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**M. COLLINS
Family News**

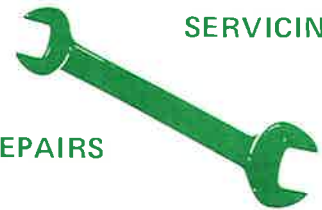
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Whatever the reason you can obtain help by telephoning this number:

816008

between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday to Friday.

Copy to reach 48 St. John's Road by
15th November for December issue
10th December for January issue

THE LINK

The Link is published monthly by the Stansted Association of Christian Churches. Annual subscription is £1.75. To order a copy please contact Mrs Jan Taylor, 27 St John's Crescent, Tel: 813891.

Items for publication 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.

SACC

**JESUS
IS OUR
PEACE**



Remembrance Sunday, November 11th.

A short act of Remembrance at the War Memorial in the Memorial Gardens at 10.55 a.m.

Followed immediately by a United Act of Worship at the United Reformed Church, Chapel Hill.

Remembrance Day

VILLAGE HARVEST OCTOBER 7TH

What a gathering! Not just of fruits of the earth, which decorated the church so richly, but of friends from all over the village who crowded into St. John's for Harvest Evensong, in which all the local church groups took part.

And what a gathering of talent afterwards in St. Mary's school hall!

May one of the congregation/audience pay tribute to the combined efforts of those who led the service, prepared the shared supper and presented the entertainment? A lot of hard work and excellent co-operation resulted in a "Stansted United" evening.

So, warmest thanks to: Mary and Jan's song and guitar group, who set the relaxed tone for the evening; Valerie and Michelle Trundle and Fiona Jameson for most moving performances; Fred Boyd's Barbershop conscripts, so amazingly synchronised in 10 seconds flat (no, no, never flat!); Tony Bundock, whose store of curate's talents

make us curiouser and curiouser; Mary Ecclestone's audacious caper; and a clutch of clergy (including Father Peter Webb), droogoned into action by Father O'Flynn (The Fisher Folk?), gave an excellent impression of being Fully Alive and leading a life-style of delightful duplicity.

Top marks to garrulous Gough, the quick-talking Quaker (Girl "Friend" of the Year?) with never a hint of tweed or woollen stocking and only the lightest and most attractive of brogues will there be another instalment of this quick Quaker serial?

For all these good gifts - a sincere thanksgiving!

Phyllis Harrison

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.

Diary of a Frustrated Catholic Housewife

Monday

Lord, why am I always rushing around like a cat with a scalded tail? Today it was my daughter's sixteenth birthday and this morning getting up bleary-eyed with my mind on a hundred other things I forgot to say 'Happy Birthday' to her. Everyone is in such a mad panic to get out in the mornings in our house with a queue for the bathroom etc. She had a sore throat and I was too busy pushing pills down her throat to think about what day it was. Luckily I had remembered to plant the card in her bedroom the night before. Thank you Lord for a forgiving daughter.

Tuesday

Today is a much quieter day and the sun is shining and Lord I can really see you in Your Creation. The fields are dewy and peaceful; the light picking out the Autumnal colours of the red hawthorn berries and the rosiness of the apples on the trees which I can see from my window. If only I could remember to take time off each day just to 'gawk' at your beautiful world.

Wednesday

Today mum phoned to tell me some sad news, a friend of our family who is in his latter years is steadily going downhill healthwise. He's been 'wearing out' as his doctor says for some time now. It made me think Lord

how awful it must be when your faculties start to go (although I think mine have started already). Seriously though, life's simplest tasks like bending up and down and walking upstairs must seem very demanding when joints are stiff and blood pressure is irregular. I didn't realise that depression is quite a problem with the elderly. Help me Lord to be conscious of old age, help me to remember that it comes to most of us; but hopefully bringing wisdom to cope with the failing of physical attributes.

Thursday

Today dashing off to the hairdressers, late as usual, I heard an awful yowling coming from the back of my car and realised that next door's cat had climbed in through the window and settled itself down to sleep in the sun on the back seat. It scabbled its way to the front and flung itself out of the window; I do hope it found it's way home. I started to wonder how many times I had been caught napping in the broader sense of the word. When I should have had my mind on more spiritual rather than temporal matters or have acquired a false sense of confidence. I always forget that you are watching me and have a habit of tripping me up into a humbling situation or experience. Oh Lord teach me - will I ever learn?

Friday

Fish on Fridays! I always feel a bit guilty when we don't have fish on Fridays and the seven cats are positively disappointed. Still habits die hard and I have quite a few I would like to see buried! I expect they get on people's nerves especially my husband's, although he is long suffering of me. I cannot say that I am always so tolerant of his habits, especially the snoring! It says in the Bible that our conscience cannot condemn us. I'm glad that I am not responsible for my feelings because it's bad enough being responsible for my actions and I suppose feeling guilty at least gives us the chance of improving our natures. Sometimes Lord I can really appreciate the fact that you are my judge and not man, so we can feel totally forgiven.

Saturday

Who says when their children are little "Oh it will get better when they are older"? Well, take it from me, with five young persons whose ages range from 13 to 21, THEY DO NOT. The problems just change into different ones. Try getting into the kitchen when they are cooking vegetarian meals, making endless cups of tea, searching for lost possessions or just wanting to chat about their day. Don't get me wrong, I love them all and will miss them all when they eventually leave, but we all need space and most of us never get enough of it. I was thinking about going on a retreat and even got so far as to try to book it but just my luck, it has been cancelled! Oh well, are you trying to tell me something Lord? Maybe you are saying don't give up; try again. With seven in the family, friends, relations and neighbours living in or popping in - I certainly need to. Weekends are hectic Lord, help!

Sunday

Lazy day today, well you did tell us to rest Lord so I'm not feeling guilty not even when the kids cleaned the house and did the ironing and Tim got asthma because of the dust and the old man cooked the Sunday dinner, it was great too. Well I did have a migraine Lord. They all trooped off to Mass and left me in bed, it was so quiet until they all came back. I'm not really complaining Lord, honestly I'm not. I am trying to be grateful but it's difficult when you feel poorly. May be next week will be better Lord help me to look at life positively and count my blessings for I know that they are plentiful and there will come a time when I will have nothing to do.

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)	-	11.15am
(2nd and 4th Sundays)		
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.

FROM THE VICAR

Christians exist for the sake of non-Christians: that is the fundamental law of our being. The Church exists for those who are not its members: that is the fundamental law of its being. We have to admit, though, that this is not something every Christian sees or acts upon. There is a temptation to think that the Church exists for us and our satisfaction and self fulfilment.

Fortunately there is a strong body of Christians in our Church in Stansted which does understand that we exist for others, and so, when it was suggested that perhaps we should not give to missions and charities

outside the parish from church funds there was a strong reaction against such a view.

As Archbishop Michael Ramsey reminded us many years ago, "A Church that lives to itself dies by itself". We cannot as a group of Christians ignore the needs of others.

As a parish we have for many years supported various missions and charities; and we have done this in two ways. We have given from church funds to various causes as decided by the church council; we have also had special collections from time to time. The giving from church funds has had the disadvantage in that members of the congregation have been unaware, and therefore uninvolved, in the giving. From November we will be changing our method.

The church council will nominate and sponsor a 'Month's Good Cause'. Money will be given from church funds, although this will not be as much as before: but in addition we are inviting members of the congregation to give, if they so wish. We hope this will not only increase the amount given but will also help us all to feel we are involved. So not only can we give we can also pray together for the cause we are all supporting.

The 'Month's Good Cause' will be advertised and a collection plate by the door of the church for every service. Please understand you do not have to give - this is the way we are inviting you to give to those missions and charities you wish to support.

This month we will support the work of the United Society for the Propagation of the Gospel. November is a good time to do this because it is the time of the year we pray especially for the work of the Church throughout the world. Then on November 18th we have Canon James Robertson, formerly General Secretary of USPG, coming to Stansted to speak of his experiences of the World Wide Anglican Church. In December we will be supporting the work of Save the Children Fund and the Church of England's Children's Society. Please let us know of any cause you would like to be considered for our support.

USPG is . . . the United Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, serving the worldwide church as it shares God's mission to all people.

George and Sheila Mumford have moved from Stansted and are now living in Fakenham. Having belonged to Stansted for so many years it is difficult to imagine the place without them. Thankyou George and Sheila for all you have done for us and every blessing in your new home.

YOUTH NEWS

CIRDAN TRUST SAILING CRUISE

The sailing weekend on 28-30 September was a great success and there is considerable interest being shown in a similar event for next year. If we are able to run such a holiday the cost will be considerably higher so some fund-raising may need to be done!

Youth News

HELPLINE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

We hope to involve young people in Helpline, principally to visit and befriend the elderly. Forms for volunteers available from Fr. Tony.

CALLING ALL YOUTH CLUB MEMBERS

Help is wanted to run our Youth Club stall at the Christmas Market on Saturday 24 November. Please speak to Fr. Tony.

MOTHERS UNION

We have a busy week in November. At the Christmas Market, Saturday November 24th, we are responsible for the Jewellery Stall. Please let me have anything that will sell as soon as possible.

Next day, Sunday November 25th, is the Family Service in the afternoon and we shall be serving teas.

Then on Wednesday November 28th there is our corporate communion at 2 p.m. in Church, followed by the meeting in the hall, at which there will be a talk on the work of the Citizens Advice Bureau.

SAVE OUR CHURCH

ST. JOHN'S APPEAL

Slowly but steadily we gradually near our target of £80,000. One of the joys is when an unexpected gift comes along. Recently Rebecca Stiles of Church Road and Elizabeth Reed of The Campions raised nearly £5 on a stall in St. Mary's School. Thank you girls because it is this kind of effort that gives us encouragement. Plans are now proceeding to go ahead with Phase 3 of the repair work which will include the repointing of the tower and church.

CHRISTINGLE

This service hardly needs to be advertised because all know that it takes place the Sunday before Christmas at 3.30 p.m. This month, though, we need to remind you that Christingle Purses will be distributed on Sunday 25th November at all our services.

PARISH DIARY

November

- 1st All Saints Holy Communion 7.30 am and 9 pm
2nd All Souls Day Requiems at 8 am and 7.30 pm
3rd Children's Church Party - from 2.30 pm
11th Remembrance Sunday - Silence and Remembrance 10.55 am at War Memorial followed by United Service at URC
18th Canon James Robertson to speak on the World Wide Church 6.30 pm in St John's
19th P.C.C. Meeting at 6 Park Road 8 pm
24th Christmas Market 10 am to 4 pm
25th Family Service at 3 pm
28th Mothers Union 2 pm Corporate Communion

December

- 2nd Advent Carol Service 6.30 pm
8th Bier Keller by Harlow Town Band - St Mary's School 8 pm

PARISH REGISTERS

Baptisms

- 7th Oct Julia Louise Dockerill
22 Bentfield Road
Sarah Victoria Isabella Thompson
3 Alderbury Road

Marriages

- 29th Sept Alan Edward Scraggs and
Jacqueline Barbara Luckey
6th Oct John Clark and Julie Ann Wright

All Souls Day

On Friday November 2nd we have two Requiems to pray for the departed - 8 am and 7.30 pm. Please give the clergy names of departed relatives and friends you wish to have remembered at these services.

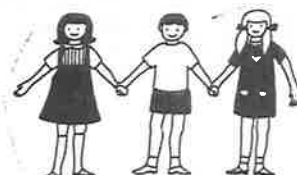
FAMILY SERVICE

Every year we have a Family Service the Sunday before Advent. To this we invite all those who have children baptised in the last five years and, of course, any others who wish to come. At this service we renew our baptismal promises and realising that small children are present the service is short and joyful. After the service tea is served in the hall where there will be a bookstall. There will also be a display of work from our Children's Church. Do come along.



CHILDREN'S CHURCH

A reminder that every Sunday our Children's Church meets in the hall at 9.30 a.m. It is fun and our numbers are increasing. We also have a crèche for the Parish Communion.



Grand Christmas Market Saturday 24th Nov. St. John's Hall

10am - 4pm

Produce and Plants
Lombola
Bottles
Cakes, Sweets
Raffles, Gift Ideas



'SPECIAL CHRISTMAS BIER KELLER'

with the

HARLOW BAND

at

St Mary's School

on 8th December at 8.00 p.m.

Full bar - lots of Christmas spirit!

Price £2.50 - includes supper

Tickets available from The Vicarage
and 7 Croasdaile Close (tel. 812751)

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.

U.R.C. BAZAAR

November 3rd - 10.00 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.

All proceeds to the Bible Society for their
special appeal for Bibles for Czechoslovakia.

S.A.C.C. Remembrance Day Service November 11th
10.55 at the Cenotaph - 11.15 at the U.R.C.

STANSTED GUILD - U.R.C. Lecture Hall
Mondays at 8.00 p.m.

November 5th - Speaker - Miss D. Wiffen

November 19th - "Canada - Vancouver and across
Canada by train" - Mr. McIlwain

November Services: Sundays at 11.00

Nov. 4th The Rev. Colin Evans, Moderator of
the Eastern Province, U.R.C. -
Communion
Nov. 11th (See above)
Nov. 18th Mr. McIlwain
Nov. 25th Mr. Brian Wright of Linton

It may well be that the King's Hedges
Ecumenical Centre in Cambridge will have
the last Harvest Service in the land, on
Sunday, October 28th.

I am reliably informed that Church Harvest
Services do not go back quite as far as we
imagine in this country. They are, it seems,
the result of the first Harvest Service, the
idea of the Rev. R.S. Hawker, then Vicar of
Morwenstow in Cornwall in the year 1843.
From that first effort the Church Harvest
Service has spread throughout the land.

All trace of the joyous, semi-pagan,
community in gathering of the harvest which
prevailed at least up to the War of 1939-45
has now been lost as some lonely tractor
driver chugs along with the last load of
combined corn; except, perhaps, for the
Corn Dollies, once a vital part of the end of

harvest representing the slain Corn God (Ceres,
Goddess of Agriculture), now only a tourist
item in the shops.

The Rev. Hawker, perhaps, thought he could
de-paganise the celebration a bit. At any
rate the Church Services today are about the
only remnant of the old Harvest celebrations
in which the whole community was caught up.

Hence the more significant was our Village
Harvest Festival on October 7th when a large
number of people from all our churches
gathered at St. John's for worship. The
"parade" across to the school and supper might
have reminded old-timers of the harvest parade
in from the fields to the harvest supper
(Hockey). And the entertainment might have
reminded the 'ghosts' of 1843 of the singing
and dancing that went on into the night. Well
done all! A new tradition has begun.

And by the way, those corn dollies for the
tourists still have the red thread (ribbon or
string) which was meant to keep the witches
away!

Eric McIlwain

Many thanks to all who supported our Group
Harvest Supper and Band Concert; not
forgetting the Saffron Sound Barbershop
Chorus. It raised £140 for Ethiopian Famine
Relief.

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.

In the Parable of the Talents the one talent
man found himself in the outer darkness, not
because he was wicked or lazy, but because
he was afraid. Fear prevented him from
responding to and using God's gifts of grace
in the way that is required in the Kingdom
of Heaven. The New Testament tells us
clearly that real love casts out fear. But
it also shows that fear casts out love. The
one talent man did not receive and use what
God gave as he should have done, in trusting
love, because fear dominated him.

If I do some good deed out of fear, little
or nothing will be added to my person, to
make me more whole and more complete. On
the contrary such motivation is likely to
oppress and diminish me. I may act in some
commendably unselfish way simply because I
am afraid - afraid that people will not like
me, will shun me, will condemn me, will treat
me in the same way, will pass me by on the
other side when I'm in need. My apparently
unselfish act will not in truth have been
unselfish; it will have been self-regarding
and self-concerned. And if my "unselfish
act" goes unnoticed, unappreciated and taken
for granted I am likely to get uptight and

resentful. And worse still, if people rumble my real motives and let me know that they doubt my altruism, then my inner state gets even more tense and petulant. When I do good through fear, then good will probably be done to some other person, but it will not be done to me.

Outer darkness may seem a very harsh judgement for someone who fails through fear. But is it not simply the consequence we bring upon ourselves when our lives are robbed of loving trust because we are afraid? When I am afraid of what people will think of me, afraid of looking a fool, afraid of being criticised, afraid of getting involved, afraid of costly effort, afraid to risk failure, etc., then I am making a hell for myself. I fill my universe with a population of one - me! The protecting walls my fears put around me become a prison, keeping me in and others out. I am keeping at arm's length the vast wealth I could know in other people. To live like that is putting ourselves in the outer darkness.

But if my unselfish act is really unselfish, really an act of love, then not only will it bless others, but also it can be nothing but good for me. Acting on love is what I am made for; it will affirm what I am, build up what I am to become, be entirely commensurate with my well-being. Whatever other people may or may not think, love is right and makes me more truly me.

I doubt if such right motivation comes by striving for it, but rather by quietly trusting in the unconditional love of God, so that a new spirit is built up within us, the spirit of Christ.

My love to you all.

Harold Fisher

NATIONAL CHILDREN'S HOME
HOUSE-TO-HOUSE COLLECTION

Many thanks to all those, collectors and givers, who helped to raise the fine sum of £325 for N.C.H. this autumn. Owing to a shortage of collectors (only 17 as against 27 last year) we were not able to cover all the roads in Stansted. Apologies to those who would have given if they had been asked!

Every year we seem to lose a few helpers through illness, holidays, busy-ness and removal - but not demise - collecting hasn't killed anyone yet! So if any reader feels "Fully Alive and Well" and enjoys walking round Stansted, there's a place to volunteer: c/o the Editor.



Society of Friends

Quaker Meeting House, Chapel Hill.

Local Contact:

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

Meeting for worship:

11am.

The Bishop's Stortford and District
Talking Newspaper

Readers of The Link will pick up their copy as it arrives each month, turn quickly to what interests them most, skim the rest, picking out a 'good' bit here, leaving an item of less immediate interest. The eye selects, without our conscious direction, from many visual clues. But those for whom the small print of newspapers is difficult to read must often give up or turn to a friend for help. For the national news, radio can be the friend and for all the local goings on there is The Bishop's Stortford and District Talking Newspaper. Anyone whose sight will not enable them to read newsprint is entitled to receive this weekly recorded local paper, free of charge and post free.

As with a printed newspaper, a series of stages precedes the arrival of The Talking Newspaper in the Saturday post. At the end, on Friday morning, comes the copying and the distribution. Using a 'slave' machine which will produce five copies at once, 171 copies have to be made from a master tape. The "distributors" - volunteers as are we all - then list and pack the tapes and take them to the post where they are sent off using the free service allowed for such material.

The master tape was recorded on Thursday evening at our studio in the grounds of the Herts and Essex Hospital. There, every week, a team of readers, producer and technician, do the equivalent of 'putting to bed' the newspaper. For the ninety minute tape, The Talking Newspaper takes from the Herts and Essex Observer and the Saffron Walden paper all that our readers might need.

Do not imagine four readers each using a newspaper seated before the microphone! What a rustle and crackle would come over! Earlier on Thursday the newspaper has been prepared by a team of 'editors' who cut out the news items and paste them up on to sheets each of which takes about three minutes to read. There is a short cut to timing - 4 inches of small type makes one minute's reading. (How we wish the copy-editors would refrain from using such a variety of type!) We discard advertisements, news from beyond our area, announcements of purely visual events (e.g. art exhibitions) but we do not censor. After some anxious discussion, it was decided to leave in even accounts of muggings and break-ins. We keep the whole range of news from W.I. reports to football. There are five teams of editors and recorders, each working in its own way within these guidelines, so we hope our

readers find an entertaining variety in their weekly issues.

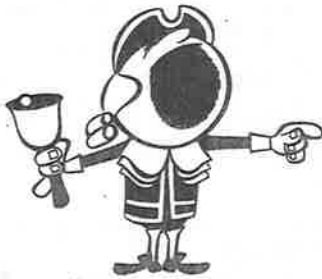
Working on the newspaper is both fun and a challenging task. We try seriously to produce something worthy each week; if you think it would help someone you know, please be in touch - Bishop's Stortford 51370.

Dorothy A. Stansfield

New Telephone Number for Applications to Rent Meeting House

Please contact: Mary Rice,
92 Hadham Road
Bishop's Stortford
Tel: 51769

Village News



FUTURE EVENTS

November

- 1-10 Door to door sale of poppies for British Legion
3 10-12.30 URC Autumn Fair in aid of Bible Society's special effort for Czechoslovakia
9 8 pm All interested in taking part in village carol singing invited to a short meeting at 59 Blythwood Gardens
11 10.55 am Act of Remembrance in the Memorial Garden of St. John's Church followed by United Act of Worship at United Reformed Church
17 Christmas Fair at Bentfield School
24 10 am - 4 pm Anglican Church Christmas Market at St. John's Hall

December

- 8 8 pm Christmas Bier Keller at St. Mary's School for St. John's Restoration Fund

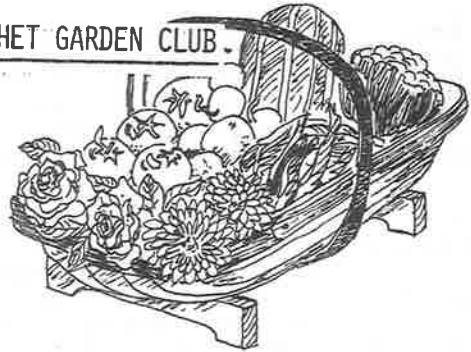
STANSTED AFTERNOON WOMENS INSTITUTE



What a mouth watering afternoon we had at this month's W.I. Mrs. Hill from Chelmsford demonstrated "Cooking for Christmas" to a full meeting, which included visitors from other Institutes. The many varied items made were all raffled.

Nominations for the 1985 committee were sought and the Craft Stall did a brisk trade. The competition "six scones" was won by Mrs. Lockwood.

MOUNTFITCHET GARDEN CLUB.



Mountfitchet Garden Club members were addressed at their October meeting by Dr. Barker of Hopleys Plants, Much Hadham. Dr. Barker concentrated on plants which provide good autumn colour, either from flowers, such as *Salvia patens* and *Fuchsia 'Margaret Brown'* or from foliage, which can provide spectacular effects at this time of year. He brought along a large selection of potted plants for us to see, including *Nandina pygmaea 'Firepower'*, a dwarf bamboo-like evergreen, with pink new leaves, *Elaeagnus pungens 'Maculata'* with gold and green leaves, and *Berberis 'Tricolour'* with bright green leaves splashed with red and white.

Amongst the more unusual specimens on display were an *Antirrhinum* with green and cream variegated leaves and large white flowers which are produced profusely all summer and autumn, and *Phormium tenax 'Maori Sunrise'*. This New Zealand flax has sharply pointed leaves arranged as a crown and is aptly named. As so many of the plants which are decorative in autumn were too large to bring along Dr. Barker brought a basket full of prunings which we were able to pass around and admire. One of these which he recommended, but for large gardens only, was *Buddleia 'Dartmoor'*, which is weighed down by dark purple, sweetly scented flowers, and is loved by butterflies.

Hopleys Nursery is famous for breeding good varieties of garden plants, including *Potentillas*, *Penstemons* and a lovely *Marjoram*. In addition to this breeding programme we also heard about the double primroses they are introducing from New Zealand, and were invited to the nursery next spring to see them in flower.

Ros Allen

CAROL SINGING

In the tradition of recent years it is hoped to sing carols around the village during the week beginning 17th December. Anyone interested is invited to a short meeting at 59 Blythwood Gardens, at 8 p.m. on Friday, 9th November at which we can arrange dates, venues and the charity or cause to be supported.

Details of meeting places, dates, etc. will appear in the December Link. Please bear these enjoyable and worthwhile evenings in mind and so help to swell our numbers and the chosen charity's funds.

Derek Honour (813160)
Judy Goddard (812498)

CHILDREN



FROM ST. MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

The infants in Mrs. Costley's and Mrs. Bigland's classes have been learning about the exploits of Captain Cook. Here are some of their poems:-

I want to sail the Seven Seas
Oh I want to sail the Seven Seas
My dad he is a sailor
I have sailed the seas before

I like the sea, it's wavy and blue
I think the sea is wonderful
I hope you do, too.

by Amy Robinson, Aged 6

The mast sways
The wind blows
The sea roars and the sea gulls cry

As the ship sails alone
The ship sails into the storm
The wind blows even harder
And the sea roars even louder
As the ship rocks and sways
As it sails on and on

The ship sank to the bottom of the sea
The fish swam in and out of the portholes

by Katie Fleming, Aged 6

The waves bump against the ship
The ship sails the sea
The wind blows in the sails
The Captain in his cabin drinks the rum
The men steer the ship to the harbour
The sea is calm

The Captain's name is Bundock
His Christian name is David
His wife's name is Jennifer

by Jennifer Bundock, Aged 6

RULES FOR CAPTAIN COOK'S SHIP

When there are not enough hammocks for you,
Who are off-duty do not fight over them.
Do not pretend to be Captain.
Do not go and steer the ship.
Do not use the masts and rigging as a
climbing frame.
Do not sing sea shanties in the night or
you will wake everyone up.
Do not shout down the cannons and frighten
the crew.
Do not show off.
Do not juggle with the cannon balls.

by Ben Thrush, Aged 6



On Friday 21st of September I went to cub camp. I had to be at Hassobury Park by 6.15. I was very excited. At the park there was a marsh and one boy fell in it. We slept in a tent and went to bed very late. Saturday evening at 8 o'clock we had a camp fire but it took a long time to get it burning but it was worth waiting for because we had a good time. After the camp fire we had hot dogs and drinking chocolate. Sunday afternoon came too soon but it was nice to get home.

Alexander Stiles
Age 8 years

3RD STANSTED BROWNIE GUIDE PACK

On Friday 5th October approximately 70 Brownies, Guides, Guiders, former Brownies, former Brownie Guiders and friends squeezed into the Guide and Brownie Hut to celebrate seventy years of Brownies and thirty-five years of the re-starting of Brownies in Stansted. We had many photographs of the Brownie Packs over the last thirty-five years, some of which were used in our window display at the Mount Pharmacy. The beginning of the meeting was a little delayed because photographers for the local papers came to record the event for their papers.

We began the party properly by everyone making a circle, joining little fingers and singing the Brownie song. After that the Brownies and Guides could either play a drawing game called Squiggles or look at the photographs and listen to the exchange of reminiscences between former Brownies, Brown Owls and Tawny Owls. Just before we had our party tea two Brownies, Elizabeth Hope and Georgina Kelsey, entertained us for their Jester Badge by tap dancing, reciting and playing their recorders.

The evening came to a climax when we sang "Happy Birthday" to ourselves! We had a beautifully decorated cake, iced by Mrs. Little, a former Brown Owl, and cut by Mrs. Nunn, upon whose land our hut stands, while the Brownies blew out 35 candles.

We would like to say a special "Thank You" to all the parents who supplied the food to the Guides, for arranging it and supervising the drinks, to Mrs. Little for her superb icing on the cake, and most of all to everyone who came. We hope they enjoyed it as much as we did.

Dawn Lidster
Anne Francis

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION



One of the last duties of Mrs. Sheila Mumford before she and her family left the village to live in Norfolk was to help organise the Royal British Legion Women's Section Essex County Service of Re-dedication in St. John's Church on 23rd September.

County officers, guests and members, including 27 standard bearers, from branches all over Essex, led by the Union Jack and County Standard, packed the church. The lesson was read by Her Majesty's Deputy Lieutenant of Essex, Mrs. P. Samuelson, and the Act of Remembrance spoken by the County President, Lady Watson.

In a very moving sermon the Rev. Barry Rose

told of his recent visit to a cemetery in Arnhem in this 40th anniversary year and of his sadness at seeing graves of 18 and 19 year olds. He urged the congregation to remember the lives so cruelly cut short; to give thanks; and to re-dedicate themselves to the task of reconciliation and the alleviation of suffering of all peoples throughout the world.

After the service the Standards were paraded down Chapel Hill, past the deputy lieutenant who took the salute then on to the War Memorial where they disbanded.

Everyone joined together in the hall for refreshments served by the Stansted and District Women's Section.

Our September branch meeting was at Manuden and, as always, we received a very warm welcome. This meeting included our harvest sale and auctioneer Mrs. Betty Little got some lively bidding for a generous collection of produce, resulting in a profit to branch funds of £23.25.

Also at this meeting Miss G. Trott, the Vice-President, gave Mrs. S. Mumford a very attractive paperweight and a gardening token from members of the Stansted and District branch of the Women's Section, to remind her of the branch, of which she was for many years the Chairman.

Our next meeting will be in the Day Centre on Thursday, 15th November.

Pat Clower

STANSTED TENNIS CLUB



As rain stopped play on the Club Finals Day on Sunday 9th September the mixed doubles event was finished, again, in wet and slippery conditions, on Sunday 23rd September. Paul and Gill Bainbridge won, beating Chris Hollis and Phraid Cotton 3-6, 6-1, 6-0.

During September and October, Joanna King held 4 senior coaching sessions on Tuesdays and Chris Hollis has given 2 coaching sessions on 4 Saturdays - one for juniors and one for seniors.

The Annual Christmas Dinner will be held at the Fleur-de-Lys in Widdington in December. All details will be on the club noticeboard and there is a notice about a draw for tickets for the Benson and Hedges Tournament at Wembley on 7th November.

All enquiries to Janet Hollis, B/S 812073.

BENTFIELD SCHOOL

Harvest Festival time again, and the school hall was decked with fruit and vegetables, preserves and home cooked goods all brought in by pupils. Class 7 led the assembly, and talked about occasions when food, or the lack of it, is particularly important. They had also spent time doing some very attractive still-life studies of fruit and vegetables which can now be seen making a bright splash of colour just inside the school entrance. A sale of the produce at the end of the day raised nearly £44, which has been donated to a charity concerned with sinking wells in drought-stricken areas.

During October each year, a National Book Week is celebrated. Bentfield's Book Week was October 1st-5th and during the week the school was visited by children's authors Ruth Craft and Gillian McClure and poet Mick Gower. They entertained the children and talked about their crafts. Mick Gower, for example, explained how his inspiration for particular poems came from everyday incidents and how he built up images selecting some and rejecting others until he got the effect he was looking for.

During the week children and parents were also able to browse through a large selection of children's books on display in the hall, supplied by a local bookseller. Some of the children were interviewed about their reactions to the Book Week by a reporter from the BBC programme 'Radio Club'. An interesting week for all budding authors and poets.

Our 'Bentfield Beavers' are beavering away again. To those not already in the know, the 'Bentfield Beavers' are a group of mums who meet regularly to make 'crafty things'. At the moment they are in need of all kinds of odds and ends of wool or material so if you have any of these which you cannot use, but which are too good to throw away, contact Rosemary Jones on 506152 who will be very pleased to take them off your hands.

The 'Bentfield Beavers' and other parents and staff are all working towards our Christmas Fair which this year is to be on 17th November. As usual, Father Christmas will be attending and there will be toys, cakes, books and craft items amongst other things on sale. We hope you will be there to buy some of your Christmas presents early this year.

Rachel Irven B/S 814439

NATIONAL CHILDBIRTH TRUST

We hope everyone who heard Penelope Leach's talk found it interesting and useful. All one hundred tickets were sold immediately. "Sorry" to those who would have liked to come but were unable to get tickets.

Unfortunately the weather wasn't too kind when we held our market stall to raise funds for training ante-natal teachers and breast feeding counsellors. Thanks to everyone who

gave, bought or helped in any way.

Thinking of Christmas presents? The photographer will be coming to Jenny's Open House at 26 Longcroft on 14th November, 2.30 - 4.30.

November's morning talk on Thursday 29th at 10.30 a.m. is entitled "Getting into Shape". It will be of particular interest to those who have recently had a baby or will soon be having one. The talk is to be given by Pat Bastin, a physiotherapist at the Princess Alexandra Hospital, Harlow, who is also N.C.T. trained. The talk will be held at Barbara's, 32 Wetherfield, with a crèche for pre-school children at Kim's, 42 Wetherfield.

The babies in the Special Care Baby Unit at Harlow still need breast milk. If anyone is willing to donate even a few drops please let Cathy Leek know on B/S 813068.

Cathy is our trained MAVA agent. If anyone is interested in the products available for expectant and nursing mothers Cathy is available at 3 Coltsfield on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays in every month, 10.30 - 12.00 noon.

Dates for your diary:-

Christmas Party, St. John's Hall.

Friday 14th December.

Bring and Share Party on the evening of Friday 21st December.

Sally Brown

HUW JOHNSON CLUB FOR HANDICAPPED CHILDREN AND THEIR PARENTS

We hope you noticed our contribution in St. John's Church when the flower festival took place recently. It was a wheelchair (symbolic of our club) decorated with flowers. This was the result of much effort by the members. The flowers had been prepared and the oasis soaked and it was time to start; then our usual conveyor belt system went into action.

The oasis was chopped into portions (like cheese in a supermarket) and pushed into margarine containers and passed to the members. They all made their own arrangement, with guidance from helpers when necessary, and eventually all were put into position on the wheelchair. We were all pleased with the final result.

Last Thursday it was all action again at club meeting. Normal games and pastimes were taking place but in addition we started making calendars - there were pictures, cardboard, tape and paste everywhere! I expect next week we shall start on gift tags - all in preparation for the Anglican Church Christmas Bazaar. You won't be a bit surprised when we say "Please don't do all your Christmas shopping too early" as we want all of you to be our customers, so please do wait and see what we shall have to offer.

Betty Lockwood

UTTLESFORD HOME-START

HOME-START is a voluntary scheme for families with at least one pre-school child, offering friendship, support and practical help to those experiencing difficulties.

So if you have small children and are feeling lonely, depressed or simply exhausted, telephone 94 5705 (mornings only) and either Linda, Jan or myself can tell you more about Home-Start.

Great emphasis is placed on confidentiality, and volunteers, who are all parents themselves, visit families in their own homes as a friend. They might play with the children, take the family out or talk to the mother, depending on the need.

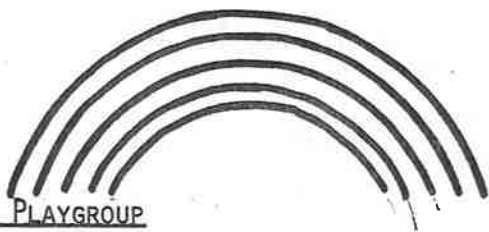
Volunteers come from a variety of backgrounds and age ranges and schemes in other parts of the country have found that families who have received help often become volunteers themselves when their children are older. All volunteers attend a preparation course.

If you would like more information about becoming a volunteer please telephone or write to the address below.

HOME-START is new in this area, but there are now some 44 schemes throughout the country. We cover the whole of Uttlesford and have an office in Great Dunmow.

This is only the briefest of sketches of our work and we are always happy to give further information to anyone interested or to talk about "Home-Start" at meetings of interested organisations.

Jo Moody
Linda Robinson
Home-Start Organisers
Uttlesford Home-Start
12 Stortford Road
Great Dunmow
Essex
Tel: Great Dunmow 5705 or (3051 Ext. 10)
Mornings Only.



The children are enjoying their newly decorated and renovated surroundings since the start of the term, as the Adult and Youth Centre's "new look" takes shape. They also have had their photographs taken, which will enable parents to receive them in time for Christmas.

Our Annual General Meeting was held on 27th September, and when the business was concluded everyone enjoyed listening to Mrs. Steward, the reception class teacher at Bentfield School, talking about "preparing your child for school". This was followed by a cheese and wine supper which, again, everyone enjoyed!

Father's Day will be held on Sunday, 11th November, from 10 am - 12 noon, so that the dads get their chance to paint and play with the children, and chat to Ann and Sandra, our playgroup leaders.

In the near future, Rainbow Playgroup will be holding a 50%/50% toy sale. If anyone has any toys they wish to sell, please bring them, named and priced, to the playgroup any morning (Adult and Youth Centre, Lower Street). Please watch the notice boards for details of this forthcoming event.

For details regarding Rainbow Playgroup please ring Ann Conroy - 812457
Maureen Travis - 814067



STANSTED DAY CENTRE

Wanted Drivers and Pianist

Ted Martin (814006) wants to hear from drivers willing to help with the transport of senior citizens from their homes to the Day Centre. Petrol money paid.

There is now a piano at the Day Centre and all we need is a pianist. Volunteers please telephone the Day Centre (815091).

The Gentler Keep Fit classes have re-started, November dates below, led by Margaret Booker. Come along and do yourselves some good.

Dates for November

Thursday 1st	Keep Fit 2.30 p.m.
Friday 2nd	Bingo 7.30 p.m.
Thursday 8th	Keep Fit 2.30 p.m.
Tuesday 13th	Trading Stall 11.30 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Tuesday 13th	Beetle Drive 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.
Thursday 15th	Keep Fit 2.30 p.m.
Friday 16th	Bingo 7.30 p.m.
Tuesday 20th	Slide Show 2.30 p.m.
Thursday 22nd	Keep Fit 2.30 p.m.
Tuesday 27th	Speaker or Social 2 p.m.
Thursday 29th	Keep Fit 2 p.m.
Friday 30th	Whist Drive 2 p.m.

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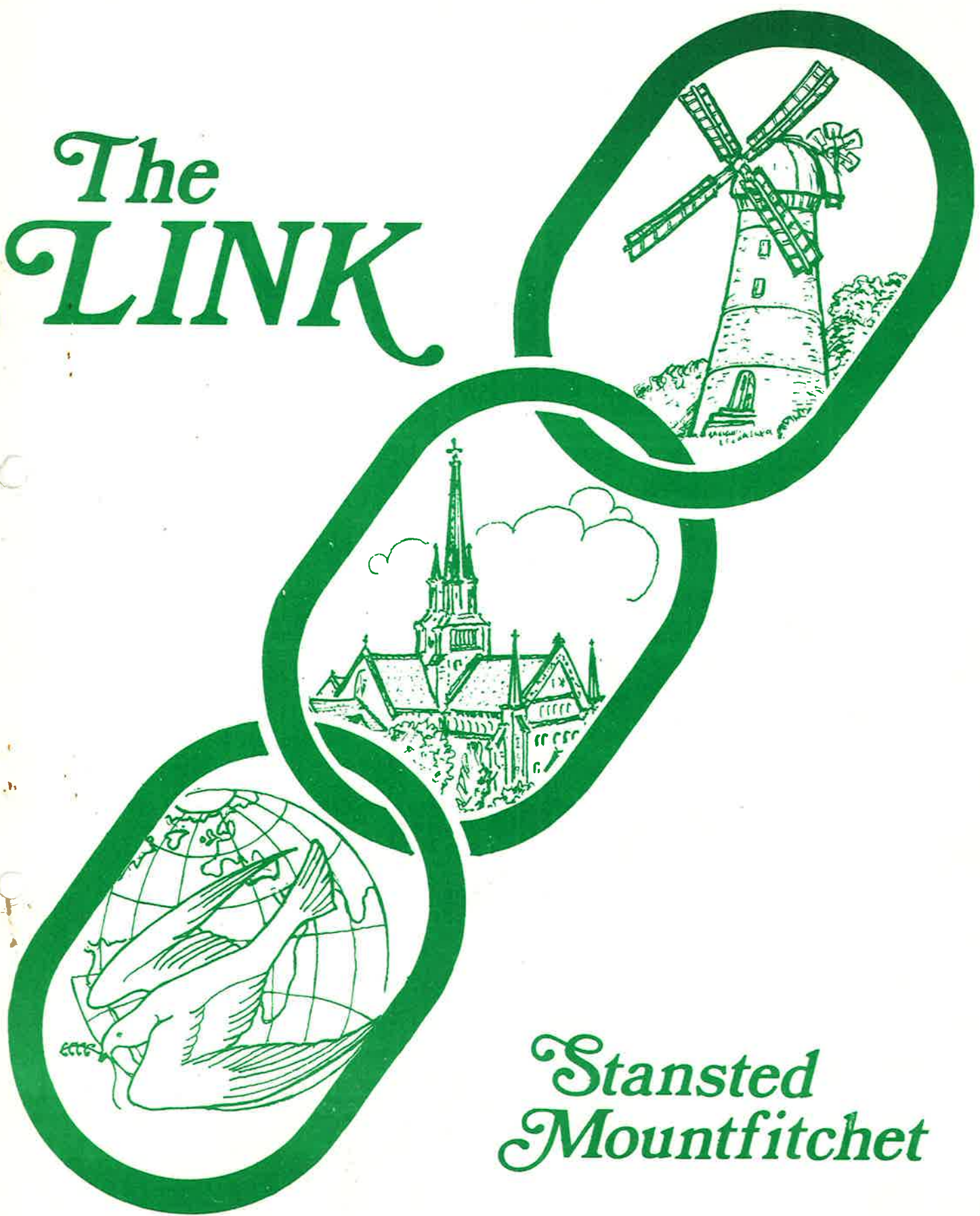
JUDY GODDARD will willingly do all these tasks,
and others of which she may not have thought.

Please telephone Bishop's Stortford 812498 to discuss your needs.

If out, messages may be left at Bishop's Stortford 813160.



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