

May 87

# The *LINK*



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May 1987

*The LINK*

Volume VII No. 7

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 1987 (11-16 May)

SATURDAY, MAY 16TH  
10 - 12 a.m.  
CHRISTIAN AID MARKET  
FRIENDS MEETING HOUSE  
CHAPEL HILL

**Please help**



**through  
Christian Aid**

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Mrs Lindsey Collingwood, 15 Loates Pasture. Tel: 813428.

Advertising enquiries to Mr Fred Boyd, 5 St John's Lane. Tel: 812148.

All other enquiries to the Editor, Mrs Phyllis Harrison. Tel: 813535.

Opinions expressed in this magazine are given freely and do not necessarily represent those of the SACC, its member churches, village organisations or advertisers.

Copy to reach 58 Chapel Hill by  
14th May for June issue  
11th June for July issue

# SACC

WELCOME!

FROM OUR PARISH OF STANSTED TO OUR VISITORS FROM THE PARISH OF CHEVETOGNE, BELGIUM

- ARRIVING THURSDAY MAY 28

FOR A 3-DAY VISIT

SOYEZ LES BIEN-VENUS, NOS AMIS!

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK May 11-16

Third World Cabaret

This will be held following the United Service for Christian Aid at the United Reformed Church on Sunday 10th May. Young people from our churches will entertain with sketches and songs. Light refreshments will be served.

Christian Aid Market

Saturday 16th May, 10-12 a.m. at the Friends Meeting House, Chapel Hill. There will be the usual stalls - books, toys, cakes, plants and produce, good-as-new clothes (no jumble please!) white elephant and groceries. Please give contributions to your church C.A. representative or bring them on the day. I shall also be pleased to collect anything. Coffee and scones will be served in the Meeting House.

Catherine Dean  
813579



## 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:

11am each Sunday

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

Services for May

May 3 11.00 am - the Rev. Lydia Rapkin - Holy Communion  
May 10 - 11.00 am - Mr Michael Dyer - Family Service  
6.30 pm - SACC Christian Aid Service  
the Rev. Lydia Rapkin

May 17 11.00 am - the Rev. E. McIlwain

May 24 11.00 am - the Rev. Lydia Rapkin

May 31 11.00 am - the Rev. E. McIlwain  
6.30 pm - District Council  
Service at Emmanuel U.R.C.,  
Cambridge.  
Preacher:  
the Rev. W. Gathercole,  
Moderator of the Eastern  
Province

I AM A COLGATE MAN

I don't brush much any more.

You see, my parents made me brush after every meal and before bed. They overdid it.

I do brush occasionally, like Christmas and Easter. We've been Colgate men for years. I still have the tube.

Grandad gave me for graduation. It is as good as new, hardly opened. Our daughter carried it at her wedding. With a few bits of ribbon and some plastic flowers it looked well, sentimental.

Besides, I have arranged when I die I am to have the Colgate treatment. I am a Colgate man.

(the Rev. E.I. Johnston,  
United Church of Canada).

Report from the United Reformed Guild

Once again Mr. Hummerstone came and showed us his many slides of flowers in his own garden and gardens he had visited. His extensive knowledge of flowers, especially orchids made it most interesting and helpful.

One of our members, Miss Turner, came and gave us a wonderful talk, illustrated with slides, on the many wild flowers which abounded in past years, but alas are now very rare. It brought back many memories of our childhood when the wild flowers were abundant in the meadows and woods.

She also read some poems which she had composed and sang some songs.

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.

The liturgical revision undertaken by most Christian communions some fifteen to twenty years ago has brought many gains and much renewal to Christian Worship. But there have also been losses. These losses will be very personal mostly, being

Methodist

determined by the temperament, experiences and insights of the individual. But such personal loss may focus some impoverishment of the whole community of the Church.

There are not a few things I keenly miss from our earlier liturgy for Holy Communion. I give just one. After all had received communion there was a period of silence (as we still have). The silence was then broken by the minister saying "And now, as our Lord hath taught us, we are bold to say, ..." and we all joined in saying The Lord's Prayer. The minister's call for The Lord's Prayer was an exhortation of urgency and immediacy; it had to be said (or so it always seemed to me) as an acclamation and command. What had gone before required us to say Christ's Prayer as a community and to say it at once. For to receive Christ in this Sacrament was to take up new attitudes, understanding, relationships, responsibilities and life-styles. All these new things were enshrined in The Lord's Prayer.

In my youth I did not see why the minister exhorted us to be bold enough to say Christ's Prayer. The Prayer seemed a very pleasant and comforting thing. In any case we had known from earliest memories; it was familiar and frequent, even ordinary and routine, in our experience. There didn't appear to be any great cause for courage when saying. So I thought when a teenager. I now know better. We have to be very bold to say The Lord's Prayer and really mean it. It calls for faith, spirituality and obedience of the highest order. So much so that only a perfect son can truly say "Father". Only Jesus, who did nothing but what he saw the Father doing, knows how to say "Our Father" with complete understanding and sincerity. The Church has always known this, which is why it called for boldness to say "Our Father" only after we had been united with Christ by receiving Him in Holy Communion.

Perhaps the whole Christian life can be summed up in being bold to say "Our Father". To grow as Christians is to discover more and more what it really means to say the Prayer He taught us. The more we understand and respond to The Lord's Prayer the more we are one with Christ. When we think about it like this what may really amaze us is that we can be bold enough to say it in a merely mechanical and perfunctory manner. Of course God understands and forgives such human frailty. Even so, if and when it happens we are the losers.

My love and best wishes to you all.

Harold Fisher

Shalom Group Dates: 18 May, 1, 15 and 29 June

## Church of England

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

The Rev'd Tony King  
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)	- 11.30am
(1st and 3rd 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

Someone once told me of a parish with a very fine ancient church. Money was a problem. Not only was there the upkeep and repair of the building, there was also the money for the Diocese to help pay the clergy. The Vicar of this parish was told that if it became a choice between keeping the building in good repair or having a Vicar they would prefer the former. Pretty blunt you might say - perhaps the Vicar was not doing his job. But in fact he was a good priest - worked hard and was well liked. When I first heard the story I thought to myself 'Well here is a parish which thinks more of stone and wood than ministry with people! They have made the building their God'. Perhaps that initial reaction is true. But I had a second reaction. What if these people were beginning to see that they should be responsible for the ministry in their parish? Supposing they had become alive to the truth that it is only when every Christian realises they have a part in Christ's ministry on earth that the Church will grow. Perhaps these people had begun to experience renewal - were aware of the possibilities through the power of the Holy Spirit. Well, to be honest I do not know what they were thinking - I do know, that it is when lay people see that they have a ministry to exercise that the Church comes alive. If I am honest with myself I know that sometimes the ordained stipendiary clergy prevent

Church of England

that kind of awareness - not deliberately - but just because they are there. Amazing as it may seem (perhaps not so amazing) some parishes come alive when there is no Vicar. Of course, the Vicar should be enabling all members to do their ministry! there should be a partnership between clergy and laity, each realising they have a part to play in the building up of the Church, which is the agent of the Kingdom.

Thank God it seems that throughout the Church there is an awakening among lay people of new possibilities in ministry and a growing awareness of the need for training and sharing. We have seen this awakening in our Deanery which is why on the 8th and 15th May we invite you to come to St. John's Hall at 8 pm.

At these two gatherings we will learn of what they are doing in Clavering, Arkesden and Langley, hear of the lay ministry training that is going on in the parishes of Henham and Elsenham and Stansted will share with others the "All Are Called" presentation. At these meetings we will also have time to share our experiences of lay ministry. My hope is that many of you will come along.

You see I am working for my own redundancy - and that is neither a threat or a promise!

\*\*\*\*\*

The venue for Margaret Booker's ordination to the diaconate on June 13th has been changed to Saffron Walden.

\*\*\*\*\*

Wedding bells are ringing for quite a few members of our congregation. Best wishes to Julia Steed and Peter Elvidge to be married on May 2nd, Margaret Bickerton and Philip Duly on 9th May, and Colin Hamling and Linda Hart on 30th May. We wish them all every happiness.



Our new youth club programme is now printed. We're looking forward to getting out a lot more now the warmer weather is arriving. Our youth club is open to everybody, including those who don't feel too youthful anymore. So please come and join in.

There are still places available on our Youth Club Summer Holiday (Aug 16th - 22nd) in Mundesley. Please contact me for details.

With love  
Fr. Tony

## THE FRIENDS OF ESSEX CHURCHES

The Friends of Essex Churches -  
Sponsored Bicycle Ride,  
Saturday, September 5th, 1987.  
10 am - 6pm.

By now most of you will have received advance notice of this event, which is not just for cyclists. Everybody can participate, if not by cycling, then by acting as steward for an hour or two at St. John's or St. Mary's church (and stewarding can be sponsored as well) or by sponsoring a participant. Remember - half the money you raise goes to the Friends of Essex Churches - the other half is returned to the church you nominate.

G. R. Booker  
(Deanery Organiser)

### CHURCH DIARY

#### May

- 5th Holy Communion at Mead Court  
10 am
- 6th Confirmation Outing to Greensted  
Leave St John's 6.30 pm
- 7th Holy Communion at Norman Court  
10 am
- 8th Deanery Meeting in Church Hall  
8 pm
- 10th Unity Service in URC Church  
6.30 pm
- 11th Mini Lectures on church history  
8 pm St Mary's School
- 12th St John's Appeal Committee  
Meeting 8 pm  
Tiny Tots 2.15 pm  
Tuesday Club 2 pm
- 13th Archdeacon's Visitation -  
Thaxted Church
- 14th S. Matthais. Holy Communion  
7.45 am
- 15th Deanery Meeting in Church Hall  
8 pm
- 17th Parish Outing to Cambridge
- 19th PCC members to meet in groups to  
discuss Partners in Planning
- 26th Tiny Tots 2.15 pm
- 28th Ascension Day - details of  
services elsewhere
- 31st Confirmation 6.30 pm

- 3 May Video Evening St John's
- 10 May Prayer Spot Parish Eucharist  
St John's 9.30 am
- 10 May Ecumenical Christian Aid  
Evening  
United Reformed Church Hall  
7.30 pm
- 17 May May Cups Game St John's  
7.45 pm
- 24 May Netball St John's 7.45 pm
- 31 May Mystery Walk St John's  
2.30 pm
- 7 June House Groups 43 Gilbey  
Crescent 6.30 - 8 pm;  
8.15 - 9.30 pm
- 14 June Old Park Farm Richard's Farm  
Time Undecided
- 21 June Wide Game Undecided  
Time Undecided
- 28 June Hatfield Forest St John's  
3 pm

# ASCENSION

Thursday 28 May

## SERVICES

Holy Communion 10am

SUNG EUCHARIST 8pm

**DON'T  
MISS OUT!**

## DEANERY EVENSONG

Sunday 21 June

6.30pm

## NEWPORT CHURCH

Preacher: The Bishop of Chelmsford

After service Bring and Share supper



## CONFIRMATION

Sunday 31 May at 6.30pm  
by the Bishop of  
Chelmsford

Please come and support  
those being  
confirmed

(Please note the 9.30am  
service is said)



## MOTHERS' UNION

Meeting on Wednesday May 27th at 2.30 pm  
in the hall - there will be a speaker.

Also, there is a quiet day at All  
Saints, Hockerill - on Wednesday May  
20th. Please let Doris Shervington know  
if you wish to go to the Quiet Day.

Outing to Ely on Wednesday July 1st.

Dss Margaret

Evensong in King's College or some other  
chapel.

## CHURCH DIARY

### June

- 1st Deanery Synod
- 2nd Holy Communion at Mead Court  
10 am
- 3rd Confirmation Picnic 6.30 pm
- 4th Holy Communion at Norman Court  
10 am
- 7th WHITSUNDAY - all services at  
St. Mary's
- 8th PCC Meeting 8 pm
- 9th Tuesday Club 2 pm  
Tiny Tots 2.15 pm
- 11th S. Barnabas. Holy Communion  
7.45 am
- 13th Margaret Booker ordained deacon  
in Saffron Walden. 11 am

### Parish Registers

#### Baptisms

- 5th April Victoria Elizabeth Valerie  
Temple, 23 Manor Road  
Leanne Violet Aveston,  
4 St Mary's Drive

#### Departed

- 20th Mar Albert Mason  
19 Cannons Mead Aged 67 years
- 7th Apr Herbert Harrington  
Normans Court  
Aged 74 years
- 7th Apr Lillian Laird  
3 Water Lane Aged 86 year
- 14th Apr Beatrice Peck  
6 Bentfield Road Aged 81 years
- 15th Apr Doris Turner  
6 Rahn Road, Epping  
Aged 66 years
- 21st Apr Samuel Turner  
53 Woodfields Aged 72 years

## **SPECIAL NOTICE!**

HISTORY OF THE CHURCH IN ENGLAND  
1660-1833

Monday 11 May

Mini Lectures in St Mary's School  
8pm

- a. The Church Restored 1660-1720  
Jane Freeman
- b. John Wesley and Methodism  
Phyllis Harrison
- c. The Evangelical Movement  
John Jaques

Sunday 17 May

Preacher at 9.30am Parish Communion -  
The Rev'd Harold Fisher  
'Why I am a Methodist'

Parish outing to Cambridge after Parish  
Communion.  
Picnic lunch - tour of Cambridge to see  
places connected with the period 1660-1833



# W H I T S U N D A Y

7 June 1987

All Services in St Mary's.

8am	Holy Communion
9.30am	Parish Communion
11.30am	Holy Communion
6.30pm	Sung Evensong

## Society of Friends

Quaker Meeting House, Chapel Hill.

Clerk: Margaret Whitelaw  
37 Heath Row  
Bishop's Stortford, Herts.  
Tel: 52769

Meeting for worship: 11am.

### Nostalgic thoughts about Hymn Singing

I wonder if other people feel as nostalgic as I do about hymns? Perhaps it is only because as a Quaker, I now have so few chances of singing them.

When I was a child, we sang hymns after tea every Sunday evening. We all took turns to choose the ones we wanted. I can still recall how stupid I thought the Grown-Ups were, when they took ages to realise I wanted 'Lead kindly Light' when I asked for the Miaowing hymn.

Lead kindly, light amid the encircling gloom,  
Lead though me on.

Or as I had heard it all those years ago  
.... Lead thou miaow..!

I greatly enjoyed "All things bright and beautiful", though I was rather bothered about the "rushes by the water". We hadn't got any, so it was no use expecting me to gather them every day.

We always ended with a beautiful hymn for absent friends, taken from Ancient and Modern No. 595. "Holy Father in thy mercy .... keep our loved ones, now far absent in thy care". I have never heard it since those far-off days. Perhaps it is no longer used.

I am very grateful to my Scotch Granny for teaching me "The spacious firmament on high, With all the blue ethereal sky". In the Kirk though, in which we regularly attended, we mostly sang the metric psalms. I rather liked the one which started "I like an owl in the desert am ..."

I was introduced to Moody and Sanky when I worked in a Y.M.C.A., on Salisbury Plain during the first war. "When the roll is called up yonder I'll be there"

went with a tremendous swing. I remember though that I found "Count your blessings, count them one by one, and it will surprise you what the Lord has done" rather comic during those war time years.

Now though, in my old age, after a great many "surprises", I do indeed gratefully count my blessings. It is with a sense of failure, that I admit to not adapting well to the modern, cosy, colloquial hymns. Although I know that many do enjoy them. I so much prefer to sing about "Cherubim and Seraphim casting down their golden crowns, before the glassy sea". I still do not know what that means, but perhaps we are going too far in our attempts to explain the inexplicable. "God moves in a mysterious way his wonders to perform".

Perhaps that is one of the reasons we sing hymns at all. In recognition of that mystery.

Nancy Tennant

**Good news for all deaf and hard of hearing people.**  
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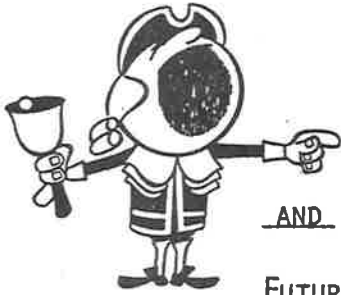
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# Village News



AND

FUTURE  
EVENTS

## VILLAGE NEWS & FUTURE EVENTS

### May

- |       |        |  |
|-------|--------|--|
| 7     | 8.00pm | Day Centre. Local History Society  |
| 9     | 2.00pm | Day Centre. Mountfitchet Evening W.I. May Fair                             |
| 13    | 10.00  | Day Centre. Meals-on-wheels Meeting  |
| 14    | 8.00   | Day Centre. B.S. Recorded Music Society                                    |
| 20    | 10.30  | 11 Greenfields. Coffee a.m. "Action for the Crippled Child"                |
| 28-31 |        | Visit of Parishioners of Chevetogne, Belgium                               |
| 28    | 8.00   | Day Centre. B.S. Recorded Music Society                                    |
| 30    | 8.00   | Ugley Village Hall Mountfitchet Evening W.I. Quiz evening (see W.I. Notes) |

### June

- |    |  |  |
|----|--|--|
| 10 |  | Conservative Association Outing to Wisley (see notice) |
|----|--|--|

## DAY CENTRE EVENTS MAY 87

- Tuesday May 5th Bingo 2.00 pm  
 Friday May 8th Members A.G.M. 2.30 pm  
 Tuesday May 12th Beetle 2.00 pm 25p  
 Wednesday May 13th Day Outing to Thursford  
 Fare £4.00 Leave 9.30 am. See list on board  
 for pick up points  
 Tuesday May 19th Bingo 2.00 pm  
 Friday May 29th Whist Drive 2.00 pm 25p

## "OUR VILLAGE"

To add another chapter to the Station Bookstall story a wonderfully recalled memory of Miss Joyce Patmore follows:

In March 1934 we moved from Burton End to Water Lane and very shortly after I began to deliver papers for W.H. Smith & Son. I was the first girl (apart from Miss Dora Snow who was then Mr. Pryke's assistant) to be on delivery, but there were several boys, among them Jack Stone, Alan Stone, Walter (Tom) Hutley, Bill Barnett, George Barry and Maurice Powell from Elsenham. We had to be at the station at 06.15 when the bundles of papers were dropped from a "through" train, and there was always a great scramble to carry the bundles into the bookstall, cut the strings, place the heaps on the bench, then we each had to sort our own: somany Times, Telegraph, Mails, etc. that we would need on our rounds.

I started on the round called Chapel Hill/C. Road. It began at No.39 Chapel Hill, every house on each side of the road from then onwards, the whole of Cambridge Road, including Clarence Road, St. John's Road and finishing at Brewery House (now pulled down). This was every morning, Mon. to Sat. and on Friday evenings to deliver the H & E Observer. For this I was paid 2s.6d per week.

I used my own bicycle (most of the time) and when I got back to the station and handed in the delivery bag I then used to fetch Mr. Pryke's breakfast - he lived at Park Road, and as he started work at 06.00 and didn't shut the bookstall until lunchtime, as he used to sell papers to the people going on the trains, he needed a meal. Mrs. Pryke always had a cooked breakfast ready on a plate wrapped to keep it hot, and in a flat bottomed shopping basket, and I had strict instructions to be careful not to tip it. I received 9d per week for this extra job.

Soon after I also took on the delivery of 4 evening papers for Mr. Dan Hockley, who lived at Manuden, to spare him coming all the way to collect those few which were delivered to the two public houses in Cambridge Road and two to private houses in St. John's Road.

This added another 9d per week - so I had a total of 4s 0d from which I had to buy what clothes I needed!

I continued to do this until after I left school, at Easter in 1935 - I then delivered papers to Widdington until the following January. I used to catch the 7.10 train from Stansted to Newport station, where a bike with 2 panniers was kept (the bike belonged to W.H. Smith) - I loaded the panniers and cycled from the station back along the main road to the turning for Widdington and commenced delivery at the first farm on the left hand side about a mile from the main road. From then on, I delivered at almost every house throughout the whole village, including Mole Hall, then a private house, and was lucky to get done and cycle back to Newport in time to catch the 10 o'clock

train back to Stansted.

On Saturday when I had to collect the money, it took longer, so I had to catch the 11.15 bus getting to Stansted about 11.45. I received 7s 6d for this job each week.

The weather that winter was bad, often slippery and snowing, and I often had to walk a good deal of the way, but I always remember how very kind a lot of the women were, giving me a hot cup of cocoa which helped a lot.

In January 1936 I got my first office job in Bishop's Stortford (at de Beers the Estate Agents) so didn't do a paper round for some time, but after I left there and came to work at the Council Office in Lower Street I used to do a village round in the mornings. I didn't have to start work until 09.00 - and the extra money was always useful.

#### STANSTED

Stansted you stand amid your green  
Of Parks and trees and wood  
You have been known from Norman times  
Your Church from then has stood.  
Your sons have fought for freedom  
And peace for years to come.  
They hoped we'd live in quietness  
Each in his happy home.  
But now our peace is threatened  
For "progress" rears its head.  
Instead of peace and happiness  
We've Dictatorship instead.  
Our land that is so beautiful  
Must under concrete lie  
While noise from planes and transport  
Will cause our peace to die  
And greedy men with half truths  
Tell us the reason why!

B. E. Turner

#### STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET EVENING W.I.

Our April meeting was well attended by members and 3 guests, who were welcomed warmly by President, Mrs. Janice Cooper. 14 members have expressed a wish to attend the Calligraphy Classes which start on Monday 13th April, with Mrs. Heath as Tutor. Brenda Ryan and Vera Ansell have agreed to organise a cake stall on the 16th September for the Coffee Morning to be held at the Day Centre in aid of Fullers Housing Improvements. We have also agreed to provide cakes for a stall at the carnival on June 27th, and to run the refreshments for the Windmill Anniversary Celebrations at the end of August. So running true to form the W.I. will be really busy with their home-baing this year! However, our activities are wide and varied it seems with 2 of our members standing again for the Parish Council, Mrs. Marion Pretty and Mrs. Pearl Wellings. Mrs. Christine Rowley is standing for the District Council for the first

time; as well as holding an exhibition of paintings and textiles with her daughter Kate at Thaxted Guildhall during Easter. We wish them all success.

Our speakers for the evening, Tanis and Martin Jordan, arrived in such good time that they even helped to put the chairs out! Tanis is a hairdresser and Martin a builder, but this they do just to save money to finance expeditions to South America, exploring where possible places hitherto unknown. With the help of superb colour slides they described two of their trips, one in 1974 to Venezuela and one in 1980 to S.E. Peru. It took 18 months to get permission to go into the Amazon Basin and up the Manu River. It is an area rich in wildlife - flowers, butterflies, insects and wild animals

abound - not the least Indian Tribes who are quite hostile! We were all terribly impressed by their resourcefulness. They were thanked by Mrs. Rosemary Minshull.

After coffee a quiz based on the T.V. series 'Catchphrase' was judged. Mrs. Bellamy won with a total of 32 points out of 36! The competition for a 'holiday find' was won by Mrs. Janice Cooper with a head of a small statuette she found whilst deep sea diving!

We are holding a fund-raising Quiz Evening on Saturday, 30th May at Ugley Village Hall from 8 pm - 11 pm. Tickets are £3 including supper and a glass of wine. All are welcome, tables of 6 or 8 are being arranged so friends and families can come along and pool their knowledge. Details of tickets will be on the noticeboards or ring me if interested.

Next month's meeting is a discussion on the proposed Resolutions for the A.G.M. in June and a demonstration by member Mrs. Olive Bunting of flower arranging.

Judy Colliver  
812470



## STANSTED AFTERNOON W.I.

At the April meeting Mrs. Stiles the President was pleased to announce that the recent coffee morning held in aid of the R.N.I.B. raised £80 and a cheque for that amount had already been sent. The guest speaker, Mrs. Sue Lamble, was introduced and held her audience spellbound as she demonstrated 'Cane Tray Making'. She told how she started her hobby which has now become a business and showed the various shapes, designs and patterns available. After the demonstration members were able to buy from the selection of cane work she had brought with her.

The competition for a favourite tray cloth was won by Mrs. Boyden with Mrs. Levy coming second.

A special competition for a home-made toy was won by Mrs. Lockwood. This toy was to go forward to the spring group meeting to be judged with others from the various Institutes in the area. All the toys made are to be given to the children's ward of the hospital.

Ann Calver  
812971

## THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION



Did you see??

In the Press of 9 April there was an account of a widow who has just travelled 10,000 miles to Japan to visit the grave of her late husband who had been a P.O.W. Her trip was largely arranged by The Royal British Legion and this shows the arrangements that the Legion is often asked to make for relatives of ex-Servicemen and Women.

In previous issues of THE LINK we said that we would be holding a Garden Party on Saturday 6 June. Owing to the difficulty of finding a suitable venue and also that the date clashes with other village functions we have decided to cancel the arrangements for the time being and we may be able to fix another date later in the year.

At the time of writing this notice we are pleased to say that all tickets for the Wine and Cheese Evening on Thursday 30 April have been sold.

**Christian Aid**



## THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION WOMEN'S SECTION

At our March meeting we heard a report on Eastern Area Conference, held at Euston Square, and saw some fascinating slides on nature and wildlife presented by Brian Wood, a warden of the Essex Naturalists' Trust.

Also in March a very successful coffee morning at the home of our President, Mrs. Gabb, raised £134.50 (including donations). Our grateful thanks to all who supported us so generously.

In May, on Thursday 21st we are having a buffet supper to celebrate our 41st birthday.

Pat Clower  
815220

## STANSTED CONSERVATIVE ASSOCIATION

The joint A.G.M. was held at the Day Centre on Friday, 13th March at 8 pm. The result of the Election of Officers was as follows:-

- (a) President - Richard Shervington
- (b) Vice-Presidents - Pat Trigg & Peter Jones
- (c) Chairman - Alan Sutton
- (d) Vice-Chairman - Anthony Ludlow-Elston
- (e) Hon. Secretary - Pam Sutton
- (f) Hon. Treasurer - Alan Corbishley

### Executive Committee Members:-

- (a) Election Organiser/Agent - Anthony Ludlow-Elston
- (b) Membership Secretary - Steve Morrison
- (c) Ex-officio Chairman of the Women's Committee - Bridget Gott

### General Committee

Jean Pennington, Margaret Bickerton, Brian Harvey, Philip Dewly and Martin Cowan.

Mr. Dirk Vettewinkel was welcomed as the new Constituency agent and the address was given by our Member of Parliament - Alan Haselhurst.

A luncheon was held on Wednesday, 11th March at the Barn Theatre, Little Easton. The guest speaker was Mrs. Angela Rumbold who spoke on education. For further information, or any other enquiries, please contact:-

Alan Cobishley - B/S 813040 or  
Bridget Gott - B/S 814440.

STOP PRESS

### CHANGE OF DATE AND PLACE OF JUNE OUTING

The outing on 2nd June to Beth Chatto's has been cancelled and replaced by an outing to WISLEY on Wednesday, 10th June. The 53 seater

coach will leave at 9.30 am and return at 6 pm. The cost of coach fare and entrance to Wisley will be £6.50.

Please book by Tuesday 26th May at the latest with Betty Waterman - B/S 813150.  
ALL ARE VERY WELCOME

Janet Hollis  
812073

## HELPLINE

We are glad to give these extracts from Helpline's newsheet.

WELL DONE! Take a pat on the back all volunteers!

The initial 6-month pilot scheme called Helpline is now well into its 3rd successful year of operation thanks to all your help and, we on the committee, thought you might like some news about how things are going.

### Demand

The demand for our services has tended to fluctuate quite a bit in terms of both the number of requests received and the type of help required. At one time nearly all calls related to providing transport and our available daytime drivers were rushed off their wheels! For many months we had regular weekend meal rotas on the go, so the cooks were kept busy and now, after a fairly quiet lull on all fronts, we are pleased that at last we are beginning to receive some very needy requests for befriending and also supporting carers - two of the main purposes for which we were set up.

### Befriending

The category of befriending the lonely/housebound etc. was seen as one of the prime reasons for bringing Helpline into existence and yet, although we know that there is a considerable need, we have had very few requests to fulfil this role. We can only assume that people in this situation find it hard to ask for this type of help - that's not difficult to understand, after all, it is much easier to ask for a lift to the chiroprapist or for someone to collect a prescription than to say "Help - I'm lonely and would love someone to pop in and have a chat and a cup of tea

now and again". Almost every time the committee meets, we discuss this problem but have not yet managed to find a way to successfully solve this situation. As we have many volunteers for this category, perhaps the answer is for us all to be aware of our

neighbours - as representatives of Helpline we cannot easily call on people without being requested or without their consent. However, we could certainly call on them in the capacity of "friendly neighbours" and in that way, if we saw that a need for befriending existed, the role of Helpline could be gently introduced if we wished to be relieved of any feeling of long-term commitment (rotas are marvellous creations!).

Or does anyone have any other ideas??

The following are some of our more light-hearted tasks:-

### Excess Baggage?

Although most of our transport requests involve local trips for the elderly, we have travelled as far afield as Gt. Yarmouth for a younger family! And one of the strangest requests we've had to deal with involved a young family and the Social Services (a lethal combination!). The Social Services were helping the family to move house from Stansted to Saffron Walden. We were asked to provide transport for the father of the family as he was described as being "too large" to fit in the removal van with the rest of the family!! The mind boggles!

### Rise and Shine

In an effort to solve a psychological as well as material problem, a small trusty (?) band of male volunteers were despatched to decorate someone's living room. The spirit of camaraderie was such that the ceiling received a coat of high gloss paint instead of emulsion! I wonder if they have noticed yet?

### Help, Help, Help

To prove that none of us are immune from the need of help - there was the case of the Helpline volunteer being called out to another Helpline volunteer about to fulfil a Helpline request only to discover his car battery was flat!

### How we are financed

Although by its very nature, Helpline has few outgoings (paying for the rather sophisticated telephone system is the main one), as a non-fund-raising organisation, we do obviously rely upon donations to keep us going. We should therefore like to take this opportunity to express our gratitude

to all the organisations and individuals who have so kindly contributed and enabled us to remain viable.

#### CAMTAD

A new area in which Helpline is assisting is CAMTAD - Campaign for Tackling Acquired Deafness - which is a registered charity, founded in Saffron Walden in 1983. Its objects are to help the deaf and hard of hearing all over the Uttlesford District.

At the moment there is only one CAMTAD volunteer in Stansted, Mr Fred Boyd, although it is hoped that more volunteers will be found soon as there is considerable demand for his services. Helpline's connection with CAMTAD is not only that Fred Boyd is on the committee of Helpline but also that anyone who has a hearing problem can contact him through the Helpline number, i.e. 816008.

If anyone feels they would like to become involved in this particular field, for which training is given during 2 sessions held on Saturdays in Cambridge, I'm sure Fred would be delighted to give you any further information you may require.

#### The Committee

As you know, Helpline was initiated by the Stansted Association of Christian Churches (SACC) and although we are now largely independent of them, they maintain a motherly eye on our overall position. Our committee therefore has member representatives from each of the churches as well as other individuals and is made up of the following:-

Chairman: Mr Laurie Hall  
Organiser: Mr Peter Pavitt  
Secretary and Treasurer: Mrs Francine Cope  
Transport Secretary: Mrs Yvonne Ayres  
Meals Organiser: Mrs Jenny Lauder  
Publicity Officer: Mr Fred Boyd  
Committee Member: Mrs Brenda Scarr  
" " Mr Michael Dyer  
" " Mrs Dawn Lidster  
" " Mrs Diana Burgess

If anyone would like to become more actively involved in the administration of Helpline and join our committee we would be happy to hear from you - there's nothing like an injection of fresh blood and ideas to prevent a committee becoming 'stale'. For that matter, any suggestions or indeed criticisms of the Helpline scheme would also be welcomed.

## MOUNTFITCHET HIGH SCHOOL



#### SILENT INITIATIVE

In order to help Cheryl Matthews with her sponsored ride on Aldaniti for the Bob Champion Cancer Trust, most members of 3N took part in a sponsored silence and spell for three quarters of an hour spelling 100 words as accurately as they could. Two people managed 100%, but honour must go to Lee Howard for his £30.80 sponsor money.

In total the class made £148.00.

#### SUPER DISPLAY

On 26th March the Superschools organisation visited the school to help with a sponsored fund-raising morning.

Pupils and staff were sponsored to take part in gym test exercises, sit ups, squat thrusts, press ups and bench jumps.

The money raised is going to be used to replace the school's mini-bus.

In the afternoon the pupils who participated were rewarded by a gym display by Jeff Davies, from Harlow, who is an international gymnast and is a member of the British Olympic team. He gave a demonstration of floor work. Another display was given by 8 year old Jason Angur, a pupil at Linton Heights Primary School in Cambridgeshire. Jason is a tremendous talent and is one of the many young sportsmen and women that the Superschool's Organisation helps through sponsorship.

The day was an enjoyable and thoroughly worthwhile occasion.

#### STANSTED 4 ST. MARY'S 4

It was our first game of the football season. We had the worst start we could have thought of. Within the first 15 mins we were 2 0 down. Then we started to play some better football when David Bolden hit the ball into the back of the net. But St. Mary's hit back with another goal before half time.

During half time Mr. Crossley gave us an ear full. The next half started a lot better with Ian Jolly putting two shots into the back of the net within the first 10 mins, but disaster struck, one of St. Mary's players got fouled in our penalty area and St. Mary's converted the penalty.

Time was running out when Adrian Law got the ball. He went round 4 players and passed to Simon Needham who went round another two players and scored. With only seconds remaining Stansted

got a penalty but St. Mary's goalkeeper saved the shot.

by Adrian Law (Capt) 4J

#### STANSTED HAVE VICTORY

It was a mild dull Saturday morning when we had to play football against Hadham Hall. It wasn't long before Stansted got the first goal from a clearance from Gavin Hockly that went over the goalkeeper's head and in the goal. A few minutes later a goal from David Ellis was scored.

A few attacks were made from Hadham Hall but were safely broken by our defence back to our goalkeeper Darren Anderson. About 10 minutes from the end of the first half we attacked and a goal was scored by Patrick Deehan.

In the second half Hadham Hall came alive and stopped all of our attacks. Hadham Hall attacked and came close to scoring but Darren Anderson was as safe as houses. Minutes away from the end a cross came in from Patrick Deehan and a Hadham Hall player headed it into his own net.

The final score was 4-0 to us.

By Grant Sceggs 2S

#### HISTORY TRIPS

On Thursday 2nd and Friday 3rd April the History Department organised two trips to Stansted Castle for the second years.

76 pupils visited the Castle and all were fascinated by the reconstruction of Norman houses and other buildings. The cold, windy weather added to the atmosphere and it all helped the pupils to understand what life was like in 1086.

This trip was used in conjunction with other work on Norman England and a study of the Domesday Records for Stansted to help the children to piece together a picture of the past.

All agreed that it was a very worthwhile afternoon out of ordinary lessons. Mr. Coxell was especially pleased by the favourable comments about the good behaviour and keen interest shown by the groups. They were presented with certificates by the administration of the castle in recognition of their excellent behaviour.

Well done to all involved!

#### P.T.A. PURCHASES

Since the start of the school year the Mountfitchet High School PTA has been very busy organising events to raise money for the school.

Amongst the fund-raising activities have been dances and a race night. The next event is on Saturday 4th April when they are holding a car boot sale at the school. For details phone Bishop's Stortford 813734.

The PTA has recently bought 2 overhead projectors, a computer monitor, shower curtains, newspapers for the school library, local history books for the library display boards, welding equipment, floodlights for the stage and closed circuit television.

All these items improve the education facilities at the school and would not be possible without the hard work of the PTA committee and the support they receive.

#### DECISION TIME

On Monday and Tuesday 30-31st March the third year pupils at the School were involved in an options course to help them understand better the world of work and to decide on their option choices for next year.

Amongst the many speakers were Mr. Springett, the Education/Industry Liaison Officer who organised the pupils in a problem solving situation.

Mr. Seymour, from the airport spoke about the opportunities being opened up by the development of Stansted as London's third airport.

There were also other speakers from local industry, health services, further education and leisure facilities.

It is hoped that this course enabled all the third year pupils to make worthwhile choices for next year.



**IMPORTANT MEALS-ON-**  
**WHEELS COFFEE**  
**MORNING AND MEETING**

WEDNESDAY, 13TH MAY

at 10 a.m.

at The Day Centre

All Meals-on-Wheels helpers are invited, also, anybody who may be interested to help in the future.

Please come along.

**STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET  
LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY**

The response to the new society has been quite overwhelming, with offers of the loan of photographs and written material for copies to be made for our records, and many suggestions of people who could be interviewed for their memories of Stansted. Although it will take some time to work through it all, nevertheless, if you have any ideas please do not hesitate to let us know.

The very well attended April meeting enjoyed a fascinating illustrated talk by Mr. W.J. Wright, on timber-framed buildings. We will now look at old buildings with new eyes, and don't be surprised if some of our members ask to look in your loft!

Next meeting at the Day Centre at 8 pm on Thursday 7th May when Mr. C.J. Going will speak on the Stansted Area in Prehistoric and Roman Times.

Peggy Honour  
Secretary  
B/S 813160

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**The Bible Society**

The Coffee Morning held on 8th April raised £96.05p for Bible Society Funds. Thanks are expressed to all who contributed in any way to make this event such a success.



**STANSTED TENNIS CLUB**

The Annual General Meeting of the Tennis Club took place on Tuesday 24th March at Little Fosters, Cambridge Road, Stansted. The following members were elected to the Committee:-

President - Richard Shervington  
Chairman - Janet Hollis  
Secretary - Phraid Gower  
Treasurer - Alan Bulley  
Hospital Cup Rep. - Hazel Smith  
Committee Members:- Gill Robinson, Mary Long, Georgina Rose, John Eyre, Richard Crosby, Richard Mott.  
Junior Representative:- Paul Grundy

A Senior Amersal Tournament to open the new season was held on Sunday 5th April. John Eyre and Paul Grundy beat Richard and John Crosby 6-3 in the Final. Tea was served by the committee and the weather was superb.

The Hospital Cup A.G.M. was held at Little Fosters on Monday, 6th April and Finals Day will be on Saturday, 25th July, at Dunmow Tennis Club.

There are still some vacancies for Junior Tennis Coaching on Tuesdays from

5pm to 6pm with Joanna King. 5th May to 2nd June inclusive. The cost is £5.25 for the course and forms may be obtained from Janet Hollis. Ages 8-14 years. Balls are supplied. You will need plimsols and a racket.

There are also vacancies for Senior Coaching on 2 Saturdays with Chris Hollis from 11 am to 12 noon. 2nd May and 9th May.

There will be a Ladies Doubles Tournament on Tuesday 2nd June in aid of the N.S.P.C.C.

The Eddie Wilby Tournament will be on Sunday 14th June at 2 pm.

The Hopkins Tournament at Dunmow will be on Sunday 28th June.

All enquiries to Janet Hollis, B/S 812073 or the Treasurer, Alan Bulley, B/S 814855.

#### HUW JOHNSON CLUB

To celebrate any birthdays during each month we have a birthday cake. In March there were 5 birthdays; so as well as a cake we decided to have party games, the usual things like pass the parcel, musical statues and musical chairs.

As you know by now, we are very good at making up new rules. This time was no exception. Kieran got fed up chasing round to get to sit on one of the chairs in the centre of the hall when there were lots of seats with nobody using them standing against the walls, so each time the music stopped Kieran strolled over and sat on his own at the side of the hall. John had then had enough of it all and chose a chair in the middle of the line and staged a sit-in.

Laurie came up with a new game (I think they play it in America). A large balloon was covered in papermache, left to dry, filled with sweets and the outside decorated. This was then hung from a hook. The children were lined up and in turn blindfolded and given a baseball bat with which they had to try to hit the balloon. Now the idea is that as each child hits the balloon it gets weaker and then bursts surprising them all when sweets scatter everywhere.

Anyway John was about 4th in line and didn't know his own strength as with 2 hits the balloon burst. Not to worry, all was not lost, there is always somebody to the rescue and we managed to get it put back together for everyone else to have a turn.

They had a lovely time collecting the sweets. Our thanks to Laurie for a new game which proved such fun.

Watch out Liverpool Football Club.

THE HUR JOHNSON CLUB OVER AND UNDER 21's ARE IN TRAINING.

We all went by invitation to Saffron Walden Football Club and anyone who was brave enough was welcome to join the players during training. Stephen was well turned out in his red and white strip. James had to be reminded to change out of his best school trousers, and Timmy was very smart in his grey suit. It had rained all day the day before so the centre of the pitch was rather muddy. Timmy walked out, nearly reached the centre, put the ball down, lifted one foot then the other, looked down, picked up the ball and walked over to the side where the grass was green and a little drier and that's where he stayed until he heard the final whistle. Everyone who took part deserved a cheer as it was a cold night. Afterwards we got together in the clubhouse for a drink and hot dogs.

Thank you S.W.F.C. I think you have got yourselves some new supporters and GOOD LUCK for your next games.

Jean Stone



#### The National Childbirth Trust Education for Parenthood

Due to a misunderstanding, I informed you all last month that the N.C.T. were buying a new television for our clinic. Unfortunately, we're not quite so rich (I wish we were) but we are making a donation to help pay for one. Never mind, every little helps!

Our Easter gathering turned out to be highly enjoyable. Fran and Pascal were the chief entertainers, singing and playing the guitar, much to the amusement of the toddlers.

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

1st May at Liz's, "Moorlands" High Lane  
8th May at Pascal's, 57 Woodfields  
15th May at Christine's, 45 Bentfield Causeway  
22nd May at Fran's, 22 Longcroft  
29th May at Frances', 31 Elm Close, Elsenham

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

7th May at Ann's, "Greenlands", Albury  
14th May at Laurie's, 8 Five Acres  
21st May a talk at Jenny's, 26 Longcroft  
28th May at Jane's, 52 Bentfield Road.

On Monday, 11th May we are meeting at The Cock for lunch at 12.30 - so keep your fingers crossed that it's a fine day.

We also need to book some good weather



for Tuesday, 19th May, as we are planning an outing to Harlow Park. Details of where to meet will be displayed on posters nearer the time, so watch out for them.

On Thursday, 21st May, we are having a talk by Behaviour Therapist, Pat Russell, on Sleeping, Eating and Tantrums (!), 10-11.30 a.m. at Jenny's, 26 Longcroft. I'm sure this talk will strike many chords and be well worth the entrance fee. Everyone is welcome to come along and see if they can pick up a few useful tips!



Just in case there is still someone out there who hasn't heard about us (The National Housewives Register) we'd like to give a short summary of our aims:-

We provide lively and stimulating meetings (most of the time anyway!) for women, on a variety of subjects. Meetings are held fortnightly in members' own homes and the subject matter is organised by the members though we do have occasional outside speakers.

At the moment we number about 20 and would welcome new members. If you would like to come along just ring Isobel on 814872 or Julie on 59129. A lift can always be arranged for anyone without transport.

Since Christmas the book group has reviewed 'Clinging to the Wreckage' by John Mortimer and 'The Girl with Green Eyes' by Edna O'Brien; we have had an evening of husbands' questions, a very informative discussion on the implications of AIDS in our Society; a light-hearted evening on the benefits of plastic surgery; a survey on Womens' Leisure - I'm sure some of you took part in this questionnaire, many thanks to those who did; and a most interesting evening with a speaker from the Samaritans who told us much of their work, history and training.

If you would like a programme of future meetings please telephone Carol or Julie or look on the noticeboard in the library. Meetings to come include a discussion on Marriage Today - this follows a recent TV programme on the subject called 'Lovelaw'; an evening of excerpts from the classics - books or records and an evening devoted to Henry Moore.

Our programme-planning meeting is coming up soon (May 27th to be exact!) and if you would like to come along, enjoy some good company and some good food then please come along and bring your suggestions as to how you would like to spend your evenings - again please ring Carol or Julie who will let you know the venue. In June we are having a trip to

the Theatre and our annual Bar B Que event in July.

We hope we have given you a taste of and for NHR. All age groups are welcome and you will find that you will soon make friends and will look forward to joining them fortnightly for informed but light-hearted discussions.

Jacky Moore  
814424

#### BISHOP'S STORTFORD RECORDED MUSIC SOCIETY

Next meeting at the Day Centre at 8.0 p.m.

14th May

Pleyel - Sinfonia Concertante  
Tchaikovsky - Symphony No. 5 in E minor

28th May

Dukas - Polyeucte  
Schumann - Piano Quintet in E Flat Op.44  
Mahler - Symphony No. 4 in G major.

Mary Scholes  
813155



'No, no, Higby. It's ding before  
dong except after bong!'

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