

Apr 90

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happy easter



He
is risen
from
the dead
and He
is Lord



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

Cost is 20p a month; £2.20 for the year. To order your copy please contact:
Mrs Lindsey Collingwood, 15 Loates Pasture. Tel: 813428.

Advertising Manager: Mrs L Everitt, 12 Meadowcroft. Tel: 813504.

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
12th April for May issue
10th May for June issue



There will be a coffee morning and Bring & Buy stall on Wednesday 2nd May at 58 Chapel Hill from 10.30 a.m.

An appeal has been received from the Bible Society for Bibles for Romania.

"Through our televisions and newspapers we witnessed their grief and despair. And, as freedom and hope rose from the ashes, we were able to share in their rejoicing and excitement We now have an opportunity to play a part In the last six weeks the Bible Societies have been swamped with requests from Romania

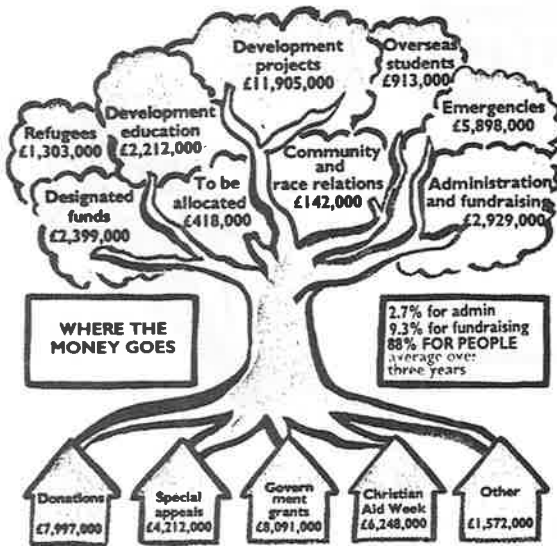
"Please send us Bibles"
"We need two million Bibles".

£50 is enough to supply 30 Bibles.
£15 will pay for 10 children's Bibles.

Please come and support this coffee morning. If you cannot come please send a donation however small.

Every penny we raise will go to this appeal.

Janet Townsend



CHRISTIAN AID WEEK - MAY 14-19

Whatever your views about it, you cannot but be aware of the Poll Tax. Its proper name is, of course, the Community Charge, and from this Christian Aid has taken its slogan for this year, with a play on the word charge.

THE WORLD IS OUR COMMUNITY -
THIS IS OUR CHARGE

Christ was charged by God to bring good news to the poor, and we too can respond to this charge by giving Christian Aid the money to support projects that can improve the lives of people in the World Community.

If you feel you would like to do even more than putting your hand in your pocket, perhaps you would like to join the army of foot-sloggers and door-knockers who do such a marvellous job of collecting the money every year. Please contact me if you can help in this way. Thank you.

Christine Dean
813579

The Women's World Day of Prayer Service and the S.A.C.C. United Service at St. John's on March 4 had rather lower attendances than usual but the addresses given at the first, at the Friends' Meeting House by Mrs. Nancy Rawlings and by Mr. Michael Dyer, ably replacing the appointed preacher at St. John's, were nonetheless greatly appreciated.

THEY SAID IT WITH FLOWERS

I wandered slowly, in a cloud,
Along the road by Walpole Hill,
When all at once I saw a crowd,
A host of lovely daffodil -
T'wards Croasdaile Road, beneath the trees
Gaily advancing, by degrees.

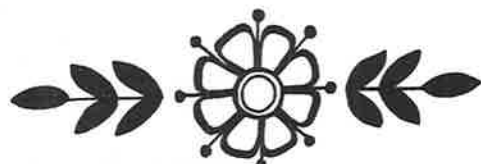
Continuous on the Cambridge Road
And downwards to the High Lane turn.
- Who cast these various bulbs abroad?
How shall the Stansted people learn?
- "All freely done by local clubs!" *
(What a nice way to use the subs!)
and, of course, Parish Council

The crocuses beside the way
An unWordsworthian bonus lent.
A writer could not but be gay
At such a "Colour Supplement".
I gazed, and gratefully I thought:
"What wealth those kindly planters brought!"

And now, when planning LINK, I lie
In vacant (yes!) and pensive mood,
That flash of daffs before my eye
Fills me with instant gratitude

Now, who will take some colour stills
of all those dancing daffodils?

Phyllis Harrison



Which reminds me!

You saw the good photo of the Rev. Eric McIlwain in last month's issue. Who has a photo to submit (black & white - alas! we're not into colour yet) - local views, with distinguishable features, events, personalities? (Close-ups of your pet not acceptable!) Please send to LINK, 58 Chapel Hill - we may occasionally print one.



Roman Catholic

St Theresa's Church, Millside.

Priest: The Rev'd John Meehan
The Presbytery, 12 Millside.
Tel: 814349

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

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

My dear Parish Family,

Ash Wednesday opened for us the Holy Season of Lent. Lent, like Advent, is a season of preparation. It is austerity motivated by our sorrow for sin and is tempered by the joy we experience as people who have been redeemed by the Passion, Death and Resurrection of the Lord Jesus. Lent puts before us the whole mystery of salvation through which God's merciful love has been revealed in Jesus Christ. Lent is a time of ANTICIPATION AND WAITING for the coming Easter celebration. The full meaning of Lent is to be found in its consummation in the three days or Triduum in Holy Week, on Holy Thursday, Good Friday and the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday. The rigours of Lent are undergone in our personal sacrifices to prepare us for the triumphant emergence of Christ from the tomb. In Lent we are reminded that we must die to ourselves if we are to rise with Christ. The gospel message is clear "if we die with him we shall rise with him".

During this holy season of renewal may the Lord be with each of you and your families on your pilgrimage to the joy of Easter.

Fr. John

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.

"He once remarked that his whole life would have been different if he had not had thumb joints which did not bend in the middle. This physical peculiarity, inherited from his father, made him a poor craftsman, and did not improve his skill at catching balls when they were thrown at him".

This quotation is about C.S. Lewis and is taken from a new, masterly and impressively intelligent biography of the great man by A.N. Wilson. No doubt dexterity and skill of hands would be much inhibited and much clumsiness result instead because Lewis could not bend his thumbs at their middle joints. We have only to spend one day trying to do the one thousand and one things we do every day that require the bending of our thumbs, but, instead, holding them rigidly stiff to realise how limiting such a simple disability must be. C.S. Lewis asserted that the whole course of his life would have been different.

I strongly suspect that he overstated the affect, in view of his massive intelligence, wide-ranging ability and enormous achievements. His natural bent was towards profound and constant academic studies, incessant reading, vast accumulation of knowledge, creative imagination, incisive reasoning and much else in the same ilk. But some things may very well have been very different.

Perhaps in youth he would, without the disability in his thumbs, have been good at sport and developed a passionate interest in it and this could have nudged his genius in a somewhat different direction. Reading much less and playing much more would have changed the way he went. So would the associations that sport would have given him with people, organisations and places. Maybe, with supple and skilled hands, his brilliance would have been drawn to something like engineering, with all the ensuing consequences. We will never know and it doesn't matter.

It turns out not to have mattered because he made the most of what he had (in his case so much) and accepted without self-pity the lack that was his. Perhaps it is much easier for a genius to do this. But all of us can major on what we have, even though it may not amount to greatness, and refuse to be held back because of what we do not have. When this happens to us a sort of mini resurrection has taken place in us. There are many such mini resurrections. God grant them to us when we need them.

Harold Fisher



United Reformed

Chapel Hill

Minister: The Rev'd Lydia Rapkin
23a St John's Close
Saffron Walden
Tel: (95) 23296

Group Secretary:

Miss Muriel Dalley
145 Cherry Garden Lane
Newport, Essex
Tel: (95) 41210

Stansted Contact:

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.

There can have been very few such momentous journeys as that undertaken by the two friends of Jesus when, grief-stricken and bewildered, they trudged the lonely road from Jerusalem to Emmaus after the crucifixion of their beloved Lord.

We read their story in Luke's gospel where he graphically describes the frame of mind of the couple as they walked the dusty road. The one they had followed, the one on whom they had pinned their hopes for the future, had been cruelly executed. The path ahead looked desolate indeed.

In the shock of their grief the two failed to recognise the stranger who travelled the road beside them, conversing with them as they journeyed, enquiring the reasons for their grief and despair.

With true Eastern hospitality they bade the stranger sojourn with them at the end of their journey, and it was as he broke bread at the evening meal that the scales fell from their eyes and the one who had shared their sorrowful journey was revealed as their Lord, risen from the dead and gloriously present with them.

Despair turned to unbelievable joy, hopelessness to a wonderful hope for the future.

Richard Harries in his book 'Morning has broken' quotes Oscar Wilde as saying that 'once at least in his life each man walks with Christ to Emmaus'.

Such journeys of pain, grief, loneliness or despair, which come to us all at times, our roads to Emmaus, are transformed by the experience of the risen Christ walking the path alongside us, transforming our way with the realisation of His presence.

Whether in joy or sorrow may Christ walk with each one of us this Eastertide.

Lydia Rapkin

Services for April

- 1 Rev. L. Rapkin
- 1 SACC Agape Meal, Lecture Hall 7 p.m.
- 8 Mr. P. Smith Family Service
- 12 Maundy Thursday Communion Service 7 p.m.
- 13 Good Friday Group Service Clavering
Rev. Eric McIlwain 11 a.m.
- 15 Easter Day. Group Service
Rev. L. Rapkin 10.30 a.m.
- 22 Dr. B. Macartney
- 29 Dr. J. Anderson

The marriage of Miss Michelle Trundle and Mr. David King will be celebrated at the church on April 21st at 2.30 p.m. All friends are cordially invited to this happy occasion.

Advance Notice

Bible Society Coffee Morning
May 2nd 10.30 a.m. at 58 Chapel Hill.



DANCE



DRAMA

GOOD FRIDAY PROJECT

CHILDREN

Come and have
fun at

St. Mary's School
Stansted

April 13th
9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Help to destroy the Monster
of the sea in this year's
exciting play

Bring a packed lunch
and 50p

For further details contact
Marion Johnson
62 Chapel Hill

PARENTS - Come to St. John's Church
at 2 p.m. and see the Monster slain

COOKERY

ART



Church of England

REGISTERS

Clergy: The Rev'd Bob Wallace
The Rev'd Brenda Wallace
The Vicarage, St John's Road.
Tel: 812203

The Rev'd John Cardell-Oliver
43 Gilbey Crescent.
Tel: 814463

The Rev'd Margaret Booker
Moorlands Cottage, Burton End.
Tel: 812684

Services: Held in St John's, St John's Road
and St Mary's, Church Road.

Holy Communion	-	8am
Family Communion	-	9.30am
Children's Church	-	9.30am
Creche	-	9.30am
Holy Communion (1662)	-	11.30am
(1st and 3rd Sundays)		
Evensong	-	6.30pm

Holy Communion is celebrated on:

Tuesday	-	7.30pm
Wednesday	-	10am
Thursday	-	9.30am
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.

Easter Greetings

Because of Fr. Tony's article about his forthcoming work in Botswana we are not writing a letter this month. However, we wish to take this opportunity to wish you all a Happy and Blessed Easter.

Margaret Booker
John Cardell-Oliver
Bob and Brenda Wallace

CHURCH DIARY

April

- 1 7 pm SACC Agape at United Reformed Church (NO 6.30 pm service at St John's)
- 2 8 pm Election of Churchwardens and Annual Parochial Church meeting in the Hall
- 3 8.15 pm Prayer Group at 22 Bentfield Causeway
- 6 9.15 am Holy Communion in St Mary's School
- 8-15 Holy Week and Easter - see separate list
- 10 2 pm Tuesday Club at 10 Hargrave Close
- 17 10 am Service at Mead Court (NB not 3rd)
- 19 10.30 am Service at Norman Court (NB not 5th)
- 24 2.15 pm Tiny Tots (NB no meeting on 10th)

Baptism

25 February Elizabeth Clare Hawkins

Funerals

9 February Daisy Chapman, 76
8 March Charles Edward Searles, 82

Easter Services

At St. John's, except where noted on Easter Day

Palm Sunday (8th)

8 am	Holy Communion
<u>9.20 am</u>	Blessing of Palms, Procession and Parish Communion
6.30 pm	Stainer's "Crucifixion"

Monday in Holy Week (9th)

9 am	Morning Prayer and Litany
7.30 pm	Stations of the Cross and Holy Communion

Tuesday in Holy Week (10th)

9 am	Morning Prayer and Litany
7.30 pm	Stations of the Cross and Holy Communion

Wednesday in Holy Week (11th)

9.30 am	Morning Prayer and Litany
10 am	Holy Communion
7.30 pm	Stations of the Cross and Holy Communion

Thursday in Holy Week (12th)

9.30 am	Morning Prayer and Litany
10 am	Holy Communion
8 pm	Parish Communion and stripping of altars
9 pm - midnight	Chain of Prayer

Good Friday (13th)

9 am - 3 pm	Good Friday Project
11 am - noon	Good Friday service
2 pm - 3 pm	Good Friday Project Service

Easter Eve (14th)

8 pm	Easter Vigil Service of Light, Holy Baptism and the first communion of Easter
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EASTER DAY (15th)

8 am	Holy Communion - St Mary's
9.30 am	Parish Communion - St John's
11.30am	Holy Communion - St John's
6.30 pm	Evensong - St Mary's



**PALM SUNDAY CAKE STALL
SUNDAY 8TH APRIL 1990**

The Overseas Group will be running a Cake Stall in St. John's Church Hall after the 9.30 a.m. Parish Communion on Palm Sunday in aid of St. Luke's Hospital, Southern Malawi. We would greatly appreciate contributions of cakes and biscuits for sale on the stall. Contributors should deliver their cakes and biscuits to the St. John's Church Hall between 9.00 and 9.30 a.m. before the service.

St. Luke's fifth Project Bulletin, which is on the subject of "Getting the message across", has now been published and copies are available in the back of St. John's or directly from me.

TONY & HELENE KING

As many will remember, Tony King preached in St. John's on Sunday 18th February 1990 on the subject of his posting by U.S.P.G. to Molepolole in Botswana where he will be Rector. He spoke enthusiastically and interestingly of their expectations and aspirations for his and Helene's

work in Molepolole which the Overseas Group hopes to support and encourage. A special collection was taken during the service and raised £187 towards their work.

Alastair Richardson
815518



On April 19th Helene and I will depart for Botswana. Our final destination is Molepolole a village of 30,000 people sixty miles north of Gaborone the capital of Botswana. Botswana nestles between South Africa, Namibia, Angola, Zambia and Zimbabwe. It is twice the size of Great Britain but has a population of only one million people. The main reason being that four fifths of Botswana is the Kalahari desert. Thus, most of the population is on the east side of Botswana through which the railway line runs joining the rest of Africa to South Africa. There is also some rainfall in this area; even so it is very hot and dry for most of the year with temperatures around 90°F.

The village to which we are going, Molepolole, still retains much of its traditional appearance. It consists of concentric circles of mud brick huts with thatched roofs covering a diameter of eight miles. I will be Rector of the Anglican Church based at 'St. Paul's Mission Station' which dates back to the 1880s. It will be a difficult task because my brief is to 'Africanise' the Anglican Church. Since 1966 when Botswana gained Independence from Great Britain the Anglican Church has continued to carry on as a white colonial Church and consequently is seriously out of touch with native Africans. Christian growth has therefore happened within black independent churches which reflect the people's language, music and culture. The Anglican Church is presently struggling to maintain itself. Helene and I will be working to make the Anglican Church relevant to the native people of Botswana.

The above, however, is only part of our work. We hope to involve ourselves in youth work and AIDS awareness programmes. In many respects these are related because young people in Botswana face enormous tensions as traditional values are replaced by the imagery and advertising of a growing economy. The number of single mothers is growing as is the frequency of AIDS as people have more sexual partners without the protection of a condom.

Helene and I are presently struggling with the local language called Setswana. It is the language of the Bakwena tribe with whom we shall be working. As time draws near for our departure we are excited but also a little daunted at the prospect of such a change in our lifestyle. The United Society for the Propagation of the Gospel who have recruited and sponsored us, emphasise the need for the 'world partnership of churches' to enhance God's Kingdom in all places through the cross-fertilisation of ideas, resources and people. As such we are not 'missionaries' in the old-fashioned sense, but rather partners in learning with the Christians of Botswana. About half the population are baptised Christians. Our work with non-Christians will be highlighted by an awareness that God is much bigger than Christianity reminding us to treat with absolute respect the beliefs and traditions of others.

As we prepare to go we do ask for your prayers and we will keep you very much informed of our progress. Already we have been enormously encouraged by your love and generosity!

With
love and prayer
Tony and Helene King



Society of Friends

Village News

Quaker Meeting House, Chapel Hill.

Clerk: Katharine Hurford
2 Matching Lane
Bishop's Stortford, Herts.
Tel: 654945

**Meeting for
worship:** 11am

THE QUAKER TAPESTRY

An unusual event is taking place at the Festival Hall from Good Friday, April 13th to Monday May 7th. It is the first public meeting of a Quaker Tapestry - recently completed and due to go to Bayeux for another exhibition in August.

It has taken a number of years to complete and comprises 75 panels - each about 2' 6" square. Each panel has been embroidered by different groups of Quakers, and all areas of the country have been involved. A central committee decided on the background colour and made sure that themes were not duplicated. Otherwise the groups have been free to choose their own subjects, their own designs and their own embroidery. Some of the work is highly skilled and some is done by children.

The subjects range from characters or incidents in Quaker history to aspects of Christian worship and social activity that Quakers hold dear.

Quakers find it even more difficult than other denominations to resolve the problem of making their beliefs clear and welcoming to others, without evangelising in an "I've got it right" sort of way. I think this corporate working of the tapestry for public display is one way to do it.

I was lucky enough to see some of the panels at a weekend conference last year; and one of them remains very clear in my mind. It illustrated the life and work of Daniel Wheeler who in the early 19th century, went to St. Petersburg to advise the Tsar on the draining of the swamps round the city - the gold cupolas of the city skyline sparkle against the plain background, and the swamps look very soggy. When Daniel returned to England he felt he still had work to do, and set off for the South Seas to carry the Christian message - and judging by the panel he had a very jolly boat and a very rough sea. His words "Every country is my country, and every man my brother through God's love" complete the panel.

The Exhibition is open every day from 10 am to 10 pm and entrance is free. Do go and see it.

Katharine Hurford



FUTURE EVENTS

April

- | | | |
|-------|------|---|
| 1 | 7.00 | S.A.C.C. Agape Meal URC Hall, Chapel Hill |
| 4 | 8.00 | Tennis Club AGM at the Clubhouse Cambridge Road |
| 5 | 8.00 | Day Centre. Local History Society The Royal Mail in Essex before 1840 |
| 6 | | Day Centre, British Legion Easter Supper |
| 7 | 2.30 | Mountfitchet Garden Club Spring Show. URC Hall, Chapel Hill |
| 19 | 7.45 | Day Centre. Royal British Legion Women's Section |
| 21 | 2.00 | Pavilion Hargrave Park. Cricket Club Jumble Sale |
| 23-26 | | Skip at Crafton Green |
| 25 | 8.00 | Day Centre. Evening W.I. Beauty Evening. Tickets £2 tel. 813281 |
| 28 | | Mountfitchet School. Carnival Assn Barn Dance. Tel 816027 |
| | 8.00 | 49 Recreation Ground. Stansted Liberal Democrats - German Evening |

May

- | | | |
|-------|--------------|--|
| 2 | 10.30 | 58 Chapel Hill. Bible Society Coffee Morning |
| 3 | 8.00 | Local History Society AGM. Day Centre |
| 7 | 2.30 | Stansted Brownie/Guide May Fayre St. John's Church Hall |
| 9 | 8.00 | Day Centre. Annual Parish Meeting |
| 12 | 12.00 - 2.00 | Day Centre. Stansted Liberal Democrats Ploughmen's Lunch |
| 14-17 | | Skip at Crafton Green |

STANSTED BROWNIES & GUIDES

would like you to pay a visit to their

MAY FAYRE

on

Monday 7th May

in

St. John's Church Hall

from 2.30 p.m.

Many Stalls, Raffle, Games Refreshments, etc.





The 6th March was unique in the recent annals of the Stansted & District Branch. Events are usually held in Stansted; this time the venue was Elsenham, and how nice it was to be invited out into one of the surrounding villages. John Segar and his wife Lyn kindly organised a reception at the Community Centre. The purpose was twofold. Firstly, the occasion was to mark the long and dedicated service of eight poppy collectors; three received certificates from our President, Major Wallace, for over ten years service, and five more were presented with certificates and brooches for over 20 years service. The eight recipients, between them, had completed a total of 138 years' collections - a fine record. The second aim of the evening was to show that our branch is alive and well - and is as relevant to the people of Elsenham as to the people we serve in Stansted.

For one person attending the function there was a very special award - which came as a complete surprise. Mrs. Kath Stevens, our chairman, was given the second highest award the RBL can confer - life membership, manifested by a framed illuminated certificate and badge. The citation related her outstanding services to the Legion for nearly 30 years in manifold activities. If it hadn't been for Kath Stevens' stubborn determination, this branch would have folded some 20 years ago. Today the branch is viable, although new members are needed to be its life blood for the future.

Finally, a reminder that on 6th April our Easter Supper is being held at the Day Centre, Stansted. Tickets may be obtained from any member of the committee - price £4 (not £5 as previously indicated).



At our February branch meeting our chairman gave a very comprehensive report of the Eastern Area Conference held at the Corn Exchange in Cambridge on 7th February.

Mrs Clare Francis then treated us to a most interesting talk on her travels in New Zealand. She told us about the North Island and her trips to many places, including Auckland, Queenstown, Mount Cook, Rotorua - to mention just a few. We also heard about New Zealand's native plants, trees and wildlife and the lovely shells on the beaches.

Our Group meeting at Felsted on 14th March was attended by 61 members from 6 villages, who met to discuss business and to listen to a very interesting talk on "Antiques" by a local dealer.

Our next branch meeting will be at the Day Centre on Thursday, 19th April, at 7.45 p.m. when our speaker will be Mr. Sherritt on "Spiritualism, Yesterday and Today".

Pat Clower
815220



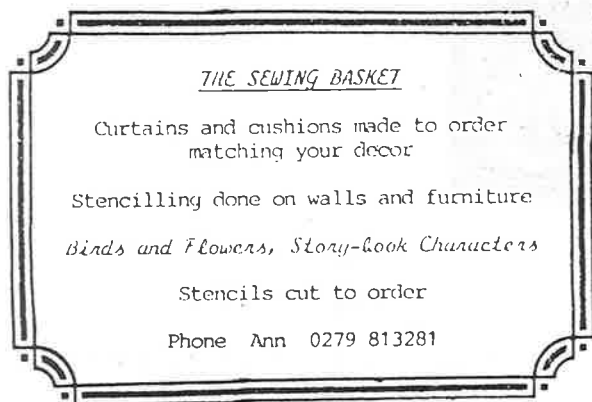
BARN DANCE

The Stansted Carnival Association Barn Dance will be held again this year at Mountfitchet School on Saturday 28th April. Dancing will be to the Redbridge Folk Group who return by popular demand.

Tickets will be £4.00 each and can be obtained from Stansted Insurance Co. 1 Station Road, Stansted, Tel. 816027. Included in the price will be a buffet supper to amaze.

The evening promises to be an even greater success than last year so don't delay, obtain your tickets while some still remain. Remember, he who hesitates is most certainly not going to gain entry to this most spectacular event of the year.

Sue Reed
Secretary, Carnival Committee



STANSTED DAY CENTRE

By the time you read this, the clocks will have been advanced to British Summer Time, so with that thought we here in the Day Centre start to think of our coach outings. These will start in May and will be full day outings this year and we hope that we will have the usual Day Centre weather.

Events in April

Tue 3rd	Beetle Drive	2.00 pm	30p
Thu 5th	Bingo	2.00 pm	
Fri 6th	Whist Drive	2.00 pm	40p
Tue 10th	Bingo	2.00 pm	
Thu 12th	Scrabble		
Fri 13th	CLOSED		
Tue 17th	Beetle Drive	2.00 pm	30p
Thu 19th	Bingo	2.00 pm	
Fri 20th	Whist Drive	2.00 pm	40p
Tue 24th	Bingo	2.00 pm	
Thu 26th	Scrabble		
Fri 27th	Whist Drive	2.00 pm	40p

Wednesday May 9th
Coach Outing to Windsor Leave 9.30 am
Cost £4.50 provisional



STANSTED CONSERVATIVE ASSOCIATION

A Jumble Sale was held at St. John's Church Hall on Saturday 10th February and £100 was made.

The Annual General Meeting of the Joint Branch was held at the Day Centre, on Friday 16th February. The speaker was Alan Haselhurst, our Member of Parliament.

Steve Norris, Member of Parliament for Epping Forest had been booked as the speaker at the Annual General Meeting of the Women's Section, which was held at the Day Centre on Wednesday 14th March, but he was unable to attend as he had been called away to East Germany. Alan Haselhurst had offered to step into the breach but was then involved in an all-night sitting at the House of Commons, so we were third time lucky with Dirk Vettewinkel, the Saffron Walden Agent, who very kindly spoke at the Meeting and answered questions.

Conservative Parish Councillors Surgeries will take place at the Parish Council Office, Crafton Green, Stansted, between 10 and 11 am. Next date: Saturday 28th April 1990.

For all further information please contact;-
Mrs. Bridget Gott - 814440 or Mrs. Joan Summers - 814854.



STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET PARISH COUNCIL

Tel: 813214

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

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING - this year will be on Wednesday, 9th May at 8.00 p.m. in the Day Centre. Please make a note in your diary now and make an effort to come.

SPRING BULBS: it is lovely to see the verges and greens which have been planted with bulbs - many thanks to all who helped with the project.

There are obviously many more areas which could be planted so we shall be continuing the planting this autumn. Any offers of help, either financially or physically, will be most welcome.

If you have any bulbs to spare when you are splitting them up in your garden perhaps you would like to donate them to the Parish Council for planting in the village.


CEMETERY: please help us to keep the Cemetery as neat and tidy as possible by using the litter bins provided for dead flowers and any

organic materials but if you could take home any unrottable materials such as baskets and plastic, etc. it would be of enormous help. Thank you.

REFUSE SACKS: a reminder that the Parish Council holds a stock of garden refuse sacks. These are available at 50p each.

SKIP DATES: The skip will be in Crafton Green Car Park on the following dates:

Monday 23rd April - Thursday 26th April
Monday 14th May - Thursday 17th May.



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OUT AND ABOUT IN STANSTED IV

This month we are into springs and streams. Virtually all the surface water from our large parish runs into the River Stort, the only exception being the far corner of Alsa Wood which drains towards the River Cam.

The Stort forms our parish boundary from the bridge near Manuden to Gypsy Lane, and although the river is crossed by footpaths, none follow its course. It has been noticeable in recent years that whereas there is always water flowing at Gypsy Lane, the bed is often dry at the Manuden end. We can therefore claim that the Stort frequently has its source in Stansted, mainly from springs above Bentfield Mill.

In Stansted Village itself there is, of course, Stansted Brook which rises four miles away at Chickney Springs and can be followed along footpaths from near Elsenham Church right through Stansted and via Grippers and Pesterford (Pest House Ford) to Gypsy Lane. This walk is full of contrasts and interest and is recommended despite the proximity of railway and motorway. A kingfisher has been seen regularly along its banks during recent months.

The other streams in the village have been tidied away. The brook which follows the road from Ugley disappears under Lower Street and Doe's Yard, and that which rises in wet periods from a spring in Pennington Lane is culverted all the way to behind the Limes Stables. This stream used to feed the ponds in Hargrave Park and Cannons Mead.

All our other streams emanate from the high ground occupied by the airport. The brook passing Turners Spring and Durrells Wood can be followed for much of its course on footpaths along the top of its high banks. A section is called the Bourne, a name generally referring to a stream which dries up some of the year when running over chalk. Where the stream has been excavated and rerouted by the new railway the chalk is clearly visible and there will soon be deep gullies carved here. Incidentally the Spring in Turners Spring is an old term for managed woodland and does not refer to a water spring.

A rather sad stream is that which has its sources in the airport fuel depot behind Bury Lodge and also behind the new Harlequin Hotel, although this last spring which has supported communities through the Iron Age, Roman Era and Mediaeval Times and survived the American occupation, has now been all but extinguished by the B.A.A. with vast car parks. These polluted streams expand into the brook which passes the Parsonage Farm Industrial Estate and then flows under the motorway roundabout where it is threatened by a major service area, and later has to absorb all of Stortford's sewage works' effluent before joining the Stort below Twyford.

A happier existence is enjoyed by the Shermore Brook which rises near Thremhall Priory and leaves Stansted to flow through Hatfield Forest where it forms the lake. It then joins the Pincey Brook, which also rises on the airport, and follows a rural course past Broad Oak, White Roding and Down Hall and can be seen from the M11 motorway meandering past Sheering Hall to join the Stort at Harlow Marshes.

Felix

HELPLINE

The social evening for volunteers and friends held in January was well attended and proved a most successful occasion.

The guest speaker was Mr Geoff Baker, the chairman of CAMTAD (Campaign for Tackling Acquired Deafness), a voluntary organisation in the Uttlesford district. His talk on the work of CAMTAD was informative and interesting.

The local representative for the Stansted area is Mrs Diana Burgess who can be contacted through HELPLINE or direct on Bishop's Stortford 815762. As the work of CAMTAD expands the organisation is anxious to train further volunteers to assist in this area. Volunteers visit the hard of hearing in their own homes and assist in helping them to adjust to the wearing of hearing aids. They do practical work in the replacement of tubes and any other small problem, as well as suggesting other appliances that might be useful in daily life. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, short training sessions can be arranged; do please contact Mrs Burgess, or Mr Baker on Saffron Walden 26717.

We remind readers that the Stansted HELPLINE is here to respond to the needs, where apparent, of Stansted residents of any age. Contact can be made by telephone to Bishop's Stortford 816008 - Mondays to Fridays 10.00 am to 4.00 pm; our volunteers are ready to assist wherever possible.

We are also pleased to acknowledge the help given recently by the local Young Farmers group, for which we were most grateful.

J. Freeman

Judy Jay

S.R.N.
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STANSTED EVENING W.I.

There was an excellent turn out for our March meeting, including quite a few visitors. The speaker for the evening was Valerie Felgate, herself a member of Cutley W.I. who is a qualified reflexologist, (For the uninitiated, she feels feet!). She explained that reflexologists are not alternative practitioners but work with G.P.s and give treatment which reduces the need for drugs. This is by no means a new idea and can be dated from early wall paintings in Egypt. She explained how she came to be trained and gave examples of case histories. Reflexology can be of very real benefit for stress, tension, poor memory, tranquiliser dependency joint problems and post viral syndrome.

Our President, Brenda Ryan, volunteered to have her "feet felt" and was able to confirm Valerie Felgate's diagnosis of her "problem" areas.

After delicious homemade refreshments, we were given a short talk by Katherine Bowes who runs her own business, selling recycled products for the home. She had brought along a selection of dustbin items and explained how we could do our bit for the environment by thinking more carefully about how we dispose of our rubbish.

During the business part of the meeting we learnt that we are involved in the Parish Council's efforts in the "Best Kept Village" Competition. Arrangements were made for the market stall in Bishop's Stortford on March 22nd, the Spring Group Meeting on April 27th and our 30th anniversary meeting on October 11th.

The outing to the pottery at White Roding will be on the evening of Monday 14th May and members were asked to take an apron as there will be an opportunity for "hands on" experience.

The Beauty Evening at the Day Centre has been fixed for Wednesday April 25th - details in the Village Diary and Sue Holland will be hosting the Aromatherapy evening at her house, 35 St John's Road on Monday May 21st at 8 pm.

What an interesting evening we had and what diverse subjects. Why not join?

Please note:- our next meeting on Thursday April 12th, 7.45 pm, will be at the U.R.C. Hall. Subject - "Colour all Summer" by Van Hages.

Pearl Wellings

813614

STANSTED AFTERNOON

Our President, Mrs. A Calver, chaired our March meeting. Mrs. P. Little, who celebrates her Golden Wedding anniversary this month, was given a gift of flowers. Eight members having March birthdays were presented with spring posies.

A coffee morning to raise funds for our W.I. will be held in the Day Centre on Saturday 7th April, 10.30 - 12.30.

On April 24th, the Streeter Floral Cup competition will take place in the United Reformed Church Hall. We look forward to a large attendance at both these events.

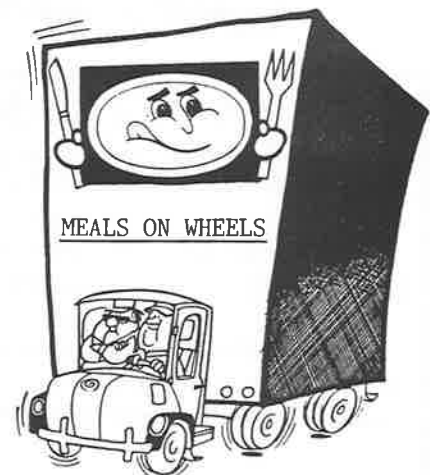
It was agreed Stansted Afternoon W.I. would keep the village noticeboards tidy and up to date as our contribution to the "Best Kept Village" competition.

Mrs. Cherry Fisher enthralled us with her talk of discovering a Treasure Trove of silver coins, ranging from the 15th Century to the reign of Charles I. It is possible these were buried during the Civil War and only brought to light by a busy rabbit and an observant husband on his Sunday walk.

Our competition 'a piece of silver jewellery', judged by Mrs. Fisher, was won by Mrs. Wheeler. Raffle winners were Mrs. Fuller and Mrs. Thomason.

Our speaker for our April meeting is Mrs. Doreen Hull who will talk about "Collecting Old Needlework".

Liliane bowman
814325



I would be very interested to hear from people who may be willing to help with the Meals on Wheels Delivery Service in Stansted, either as drivers or helpers. We have a rota system and we only ask people to deliver meals twice a week, once every 5 or 6 weeks, so it is not a great commitment of time.

Please contact Janet Hollis, B/S 812073.



This years A.G.M. was the fifteenth in the Club's History. It seems incredible that we have existed for such a long time. We still have at least ten of our founder members at the Club. Some of them were small children and we have watched them grow up.

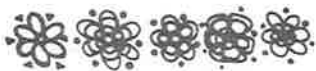
This year our speaker was Mrs. Liz Berry from the Citizens' Advice Bureau. Her talk and explanation of the work of the C.A.B. was both interesting and informative and I know many of our parents will be seeking the advice of the bureau in the future.

We always have a handicapped member on the Committee and this year John Edgar stepped down and Stephen Gerber took his place. John's father Joe also resigned after many years of Committee service and we thank them both for all that they did for the Club. We know, of course, that they will both continue to play an active part in Club life.

On St. David's Day we all cooked Welsh cakes and made paper leeks. The Welsh cakes were a great success and were consumed almost straight from the bakestone. It was rather difficult in some cases to recognise the leeks but everyone had a lot of fun spreading the glue.

Thank goodness it wasn't this modern super glue or we would have been in trouble.

M. G. Johnson



Good news for all deaf and hard of hearing people.

UTTLESFORD CAMTAD

Campaign for Tackling Acquired Deafness

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LIBRARY OF ENVIRONMENTAL AIDS



"OUR VILLAGE"

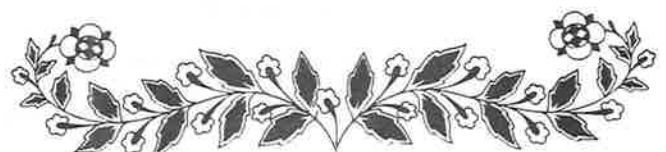
The addition of 16 new Electric Lamp Standards that recently have been installed along Church Road to provide lighting towards the Mountfitchet High School will prove of great benefit to all whomay traverse this pathway. There are now somewhere in the region of 200 street lamps within our village under the control of the Parish Council & County Highways.

To throw a little illumination upon the origins of our street lighting we must turn back at least 120 years, for by 1870 it was recorded that Stansted streets were now lighted by gas lamps. The supply coming from Stansted Mountfitchet Gas Co. Limited, where James Marsh was Secretary and Henry Hockley Collector. (It was not until the late 1890's that Mr. Brownhills copper coin slot machine became into fuller favour thus forcing the mint to strike three times the amount of copper coins as that of previous years). In October 1877 Stansted Gas Company issued a poster offering a £1 reward saying "Whereas some evil disposed boys are constantly throwing stones and breaking the glass in the street lamps, the above reward will be given to anyone giving information that will lead to the conviction of the offenders", James Marsh Secretary.

By 1889 there were some 36 street lamps. A proposal was put before a Parish Meeting to increase this number to 50 (not then taken up) but Messrs. S. Rogers, G. Phillips, A. Sanders, C. Brown, M. Freelove, Mayhew, C. Norman and T.O. Newman were elected as lighting inspectors for the following year.

The start of 1892 saw great gloom as the village was plunged into darkness. With gas lights out owing to the bulk of Stansted Gas Inspectors resigning, although the Gas Company were prepared to relight all gas lamps on a proper agreement being made by those in authority. But fear not for all was not lost for soon at a vestry meeting held in the Central Hall six new lighting inspectors were elected to join Messrs. Norman and Phillips, those being Messrs. H. Green, A. Welch, W. Pavitt, S. Haynes, W.W. Wright, J. Brett. The gas price at this time was 5/10d per 1,000 ft. Hopefully we may next month attempt to shed further light. If anyone has memories of/or a photograph of village gas lamps or lighters I would be pleased to hear.

P. J. Brown
812816





STANSTED CRICKET CLUB

Our A.G.M. on 2nd March was very well attended and it has put us in an optimistic mood for the coming season. We do, however, still need to encourage new members to join us and occasional players to put themselves forward for selection to avoid the possibility of cancelled matches. Our fixtures secretary, Mike Crosby, has worked hard to compile a list of matches for two teams on both Saturdays and Sundays and we must not let him down.

The first match is on April 28th when the 1sts are away to Braughing, followed by a home match against Matching Green on Sunday 29th April, when the 2nds are away to Great Chesterford.

Captains elected were:

Saturday 1sts David Cope
Vice Captain Lee Sims
Saturday 2nds Geoff Shaw
Vice Captain Tony Robinson
Sunday 1sts Peter Pratt
Vice Captain David Hedge
Sunday 2nds Kevin Hitchmough
Vice Captain Simon Clark

We were also very pleased to approve a proposal that Percy Heal should become Honorary Life President in recognition of his considerable work for the club for about 50 years.

We look forward to an enjoyable season both on and off the field and players, both new and old, are invited to contact the captains or myself for a game, or come along to Hargrave Park to watch us.

Brian Linford
Treasurer
8 Park Road, Stansted
Tel: 813466



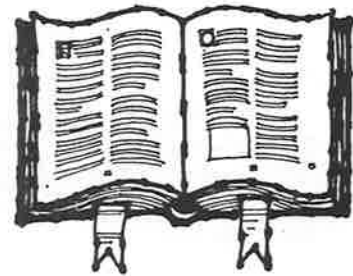
STANSTED CRICKET CLUB

JUMBLE SALE

SATURDAY, APRIL 21ST

2.00 P.M.

PAVILION, HARGRAVE PARK



A GOOD FRIEND

I was walking one day when I glanced to one side and saw a man sitting alone. He had no hair and no shoes on his feet, but looked happy in spite of his obvious poverty.

When I asked how he could possibly have such a wonderful smile, he looked me straight in the eye and said "I have a very good friend in the highest of places".

He carried a small wooden cross carved with his own hands and an old tattered book with very worn print. I wondered at this as I didn't imagine the man could read, but he said he felt honoured to hold the Holy Book at all.

How could this poor man live all alone in our materialistic world. He said that food always seemed to appear even at the most unexpected times, and that he never felt starving. He knew that his friend was protecting him all the time and that he would never be alone.

This poor man could have been bitter and complaining, but instead he took pleasure from simple things, and had the love of a great and glorious friend even when life seemed very cruel to him.

Take heart, for all is not lost.

Anna Skingle



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April

- 3rd Margaret Gilbert 10 Longcroft, Stansted 812743
- 6th Ann Kitson 24 Spencer Close, Stansted 813107
- 10th Carol Hearn 'Hermits' Mill House Lane Robin Hood Road Elsenham 816209
- 20th Louise Storey 'The Laurel' Haileswood Close Elsenham 814425
- 24th Penny Brooks 42 Bentfield Gardens Stansted 814763
- 27th Pam Moore 14 Meadowcroft, Stansted 814301

May

- 1st Chris Daley 13 Grove Hill, Stansted 813965



MOUNTFITCHET GARDEN CLUB

The 9th AGM of the Mountfitchet Garden Club will take place on Wednesday 4th April at 8 pm at the Day Centre, Chapel Hill, Stansted. After a short address by the Chairman the election of committee members for 1990-91 will take place. Following this the overall winner of the monthly competitions which have taken place for the past year will be announced. A slide show will complete the evening with, of course, the usual raffle and refreshment to finish the evening.

A visit to our Club meeting will cost only 50p, unbeatable good value at today's prices. After three visits we invite you to become a member. The cost of this is £6 for a single annual membership or £9 for double. Offset against the cost of membership is the attraction of coach outings at a reduced rate, this year to the Valley and Saville Gardens at Windsor, plus additional car outings and generous discounts on seeds and bulbs.

Sue Wilkinson

MOUNTFITCHET GARDEN CLUB

SPRING SHOW

SATURDAY 7TH APRIL 1990

at

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Chapel Hill
Stansted

Open to the Public at 2.30 p.m.

REFRESHMENTS RAFFLE
SALE OF PRODUCE

ADMISSION FREE

STANSTED LIBERAL DEMOCRAT GROUP

The group held its AGM on 2nd March when, in a well-attended meeting, Mr. Ron Davies, Headmaster of Mountfitchet High School, gave a lucid and carefully unpolitical account of the effects of the New National Curriculum and the Education Reform Act, on schools in Essex. Mr. Davies said that the changes are welcome in principal, and have the general support of teachers, but the manner of execution has left much to be desired. Far from schools obstructing the changes, without a highly motivated workforce they could not be introduced at all.

Melvin Caton, Mary Asinya, Vera Ansell and Francis Spalding remain as acting chairman, vice-chairman, treasurer and membership secretary respectively. Joan Freeman has replaced daughter Jane as secretary. Jane Sell, Maureen Jenkins, Alan Dean and Jane Freeman remain on the committee with John Hudson joining it for the first time.

This month's social event is a German Evening at Alan and Catherine Dean's house. There will

be a German flavour to the food, wine and music. Laurie Dorins will be testing our knowledge of things Germanic. It promises to be a lively and entertaining evening. For further information please contact Catherine and Alan.

FUTURE EVENTS

A German Evening 28th April, 49 Recreation Ground at 8 p.m. Tickets from Maureen Caton, 813914 or Catherine Dean 813579.

John Hudson
814489

STANSTED TENNIS CLUB



Our summer season starts officially on 1st April and new members are always very welcome. We play all the year round.

The Annual General Meeting will be held at the clubhouse, Cambridge Road, at 8 p.m. on Wednesday 4th April.

Junior Coaching has been arranged for 8-10 year olds on 8 Tuesdays from 4.30-5.30 starting on 1st May and for 11-13 year olds on 8 Wednesdays from 4.30 - 5.30 starting on 2nd May. If you are already a club member you will have received an application form, but if you are not a member you may still apply to Janet Hollis, 105 Cambridge Road, Stansted, B/S 812073.

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If Adults or older Juniors are interested in coaching at any other times, either individually or in classes please contact Janet Hollis.

The cost of the junior coaching will be £8 for 8 lessons and the groups will be limited to 16 children so early application is recommended.

Please try to attend the Annual General Meeting on 4th April at 8 p.m. at the Tennis Clubhouse.

All enquiries to Janet Hollis, B/S 812073.



There are at present 16 Neighbourhood Watch Groups in Stansted in the following areas:-

Bentfield Gardens, Cambridge Road, Coltsfield, The Champions, Five Acres, High Mead, Loates Pasture, Longcroft, Meadowcroft, Millfield, Park Road, Queens Close, Rainsford Road, St. John's Road and Wetherfield.

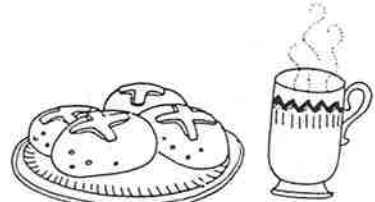
If you are interested in joining an existing group or would like to start one in your area please contact Stansted Police Station (tel. no. 812211) for further information.

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HOLY WEEK

HOLY Week is the week before Easter Day, which is on April 15 this year. It starts with Palm Sunday when Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey.

The Thursday of Holy Week is called Maundy Thursday. It's named from the words that Jesus used at the feast of the Passover, his last meal with the disciples which we now call the Last Supper, when he said that he gave them a new commandment. The Latin words are 'Mandatum novum da vobis' - 'a new commandment I give you'. Do you know what the commandment is? You can read the whole account in St John's Gospel, chapter 13.



After Maundy Thursday is Good Friday. A lot of people can't see why a day that commemorates the trial and crucifixion of Jesus could be called 'Good'. Of course it was a black day, but Christians know that without the events of that Friday there would be no Easter. Without the death of our Lord there would have been no empty tomb on Easter Day, no glorious Resurrection.

HOT CROSS BUNS

FOR many of us the pleasant memory of Good Friday is eating those lovely spicy hot cross buns. Like most things they cost more now than they used to in the old rhyme...

*Hot Cross Buns, Hot Cross Buns,
One a penny, two a penny,
Hot Cross Buns.
If you have no daughters,
give them to your sons,
One a penny, two a penny,
Hot Cross Buns.*

*If you have some time to spare,
see how many words you can get
out of the words HOT CROSS
BUN - words of at least two
letters, no plurals, proper names
or foreign words. We managed 85,
so see if you can beat that!*

How many weeks belong to a year?

Forty-six; the other six are only Lent.

What do you get when you pour boiling water down a rabbit hole?

A hot cross bunny.

What is chocolate outside, peanut inside, and sings hymns?

A Sunday School treat.

What does God have for his tea?

Angel Cake.

If you drop a white hat into the Red Sea, how does it come out?

Wet!

What did the big candle say to the little candle?

You're too young to go out!



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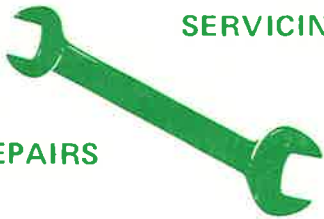
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