - St. John's
- 4th Holy Communion at Normans Court 10 am
- 11th Holy Communion at Mead Court 10 am
- Tuesday Club 2 pm at the Vicarage
- 16th Christian Stewardship Sunday
- 22nd Harlow Band Concert - St. John's 8 pm
- 23rd Youth Eucharist for One World Week 6.30 pm St. John's
- 26th Mothers Union 2.30 pm. Office and Speaker.
- 29th Children's Church Parties 3 pm

November

- 1st All Saints Holy Communion 10 am and 7.30 pm
- 2nd All Souls Holy Communion 10 am and 7.30 pm
- 7th PCC Meeting 8 pm, The Rowans, Bentfield Causeway

YOUTH EUCHARIST FOR ONE WORLD WEEK

This will take place on 23rd October at 6.30 pm in St. John's. Offers from instrumentalists and singers who would like to participate in providing music for this service are still welcome.

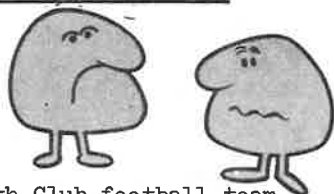
YOUTH CLUB NEWS

OPERATION BRIDGEHEAD

October marks the beginning of our involvement in Operation Bridgehead.

Operation Bridgehead is a project for youth groups arranged by the Chelmsford Diocesan Youth Service. Groups are encouraged to look closely at themselves, their church and the community in which they live, to ask questions, make discoveries and set goals for the future.

As Operation Bridgehead progresses into the winter there will be an opportunity to link up with another group to share findings, etc. A mid-session event for all participating groups has been arranged for 25th February 1984 in Chelmsford Cathedral.



FOOTBALL MATCH

The St. John's Youth Club football team opens its season on 9th October with a (? friendly) match against a team of adults captained by Jeff Clay and known as the Early Church Fathers. The match will take place on St. Mary's school field and play will commence at 3 pm. The Youth Club team is to be led by Peter Johnson. Both teams need plenty of support.

ST. JOHN'S APPEAL

Our thanks to Mrs. Rosalind Baker for the £70 raised at a garage sale in August. The work on the church progresses well.

Remembrance Sunday

On Sunday November 13th we will meet around the War Memorial at 10.55 am and after 2 minutes silence and the act of remembrance we will process into St. John's for a Service of Remembrance and Reconciliation.



Praying for the Departed

November 2nd is All Souls Day when we pray for the departed. There will be two Requiems in St. John's at 10 am and 7.30 pm. The names of persons to be remembered should be given to one of the clergy or added to the list at the back of St. John's Church.

Parish Registers

Baptisms

11th Sept Hayley Nia Kerr,
56 St. John's Road
Laura Jane Kerr,
56 St. John's Road
Carl Bannister, 37 Sunnyside
Jonathan Edward Martin,
51 Wetherfield

Marriages

10th Sept Roy Valentine Hutley,
22 Mountfitchet Road, and
Virginia Anne Dellow,
3 Priory Drive
Ian Patrick Kenny,
High Wycombe, Bucks. and
Jane Andrea Mitchell,
8 Maitland Road

Departed

12th Aug Alfred Claughton,
39 Coltsfield. Aged 67 years
15th Aug Sarah Prior, 1 Manor Road
Aged 98 years
16th Aug Florence Edred, formerly of
Cannons Mead. Aged 73 years
18th Aug Lily Frost, 8 Longcroft.
Aged 58 years
23rd Aug Fanny Day, 18 Sunnyside.
Aged 82 years

TUESDAY CLUB

The Tuesday Club does a marvellous job for the Church. Ladies knit, sew and make all the year round and produce beautiful items for sale at various functions. Recently they raised £37 for The Link at a coffee morning. Doreen Newby is in charge and if necessary takes the work for people to do. Nevertheless, there has always been a monthly meeting, the purpose of which is to bring back finished work, give out new materials and have a natter and a cup of tea.



This last year several members have not been able to make the evening meeting so from October 11th we will meet at 2 pm in the Vicarage. We hope this new time will enable others to come along and join us. We would love to see new members.

TINY TOTS SERVICES

2nd and 4th Tuesday at 2.15pm
Come for a short act of worship
- a chat - a cup of tea

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ST JOHN'S APPEAL
GRAND CONCERT

22nd October

On 22nd October in St John's Church at 8pm the Harlow Band are this year performing their annual Charity Concert on behalf of the Appeal. We are also very fortunate to have obtained the services of an exceedingly gifted cornet player as our guest soloist.

The Harlow Band

The band have entertained us superbly for the past two years at our Bier Kellars, as many of you will know, and have welcomed the opportunity to show you their more serious side.

The programme they have chosen is a good example of the variety of arrangements available for brass which we are sure will appeal to all.

Kevin Dye

Our guest soloist is the principal cornet with the Desford Colliery Dowty Band, with whom he has played since 1978. To give an indication of the high standards required at this level, we have listed some of Desford's and Kevin Dye's achievements below.

Desford Band	-	National Coal Board Championship 1982 Granada TV Band of the Year 1982, 1983 Midland Area Championships 1982 Rothmans Entertainment Contest 1982 BBC TV Best of Brass 1982 Champions of Champions 1982
Kevin Dye	-	British Cornet Champion 1977 National Coal Board Champion 1981, 1982

Tickets are available from 7 Croasdaile Close, Tel 812751 and at the Vicarage.

Price - £2 Adults £1 Children and OAPs

AN EVENING NOT TO BE MISSED

Society of Friends

Quaker Meeting House, Chapel Hill.

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

Meeting for worship: 11am.

A Quaker Holiday Pilgrimage

At the end of July, I joined a party of 45 other 'Friends' in the Lake District, to spend a week visiting what has become known as the '1652 country'.

The 1652 story began when the preacher, George Fox, climbed Pendle Hill, a bleak outcrop on the western edge of the Pennines, and felt the call to the country to the northwest. We followed the same steep path to the summit, in a heavy drizzle and swirling mists, which obscured the more distant views, but felt impressive, nevertheless.

The following day we climbed the hill called Firbank Fell, a little to the north: here, from a great rock, Fox spoke to about a thousand 'seekers', who became the nucleus of the Future Society of Friends. A large plaque now marks the site of 'Fox's Pulpit' and, on a beautifully sunny day, we held a Meeting for Worship on the rock, with the quietness disturbed only by the birds and sheep.

Later in 1652, Fox is said to have taken the short route across the sands of Morecombe Bay, used by the travellers of the time to the southern Lake District: we had hoped to follow the route, still a hazardous one, but the tides were not right for us. Arriving



in the Lake District, Fox found his way to the home of Judge and Margaret Fell, at Swarthmoor Hall near Ulveston, a wonderful old building, little changed since those times. Here, through a vivid talk by a Quaker Writer, Elfrida Foulds, we were able to picture the life led by Margaret Fell and her seven daughters, the Judge listening from his study during Meeting for Worship, and George Fox planning his missionary journeys to the rest of England and to America.

It was a week spent in a spirit of discovery and Friendship, which I look back on with thanks.

Margaret Whitelaw

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.

Over the past 7 months an experiment in joint worship has been carried on between ourselves and our Methodist friends. For the first 4 months we worshipped together in our church and for the last 3 months we have worshipped together at the Quaker Meeting House.

At a recent meeting the Methodists resolved to end this experiment (at least for the time being) from October. The resolution also asked that we give new consideration to the scheme "early in 1984".

There are problems relating to the scheduling of services and ministry to which both churches must address themselves.

It is still our hope that a real united witness may come about which will fulfil the hope of the covenanting proposals for mutual recognition of ministry and membership.

We are grateful to the Methodists for their hospitality at the Quaker Meeting House.

We pray that this brief experiment may lead to future sharing on a more permanent basis.

It is the belief of the U.R.C. that in essentials there should be unity as far as possible and we rejoice that it is possible for our two churches to share in the Word and Sacrament.

As Father Chapman said in last month's Link, such sharing is the sign of our unity in Christ to the world. It is a unity for which we all pray and which some of us can happily achieve.

Which reminds me that I have been remiss in not expressing publicly to the Vicar our very deep appreciation of the concelebration in July. It was a village "Pentecost".

Eric McIlwain

SERVICE TIMES

As of October 2nd our services will be at the old time of 11 o'clock.

- October 2nd - 6.30 pm - Mr McIlwain -
Communion
- October 9th - Mr McIlwain - Baptism
- October 16th
- October 23rd
- October 30th - Mr McIlwain

HARVEST SUPPER - October 8th - 7.30 pm

CHARITY BAZAAR - Sat. October 29th
10.00 am - 1.00 pm - U.R.C. Lecture Hall
Usual Stalls - Contests, etc.
Tea and coffee served.
All proceeds to:
Stansted Handicapped Scouts
League of Friends, Herts & Essex
Radwinter Hospital, Saffron Walden

GROUP HARVEST SERVICE - Clavering -
6.30 pm - Mr McIlwain

CHURCH MEETING - October 11th - 7.30 pm

COFFEE EVENING - October 4th - from 6.00 pm
at the home of Dorothy Oswald,
3, White Bear
(Off Rainsford Road at Queen's Close, by
way of Croasdaile Road).

Methodist

Meets in Quaker Meeting House, Chapel Hill.

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

Services: Morning Service with United
Reformed Church - 9.30am.

Harvest Thanksgiving time is round again. Most of us will sing once more, "all good gifts around us are sent from heaven above, Then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord, for all His love". We enjoy the old hymn and doubtless, as we think about it, we mean what we sing. But how easily the words trip off the tongue as an annual routine.

Thanksgiving is much more than words said or sung and may well be present without any words being used to express it. (Though I do not doubt there is much to commend putting our thanks into words when they speak our hearts.) We see the spirit of thankfulness in the child who is so utterly delighted with some gift and so absorbed in the joy of it that he may speak no word of thanks at all. It is seen in the person who whistles or sings with true gladness when going to work or doing it because he feels it is good to be alive. It is there in the old lady who recollects her past with great pleasure and her future with serene trust. In short, it is a matter of our inward spirit, of how we regard life, how we take it, how we see its meaning.

I think of a very dear elderly friend who recently went home to God. I said of her, "She took life as a great gift from God to be richly enjoyed. She was a happy lady whose greatest pleasure was in giving happiness to others." It seems to me that this is thankfulness at its best - being bound to God in trusting joy and to our fellow men in generous love. At the opposite extreme from the spirit of my old friend lies the line of playwright Samuel Beckett when he says, "Life is a punishment for having been born". Or Albert Camus' view that the greatest problem in life is whether or not to commit suicide. Perhaps most of us may be tempted to think that way if things get desperate enough. But

normally we would not agree with them. We have some sort of instinct that life is essentially good.

Perhaps we need to practise the spirit of thankfulness more thoroughly all the year through by taking life as a great gift from God to be richly enjoyed. God give us a real appetite for life and a real delight in it from one harvest to another. We will then find it easier to live with ourselves. And how much easier it will be for others to live with us! My love to you all.

Harold Fisher

Fortnightly fellowships: at 8 pm
10th October at 14, Spencer Close
24th October at 5, St. John's Lane

Roman Catholic

St Theresa's Church, Millside.

Priest: The Rev'd David Chapman
12 Millside (flat above Church).
Tel: 814349.

Services: Sunday Masses - 8am and 10.30am
and at Henham - 9.15am.
Holy Days - 9.15am and 8pm
and at Henham - 7pm.

On Saturday 3rd September we had a most enjoyable Barbeque. One of our parishioners, John Latham, opened up his farm for us at Waltham Hall, Bambers Green, in Takeley. John and his family prepared a fine spacious barn for us. They set up two great barbeque grills in it as the weather was erratic that day, and set bales of straw in strategic places for seating and for servicing drinks, etc. An ideal barbeque setting!

The event started at half past five and by then the weather was fine, and the children able to take advantage of the pony and tractor rides John and his family had organised. These were naturally very popular.

Meanwhile, the inexperienced cooks were producing a dense smoke screen, and loads of well-cooked (!) chicken legs, sausages and beefburgers, to be savoured with accompanying salad. Soon the fires settled to a gentle glow, to the benefit of both cooks and food. Initially the cooks were nearly as burnt as the meat, until more sophisticated barbequers came to tender (!) their expert advice.

There seemed to be hundreds of children there - they outnumbered the adults. But all age groups were well represented and apparently enjoying themselves. It really was a most successful evening, and a lovely finale to the school summer holidays.



SACC

The Annual General Meeting was held on Monday September 12th in the United Reformed Church Vestry.

At this meeting reports were received and a new constitution was approved which it is hoped will widen the outlook and outreach of the Association and also give the Churches more opportunity for working together.

The officers elected for the coming year were -

Chairman Deaconess Margaret Booker
Vice Chairman Michael Dyer
Secretary Angela Gough
Treasurer Jo Flogdell
Chairman of 'The Link' Janet Townsend
Chairman of Christian Aid Catherine Dean

ONE WORLD WEEK 23 - 29 October

During this period we focus our attention on conditions in the Third World where unemployment can mean starvation and minor illness can often be fatal.

To help us understand what Third World living is really like we are pleased to welcome Sister Assumption of the Little Way Association to tell us something of her experiences in India and the East. So please make a note of the date, Wednesday 26th October; the place and time, URC Lecture Hall at 8 pm. There will be a light buffet with an Eastern flavour, and tickets will be available in advance from SACC representatives.

Michael Dyer

SACC - ONE WORLD WEEK

'Experiences in India and the East'
by Sister Assumption

URC Lecture Hall
Wednesday 26th October
8 pm
Buffet Supper 50p

LINK COFFEE MORNING

It was a pleasantly bright morning on 7th September when friends of the LINK turned out in good numbers to support a fund raising effort at 48 St. John's Road.

Aswell as the Bring and Buy and Cake stalls we had a Needlework/Knitted Goods stall stocked by the Anglican Church and a Garden stall to which members of the Gardening Club made contributions.

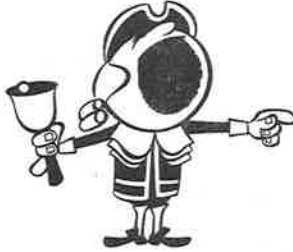
There were two competitions - guessing the weight of the cake, and guessing the number of links in the chain.

The cake, which had been made and given by Mrs. Joan Freeman (one of our most faithful and long-serving typists) was won by Deaconess Margaret Booker with an exact guess of 2lbs 6ozs.

The guess which came nearest to estimating the 742 links in the chain was made by Adrian Searle who was awarded with a prize kindly donated by Mrs. Richard Gabb.

A total of £107 was the satisfactory outcome and we thank those who helped in any way.

Village News



FUTURE EVENTS

October

- 1 2.30 pm (or 22nd if wet) Open Air Jumble Sale at Tennis Club.
- 7.30 pm Fr Jim Brand talks at St Theresa's. A shared meal to follow.
- 8 Last day for Windmill Appeal Fund photographic entries.
- 12 8.00 pm Stansted Carnival Association AGM at Day Centre.
- 15) 11.00 am-6.00 pm Arts & Crafts Market
16) at Youth Centre.
- 19 2.30 pm Seniors Club Autumn Sale at St John's Hall.
- 22 10.00 am-12 noon 'Sink-a-Well' Appeal activities.
- 26 8.00 pm Sr Assumption speaks for One World Week at URC Hall. Eastern flavoured buffet afterwards.-
- 29 10.00 am-1.00 pm UR Church Bazaar at their Lecture Hall. All proceeds to local charities.
- 31-12 Nov. Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal.

November

- 3 Party for all LINK helpers in URC Hall.

STANSTED DAY CENTRE

The Day Centre is thriving and we are very lucky to have lots of volunteers who help on a regular basis, so much so that we have a waiting list of willing helpers.

Our most pressing need now is for drivers who would transport our members from other villages and would also bring in handicapped members. Uttlesford District Council reimburse petrol costs and the forms for this are at the Day Centre. If anyone would be able to help on a regular basis would they contact the Day Centre on Tuesday, Thursday or Friday between 10.00 am - 4.00 pm and leave their name, address and telephone number.

B. C. Scarr

BROWNIES

HELP PLEASE. Help needed urgently for Brownie Pack on Wednesday evenings. Please contact Brownie Commissioner - Mrs Ingham, Tel: B/S 813090.

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 & Sunday, 15 & 16 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)

MOUNTFITCHET GARDEN CLUB

The Members of the Mountfitchet Garden Club held their second annual produce show at the United Reformed Church Hall on Saturday, 3 September. The Hall was packed with prize-winning exhibits from mammoth onions to dwarfest dwarf beans, huge dahlias to delicate herbs. A superb display of house plants proved that even this summer's drought couldn't prevent our green fingers from working their customary magic. The tomato classes attracted the highest number of entries, but the long, dry summer and last minute gales meant that the floral art classes were not so popular. The domestic classes were very well supported and many bargains were found here at the end of the afternoon when Mr E Morton conducted an auction of selected exhibits.

Cups and tankards were awarded to Mr & Mrs G Fuller, Mr E Morton and Mr & Mrs P Mitchley. As a result of a tie, Mrs N Bulted, Mrs E Frogley and Mrs J Townsend will share the Mitchell Cup for Floral Art.

The prize-giving continued on Monday, 5 September, at the Club's Monthly Meeting when the prize-money was awarded and Mr G Fuller received the Royal Horticultural Society's Banksian Medal. No speaker attended this meeting, instead Members saw a set of slides entitled, "Flowering Plants for the Small Greenhouse". The evening was completed by a showing of slides taken at recent Club events.

Next month's meeting will take place at the Day Centre on Wednesday, 5 October, when Mr A Moore will give a talk on "Commercial Bulb Production" - visitors welcome.

Ros Allen

NATIONAL CHILDBIRTH TRUST

Stansted & District Group

During the summer we have run a number of social events. Our picnic in Hatfield Forest was during the heatwave, so we enjoyed a relaxing few hours near the lake where there was plenty of space for the little ones to play while in sight of their parents. Still with food in mind, our Open House with Devonshire Cream Teas proved very popular and, again, the weather stayed fine, so all the crumbs remained in the garden! We were not so lucky in August as the Al Fresco lunch had to be postponed when the heavens opened. The new date hit fine though slightly chilly weather - but after a glass of wine nobody seemed to notice. After the Bring & Share Party, I felt we could easily offer a catering service - all the contributions to the buffet looked so professional and tempting!

We don't just eat, drink and be merry. One or two of us were out of the house very early one Thursday morning to set up a stall in Bishop's Stortford market. Do you know how many people start shopping before 8.00 am? This proved to be a very good way of fund raising as it was both profitable and enjoyable. A big thank you to everyone who provided cakes, jams, children's clothes and brick-a-brac. We hope to have another stall in the Spring.

In addition to our regular weekly meetings for expectant mums and mums with under One's, we have a number of other events between now and Christmas.

- Wednesday, 12 Oct. Open House - Pre Christmas Book Fair, 2-4 pm at 14 Poulteney Rd.
- Thursday, 20 Oct. Cadeau Toy Party, 8.00 pm at 26 Longcroft.
- Thursday, 3 Nov. Morning talk, "Shoes for Our Children", 10.30 am at 26 Longcroft. Creche provided.
- Friday, 25 Nov. Open House with photographer, 2-4 pm at 3 Coltsfield.
- Friday, 9 Dec. Children's Christmas Party at St John's Hall, 3.30 pm.
- Friday, 16 Dec. Bring & Share Party, 8.00 pm, 26 Longcroft.

We have also arranged to hold Antenatal Classes for couples in Stansted. The first series of classes is for babies due in January and February. If you are interested, ring me on 813958.

THE MILK RUN

Milk Run Are you breastfeeding? If so, can you spare a little milk for the premature babies in Harlow Hospital? We now have enough people to collect the breast-milk from mothers' homes. We will deliver sterile bottles to you; you collect the milk in them and we'll collect the bottles of milk from you every couple of days. If you want to give some milk or if you want to help with the collection, please contact Cathy Leek on 813068.

Jenny Adamson



AFTERNOON W.I.

Our Autumn session started with a most entertaining talk, "A Lifetime of Making Furniture", by Mr Coleman of Saffron Walden. He gave us a lovely description of serving a 7-year apprenticeship at "Maples" earning 7/6d a week. He now specialises in making William & Mary side tables, and brought one of those lovely pieces to show us. Mrs Hyde, Mrs Walker and Mrs Palmer won the raffle, and Mrs Palmer won the competition "A Hanging Basket in Half an Orange".

May Jordan

STANSTED EVENING WI

Summer has ended very suddenly it seems and so winter thoughts are with us.

In the WI there is talk of Christmas bazaars and fairs, evening classes, carol services and annual meetings, so in spite of nature going into hibernation, our members take on a new lease of life.

For anyone in Chelmsford on Friday, 17 November, the Chancellor Hall will be well worth a visit as our County Executive is running a really big Christmas Fair, when all Christmas present problems should be solved!

In October, at our Institute, we start taking nominations for our new committee and officers who will be elected at an Annual Meeting in November. This is always an interesting meeting so members come along and choose who you want to run our meetings for the next year. If you've got a grouse then why not stand for election yourself - a sure way of getting something done.

Pearl Wellings

STANSTED SENIORS' CLUB

We have to thank Mr & Mrs Irwin for two delightful garden parties in August. The first with Farnham was a lovely sunny afternoon, and the second with Manuden Over Sixties Club at which Mrs L Winch, our Chairman, was present. We were all pleased that Mrs Winch is now full recovered. Everyone looks forward to these very pleasant occasions.

Mr D Williams, Head of Rural Studies at Mountfitchet School, was the speaker on "House Plants" at the meeting on 7 Sept. and gave very useful information on the care of our plants; it was a most enjoyable afternoon. We missed Mr H Griggs and hope he will soon be well enough to be with us again.

Do make a note of the date of the Autumn Sale on 19 October at 2.30 pm at St John's Hall. All are welcome to this. There will be various stalls, raffles and competitions.

SINK A WELL APPEAL

If you have read the last two issues of The Link, you must be wondering what the Sink A Well Appeal is about. You may even have become bored with seeing pictures of baths and fountains and pumps. I hope not; because the message that the Stansted World Development Movement wishes to put over is very simple and can be conveyed in a question. How would you like to have to collect buckets of water from the fountain at the top of Chapel Hill every time you wanted a bath? Then think about this: there are hundreds of villages in Third World countries like Thailand, which do not even have a pump or fountain. Every drop of water has to be carried from the nearest supply, which may be several miles away.

Two things are happening this month, which will help to remind us of the plight of our neighbours in Thailand. Firstly, on Saturday, 22 October, between 10.00 am and 12 noon there will be strange 'goings on' up Chapel Hill and in the vicinity of the fountain. You may even have the opportunity to carry a bucket up Chapel Hill; just like Jack & Jill, except their bucket was empty, and yours will be full of water. Just to see what it feels like! Then in and around the Quaker Meeting House there will be other watery activities including refreshments and a car wash service (bring your Rolls or Mini or both!).

Secondly, you will be receiving a leaflet through your letter box showing how we as a village can help in a practical way to provide a well in Thailand. We have already raised the £175 required for one well as the result of a personal appeal earlier this year, but now everyone in Stansted has the opportunity to contribute. Please think about what life would be like without taps full of water, and then 'Give well to Sink A Well'. If you do not receive a leaflet, and would like to demonstrate your concern, please contact Alan Dean at 49 Recreation Ground, Tel: 813579

Michael Dyer (814059)

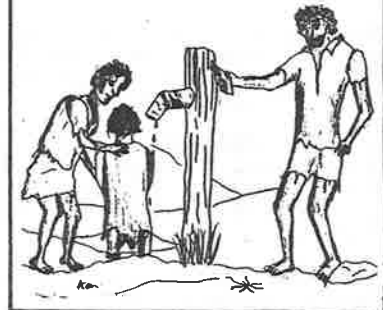
STANSTED 1871



STANSTED 1983



THAILAND 1984?



Can the people of S.E. Asia expect standards of water supply equal to the Stansted of 1983 or even 1871?

STANSTED TENNIS CLUB

Against all odds, the Annual Finals Day of Stansted Tennis Club took place on Sunday, 11 September.

Between heavy downpours, the players had to brave the wintry conditions in order to complete the matches. In the Men's Singles, Chris Hollis won his third singles title beating Richard Mott 6-1, 6-4. The same score was recorded in the Ladies Singles, when Gill Robinson beat Lynn MacDonald. This was also Gill's third singles title.

After the singles matches, a very successful Cheese & Wine Lunch was held in the clubhouse.

The afternoon tennis saw Chris Hollis and Jeff Searle retain the Men's Doubles in a repeat of last year's final, when they beat Paul Bainbridge and Richard Eyre 6-1, 6-3.

In the Ladies Doubles, Gill Robinson and Gill Bainbridge beat Janet Hollis and Mary Long 6-2, 6-3. This was followed by the Mixed Doubles, with Chris Hollis and Phraid Cotton beating Paul and Gill Bainbridge 6-2, 6-5, in what was the most exciting final of the day.

In the early evening, a Barbecue was, miraculously, able to go ahead and was attended by about 40 guests. The cups were presented by two Honorary Life Members, Fred Boyd and Angela Wilby.

Thirty-seven Junior Members of the club took part in the Prudential Grass Roots Tennis Coaching at the club in June and July and Melanie Flogdell, Zoe Hawkes and Tristan Girling were selected to go on to a special day's coaching course at The Grove Tennis Club, Saffron Walden, on 8 August. All this coaching was done by Joanna King.

Chris Hollis, who qualified as an Elementary Tennis Teacher at Homerton College, Cambridge, in June, coached 14 Junior Members at the club in August.

The club is holding an open-air Jumble Sale on Saturday, 1 October, at the club, at 2.30 pm. If that day is wet, it will be held on Saturday, 22 October - same place and time.

Sunday morning tennis will start on 22 October at 10.00 am.

All enquiries to Janet Hollis, 812073.

STANSTED CARNIVAL ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

TO BE HELD ON

WEDNESDAY, 12 OCTOBER 1983

AT

8.00 PM

AT

THE STANSTED DAY CENTRE
CRAFTON GREEN, CHAPEL HILL

ALL WELCOME FREE REFRESHMENTS

MOUNTFITCHET SCHOOL

The new term opened with a slightly higher intake into the First Year, and several new faces among the staff. With the retirement of Mr Gough as Headmaster, Mr R C Davies is Acting Head until the appointment of a new Headteacher later in the year, and Mr D J Williams is Acting Deputy Head.

The school is looking forward to a secure future, and during this term the County Architect's Department will be in school to draw up plans for a major building programme to replace the existing temporary buildings, and provide additional facilities. Some work on improving the main building is scheduled to begin in January, to be completed by April. Meetings are currently taking place to finalise arrangements for the transfer of pupils at the end of the Fifth Year for 'A' level courses which we think will provide a very attractive package to parents.

Our open evening is on 10 November, and we shall look forward to meeting parents of potential and present pupils, and, indeed, anybody who is interested in seeing our school. Of course, our usual invitation to visit the school at any time is open to you all, and we would be delighted to meet visitors whenever they like to come.

If any organisation would like a talk and visit by representatives of the school, we do ask them to contact us so that arrangements can be made.

J M Pollard

HUW JOHNSON CLUB

Club evenings have resumed after our August break and numbers are back in full force - I firmly believe with renewed energy as all the games seemed to have been tackled with extra vigour.

We have started preparing Christmas gift tags and had a very busy evening. Cards were cut out and holes punched, then lengths of cord were cut which the members were threading through the holes. We were delayed rather by Roy who was unable to help so proceeded to admire the cards one by one then drop them on the floor.

The scene resembled production lines in a factory but I'm happy to say we had no industrial disputes. The number of workers wasn't very consistent - when they got 'fed up' they downed tools and headed for another part of the hall.

Mandy and Becky laughed and giggled and their output decreased rapidly; when I told them "more work, less giggling" they called me Mrs Thatcher. As I don't know their political views, I wasn't sure if I was being admired or condemned!

Matthew firmly refused to help. He said, "It is far too early to think of Christmas, my mother and father haven't even mentioned it yet." So that was that - non co-operation from Matthew.

I expect by now you've realised I have an ulterior motive for telling you all this. Of course I have - please don't buy all your tags too soon; wait for the Christmas Bazaar, we shall be there and are hoping for your custom.

Betty Lockwood

BLUE CROSS, MISSIONS to SEAMEN AND

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A Morning Market in aid of the above will be held at St John's Hall at 10.30 am on TUESDAY, 25 OCTOBER.



WINDMILL APPEAL FUND

PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

Open to residents within a 10 mile radius of Stansted. Transparencies, Prints, Coloured, Black or White.

Subjects: (a) Stansted, or (b) Open Class.

Classes: Senior (over 16 on October 28)
Junior (under 16 on October 28).

Entry Fee: 50p.

Results and prize-giving on 28 October at the Day Centre. Copy of the rules available from shops or the organiser, Mrs K Stevens, 1 Blythwood Gardens.

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

POPPY APPEAL 1983

The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal 1982 raised the highest amount ever for Stansted and district - in all a total in excess of £1,500. A belated but nevertheless most grateful thank you to all those who put so much hard work and time to this worthy cause.

As the local organiser, I shall be delivering poppies, etc to all those helpers for last year during the last week of October, as house-to-house collections can be made between 31 October and 12 November.

Would any other volunteers please contact the organiser, Mr Fred Cheal, Tel: 813128.

STANSTED & DISTRICT CND GROUP

Our next meeting will be on 3 & 19 Oct. at 8.15 pm when we will be discussing our group participation in the National CND Rally to be held in London on 22 October.

We have recently started holding coffee/discussion mornings, once a month, which are of particular interest to mothers of young children, as they are cared for during the meeting. Next meeting is on 11 October at 10.00 am.

Phone 813997 for further details and venues of meetings.

ST. MARY'S C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL

PARENT TEACHER'S ASSOCIATION

The AGM will be held in the School Hall on Wednesday, 5 October, at 8.00 pm. We hope to see lots of parents at the meeting. The new committee for 1983/84 will be elected. If you feel you would like to be involved, do make the effort to come.

The first PTA social evening will be held on Friday, 4 November, at 8.00 pm. This will be your second opportunity to take part in a Chinese Auction. There will be refreshments and a hot supper.

The Castle Bookshop will be visiting the school on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, 11/12/13 October. There will be lots of children's books on display and these will be on sale after school each day.

The Bible and Eucharistic Service will be held in the school on Thursday, 13 October, at 9.15 am. During the service all new junior children will be presented with the New English Bible.

SLENDERQUEST

Slenderquest classes all over the South of England are raising money for local hospitals with their Slimtacular - or sponsored slim. We, at Stansted, are joining forces with the Bishop's Stortford class to raise money for an ENT Microscope for the Herts & Essex Hospital. You don't have to be a Slenderquest member to join in but it will help you to lose the maximum amount of weight between now and 2 December - just right for Christmas. We meet on Thursdays at 7.30 pm at the Friends' Meeting House.

For further details, phone Brenda Cook, 814978.

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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