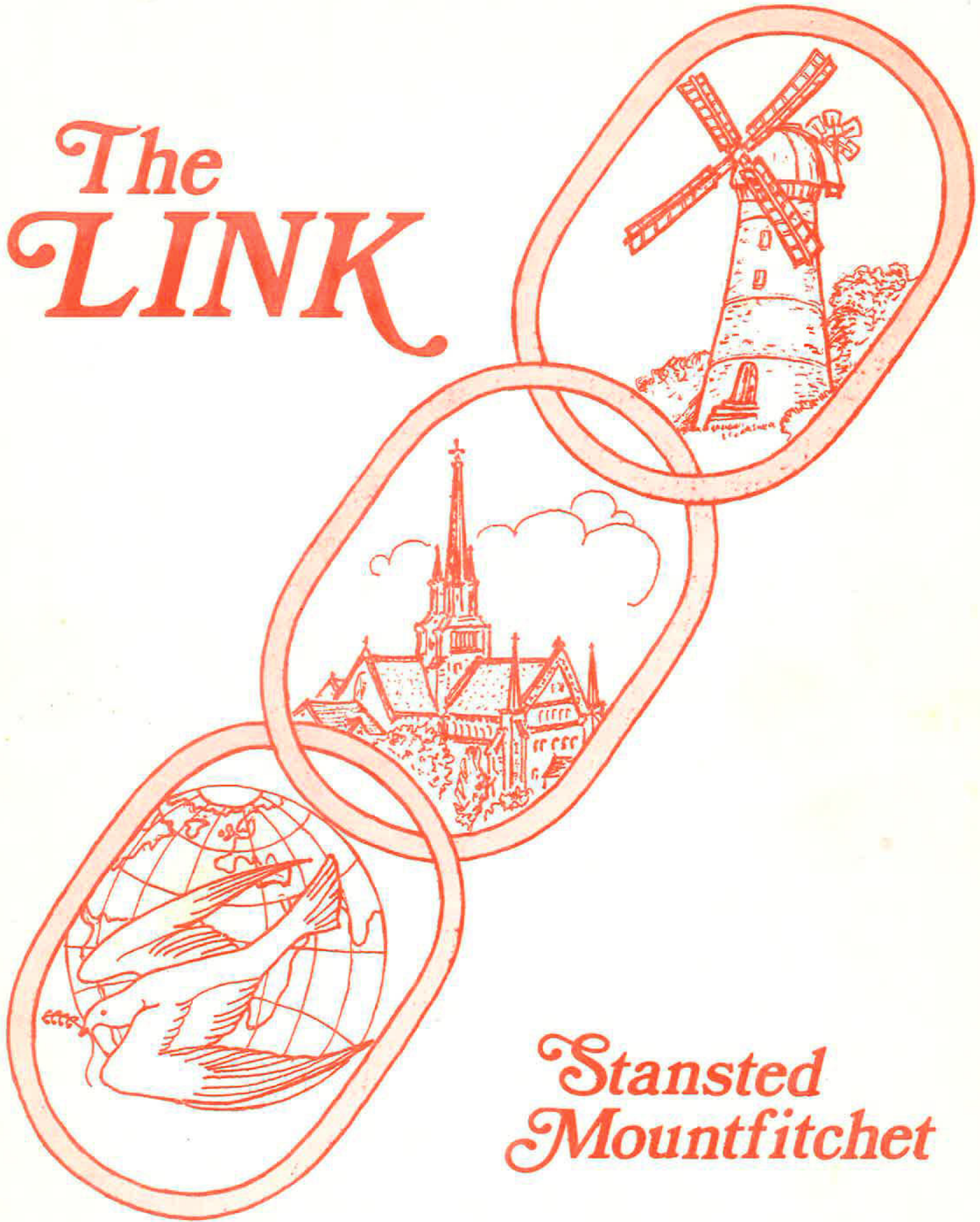


Feb 84

# The LINK



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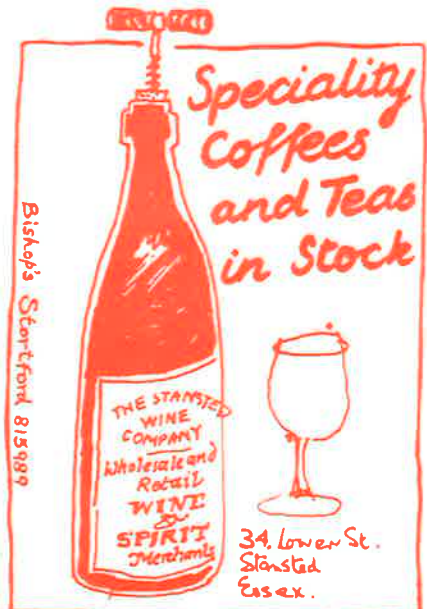
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**SACC**

At the meeting held on 25th January during the week of Prayer for Christian Unity discussion upon the World Council of Churches' document concerning the practice of Baptism, Eucharist (a Communion) and Ministry within the Churches was led by the Rev'd Leslie Griffiths and the Rev'd Tony Bryer, both from Loughton.

As a follow up to this meeting the theme of this year's United Services in Lent will be Eucharist or Communion.

- Thursday March 15th in St. John's "Taking"
- " " 22nd in St. Theresa's "Blessing"
- " " 29th in United Reformed "Breaking"
- " April 5th in Quaker Meeting House "Sharing"
- " " 12th in United Reformer Hall  
An Agape Supper

All services and supper at 8 p.m.

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

(Interdenominational)

MARCH 2nd, 1984

THEME:

LIVING WATER FROM CHRIST,  
OUR HOPE

2.00 p.m. at United Reformed Church

Speaker - Mrs. Lydia Rapkin  
from Saffron Walden

(Creche available in the hall)

**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.**

Copy to reach 48, St. John's Road by  
9th. February for March 1984 issue &  
15th. March for April 1984 issue

## Society of Friends

Quaker Meeting House, Chapel Hill.

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

**Meeting for worship:** 11am.

A Conference on Children's Work -  
Autumn 1983

The conference, held at Westhill College in Birmingham, was held so that those working with children and young people could face the growth and challenge in this field. The weekend was a very intensive one, with a great deal of talk and activity filling up the time. We heard talks about various aspects of Quaker work with children; we met in discussion groups and talked about the many problems involved in children's work; we attended workshops on a variety of topics, practical and theoretical; we heard other speakers answer our queries; and we had a social evening with country dancing.

From the conference some interesting general points emerged, which may be of interest to all churches, not just the Society of Friends.

Firstly, it was felt that children should be the responsibility of the whole Meeting, not just their parents or those who are teachers. It should be a question of 'opting out' rather than 'opting in' with children's work: this need not actually be taking the children's class, it could be giving an occasional talk or interview, supplying spare paper or materials, or collecting books or equipment from London. Everyone can do something.

Secondly, we should look for ways of helping the children to get to know the other members of the Meeting. This can be done through interviews on a particular theme, such as 'Work' or 'Life 50 years ago': some Meetings have a system of 'godparents' or adopted grans (and grandpas!)

Thirdly, we should help the Meeting to get to know the children. Some Meetings do this by having a board with the children's names on it, sometimes with photographs as well. Others send birthday cards, or keep scrapbooks and photo albums of Meeting activities.

Fourthly, a definite attempt should be made to organise events which involve the whole Meeting, young and old, like getting together for breakfasts, lunches, walks, gardening sessions, or in extra time before and after meeting for Worship.

These were some of the practical suggestions which arose from the desires of the organisers of the conference "to inform and excite participants in developments that are already happening, and to explore together new ways of extension and outreach."

Margaret Whitelaw

## 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.

### ROMAN CATHOLIC

The true disciple must carry the cross. Jesus made His point very clearly, so that all would know, when He called together all the Apostles and the crowd of followers and told them that, not only must He himself carry a cross but so must everyone who wanted to be His disciple. "Let him take up his cross daily and follow me. The man who tries to save his life shall lose it. It is the man who loses his life for my sake who shall save it."

Dear Lord, your strong emphasis on this point shows us that suffering is not merely an accident but an integral part of the training of a Christian. How little have we understood that doctrine of the cross. We may have thought of it as a big cross and a self-imposed mortification which would be very painful and so we were afraid of it. But now we see that you are the perfect director of souls, that you know best just how much suffering we need and how much joy. You are the best judge of what sufferings can best cut down our pride and strengthen our weaknesses, bolster our faith and inflame our love.

Dear Lord, teach us to delight in whatever you send us and cheerfully, joyfully accept it as doing your Holy Will, and unite with you in the work of saving the world.

Noel Purcell

## Church of England

**Clergy:** The Rev'd Barry Rose  
The Vicarage, St John's Road  
Tel: 812203

The Rev'd Anthony Bundock  
43 Gilbey Crescent  
Tel: 814463

Deaconess Margaret Booker  
Moorlands Cottage, Burton End  
Tel: 812684

**Services:** Held in St John's, St John's Road and St Mary's, Church Road

Holy Communion	-	8am
Family Communion	-	9.30am
Children's Church	-	9.30am
Creche	-	9.30am
Holy Communion (1662) (2nd and 4th Sundays)	-	11.15am
Evensong	-	6.30pm

Holy Communion is celebrated on:

Tuesday	-	7.30pm
Wednesday	-	10am
Thursday	-	7.30am
Friday	-	8am

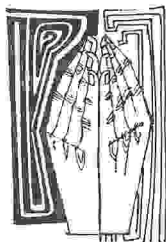
In summer months some of these services are held in St Mary's. See notice in church porches for further details or ring one of the clergy.

### Vicar's Notes

Last month I said that our theme for 1984 is "Let go ..... Let God"; that we should try and let go of some of the things that clutter our lives and give ourselves more time and space to discover our hidden selves. Of course, in discovering ourselves we also discover God. Our Lentern programme, details of which we will publish next month, has one aim - to give us all the opportunity to grow in our spiritual and prayer life.

The scene will be set by our first preacher on Sunday March 11th will be Mrs. Penelope Erkesley and the title of her sermon is "Slowing down". Mrs. Erkesley is on the Ministerial team of St. James Piccadilly and although she does not want to be thought of as an authority on Christian spirituality, yet we know she will be able to help us as indeed will our other visiting Lent preachers - Canon Peter Morris, Warden of Pleshey Retreat House and Fr. Christopher Bryant of the Cowley Fathers. Those who met Peter Morris last year, when he came to talk on prayer, know how stimulating he is and, of course, Fr. Bryant is an author of great distinction and is well known in the Church as a spiritual master.

How fortunate we are then to have persuaded these preachers to come to Stansted and we intend to shorten the first part of our Family Communion in order to give them a little more time to speak. They will try and suggest ways we can pray and meditate and make ourselves more aware of the things around us. It is important for us to realise that to grow in the spiritual life is not a matter of listening to sermons but to make the effort to give ourselves time and space. This Lent could be an exciting and growing time for us all.



### Stansted Adventurers

'Adventurers' is the Youth Activities Group which meets every Friday evening in St. John's Hall, Stansted, from 7-9.30 p.m. It is open to all young people ages 8-15 years. The group is sponsored by St. John's Church and the U.S.P.G. who are responsible for Adventurers Clubs worldwide.

During our Summer Project 'Ujamaa Harvest' we set up some valuable links with young people in Tanzania and Kenya, and with the Adventurers Club at Buza High School near Dar-es-Salaam. We sent to them a large parcel of material all about Stansted and the Bishop of Hereford who visited there in August acted as our postman. We are waiting for our first batch of 'pen' letters to arrive any day now.

This winter-time our project is 'Our Local Community' and we are currently finding out what makes Stansted 'tick' and how history has played a part in the making of the Stansted of today. We have already met with some of Stansted's senior citizens who can remember when horses and carts struggled up Chapel Hill in the wintertime.

Of course our club evenings are not all work, we play a lot aswell and have our monthly Disco which is very popular. On February 18th (Saturday) we will be combining work and play to present in St. John's Hall at 8 p.m.

Brian Wallis  
Leader

## Youth News

### THE ROCK

We still have places available for next month's visit to the Rock Anglican-Methodist Youth Centre.

We plan to leave from St. John's at 6 p.m. on Friday 16 March and to be back in Stansted at 5 p.m. on Sunday 18 March.

### CIRDAN TRUST SAILING CRUISE

Our Cirdan Cruise has now been booked for the weekend 28-30 September 1984. In order to catch high-water on 28 September it will be necessary to leave Stansted at 2.30 p.m.

The cruise will take place on "The Galadriel" which is a 75 foot sailing vessel and the cost of the trip will be limited to food expenses only. There will be a "professional" crew of Master, Mate and Engineer responsible for the vessel which can accommodate 20 young people and four leaders from the Church. Our own leaders are required to undertake a 14 hour training course on a smaller vessel and this has been arranged for 15 April 1984.

We still have a few places left for young people who must be 13 years old or over.

## WHAT GOES ON AT AN ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING?



We learn what has been going on in the Church and parish over the last year and think about the future. This year, reports will be in writing and available on Sunday 25 March.

### **QUESTIONS ANSWERED**

It is a time for meeting together.

Churchwardens, Deanery Synod Representatives, Parochial Church Council Members and Sidesmen are elected. This year all nominations must be handed in by Sunday 25 March. **No nominations will be received on the night of the meeting.**



We have the opportunity to ask questions and have a discussion.



### CAN ANYONE ATTEND

Yes - anyone may come to the meeting but only those on the Electoral Roll may vote.

### HOW DO I GET ON THE ELECTORAL ROLL?

This year we have to prepare a new roll. This means all names are removed from the old roll and everyone must re-apply. Anyone over the age of 16 years who is baptised and lives in the parish may apply - so also may those who live out of the parish but who have habitually attended worship during six months prior to enrolment.

Application forms are available from our Electoral Roll Secretary, Mrs Pat Clower, 2 Clarence Road - Tel 815220, from the Vicarage or the back of the church. **All forms must be returned by 28 February.** The roll will be available for inspection from 10 March.

### WHEN IS THE MEETING?

Monday 26 March - 8pm - Church Hall

### HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE

#### MOTHERS UNION

Meeting on Wednesday 22nd February at 2.30 p.m. in the Church Hall.

Speaker - Mrs. Sheila Green from Henham.

*for the Whole Family*

#### AN OLD TYME MUSIC HALL

In association with Brian Wallis and the Sainsburys Dramatic Society from Buntingford. Tickets are priced at £2.50 for adults and £1.50 for children, which includes a Ploughmans Supper. There will also be a Wine and Cider Bar. This is a great opportunity for young and old alike to dress up and also to tune-up the voices for a good old sing song. We are also hoping to have an exhibition of pictures and paintings of Stansted as it was in great-grandfathers time. See local newsletters and shop-windows for further details.

Proceeds in aid of St. John's Appeal.

#### YOUTH EUCHARIST ON 12 FEBRUARY

On Sunday 12 February we plan a Youth Eucharist Service in St. John's at 6.30 p.m.

This service will have a similar format to the Youth Eucharist for One World Week which took place last October. We hope to have contributions from our various young people's groups on the theme of divine revelation.

#### Parish Registers

##### Baptised

4th Dec Gemma Elizabeth Stewart  
34 Wetherfield  
Benjamin Paul Nash  
49 Gilbey Crescent  
1st Jan Nina Emily Welch, 32 Wetherfield

##### Departed

16th Dec Timothy Snelling  
11 Stoneyfield Drive  
12th Jan Ivy Gwendoline Loveel  
7 The Campions Aged 74 years  
16th Jan Herbert James Turner  
Moorlands, High Lane  
Aged 90 years

#### Parish Diary

##### February

6th PCC Meeting 8 pm The Vicarage  
12th Youth Eucharist 6.30 pm  
18th Old Tyme Music Hall 8 pm Church Hall  
27th PCC Meeting 8 pm

##### March

6th Shrove Tuesday Social - Church Hall  
8 pm to 10 pm  
Adults £1 Children 50p  
7th Ash Wednesday - Holy Communion 10 am  
Sung Eucharist 8 pm  
11th Preacher at Parish Communion  
Mrs Penelope Erkesley "Slowing Down"  
Songs of Praise 6.30 p.m.

## 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: 11.00 a.m. each Sunday

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

FEBRUARY SERVICES - 11.00 a.m.

5th - Mr. McIlwain - Holy Communion  
12th - Mr. B. Wright of Stansted  
19th - Mr. McIlwain  
26th - Mrs. Knight of Sawston

MARCH 4th - Mr. McIlwain - Holy Communion

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING -

Saturday, February 25th, 6.00 p.m. -  
GROUP CHURCHES AND CONGREGATIONS -  
6.00 p.m. - Business Meeting  
7.30 for 8: New Year's Supper

I see that Billy Graham has been preaching  
at Sandringham "for the Queen". Presumably  
the Vicar is so busy with his eight  
parishes that he has to call in the odd  
Bishop and American evangelist to help him  
out.

Mr. Graham is over here arranging for his  
"Mission England" due to begin in May. You  
may remember that he was also an honoured  
guest at the enthronement of the Archbishop  
of Canterbury.

It amazes me how the Established Church  
carries on this kind of "furtive affair" with  
a lone-wolf ex-Southern Baptist evangelist  
who is all that the Established Church is  
not, and professes not to want to be.

On the other hand, if Mr. Graham can return  
England to the fold of the Established  
Church (the English people that is) the  
means - which are not at all bad - would  
probably justify the end.

There is no doubt that the Graham organisa-  
tion, which is formidable and finely-honed,  
will fill halls and arenas and football  
stadia with Christians and nearly-Christians -  
but for all that, and for all his missions, there  
has never been much of a movement back to the  
churches as an aftermath.

At any rate it cannot be a bad thing, and it  
may be a good omen for the "Free Churches"  
(as we are so quaintly called in England) and  
the Anglicans - if the Queen and Dr. Runcie  
and others who support Dr. Graham would follow  
the logic of the situation and make common  
cause with the more "humble", home-grown  
non-established and non-episcopal churches  
for a more effective on-going "Mission  
England".

Eric McIlwain

## United Reformed Church Guild

On Monday 12th December we were entertained  
by the scholars of Bentfield Primary School.

They presented excerpts from the musical  
"Rikki's Dream Journey", also impersonations  
of well known people being interviewed by  
Father Xmas. These were held in the Church  
which made a good setting.

The singing, both by the entire school and  
the soloists, was excellent, and afterwards  
refreshments were served to the large  
audience.

## 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 - 9.30am.

## METHODISTS

1983 has now well and truly gone. Thir-  
teen months ago it was "one more"; another  
year of promise and opportunity to be lived  
and enjoyed. But now it is "one less" and  
its "gone-foreverness" sounds the notes of  
diminution and urgency. Life is running  
out and racing on. We may be ready to say  
with Andrew Marvell as he mourned love's  
lost opportunities:

But at my back I always hear  
Time's winged chariot hurrying near.

Let's face it, life's impermanence and  
increasing brevity cannot be denied, though  
we may try to ignore them. This often  
fills us with feelings of depression and  
futility. In Howard Spring's novel, "The  
Houses In Between", the storyteller and  
main character looks back over his very  
long life and says, "All my weary years  
had not taught me to believe that the City  
of God...ever could be built... And back-  
ward now, not forward, was the course for  
me: backward through the memory of so many  
lost and foundered years."

But it does not have to be like that. In  
fact it cannot be like that for inescapably  
we are, at least in part, what our years  
have made us. It is not only our past  
life that makes us what we are today.  
There are other vital ingredients in the  
recipe that produces you or me. And as  
Christians we must never overlook that  
crucial newness that breaks into our lives  
when we know God's mercy and love. Never-  
theless we are much shaped by our thoughts,  
ideas, choices, actions, relationships and  
reactions to life in the past. Our past  
is not lost and foundered, it is built into  
us. And that is, with all of us, (doubt-  
less in varying proportions) both for better  
and for worse.

Neville Ward begins his most helpful book,  
"The Seven Words From The Cross", like this:  
"We never know fully what we are doing, what  
exactly is going on in what we are doing.  
The whole of the past is involved in every  
human situation. Most of it is infinitely  
diluted and untraceable. Some recent event

is so clearly present that we are tempted to think it explains the bit of life it seems to dominate. However, we do not in fact understand. ....To look within means to find a misty landscape. Our successes and failures all have some relation to unconscious strivings and fears. These have roots that go so deeply into our mysterious inwardness that some of the reason why we managed this, succumbed to that, will always escape us".

Very perceptive words which we would do well to heed; so it seems to me. It is, therefore tremendously important that all those things which help to shape us and make us what we are should be monitored before they become a permanent influence within us. Hurts need to be healed, fears calmed, wrongs forgiven, guilt disarmed, antipathies dissolved, etc. For such essential monitoring none is better than our Lord Jesus Christ as He brings His love, mercy, peace, joy, reassurance and purpose into our lives. To grow old along with Him is to be assured that today will shape us well for the future, that our past is fashioning us well and that "the best is yet to be, the last of life for which the first was made".

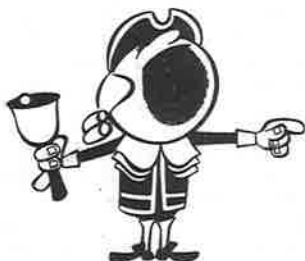
An early Church document called 'The Shepherd of Hermas' has a vision of the Church, the People of God, which is rather strange. The Church is visioned as a very old lady, withered, bent and weak. As she lives through the years with Christ she grows younger until she is in the finest flower of her womanhood. I have known many old people of whom that could be said, chronologically old, but spiritually full of life, strength and beauty. "Lost and foundered years" my foot! For such folk the years have filled them with a life that never grows old.

Love and best wishes to you all.

Harold Fisher

Fornightly fellowships at 8.00 pm.  
13 February - 5 St John's Lane.  
27 February - 49 Recreation Ground.

## Village News



### NATIONAL CHILDBIRTH TRUST

We have lots of events to look forward to this year. In addition to our regular weekly under ones and twice monthly pop-ins at the Day Centre, we are looking forward to having Brenda Crowe with us again to do a morning talk on 'play 1-3 years' at the beginning of February, and at the end of the month "Jack

and Jill" are coming with a selection of summer clothes for 0-3 years to our open house. Our A.G.M. is booked for Friday 9th March at 8 p.m. at the Day Centre. Further ahead still, keep the evening of Friday 11th May free if you would like to hear Mr. Hartwell, Consultant Obstetrician. He will be talking about "Recent Advances in Obstetric Care".

Our Antenatal Classes for babies expected in June start on Thursday March 29th from 8 - 10 p.m. and last for eight weeks. If you would like to join the class please contact me on 813958 as there is still space for two couples.

### THE MILK RUN

Do you travel to Harlow regularly? We need someone willing to transport breast milk to the special care unit at Princess Alexandra Hospital twice a week from April onwards. Our thanks to Maxine Revy who will be driving until March. If you can offer transport or would like to supply breast milk for the premature babies or need help with breast feeding, please contact Cathy Leek on 813068. Cathy is also an agent for Mava products (nursing bras and nightdresses). If you are interested ring her for details and to arrange for fitting.

Our programme for February is:-

- Wed. 1st Family Pop-In at the Day Centre 2.30 - 4.30
- Fri. 3rd Under 1's and Expectant Mothers at 49 Gilby Crescent 10.30 - 12.00
- Thurs. 9th Morning Talk, Brenda Crowe on Play 1-3 years at 26 Long Croft Creche. 10.30 a.m. 50 pence
- Fri. 10th Under 1's and Expectant Mothers at 32 Wetherfield 10.30 - 12.00
- Wed. 15th Family Pop-In at the Day Centre 2.30 - 4.30
- Fri. 17th Under 1's and Expectant Mothers at 16 Coltsfield 10.30 - 12.00
- Fri. 24th Under 1's and Expectant Mothers at 11a Bentfield Gardens 10.30 - 12.00
- Wed. 29th Open House - Summer clothes by Jack and Jill at 22 Alderbury Road 2.00 - 4.00

Jenny Adamson





## STANSTED DAY CENTRE

How we Over-60's have enjoyed going to the Day Centre, having a cup of coffee, etc and chatting with old friends whom we seldom see, to say nothing of meeting new friends, and eating lunch with other people instead of on a tray alone.

We do most sincerely thank all the helpers who serve us, and for their friendly smiles and chats. We all appreciate the time you give up to us.

### STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET SENIORS CLUB

The new year opened with a speaker, Mrs O Elton-Barratt, who brought a wonderful array of teapots in all shapes, sizes and age, and gave a most interesting account of the history of tea-making from the days of ancient China to the present day, and told us something about the teapots in her collection. Mrs O Elton-Barratt then answered questions from members, and Mrs Francis gave the vote of thanks. It was good to see so many present on such a rainy day.

### SOCIAL DEMOCRATS

The Christmas House Party and our Christmas Dinner, held in a local restaurant, were both very successful. Our already established tradition of regular house parties will continue during 1984 but we are hoping to hold a larger social and fund raising event this year.

At our January meeting we had a discussion on the reported plans for the Herts & Essex Hospital.

814405 Sally Stockman

## ST. MARY'S C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL

### Social Event

The PTA are holding a "Sixties Style Disco". So (those of you who are old enough!) hunt in your attic for your old sixties gear - winkle pickers, minis and midis. Dress yourself up and come and enjoy yourself on:- Friday 17th February in the School Hall, 8 p.m. - 12 midnight.

There will be a hot supper and a licensed bar.

Tickets are £2 each and are available from the school secretary and PTA members.

### CAMPAIGN FOR NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT

The Stansted & District Group will be joining the Saffron Walden Group for an open meeting at 8.00 pm on 9 February at the Friends Meeting House, Saffron Walden. Mgr Bruce Kent will be speaking on the subject, "The Arms Race or the Human Race". Everyone welcome, please 'phone 813997 if you need a lift.

The next meeting in Stansted is at 8.15 pm on 25 January when there will be a discussion on "The Freeze Movement". 'Phone 813997 for venue.



## STANSTED TENNIS CLUB

The Stansted Tennis Club Logo, pictured above, was designed by Paul Bainbridge, one of our members. It appears (in a larger size) on our T-shirts, in yellow and dark green and these are available from Janet Hollis - prices are £3.30 (childrens sizes) and £4 (adults).

The final profit from our Jumble Sale held last October was £50. We were very pleased with this result as the sale was held in the open air in appalling wet weather! Thank you to all those people who so bravely and willingly helped.

Our Christmas Dinner was held on 7th December at the Bull Inn, Much Hadham. Twenty-five members enjoyed a very pleasant evening and a most delicious and reasonably priced meal.

The winter Singles League is progressing well and will continue until April.

Sunday morning tennis is attended by between 12 and 16 members who play in all weather conditions - fortunately, so far this winter the weather has been pretty fair.

A group of ladies also play each Wednesday morning and occasionally they are joined by brave men who are on holiday!

All enquiries to:- Janet Hollis  
B/S 812073

## HUW JOHNSON CLUB

Our Christmas Party was the usual successful evening of fun and laughter with everyone having a great time. As I have said before, our members are growing up so the party was rather different this year.

As people arrived they gathered together and watched the television. Then preparations were completed and it was time to eat and this was a surprise. It was not the usual tea but chicken, sausages and jacket potatoes with butter and cheese. It was riotous in the kitchen with helpers lined up, each adding something to the plates as they were passed along. Sometimes there was a hiccup as a plate got past minus a sausage or butter, but it proved to be very effective and everyone was soon tucking in. Needless to say, some of the plates were "topped up" from time to time. After ice creams and drinks all round it was disco time.

We had the usual original interpretations of dancing from members and guests and then it was games time and more energy was used up. By this time a snack bar had been established in the corner with sandwiches, cakes, crisps, coke, etc. and it was well patronised!

..... Meanwhile in the kitchen:  
Father Christmas had entered secretly by the side door and after a much needed snack was

ready to make his grand entrance with his load of presents.

The members as always were delighted and excited by his arrival and waited anxiously for their turn to collect a gift - this is a lovely part of the evening.

It proved to be a very enjoyable time for the club. We hope we shall have another successful year ahead. I would like to say once again that we should be happy to welcome anyone who would like to "drop in" to see us on any club evening. Please try to come.

Betty Lockwood

## WEA

The Spring session of Stansted WEA began on Monday, 16 January, a ten week course on "Exploring London", the history, development and social life of London from 1700 to the present day. The lecturer is Mr P Street, BA, who illustrates his talks with slides; a visit to London will be arranged later in the course.

The meetings are held at the Day Centre, Crafton Green.

For those people who have not heard of the WEA - Workers' Educational Association - or who are wary of its name, perhaps I could explain our activities. The association is non-political. Its function today, as when it was formed in 1903, is for ordinary, non-highbrow people to meet together to study subjects of their collective choice, most often in the Arts. The Stansted Branch was reformed three years ago, after a lapse of some years, and in that time we have had courses on Art Appreciation, Architecture, Victorian and Twentieth Century Literature and East Anglian Heritage, among others. Our tutors have all been University graduates, either teachers or lecturers, who have a great enthusiasm for their subjects and who encourage participation and discussion from the group. If the subject is suitable, we are shown slides, and books can be borrowed for further study if so desired, but no homework is required. Often a trip to a place of interest connected with the course is organised and this is very popular.

We have a break for refreshments half way through the 1½ hour lecture so we can get to know one another and the lecturer. The atmosphere is friendly and informal. We welcome new members and you are invited to join us for our new course.

If you would like further details, please ring 812214.

## STANSTED EVENING W.I.

At our December meeting, we were provided with festive entertainment by the 'Chapel Hill Mob' and whilst the members relaxed with a glass of wine, a varied programme was performed including poems, songs, aerobics, tap dancing sketches and even a Barber Shop Quartet and Singing Nuns!!

The raffle raised the sum of £18.60 which will be used to provide the children of Hargreave House with fizzy drink. Our

1984 was met with keen interest as it includes evenings on Ladies Self-Defence, Flower Arranging, Keep Fit, Crime Prevention, Corn Dolly Making and the Pestalozzi Children's Village, to name only a few.

Why not look out for our posters on the notice boards and come along to meet us?

Sonya Cheshire

## STANSTED AFTERNOON

### WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Looking at our programme for 1984 it seems we are going to have some very interesting meetings. We started the New Year at our new meeting place, the Day Centre, with a New Year's party given by the Committee.

This year, our Institute convenes the Spring meeting for the 'Mountfitchet Group', which consists of 8 Institutes, who meet together once a year.

Tea time at our meeting brings members together. As we fetch our tea, we are able to chat to each other, visit the trading stall, look at the competition entries and get to know new members, who are very welcome and looked after by our two vice-presidents.

### STANSTED WINDMILL FAYRE

Stansted Windmill Working Party are, as we reported in the January Link, organising a Stansted Windmill Fayre to be held on August Bank Holiday Monday around the Windmill. If you have not put this in your new diary, do it now.

There will be the usual activities for all ages and some unusual ones, including guessing the height of a light plane flying over the windmill. Don't miss this event: it will be fun.

Help is urgently needed from anyone with ideas and enthusiasm. Stansted Millers - please come forward and offer your help. Please ring either of the following numbers- 813160, 813397, 813448, 814433.

## NATIONAL HOUSEWIVES REGISTER

Are you interested in making new friends and participating in stimulating and wide-ranging discussions? If you are, then NHR might be what you are looking for.

Informal and friendly meetings are held on a regular basis in members' homes. Stimulating, non-domestic topics are open for discussion with the emphasis on members contributing to meetings.

NHR always welcomes new members and is open to all women of any age or status. The Stansted group will be discussing, "The Life and Works of Picasso" during February, and will be arranging the next six months meetings during our 'programme planning evening' on Wednesday, 15 February. This would be a good evening to come and meet us, whilst finding out if our new programme would be of interest to you.

For further details, please contact either Mrs Libby Martin, 812807, or Mrs Sharon Frogley, 812617.

## STANSTED SINK-A-WELL APPEAL

We closed the appeal on 31 December and are pleased to be able to announce that we shall have dug four wells for people without fresh water in Thailand.

Personal donations totalled £585 and added to this was £115 from a coffee morning and sales of pens and keyrings. (Michael Dyer has a few keyrings left: phone 814059).

We have received a letter from The Little Way Association, through whom we have channelled the funds and a few extracts are included below.

"Your gift will be sent direct for use in providing wells in Thailand, including in the Thai/Kampuchean border ..... in these villages 31% of the children are under-nourished ..... and 95% are suffering from parasites ..... There are no medical facilities, no water, no hygiene ..... By helping these people to construct wells (there being plenty of underground water and willing voluntary labour) you are helping to ..... bring help for the future."

The Stansted Group of the World Development Movement will continue to meet from time to time and will consider possible future projects. One of our aims will be to raise public awareness of the need for rich nations such as ours to assist the Third World in a much more positive way than at present to be able to raise their standards of living.

We meet next at 8 p.m. on 1 February at 49 Recreation Ground, Stansted. Anyone interested is welcome.

813728      Angela Gough  
813579      Alan Dean

## MOUNTFITCHET GARDEN CLUB

We were unable to meet the deadline for copy to be in for the January issue of "The Link" as our December meeting didn't take place until after that date, so apologies to everyone. The Gardening Club held its Christmas Party then, which was a great success and Mr. Wicks, our expert on "House Plants" gave an informative and humorous talk on how to look after them and make them last, adding wryly that it really wasn't in the growers interests to give all these helpful hints as, of course, they wanted us all to buy, buy, buy. It really was a most enjoyable evening.

The January meeting was also greatly appreciated, with Mr. Colin Horner, a well known resident of our own village, giving an absorbing talk on breeding roses. This hobby is a family affair, with Mr. Horner's wife and son very involved and a certain amount of friendly rivalry within the family

## Stansted Conservative Association

Inspector Keith Delaney was the guest speaker at the evening meeting held on 12th December 1983 at Stansted Football Club, Cambridge Road. He gave a most interesting talk about the work of the police, covering many aspects, including an interesting demonstration with a breathalyzer, which was a very topical subject just before Christmas!

In complete contrast, the speaker at the meeting on 9th January 1984 was John Gott, who gave a most fascinating talk on the history of hand-made, rug and carpet making in the Middle and Far East. We all benefited from his expert knowledge of this extremely interesting subject and he had brought along a large selection of the most beautiful rugs for us to see.

The next meeting, on Monday 13th February, will take the form of a Quiz Evening with all participating in teams. It will be organised by Martin Cowan and there will be light refreshments.

All enquiries to Alan Corbishley - 813040  
or Martin Cowan - 814596

1984 got off to a splendid start with a New Year Formal Supper Dance held at Stansted Hall on Saturday 7th January. It was attended by 175 people, including David Currie, the Euro-M.P., Alan Haselhurst, the Saffron Walden M.P. and Jerry Hayes, M.P. for Harlow.

for each to produce a new rose colour or petal shape. The expertise and endless patience required in this very skilled "branch" of gardening amazed us all though Mr. Horner repeatedly referred to Mr. Gordon Fuller, a member of our own club, who has been an expert in this field for 30 years. Mr. Horner became an enthusiast in 1964, starting with jam jars to germinate the seeds. 90% of the seedlings are discarded and only the very best kept. The success Mr. Horner has achieved is shown by the fact that when the Amateur Gardener Magazine held a competition to name a rose he had bred, 1300 replies were received, and Mr. & Mrs. Horner chose Champagne Cocktail as the winner. Perhaps soon we shall be able to purchase this rose. A proud day for Mr. Horner and Stansted.

The next meeting is on 1st February in the Day Centre: Major Power on "Heath Robinson in the Garden".

Gwen Harbridge





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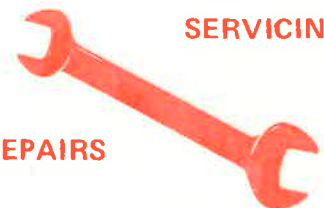
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