

Mar 88

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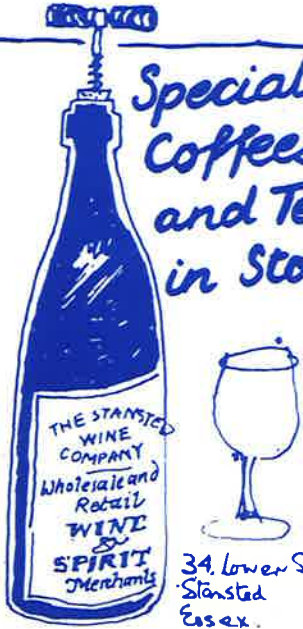
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**WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER
(Interdenominational)**



"OPEN DOORS"

**FRIDAY, MARCH 4TH
2.00 P.M.**

UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

SPEAKER: Rev. Evelyn Cairns

Creche available in Hall Tea afterwards
Collection for Christian Literature Societies

UNITY SERVICES FOR LENT

Sunday March 6th	6.30	St. John's - Rev. M. McAdam (Anglican) Theme: "Inside Out"
Sunday March 13th	6.30	Friends Meeting House, Society of Friends Theme: "Little and Large" (Quaker)
Sunday March 20th	7.00	United Reformed Church The Agape Please note the later time of the Agape

Leaflets giving details of all Holy Week and Easter Services will be delivered house-to-house, as usual, throughout the village.



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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
17th March for April issue
14th April for May issue

SACC

FAREWELL TO BARRY ROSE

As we all now know, Barry and Janet Rose and their family are leaving Stansted after Easter. Barry has been Vicar of Stansted since 1979 and of Farnham since 1986. He has been an enthusiastic and caring leader for almost a decade, during which time he has also been very supportive of the village's ecumenical activities.

The Churchwardens have organised an "At Home" for Barry and Janet on Easter Monday, 4th April, in St. John's Church from 7 pm until 9 pm to which all parishioners and families are invited. Wine and soft drinks will be available and there will be a "bring and share" finger buffet.

Presentations will be made during the evening and contributions may be given to either of the Churchwardens:-

Alan Corbishley, 36 Bentfield Causeway
John Newby, 10 Hargrave Close

HELPLINE

In the last few months we have experienced some administrative "hiccups" - Peter Pavitt, the Organiser, expressed his wish to be relieved of this important role due to personal responsibilities, and Laurie Hall, our Chairman and Catholic representative, finally decided to exchange the damp chill of England for the sunny climate of Spain. Both Peter and Laurie have been with Helpline since its inception. Laurie was also one of our "listeners-in" (manning the telephone) and, more often than not, performed the requested tasks himself. Always sensitive to the needs of others, he will be missed by the Helpline committee as, I am sure, by the many people in Stansted whom he has so selflessly helped. We wish him and Paula every happiness in their new life in Spain.

Peter was greatly instrumental in getting Helpline "off the ground" in 1984 and has expertly steered us along ever since, overseeing the smooth running of the whole operation. We sincerely hope that he will be in a position to continue as an ever-invaluable member of the Committee.

I am, however, delighted to report that Mrs. Yvonne Ayres has agreed to take over the role of Organiser, still as Transport Officer - an arduous position which she has fulfilled admirably for the last 2½ years. Fred Boyd, our Publicity Officer and CAMTAD representative, has kindly agreed (with a little help from his friends!) to fill the breach as Chairman and we welcome Mrs. Jackie Jones to the Committee as the new Catholic representative.

By now you may have received one of our leaflets - just to remind/advise you that we are here either to try and assist with any problems or to welcome your voluntary assistance.

Existing volunteers, please note - it would greatly help us to keep our records up-to-date if you could advise us of any changes in your circumstances, e.g. moving house, changing telephone number or particularly changes in your times of availability or willingness to continue as a volunteer. If you have not been called upon for some time, we are not ignoring you, it's just a temporary lull in demand. It does not mean that we don't need any more volunteers - who knows what demands tomorrow might bring

Francine Cope
Secretary

The Service held at the Quaker Meeting House in the Week of Prayer for Unity was a true source of inspiration for the large number from Stansted and beyond who were able to attend.

Our sincere thanks to all members of and Society of Friends who contributed in any way to the spirit of peace and unity of that Sunday evening.



"LINK'S LOOK" - A VIEWPOINT

"You asked for views on the new format - I preferred the two-column style - it is much easier to read and must be more effective with regard to use of space. Certainly some items might be better going across the page, but generally I think the two-column layout works better. Why not have a mixture?"

Having said that, I do enjoy reading the Link (so does my husband who is a Stansted "boy") and think you and your team do a first-rate job."

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.

Stansted Services for March 1988

March 6th	11.00 am	Holy Communion, the Rev. Eric McIlwain
	6.30 pm	Lent Service - Methodists
March 13th	11.00 am	the Rev. Lydia Rapkin
	6.30 pm	Lent Service, Friends Meeting House
March 20th	11.30 am	the Rev. Eric McIlwain
	7.00 pm	AGAPE - URC Lecture Hall
March 27th	11.00 am	PALM SUNDAY - the Rev. Clifford Taylor
April 3rd	10.30 am	EASTER - Holy Communion

Because Easter is so early this year (April 3rd, as you know), and because Easter Sunday will be Vicar Barry Rose's last Sunday at St. John's before he goes to Halstead, this is the time to say, from the U.R.C. constituency, how very much we shall miss him.

During his years in Stansted Barry has been a pastor to the whole village, regardless of any individual's church affiliation. Even to those of us who are not C of E he has been "our Vicar" and I doubt if more can be, or need be said.

When you read that, you know that more is coming! But only this: we are losing a personal friend and a highly-regarded fellow-minister.

As they move to pastures new we wish every happiness to Barry and Janet in their new church. God bless you as we do, and keep you, as we cannot, except in our hearts.

On behalf of the Minister, the Elders and congregation of the United Reformed Church, Stansted Group.

Eric McIlwain

Report from the United Reformed Church Guild

Miss Conroy came to see us again and gave us a talk about her early training as a nurse. We were transported to the days when Matron ruled the ward and the routine of doctors rounds. How different in those days.

In her early training the nurses had to clean and polish floors and clean the wards - now a thing of the past. They worked under strict discipline but had excellent training.

M. C. Johnson

LETTER OF THANKS (see February Link)

I received a letter of appreciation from Dr. Eaton to all concerned with the memorial to Nicola and I felt that you might be interested in part of the letter.

Dr. Eaton said that in the last eight years, since S.W.A.G. has been formed, the doctors have been called out over 1500 times and attended over 3000 people, who have been injured, or taken suddenly ill at home, work, etc. Each doctor carries approximately £3000 worth of medical equipment as well as radio and bleep.

Due to rapid increase in telephone charges it now costs well over £10,000 per annum for telephone bills, radio land lines, and maintaining and replacing equipment.

P. Little

**Coffee
Morning**

The annual Bible Society Coffee Morning will be held on April 13th at 58 Chapel Hill, Stansted from 10.30 a.m. to 12 noon. There will also be a Bring - Buy Stall.



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

UTTLESFORD CAMTAD

Campaign for Tackling Acquired Deafness

COMES TO STANSTED

If you have a hearing problem

RING — HELP B.S.
9:00 am - 4:00 pm. LINE 816008.

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

The Rev'd Christopher Kevill-Davies
The Old Bakery, Berden.
Tel: 78625

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 - 9.15am
Friday - 7.45am

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



VICAR'S NOTES

One characteristic about Stansted is that people seem to care for one another. It is a small enough community for people to know what is going on. I am constantly being told of people who are sick at home or in hospital. We clergy therefore visit all over the place - Harlow, Cambridge, London, Epping, Romford - and, of course, Bishop's Stortford. Because of this network of information we meet a great number of people over the years and we have a satisfying ministry.

But we not only visit the sick in this parish - clergy and laity pray for them every day. We do our best to keep our intercession list up to date and we are just starting a new scheme for which we ask your co-operation. At the back of St. John's Church are cards on which you are invited to write the name of any person who is ill for whom you wish us to pray. The person may be a neighbour, friend or relative, no matter where they live. Post the card in the box provided - "COMMUNICATIONS TO THE VICAR" - and we shall pray for that person for one month. If you wish prayers to continue longer than one month please write another card. Then we are asking for people to offer to pray for the sick. They will be given one or two names to pray for for one month. Ragni Whitlock is organising all this for us so if you want to help with the work of prayer, give her a ring on 816070.

As well as prayers we also administer the sacrament of unction when we anoint with holy oil with the laying-on of hands. We do this after due preparation. So if you want this sacrament please speak to one of the clergy.

We believe by visiting, praying and through the sacraments of the Eucharist and Holy Unction we continue Christ's healing ministry on earth. We ask you to help us.

* * * * *

As I write I have just heard that Dorothy Kershaw has died. She never recovered from the stroke she suffered in her home. She was a life long communicant of the Church and received the sacrament, in later years, at home once a month - and always with devotion and preparation. Many of her former pupils remember her with affection and gratitude. May she rest in peace and rise in glory.

* * * * *



We are sorry that Richard and Isobel Mayo and their children have moved from Stansted. Isobel was a great help in the Church and her lively mind was an inspiration to us. We shall miss her on our Education Ministry Group.

We wish them every happiness in their new home in Paignton.

* * * * *

I wish you a marvellous Holy Week and Easter and details of services are printed elsewhere.

God Bless.

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

Palm Sunday	Holy Communion 8am Blessing of Palms, Procession and Parish Communion 9.20am Service of Hymns, Lessons and Anthems 6.30pm
Monday and Tuesday	Holy Communion 7.30pm Stations of the Cross 8pm
Wednesday	Holy Communion 10am Stations of the Cross 8pm
Maundy Thursday	Holy Communion 10am Sung Eucharist 8pm Chain of Prayer 9pm to midnight
Good Friday	Holy Hour 12 noon Children's Service 2pm Stations of the Cross at St Theresa's 7.15pm followed by procession to St John's. Unity service in St John's 8pm approx.
Holy Saturday	Easter Vigil Service of Light 8pm
Easter Day	Holy Communion 8am St Mary's Family Communion 9.30am St John's Holy Communion 11.30am St John's Baptisms 4pm St Mary's Festal Evensong 6.30pm St Mary's



MOTHERING SUNDAY

13 MARCH

PARISH COMMUNION - 9.30am
(Distribution of Flowers)

There will be a stall with suitable small items for children to buy for their mothers on 6 March and 13 March



E X P A N S I O N

Mini Lectures on Church History

St John's Church

Monday 11 April 1988

8pm

* * * * *

- Expansion of Ideas - Religion and Science - Jane Freeman
- Expansion of Towns and Cities - Alastair Bone
- Expansion of the Church Overseas - Ragni Whitlock

* * * * *



FELLOWSHIP GROUP

Future dates: * (Please note change of place on Mar 9th)

- * March 9th at Francis Dodd's, 45 Sunnyside
- April 13th at Ragni Whitlock's, 38 Bentfield Road



Come and join us. No invitation needed. Male or female, young or old, we would love to see you. If you would like to know more, phone Ragni on 816070 or Fran on 815817 or Katy on 812997.

CHURCH DIARY

MARCH

- 6 Preacher at 6.30 pm in St John's: Rev'd Michael McAdam, Vicar of Much Hadham
- 13 Mothering Sunday. Distribution of flowers at 9.30 am service
- 14 Pastoral Care Group, 38 Bentfield Road, 8 pm
- 16 Social Committee 8 pm
- 19 Confirmation Worship Day in Church Hall
- 20 Agape Supper at URC Hall 7.30 pm
- 21 PCC Meeting 8 pm
- 25 Annunciation of our Lord to B.V.M. Holy Communion 7.45 am
- 27 Holy Week Services begin. See elsewhere in Link for services.

APRIL

- 3 Easter Day
- 11 Mini Lecture in St John's Church 8 pm
- 18 Church A.G.M. Church Hall 8 pm



PARISH REGISTERS

DEPARTED

- | | | |
|--------|--------------------------------|---------------|
| 22 Jan | Lily Steer, 7 St Mary's Drive | Aged 82 years |
| 29 Jan | Ida Bailey, 7 Fullers Houses | Aged 91 years |
| 10 Feb | Harry Palmer, 20 Normans Court | Aged 77 years |

THANK YOU

This year half of our Christmas Collections were given to the Northern Ireland Childrens Holiday Scheme which brings children, Protestant and Catholic, together. Thanks to your generosity we were able to send nearly £200.



MOTHERS' UNION

No meeting this month - as it is the Deanery Service on Lady Day - March 25th - Friday. Please note, the service takes place at 10.30 am in Newport Church. If you require transport please let me know.

Margaret



YOUTH NEWS



Well, it's time to think about a holiday! This year the Youth Group are joining a holiday organised by Chelmsford Diocese on the Isle of Wight. The dates are August 27th to September 3rd. The week includes sailing, canoeing, horseriding and lots more, and costs £65. It's extremely good value indeed. Anybody 11 years or over is welcome to join us.

Below are some dates for our March programme.

For further details concerning any aspect of Youth work please contact

Phone Fr Tony - 814463
Paula Holmes - 59068
Brenda Towle - 813712

Or See Richard Hart
Martin Corbishley
Garry West



YOUTH GROUPS - MARCH

Date	Event	Place	Time	
			Under 14's	Over 14's
March 6th	"An Evening at 43"	43 Gilbey Crescent	6.30 pm	8.00 pm
March 13th	"Dare"	St John's Hall	6.30 pm	8.00 pm

New Programme in Preparation!

Society of Friends

Quaker Meeting House, Chapel Hill.

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

Meeting for worship: 11am.

I was visiting one of our Cathedrals recently where there are a number of contemporary works of art, both in tapestry and sculpture. I stood in front of a tapestry designed by John Piper. It is worked in vivid colours - exciting against the old grey stone and the carved wood of the reredos. The theme is the Holy Trinity with symbols in the centre panels representing the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, while in flanking panels there are the symbols of the four Elements and the four Evangelists. Behind me I heard two people discussing the tapestry: This striking work was "out of place"; "not in keeping with the ancient building"; "too modern".

I am wondering whether this point of view means that for many people Christianity is only revealed in the works of the Middle Ages. Somehow, we should only meet God in mediaeval buildings and interpret his message through language of another time. A lot is written about Christianity being out of date; we live in a post Christian age we are told, and often by the very people who most admire the old buildings and deplore the updating of the language of the liturgy.

Perhaps those artists of the 14C and 15C were too successful, their work has helped us to stick in the past. Their work was modern in its original conception. It is true that artists and designers gave of their very best, but it is also true that some of the work was for the glory of patrons and local nobility as much as for God. They were paying for the building after all.

It seems to me that God speaks to us most of all through everyday lives, people whom we meet, whom we know and through our developing knowledge of how ourselves and the world are made; God in everything.

This month I visited the Science Museum in Kensington. There, there is a beautiful exhibition of a single animal cell many times magnified. Man contains about one hundred billion cells, each one wonderfully, marvellously designed and extremely complicated. The extraordinary mystery of life is gradually being revealed, the world more and more in front of our eyes.

Surely our thoughts about religion must develop too? How much we need humility in face of the wonders. We still do not understand ourselves, our needs and our relations with each other, singly or in groups. Christians believe that love is the driving force. This message is as modern as ever, as important as two thousand years ago. Simple - yet infinitely complicated.

Mary Rice

Priest:

The Rev'd David Chapman
12 Millside (flat above Church).
Tel: 814349

Services:

Sunday Masses - 8am and 10.30am
and at Henham - 9.15am.

Holy Days - 9.15am and 8pm
and at Henham - 7pm.

"What Place has Drama in Worship"

Paul Alexander's name was not new to me: my summer holiday reading had included his autobiography; he was also at the Edinburgh Festival with his performance of St John's Gospel. Paul was exploring a field which had long intrigued me: the place of drama in worship. Coincidences are often uncanny: to receive a phone call soon afterwards asking me to interview him was astonishing, and an opportunity I welcomed.

When we met at his home, Paul spoke of a growing awareness of the importance of the quality of liturgical worship. An increasing number of ministers are contacting SEEDS, anxious about the liturgy in their parishes. 'It's dead':

'It's in a rut': 'What can we do to interest young people?': 'How can we make it come to life?'

There are no simple answers to these questions, he felt, but perhaps something of an answer is indicated when more and more people eager to communicate the Gospel turn to an organisation such as SEEDS.

Discovering and expressing our God-given Gifts

SEEDS comprises a team of artists covering the entire range of creative activity from acting, theatre and opera, to directing, writing, singing, dancing, music, composing, poetry, prayer, creative parenthood and the use of video. Their ministry is to promote creativity in worship, to help church congregations renew their understanding, and revitalise their love for worship, by the use of the creative arts - by discovering and expressing their God-given gifts.

'You can learn by dabbling', said Paul. 'What we hope to give is an experience of, and involvement in, a creative process'. 'Process' and 'experience' are the two crucial words here. Both are essential for the individual to discover his creativity. Perhaps, he suggested, that is where the Church can learn from the artist. The Church teaches that 'Christ is our life'; but that life must be experienced and become a reality for each of us.

What is it that the artist brings to the Gospel? Quite simply, an experience of it. 'Art can smack into people's souls', Paul claimed. 'Dramatically, your eyes can be opened'.

Paul is perhaps best known for his performance of St John's Gospel. He first turned to that text when searching for the spirituality of the Christian faith.

'On stage, I attempt to live out, to tell a Gospel which I believe absolutely. Both you, the audience and I are engaged in a process which is alive because I am with you, struggling to make it a reality, experiencing the truth - and just as surprised by truth as you are'.

In recent years, the Church has been guilty of holding the artist in fear, and treating him with mistrust. Discovering ourselves as creators, as participants in God's creative activity, is a painful process which demands a fearful journey into our own depths, and a disturbing of the waters therein. For most of us these waters remain untouched, stagnant - and so we deny ourselves an experience of God's transforming love.

The artist's commitment to Christ is in this struggle to 'make it real'; to tell a story that gives life in abundance: and to open eyes, open ears and open minds.

* Nicola Collett

* (Nicola's article has been published in Christian, a new bi-monthly magazine).

Methodist

Meets in Quaker Meeting House, Chapel Hill.

Minister: The Rev'd Harold Fisher
2 South Road, Bishop's Stortford,
Tel: 54475

Services: Morning Service - 9.30am.

In February 1633 a great and good man sent a book, written in longhand, from his deathbed in Bemerton, near Salisbury, to a great and good friend in Little Gidding, near Huntington. The Rev'd Edmund Duncon was asked to deliver this message with the book: "Sir, I pray deliver this little book to my dear brother, and tell him he shall find in it a picture of the many spiritual conflicts that have passed betwixt God and my soul, before I could subject mine to the will of Jesus my Master; in whose service I have now found perfect freedom: desire him to read it: and then, if he can think it may turn to the advantage of any dejected poor soul, let it be made public: if not, let him burn it: for I and it are less than the least of God's mercies."

So George Herbert sent the manuscript of his poetry, within a few days of his death in his fortieth year, to his closest friend, Nicholas Ferrar. Thank God Ferrar instantly saw the greatness of the poems and had them published. One cannot imagine how it could have been otherwise. But had he judged them worthless and burnt them we would never have sung these great hymns: "King of glory, King of peace", "Let all the world in every corner sing", "The God of love my Shepherd is" and "Teach me, my God and King". Nor would we have heard that unsurpassed devotional poem, "Love bade me welcome". English literature would have lost a unique volume of superb poetry and English spirituality a glorious treasure for the soul.

Herbert was of aristocratic birth, brilliant intellect, very high attainment at an early age. The highest offices of the land lay in prospect before him. But "he chose rather to serve at God's altar, than to seek the honour of state employments". Many of his friends thought it beneath his dignity to become a clergyman. Herbert replied, "It hath formerly been adjudged that the domestic servants of the King of Heaven should be of the noblest families on earth; and though the iniquity of late times have made clergymen meanly vaued, and the sacred name of priest contemptible, yet will I labour to make it honourable by consecrating all my learning, and all my poor abilities, to advance the glory of that God that gave them".

George Herbert's greatest distinction is that he was a true saint, living ever more closely to God as his years went on. The secret of his warm, compassionate, generous sanctity lay in his life of prayer. In this time of Lent the first lines of his poem "Prayer" come timely:

"Prayer, the Church's banquet, Angels' age,
God's breath in man returning to his birth,
The soul in paraphrase, heart in pilgrimage,
The Christian plummet, sounding heaven and earth."

My love and best wishes to you all.

Harold Fisher

SHALOM GROUP DATES AND VENUES

14 March at Blythwood House, Blythwood Gardens
28 March at 23 Burnells Way



Village News



FUTURE EVENTS

March

2	8.00	Day Centre. Gardening Club
5/6		Skip at Crafton Green Car Park
6	6.30	St John's. Unity Service. Rev. M. McAdam
9	7.30	Day Centre. British Legion (Women) Group Meeting. Cake Icing.
10	8.00	Day Centre. B.S. Recorded Music Society
12	8.00	St Mary's School. Quiz Evening. £1.50 Phone school 812212
13	6.30	Friends Meeting House. Unity Service - Quakers
16	10.30	55 Chapel Hill. British Legion (Women) Coffee. Bring & Buy. Raffle
18	8.00	St John's Hall. Sideways Nursery Fashion Show. Cheese & Wine
19	2.00	Guide Hut. Gall End, Lower Street. Nearly New Sale
20	7.00	United Reformed Church. The Agape (Communion Service)
24	8.00	Day Centre. B.S. Recorded Music Society
25	8.00	Day Centre. British Legion Springtime Supper

April

13	10.30	58 Chapel Hill. Bible Society Coffee Morning. Bring & Buy
24	10.30	Newport Free Grammar School 10 Km Fun Run. Tel. 850 446
27	8.00	Day Centre. Annual Parish Meeting

May

7	2.00	Youth Centre, Lower Street. Guides & Scouts Fayre
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"OUR VILLAGE"

Sorry to tell at this moment little further knowledge of Mr. J.S. Francis has so far come to light, apart from a memory of his Watch and Clock shop that stood almost opposite the Windmill Public House (now Guest House) and a remark of his which went something like "If you want to buy a watch, buy a watch, but don't stand breathing on my windows", said in his own special accent that can only be retold by those to whom it was meant for. Given time, something further is sure to emerge.

So we will progress a little further with our look at Greens Stores where now the early 1900's are beginning to unfurl. The proprietors certainly had the forward-looking approach and knew how to tempt customers to their store, for they offered a handsome present to all young couples about to marry who purchased furniture from the store (who could not normally afford to pay a visit). The range of goods was perhaps comparable with a modern departmental store.

After Monday's weekly wash (clothes and linen) a mangle was a must, a very strong mangle with 18" rollers could be yours for 35 shillings (who can remember turning one of these with the tub underneath to catch the water). Now something to cover to the floorboards "Special Best Cork Lino" 13/6d for a square 3 ydsx 3 yds. If you were lucky enough to afford it this could be topped by an Axminster Carpet at 4/11d per yard. A brass fender for the downstairs fireplace 5/11d while one for upstairs, for most bedrooms had provision for an open fire,

would cost you 1/0½d. Double sized iron bedsteads went from 13/11d. For the old front room (or if you were better off, sitting room) a seven piece suite of furniture could cost as much as £3 9s 6d. Remembering this room was, and often still is, only used on high days and holidays, for a fire in the front room was something special.

All of these articles could be delivered to your door transported either by a horse or more often multi-horse power-drawn waggon. Failing this, a steam-driven pantechmicon van was at their disposal which would probably be manned by a crew of two who had to sit upon this machine with little or no protection from the elements, the only windscreen wipers needed being a piece of rag to wipe clean their eye goggles from the smoke and smuts. Nevertheless, business must have been quite brisk for they offered removals by road, rail or sea.

One of these steam furniture vans was involved in a collision near to Pines Hill with Mr. Jay's timber waggon, the springs of the steamer being broken and the timber waggon's axle received damage, to two evidently coming to an abrupt stop as we must now do.

Maybe you would like to convert these old £ s d prices into today's decimal £ p.

P. J. Brown



The Royal British Legion



THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

The programme for this year is taking shape and the following are firm dates.

Friday 18 March Group 'C' meeting at the Day Centre at 8 pm. All members should attend as this meeting provides an occasion to meet representatives of other branches in this area and to exchange views. Refreshments are kindly being provided by the Women's Section.

Friday 25 March At 8 pm on that day at the Day Centre there will be our SPRINGTIME SUPPER. Tickets are once again £3 per head, including a glass of wine and the main dish of the evening will be FRESH SALMON. A licensed bar has been arranged. Tickets are now available from Committee Members so don't miss the event - come along and bring your friends. There will be a Lucky Ticket Prize and a Raffle for which the committee would appreciate suitable items.

In April at a date to be fixed we shall be having an informal talk from a senior officer from Bassingbourn on 'Life in today's Army' which will be of considerable interest to all ex-servicemen and women. It is hoped to hold this meeting at The Three Colts.

Saturday 2 July is the Golden Jubilee Open Day at Bassingbourn Barracks which is now the HQ of the Queen's Division. We hope to arrange a coach to transport members and their friends for which will be a memorable occasion.

Sunday 25 September is the day of the Hazel End Country Fair and we shall again have a display stand there.

In between the above dates further activities are planned of which notice will be given in due course.

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION



THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION WOMEN'S SECTION

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION WOMEN'S SECTION

Twelve members attended Eastern Area Conference at Cambridge on Wednesday, 3rd February. A colourful parade of 89 Branch Standards and 9 County Standards signalled the start of the Conference. The speakers were Sir David Lane, formerly M.P. for Cambridge City and Chairman of the Commission for Racial Equality, and Mrs. J. Dyer, R.B.L.W.S. National Treasurer. About 1000 members were welcomed by the Mayor who said that Cambridge was delighted that the Corn Exchange had been chosen for our venue and he hoped we would return in future years.

Our quarterly Group meeting will be in the Day Centre at Stansted on Wednesday, 9th March, at 7.30 p.m. when Mrs. Ann Muir will demonstrate cake icing.

Mrs. Brenda Fuller from Clavering will speak at our branch meeting on 17th March about her nursing experiences in the Second World War.

On Wednesday, 16th March, there will be a coffee morning at Mrs. Gabb's from 10.30 am - 12 noon, with a Bring and Buy Stall and Raffle.

Pat Clower



MOUNTFITCHET GARDEN CLUB



With spring just around the corner, now's the ideal time for planning this year's flower garden.

An essential feature of most such gardens is one or more of the wide range of hardy perennials. So why not come along to our March meeting when the ever-popular Mr Harbutt will be dispensing advice on both perennials and Icelandic Poppies. And remember, should your planning and subsequent endeavours result in a successful display, we would welcome your blooms as entries in our spring and autumn shows.

Next meeting Wednesday 2nd March, 8 pm, Day Centre, Chapel Hill, Stansted.

Sue Wilkinson



BISHOP'S STORTFORD RECORDED MUSIC SOCIETY

Meeting in the Day Centre at 8 p.m.

- March 10th Satie - Gymnopedies 1 & 3
Albinoni - Giacomini - Adagio in G minor for organ and strings
Rodrigo - Concierto de Aranguez
Telemann - Trio Sonata in E minor for flute, oboe and continas
Rachmaninov - Piano Concerto No. 2
- March 24th Mozart - Piano Concerto No. 24 in C Minor K591
Mahler - Symphony No. 5 in C sharp minor

Mary Scholes
813155

SIDEWAYS NURSERY SCHOOL



FASHION SHOW



ADULT AND CHILDRENSWEAR

FRIDAY MARCH 18TH

8.00 p.m. St JOHN'S CHURCH HALL

* TICKET HOLDERS 10% DISCOUNT *

TICKETS £2
Including Cheese and Wine

For Tickets and information telephone: 812743
815935
812355

SIDEWAYS NURSERY

Sideways Nursery School may not be Eton or Harrow but the first day of this term saw a "reunion" of Old Sidewegians when some former pupils returned to the scene of their first taste of the education system. They all agreed that it reminded them of the happiest days of their lives!

For those who would like to know a little more about Sideways.

Monday: Top Group (Going on 4 up to school age)
Tuesday: Little Group (from 2½ - 4)
Wednesday: Top Group - Library Day
Thursday: Little Group
Friday: Top Group - Musical Movement run by Gabrielle Butler

There are still some vacancies at Sideways. Anyone interested should contact Helen Pawsey (813828) or call in at St. John's Church Hall, St. John's Road (off Chapel Hill) any weekday morning before noon.

Margaret Gilbert



JUSTICE AND PEACE

An open invitation is warmly extended to anyone who is interested in issues of justice and peace in the world, to join a newly formed group in Stansted.

The purpose of the group is to discuss, reflect and supportively take action in a manner which preserves the values of the individuals involved. As yet no constitution has been formulated but we welcome and hope for a wide variety of contributions to an open forum.

Our intention is that the members will have a greater opportunity to contribute to the issues of justice and peace making a commitment which is appropriate to their interests, hopes and aspirations.

We look forward to sharing our concerns in a community of like-minded individuals.

For further information please write or telephone:-

Rita Yates
21 King Street
Bishop's Stortford
Herts
59038

Jim Collins
1 Northgate Place
Northgate End
Bishop's Stortford
Herts
58020



STANSTED AFTERNOON W.I.

Our February meeting was on a day when strong gale force winds were again sweeping the country. President, Ann Calver, extended a special welcome back to Mrs. Buttery who has been ill for some while, also a welcome to Mrs. Joan Forrest. The gales outside were soon forgotten as our speaker, Mr. Hammerstone, showed beautiful coloured slides of flowers and gardens and amused members with his witty remarks.

The competition for a pot-grown hyacinth was won by Mrs. Pauline Cianciola with Mrs. Palmer second.

Our visitor, Mrs. Forrest, was the lucky winner of the first prize in the raffle.

A cake stall was well supported with members' many delicious cakes, biscuits and pastries on sale.

Our next meeting is at the Day Centre at 2.30 pm on Wednesday 9th March when we will have a talk and slides on village signs. Visitors are always welcome.

Pauline Cianciola

STANSTED SOCIAL DEMOCRATS

This may be the last time we appear in Link under our present name. A ballot of the membership of both the SDP and the Liberal Party is taking place as Link goes to press and a "Yes" vote will mean that the merged Social and Liberal Democrats will come into existence in March. The Chairman of Stansted SDP, Alan Dean, attended the conference on merger in Sheffield in January.

On the weekend at the end of January that the Liberals held their successful national conference on merger with the SDP in Blackpool, we held an enjoyable dinner dance with local Liberals at Stansted Hall. Music was by Misty, a local trio who played excellent middle of the road (nothing to do with politics!) music throughout the evening. This year we had outside caterers (Pearl Wellings) which allowed everyone who attended to enjoy the evening rather than slave over the kitchen sink.

We said goodbye to Richard Mayo at Stansted Hall. Richard, one of the Alliance parish councillors, has moved to Devon with his wife, Isobel, and their family. Richard's resignation from the parish council will mean that a by-election is due.

The social scene continued on 14 February, when some of our members joined Stansted Liberals at the home of Judy Goddard for an evening of song and games and a pie supper. This was to be followed the next weekend with our own jumble sale ably assisted by Liberal members.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Link for giving the SDP column space for reporting its various activities over the years and hope there will be a column with a new title in April or May.

Alan Dean
813579

The National Childbirth Trust
Education for Parenthood

Our Valentine's Party last month was really good. The children had a wonderful time doing the actions to the nursery rhymes and songs, although the mums were worn out by the time they went home!

The get togethers for under one's and expectant mums are 10-11.30 a.m. as follows:

- Thurs 3rd - Marcia's, 5 Millside (813295)
- Thurs 10th - Vivien's, 2 Croasdaile Close (813981)
- Thurs 17th - Nikki's, 28 Rainsford Road (814437)
- Thurs 24th - Claire's, 47 Gilbey Crescent (816772)

The coffee mornings for the toddler group are also 10-11.30 a.m. and will meet as follows:

- Fri 4th - Gaile's, 11 Alsa Leys, Elsenham (815318)
- Fri 11th - Jane's, 30 The Croft, Elsenham (816256)
- Fri 18th - Penny's, 3 Sunnyside (814763)
- Fri 25th - Chris', 13 Grove Hill

Our new group "babies and crawlers" will meet on Tuesdays, 10-11.30 a.m. as follows:

- Tues 1st - Pascale's, 57 Woodfields (812500)
- Tues 8th - * Well Woman Talk
- Tues 15th - Amanda's, 3 Bentfield Road (815192)
- Tues 22nd - Vivien's, 2 Croasdaile Close (813981)
- Tues 29th - Jacky's, 30 Rainsford Road (814424)



* On Tuesday, 8th March, Dr. Howarth, a lady doctor from the St. John's Road Practice, is giving a talk for us about women's complaints. This will be held 10.15 - 11.30 a.m. at Nikki's, 28 Rainsford Road. A creche will be available. Come along - it is a very interesting topic (for women anyway!) Entrance will be 75p to include creche and refreshments.

Our Nearly New Sale will be held on Wednesday, 16 March (2-3 pm) in the United Reformed Church Hall. If you have any children's clothing, toys, baby equipment or maternity wear phone Pascale, 57 Woodfields, 812500, during the week before the sale.

Jacky Moore
814424

DAY CENTRE

This is a delayed report due to the illness of Mrs. Stevens. December was a very busy month at the Day Centre. Besides the usual monthly bingo sessions, beetle drive and whist drive, we were entertained by the pupils of St Mary's Primary School who sang Carols old and new. Bentfield School entertained with songs old and new. Both were really enjoyed by Day Centre members.

Eighty plus members sat down to a lovely Xmas lunch, wine, crackers and chocolates. We were entertained by Mr. Booker with Carols and Mrs. Pauline Cianciola sang songs. A good time was had by all.

January there were again the usual bingo, sessions, beetle drive and whist drive.

March Diary

Tuesday March 1st	Afternoon Bingo	2.00 pm	
Thursday March 4th	Afternoon Keep Fit	2.30 pm	
Tuesday March 8th	Beetle Drive	2.00 pm	25p
Thursday March 10th	Afternoon Keep Fit	2.30 pm	
Friday March 11th	Whist Drive	2.00 pm	25p
Tuesday March 15th	Afternoon Bingo	2.00 pm	
Thursday March 17th	Keep Fit	2.30 pm	
Tuesday March 22nd	Social	2.00 pm	
Thursday March 24th	Keep Fit	2.30 pm	
Friday March 25th	Whist Drive	2.00 pm	25p



Thoughts on Rain

How I loathe the rain,
when in torrents it falls.
How grey everything looks
When seen through the glass.

Deluges of water
have flooded the fields.
Murky water fills the rivers,
pools over the ground.

We have so much
when other areas have nothing.
How does this happen?
Who sorts it out?

Plants have been flattened,
Crops have been ruined.
Rivulets of water flow,
and form streams galore.

The sky is a mass of cloud,
like a blanket above,
replaced for a moment,
by the grassy banks on either side.

The train slows to a halt,
and I see the steady fall
of the raindrops,
make ripples across the puddles.

Everything seems sombre and still.
The monotony of the rain,
broken only by the movement
of a tiny bird against the skyline.

Anna Skingle

NATIONAL WOMEN'S REGISTER

Meetings for March

Wednesday 2nd:

Call My Bluff:

Angela has promised to challenge us with her highly amusing and successful version of this game.

Venue: Eileen Quinn's, 4 Greenfields, tel. 812109.

Monday 14th:

A talk by Judy Jeffrey, one of the Bentfield School Governors; if you wish to be informed of the role of Parent Governors in our schools today come along and have your questions answered.

Venue: Katy Dockerill's, The Snuff Box, Bentfield Road, tel. 812617.

Tuesday 29th:

Libby, Eileen and Angela will be sharing the results of their research on the religion, culture and influence of Sikhs in society.


Venue: Gwen Hopkins, 20 Meadowcroft, tel. 813714.


N.B. If you want to find out more about NWR please ring Julie Cooper: tel. 59129 or Katy Dockerill: tel. 812997

or just come along to one of our meetings. You will be very welcome!

Eileen Quinn



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GORSEFIELD RESIDENTIAL CENTRE

Gorsefield Residential Centre is one of the Inner London Education Authority's rural centres. It is specifically for the use of children and teachers from the one hundred or so primary, secondary and special schools in the London Borough of Tower Hamlets. The centre is used all the year round in a great variety of ways.

The children are resident for a week at a time and come to the centre with their teachers to undertake many different activities and experiences. This will depend on the age of the children and whether they are doing exam courses or not, etc. Consequently one week may be used by a sixth form biology group, and the next by a group of 8 year olds from a Stepney Primary School.

You may well see groups of children in the village, perhaps comparing the shops up Chapel Hill with those along Whitechapel High Street. You may come across a long straggly line of children walking along footpaths up to Ugley, possibly studying the wild flowers, trees, animal signs, or perhaps doing some orienteering with maps and compasses. The children also travel away from Gorsefield on occasions - to Saffron Walden to look at the architecture, to Hertford Cattle Market, to a local farm and so on. All of these are new experiences to London Children.

Whatever the children do when they visit Gorsefield is closely tied up with what they are doing back in the classroom at school. Often the work the children have undertaken up in Stansted becomes the basis for the rest of the term's work.

Not only do the children work hard when they are here, but the whole experience of living in a beautiful country house for a week is something most of them have never experienced and may well never experience again!

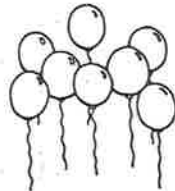
STANSTED GUIDES AND BROWNIES

Nearly New Sale

Saturday March 19th is the date for our next event. It will take place in the hut from 2 till 4 and there will be a raffle, refreshments and a cake stall. Admission 10p. We will, of course, be glad of any articles you can spare, and will be operating a 50/50 sale if required for better items. The proceeds of this event will go towards maintenance of the Guide Hut and other Guide and Brownie expenses. Ring Fran Panrucker, 815817, for further details.

New Brownie Pack

The Brownie waiting list has grown to such an extent that it will soon become necessary to start a fourth Brownie Pack in order that the girls can start earlier rather than later. The situation is rapidly becoming desperate, so if you are a secret Brownie Guider, or would like to become one, or perhaps know of someone else, please contact Jan King, 850 469.



STANSTED FOOTBALL CLUB

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SCOUTS

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SAT MAY 7th

2 - 4.30 PM.

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Side Shows - Stalls

Grand Draw

Refreshments

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Scenes typical of Wembley came to the Stansted Football Club last Sunday 7th February when the Stansted Saints were victorious in their Hertfordshire League Cup Semi-Final against Cuffley. The match was hard and for what seemed eternity Cuffley were winning 1-0. However, by half-time the spectators were starting to chant "come on you whites" when Danny Hill, curling with his left foot, equalised for Stansted with a splendid goal.

The second half of the match was just as nail-biting as the first but a second goal by David Hobday eased the tension a little, though "The Saints" could not afford to relax for a moment. Only when a third goal scored by Nick Harrison just a few minutes before the end of the match dare the Stansted supporters raise the roof of the crowded stand, and I think there was more euphoria off the pitch than on it!

It is easy to be benevolent in victory but Cuffley too played a superb game and the Saints had to play their very best football to achieve this well-deserved result. It is teamwork that has got them this far so lets name Sunday's team for they deserve it:

- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Thomas Oxley | 8. David Hobday |
| 2. Steven Wright | 9. Stephen Hedge |
| 3. Daniel Shaw | 10. James Amott |
| 4. Daniel Hall | 11. Gavin Morrison |
| 5. Simon Ager | 12. Sam Blishen |
| 6. Steven Sheppard | 14. Russell Gould |
| 7. Nicholas Harrison | |

Teamwork doesn't come overnight so special thanks to Tony Hobday (Manager) Terry Wright (Coach) Ken Mullins (Manager) Geoff Shaw and many, many others who help with coaching, supporting and keeping the 'inner man' warm with hot drinks at half-time and food after the match.

Now what about our other junior teams. Unfortunately the Colts have had two attempts to play their cup match cancelled by weather but maybe one day the sun will shine down on the Colts. The Stansted under 9's are training hard and have settled down extremely well with a good draw result of 2-2 against Northolt's u/9's. More matches have been arranged against under 9 sides and they are hoping to have a return match against Northolt. The team is very enthusiastic and we wish them and their manager Bob Hughes all the very best of luck in their future games.

The one thing that was noticeable at Sunday's match was the support it had. It really made such a difference and I'm sure helped the lads. Let's keep up the good work supporting all the Stansted teams and I hope we will see a Wembley crowd when the Saints play their Cup Final on April 10th or 17th at the Brewery Ground, Hertford. Stansted will soon be earning a reputation for its football team not just its airport!

Sandra Gould

STANSTED SPORTS ASSOCIATION

HARGRAVE PARK



In common with everyone else, our Association has suffered as a result of the extraordinary weather this winter. The surfaces of the driveway and car park at the sports ground are virtually non-existent and we are wondering if anyone has any spare suitable materials which could be laid to alleviate the situation.

If you are able to help in any way, please contact either the secretary of the Sports Association, Pearl Wellings, 813614, or the Chairman of the Football Club, Brian Reed, 816055.

Pearl Wellings



PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Clerk: Mrs. J. Buttery, 813214

SKIP Next skip at Crafton Green is the weekend of 5/6 March.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING Advance notice - this year's Annual Parish Meeting will be held in the Day Centre, Crafton Green, on Wednesday 27th April at 8.00 pm. Keep the evening free! It is hoped to publish the agenda in the next issue.

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION The following letter has been received. Can anyone remember anything which will help Mr. Souter? Please get in touch with him direct if you have any information at all of interest.

Extract from letter of ... Mr. A. J. Souter
38 Upper Sandhurst Road
Brislington Bristol
BS4 3RT
24.1.88

Dear Sir,

I am making enquiries with reference to an address which, I believe, comes within your jurisdiction. It is as follows:

The Gasworks
Water Lane
Stansted Essex

The address appears on my war-time identity card, is dated 25.5.40 and signed by R. Cornel. I subsequently moved to an orphanage in Painswick near Stroud, Gloucestershire. I have no memory of my time in Stansted but am most keen to learn what I can

I really would be most grateful for any information you could come up with. Such as: Is the Gas Works still in existence? What was I doing there? (I suspect it mst have been a clearing/holding station for evacuees but a gasworks doesn't sound very safe for such a role?!)

If it was an evacuee holding station who would hold the records? I would like to know for instance: when I arrived there and from whence and who accompanied me? When did I leave? What was my destination? (Painswick I think) In short I want to know anything available on record - these things are very important to me. I enclose the following details in the hope that they may be of some help (copies from birth certificate).

My name: Anthony Joseph Souter
Mother: Alice Lilian Souter
My date of birth: 3rd September 1936
Place of birth: 1 Northumberland Street, London, W.1.

Thanking you in anticipation of ay assistance you can afford me.

Yours faithfully
A.J. Souter

GEORGE BECKINGHAM - A VOTE OF THANKS

On behalf of many grateful people I would like to say a big thank you to the man who makes such a good job of cleaning up Stansted.

Could we not ease his task by taking home our litter and inducing others to do the same?

Vera Ansell

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FOR
LOVE
TIME
IS ONLY THAT
WE MAY FIND
GOD

ST. BERNARD

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