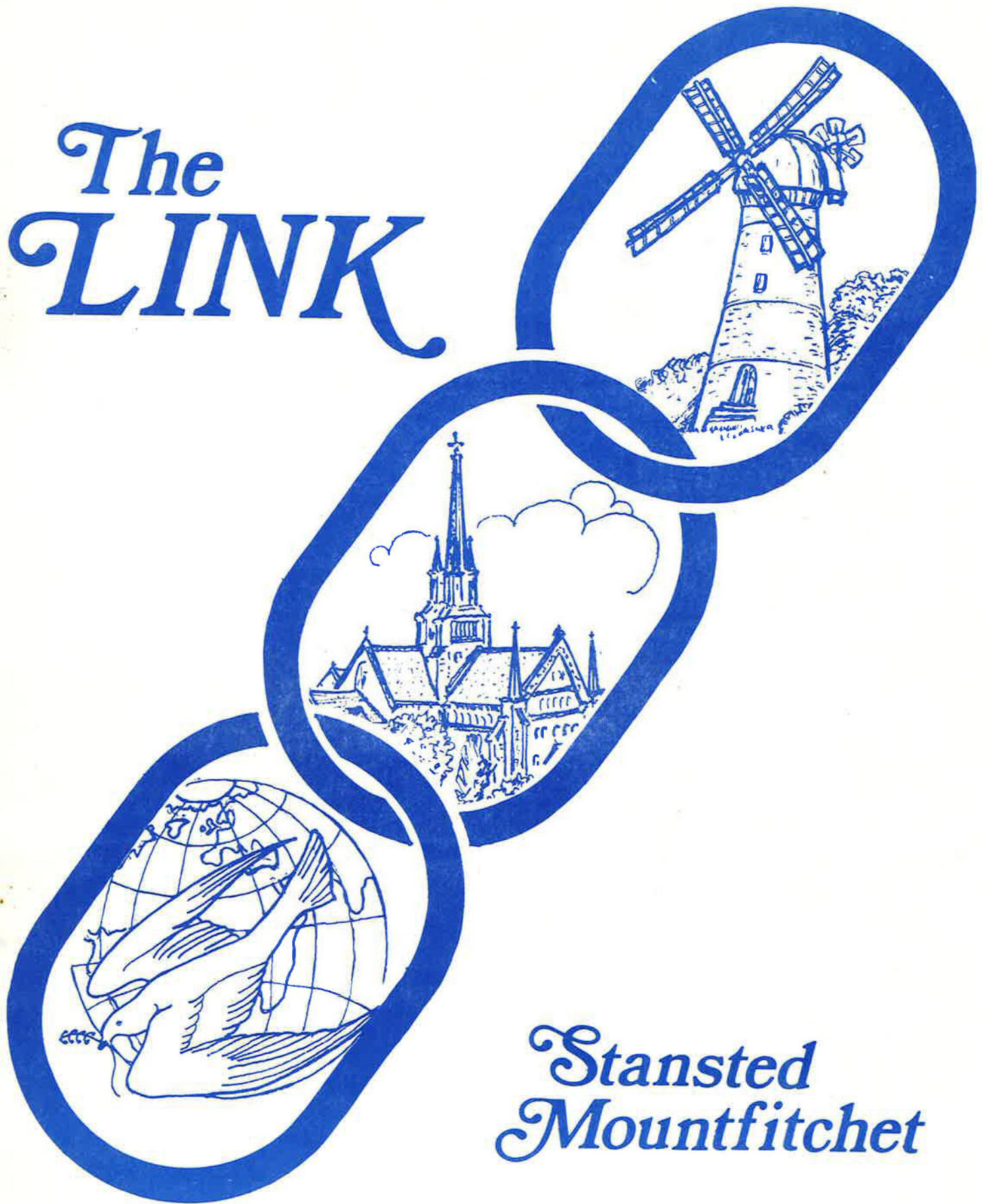


May 86

# The **LINK**



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# SACC

Two main observations were reported from our Lent 86 House Groups:

1. That we in Stansted are grateful for the extent of Christian unity we already experience. Discussions at the groups were free and members discovered how close we have become and how little separates us.
2. That we must continue to pray and work for closer unity discovering the richness in diversity. There are many avenues we have yet to explore.

Over 60 people took part in our five house groups, which were each led by two leaders from different denominations. Now we have sent up our replies to the central Lent 86 Committee and look forward to reading their report which is due out in the autumn. We in Stansted are hoping to organise further ecumenical house groups so watch Link for the details.

Our thanks to hostesses, leaders and all who took part. We continue to discover we are NOT STRANGERS BUT PILGRIMS.

**SHALOM** Dates: Visit to Bishop's Stortford Methodist Church to hear the Pfeiffer College Choir from North Carolina, U.S.A. After the concert, coffee and fellowship at the home of Edna and Harry Goreing, 13 Blackbush, off Manston Drive, Parsonage Lane Estate

7.45 2 June at 5 St. John's Lane

Other future dates: 16 and 30 June, 14 July.

## CHRISTIAN AID

The key dates for Christian Aid Week this month are:-

Friday 9th - Social evening at URC Lecture Hall at 7.30 pm. How can we "change things for good"? There will be a bring and share finger food supper.

Sunday 11th - United service for Christian Aid at St. Mary's Church.

Saturday 17th - Market at Friends Meeting House 10 till 12. Cakes, toys, books, good-as-new clothes (no jumble), white elephant, plants and produce, groceries, handicrafts and refreshments.

All Week - a house-to-house envelope collection.

This month I am including an article by Christian Aid's Director, Rev. Michael Taylor about the political implications of aid.



CHANGING individual lives for the better is what most people hope to do when they give or raise money in Christian Aid Week (May 12-17).

They are putting food in hungry mouths, supplying medicine to fight disease and providing education to get rid of ignorance. These needs are undiminished while the basic causes of poverty remain.

### LASTING EFFECT

Most people readily appreciate that if their money is to have any lasting effect it must be spent mainly on long-term development rather than short-term aid. It's the difference, for example, between sending a shipment of food to the starving and working with those same people on agricultural projects so that food can be produced on the spot.

Christian Aid collectors and supporters understand this well. But some begin to worry when Christian Aid suggests there is even more to it, involving changes and actions which have political implications.

### DRASTIC

The Gospels suggest that Jesus's attempt to change things for good not only led to feeding hungry people but to suggesting some very drastic alterations in the relations between high and low, rich and poor, weak and powerful in Palestine. Tackling bad laws and oppressive systems may be as Christ-like as buying bread for the multitude.

### REMEDY

As we give and raise the funds so sorely needed to remedy the worst effects of poverty we should also think deeply about the relation between rich and poor, for it is there that deprivation is caused and is perpetuated; it is there that change is most needed.

Michael Taylor  
Director of Christian Aid

## 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.

### SAINT ALBANS YOUTH FESTIVAL GOES TO SALAMANCA - April 1st - 6th 1986

This year the Ecumenical International Youth Festival began on a boat for some, an aeroplane for others. Our destination was Salamanca, Spain. Whatever our nationality we were explorers; seeking, discovering and finding out more about God.

We drove through ever-changing scenery for a day and a half when lo and behold before us came the sunny, dusty, spiritual City of Salamanca.

Nobody could have guessed what our fellow passenger would feel as an individual at the close of the five days to be spent here.

The first morning began with breakfast which was eyed warily but eaten thoroughly (by anyone who had had experience in the energy needed for this week!)

The morning Worship was succeeded by Workshops, which included a great variety - quiet and pensive ones, ones needing lots of bounce, ones involving the vocal chords and ones that needed the skill of the hands. Whatever you chose it was guaranteed that you would get something in return, for the something you gave. In fact you could be overwhelmed by the bounty of happiness and love you'd receive.

Every day there was a Mid-day Liturgy which was Roman Catholic, Lutheran, African and Anglican respectively. For people restricted by experience in celebrating only one way of celebrating the Eucharist this was indeed a new experience. After dinner on the first day, were tours of Salamanca which were for the most part people used the time for shopping. However, for some it was to be taken around the main churches and places of interest by our host, Don Jose. This was followed by Evening Worship which was Taize style and were the most spiritual of all the worships. After supper, free time was given which meant bed for the tired or a bar in the Plaza Mayor for the lovers of freedom.

The days were so full, one always had someone to talk to, something to see or to do. Friendships were made which are so very special and interesting, as people tend to let themselves be the real person they are in the Festival. The final worship was very

moving, beginning in the Pontifical University Chapel and ending the Old Cathedral, it was so unbelievably moving ..... there are no sufficient words to describe it.

The feelings I felt were Unity, Love, Freedom, all that God consists of, were felt.

Although tired and weary on our journey back to our own countries, we carried in our hearts all this experience and more. With friends around us we could feel God alive, He was truly beating in our hearts ... and still is. This poem I wrote on return reflects the mood of the final worship, while we were praying and singing a bird flew in .....

### CATHEDRAL

Veni Sanctue Spiritus  
in the shape of a pigeon.  
Descending upon us,  
curiously you peer over the  
stony precipices and giant  
window-sills.

Come Holy Spirit  
You fill us with love,  
full of liberty on the wing.  
Yet floundering above in a  
man-made cage -  
You will meet your end.

You stop and have patience  
trying to escape the mask you wear,  
the mien of a humble pigeon.  
You came to experience us,  
experiencing You,  
and You met Your end which was  
Your Beginning - and  
- You flew free .....

Caroline King



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## United Reformed

Chapel Hill

Ministers: The Rev'd Eric McIlwain  
18 Cambanks, Union Lane  
Cambridge  
Tel: (0223) 313152

The Rev'd Lydia Rapkin  
'Elberry'  
St John's Close  
Saffron Walden  
Tel: (95) 23296

Group Secretary: Mrs. Janet Townsend  
58 Chapel Hill  
Tel: 812593

Services: 11 am each Sunday

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

If you see the names RONVAUX or CHEVETOGNE or ENHET elsewhere in this issue it isn't a miracle of coincidence!

This humble scribe, together with Father Chapman, the EDITOR of LINK, Mrs. Harrison, and her husband made a "flying" visit to BELGIUM early in April.

Flying isn't quite the word for dipping and diving across a rough channel! But it does convey the speed of the visit. RONVAUX - CHEVETOGNE - ENHET and CONJOUR are the four small villages which make up the parish served by l'abbe GUY LUCAS.

In our whirlwind (2 pm to 9 pm) visit we saw the churches at CHEVETOGNE and CONJOUR and worshipped at ENHET church at the Mass for the Feast of the Annunciation. We also saw the ABBEY of CHEVETOGNE with its unique ORIENTAL CHAPEL.

These villages are about 20 miles south of NAMUR and just a few (3-4) miles off the motorway, hence they are easily reached.

Although spring was even more backward than here (do you remember the cold winds and rain of April 7th?) the countryside is beautiful, quite hilly and wooded, with lovely chateaux dotting the landscape.

Language difficulties? PEUT-ETRE UN PETIT PEU - but a broad smile does wonders, as our genial host, l'abbe LUCAS proved conclusively.

It will be proposed to the SACC Executive on April 23rd (now over, though I write on April 10th - figure that one out!) that a larger group visit in August (date not fixed). But 20 is the maximum, so get your bid in early! It would be a weekend and the cost (basic) including ferry and petrol (four to a car) should not be more than £40 per person. ALL ABOARD!?

E. A. McIlwain

## SERVICES FOR MAY

May 4 - 11.00 am - Rev. L. Rapkin - Holy Communion  
May 11 - 11.00 am - Rev. E. McIlwain - Family Service  
6.30 pm - SACC - Christian Aid - St. Mary's  
May 18 - 11.00 am - Mr. E. Swan of Saffron Walden  
May 25 - 11.00 am - Rev. L. Rapkin  
June 1 - 11.00 am - Rev. L. Rapkin - Holy Communion

From May 3 - May 10 Mr. McIlwain will be away for the General Assembly meetings at Blackpool.

From May 24 - June 20 Mr. McIlwain will be on holiday in Canada. Please contact Rev. L. Rapkin and/or Mrs. Janet Townsend during these times.

## UNITED REFORMED CHURCH GUILD

At our first meeting in April Mrs. Betty Childs came to tell us about her visits to Newfoundland. Betty was for many years a member of our church until she moved to Rayne. She has a cousin in Newfoundland and we heard about the history of the island, how the fishermen, in the early days were not allowed to remain on the island. Even today it is sparsely populated with really only one good road. It is surprising how little we know about Newfoundland, but we all felt that we would not like to live there.

M. C. Johnson

Mrs. Thomas, one of our members shewed us slides of her various holidays, also some wonderful sunrises and sunsets taken from her house in Elsenham. The slides included views of the gardens visited by the gardening club.

Most of our members went to Saffron Walden to see "White Horse Inn" and had an enjoyable evening.

M. C. Johnson

## 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.

Easter Monday this year found some of us sitting at cafe tables on the Plaza Mayor, Salamanca's beautiful main square, drinking coffee, or hot chocolate, or something cooler and stronger! There too winter was loathe to depart, so we sat sheltered from the keen wind in most welcome, warming sunshine. Though Spain's northerly sun was still tinged with its pale wintry hue, its shining turned the ancient city's amber stone into glowing gold. Domes, towers, pinnacles rose burnished against the sharp, clear sky.

We waited for the waiter - a long time. And we were content to wait. (Though my impatient, time-pressed English spirit had to learn quickly!) For this was Spain, where clocks and schedules were not allowed to dominate and manana, not time, was of the essence. At last the drinks arrived, their enjoyment spiced with fascinating discoveries and animated conversation. The morning was over. But no matter, lunch was not until 2 p.m. - more or less.

But we were still waiting; waiting for three coaches to arrive from England, bringing about one hundred people to The International Youth Festival of the St. Albans Diocese of the Church of England. At last they arrived, after thirty or more hours of nearly non-stop travel. They stumbled and tumbled out of the coaches, groping, staggering, stretching. Released and smiling they poured into the Raman y Cajal Ecumenical Institute, desperate for loos, food and sleep. (In that order I think.) With those of us who had travelled by air and some who came by train from other parts of Europe and Mike Shaw, Festival Administrator, on his way from Madrid Airport, the full complement of the eighth I.Y.F. was assembled.

Nearly two hundred of us were to be together for the rest of the week, enjoying generous Spanish hospitality and exploring the Festival theme of "Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, today and forever". We did this through Morning Worship (somewhat charismatic style, but only partly so), Evening Worship (Taize style) and mid-day Eucharist from Catholic, Finnish/German Lutheran, African Methodist and Anglican traditions. And through five workshop sessions. Everyone was expected to join a workshop. The choice ranged through art, drama and clowning, dance, music and choir, poetry, theology and Bible. As the week progressed the workshops brought excellent contributions to the various acts of worship, particularly to the final Festival Worship on Friday evening. Apart from sleeping accommodation (in two different buildings) most other things took place in the Pontifical University, the oldest University in Spain and one of three in Salamanca.

We explored the theme also in many informal conversations, which were fine opportunities for learning and growth because we had people there from many different Christian traditions and from India, the U.S.A., three African countries and seven European. Two-thirds of the company were young people, the rest were mainly leaders of various kinds. Under our shared faith and spirituality differences and distinctions of colour, culture, tradition, nationality and age merged into a beautiful and thrilling unity. We were really one in Christ. This was particularly highlighted in the mid-day Eucharists, notably when almost the entire assembly (it may have been all) received communion in the Catholic Mass and in the African Methodist Eucharist. This also happened at the Lutheran and Anglican ones.

It was a week for renewing old and making

new friendships, for growth in love and understanding, for new dimensions of faith and worship, of unexpected delights, and new fascinations, of breathing something of Salamanca's long history of Christian Mysticism, prodigious learning and rich culture. I believe we are all more fully human and Christian for this experience. Our abiding gratitude goes to all the Festival Administrators and Committee and to our charming host, Don Jose, and his staff.

Harold Fisher

## 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	-	7.45am
Friday	-	7.45am

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

This morning, April 11th, I received a copy of Angelus, the Antigua Diocesan Magazine. Having worked in that Diocese for 5 years I welcome the news. This time I was gratified to see that two young men I set on the path of ordination, 20 years ago, are now well established parish priests. One returning from Jamaica to a large important parish in Antigua - the other has just built a new parish Church in Montserrat.

Antigua has been in the news recently with Ian Botham and the English cricket team. I reflect that 150 years ago these West Indian cricketers and priests would have been ill-treated slaves. I wonder if this fast bowling has more to it than cricket!

In our enlightened day we are puzzled how Christians could have advocated and supported slavery and opposed its abolition.

But then, even my predecessors in St. Mary's, Antigua, had a slave boy and raised money for the Church by levying a tax on the number of slaves owned. All this makes us feel uncomfortable because we believe Jesus came to set men free. How these attitudes have changed! The change is also seen in the way we regard children.

Child abuse is also in the news and we think that as a society we are falling apart. But what about the boy chimney-sweeps of the 19th century, and the children working in factories and mines for long hours? Weren't they abused too? Yet many Christians defended what was happening using economic arguments we could not accept today.

Interest rates are also in the news and we are all trying to get the best from our savings. Yet we forget that in the early days of the Church it was unlawful for Christians to receive interest on money lent and the practice was condemned by the Third Lateran Council of 1179.

There are many other practices about which there has been a change in attitude by Christians - contraception being but one. So what conclusions to we draw?

Surely it is too simplistic to say we are a less moral society than previous ones. If our ancestors sent men and women from West Africa to be slaves many of our present day generation have responded magnificently to save East Africans from the slavery of starvation. Bob Geldof's work reveals progress in moral outlook.

Child abuse may be on the increase (we do not know) but no one would defend exploiting children for financial profit.

We may be uneasy that the City is not what it was and that greed and deception may be replacing god business practice and gentlemen's agreements - yet there is a growing ethic that investors should consider the way their money is used rather than just receiving the biggest reward.

So it is not all backwards and an historic prospective helps us see this. It also helps us to realise that so often Christians reflect the attitudes in society rather than leading the way. The Christian prophet is someone who rises above the present interaction of Church and Society pointing to moral and theological truths. But the profession is not popular or comfortable.

Please pray for Tony King, now at Mirfield Theological College, preparing for ordination before serving as a deacon in our village.

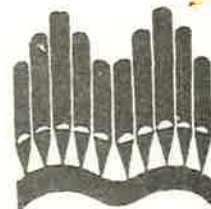
God Bless.



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### THE SOUND OF THE TRUMPET

Mr. Colin Hamling, our new organist, has acquired a set of trumpet pipes for St. John's organ. We are grateful to him for this as the cost of installing these pipes will be small as space for extra pipes is available.



### ST. JOHN'S APPEAL

When you read this we hope that Phase 3 of the work on St. John's will be in progress. The work involved exterior pointing to the whole church including the tower, some stone cleaning and replacement and the lowering of ground around the church. This work will cost £20,000. There will be an opportunity for all to contribute towards this cost of preserving our English Heritage and we hope for a generous response.



### MOTHERS' UNION

There will be a meeting on Wednesday May 28th at 2.30 p.m. Communion in St. John's Church followed by a talk in the Hall from The Rev'd Lydia Rapkin.

The Outing is on Thursday June 5th. Leave Stansted at 11 am (Cambridge Road) to Mary Sumner House in London. Picnic Lunch. Tea in London. Return approx. 6 pm. Cost £3.50.



### JUST A REMINDER

That Children's Church meets every Sunday at 9.30 am in the Church Hall. Please note that on Whitsunday as the services are at St. Mary's all children are invited to the 9.30 am Parish Communion.

### LEGACIES

From time to time the Church is given legacies and so that there is a permanent record of these they have been entered in a leatherbook which is now on display in St. John's Church. We are grateful to Geoff Booker for calligraphy.



# Youth News

The Youth Club programme for May and June is as follows:

## MAY

Sunday 4th Hour Group at the Vicarage  
 11th Photograph Competition, Church Hall  
 18th The Great Egg Race, Church Hall  
 25th Scavenge Hunt, Meet at Church Hall

## JUNE

Sunday 1st House Group at 2 Meadowcroft  
 8th Quiz evening, Church Hall  
 15th Rounders, Meet at Church Hall  
 22nd Barbeque at Old Park Farm  
 Wed 25th Cricket Match v All Saints, Shenfield  
 29th Reception for Rev'd Tony King

## ASCENSION DAY

St Mary's School Eucharist in St John's 9.15am

ALL WELCOME

Holy Communion 10am (approx)

SUNG EUCHARIST 8pm  
 (followed by coffee etc in Vicarage)



## W H I T S U N D A Y

18 May

Holy Communion 8am  
 Parish Communion 9.30am  
 Sung Evensong 6.30pm

All services at St Mary's  
 Children's sermon at 9.30am

## TRINITY SUNDAY

25 May

Holy Communion	8am	St John's
Parish Communion	9.30am	St John's
Holy Communion	11.15am	St Mary's
Sung Evensong	6.30pm	St Mary's

Glory to the  
 Father Son  
 and Holy  
 Spirit



## CONFIRMATION

by the Bishop of Colchester  
 in St John's

Sunday 1 June 1986

10am (not 9.30am)



## PARISH DIARY

### May

1st S Philip and S James Holy Communion 7.45 am  
 6th PCC Meeting at Vicarage, Archdeacon to visit 8 pm  
 7th Stewardship Meeting 8 pm  
 8th ASCENSION DAY details of services elsewhere  
 10th Confirmation Worship Day  
 11th Unity Service at St Mary's 6.30 pm  
 14th S Matthias, Holy Communion 10 am  
 Archdeacon's Visitation at Saffron Walden  
 18th WHITSUNDAY - all services at St Mary's  
 21st Confirmation Rehearsal 6.30 pm  
 27th Tiny Tots 2.15 pm  
 28th Mothers' Union 2.30 pm  
 29th Corpus Christi Holy Communion 7.45 am and 9 pm  
 31st Bishop of Chelmsford Enthronement 3 pm Cathedral

### June

1st Confirmation at St John's 10 am  
 8th Deanery Evensong at Henham 6.30 pm  
 9th-14th St John's House to House Appeal  
 13th-15th Parish Retreat at Pleshey

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## PARISH REGISTERS

### Baptisms

- 29th March Angela Jayne Sims,  
83 Manor Road  
Lee Richard Sims,  
83 Manor Road  
Kerrie-Ann Sims,  
83 Manor Road
- 30th March Scott James Banks  
17 Manor Road  
Katie Leanne Stone  
12 Pulteney Road  
Benjamin James Travis  
40 Bentfield Gardens

### Marriages

- 15th March Nikolas Jerome Lane,  
Bury Lodge, Bury Lodge Lane and  
Simone Lambley, Three Willows,  
Birchanger
- 5th April Alexander Stephen Dewar,  
6 Woodfield Close and  
Jehane Newby, 10 Hargrave Close

### Departed

- 18th March Elsie Newell,  
50 Rochford Cottages 72 years
- 19th March Hubert Gray  
Herts & Essex Hospital 75 years
- 3rd April Charles Painter,  
2 Mount Drive 55 years
- 10th April Ivy Jordan  
47 Mead Court 71 years

## *Society of Friends*

Quaker Meeting House, Chapel Hill.

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

**Meeting for worship:** 11am.

### MEETING FOR SUFFERINGS

Meeting for Sufferings may well appear to be the name of an historic but long deceased body, like the Saxon "Witanagemot" or the Cromwellian "Long Parliament". The name truly is historic, but the body is very much alive, being "the standing representative Committee of the Yearly Meeting (of the Society of Friends) entrusted during the interval between Yearly Meetings with the general care of matters affecting the Society as a whole." It meets ten times a year and brings together representatives from all over the United Kingdom - except that as there is one united Yearly Meeting for all Ireland, there are no Friends from "the other island". It is no longer possible to identify Friends flocking to a London Meeting by their sedate but charming dress, but I think they could still be spotted on a Saturday morning, hurrying from Euston Square Undergrown to Friends

House, young and old with an earnest air, as much given to small back packs as to brief cases.

These Friends come together to forward the continuing work of the Society. Reports from various departments are received and expenditure authorised. New forms of work to meet new needs may be laid upon one of the departments, such requests originating in local Meetings. They may have come before Meeting for Sufferings on several occasions and the duty laid on the members to describe and report to their local Meetings ensures that such proposals become known and considered by all Meetings. So, over a period of time discussions in "Sufferings" can be said to be seeking the will of the whole Society. I would find a better word than discuss, for each gathering begins with a meeting for worship, proceeds with due time for reflection, and the minutes recorded are not voted but worked over until they represent the "sense of the meeting". Though in recent months many programmes have been agreed, two matters are of continuing concern: unemployment and South Africa, and the search for right - not superficial - action exercises the Meeting.

Meetings for Sufferings looks outward too. Representatives from other Yearly Meetings bring heartening accounts of Quaker life in their areas - often its style is very different from our own but the spirit unites us. Friends who have made visits on our behalf report, giving often very moving accounts, recently from Uganda and South Africa. The last meeting ended by recording the names of Friends imprisoned "for conscience' sake", mostly for non-payment of a proportion of tax, or other peace witness. And so we return to the name; from its first meeting in June 1675 to about 1750, "Cases of Sufferings" headed the pages of the Minute book. From 1679, the Meeting was authorised to pay the expenses of Friends approaching the government concerning sufferings. In

this began its executive function. We have come back to particular sufferings of individuals; but wide and varied as the work done on behalf of Yearly Meeting has become, it is, fundamentally, a matter of Sufferings.

It is a privilege to be one of our Monthly Meeting's two representatives to Meeting for Sufferings.

Dorothy A. Stansfield

STANSTED EVENING W.I.

MINI  
MARKET

U.R.C. HALL

SAT. 24 MAY 10 - 12.00

## Village News



### & FUTURE EVENTS

#### MAY

- |    |          |  |
|----|----------|--|
| 3  | 10.00    | Tennis Club lessons start  |
| 4  | 10.4.00  | S.D.P. Car Boot Sale<br>Station Car Park                             |
| 5  | 2.30     | Scout/Cub Fete. Scout HQ.<br>Water Lane                              |
| 7  | Evg      | Gardening Club. Day Centre   |
| 8  | 8.00     | B.S. Recorded Music Club.<br>Day Centre                              |
| 9  | 7.30     | Christian Aid Social. U.R.C. Hall                                    |
| 10 | 7.45     | Parish Council Fountain Appeal<br>Day Centre. Talk by Peter Sanders  |
| 11 | 6.30     | Christian Aid United Service -<br>St. Mary's                         |
| 12 | 8.00     | Conservative Assoc'n Football Club                                   |
|    | 7.45     | Shalom Group. Visit to U.S.A.<br>Choir B. Stortford Methodist Church |
| 15 |          | British Legion (Women) Anniv.<br>Dinner. Day Centre                  |
| 17 | 10-12.00 | Christian Aid Market<br>Quaker Meeting House Chapel Hill             |
| 17 | 8.00     | Carnival Barn Dance. Mountfitchet<br>School                          |
| 20 | 2.00     | Day Centre Outing to St. Osyth's                                     |
| 22 | 8.00     | British Legion Cheese & Wine -<br>Day Centre                         |
| 24 | 10.30    | W.I. (Evening) May Market<br>U.R.C. Hall                             |

#### "OUR VILLAGE"

For the umteenth time I have just been reminded it is a Radio not a Wireless set. I suppose sometimes it is said just as a leg-pull, likewise when the accumulator is mentioned much amusement is called for. For anyone who does not know what this last apparatus was or did, a very brief description follows: An early type of rechargeable battery contained in a glass jar with a carrying handle, when fully charged, by means of + and - terminals was connected by spades to the wireless set to provide power. Depending on usage, the accumulator would probably last a week or so before a recharge was necessary. You could always tell when this was becoming due as the programme would grow fainter and fainter until your ear would be pressed against the set so as not to miss a vital piece of news.

There were several places in the village where a charging service could be obtained. The London & Stansted Radio Department offered accumulators charged the Westinghouse Way; T. Johnson & Sons had a fine department in part of the Old Steam Mill which unfortunately met with disaster in 1951. A volunteer was not always hard to find when the old accumulator had to be taken and the recharged one collected,

especially if "Journey into Space" was due on that day. This serial was about space adventures. Who remembers Lemmy and Mitch? Some of these episodes were quite frightening but could not be missed, for not to know what was happening was quite unforgivable. How much of this fiction has now become fact in recent years. Perhaps the only part yet to be overcome is meeting up with a Martian, but who knows?

So for today we will take our accumulator to Mr. J. Childs of Silver Street known as Stansted Radio Stores and advertised "Any make supplied, sound equipment for dances, and accumulators charged". This was carried out in the charging room at the rear of his premises where wooden racks held rows of these "on charge". Your eyes always seemed to sting whilst in this room from the fumes given off during the process which cost 6d a charge. A glass fronted display cabinet which contained batteries was probably the last reminder of his business and was not removed all that long ago. Mr. Childs was also responsible for the sound system at Stansted Football Club from where he broadcast on match days. This consisted of football information and gramophone music prior to the match and during half-time.

In which year was the B.B.C. established?

What did B.B.C. stand for?

What does B.B.C. now stand for?

What was a Crystal Set?

P. BROWN  
B/S 812816

#### BISHOP'S STORTFORD RECORDED MUSIC SOCIETY

Meeting on May 8th in the Day Centre at 8.0 pm.

#### Programme

Novak Overture Marysa  
Janacek The Fiddler's Child  
Suk Serenade for Strings Op. 6.  
Fibich Symphony No. 3 in E Minor Op. 53.

Mary Scholes  
813155

#### MAY EVENTS AT DAY CENTRE

May 1st	Keep Fit	Thursday
May 2nd	Evening Bingo	Friday
May 8th	Keep Fit	Thursday
May 9th	Whist Drive 2.00 pm 25p	Friday
May 13th	Beetle Drive 2.00 pm 25p	Tuesday
May 15th	Keep Fit	Thursday
May 16th	Evening Bingo	Friday
May 20th	Outing to St Osyths 2.00 pm £2.50p	Tuesday
May 22nd	Keep Fit	Thursday
May 29th	Keep Fit	Thursday
May 30th	Whist Drive 2.00 pm 25p	Friday



Members enjoyed a most interesting afternoon when Mrs. Collins demonstrated the ancient and yet still popular art of spinning. She skillfully held everyones attention demonstrating from the fleece through teasing, carding and plying the wood right to the finished product. As she had been taught her spinning in the Shetlands it was the production of this wool that was shown as was also beautifully knitted garments in the special design of the Shetlands.

Nine members celebrated their birthdays during March and spring posies were presented to each to celebrate the occasion.

The competition for a knitted tea cosy was won by Mrs. Reed.

Mrs. A. Calver

STANSTED EVENING W.I.

Members attending the April meeting were informed that £45 had been raised on a stall held in Bishop's Stortford market that morning. This is for much needed WI funds. Mrs. Wellings held a very successful "French" coffee morning in aid of the Blind and raised £60 for their funds.

Secretary Mrs. Conroy read out the Resolutions that members will be discussing at the May meeting. These cover "Aids" "Education for Dislexic children" and WI rules. Members agreed to enter a float in the Stansted Carnival and also run a cake stall donating the profits to the carnival funds.

The business was followed by a very interesting talk and slide show by Mrs. M. Rogers. Her talk entitled "Have you been to ..." with coloured slides of places and the seasons in which she and her husband had visited was very enjoyable.

The meeting finished with Mrs. Colliver winning the social time quiz on Anagrams. The competition "A Picture of Cambridge" gave Mrs. Ansell first, Mrs. Fuller second and Mrs. Smith third places.

At the Spring Group meeting, April 11th, held in Clavering village hall with Manuden WI convening, Mrs. Anthea Speakman V.C.O. was chairman, and about a hundred members were entertained with a demonstration by two ladies from the Cambridge Microwave Cookery Centre. Members were able to taste the Microwave cookery and ask questions. The social time was by Alan Frances who entertained the members with songs with guitar all dedicated to ladies.

Ugley WI won the knitted squares blanket competition. These blankets are to go to the geriatric ward at Herts & Essex Hospital. Our members have knitted enough squares to make two blankets.

The enjoyable evening finished with an excellent vote of thanks given in rhyme by Mrs. Calver of Stansted WI, also the drawing of the raffle with a number of our members winning some of the fifteen prizes, some of these being items of microwave cooking.

Brenda Ryan  
812725

STANSTED TENNIS CLUB



There are a few places left in the Prudential Grass Roots Coaching Classes. There are 6 Monday lessons from 4.30 - 5.30 starting on 28th April with Joanna King and 6 Saturday lessons with Chris Hollis, starting on 3rd May from 10 am - 11 am. The lessons are for 8-14 year olds (particularly complete beginners). The cost is £5 for 6 hours coaching. Chris and Joanna are both Lawn Tennis Association approved instructors. All you need is a pair of plimsolls and a racket. Forms are available from Janet Hollis B/S 812073 (105 Cambridge Road) or the Library.

The Annual General Meeting of the Club took place on Wednesday 19th March, at Little Fosters, 105 Cambridge Road, Stansted.

The Officers and Committee Members elected were:-

- President - Richard Shervington
- Chairman - Janet Hollis
- Secretary - Phraid Cotton
- Treasurer - Alan Bulley
- Match Secretary - Gill Robinson
- Ex-officio - Hospital Cup Secretary - Hazel Smith
- Parish Council Representative - Joan Summers
- Committee - Mary Long
- Georgina Rose
- Richard Mott
- Richard Crosby
- John Eyre
- Richard Eyre

The Eddie Wilby Tournament is on Sunday 8th June starting at 2 p.m.

All details of events and any enquiries to Janet Hollis B/S 812073.

NEW MEMBERS ARE ALWAYS VERY WELCOME

# MOUNTFITCHET HIGH SCHOOL



## Alton Towers

On Sunday 23rd March 1986, pupils from the Mountfitchet High subjected themselves to the torture of Alton Towers.

We turned up for the coaches at 5.30 am and we were at Alton Towers in North Staffordshire by 9.30 am.

As if four hours of coach travel wasn't enough, we then faced such terrors as the Black Hole ride. Although many said what has been described as "the world's most 'terrorific' ride" didn't bother them, the photographs taken suggested otherwise.

As well as its rides, Alton Towers also has a castle, and very impressive gardens, which make it an opportunity not to be missed.

Many thanks to Mr. Johnson who put so much hard work into organising the day.

## Storytime Success

On Friday March 14th fifteen third years had an afternoon at Clavering County Primary School, reading the short stories they had specially prepared. Some of the stories were about princesses, princes, teddy bears, goldfish and other animals. A lot of them followed well known story lines, often fairy tale ones. The children at the school were mainly attentive and behaved very well. They enjoyed the stories read to them and discussed them eagerly afterwards. The children were all aged from about 4-8 years old.

After listening for about an hour, during which the stories were read and discussed, the children wrote a part and illustrated the same, of their favourite tale. Most people enjoyed the afternoon including the teachers!

Transport was kindly provided by Mr. R. Davies, Mrs. Wrangmore and the school secretary. Thanks must go to all who put in time for such a beneficial and educational trip.

Ruth Vellacott 3H

## Building Work Completed

The second phase of the building programme at the school is now completed.

The maths suite was finished over the Easter holiday and although some minor finishing off is still to be done all the rooms are now operational.

There are plans to equip many of the rooms with new furniture and it is hoped to organise an official opening later in the term.

## STANSTED SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC GROUP

At the Group A.G.M. in February we were delighted to welcome Mark Heyes, Alliance P.P.C. for Saffron Walden, who spoke about the current state of national and local politics. On the social side, coffee mornings held by Maureen Caton and Catherine Dean have been very successful; many thanks to the hostesses. We were in festive mood at a party held in honour of the S.D.P.'s 5th birthday, at the home of Miss Nancy Tennant; a splendid cake in S.D.P. colours was the centrepiece of the celebrations.

For the coming year and into 1987 we have a full and lively social programme. Events to note are the car boot sale on 4th May (see village diary for details), and an Alliance Midsummer Fayre in the grounds of Lord Sainsbury's home at Topperfield on 21st June. A feature of the fayre will be craft stalls and we would be pleased to hear from anyone wishing to run such a stall; the charge will be £10 for each stall. Other delights in store include a fashion show and, later in the year, a sale at which we hope many charities will be offering gifts and cards in time for Christmas; charity organisers, please note!

Our hardworking event organisers are Christine Rowley and Maureen Caton. For further information about the Midsummer Fayre and the charity sale, please contact Maureen (tel. Bishop's Stortford 813914). Other enquiries about the group to Tim Richards, membership secretary (tel. Bishop's Stortford 812748).



During the last few months we have looked at several topical issues. Food allergies proved a popular subject (although some of us will never use an oxo cube again). Sweden and urbanisation of the green belt have also come under close scrutiny - we've even played Trivial Pursuit. On a more serious note Pat Bacchus of the Barnet Victims Support Scheme came to talk to us on the sensitive subject of Rape - a crime which seems to be on an alarming increase.

In May we have two meetings to look forward to. The first will test our powers of observation and the second is when we plan our forthcoming programme.

We would be pleased to welcome any new members to these or any of our meetings. A copy of our present programme, which takes us up to June, can be found in the library and any other information can be obtained from the local organiser.

Local Organiser - Lyn Inston, B/S 814051.

## Huw Johnson Club

With Easter coming early it was into the kitchen to make Easter nests. Each member made a nest (with shredded wheat and melted chocolate). Denise was a very good supervisor making sure everyone did things in the proper order. When the nests were made they, of course, had to have some eggs in.

Listening to the Chuckling and Clucking you would have thought they were laying eggs themselves. We of course knew better. The Co-op did a great line in Mini eggs this year. Everyone was pleased with the end results of their work. Rebecca is now very good at washing up and always gets someone to help her. (Whether she has to twist arms I don't know).

In between nest-building some were busy making models to illustrate the story of Easter for our Service with Father Tony.

We have various instruments to choose from, some already have their favourites and these are played with great gusto if not much tune. Mrs. Allard does a great job on piano and keeps us together for our singing and playing of the hymns.

We finished the evening with a piece of cake and a drink.

It was sad for some of us as we will not be seeing Tony again. We will miss his visits especially Steven, as he always says, "Tony, pleased to be with you".

Jean Stone



## STANSTED FOOTBALL CLUB

Next season we will be starting an under 10's football team which will be linked with Stansted Football Club but run on a separate basis.

To do this we will need the support and skills of all the budding "Glen Hoddles" aged 10 and below, along with the help of enthusiastic parents who fancy themselves as the "Robsons" of Stansted, to train and manage the team.

Help with the organisation and sponsorship with this new venture would also be very much appreciated.

The matches will be played on Sundays, on home and away basis, home matches hopefully being staged at Hargrave Park where the excellent clubroom facilities will be available to all involved.

If you or your children are interested, please contact John Robinson, 7 Longcroft, Stansted, Tel: 812755, for further information.

## STANSTED CONSERVATIVE ASSOCIATION

The Branch Annual General Meeting was held at the Day Centre on Friday 7th March. The speaker was our Member of Parliament, Alan Haselhurst.

There was a Social Evening and Discussion at the Football Club on Monday, 10th March.

There will be a meeting at the Football Club at 8 p.m. on Monday 12th May.

All enquiries regarding membership or events to:-

Alan Corbishley B/S 813040 or  
Peter Jones B/S 813252



### Girls Shoot High

Wednesday 12th March was the date when the 2nd year girls got together, from the school, they played against Bishop's Stortfords Hockerill School.

From the Mountfitchet School the girls who scored were Jeanette Stone, Andrea Baines and Kelly Rowe.

The teams played on the Mountfitchet netball court and both played very well. The scores at the end of the game were very close. The Mountfitchet School just won by 7 points to 6.

Emma Stevens



## **The National Childbirth Trust** Education for Parenthood

In May the get togethers for expectant mums and under ones on Fridays 10.30 am - 12 noon are at the following addresses:-

2nd May at Jackie's, 30 Rainsford Road  
9th May at Claire's, 47 Gilbey Crescent  
16th May at Theresa's, 27C Recreation Ground  
23rd May at Viv's, 2 Croasdaile Close  
30th May at Debbie's, 13 Blythwood Gardens

On Thursdays the Toddler Groups are held from 10 am - 11.30 am and are at the following addresses:-

1st May at Caroline's, 66 Chapel Hill  
8th May at Nikki's, 28 Rainsford Road  
15th May at Josie's, 17 Woodfields  
22nd May at Jane's, 52 Bentfield Road

On Monday 12th May we are meeting for a pub lunch at the Three Horseshoes in Hazel End from 12 noon onwards. If it rains it will take place on 13th May. Phone Jane (813138) if the weather is doubtful to check it is still on.

On Thursday 22nd May from 2.30 pm - 4.30 pm there will be Open House at 26 Longcroft. There will be refreshments available and a variety of crafts for sale. Come and have a browse.

Debbie Smith



## MOUNTFITCHET GARDEN CLUB

The Club's Annual General Meeting was held on Wednesday 2nd April at the Day Centre. In his report the Chairman, Mr. David Williams, spoke of the pattern of events which now characterise the Club. Each year we hold two shows, in the spring and autumn, both of which have become well known and supported in the village. We hold meetings at the Day Centre on the first Wednesday evening of each month, to which we invite a visiting speaker, many of whom are nationally known. In the last year we have heard Mrs. Gay Nightingale, the authoress, talking about Cyclamen, and Mr. Ken Muir, famous for his prize winning exhibits of strawberries at the Chelsea Flower Show, explaining the intricacies of growing soft fruits. We arrange two coach trips each year, to famous gardens, one early in the year and one late. During the summer we try to arrange visits to smaller local gardens, usually in the evening, to enable as many members as possible to participate. The coach trips generally take place on a Sunday and last the whole day.

For the last three years we have hired a stall at the village Carnival in June, which not only provides the supported charities with much needed cash, but also acts as a "shop window" for the Club, where we can show off our gardening skills by selling the plants we have raised.

Club members are also able to benefit from the bulk buying we are able to undertake. Each year we send off large orders for seeds, bulbs and potting compost.

Although we would like the Club to remain small and friendly we always welcome new members and invite anyone who is interested to come along to one of our monthly meetings. There is no obligation to join the Club, we welcome visitors to the meetings for a nominal fee.

The Treasurer gave a brief report on the Club's financial situation, and the balance sheet was adopted.

After the election of officers and committee members the AGM was brought to it's conclusion.

Further Club business was discussed at the general meeting which immediately followed. After refreshments had been served we were able to watch a film about summer flowering bulbs, supplied by The Bulb Council.

Next month's speaker, on 7th May, will be Mrs. Abel-Smith, her topic is 'Daffodils and Pinks'.

Ros Allen

# THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION



The Branch will be celebrating its diamond jubilee on 26th October - which, fortuitously, happens to be a Sunday. More of that later; but we shall be marking the occasion in an appropriate manner - and unveiling the plaque commemorating the planting of the "VJ tree" in the Memorial Gardens.

On the theme of our 60th year, we shall be holding a 'cheese and wine' evening on Thursday 22nd May at the Day Centre starting at 8 pm. All members and well-wishers welcome. Do come along for a convivial evening and 'a stroll along memory lane'. Admission is free as is the food; but you pay for the wine etc. - and there will be donation receptacles! We hope the event will be even better supported than a similar style event last October.

Also, in our programme this year will be a presence for publicity etc. at the Stansted Carnival ground. And please note that the annual barbecue will be on September 7th. A new publicity caravan, used for county shows, etc., recently made available by Headquarters will be in Stansted for the whole weekend.



## THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION WOMEN'S SECTION

The demonstrator on cookery booked for our March meeting let us down at the last minute. But, despite this, the evening proved to be a great success when Janet Townsend and Evelyn Rice stepped into the breach and gave us a fascinating demonstration of flower arranging; and Betty Little firmly held our attention by her expertise in cake icing.

Our coffee morning at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Gabb raised £81, including donations, and we do thank all those who so kindly supported us.

We are celebrating our 40th Anniversary with a dinner in the Day Centre on Thursday evening, 15th May.

Pat Clower  
2 Clarence Road  
Tel: 815220

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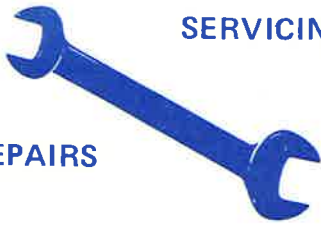




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