

Oct 87

The LINK



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STANSTED ASSOCIATION OF CHRISTIAN CHURCHES

HARVEST SUPPER

SUNDAY OCTOBER 4TH

EVENSONG AT ST. JOHN'S 6 p m

BRING AND SHARE SUPPER in

ST. MARY'S SCHOOL

after Evensong

ENTERTAINMENT AFTER SUPPER

S . A . C . C .

ONE WORLD WEEK - WHO GETS THE CREDIT?

United Service, 6.30 p.m. Sunday, 25th October
followed by an evening with our young people
and also representatives from the Justice and
Peace Movement in Bishop's Stortford at
approximately 7.30 p.m.

The Link is published monthly by the Stansted Association of Christian Churches.

Annual subscription is £1.75. To order your copy please contact
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
15th October for November issue
12th November for December issue

Harvest Appeal

Christian Aid's harvest appeal for 1987 combines celebration with gathering a new harvest of rubbish and waste.

Each week the average household in Britain throws away 18 kg of rubbish. At least 70 per cent of what goes into our dustbins could come out again recycled or reused.

In countries in the Third World poverty means virtually everything is recycled. In many shanty towns people earn a living harvesting the rubbish tips, sorting and selling waste.

Many of the richer nations fail to take the need to conserve resources seriously. Recycling is an important part of conservation and needs to be tackled worldwide.

Christian Aid's focus this harvest will be on how we in Britain can recycle our waste.

For details contact the Education Department, Christian Aid, PO Box 1, London SW9 8BH.

HUNGER

by Laurence Binyon

*I come among the people like a shadow,
 I sit down by each man's side.*

*None sees me, but they look on one another,
 And know that I am there.*

*My silence is like the silence of the tide
 That buries the playground of children;*

*Like the deepening frost in the slow night,
 When birds are dead in the morning.*

*Armies trample, invade, destroy,
 With guns roaring from earth and air.*

*I am more terrible than armies;
 I am more feared than the cannon.*

*Kings and Chancellors give commands;
 I give no command to any.*

*But I am listened to more than kings,
 And more than passionate orators.*

*I unswear words and undo deeds,
 Make things know me.*

*I am first and last to be felt of the living -
 I am hunger.*

ONCE UPON A TIME, BEFORE
 OUR LAND WAS USED FOR
 COFFEE, SUGAR AND TEA, WE
 USED TO GROW FOOD FOR
 THE PEOPLE.



LINK is pleased to welcome Mary Warnett as our S.A.C.C. "Special Correspondent". Thank you Mary for your offer of help and for your first report as under:

Our A.G.M. held on Monday, 7th September, was extremely well attended with all five churches well represented. There were no elections or resignations this year with the exception of our Secretary. Mrs. Angela Gough has had to resign this year through pressure of work and we do thank her for the splendid job she has done over the past few years. Unfortunately, we were unable to find another Secretary at the meeting, so if anyone feels he or she could help out, if only for a short term, we would be most grateful - 'phone 814521 for details.

.....

ONE WORLD WEEK

One World Week this year carried as it's theme 'Who Gets the Credit' - We shall be holding our United Service at 6.30 p.m. on Sunday, 25th October at St. John's Church followed at approximately 7.30 p.m. by an evening presented by friends from the Justice and Peace Movement in Bishop's Stortford with illustrations and thoughts on the theme. We shall be joined by our young people and everyone is most welcome.

Numerous activities will be taking place in Bishop's Stortford during the week beginning 25th October and we would encourage you to participate in these, details of which will be circulated via the churches in good time.

Debt is the focus of this year's One World Week, October 18 - 25. The week gives us time to reflect on the cost others pay for the goods we enjoy.

The easy to read planners supplement, Who Gets the Credit?, outlines the history of international debt and its link to us. It explains how debt affects the poor with stories from Third World families and explores ways of working together for a better deal.

The supplement is available from One World Week, PO. Box 1, London SW9 8BH



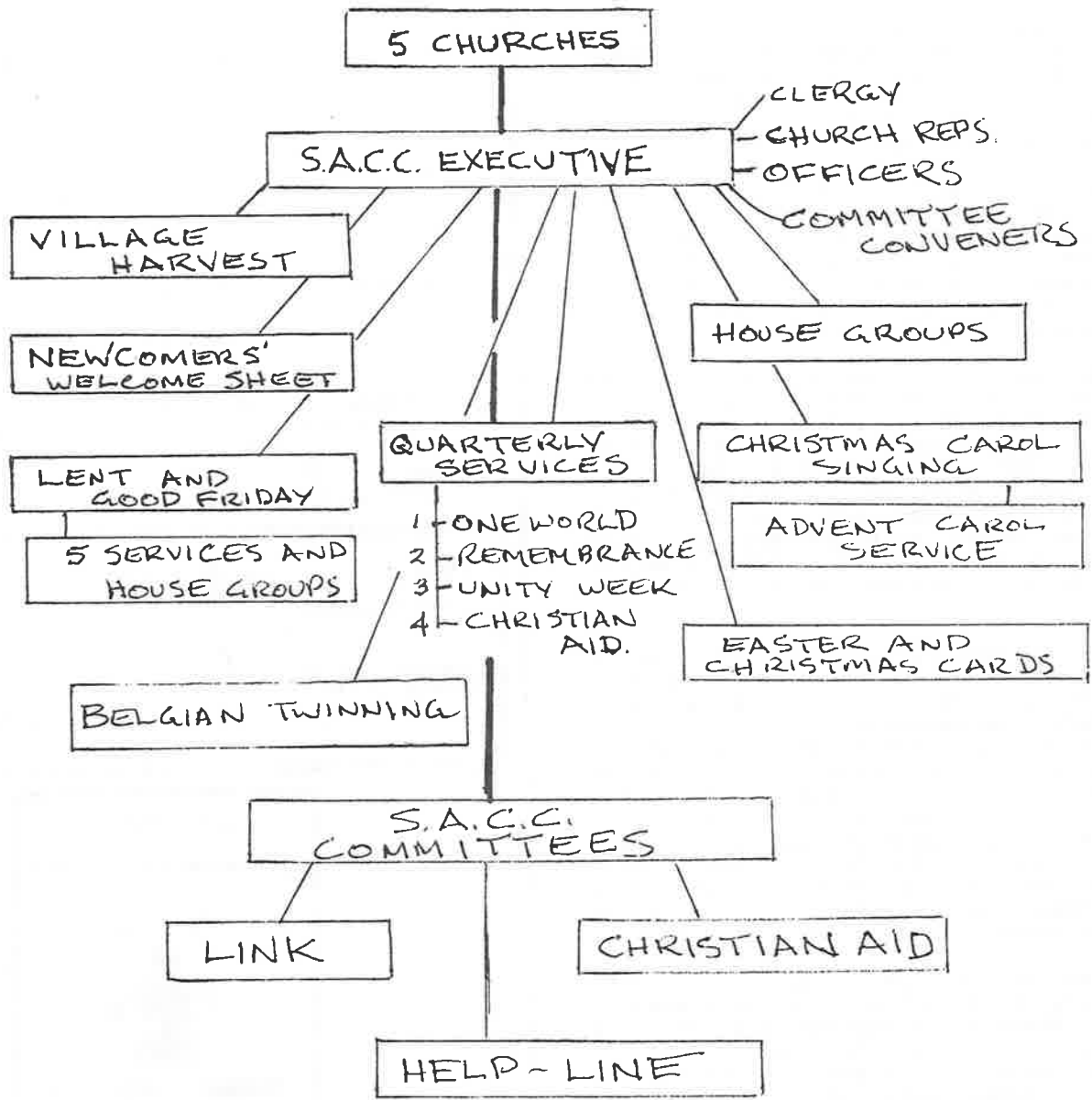
SACC

This 'Flow Chart' was presented to the A.G.M. of the Stansted Association of Christian Churches. At a glance you can see the varied activities of the Association. You can also imagine the number of those required to maintain such a programme (upward of 100 people are involved with the LINK alone!). These are all in addition to programmes of the individual churches. So if anyone ever tells you that churches don't 'do' anything (as if worship weren't enough), show them this.

A P.S. from the S.A.C.C. chairman

All this work can only be carried on with the outstanding cooperation of all the churches and the enthusiasm of the church members, to whom it is my happy privilege to pay tribute.

Eric A. McIlwain





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.

I'm always interested on Saturday mornings to hear Hope Seeley on Radio Four asking various well known personalities to tell her of a special prayer which has meant much to them, and the reason for their choice.

While listening to the programme each week I've pondered what would be my reply if posed the same question, and have come to the conclusion that one prayer in particular has been important to me for many years and must be my choice. Here is the prayer. Perhaps you know it.

"Grant us, O God, the royalty of inward happiness and the serenity which comes from living close to Thee. Daily renew in us the sense of joy, and let thy spirit dwell in our hearts, that we may bear about with us the infection of a good courage, and may meet life's ills and accidents with gallant and high hearted happiness, giving thee thanks for all things. Through Jesus Christ our Lord."

I first became aware of this prayer while still at school, when the headmaster frequently used it at morning assembly: At this impressionable age it was the beauty of the words and the life and vitality of the prayer which readily caught my youthful imagination. 'The royalty of inward happiness, the infection of a good courage, gallant and high hearted happiness,' such words rolled easily off the tongue, making me glad indeed to give thanks for all things in the carefree enthusiasm of youth.

Because of its early impact the prayer remained with me as the years passed. Soon, however, alongside the beauty of the words came the realisation that the prayer held a far deeper significance, for it spoke most perfectly to every situation one could possibly encounter in life. The royalty of inward happiness was an experience all could enjoy, through, as the prayer so beautifully expressed, the serenity which comes

through living close to God and letting his spirit dwell in our hearts.

This promise of serenity lies at the heart of the prayer, assuring us that God will provide strength to face the ills and accidents of life with gallant and high hearted happiness, confident in the knowledge that at all times, even through pain and adversity, our prayer will be answered, and the royalty of inward happiness will be God's gift to us as his love in all its fullness floods into our hearts.

Lydia Rapkin

SERVICES FOR OCTOBER

- Oct 4th - 11.00 - Rev. Lydia Rapkin
Holy Communion
6.00 Village Harvest
Service at St John's
- Oct 11th - 11.00 - Rev. Eric McIlwain
Sacrament of Baptism
- Oct 18th - 11.00 - **T.B.A.**
- Oct 25th - 11.00 - Rev. Lydia Rapkin
6.30 - One World Week,
S.A.C.C. Service at
St. John's
- Nov 1st - 11.00 - Rev. Eric McIlwain
Holy Communion

Mr. McIlwain will be on holiday from October 15th to October 29th.

ADVANCE NOTICE - the Annual U.R.C. Group Bazaar will be held on Saturday, November 7th, from 10 to 12.30 - All the usual fun and frolic - come early for the Best of British Baking and Assorted Combustibles.

NO KIDDING! URGENT!

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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

The Rev'd 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) (1st and 3rd Sundays)	-	11.30am
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.

"THE CURATE'S NOTES"

I was interested to read recently that the Church in France, inspired by the American Church, has decided to 'Jazz-up' its image of Christianity by getting into the world of media and marketing. Apparently popular fashion designers have been hired to design bright space-age costumes for the fashionable priest to wear on Sunday. Adverts will convey Christian ideas as attractively as possible. "God believes in me" reads one poster, over the image of a child.

So if your image of God is an old man, dressed like Zeus, floating on a cloud: Move over Grandad! Here comes God: young, virile and wearing tight jeans and trainers.

Unfortunately the problem with a fashion-conscious church is that fashion and marketing are the life blood of an economy that thrives on dissatisfaction and greed. Fashions change year by year not out of a quest for beauty - but because shops can make the clothes you bought last year seem like unfashionable junk. I am always amazed at the marketing of 'New improved products', like shampoo with 'unique molecular action'. Such advertising is an abuse of the market economy and reduces many people to restless consumers ready to purchase the next batch of products as they leave the factory. Worse still,

those unable to afford them are made to feel inadequate because they can't provide all that is necessary for a 'happy life' as described by the marketing man.

In consumer countries like our own (in which we are at least free to preach our faith) it is good that people be told that God believes in them. It is good that God's image be warm and bright. But God should not be treated as another product on the shelf to add to our hi-fi and video. God is not something to market to the easily led in a "New improved package" "with molecular action".

However, some things do survive from generation to generation - poverty, homelessness, conflict. It's here that God's image and brightness faces its real test, amongst issues that do not come and go with fashion but grind on, seemingly tirelessly, throughout history. In this world God is a human being who comes without marketing, without packaging - in Jesus, naked and broken on the cross. Jesus suffers with people who suffer rather than offering them cheap, new improved lives. Jesus offers a long road to freedom through love and suffering, so who can blame those who turn to the kingdom of advertisers who offer flawless models of fantasy woman, washing powder for the caring mother and a bright new world in our living rooms.

The image of the Church must not stick in the past and make a virtue out of irrelevance, but its new image must reflect the image of God in Christ. Bright and simple perhaps but chic?

Tony King



Firstly, a big thankyou to all those who contributed towards our holiday in Mundesley this summer. People's prayers, offerings of food and transport gave our holiday a great boost. Thankyou - we had an excellent time.

St. John's Youth Club has now begun a different system on a Sunday evening. In order to cater more appropriately for people's needs we have a Youth Group between 6.30 and 8 p.m. for those under 14 years of age and between 8 p.m. and 9.45 for those 14 years and over.

We will be producing a programme of events shortly, available from myself, Fr. Barry and at youth meetings.

Do come along.

Tony King

CHURCH DIARY

October

- 2nd St Mary's School Harvest Service in St John's 9.15 am
- 4th Harvest Thanksgiving in St John's Unity Evensong 6.30 pm followed by Harvest Supper
- 5th Bible Fellowship Group 8 pm
- 6th Church History Mini Lectures 8 pm
- 7th USPG and Overseas Group 8 pm The Vicarage
- 10th Day Trip to Calais - Cost £18
- 13th Education Ministry Group 8.15 pm The Vicarage
- 14th Meeting on Worship 8 pm St John's Church
- 18th Stewardship Pledges offered during Parish Communion
- 19th Bible Fellowship Group 8 pm
- 20th Prayer Support Group 8.15 pm 22 Bentfield Causeway
- 21st Meeting to discuss possible Women's Group, 8 pm, 43 Gilbey Cres
- 23rd Quiz Evening - Church Hall - 8 pm
- 25th Youth Service on One World Week 6.30 pm St John's followed by meeting in hall
- 28th St Simon and St Jude. Holy Communion 10 am

November

- 1st All Saints' Day. Sunday services as usual
- 2nd All Souls' Day. Requiem 8 pm
- 8th Remembrance Sunday - Memorial Gardens 10.55 am Unity Service in St John's

PARISH DIARIES

Marriages

- 5th Sept Paul Burton, 46 Barrells Down Road, Stortford, and Louise Houghton, 53 Manor Road

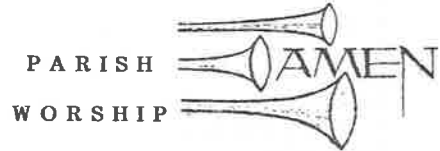
Departed

- 26th Aug Winifred Summers 68 Lower Street Aged 85 years



CALLING ALL LADIES

Some years ago we had a flourishing Young Wives Group which met on Tuesday afternoons. After a while it began to decline and so we began the Tiny Tots service for mothers and small children. However, some mothers have expressed the view that they miss the meeting when their children begin school. We have therefore decided to have a meeting to discuss the possibility of a womens group of some kind. This meeting takes place at 43 Gilbey Crescent on 21st October at 8 pm. The timing does not mean we intend evening meetings. If you are interested



Wednesday 14 October

8pm

St John's Church

A meeting to share our thoughts on worship.



ALL WELCOME

THE FRIENDS OF ESSEX CHURCHES
SPONSORED BICYCLE RIDE

A big thank you to all those cyclists and stewards who worked so hard to raise sponsorship money for their churches on September 5th. Now we have to collect in the money. When that is done please pay it in - together with the yellow sponsorship form duly completed - to your Parish Organiser -

- For Farnham church
- Ron & Betty Morris
- Methodist Church
- Fred Boyd
- St. Theresa's Church
- Mike Thompson
- St. John's & St. Mary's Stansted
- Geoff Booker

Parish Organisers have to pay in, by the end of October, to the Friends of Essex Churches, all the money raised from this event, so please don't keep them waiting.

HISTORY OF THE CHURCH IN ENGLAND

Mini Lectures
in
St Mary's School

6 October
8pm

OXFORD MOVEMENT
19th Century Education
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and
Science

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OUTING TO OXFORD

Sunday 18 October

Leave St John's 11.15am

For further details ring one of the clergy





MOTHERS' UNION

There will be NO meeting on Wednesday October 28th as the Deanery Meeting will be in St. John's Hall on Thursday October 29th at 3 p.m. Speaker, The Rev'd Rachel Stowe. Tea - Literature Stall and Bring and Buy. Help needed please with the tea - so I hope to see you all there!

Last month 4 new members were enrolled. Joan Mercer - Daphne Allard - Hazel Smith and Angela Sims - welcome to you all.

There is a Mothers' Union Diocesan day at Clacton on Tuesday October 6th - Exhibition of M.U. work entitled "Getting to Know You".



Youth Holiday to Mundesley, Norfolk,
St. John's Church, Sunday 16th August to
Saturday 22nd August 1987

At 9.15 am on Sunday 16th August, a party of twenty one youngsters and seven adults set off to the Youth Complex at Mundesley. By about 1 p.m. everybody had arrived and we ate our packed lunches on the grass in front of the house. During the afternoon we went down to the beach. It was lovely and hot so some people went for a swim and others tried to get a sun tan. In the evening we all watched a video together which made a good end to our first day.

We all spent the next morning in Mundesley. Some went to the beach again and others looked round the village. After having lunch together at the house we travelled to Cromer and went roller skating. That was really good fun as some of us hadn't skated for rather a long time. Then we split into small groups and walked round Cromer. In the evening some people went to the local pub and others watched a video.

Tuesday turned out to be another lovely hot day. Some of us played rounders after lunch, which was very enjoyable. During the afternoon we all went tracking along the cliff tops. Unfortunately, no-one could follow the trail right to the end. The group I was in walked down the path towards the windmill and then found a circle of stones with a stone in the middle, telling us to go home. That evening most people went to the cinema in Cromer and saw the film 'Crocodile

Dundee'. Those of us that stayed at the house had a good time watching the video of 'Pete's Dragon'.

On Wednesday some played rounders with a group of boys from the Boy's Brigade who were staying nearby. At lunch time we went into Cromer, to the Carnival there. At about five o'clock we all got together for crazy golf. We walked round Cromer looking for a fish and chip restaurant to sit down and eat at. Everyone we passed was full and had a queue outside. Eventually, we booked into a restaurant on the sea front, and went and watched the carnival procession. This was most amusing as a man standing in front of us was obviously the worse for drink and was marching in all different directions when the brass bands were going past. After the procession we had our fish and chip meal which was very tasty.

Next day we drove to the 'Pleasurewood Hills American Theme Park' which is between Great Yarmouth and Lowestoft. There is a bear called Woody at the theme park and a section of the park is called 'Woody's Place'. We took our own food with us and barbecued it on one of the barbecues at 'Woody's Place'. There were some very good rides at the park including a chair lift, a roller coaster and a pirate ship. As it was such a hot day the lovely ice creams they sold were most welcome. In the evening some people stayed at the house and watched a video and some of us went to the local pub.

Friday 21st August was another very hot day spent in Mundesley. Some of us took the opportunity to buy presents to take home to friends and relatives. In the afternoon I actually braved the sea and went for a swim. We all had a very relaxing day. In the evening another youth club came along to have a joint barbecue and disco with us. We decided to dance outside as we had a lovely stretch of grass outside the house. I think we all enjoyed ourselves, but the other youth group didn't seem to enjoy themselves so much. At about 10.15 p.m. the other group went home and we all went indoors and played party games as there was a thunderstorm going on. During the evening three of our young men dressed up as women and entertained us! All the week we had a 'secret pal' and we sent them messages. On the Friday evening we found out who had been writing to us. That was quite amusing in some cases!

On Saturday we packed and cleaned the house. Then we all drove to Walsingham. Unfortunately it was pouring with rain. Even through the rain it still had a wonderful atmosphere. We all had a Eucharist together in the small round Chapel there. It was very moving having a service together after spending an active week with each other. This was like the calm after the storm. After our service Tony, a friend and myself were anointed with water from the Holy Well. We had to walk down some steps together into the well. I can't explain the feeling I had when I was anointed. It made me feel like crying with happiness. We had our

lunch in the cars as it was raining so much. Going to Walsingham made a beautiful end to a lovely holiday.

Considering the age range on the holiday there were no major arguments. I would like to thank Tony King, Richard Hart, Paula Homes and Brenda Towle for putting up with us all. Thanks must also go to Gary West, Martin Corbishley and David Rose who entertained us and drove us round in their cars. I would like to thank everybody who did anything in any way to help the holiday. It was great fun. Working and living with other people for a week or so is really good.

Anna Skingle
Age 17

QUIZ EVENING QUIZ EVENING

Friday 23 October

8pm

CHURCH HALL

An evening for all the family

FUN - REFRESHMENTS - WINE

Adults £1

Children 50p



ALL SOULS DAY

This falls on November 2nd and it is a day when we remember the departed. We have a Requiem in St. John's at 8 p.m. and we hope you will come along. Names of persons to be remembered should be written on the list at the back of the church or given in writing to one of the clergy.

We do remember everyone who has died in our parish within the last year.

Winifred Summers

Our sympathy to the family of Winifred Summers who died in hospital after a stroke. She was one of our house communicants and we will miss her lively conversation. May she rest in peace.

STEWARDSHIP 87

WE ARE CALLED TOGETHER

A reminder that all pledges should be in by October 18th.



Society of Friends

Quaker Meeting House, Chapel Hill.

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

Meeting for worship: 11am.

This month my children, like so many youngsters, have been faced with the total chaos and apparent dislocation to their lives that must inevitably follow when beginning a new school. The expression of their real grief, faced with so much that is new, and their predictable feelings of loss on the realisation that old friendships and associations must be severed.

This change has meant for them the need to forge friendships anew, settle to new routines and restrictions. This period of change in their lives has caused me to again reflect on the journeys taken by so many of us during our dark years.

Faced with this darkness within ourselves, or helping to share the darkness of others, it is often impossible to imagine a way ahead. When we read in our newspapers the heartrending testimonies of those who lost loved ones in The Herald of Free Enterprise, or see the suffering relayed to millions through our television screens of those affected by the Hungerford tragedy, we ask how can these lives, and those of others that we know and love, be somehow stitched together?

Yet from the chaos of a new school term, classes restart, smiles return to pinched faces, and new life again begins to flow.

For those of us more battle worn the journey is often longer, darker and often more painful. Perhaps for many the knowledge that many have travelled this way before can be a great help. For me last week the simplicity of the hymn 'He who would valiant be ...' sung at a school assembly, helped to signify for me the strength of the human spirit to rise above evil and despair. How apt that this is often known as the Pilgrims Song as the words sing out ...

No foe shall stay his might
Though he with giants fight:
He will make good his right
To be a pilgrim.

For many the promise of the Gospels and the words of Holy men throughout the ages become our comfort and our guide. Consider these words from Isaiah:

Say to them that are of fearful heart,
Be strong, fear not ... And an
highway shall be there, and a way ...
and it shall be for the wayfaring
man. Ch. 35.

Perhaps too, as we draw on our own limited wisdom to assist our children in

facing new beginnings, we may find new light and vision from unexpected places. It is good to recall these words written so many centuries ago by Julian of Norwich:

All shall be well
and all shall be well
and all man of things
shall be well.

D. Crook

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 year was 1937 and my brother, who was then 24 and a very skilled painter and decorator, had set up in business in his trade and had several people working for him. One of these was Arthur, aged 17, who, because he was simple-minded and barely educable, had had great difficulty in getting a job. My brother had taken pity on Arthur and given him a job and paid him pretty well for those days. His rate of pay was seven old pence and three farthings per hour - nearly three new pence in today's currency.

Perhaps Arthur could have managed to work out his weekly wage if it had been forty hours at three pence. But forty hours at seven pence three farthings was quite beyond him. He disputed the amount in his wage packet. It didn't seem enough. 40 times 7 and three quarters would appear to be a large amount. My brother tried to show him by mental arithmetic and in a written sum that the amount in the wage packet, one pound five shillings and ten pence was correct. Arthur would have none of it.

Then my brother hit on the way of convincing his not-very-bright employee. Or so he thought! "Go and get Jack Ward's ready-reckoner", he said. Arthur was soon back with a very old and battered copy - Jack's nineteen-thirties equivalent of the electronic calculator! The appropriate page and line were soon found. There it was in black and white 40 at $73/4 = £1:5s:10d$. It was beyond dispute. But not with Arthur. Flinging aside the old and tatty ready-reckoner he exclaimed "Yer can't tek any notice o' that old thing, it's a sanguinary (not his word!) old un."

The little crowd of workmen who had gathered by this time found it all very amusing. And so perhaps do we. For we are clever and we know that the laws of mathematics do not change. In every age and place five times ten will be fifty, etc. But when it comes to moral and spiritual laws are we not often as simple-minded or perverse as Arthur? And

perhaps much more so. Only when I profoundly respect another person's unique personhood can I properly relate to him. Only when true justice obtains can peace prevail. Only by living together in mutual interdependence can we all find real significance and worth. These things (and many similar) are never out of date. Yet we often live as though they are. I laughed heartily at Arthur's obvious stupidity. Even though I was only 12 I could see how ludicrous his attitude was. Yet often since I have failed to see how ludicrous my behaviour has been when I have allowed some temporary expedient to elbow out some eternal truth. How about you?

Best wishes.

Harold Fisher

Shalom - Chrishall Capers

The Shalom group started its activities for the autumn season in a novel way on 4th September by grabbing pots, pans and sleeping bags and descending on the Methodist Chapel in the NW Essex village of Chrishall. Although permission was granted (not by the residents!) for us to camp in the graveyard, we decided that the hall floor would be more homely, and less crowded! Seven of us put our heads down by midnight on the Friday night after having had a good supper of soup and more soup (for some of us) followed by a little something at the William the Fourth in Heydon. Actually there were eight of us, and some of us were treated to the patter of tiny feet throughout the night - at least he didn't bark!

Saturday morning seemed to last for ages, because it started with Harold deciding that he would sneak off home at 7 am to fetch something more comfortable to sleep on: but having woken us all up, it was tea in bag (sleeping, that is), followed by a full English breakfast. We then awaited the day visitors who turned up in great numbers ready for the grand ramble.

Those who had taken notice of the instruction to bring suitable footgear were not much better off than those who didn't, because everyone was plastered by the time we arrived at the Woodman for lunch (please leave shoes outside!). Some of the less foolhardy took the easy way home, whilst others put their trust in Jim and his map, which seemed to make no mention of stinging nettles, barbed wire and bogs, etc.

The cooks struggled valiantly with the Saturday evening barbecue, but in the end the rain won, and we retreated to the hall where we were treated to some spontaneous contributions of a vocal nature. For once Harold was lost for words, but I understand that in the middle of the night he was able to recite the whole of 'Albert and his horse's 'lead 'andle' without a single mistake!

It was good to join for worship with the

Chrishall Methodists on Sunday morning, and they were no doubt pleased to see that their premises has suffered no ill effects from our sojourn. Sunday lunch was a masterpiece, and was further proof of Judy's culinary prowess. Thankyou Judy, and all those who helped to make the weekend so enjoyable. We say 'Shalom' to Jonathan as he leaves us to start a teachers' training course in Cheltenham.

Michael Dyer

SHALOM GROUP MEETINGS

5th October at 7 Burnells Way
 19th October at 4 Greenfields
 2nd November at Blythwood House,
 Blythwood Gardens

A Gift in Jerusalem

It was in May 1963, when I was sitting at a table outside the shop of the Dakkuk Brothers in Jerusalem. I came to know them quite well, especially Salim who was later shot dead by a robber outside his house in Bethany. I remember the occasion vividly because they pointed out to me an Arab sitting at one of their tables. "It is Yasser Arafat" they said, and I had to confess at that time that I had never heard of him!! The Dakkuk brothers gave me a delightful gift of a long jacket made in a distinctive style and with seven different colours, together with black robe and headdress. I wore it on a journey through the desert to Petra and members of my party joked at me that it was a woman's garment. "Oh no" said an Arab at the Ma'an Resthouse in the Hejaz, "it is the robe of a Chief Designate". I was grateful for his intervention. I still have the coat and showed it to members of the Shalom Group a few months ago.

Long, long ago, Jacob was not just giving his son, Joseph, a beautiful coat of many colours (or of long sleeves). He was choosing this 'tale-bearing', somewhat offensive boy to be the chief of the tribe after his own death. No wonder his older brothers were jealous of him. The coat was a symbolic and ritualistic one, still used for this purpose in Bedouin tribes today. The colours and design they use are very similar to the one I have.

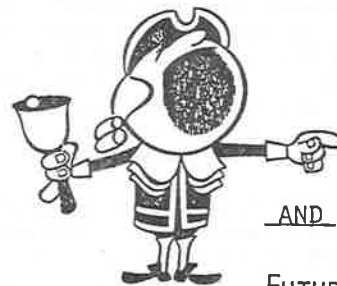
Through the unpleasant and somewhat selfish veneer of the young Joseph, his father, Jacob, detected those characteristics that would equip him in later life to be a great leader and to be a witness of the things of God. He was a visionary who could also respond practically to the things he saw and was obedient to God's guidance. Jacob had made his observations about his young son's potential with great shrewdness, as Pharaoh, King of Egypt, was to

discover. In good report and ill (and perhaps the ill-use the despised brother suffered was for the ultimate benefit of himself and others) Joseph was to bear witness, in the spirit of God's guidance, to the people of the Middle East more than four thousand years ago. He was a reconciling, irenic power for good.

The reality has not changed. Puffed up (tale-bearing), self centred people such as we are can be transformed by God into those capable of leading and guiding the thoughts and ways of others who seek for Him. It is worth reading again chapters 37 and 39 to 45 in Genesis.

Ronald Rawlings

Village News



AND

FUTURE
EVENTS

October

4	6.00	St John's Unity Evensong & Harvest Supper
6	8.00	St Mary's School. Mini Lectures. The Oxford Movement
8	8.00	Day Centre. B.S. Recorded Music Society
10		St John's Day Trip to Calais
15		Day Centre. Royal British Legion (Women's) AGM
18	11.15	St John's Outing to Oxford
19-22		Crafton Green Car Park - skip available
22	8.00	Day Centre. Recorded Music Soc
23	8.00	St John's Hall. Quiz Evening
25	6.30	St John's. One World Week service and youth meeting

November

8	10.55	Memorial Gardens. Remembrance Sunday. St John's Unity Service
13	Evening	St John's Hall
		Sideways Nursery School AGM
14	2.00	Brownie/Guide Jumble Sale
		Brownie/Guide Hut Lower St

HUV JOHNSON CLUB FOR HANDICAPPED CHILDREN
GARDEN PARTY

In spite of the bad weather which meant moving the Garden Party to St. John's Hall, the day still proved to be a great success. Everyone agreed that the lunches served were excellent value and many satisfied customers left the hall clutching tombola and raffle prizes, not to mention the delicious cakes given for the cake stall.

Many thanks to all who contributed prizes, donations and items to sell, helping to raise the grand sum of £290. A special thankyou to all those helpers who worked so hard on Friday and to those who struggled in the downpour to transfer everything to St. John's Hall on Saturday morning.

A NEW LOOK FOR THE CLUB

Many of our members are now adults and their needs are not the same as our younger members, so we are exploring the idea of having a special early evening session for our younger members, with the adult members arriving at a later time. In order to do this we will need more helpers and more Club Members. The younger members will attend from 6.30 p.m. until 8.00 p.m., with adult members arriving at 8.00 p.m. and staying until 10.00 p.m. If you are a parent of a handicapped child who would like to come to the Club, or if you could offer

assistance as a Club helper, or a driver, please contact Marion Johnson on 812284. You may feel that you might like to help, but cannot come every week. Even once a month would be a useful contribution and would relieve the regular helpers who now feel guilty if they have a Thursday off. If more people offered their help as drivers, children from outlying villages could attend the Club, thus giving their families a much needed break.

Marion G. Johnson

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

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Campaign for Tackling Acquired Deafness

COMES TO STANSTED

If you have a hearing problem

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9.00 am.-4.00 pm. LINE 816008.



The Windmill Fayre was a great success and our small display created a good deal of interest. We were able to enrol new members and also to answer questions from visitors.

One young man came to the display and said that The British Legion was no longer necessary and that it was for old men who had nothing better to do! He changed his views when we told him that, in the 41 years since 1946 there was only one year when British Servicemen had not been killed somewhere in the world. He was also surprised to learn that there are now no fewer than 8 million ex-servicemen and women in the UK many of whom want and receive help from the British Legion. And the Legion helps young men and women leaving the Forces now to train and obtain new training and employment.

.....

This year's Poppy Appeal House-to-House Collections commence on Monday 26 October. The need is greater than ever so please give even more generously this year and help us to a new record for Stansted.



RAINBOW PLAYGROUP

The new term commenced on 7th September last and Mum & Co. began on 9th September. Mum & Co welcomes all mums and Under-5's for a chat and cup of tea very Wednesday during term time 1.30 p.m. - 3.30 p.m. Do come and join us.

The Playgroup held a colouring competition at the Windmill Fete which proved to be a huge success. The winners of each group selected by Mrs. Pearl Wellings were as follows:-

U/5s Natalie Bowes
5-8 yrs Caroline Tully
9+ yrs Frances Malley

Can we take this opportunity to thank everybody who took part and made the judges decision such a difficult one. Together with the profits from fishing game and bran tub the playgroup were pleased to present the Windmill Committee with a cheque for £16.

Mrs. T.M. Stockwell
813446


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STANSTED TENNIS CLUB

The Pearce Cup American Tournament for Senior Members will take place on Sunday 18th October. There will be a Barbecue Lunch before the tournament.

This will be the last Sunday afternoon tennis of the year.

On Sunday 25th October we start playing in the mornings from 10 a.m.

Winter membership is available for Senior and Junior Members from 1st October to 31st March at half the annual subscription.

All enquiries to Janet Hollis B/S 812073.



MOUNTFITCHET GARDEN CLUB

It was a delight to see new faces at our September 2nd meeting. Unfortunately the advertised speaker was unable to attend. The evening was saved by Mrs. Drew, a committee member, who produced an excellent slide show at very short notice.

Thanks to all those who attended our Autumn Show on September 5th. We hope this has given you an insight into our Club.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday October 7th when our guest speaker will be Mr. Hooper on the subject of bees.

S. Wilkinson

STANSTED FIREMEN

STANSTED FIREMEN WISH TO THANK EVERYONE WHO SUPPORTED THEM AT THEIR RECENT JUMBLE SALE.

DESPITE THE TERRIBLE WEATHER APPROX. £600 WAS RAISED FOR FIRE SERVICE CHARITIES



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Entrance 25 pence including coffee and biscuits

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Hunting for a bargain? STANSTED BROWNIES & GUIDES

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Brownie/Guide Hut
Lower Street

on

SATURDAY 14TH NOVEMBER

at

2 p.m.



"OUR VILLAGE"

In 1787 Joseph Linsell built a Windmill for to work in the village. On August 31st 1987 (Bank Holiday Monday) a grand 200th Anniversary Celebration Country Fayre was held. After months of pre-planning under a Working Party headed by Mrs. Summers, their dedicated work was to be put to test.

The recent weather must have caused urgent concern owing to the sun not being able this year to do its summer justice. Perhaps the numbers of fingers kept crossed does have some part to play, for Monday morning broke well and fine with not a cloud to be seen around 6.30 a.m.

The Marquees erected on Sunday (being guarded overnight by four young helpers) threw pleasing shadows upon the Recreation Ground for this was to be the site of the main attractions. We should at this point recall the set sails during the Mill's working life. From around 8 a.m. onwards much activity was taking place, bunting being strung from house to lamp-post to tree (doing ladder work to the strains of Twelve Street Rag is not recommended), railings decorated, side shows, stalls, displays and rides began arriving to be put up in their designated spot. The Public Address System plugged in and tested "Good morning, can you hear me?", Dais placed in turning circle, depth of hold for tree planting checked, spade, soils and stake available. Area roped off for Morris Dancing, cut and looking like the outfield at Lords; an unexpected gust of wind removing two plants from Plant Stall; flowers and vegetables barrowed in for Garden Club (2 onions must have accounted for one load). Tables and chairs laid out for teas, bric-a-brac laid out, First Aid Post set up, railway track erected, finishing touches at the Art Exhibition; Fair Maidens flitting around dressed in costume befitting the occasion, whilst at the Windmill all made ready to allow so many visitors to marvel at its wonders.

Near to the appointed time of 2.30 p.m. the opening ceremony took place. Mr. Boyd spoke of the fun to be had, Mrs. Wellings welcomed and introduced Lord Blyth who duly opened the Fayre and planted a Hornbeam Sapling within the Recreation Ground to make occasion.

The afternoon then witness a large crowd enjoying a choice of some 50 attractions, two unexpected visitors passing overhead: an R.A.F. Vulcan and The Amphibian Catalina. To round off events the Grand Draw was made and prizes given. Those that had kneaded the dough saw their

loaves auctioned.

Soon after 5 p.m. the dismantling began and by 8 p.m. no trace was left save for our thanks to all organisers, sponsors, helpers and visitors for making this a memorable day.

P. J. Brown



PEOPLE'S DISPENSARY FOR SICK ANIMALS

Many thanks to my friends, neighbours and everyone who contributed and supported my effort for the P.D.S.A. at the Windmill Fayre on August 31st.

Tea Cloths, cards, diaries and calenders sold briskly as did various other items, enabling £74.95p to be sent to the Animal Treatment Centre at Redbridge, to help sick and injured pet animals, many of these being loving companions of aged pensioners who appreciate the service of the P.D.S.A. and thereby helped the Windmill Fund!

My thanks again.

Evelyn Tame

ACTION RESEARCH

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Catherine Dean, 813579,
Katy Dockerill, 812997,
or any committee member.



Sideways Nursery was pleased to be involved in the Windmill Fayre which was held on Bank Holiday Monday. We had a Tombola Stall which was very popular and it was nice to be able to donate the proceeds towards the Windmill Fund.

Our future events include a sponsored swim which will take place at the Friends School at Saffron Walden and we are hoping for a good turn out.

We will be organising a Nearly New Sale of children's clothes which will be one morning during playschool.

Our A.G.M. is on 13th November at St. John's Hall in the evening and everyone is welcome to attend.

If you are interested in your child joining Sideways please call in any morning at St. John's Hall.

Mrs. J. Lunn



STANSTED NATIONAL WOMEN'S REGISTER

On Saturday 5th September, members of Stansted National Women's Register gathered at the home of Sharon and William Frogley for the group's annual B.B.Q. It was a good occasion and for the first time in three years it did not rain! A super evening and thanks to Sharon and William.

The meetings taking us up to Christmas are wide-ranging and members no doubt will be busy researching the topics under discussion. Subjects include a study of Ireland and of the life and works of Segovia. We are also looking forward to our speaker from the St. John's Ambulance Brigade, who is talking to us in this, the Brigade's centenary year.

If you are interested in joining N.W.R. or would like to know more please contact Isabel Mayo 814872 or Julie Cooper B.S. 59129.

WINDMILL FAYRE LIST OF GRAND DRAW WINNERS

1st	£50 note	Mr & Mrs H E Hall
2nd	Cox Photo Voucher	Peter Pavitt
3rd	Millers Hamper	Mr Davison
4th	Large Bottle Whisky	J. Clark
5th	Bottle Champagne	Mr Heath
6th	Snoopy Lamp	Mrs Pope
7th	Hairdressing Voucher	Mr Pearce

8th	Torch	Mr Garnell
9th	Book	Mr Abbott
10th	Clock	Mr Burns
11th	Box of Toys	Mrs Sanders
12th	Box of Tennis Ball's	Mrs Piddell
13th	Box of Chocolates	Mr Pennington
14th	Basket of James	Continental Cars
15th	Wine	Mr Pennington
16th	Wine	Mr MacDonald
17th	Wine	Mr Green
18th	Wine	Mr Skingle
19th	Wine	Alexander Stiles
20th	Wine	J S Davies
21st	Wine	Mrs Harrison
22nd	Wine	Janet Watts
23rd	Wine	J Pottinger
24th	Wine	Mr Little
25th	Pot Pourri & Bowl	Mr Bowles
26th	Figurine	J Townsend
27th	Handbag	Miss Berry
28th	Teas	Mrs Gwen Harbridge



Forty seven members from seven villages attended the Group AGM in the Town Hall, Saffron Walden, on 9th September. The County Chairman and Treasurer were our guests and we had a lively discussion on all kinds of interesting questions which members raised.

Officers elected to serve the Group for the coming year are:-

Chairman - Mrs. V. Levey - Stansted
 Vice Chairman - Mrs. P. Sanford - Birchanger
 Secretary - Mrs. D. Dyer - Saffron Walden
 Treasurer - Mrs. B. Leach - Clavering
 County Representative - Mrs. E. Little - Stansted

Our branch AGM is on Thursday, 15th October in the Day Centre. Do come along - we welcome your ideas. Pat Clower

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Windmill Fayre - Monday 31st August

Many thanks to all who supported this event - we have been rewarded by making a profit in excess of £2,100. In addition the coffee morning in aid of the Windmill Appeal held on 15th July at Mrs. Bridget Gott's house raised £113 and the Barn Dance on 29th August raised in excess of £380.

List of Grand Draw winners is attached - if there is room in this issue.

FOUND at the Fayre

- one small silver coloured ring
- one key - possibly a car key
- one child's umbrella

These are in the Council Office awaiting their owners.

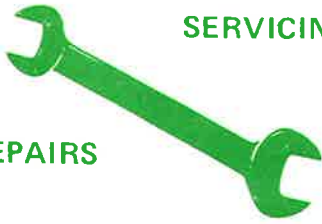
SKIP DATES

The next skip will be in the Crafton Green Car Park from Monday 19th October until Thursday 22nd October.

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