

Apr 89

# The *LINK*



*Stansted  
Mountfitchet*

# DEAMERS NEWSAGENCY

MEMBER N.F.R.N.

DAILY & SUNDAY DELIVERIES

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JUDY GODDARD will willingly do all these tasks  
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CHRIST IS RISEN!

A HAPPY EASTER!

When Easter to the dark world came  
Fair flowers glowed like scarlet flame:  
At Eastertide, at Eastertide  
O, glad was the world at Eastertide.

This Eastertide with joyful voice  
We'll sing: "The Lord is King! Rejoice!"  
At Eastertide, at Eastertide  
O sing, all the world, for Eastertide.

W. H. Hamilton  
(1886-1958)

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

Annual subscription is £2.00. To order your copy please contact:  
Mrs Lindsey Collingwood, 15 Loates Pasture. Tel: 813428.

Advertising Enquiries to: Rev'd Margaret Booker. Tel: 812684.

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.

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13th April for May issue  
11th May for June issue

SACC



# Christian Aid



## THE SHALOM GROUP

### IT'S TIME TO RIGHT WRONGS

.... is the theme of this year's CHRISTIAN AID WEEK, May 11-20. Here in Stansted there will be the usual house-to-house envelope collection, and if you have a few hours to spare that week you will be most welcome as a collector.

The Market is on 20 May at the Friends Meeting House 10-12 a.m. There will be the usual stalls, except that this year we shall not be selling clothing. Instead there will be a Bring and Buy stall. Please support us in any way you can.

### KAMPUCHEA

You may have seen the film "The Killing Fields" and have been horrified by the atrocities committed by the Pol Pot regime. Christian Aid fear that when the Vietnamese, who ousted the regime, have the country by 1990, Pol Pot, now based in Thailand, may take over again. Also, our Government, in common with most western governments, gives no assistance in Kampuchea. For these reasons, Christian Aid has produced a card to send to our M.P. requesting an international peace settlement and development aid for Kampuchea. If you feel that you can sign a card, or if you wish to know more about Kampuchea, please contact me or your local church representative.

Christian Aid is supporting projects in Kampuchea to improve food production, to provide supplies and artificial limbs (many people have suffered terrible injuries from Khme Rouge attacks). It has to be recognized, however, that Kampuchea has already brought the country back from ruin by its own efforts and with little outside help. It could do so much more with our support.

Catherine Dean  
813579



Having in the two previous years enjoyed Retreats at Pleshey under the leadership of an eminent Jesuit and a Methodist don respectively, the Group chose Hengrave Hall in Suffolk for this year's weekend, with Penelope Eckersley, a well-known Anglican, as leader. We owe a great deal to all of them.

Hengrave is outstandingly suited to its present role as an ecumenical retreat and conference venue. A 16th century home for a succession of Roman Catholic families, it possesses a beauty and dignity which in itself puts visitors in the relaxed frame of mind which is not only the very essence of retreats, but is also a vital but scarce component of all our lives. Moreover the Community which runs Hengrave Hall had a quiet, warm, efficiency which made us feel that we too belonged.

The theme was "Give our roots rain". We were encouraged to consider our place in God's purpose, which led us to realise that although man is supreme in the order of creation, he/she is also co-inheritor of life on this planet, and should live within the world in which we find ourselves, and not see ourselves as arbiters or manipulators of its wonders. We learnt humility and appreciation. We realised that it is these simple qualities which so often become trampled underfoot in everyday life and which a retreat is so helpful in reinstating to their rightful place. The gardens and lakeside at Hengrave enabled us to absorb this more fully.

We held a Prayer and Praise evening on Saturday, and attended the morning Mass on Sunday morning, from which all of us, whatever our denomination, drew inspiration and comfort.

In true Shalom Group tradition we mixed our spiritual recreation with temporal by giving Monica a surprise party to mark her XXth birthday.

A sincere thankyou to the Hengrave Community and Penelope Eckersley from 24 grateful retreatants!

Derek Honour

## Church of England

**Clergy:** The Rev'd Bob Wallace  
 The Rev'd Brenda Wallace  
 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	-	8am

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.



What greater joy could there be than the yearly celebration of the good news that Jesus has triumphed over the cross and risen again from the dead? For Christians, Easter is the greatest festival of all - the events we celebrate are central to our faith.

But the impact of Easter on our society is far less than that of Christmas. True, Easter Eggs are on sale in the shops for weeks and weeks beforehand, but how many of those who buy or eat them appreciate their symbolism of new life which God offers us through the resurrection of Jesus?

Perhaps you may also wonder why this letter is focusing on Easter when Easter Day will have already passed by the time most of you read this magazine. In fact the two questions are closely connected.

Because Easter is not just a one-off event: the resurrection is not just something we remember for one day in the year. It is something which we celebrate over and over again. Each Sunday is a reminder of the first Easter Day: each celebration of the Eucharist is a sharing in the risen Christ. As St. Paul writes: "If there is no resurrection from the dead, then Christ has not been raised - if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain" (1 Cor. 16: 13-14).

We are called to live as "Easter Christians" - people who know that Jesus rose from the dead and who are ready to proclaim that joyful news to others. Can we say - as Mary Magdalene says after her encounter with the risen Christ in the garden that first Easter morning - "I have seen the Lord!" More importantly - can we not just say it, but shout it aloud with the joy and conviction that Mary must have felt. Do we live as though we have met the risen Christ - as though we have walked and talked with him as those first witnesses to the resurrection did?

At the end of this month, eight youngsters and three adults from our congregation will be confirmed. On that occasion they will make a public declaration of their faith in the risen Christ - they will mark the beginning of a new stage in their life as committed, communicant members of the church. In the weeks before the confirmation - and afterwards - they will need the support, the encouragement and the example of all in the congregation as they seek to fulfil their commitment. They need to see in each of us the joy that comes from being a follower of Christ. Please take the trouble to get to know them - to encourage them - and above all to pray for them in the weeks ahead. A confirmation is an important event in the life of the church - and an opportunity for each of us to recall and renew our own commitment to follow the risen Christ and to proclaim him to others.

May God bless you this Eastertide.

Bob and Brenda Wallace

### Diary

#### April

5	8.15	Fellowship Group at 31 Park Rd
10	8.00	Election of Wardens and Annual Parochial Church Meeting in the Hall
11	2.00	Tuesday Club at Doreen Newby's
	2.15	Tiny Tots
17	8.00	Mini lectures at St John's "Christianity & Darwinism"
19	8.15	Fellowship Group
25	2.15	Tiny Tots
26	2.30	Mothers' Union
30	10.00	Confirmation in St John's Church. The Bishop of Colchester
	am	

# Society of Friends

Quaker Meeting House, Chapel Hill.

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

Meeting for  
worship: 11am.

## SOME THOUGHTS ON 'THE SWORD AND THE SPIRIT'

"I am always very wary" said my friend, "when people start brandishing swords above my head, feeling as I do that, should I disagree with them, I am liable to lose my ears."

Why then is the image of the sword so disurbing? - violence, anger, the clash of steel, the heat of the moment - these are all part of it, and yet there is more: a feeling of the overriding of another's will and way; action at any price; conversion whatever the cost. All so very human, what then of the divine?

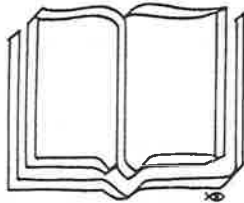
The process of becoming a Quaker is termed 'convicement'. For us there is no glint of steel in the sunshine, no blinding light on the Damascus' road, but a small steady gleam in the darkness which grows ever stronger and brighter the nearer we move towards it; a long, slow infusion of the Spirit in which thought, word and action are revised and refined, maybe many times, before we eventually reach our goal.

There is a tale famous in Quaker history of how William Penn, when he first came among the Friends, always wore he sword which had once saved his life without harming anyone. It struck a discordant note, however, and he asked George Fox, the founder of the Society, what he should do about it. "I counsel thee" said Fox, "to wear it as long as thou canst." Some months later, when they met again, George Fox noticed that Penn was not wearing his sword. "Will" he said "where is thy sword?" "I took they counsel, George" said Penn, "and wore it just as long as I could."

Faith in God, faith in the man, faith in that of God in the man, that ultimately the "evil would weaken and the good be raised up."

"Give us the calm assurance that you yourself will know how to reveal your truth and your righteousness to others, even as we believe that you have in some measure revealed them to us." runs the prayer of one modern Quaker. Or, as that 'eminent Victorian', Mrs Do-as-you-would-be-done-by in Kingsley's "The Water Babies" counselled her singularly 'do-y' world. "Teach us to care, and not to care. Teach us to sit still."

H. McMillun



## Registers

### February

### Baptisms

26th Michael Brian Eaton  
Levette Michelle Eaton  
Simon Michael Eaton

### Funeral

8 Mildred Caroline Bayford  
20 Ronald Jack Flin  
23 Lily Rogers  
20 Aileen Muriel East  
at Great Easton, formerly of  
Burton End, aged 94



I would like to begin by thanking all those who paraded their talents at our entertainment evening on Palm Sunday and for the audience who joined in so well. We do think of ourselves as a family youth club and welcome parents' involvement.

Our Spring Programme is now published and will be taking us out and about a lot more. If you fancy joining ring myself or Brenda Towle. For any general information ring any of our Youth Leaders.

Fr Tony 814463 Ian Lauder 813239  
Martin Corbishley 813040  
Richard Hart 84 3705 Brenda Towle  
813712



April's meeting is on Wednesday April 26th in the Hall at 2.30 p.m. Brenda Wallace will be the speaker.

## Roman Catholic

St Theresa's Church, Millside.

Priest: The Rev'd John Meehan  
The Presbytery, St. Teresa's  
12 Millside, Stansted, Essex.

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

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

### NORTHERN IRELAND

"Our God is one whose goodness cannot and will not be overcome and that the situation in Northern Ireland is one to which we all contribute by our tendency to ignore it until the next atrocity bursts onto our TV screens."

A group is being formed in Bishop's Stortford/Stansted to overcome ignorance of the Northern Irish question and to actively find ways of supporting the many positive efforts that are being made there to combat the divisions that exist.

To this end, a small ecumenical party is visiting Belfast on 14-16 March to meet with various factions and to gain first-hand knowledge of the difficulties experienced.

Already the impression has been gained that Northern Irish people think that the general public in England is contemptuous and impatient of the situation and do not really wish to know about it unless it personally affects them. It has already been seen that a little interest shown by people here gives tremendous encouragement to the peace-seekers, and can also deflate the hostility that the Northern Irish feel towards the 'comfortable' English. A wish to understand and help in whatever way the people in Belfast suggest is the purpose of the visit; to also help them realise that not everyone here is hypercritical, and to implement a two-way visiting programme. This is the vision the group has as its aims for the future.

In exploring the possibilities of where and who to visit, the group were surprised to learn of a non-denominational college in Belfast, Lagan College, which was the first to make a positive attempt to climb the barriers. This college has undergone critical difficulties but the courage and tenacity of its members has enabled it to continue. The English group wish to give active support in this area, even if only of a financial nature.

There are many brave schemes in Northern Ireland which need our interest, and the group hope to gain knowledge of these to pass on to people here for their sympathy and support.

Rita Yates

## 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.

My dear Friends,

I share with you the Holy Week thoughts of these two poems.

### GETHSEMANE

"Thus be it unto me  
According to Thy word."  
So came His mother's plea  
When God's intent she heard.  
Could He, her son, say less  
In night's Gethsemane,  
Though deepest His distress  
And dire His agony?  
God's peace rests in God's will and joy  
within His way.

But she for life was called  
In loving motherhood,  
While He to death was palled  
For dying saviourhood.  
His way begged ridicule  
And cruel, jeering scorn -  
The world's consummate fool,  
King crowned with mocking thorn.  
Is peace God's purpose still? Will joy  
attend His day.

Beneath the olive trees  
Whose branches wave for peace  
Arose His tortured pleas  
That torture's way should cease:  
"If, Father, I may be  
Delivered from this cup ...  
But no! Your wine for me,  
No other can I sup!  
For peace stands on that hill where I  
God's part will play."

Then why should flow His brow  
With bloody sweat and tears?  
Is he embarking now  
On tasks of endless years?  
Yes, to the human race  
He married now must be,  
With dowry nought but grace  
Full-blooming on His Tree;  
To bear man's shame until man goes no  
more astray.



GOOD FRIDAY HIGH STREET  
PROCESSION OF WITNESS

We waled in silence up the shoppers'  
street,  
A "Via Dolorosa" of our day  
Where human striving and Christ's waiting  
meet.

It did not seem so sorrowful a way  
As where, laden and bent,  
To Golgotha He went,  
Stumbling that ancient track,  
Crossed wood astride His back,  
To evil, death and pain  
Never so brutal-plain.

Yet where our striving and His waiting  
meet

Is not another Dolorosa found?  
Where anxious, clutching hands and  
rushing feet  
Struggle to gain some richer, safer ground  
In things that may be bought  
Or sold: no other sought?  
Life claimed in ringing tills,  
In paid or unpaid bills,  
Nails Him another Cross  
And spikes our bitter loss.

Christ's "Way of Sorrow" walks this busy  
street

Where now He is hand Himself to us;  
To love, to bear, to carry; and to greet  
With waiting grace our narrow, clamorous  
And strident selfishness,  
Indolent thoughtlessness,  
Indifferent apathy.  
Yet here His Majesty,  
Though highest love, must wait  
Admittance at our gate.

A very happy Easter to you all.

Love and best wishes  
Harold Fisher



A Prayer for Easter

Risen, reigning Christ,  
in you  
past, present and future  
are brought together  
in one great hope.  
Renew our faith in you,  
so that the past  
may not hinder us,  
the present overwhelm us  
or the future frighten us.

You have brought us this far;  
continue to lead us  
until our hope is fulfilled  
and we join all God's people  
in never ending praise.

Alan Grant

"New Prayers for Worship"



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.

HERE IS GOOD NEWS!!

(Taken from Ponteland Church Review, as  
quoted in U.R.C. Prayer Handbook).

"He shall give his angels charge over  
thee". Psalm 91:11

Do not ride in a car or get in the way of  
one: they cause 20% of all fatal  
accidents.

Do not stay at home: 17% of all  
accidents happen in the home.

Do not walk around the streets: 14% of  
all accidents occur to pedestrians.

Do not travel by air, rail or water: 16%  
of all accidents result from these  
activities.

HOWEVER only .0001% of all accidents  
occur in church .....

SERVICES FOR APRIL

Apr 2	11.00	Holy Communion - Rev L Rapkin
Apr 9	11.00	Family Service - Rev E McIlwain
Apr 16	11.00	Mr Nuttall (Bishop's Stortford)
Apr 23	11.00	Rev L Rapkin
Apr 30	11.00	Rev E McIlwain
May 7	11.00	Holy Communion - Rev E McIlwain

Don't forget the Bible Society Coffee  
Morning April 12th at 58 CHAPEL HILL,  
STANSTED.

From 10.30 a.m. 50p including coffee and  
scone. Bring and Buy Stall.

Please support this yearly event.



# Village News



## FUTURE EVENTS

### VILLAGE DIARY

#### April

- 5 8.00 Day Centre. Mountfitchet Garden Club AGM
- 10 Skip at Crafton Green
- 12 10.30 58 Chapel Hill. Bible Society Coffee Morning
- 13 Skip at Crafton Green
- 13 8.00 Day Centre. B.S. Recorded Music Society
- 15 2.30 URC Hall. Mountfitchet Garden Club Spring Show
- 20 7.45 Day Centre Mr Peter Baker on "Stansted" (Royal British Legion Women's Section)
- 27 8.00 Day Centre. B.S. Recorded Music Society

#### May

- 8 & 11 Skip at Crafton Green
- 10 11.00 Day Centre. Barnardo's Morning Market
- 11 8.00 Day Centre. B.S. Recorded Music Society
- 12 Mountfitchet School PTA "Race Night"
- 13 Mountfitchet School Jumble Sale
- 20 10.00 - 12.00 Christian Aid Market Friends Meeting House, Chapel Hill
- 25 8.00 Day Centre. B.S. Recorded Music Society

### ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL ELECTIONS

Thursday 4th May

### EUROPEAN ELECTIONS

Thursday 15th June

Tuesday 11th July. Coach Outing to Burghley House, near Stamford. Please contact Pam Sutton:- B/S 815070 for details. All welcome to come.

### SURGERIES

These are held at the Parish Council Offices from 10 a.m. - 11 a.m. and are attended by Conservative Parish Councillors on a rota system. Dates (Saturdays):-  
22nd April and 20th May

Any queries to:- Bridget Gott B/S 814440 or Joan Summers B/S 814854.



BISHOP'S STORTFORD  
RECORDED MUSIC SOCIETY

Day Centre 8.00 p.m.

#### Thursday 13th April

Richard Strauss	Suite Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme
Ravel	Concerto for left hand
Beethoven	Symphony No 2 in D Major

#### Thursday 27th April

Borodin	Overture "Prince Igor"
Martucci	Nocturn
Richard Strauss	Violin Concerto
Tchaikovsky	Symphony No 1

#### Thursday 11th May

Beethoven	Triple Concerto
Mahler	Symphony No 1 in D Major

#### Thursday 25th May

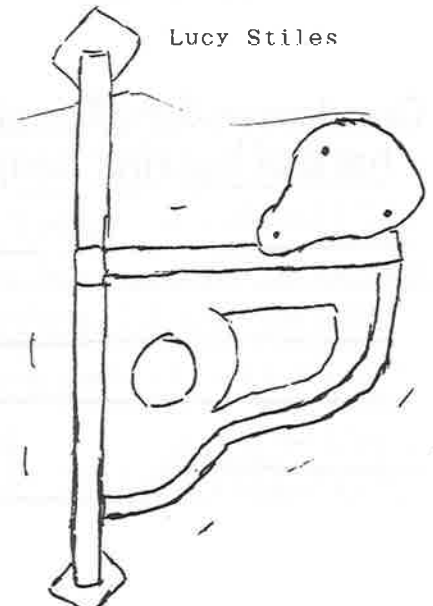
Elgar	Serenade for Strings
Saint-Saens	Carnival of the Animals
Schubert	Fantasy in F Minor
Beethoven	Romance No 2 in F (Violin)
Gershwin	Concerto for Piano & Orchestra in F

Further Particulars 813155.

### POST OFFICE POEM

Stansted Post Office is a chilly place!  
The postmen work at a steady pace.  
They have a dusty boiler which is boiling hot.  
All the swinging seats they are on a pivot.  
The pigeon-holes are ever so neat,  
And here's a picture of a swinging seat!

Lucy Stiles





As the spring term draws to a close, the children are very busy making spring and Easter cards, also young animals and colourful flowers to decorate the windows of St. John's Hall.

The Quiz Night was a great success. The Hall was packed and a friendly rivalry persisted throughout the evening. Congratulations to the winners! The event raised nearly £120 for Nursery School funds. Thanks to all concerned for making it such an enjoyable evening.

Dads' morning was also well attended and it was a pleasure to meet so many of them. We hope to have another in the summer term.

Quite a few children are leaving to start Big School, we wish them all the best. There are a few places left in the Top Group but the Little Group has nearly a full quota. If you wish your child to attend Sideways Nursery School please call in any morning at St. John's Church Hall or phone Auntie Helen - 813828 for details.

Little Group 2½ years  
Top Group 3½ - 5 years

#### WANTED

An elderly active person with a spare morning and a love of children to help out. We already have two such treasures, Nanny May and Auntie Joan, whose help and kindness is invaluable.

Auntie Helen

## 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.



"OUR VILLAGE"

Just recently a book was brought back to the village after being away for some 93 years. The discovery was made by Mrs. Barbara Price after the passing of Mr. Williams' daughter, Miss Sybil Williams (at Southend) who was second cousin to Mrs. Price. This book of course was something special, the story of which fortunately we have in part been able to trace.

It had been presented to Mr. E.M. Williams who was a Master at the National School, also church organist. The then vicar Rev'd G.T. Valentine B.A. on writing offered Mr. Williams Our Hearty Congratulations, first, on the fact that he had recently obtained his Certificate and secondly, that he had received the appointment of Headmaster of the Board School, Brize Norton in Oxfordshire and organist at the church.

At the end of conducting his last choir practice held on Thursday April 16th at St. John's Church, Mr. Williams and the choir were asked to meet in the Vestry where he was presented with a beautiful copy of the latest edition of the Oxford Teachers Bible which had been subscribed for by members of the choir inscribed - Presented to Mr. E.M. Williams on his leaving Stansted, Essex, by the Members of the Church Choir as a small token of their esteem and with Best Wishes for his future welfare G.T. Valentine Vicar April 17th 1896. There then follows members of the choirs of St. Mary's and St. John's:-

Messrs. Isaac Hammond, Collett, Ward, Collett, Francis, Herrington, King, Watts, Jordan, Herrington, Little and Griggs.

#### Boys

St. Mary's	St. John's
Thos. Turner	Lewis Freeman
C... Turner	Albert Herrington
Willm Collett	Willm Sandford
Fredk Collett	Fredk Archer
Arthur Little	Arthur Mumford
Geo Herrington	Harry Warwick
Willm Patmore	Thos. May
Walter Powell	Walter Mayhew
Walter Amey	Arthur Levey
Fredk Francis	Willm Jackson
Sydney Whall	John Brown
Herbert Bayford	John Harrington
Willm Smith	Ernest Bayford

Many of these family names are still well known. We hope you will recall with fond memories.



## STANSTED AFTERNOON

March is a bumper month for birthdays in the Afternoon W.I., 8 members being presented with buttonholes by Mrs. Ann Calver, our President, herself a March "baby". We welcomed one new member, Mrs. Ida Leech.

Final details for our spring group meeting were made and the handicraft classes were discussed and arrangements made for the commencement of these to be held at the United Reformed Church Hall.

members were asked for ideas for next year's programme. Volunteers were called for to run the members day meeting in June. Six members volunteered.

Our speaker, Mrs. Joan Rumney, one of our members, gave a talk and a very interesting slide show of her journey to South America, greatly enjoyed by all present. The monthly competition for a scenic photograph was won by Mrs. Mary Walker, 2nd Mrs. Lilian Bowman. There were 12 entries. Raffle prizes were won by Mrs. Handscombe and Mrs. Bowman.

We will be holding a coffee morning on 8th April at the Day Centre in aid of the MacMillan Fund.

Our next meeting at 2.30 p.m. at the Day Centre is on 12th April when Mr. Long will speak about Hairstyles through the Ages.

We welcome visitors to any of our meetings, always the 2nd Wednesday of the month at the Day Centre at 2.30 p.m.

Pauline Cianciola  
Tel: 814487

*Kathryn Spencer*  
—Reflexologist—

3 Churchill Corner,  
Stansted,  
Essex,  
CM24 8UA

Tel. (0279) 813603

Member of The British School of Reflexology



## STANSTED EVENING

We welcomed Mr. Barltrop to our March meeting who talked about his Family Tree which he started compiling as a hobby in 1956. He explained how information can be obtained at St. Katherine's House in Holborn, by Parish Registers, Record Offices, or merely by talking to someone with the same surname. He showed us his chart, in the form of a scroll, which dates back to 1400 and is 28 ft long!

Our president Brenda Ryan told us that her son David would be doing a parachute jump in aid of Arthritis Research so members sponsored him and we also donated the proceeds from the raffle to the same fund.

Audrey Fry reported that she and other members would be at the Railway Station at the crack of dawn the next day wearing red noses to collect for Comic Relief.

For competition for an old family photograph was won by Claire Francis, second Margaret Meadows and third Kath Johnson.

Our next meeting on April 13th will be about the work of the WRVS.

Vera Ansell  
915949



### RAINBOW PLAYGROUP

Before the Easter holidays the children in the older group are giving a concert for parents, grandparents, etc., and the smaller children, so they've been practising a few songs.

Both groups of children are having an Easter bonnet competition which will be judged after the concert, Easter egg prizes going to the best bonnet in each group.

For any information about the playgroup phone Ann Conroy 813319 am 812457 pm.  
Pam Duncan



**Uttlesford Council**  
**for Voluntary Service**

U.C.V.S. Office  
c/o Saffron Walden Hospital  
Radwinter Road  
Saffron Walden  
Essex CB11 3HV

Tel. (0799) 513626

3 Feb 1989

We would be most grateful if you could publicise all or part of the enclosed information in your Parish Magazine and Church Notices as soon as it is convenient.

With an office in Saffron Walden it is difficult for us to make contact with all the villages in Uttlesford but if we are to fulfil our role we have to reach out to all parts of the district in our search for

areas of need,  
new members and  
voluntary helpers.

If members of your Church would like a visit from the Organiser or would like to call in at our office which is open from 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. on weekdays we will be happy to organise it.

#### INFORMATION

The Uttlesford Council for Voluntary Service exists to co-ordinate the activities of the various voluntary organisations in the District Council Area and to offer services and support to them in a variety of ways. Voluntary Organisations in all the towns and villages in Uttlesford are listed in our Directory (price £2.50) and information about Care Groups in the area is published in our quarterly Newsletter.

In addition to this co-ordinating role, the UCVS endeavours to seek out areas of need and put into operation agencies to meet those needs. As an established Voluntary Service Council, we have the opportunity to nominate candidates to sit on various bodies such as the Community Health Council, Joint Consultative Committees and Joint Care Planning Teams.

Projects which we have initiated include the recently launched branch of MIND which will help people with mental health problems in a Hospital Discharge Scheme which helps patients (mostly elderly), during the first few days after they leave hospital. Our present concerns are to establish a Care Network to cover Uttlesford which will deal with minor, non-medical emergencies (and provide 24 hour duty officers in key parts of the region), to set up a branch or two of CRUSE - the organisation that cares for the Widowed and their children, and to investigate ways of co-ordinating transport in this rural district.

The Uttlesford Council for Voluntary Service had its Inaugural Meeting in October 1987 and now has an office on the Hospital site in Saffron Walden. The present organiser, Gwyneth Southgate, will be happy to answer any queries about the UCVS and put organisations requiring assistance in touch with agencies who can offer help. Members of our organisation include Parish Councils, Individual County and District Councillors, Churches, Women's Institutes, The Red Cross, St. John's Ambulance Service, The W.R.V.S., Day Centres, Clubs for the Elderly, Handicapped Groups, W.E.A.s and Social Clubs.

Membership, which is £5 annually, entitles a group of individual to a free copy of the Directory of Voluntary Organisations in Uttlesford, the delivery of the quarterly Newsletter, Free Publicity in it, Public Relations Services through the UCVS office and photocopying at cost (5p a sheet, A4 only at present).

We will be opening a VOLUNTEER BUREAU soon and anyone wishing to register as a volunteer or to join the UCVS as a Member is asked to get in touch with the UCVS Office, c/o Saffron Walden Hospital, Radwinter Road, Saffron Walden, CB11 3HV, Telephone Saffron Walden 513626.

Gwyneth Southgate

#### FOUND

One scarf - red, white and blue  
in M. Dyer's House  
Tel: 814059



## STANSTED TENNIS CLUB

The A.G.M. of Stansted Tennis Club will take place on Thursday 13th April at 8 p.m. at Little Fosters, 105 Cambridge Road, Stansted (Janet Hollis' house), B/S 812073. Please try to attend.

### TENNIS COACHING

Chris Hollis is coaching on:-

#### Saturday 22nd April

9 am - 10 am 7-9 year olds  
10.15 am - 11.15 am 10-12 year olds  
11.30 am - 12.30 pm 13-15 year olds

#### Sunday 23rd April

2 pm - 3 pm 7-9 year olds  
3.15 pm - 4.15 pm 10-12 year olds  
4.30 pm - 5.30 pm 13-15 year olds

The cost will be modest and the classes will be kept to small numbers.

Joanna Parkin (nee King) will be coaching for 10 Mondays starting on 8th May 4.30 pm - 5.30 pm.

Sylvia Banks will be coaching for 10 Wednesdays starting on 3rd May 4.30 pm - 5.30 pm. Her age group is 8 - 10/11 year olds.

All these classes will be limited to 12 children. The cost will be about £10 for 10 lessons.

If you are interested in any of this coaching please write to Janet Hollis with name, address, phone number and age of child. Please state clearly which classes you wish your child to attend. Do not enclose any money. Unless you hear to the contrary, your child can turn up at the club at the arranged date and time.

We are hoping to have a practice evening for Juniors on Thursdays arranged in age groups. To do this it is essential that parents of children volunteer to help on a rota system. We would also welcome parents on to the main committee. We feel very strongly that the Junior members are the future of any club so parents involvement at this stage will assure the future of the club. Please contact Janet Hollis if you are able to help in any of these ways, also if you are interested in Adult Coaching.

## Stansted Art & Craft Market

Before we started the 1988 market we said "Let's make it £10,000 in 10 years". This meant raising £1,200, but the success of the function held last October has enabled the organisers to donate to various local charities and good causes the record sum of £1,625, so that the target was well and turly exceeded. Thanks are expressed to all those who helped in any way to raise this magnificent sum.

The difficulties of allocating money to so many deserving causes (which the organisers believe should be local) will be well known to be most demanding and achieving the right balance, nearly impossible, so the following 13 beneficiaries will have received varying amounts:

Stansted Trust; Stansted Trust for Needy Children; Helpline; Link Magazine; Uttlesford Home Start; Peter Kirk School; Mountfitchet School; Fullers Almshouses; Adult and Youth Centre; Girl Guides, Boy Scouts; Crossroads Care Attendant Scheme; Talking Newspaper for the Blind.

Now a date for the diary - Saturday and Sunday 14/15 October is the date to mark up for the Eleventh Market - hope to see you there.

Greg Snow

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### STANSTED MOUNTFELTCHET PARISH COUNCIL

Tel: 813214 Mrs. Janet Buttery, Clerk  
Council Offices  
Crafton Green House  
72 Chapel Hill, Stansted

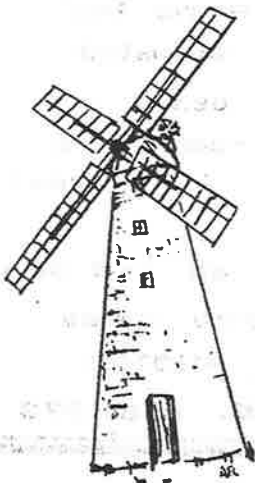
**ANNUAL PARISH MEETING** - this year is on Wednesday 24th May 1989 at 8.00 p.m. in the Day Centre. Make a note in your diary now. It is hoped that Mr. Brian Perkins, the new Uttlesford Director of Planning, will be the guest speaker. In addition there will be a presentation with maps and photographs of the Parish council's Village Plan proposals.

**NEWSLETTER** - the Spring Newsletter has now been published. If you have not yet received a copy please ask the Clerk for one. Attached to it this time is a synopsis of the Village Plan proposals.

**SKIP DATES** - the skip will be in Crafton Green on the following dates:

Monday 10th April - Thursday 13th April  
Monday 8th May - Thursday 11th May

**BEST KEPT VILLAGE COMPETITION** - we have again entered Stansted into this competition. We shall do our bit and we hope you will do yours! Please help by keeping your gardens, window-boxes, etc. neat, tidy, colourful; not dropping any litter; removing out-of-date notices from noticeboards; taking down any flyposters (even if up-to-date!) and anything else which you can think of to make the village look well-kept and cared for. Many thanks.



### PITY THE VICAR

If he preaches deep sermons, he is above the heads of the people, quite useless and deadly dull.  
If he shakes hands with people after the service it is because he is trying to make himself popular.  
If he doesn't shake hands, he is aloof.  
If he encourages social activities, it shows he is not spiritually minded.  
If he discourages social activities, then he is not interested in the life of the Church.  
If he consults the church council, he is weak in leadership.  
If he doesn't consult the council, he is a dictator.  
If he spends time in the parish, he ought to spend more time in his study.  
If you find him at home, he ought to be out and about the parish.  
If he makes any changes in the service, he'll drive the people away with his new-fangled ideas.  
If he doesn't make changes, he is a stick-in-the-mud.  
If he has new hymns, we don't know them and can't sing them.  
If he sticks to the old ones, we want something more up-to-date.  
If people talk, there is a lack of reverence.  
If there is quietness, the place is like a morgue.  
If he uses visual aids, he is guilty of gimmickry.  
If he doesn't use visual aids, he is behind the times.  
If he asks for help, he is too demanding.  
If he doesn't ask for help, he is no leader.



**MOUNTFITCHET HIGH SCHOOL  
PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION**

Our last event, a Valentine's Dance, was much enjoyed by all who attended. The hall was beautifully decorated with numerous hearts and the music of our live group, Misty plus 3, was very popular.

Our next event is a race night on Friday 12th May. This proved very popular last year. It is all very harmless fun with small stakes being bet on filmed races. Admission is only £2.00 by ticket and all friends of the school will be more than welcome. Please contact the school, of the writer (tel. 813734) for any further information.

The next day, Saturday 13th, we are holding a Jumble Sale at the School. Watch the noticeboards for more information nearer to the day!

Looking further ahead we will be repeating our very successful Family Barn Dance on 8th July. (A date for your diary!) As usual we will be drawing the prizes for our Grand Draw at this function.

As you can see we have several events planned during the year and we look forward to the continuing support we are fortunate to receive and of which we are very grateful, as all money raised is used for the benefit of the School and children.

Richard Pollard



Forty-five members and friends listened attentively while Mrs. Fotherby talked about the origin and practice of Heraldry. When armour encased them from head to foot on the battlefield Knights needed to be recognized by their shields. The practice grew so that sons carried arms in order of age, and coats of arms were quartered when sons married. Eventually the history of a family could be read from its coat of arms.

Our Group Meeting on 8th March was at Berden when fifty seven members from seven villages discussed Group business, and then enjoyed a video of the village pantomime "Robin Hood", partook of some excellent refreshments and joined in the raffle.

On 20th April at 7.45 Mr. Peter Baker will talk to us about Stansted - always a popular subject - and visitors will be very welcome at the Day Centre.

Pat Clower  
815220



Local Organisers: Stephanie McDowall  
812137 Eileen Quinn 812109  
Treasurer: Katy Dockerill 812997

NWR aims to provide lively and stimulating meetings for women on a variety of subjects. Meetings are held in member's own homes and are organised by the members themselves with an occasional speaker. The Stansted group meet fortnightly but the evening chosen varies throughout the programme.

Subscriptions are £4.50 per annum, of which £3.50 goes to National Headquarters and £1.00 to local funds.

Evening Meetings begin at 8 pm. Please telephone the hostess in advance so that she can make appropriate arrangements for seats and coffee. We pay 40p per evening, 50p for Speaker evenings.

Transport for those without cars can be arranged.

Monday April 3rd

Book Group

Tuesday April 18th Julie's 59129

David Hockney: "The unusual phenomenon of an artist who won instant international success while still a student - A brilliant draughtsman and an outstanding graphic artist" ... Julie and Frances are our presenters.

A programme can be obtained by ringing one of the organisers.



**STANSTED CONSERVATIVE ASSOCIATION**

£150 was raised at a very successful Jumble Sale held in St. John's Church Hall on Saturday 11th February.

On Friday 24th February a Dinner, attended by 80 people was held at the Day Centre. The guest speaker was Mr. David Mellor, Q.C.M.P., Minister of State, Department of Health. Other guests were Alan Haselhurst, our Member of Parliament, Frank Brooke, Conservative Chairman of the Saffron Walden Constituency and Dirk Vettewinkel, the agent of the Constituency and his wife and son. The Dinner was voted a huge success and we plan to hold more similar events in the future.

The Ladies A.G.M. was held at the Day Centre on Wednesday 1st March. Coffee was served before the business of the meeting when Bridget Gott was re-elected as Chairman, Diana Bishop as Vice Chairman and Joan Summers was elected as Hon. Secretary in Pat Bickerton's place.

The Committee Members are:- Pat Bickerton, Pauline Butterfield, Joan Finn, Janet Hollis, Nellie Marshall, Doris Morton, Jean Pennington, Susan Smith, Pam Sutton, Evelyn Tame, Pat Trigg and Betty Waterman.

Mr. Jerry Hayes, M.P. for Harlow gave a lively and interesting address and then answered questions. Afterwards a Cheese and Pate lunch, with wine, was served by the committee.

The A.G.M. of the Joint Branch was held on Friday 3rd March at the Day Centre. Richard Shervington was re-elected as President as were Peter Jones and Pat Trigg as Vice Presidents. Anthony Ludlow-Elston, who has been acting-Chairman in Alan Sutton's place, was elected as Chairman and Brian Harvey as Vice Chairman. Pam Sutton was re-elected as Hon. Secretary and John Dockerill has taken over from Alan Corbishley as Hon. Treasurer.

The Executive Committee members are:- Election Organiser/Agent - Bridget Gott. Membership Secretary - Philip Duly, Ex-officio Chairman of the Women's Committee - Bridget Gott.

Members of the General Committee elected are:- David Butterfield, Peter Clear, Steve Morrison, Jean Pennington and Bill Stenton.

The three additional representatives to the Association's Executive Council are:- Peter Pennington, Pat Trigg and Richard Shervington. The representative to Saffron Walden Area Committee is:- Pat Trigg.

Philip Duly was congratulated on his selection as Conservative Candidate for Essex County Council.

Alan Haselhurst our M.P. then gave a most interesting speech and then answered members' questions.



#### EVENTS IN VILLAGE

(A request)

Would organisers of events care to give the name of the host/ess as well as the address at which events are to be held.

#### MOUNTFITCHET GARDEN CLUB

Anyone interested in joining our Club is most welcome to attend our AGM on Wednesday 5 April at 8 pm at the Day Centre, Chapel Hill, Stansted. The evening will also include a slide show, refreshments and a raffle. Alternatively, why not come and meet us on .....

SATURDAY 15 APRIL 1989

at

MOUNTFITCHET GARDEN CLUB'S

SPRING SHOW

To be held at

The United Reformed Church Hall  
Chapel Hill, Stansted

Commencing at 2.30

Refreshment Raffle

Sale of Produce at end of Show

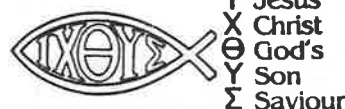


### THE SIGN OF THE FISH

IN THE early days of Christianity it could be very dangerous to admit that you were one of Jesus' followers. You could be arrested, imprisoned and executed, simply for your beliefs.

Christians had to meet in secret — but how could you tell if a stranger was a Christian or not? To recognise one another Christians used secret signs, and one of these was the sign of the fish which could easily be scratched on a wall or in the dust of the road. If the other person wasn't a Christian he'd just think you were doodling, but if he knew, then you knew he was a Christian.

The fish was used as a sign because, in Greek, the first letters of the words 'Jesus Christ God's Son, Saviour' spell 'ichthus', the Greek word for fish.



Today, real Christians are still difficult to recognise. Some of them like Vicars or Priests wear a 14 special collar, and nuns

sometimes wear a special dress, which tells you what they do. But how do you show other people that you are a Christian? If you have a happy smile, helping hands, and are friendly, these can be signs that others will recognise.

#### SECRETS

*The sign of the fish was a secret sign. If you'd like to send someone a secret message, you can do it with 'invisible ink'.*

*You need a lemon or onion; squeeze the juice of it into a small bowl.*

*Using the juice as 'ink', with a clean nib in a proper pen, write your message on a piece of paper. Leave it to dry, and as it dries the message will disappear.*

*To make it reappear, hold the paper over a lamp or radiator.*

*This is a very easy way of sending secret messages, but you have to be sure that the person you are writing to knows how to make the message reappear.*

#### A FUNNY FIN HAPPENED...

What's the best way to communicate with a fish?  
Drop it a line.

What's the best way to catch a fish?

get someone to throw one at you.

Conversation in a chip shop:  
'A shark and chips, and make it snappy'.





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