

Jul/Aug 90

# The LINK



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Stansted, Essex CM24 8HH  
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Hurrah for Harold!

After thirteen years of devoted service to an extensive flock (of sheep and goats!) in this area, our Methodist minister, Revd. Harold Fisher is moving on to pastures new. Like John Wesley before him, Harold has not been limited by parish or denominational boundaries, but has responded to pastoral needs wherever they have occurred. The Shalom group is an ongoing witness to his ecumenical zeal in Stansted and beyond.



We wish Harold and Joyce every blessing as they settle into their new home and ministry in Chelmsford, and we hope they will be back to see us from time to time.

\* N.B. 4.00 p.m. Saturday, July 14th  
Stansted Methodists warmly invite all S.A.C.C. friends to a farewell party for Joyce and Harold at the Friends Meeting House, Chapel Hill.

Copy to reach 58 Chapel Hill by  
9th August for September issue  
13th September for October issue

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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.

# SACC

There is always sadness in saying goodbye to a friend. However, two things cheered me up when deciding what to say about Harold Fisher's departure. First, he won't be far away. Second, it was a great joy recalling the times we have spent together in more than a decade since we first met.

I believe the Methodists pride themselves on their tradition of fine preachers. Harold is certainly one of them and it has been SACC's privilege to listen to him in our United Services. He is the first to poke fun at his own occasional tendency to 'go on a bit' but we can testify to the depth and value of his ministry. He has also generously shared with us his life long love and study of poetry. Many now treasure a greater awareness of this part of our heritage as a result. We also have reason to be grateful for his dedication to Stansted's ecumenical pilgrimage. Sensing the need of some to meet more frequently he gave us a "Fully Alive Experience" as a first venture, from which the Shalom Group was born. This fellowship has enabled us to meet fellow pilgrims from further afield and will surely continue to enrich our worship and ability to serve.

Generally speaking I would describe Harold as a man who "has all his chairs at home". In the north where he and I hail from this means a sensible sort of chap. However, some may have wondered about this when he indulged his enthusiasm for amateur theatricals. It must surely be the most telling demonstration of their affection for the man that so many clergy and some of us laity threw dignity to the winds enacting the roles he devised!

Come back and see us often Harold, we are going to miss you.

## CHRISTIAN AID

The Stansted community has done it again, and given over £1,000 in Christian Aid week in May. This was mainly collected in the envelopes which were received by nearly every house in Stansted. So, many thanks to everybody who gave so generously, and special thanks to the volunteers who wore out shoe leather, and in some cases braved man-eating dogs and trap-like letter boxes when delivering and collecting the envelopes. Thanks are due also to the stall-holders at the Saturday Market at which £137.54 was raised.

Catherine Dean



## HOLIDAYS

### CHILDREN'S POSTER COMPETITION

Sponsored by World Council of Churches

Justice, Peace & Integrity  
of Creation Initiative,

Subject: Justice, Peace or the Environment  
Size: Up to 48cm x 74cm  
Closing Date: August 31st  
Sent to: Angela Gough,  
13 St John's Road,  
Stansted with Name,  
Age, Address  
Classes: 5-8, 9-12, 13-15 years  
Prizes: Book Tokens, scarves  
(brilliant stripes!)  
Queries: John Millington 506171



S.A.C.C. A.G.M. and Executive Committee  
Monday September 17th, 8.00 p.m.  
U.R.C. Hall

## SHALOM

- 9.7.90 8 pm Meeting at Angela Gough's (13 St John's Road). Talk on ecumenism
- 23.7.90 7-10 pm Shalom's farewell to Harold Fisher at the Day Centre, Crafton Green, Chapel Hill, Stansted. All past and present members are welcome but please telephone Judy (812498 - may be Ansaphone) to confirm attendance. There will be a buffet supper followed by light entertainment

The autumn session begins on 10th September with a prayer and praise evening and continues at fortnightly intervals up to 17th December which will be the Shalom Christmas Party at Jim Collins' new home on Bentfield Green.

Further details for the autumn in September Link.

# 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 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) (1st and 3rd Sundays)	-	11.30am
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.

## FROM THE CLERGY

An interesting letter from Fr. Tony leaves us space only to wish you all well for your holidays - may they be opportunities for rest and re-creation.

Bob & Brenda Wallace  
Margaret Booker  
John Cardell-Oliver

Tony King  
St Paul's Mission  
PO Box 89  
Molepolole  
Botswana

Dear Friends,

I hope this letter finds all of you well and enjoying a pleasant English summer. Here in Botswana winter is just beginning and we are facing arctic temperatures of 75°F by breakfast time. We have now completed our fourth week and are presently living in the Deanery beside the Cathedral in Gaborone, the capital of Botswana. I will be inducted as Rector of Molepolole in mid-June. I'm sorry you will be reading this after the event.

We have been following a Setswana language course at the Botswana Orientation Centre which has been very well taught but has not made much impression on me. I have always found languages difficult; Setswana, however, is nearly impossible. The pronunciation of the language involves making sounds we would normally associate with sudden pain or a stomach upset. Unfortunately I will have to speak and sing the Eucharist in Setswana as of June. Poor congregation!

We have been out to see Molepolole and received a tremendous welcome from the congregation. There were over 500 people in church, the majority being ladies who ululated (wagged their tongues making a high pitched shrill) when the Archbishop introduced us. It was an amazing sound. Afterwards the Mothers' Union told me what sort of music and liturgy they wanted! I don't think I have ever been approached by so many large women. It isn't surprising that clergy in Africa bow and scrape to the MU. We were pleased to find the Rectory looking clean and fresh but without any furniture, curtains or carpet. We are hoping to buy stuff secondhand from expatriates leaving the country.

The rectory and church are part of St. Paul's Mission Station which is also the site for a church hall and conference centre. The latter is a bit of a surprise. The conference centre hosts groups from all over the world who come to stay for up to six weeks at a time eating and sleeping on the site. Apparently the administration of the Centre is considerable. Surrounding the mission station is the village of Molepolole sprawling over gently undulating hills. There is a main road going through the middle of the village about a hundred metres from the church along which are an assortment of very dated food and liquor stores. The liquor stores are growing in numbers as are the problems of alcoholism. The overall appearance is far more beautiful than we had expected. The village is surrounded by hills on every side which partially protects it from the desert winds. Thankfully because of good summer rains everywhere is quite green.

Helene is well and is busy looking for jobs. I think her prospects are good and I am trying to discover the exact state of the parish finances which have been recorded on bits of toilet paper would you believe?! I had to smile when I saw the 'toilet paper accounts' at the thought of Peter Pavitt producing a loo roll at PCC meetings. There is a lot to do in Molepolole in terms of the life of the church and the life of the village. Botswana is a rich African nation but little of the money filters down to the people who face a daily struggle to live.

I will write again for the next copy of Link with a lot more details about life in Molepolole. We will happily receive and reply to any letters sent us. Wishing all of you every blessing.

Love  
Tony & Helene Orbell-King

DIARY

July.

- 1 NO 9.30 am Parish Communion as 10 am Ecumenical Eucharist at URC
- 3 10 am Service at Mead Court  
8.15 pm Prayer Group at 22 Bentfield Causeway
- 5 10.30 am Service at Norman Court
- 9 8 pm Standing Committee - Vicarage
- 10 2 pm Tuesday Club at 10 Hargrave Close  
2.15 pm Tiny Tots (last meeting until September)
- 15 9.30 am St Mary's School at Parish Communion  
7.30 PCC & Stewardship Committee supper and meeting - Vicarage
- 18 8 pm Stewardship Committee - 29 St John's Road
- 23 8 pm PCC - Vicarage

August

- 2 10.30 am Service at Norman Court
- 7 10 am Service at Mead Court  
8.15 pm Prayer Group at 22 Bentfield Causeway
- 14 2 pm Tuesday Club at 10 Hargrave Close



REGISTERS

Baptisms

- 27 May Charlotte Louise Andrews  
Luke Christopher Andrews  
Samuel William Andrews  
Donna Louise Mary Wright

Weddings

- 2 June Russell Karl Blythe and  
Victoria Frances Colliver  
John William Land and  
Samantha Jane Langford
- 3 June Paul David Archer and  
Elizabeth Grace Gemmill

Confirmations

- 13 May Nicola Susan Cooper, Kathryn Lauren Dunbar, Angela Gough, Gillian Mary Hawkins, Elizabeth Jane Hill, Amy Ellen Homes, Joanna Lucy Joyce, David Roland Rice, Helen Elizabeth Salmon, Aimee Smith, Christopher Lawrence Towle, Deborah Ann Toynton, Elise Rachel Walker

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Saturday September 8th 1990

Sponsorship forms, stickers and publicity material for this event have arrived, and can be obtained from -

John Flack (Farnham)  
Catherine Dean (Methodist)  
Mike Thompson (St. Theresa's)  
John Jaques and (St. Mary's &  
Geoff Booker St. John's, Stansted)

Please do not forget that walkers can participate also.

G. R. Booker

***Society of Friends***

Quaker Meeting House, Chapel Hill.

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

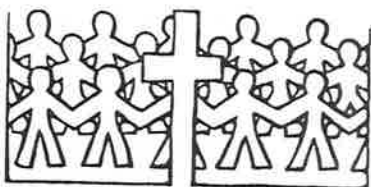
**Meeting for  
worship:** 11am

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

It seems a simple enough question. Children always want to know the name of things and of people. I remember as a child on holiday in the New Forest, it was explained to me that the New Forest was really a very old forest - which made as much sense to me as most of the things you are told as a child, or as an adult, come to that! Then the question came up 'What is the difference between a Vicar and a Rector?' I was seven and I didn't know and said so. Nobody seemed surprised and we went on with our walk, the grown ups in the party sounding very knowledgeable about Tithes and Parish Boundaries and the like. We were all walking and all talking when along one of the forest paths came an extremely well known Church dignitary. My uncle smiled happily. Here was one who really knew. They chatted for a few moments, then my uncle said the words which remain with me still. "I'm sure you can tell us, what is the difference between a Victor and a Wrecker?" The perfect spoonerism!

So "What's in a name?" I sometimes think "What's in a nickname?" might be more to the point. Quakers are sometimes looked upon as being immensely worthy people, if rather dull and given to good causes and sensible shoes, which is a long way from the fact that the name of Quakers was given to them as a rather way out nickname - like the Holy Rollers in America who roll round the floor in ecstasy. Quakers were called Quakers because they Shook and Quaked with Religious Fervour before the Lord. Maybe that is why we are now known as the Society of Friends. Friends who may differ from each other on some points but are bound together in the fellowship of love and support. Friendship which implies, in addition, respect for views sincerely held which differ from your own, because above all it recognises the light which is within everyone. Yes, "What's in a name?" is a very salutary question, What IS in a name?

Honor Robertson



YOUR CHANCE TO SEE THE QUAKER TAPESTRIES

(8 PANELS JUST RETURNED FROM BAYEUX!)

SEPTEMBER 22-23 All Day

at FRIENDS MEETING HOUSE, CHAPEL HILL

**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.

CHEVETOGNE MAY 1990

We left in the early hours of Friday morning in high spirits to catch the boat from Dover to Ostend. (Our apologies to the Postmaster for waking him even earlier than normal!)

Our driver was a young man called Chris who entered into the spirit of the occasion with us and whom we practically had to force to return at the end of our weekend's stay! The hospitality and goodwill of our hosts overwhelmed him and he said he had never spent such a memorable weekend. (3 rabbits in the pot on his last night had something to do with it -

cooked to perfection by Franz his co-navigateur!) Most of us have become almost blasé about the attention we receive, each visit binds us closer together and as we leave we are all looking forward to and planning the next year's exchange.

On our first morning we were taken to a most beautiful spot in the fresh green countryside where two young men had decided to give their lives to God and in a clearing in a wood had set up a community based on prayer and humility and within 3 years had built a church. Their altar is a boat, with a cross for the mast, surrounded by sand; a remembrance of the way Jesus taught on the shores of Lake Galilee. They call themselves the Fraternite of Tiberiade. They are now overwhelmed by the sheer numbers of people who want to come and share in their life of prayer. The church itself is a centre where young people come to stay for individual retreats in cells which are off a walkway about the main church. There are also chalets now built in the woods for parties of young people to come and stay and pray for 2 or 3 days. They also go out into families and pray with and for them. The memory of that small community, apparently cut off from society, but doing so much will stay with all of us for a very long time. We shared a simple service together and then reluctantly took our leave.

On our way to the Lessif Telecommunications Centre which was to be our next stop we dropped off at the Chateau de Lavaux-Sainte-Anne (The Hunters' Chateau) for a browse! Before we knew where we were it was time for lunch and a tour of the Telecommunications Centre of Europe. How different it was from the little stone and wooden church in the woods - both communicating but in such very different ways!

Our afternoon was free while our hosts made ready the village football club for our evening meal and get together. This is always the highlight of our trip when we all share at table not only the good food provided by our hosts but the love and friendship built up over the past 5 years. A huge birthday cake was wheeled in towards the end of the evening as some little l'oiseau had found out it was Helen and Joseph's birthdays. We presented our hosts with a gift - a stone chalice and candlesticks made by the monks at Aylesford Priory, and it was a great joy to see the chalice used during Mass the next morning.

On Sunday our day was very full, firstly we celebrated mass in a neighbouring village and were astonished by the quality of the music and singing of the local choir. We sang the offertory but felt that our simple offering was a poor one indeed!

We were again treated to a lunch out on the way to Louvain to have a tour of the City, its Catholic University and Cathedral but most particularly the tomb of Father Damien. Last year our guests brought us a statue of Father Damien and we were told about his life among the lepers and how after looking after them for many years he also contracted deprosy and died.



This was his centenary year and the Church in Louvain had a special exhibition of photographs of Father Damien and his work. It brought home to us how much those in the past had to give up to care for those who suffered from such dreadful diseases. Even today leprosy is found in many countries. It is curable but the money is not available for the medicines needed to treat these unfortunate people.

On our way home we visited the Cathedral at Nevers and celebrated vespers together before going to the highest point in the city, the Citadel for a breathtaking view of the river and its environs.

During the visit we all shared a great joy in being together; in sharing in such fellowship - we were truly one family, and hopefully in our sharing with each other of our spiritual values and goodwill among the Churches we will continue to be blessed in the future continuation of our exchange visits. To all those who came on past visits but could not manage this one the people of Chevetogne send all their love - you were not forgotten!

We left early on Monday morning, disturbing no-one except the cows! and were grateful for a calm and sunny crossing home - planning for the next visit will start soon!

Eileen Quinn



PRAYER CARD FROM  
TIBERIADE COMMUNITY

## Methodist

Meets in Quaker Meeting House, Chapel Hill,

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

Services: Morning Service - 9.30am.

The time has come to say goodbye to our minister, Harold Fisher. Leave-takings are always sad occasions, and particularly so when losing someone who had played such an important part in the life of our church as Harold has. Although his main church is in Bishop's Stortford, and Stansted only one of several in his responsibility, he seems to have given a large proportion of his time to Stansted, both to the Methodist community and the ecumenical life. I know that he has spent a lot of his time rushing from one place to another, probably suffering indigestion from hurried meals or hunger because of missed meals, so as not to disappoint anybody.

Of course it is not only the Methodists who will feel the loss of Harold. He has been a keen member and promoter of SACC, and the Shalom group owes its existence to him.

So we shall remember Harold for his concern and compassion, his love of literature and poetry, his sense of humour and anecdotes, his hard work and energy.

This was to have been Harold's retirement from the ministry, but of course he has too much energy and robust health for this to happen yet - so our loss is Chelmsford's gain!

We send Harold on his way with heartfelt thanks for all he has done and been in Stansted, and wish him and Joyce all the very best in their new job and home.



This is my last contribution to "The Link", a fact that carries some sadness for me since I have greatly enjoyed "getting my head down" to the task. True, under much pressure I have wished to escape writing my "bit". But most of the time it has been a pleasure, making me think and write about matters which otherwise would have had little or no consideration from my mind. So writing for these pages has brought benefit to me as, I hope, it may have done for some of our readers from time to time. It is stretching credulity too far to think it could have done so all the time!



Great joy and much enhancement have come to me through the good folk of Stansted. First through that small but really splendid fellowship of people who make up the Methodist Community in the village. They are a truly delightful body of Christians who live the grace and ring the laughter of the Kingdom of God in many lovely and inspiring ways.

Then there are the people and clergy of the other churches in Stansted, whom it has been a rich privilege to know and work alongside in the ecumenical scene. And what a scene! Nowhere have I found better and closer inter-church relationships. I found these good things when I came thirteen years ago and they have grown and deepened with the years. Few places are so richly blessed in this way. There is so ready an openness and so genuine an acceptance between many Stansted Christians across the various traditions among us. This has been beautiful to experience - a veritable essence of The Kingdom. I pray it will go on growing and deepening.

The Shalom Group has been something very special to me. I had some share in starting it and very much to do with its first five or six years of life. There is a unity of love, spirituality and faith in this Group that prefigures the ultimate oneness of all Christ's Church. Most of the time there is no consciousness of denominational divisions among its members. It is one of the finest fellowships of Christian people I have known. May it ever be so and go on growing in every way that leads to Shalom - to all things made entirely whole.

I thank God that we hold so much in common, both within our individual traditions and across them. We do well to build on the things of faith, prayer, service and experience we mutually share. That is how it should be. But with openness and acceptance we go further. We thank God for many of our differences. God gives His gifts variously to the various traditions. So seen, differences are not a threat, but an opportunity; not matters for fear, but for welcome. I thank God that He brought me to see this many years ago, so that my Christian Life has been wonderfully enlarged; enlarged by things the same and even more enlarged by things different.

My thanks and love to you all; my prayers and best wishes for you all.

God bless you.

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.



Where can you find 30 pilots every Wednesday night?

That's easy: at the airport.

Think again. Where can you find 30 pilots playing games, pursuing hobbies, listening to Bible stories? Now that's a bit more difficult. Not if you know that Pilots is the children's organisation of the United Reformed Church.

When children between the ages of 5 and 14 become Pilots they promise to learn, pray and serve in the world wide church of Jesus Christ.

All Pilot companies use nautical terms in their meetings. Those under seven are Deckhands, graduating to Acting Able Seaman, Able Seaman, Leading Seaman and finally Petty Officer. In each section they work for 'crests' in many different subjects, learning, praying, church, service, talent and skill. When they have completed various tests in each section they are awarded a voyage badge and are then promoted to the next level.

It's not all work. We play games, have special collectors evenings and many other activities. Once a month on a Saturday we hold a games evening with table tennis, snooker, etc. This is for Pilots who are 9 or over.

We have just celebrated our 2nd anniversary with a special service and picnic lunch.

So remember, the airport is not the only place in Stansted where you can find Pilots.

Preachers for July

1st 10 am Ecumenical Communion  
Rev. L. Rapkin  
8th 11 am Mrs. Richardson of B/Stortford  
Family Service  
15th 11 am Rev. E. McIlwain  
22nd 11 am Mr. Heyhoe of B/Stortford  
29th 11 am Rev. L. Rapkin

August

5th 11 am Mr. Bennison of Hatfield Heath  
12th 11 am Rev. S. Evans of Cambridge  
Communion  
19th 11 am Rev. L. Rapkin

Mrs. Jordan

It was with great sadness that we learned of the sudden death of Mrs. May Jordan on 7th June, aged 84 years.

May Jordan has been a member of our church for 68 years and rarely missed a Sunday service, church meeting or the Womens Own meeting on a Monday afternoon even in bad weather. She became a deacon many years ago and more recently a Life Elder. She was always interested in anything the young people were doing in the church especially the Pilot Group.

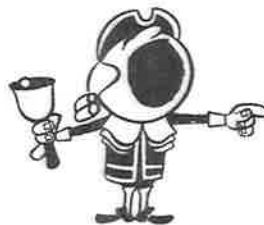
The last service she attended was the baptism of her 2nd great grandchild Rachel, daughter of Diana and Duncan Groves on May 27th. This gave her immense pleasure as her family meant a great deal to her.

May was also keenly interested in the life of the village, belonging to several different organisations and although not able to help at Coffee Mornings etc. because of failing eyesight was always quick to offer to bake a cake. Due to her failing eyesight she became involved with and received much enjoyment from the Talking Newspaper, and the family requested no flowers at her funeral but donations towards the work of the Bishop's Stortford Group of Talking Newspaper and the Church.

The funeral service on 13th June conducted by Rev. Lydia Rapkin was well attended showing the affection and respect in which she was held within the village, making it a true thanksgiving service for the life of this sincerely loved Lady.

Janet Townsend

**Village News**



FUTURE EVENTS

VILLAGE DIARY

July

4 Mountfitchet Garden Club. Visit to  
Glen Chantry Gardens. D. Williams  
813703  
23-26 Skip at Crafton Green  
23 (&30) Parish Holiday Playscheme at Adult  
& Youth Centre, Lower Street  
25 2.30 55 Chapel Hill (Day Centre if wet)  
Royal British Legion Women's Branch  
Mini Fete  
30 Parish Holiday Playscheme (as 23rd)

August

5 9.00-12.00 Sports Association Boot Sale  
Hargrave Park 812461  
11-12 Skip at Crafton Green  
17 Royal British Legion Cheese & Wine  
Party (see notice)  
27 2.00 Windmill Fete

September

1 Mountfitchet Gardening Club  
Autumn Show U.R.C. Hall  
1 62 Chapel Hill. Huw Johnson Club  
Lunch Garden Party  
3-6 Skip at Crafton Green

October

4 8.00 Stansted Mountfitchet Local History  
Society "Essex from the Air"  
Day Centre

**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.**

FREE AFTER CARE (NHS Appliances)

FREE LIP READING CLASSES

LIBRARY OF ENVIRONMENTAL AIDS



Our runner in the London Marathon, our treasurer Neil Harvey, finished the course in a very creditable time - despite having to overcome cramp. We are proud of him and we hope the village joins with us in that pride and in extending congratulations to him. His sponsored run has so far raised just over £1,000 for the Poppy Appeal. It would be a nice gesture of appreciation if more contributions were given - even now. Mrs. Stevens (1 Blythwood Gardens) organised much of the local sponsorship approaches - particularly to businesses. The response was disappointing from that quarter, but we assume this is because of the difficulties attaching to being charitable to charities.

Have you made a diary note of the VJ Social on 17th August - now planned as a "Cheese and Wine" party?

By way of a postscript - the Branch wishes to proffer very sincere thanks to everyone who sponsored our London Marathon runner. Neil says you made it all worthwhile - and he will gladly sponsor someone else next year. Any volunteers?



At our branch meeting on 19th May Mr. Wright gave a fascinating talk, with slides, on the history of architecture in Bishop's Stortford. We saw photos of the upper storeys of shops we had never raised our eyes to look at before and realised, many of us for the first time, how ancient and beautiful are some of the houses, shops and pubs in the town.

At our next branch meeting in the Day Centre at 7.45 p.m. on 19th July, Miss Frances Spalding will tell us about a holiday in Iceland.

On 25th July we shall hold our mini fete in Mrs. Gabb's garden from 2.30 p.m. with Bring and Buy stalls and a raffle. Please come and support us. If the weather is unsettled we shall be in the Day Centre.

There will be no meeting in August but on 20th September we shall prepare poppies for distribution and hold our annual Harvest Sale.

Pat Clower  
815220



The lazy, hazy, crazy days of summer are a good time to clear out the shed and to explore the attic to find all those long-forgotten tools which you evidently have no use for but could be put to good use by co-operatives and other groups working on shoestring budgets in developing countries. The response to my last appeal a couple of months ago was not exactly overwhelming (barring one or two generous exceptions), but I am sure that is because, like me, you are all procrastinators and need the occasional nudge! Or, even worse, I have had reports of people actually selling their surplus tools rather than giving them to TFSR! Anyway, if you do have a surplus of any of the following please let me know and I will be pleased to collect them. Alternatively, just leave them in my porch at 7 Blythwood Gardens.

Saws, hammers, files, hand-drills, planes, spanners or any other small handtools.

Note that the condition of the tools is unimportant because TFSR has ways and means of repairing and refurbishing almost anything! I am looking forward to your calls.

Michael Dyer  
814059



STANSTED MILLERS

WINDMILL FETE

2 pm on 27th August Bank Holiday Monday

Stalls and Sideshows around the Mill

Free admission to fete

Mill open 2-6 50p adults 25p children

See advertisement on back page  
for other opening times

Offers of help and goods (plants, home-made cakes, bric-a-brac and items for prizes) would be welcomed by Peggy Honour, 813160, 59 Blythwood Gardens





## STANSTED AFTERNOON

Our June meeting being "Members Day", Mrs. Mary Walker, as President for the day, welcomed our members and visitors from Stansted Evening and Takeley and Bush End W.I.

We had a few moments of silence to remember Mrs. Jordan, when told of her death this month. She was a staunch, loyal member of our W.I. for many years and her presence shall be sadly missed at our meetings.

Mrs. Stella Hyland, our joint delegate, gave us a detailed and interesting report from the A.G.M. at the Royal Albert Hall.

We had an enjoyable and amusing talk from our Speaker, Mrs. Parrott, whose subject "Never a dull Moment" told of her experiences both as a W.I. member and Speaker.

Mrs. Trix Little was the winner of our competition "A Single Rose". Mrs. French and Mrs. Fuller being 2nd and 3rd. The raffle was won by Mrs. Hyland of Takeley and Bush End W.I.

Our next meeting is July 11th when Mrs. J. Dudding will talk to us about "Coggeshall Tambour Lace".

Liliane Bowman  
814325

## STANSTED EVENING

The June meeting was entitled "Members Day". This meant that instead of the Committee organising the meeting several members took over the different jobs. The meeting was opened by the acting President, Mrs. Rosemary Minshell. The minutes were read by Mrs. Ann Conroy. Birthday buttonholes were given to several members.

The speaker, Mr. Peter Saunders, gave a most fascinating and illuminating talk on "The Stansted Riots of 1834", which showed that in many ways the times have not changed very much in the intervening century.

The evening concluded with a very lively game of "Proverbs".



*Judy Jay*

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A big thankyou to everyone who responded to our appeal for bottles and cakes. It's too late now for anymore bottles but if this Link reaches you before July 7th there is still time to make us a cake for our stall at the "Essex Police Gala". Please bring these to 62 Chapel Hill.

Our visit to Banham Zoo was a great success. This zoo near Thetford is beautifully maintained and well worth a visit. The only hiccup during the day came when Jonathan left his lunch box in the Reptile House. We wondered if a snake had devoured it but some honest person had handed it in at the entrance gate. Advance speculation by some members as to which snake was the culprit met with disappointment.

We borrowed a wheelchair from the zoo and this caused great hilarity as it must have been made in Victorian times. John Edgar, however, did not object to riding in it, waving regally from time to time at passers-by.

On July 20th we have our annual evening boat trip on the River Stort. This is always a very popular event.

Garden Party - You are all invited to have lunch at our Garden Party on September 1st. There will be the usual stalls, raffle and tombola. Do come along and support this event and help us to fulfil our dream of taking our club members on holiday next year. Tickets for lunch will be on sale soon. Look out for posters giving times and details.

We look forward to seeing you on September 1st at 62 Chapel Hill.

M. G. Johnson



**The National Childbirth Trust**  
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N.C.T. Coffee mornings : July  
Toddlers - Friday 10-11.30 a.m.  
Under Ones and Expectant Mums - Tuesday  
10-11.30 a.m.

- 4th N.B. WEDNESDAY Pascale Fowell  
57 Woodfields, Stansted, 812500
- 6th Angela Mason, 6 Stansted Road,  
Elsenham, 812545
- 10th Maxine Mott, 'Hillcroft' Stansted Road,  
Elsenham, 812516
- 13th Carolyn Kyprios, 'Greensleaves', Old  
Mead Lane, Henham, 850679

- 17th Jenny Foster, 31 Blythwood Gardens,  
Stansted, 813591
- 20th Jackie Weston, 6 High Street,  
Elsenham, 816282
- 24th Frances Parrish, Moat House, Grove Hill,  
Stansted, 812565
- 27th Anne Edwards, 'Lindens', Starr Green,  
Henham, 850065
- 31st Gill Hawkins, 34 Blythwood Gardens,  
Stansted, 814959

#### August

- 3rd Rachel Smith, 25 Bedwell Road, Ugley  
Green, 815745
- 7th Ann Kitson, 24 Spencer Close, Stansted  
813107
- 10th Isobel Atkinson, 12 Coltsfield, Stansted  
814176
- 14th OPEN HOUSE Penny Brooks, 42 Bentfield  
Gardens, Stansted, 814763
- 17th Jane Edwards, Police House, 2 Station  
Road, Elsenham, 816235
- 21st Carol Hearn, 'Hermits', Mill House Lane,  
Robin Hood Road, Elsenham, 816209
- 24th Helen Gibson, 22 Alderbury Road, Stansted,  
814129
- 28th Jackie Feehan, 'Cordwents', Stansted Road,  
Elsenham, 813206
- 31st Elaine Byrne, 47 Chapel Hill, Stansted,  
816166



Rainbow Playgroup, Youth and Adult Centre,  
Lower Street, Stansted, Essex CM24 8LR

Hello from Rainbow. We have been very busy lately with our sponsored bike ride in May followed by a very enjoyable lunch. Thank you to all the leaders and mums for your hard work.

We also held a car boot sale during May which was successful and enjoyable for all those who took part. Thank you to all the mums who made cakes.

At the time of writing this article we are looking forward to our group outing to Wimpole Hall on 27th June and the end of term Teddy Bears Picnic in July.

We will be having a stall at the Carnival with cakes and other items, plus a fishing game so please come along and give us your support.

Bye for now from all at Rainbow.

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## STANSTED DAY CENTRE

A smaller party than usual went on a day trip to Windsor in May. The weather kept fine until around tea time, everyone enjoyed themselves, some going by or on the river, others shopping or sightseeing.

The A.G.M. was fairly well attended. Mrs. Scarr reported that 4,224 lunches had been served during the previous year, an increase of 626. The treasurer reported that finances were in a healthy state.

## Diary for July

Tuesday July 3rd/17th/and 31st Bingo 2.00 pm  
Tuesday 10th/24th Beetle Drive 2.00 pm  
Thursday July 5/19th Scrabble  
Thursday July 12th/19th Binto 2.00 pm  
Every Friday Whist Drive 2.00 pm

Wednesday July 11th Outing to Canterbury  
Leave 9.30 am cost £4.50p

## August

Tuesday August 14th/28th Bingo 2.00 pm  
Tuesday August 7th/21st Beetle 2.00 pm  
Thursday August 2nd/16th/30th Scrabble  
Thursday August 9th/23rd Bingo 2.00 pm  
Friday Whist Drive every week 2.00 pm

Wednesday August 8th Outing to Brighton  
Leave 9.30 am Free to members of Day Centre  
£3.50 other over 60's



## STANSTED LIBERAL DEMOCRATS

On 7th July our main summer event will take place. It is a family barbecue to be held in the gardens of Michael and Marion Dyer's house, 7 Blythwood Gardens. Tickets will be £3 for adults and £1.50 for children. Please phone Maureen Caton (813914) or Catherine Dean (813579) for tickets or further information.

On 14th July we will be holding our next Ploughman's Lunch at the Day Centre between 12.00 and 2.00 p.m. Everybody is welcome to come along and enjoy a good chat.

For details about membership and other branch activities contact Frances Spalding (813432).

Melvin Caton  
813914

## STANSTED TENNIS CLUB



A club tournament was held on 13th May. It was won by Chris Hollis and Richard Mott who beat John and Richard Crosby by 6 games to 2 in the final.

On Tuesday 15th May some preliminary rounds of a N.S.P.C.C. tournament were held at the club. The finals were played at Bishop's Stortford after a buffet lunch. 64 people played in the tournament.

The 7th Eddie Wilby Tournament was played on Sunday 10th June. It was won by Adrian Peck and Gill Robinson who beat Richard Crosby and Lynn MacDonald by 6 games to 2 in the final. The shield was presented to the winners by Angela Wilby who attended the tournament with her three grandchildren. She also presented the winners and runners-up with beautiful prizes. Tea was served by the committee.

Over 30 children have been attending coaching lessons at the club during May and June. The coaches are Joanna Parkin and Sylvia Banks who will be coaching at the Mountfitchet High School in the school holidays, 23rd July to 3rd August.

We continue to play Inter-club League matches with Mens, Ladies and Mixed Doubles.

The Hopkins Tournament (Seniors) will be played at Dunmow on Sunday 1st July.

The Seymour Tournament (15 years and under) at Thaxted on Saturday 14th July. The Cleverdon Tournament (Seniors) at Thaxted on Sunday 15th July.  
The Pearce/Frodo Tournament (Seniors) at Stansted on Sunday 22nd July.

Chris Hollis will be running two days of coaching and tournaments on Thursday 16th August and Friday 17th August. These are not for complete beginners. Thursday will be for 8-10 year olds and Friday for 11-14 year olds.

All details of club events will be on the club noticeboards or non-members who are interested should contact Janet Hollis - B/S 812073.

Also adults and juniors who are interested in coaching should contact Janet Hollis.





### OUT AND ABOUT IN STANSTED VII

Have you noticed all the young rabbits around this year? Rabbits seem to be on the increase although their numbers are still far short of the pre myxomatosis years, and they have caused considerable damage to crops in some of the fields around Stansted.

Rabbits, including some black rabbits, near Stansted Hall, are the most numerous of our wild animals that we actually see, but there is a surprisingly large population of other animals all around us. Shrews, voles and mice inhabit banks and hedgerows in vast numbers which are usually invisible until the cat brings them home. We wage a constant war against rats, but even so they are never far away and ready to move in where there is a food supply. Grey squirrels have survived our efforts to exterminate them and we now enjoy their presence, ignoring the damage they inflict on fruit trees and birds' nests.

Hedgehogs are regarded with affection and are the gardener's friend because they feed on slugs. These primitive animals flourish in spite of the carnage on the roads because their prickly defence is effective against every predator except man. I have seen hedgehogs in a local poultry sale; traditionally they are packed in a ball of clay and roasted and then the spines come off with the cooked clay.

Along the banks of the Stort water voles abound. These are attractive creatures that do not deserve the common name of water rat. Crayfish used to be plentiful in the river and there are probably still some there where tree roots line the bank.

Hares are apparently decreasing in numbers but still common, and the mole is as busy as ever tunnelling where it is not wanted. The mole-catcher, however, is now a rarity.

Bats seem to come and go but never disappear altogether. Sometimes a bit will follow you along a lane at night constantly flying close to your head. This is probably because after dusk we walk along with a swarm of midges over our heads and the bats fly close to snap them up.

The rest of our local animals are usually only seen by the alert walker, although foxes are sometimes encountered scavenging Stansted streets at night. The ferocious stoat preys on rabbits and might be glimpsed darting across a path. A badger colony lives in a sett not far from the village but these nocturnal animals are rarely seen unless one is prepared to embark on a badger watch. Badgers use established local runs to search for food such as worms and beetles, but they are also wide ranging and it is possible that they pass nearby at night.

Our largest local animals are the fallow deer which have proliferated in recent years. These are most easily seen to the north west of Stansted where a herd of between ten and twenty roams, but there are numerous small groups all around as is evident from their tracks. Just as numerous are the small muntjac deer, but their small, sharp, cloven-hoofed tracks are all you are likely to see of them. The muntjac, a recent import from Asia, is a secretive animal that slinks away, head-down, if disturbed and can easily be mistaken for a dog. Red, roe and sika deer all live nearby and must occasionally visit our parish.

I shall also mention the amphibians, the frogs, toads and newts common locally except for the great-crested newt. In the spring I came across a large pond that contained a solid black mass six feet across comprised of tens of thousands of newt tadpoles. There were obviously no fish in the pond.

Finally, there are the reptiles which seem to be on the decline. Slowworms are now rare, being vulnerable to pesticides, and grass snakes do not turn up very often. There used to be lizards down Gipsy Lane and also on the stump at the entrance to the windmill, but I have not seen a lizard in Stansted for years. I attribute this partly to my sober habits, but my family will no doubt say that it is because I will not go and buy a pair of glasses.

Felix



## STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Our new season of meetings starts on 6th September with Walter Wright on Bishop's Stortford - The Town Trail.

4th October    Essex from the Air  
1st November    Manuden  
6th December    Audley End

All at 8 p.m. in the Day Centre, Stansted.

In addition to 9 monthly meetings in the year there is a special Christmas meeting and a summer outing. Various projects are also undertaken by those interested in particular aspects of local history.

The subscriptions per annum are £5.00 for a single membership, £7.50 for a joint membership of two people in the same household and £2.00 for juniors and senior citizens. Visitors are welcome for 75p per evening.

If you would like further information on the Society, please contact Peggy Honour, 813160.

STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET PARISH COUNCIL

Tel: 813214

Mr Owen Wilson, Clerk  
Council Offices  
Crafton Green House  
72 Chapel Hill  
Stansted CM24 8AQ

A NOTE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

By the time you read this the council's clerk, Janet Buttery, will have moved on to a more senior job as Clerk to Ware Town Council. Janet has served the Council and the whole community with a smiling enthusiasm, often beyond the call of duty, and will be missed by councillors and parishioners alike. We wish her well with her new job.

Our new clerk, Owen Wilson, now joins us from his Sawbridgeworth Town Clerk's Office. I am sure he will find working in Stansted an interesting challenge and that you good Stansted folk will make Owen feel at home in no time! We welcome him warmly to the Council.

The Parish Council Office will, of course, continue to be open to the public until 1.00 p.m. every day.

DRAFT DISTRICT PLAN - Uttlesford District Council has prepared a draft plan for consultation containing policies which are proposed to control and guide development and protect the environment of Uttlesford up to the year 2001. The Parish Council has a copy of the document and a copy is also available in the library. An exhibition featuring the main points of the Plan was held on June 4 in the Friends Meeting House. For those of you who missed it, it is being repeated at various locations around the district including Birchanger Church Hall on Monday 9 July from 2.00 - 9.00 p.m. Residents are invited to send any comments to the Director of Planning, UDC, High Street, Great Dunmow, CM6 1AN by 14 September at the very latest. The Parish Council would be pleased to receive copies of any comments made, sent to the above address. A summary of the Stansted section of the plan has been prepared by the Parish Council and copies are available in the library and the Parish Council offices - look for the gold coloured sheet.

PLAYSCHEMES - for school age children up to 14 have been arranged for the weeks beginning 23 and 30 July at the Adult and Youth Centre, Lower Street, in the mornings and afternoons. If interested please let the Clerk know so that we have an idea of possible numbers. We shall not be taking bookings - just turn up on the day. Volunteer helpers will be most welcome - the more helpers we have, the more children will be able to attend.



TENNIS, CRICKET AND NETBALL COACHING - for boys and girls has been arranged for the summer holidays at the Mountfitchet High School. Cricket coaching will commence the week beginning 23 July each afternoon. Tennis coaching will take place in the mornings the weeks beginning 23 and 30 July. Netball coaching will be in the mornings the week beginning 6 August. Full details and application forms are available from the Clerk.



SKIP DATES - the skip will be at the Crafton Green Car Park on the following dates -  
**PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE RUBBISH WHEN THE SKIP IS NOT THERE!**

Monday 23 - Thursday 26 July  
Saturday 11 - Sunday 12 August  
Monday 3 - Thursday 6 September

REFUSE SACKS - a reminder that the Parish Council holds a stock of the District Council green plastic refuse sacks. 50p each.

**MOUNTFITCHET  
GARDEN CLUB**



The usual monthly meeting of the Club scheduled for Wednesday 4 July will take the form of an evening visit to Glen Chantry Gardens. Transport will be in the form of car sharing and further information can be gained by contacting David Williams on 813703.

On August 1 the meeting will take place as usual at the Day Centre commencing at 8 pm with a slide show to illustrate Pest Control in Vegetables and an Introduction to Organic Gardening.

The monthly competition for August is to be "A Single Rose".

Advance reminder, the Club's Autumn Show is scheduled for Saturday September 1, hope you will join us.

Sue Wilkinson



"OUR VILLAGE"

Diverting a little from our lighting story - after mention last month of Cambridge Road and Silver Street being then known as forming part of a Great Trunk Road (later to be classed the All but now declassified to the B1383 due to the M11 motorway) because this route provided a fairly direct link between London and Newmarket whose popularity for horse racing increased after King Charles II's first visit in 1666. It was the king's said love for horse racing that prompted many road improvements to be made after none other than the Royal Surveyor Andrew Lawrence was summoned to put his attention to this task which included alteration to and improvement along our stretch of roadway which the King and his party would surely travel.

Alexander Pope was later to sum up Charle's involvement with racing thus:

In days of ease when now the weary sword,  
Was sheathed and luxury with Charles  
restored,  
The Peers grew proud, in horsemanship  
excell,  
Newmarket glory rose as Britain's fell.

What has all this to do with Cambridge Road and Silver Street? It perhaps may take this form. Travel - Distance - Speed. Whether it be horse-power - H.P. or miles per hour - M.P.H. was causing great concern for our Village and the motor transport age which by now, 1912, had accelerated beyond belief. Progress without problems is rare. In this case speed was to be the offence which in turn was to bring many Parish discussions and a Local Government Board Inquiry into the matter of a speed limit for our village. During one Newmarket Race Day in 1912 the volume of traffic was such that 50 cars had been counted passing through Silver Street in 1 hour, many at a frightening speed (no change). The first mention for an application for a village speed limit so far found, dates from 1910 and it is from here that we may hopefully find a reduced speed with which to continue our journey next time.

P. J. Brown

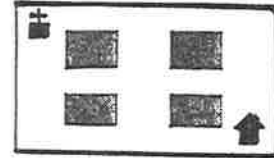
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can you trace for him to go from his house to the church - no back-tracking is allowed and you must always use the shortest way.

**MONSTROUS JOKES**

*DID YOU* hear about the nasty slimy monster who was famous for his farmyard impressions? He couldn't do the noises but he could do the smells.

What is 100 metres tall and goes 'eef, if, of, muf? A backward giant.



Mr. Smith could take 6 different routes.

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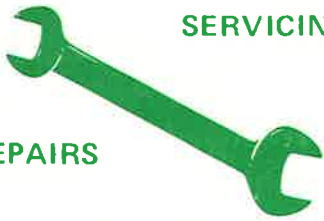
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