The LINK







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September 1990

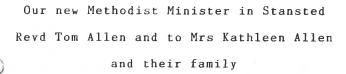


WELCOME!

FROM

The Stansted Association of Christian Churches

TO



ADVANCE NOTICE - BOOK THE DATE

A HARVEST TEA SUNDAY OCTOBER 7TH AT 4.30 P.M.

ST. JOHN'S HALL

HARVEST FESTIVAL SERVICE ST. JOHN'S CHURCH AT 6.30 P.M.

(See further notice overleaf)



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.

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



S.A.C.C. A.G.M. will be held on Monday September 17th, 8.00 p.m. at the U.R.C. Hall, followed by an Executive Meeting. All are welcome to attend the A.G.M.

LENT GROUPS

The 6th Meeting of the Lent Groups will be held on Friday 12th October, 8.00 p.m. at St. John's Hall. This meeting is to explore ideas and ways forward from the discussions which took place during the Lent Group meetings.

SHALOM

The first autumn meeting will be a Prayer and Praise evening at 8 p.m. on Monday 10th September at the home of Michael and Marion Dyer, 1 Blythwood House. Harry and Edna Goreing are leading this event.

The next gathering will be on Monday 24th September at Judy Goddard's, 23 Burnell's Way. We still await confirmation regarding a speaker.



A HARVEST TEA

will be served at St. John's Hall on Sunday October 7th at 4.30 p.m.

This will be a family occation with traditional fare in a genteel atmosphere.

Tickets from all the churches Adults £1 Children 50p

The Tea will be followed by the annual Harvest Festival Service at St. John's Church at 6.30~p.m.

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN ENGLAND (CTE)

I give you a new commandment: love one another; as I have loved you, so you are to love one another. If there is this love among you, then all will know that you are my disciples.

JOHN CH 13 Vs 34 & 35

We know that the type of love required of us is no sentimental, hearts and flowers variety. It is particularly tough; shown by the countless individuals through history, not all of them Christians, whose lives have demonstrated that God is love. In the August Quaker Monthly L learnt about Dr James Koczat, the Polish doctor and educator, who refused to abandon the Jewish children in his care and went to his death at Auschwitz with them. As a disciple of Christ I am commanded to love my enemies and yet I frequently experience unloving thoughts about my friends as I am sure they do about me. I am unable to switch love on but I do know from experience that when my life is in "right ordering" I receive as a gift the ability to love my neighbour as myself. At such times I would be able to love the young hooligans who shared my railway carriage last Friday.

You may well be wondering what the above has to do with Churches Together in England. The answer is not simple. When this issue of Link is being distributed, CTE will be inaugurated at a great service in St. George's Roman Catholic Cathedral, Southwark at noon on September 1st. The umbrella body, Council of Churches for Britain and Ireland will be inaugurated a week later in Liverpool. The 1990 Lent study groups in Stansted continued our own participation in the Inter Church Process. Since then I have been privileged to meet some of those actively involved in the momentous decisions which resulted in these two remarkable events.

Previous attempts to reach this point failed. In the words of one member of the Inter Church Meeting, a Quaker, success came this time because it was Spirit led. Naturally I am disappointed that what seems to me a possible turning point in the affairs of these islands is not pushing other events off the front pages of the newspapers. But then, I am an enthusiast. However, we have the embers of a fire that might burn if we breathe upon it.

This is also the first year in the Decade of Evangelism. I remember the close cropped heads on my train last week, their impoverished language dependent on four letter words and their belligerent attitude towards each other and fellow passengers. If we are to speak to them here in Stansted we must be able to demonstrate we have something precious to offer. If they could see real love at work we might stand a chance. Jesus said "feed my sheep". While we stand on our dignity and divisions the real work is left undone and the failure is ours.

Angela Gough

LINES WRITTEN FOR THE S.A.C.C./METHODIST FAREWELL TO REV. HAROLD AND JOYCE FISHER

Shall I compare thee to a summer's day? ...
... I think I won't - you might retaliate!
Summer's just started - must you go away?
This parting's come at all too soon a date.

Breathes there the man with soul so dead
Who never to himself hath said:
"Harold! thou shouldn'tst be leaving at this hour!
Stansted hath need of thee!
(She may not be a 'stinking fen'
But she hath need of Fisherman).

You come from haunts of Stort and Cam; We thought you were our ally, But you must fish a bigger stream: You're off to Chelmer Valley!

We hoped - tho' Chelmsford lured you so To join their blessed river -While vicars come and curates go, You would go on for <u>ever</u>!

When I consider how your life was spent,
E'er half your days in this our Methy circuit,
Sharing your talents (while you back was bent
To do some menial task - you wouldn't shirk
it!) ...

... Fair Minister, I weep to see You haste away so soon. You've got "the SACC" So please don't pack Your bags this afternoon. Stay, stay (There's maybe more tea on the way?) Maybe a speech, perhaps a song ... And, having laughed together, we Will let you go along, You have short time to stay, I know - Free evening hours are rare You've little girls to sing to sleep? A sermon to prepare? Don't fret If you can't shoot off yet 'Way from our Chapel Hill - Just note that here, lest you forget, there'll be a welcome still.

Seasons of mist and mellow jolliness That was <u>your</u> time, with your close-bosomfriends,
Conspiring with them how to entertain
The Harvest Supper guests when supper ends.

.... Great were the songs you sang for us Great were the jokes you told to us - None of them were too old for us (And I guess we'll here them again!)

.... Bonnie Harold's noo awa'
All ma pleadin' goes in vain
Stansted hairts will brak' in twa
- Will ye no' come back again?
Will ye no' again come back?
Just to please your friends in S.A.C.C.?

Your luv is like a sweet wee rose (With buds in Harlow toon!)
Your luv can hold a class of kids
- and she can play a tune!
- Then fare thee well dear Fisherfolk,
We grieve to say goodbye,
But we will keep your mem'ry green
Till the Stansted Brook runs dry.
- Then fare ye well, our minister,
Farewell that cheery smile
but you must come again, my dears
for it's only 40 mile.
.... Yet you must come again, my dears
for it's cnly 40 mile!

Society of Friends

Quaker Meeting House, Chapel Hill

Clerk:

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

Meeting for worship: 11am

September is the month of chage. Flowers begin to disappear, through age, extreme dryness or early frost. Fruits ripen and the harvest begins. September is the seventh month of the old Roman Year, but in Charlemagne's time and calendar it was called the harvest month. After the French Revolution the first month of the Republican calendar was Vendemiaire or the vintage month; this lasted from September 22nd to October 22nd and the last month of the calendar which of course ran from August to Vendemiaire was Fructidor, the fruit month. To the Anglo Saxons September was Gerstmonath, the barley month.

Of course many fruitsare gathered in other months during the year and almost throughout the year there are some wild plants in fruit - but the final gathering of the crops comes in early autumn, the harvest. During the ages it has been a season for rejoicing and much folk-lore and magic grew up around it. There are many, many harvest cults and customs recorded.

Cereals, which form the main crop of the agricultural harvest, derive their name from the Roman ceremonial Ceralia, held in honour of Ceres, the goddess of corn.

In Druid times in England, harvest was celebrated at a later date on November 1st and until the sixteenth century Lammas Day, August 1st celebrated the wheat harvest. Lammas Day was recognising the first fruits of the harvest and each member of a church congregation presented a loaf made from the first gathered wheat. In old English Llafmaesse or loaf mass.

The old harvest home when everyone in a village gathered for a good time must be almost totally abandoned today: or at least lost its past significance.

Another feature of this time of year are the fruits of the trees; from apple, plum and pear to acorn, conker and hawthorn, hazel and walnut. Everybody knows "To Autumn" by John Keats and how strongly the poem brings the scents and smells to mind. There are many well loved and also less known poems, one I love is "Wilderness" by Edmund Blunden.

"The blackthorns hung with clinging sloes Blue-veiled in weather coming cold. And ruby-taselled shepherd's rose Where flock the finches plumed with gold, And swarming brambles laden still Though boys and wasps have ate their fill." The hedgerows are often decorated with the fluffy wild clematis, traveller's joy and happy hours are spent in gathering blackberries. Strangely, quite a number of edible fruits are not much used. Rose hips are a particularly protective food which we collected a great deal in war time.

While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease.

Genesis 8.22

Mary Rice



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at the

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on

SATURDAY 22ND SEPTEMBER

11 am - 6 pm

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Roman Catholic

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Priest: The Rev'd John Meehan

The Presbytery, 12 Millside.

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and at Henham - 9.15am.

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

peace making

KAMPUCHEA PENNY FUND

PEACE AND JUSTICE

Between 1975 and 1978 Phnom Penh's system of water, through lack of maintenance and deliberate destruction effectively ceased to function.

Oxfam has concentrated efforts to improve both the quality and quantity of the water and the 3 year plan started in 1987 to repair existing water pumps and supply new ones; to repair electrical systems and to train local technicians and engineers, has progressed well. Through its support of the rehabilitation programme Oxfam is helping those people to get access to what we so often take for granted - supplies of clean water.

Oxfam also runs programmes in the rural areas cooperating with the department of roads and bridges, supporting well-drilling teams. The aim is to build up the capacity of the Kampucheans to manage and implement the programme independently. Over the years hundreds of wells ahve been drilled and thousands of families have been provided with access to a safe and secure supply of water—this is probably the single most important requirement for good health.

There are however many more projects in hand, essential spares and machines provided for a jute sack factory which employs 1200 people; supplying parts and materials for the ferries that link the ordinary people in the eastern provinces with Phnom Penh where they buy and sell produce and work in small businesses; supporting a technical training school and supporting the Kampuchean Womens Association to help improve their lives.

Your donation in the bottles situated in St Theresa's and St Anthony's is donated to Oxfam specifically to help these projects in Kampuchea. Please continue to be generous with your pennies and Oxfam will be able to take care of the pounds.

E. Quinn



FAMILY BARBECUE

IN AID OF RENOVATIONS AT St Antony's Chapel, Henham

Sat 22nd Sept

4-7 pm

WALTHAM HALL MOLEHILL GREEN £3.50 Adult £2 Children

TRACTOR & PONY RIDES

SIDESHOWS

TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM PARISIONERS

Methodist

Meets in Quaker Meeting House, Chapel Hill.

Minister:

The Rev'd Tom Allen

2 South Road, Bishop's Stortford.

Te1: 54475

Services: Morning Service - 9.30am.

STANSTED METHODISTS WELCOME TOM AND KATHLEEN ALLEN!

A letter to our Methodist Churches from our new Circuit Superintendent

Dear Friends,

We come from a five year ministry in a busy suburban church in Bromley, Kent. The church is about the same size as Stortford and has been through a tremendous amount of upheaval and change. Not least has been the move to a new church building due to a Compulsory Purchase Order served by the Local Council to enable a town centre redevelopment.

We met and married in Cliftonville, Margate in Kent. A year after our marriage I went to Richmond Theological College where I studied for a Divinity Degree. In 1969 with our new born daughter Sarah we went to our first appointment in the Boston Circuit in Lincolnshire. After two years we moved to Conisbrough in the Doncaster Circuit for a six year stay. Whilst there I also served as a Chaplain, both in a geriatric hospital and a hospital for the mentally handicapped. Our twin sons Mark and Richard were born in Doncaster. The next appointment saw a move back into the London S.E. District to Hythe in the Folkestone Circuit. While here I

became involved in District youth work as Education and Youth Ministerial Secretary. I also had seven years experience as on Officiating Chaplain to the Forces with the Infantry Junior Leaders Battalion. Kathleen became involved in running a Mother and Toddler's Group and started training to become a Methodist Local Preacher. She was fully accredited soon after we arrived in Bromley in 1985. Sarah words in Bromley, Richard is away to University, and Mark is in his final year doing A levels at Kingswood School in Bath. We look forward to meeting you and intend to invite all members of the church to the Manse over a series of Sunday Afternoon 'Manse Mingles'. We hope you will call us by our Christian names - Kathleen and Tom.

On May Bank Holiday for the last few years folk from the church have gone for a walk and picnic. It is a time of meeting, talking and getting to know one another better. It is possible to see life like a journey, and think of those you travel with. As a Methodist Minister I, with my family, have to face regular times of 'moving on'. It is always hard to leave friends behind, but a move is helped by the knowledge that there are new friends waiting. However, such friendships are not instant. There needs to be openness and trust, as well as a readiness to give the new relationship time. This is surely as true of relationships between churches as it is between individuals. The Swanwick conference of Church Leaders last year used the language of "Pilgrimage". A journey together towards a goal of religious significance. Sometimes one person leads, then another. There is mutual support as need arises and it is of the essence of a pilgrimage towards a developing relationship that if we don't get there together, no single person gets there at all. So I am pleased to come and join with potential new friends. I am pleased to share the ecumenical process in Stansted. We have much to share together and hopefully we will grow together. I will pray for you and look forward to working with you as we share our knowledge of God's Love and serve Him in the community.

God bless you Tom Allen

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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.

September is the start of a new year in the Church's life and we look forward to a time of blessing and progress in the three U.R.C. churches in the Stansted Group.

On Saturday 15th September there is a concert kindly given by the Bishop's Stortford Town Band. See elsewhere in "Link" for details. Our Harvest Festival will be at 11 a.m. on Sunday 30th September, and on the same day at 6.30 p.m. at Stansted there will be the annual Group Harvest service. All are welcome.

As one who until fairly recently was more used to a country landscape of moors, stone walls and sheep, I always appreciate the lovely sight of our local cornfields at harvest-time. No doubt you remember the old hymn "Fair waved the golden corn in Canaan's pleasant land". I am not sure whether nowadays the combine harvester and its operators go out "full of joy some shining morn", as did the old-time "reaper band". Perhaps they do?

In the Book of Leviticus, chapters 19 and 23, God gave his instructions to the farmers. Not only were they to allow the gleaners to go out into their fields to gather up the odd ears of corn left behind by the reapers, but they were to ensure that they did not reap right into the corners of their fields, so that a good quantity remained for the "poor and strangers" thus making the task of gleaning much easier. (Most of us will be familiar with the story of Ruth gleaning in Boaz' cornfields). Similarly for the grape harvest God said "And thou shalt not glean they vineyard neither shalt thou gather every grape of thy vineyard; thou shalt leave them for the poor and stranger".

Not many of us are farmers, and I imagine that today's machinery does not work as did the reapers of old, but surely the intention still applies? We must be generous not only with our money and possessions, our welcome and hsopitality, but also with our opinions, our thoughts and our speech. There are still many poor and strangers in our midst.

Preachers for September

2nd 11 am Mr Melton of Sawbridgeworth
9th 11 am Rev Melvin of Harlow, Communion
16th 11 am Mrs Deveraux of Bishop's Stortford
Family Service
23rd 11 am Rev L Rapkin
30th 11 am Mrs Finbow
6.30 Rev L Rapkin, Group Harvest

Womens Own meets on Monday Afternoons at 2.30 p.m.

Festival

Speakers for September

Sept 10th Mrs Moseley Sept 17th Mrs Moon Sept 24th Harvest Meeting

The Guild is open to all and meets on the 1st and 3rd Monday in the month at 8 p.m. The September speakers are

On Saturday 15th September the Bishop's Stoirtford Town Band together with Hallingbury Choir will give a concert in the church at 7.30 p.m. The charge for the programme and Ploughmans supper is £3.

The proceeds of this concert are to go to the West Essex Hospice Care Trust who are launching a fund-raising campaign to build and equip a hospice for this area. In the meantime they are opening 5 Day Care Centres one of which will be in the Stansted Day Centre. Also they are providing some equipment and drugs for the MacMillan nurses.

Please come and support this worthy cause and make the concert well known.

Further information and programmes from Janet townsend B/S 812593.



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

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.

Deacon Margaret Booker

Margaret came to Stansted from Ramsey in Cambridgeshire in 1973. She was ordained a Deaconess in 1983, and Deacon on June 13th 1987. Now, following her 70th birthday in August she has decided to retire from the round of parochial work which she has so ably shouldered over these 17 years.

Margaret has given herself unstintingly to a concept of the ministry which has made for an immense fund of love and indebtedness from the whole village - not just the Anglican congregation, nor even the wider one of the other churches within SACC, but of everyone. In short she has embodied the true spirit of ecumenism. Margaret's knowledge and understandig have been both apparent and real at every point - in the ordering of the services and in their detail, in her spiritual strength, her insights into what is the right thing to do or say, in her utter reliability, and perhaps most importantly, in her relations with people. To say that she will be missed is an understatement, but we have the consolation that she will still be living amongst us in the parish.

A party to mark her retirement was held on August 31st, of which a full report will apear in the October issue. For now, Margaret, a heartfelt thank you from all of us.

DEACON MARGARET'S LETTER

Dear Friends,

A new era is opening up in the Worldwide Anglican Communion with the appointment of Bishop George Corey as Archbishop designate of Canterbury — and too a new beginning for ecumenical church life from September 2nd, as on that day a new organisation called "Churches together in England" is formed, C.T.E.

This doesn't mean that the churches haven't been working together already, because of course they have. Up till now the Churches were together under the auspices of the British Council of Churches, but this was an Association not a body with full membership, but set up to do the ecumenical work for the Churches. Now all the Churches have become members of CTE which will be a body to carry out the decisions that the Churches have made together. This will give greater emphasis to what is going on in the Diocese and on the local scene. All this has come about as a result of the first national Lent Course in 1986. "Not strangers but pilgrims", and the many more local ecumenical projects and parishes that there are. We in the Stansted Association of Christian Churches wish CTE every success in strengthening the unity between us all.

In Stansted we are fortunate in that our bonds of fellowship are strong. We hold many services together — we pray together — we work together through "Helpline" locally and Christian Aid worldwide and this magazine "The Link" is produced by all the Churches. But there is still more that can be done in pastoral concerns, mission and praying for full sacramental worship. I should be made very happy if more people would become interested and support and increase our relationships between the churches.

As you may know, September sees my retirement from being Assistant Curate in the parish. We are not moving and we shall both continue to be involved in village and church life in our various ways. Thank you all for your love and support over the past 17 years. It has meant a great deal to us. After a month on holiday I shall be around on Sundays in church and in the village of course — not daily, but pretty often!

May God bless you all.

Margaret

ST. JOHN'S TINY TOTS

Tiny Tots begins again on Tuesday $11 \, \mathrm{th}$ September.

We welcome any mums with babies or pre-school children to join us for a short service in church at 2.15 followed by refreshments in the hall with time for mums to meet and children to play... We meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday each month and new members are always welcome.

More details from Brenda Wallace (812203).

REGISTERS

Baptisms

June 24th Matthew David Coopersmith

Lucy Webb

Jessica Tridgett

July 8th Robert James Dunbar

July 29th Jennifer Sarah Phipp

Marriages

July 7th Ian James Rodgers and

Keeley Jayne Griffiths

July 21st Sean Andrew Aveston and

Nicola Head

July 28th Kelvin Graham Turner and

Julie Prociuk

Funerals

10th July Fred Albert Ayres, aged 72

19th July John Percy Tose Pearson, aged 67

Diary

September

4th Prayer Group, 22 Bentfield Causeway

8.15 pm

Sth Rehearsal for all involved in 9.30 am Sunday worship, i.e. servers -St John's, 8 pm

8th Friends of Essex Churches Sponsored Cycle Ride, all day

9th Patronal Festival @ St Mary's. ALL SERVICES there

11th Tiny Tots 2.15 St John's Tuesday Club 2 pm 9 Hargrave Close

13th Deanery Service at Newport 8.00 pm to launch Decade of Evangelism

17th S.A.C.C. AGM 8 pm URC Hall

25th Tiny Tots 2.15 pm

27th Thanksgiving Service Chelmsford Cathedral 8 pm for ending of Church Urban Fund

October 0

2nd Prayer Group, 22 Bentfield Causeway
8.15 pm



Tony & Helene King PO Box 89 Molepolole Botswana

Dear Friends,

Yesterday (Sunday 24th June) I was inducted Rector of Molepolole with the daughter parishes of Mankgodi, Thamaga, Lentsweletau, Setlhakeng Ditladi and Medie. Archbishop Walter Makhulu took the service which will undoubtedly stay in our minds as a fantastic occasion. Preparations began for the service the day before. Some wealthy parishioners donated a cow and three goats which were slaughtered in front of the church and vegetables of all descriptions were brought in by people throughout the day.

The men cut wood for the fires and the women prepared the food. By Saturday evening only the cooking was left to do and this began at sunrise the following day. Actually I was taken by surprise as I walked across the garden to the loo in my striped pyjamas to be confronted by lots of Botswana ladies lighting fires so early in the morning (5 am). They found my attire really funny.

Cooking and preparations went on until the service started at 3 pm. There was a marvel-lous community atmosphere as we cleaned and decorated the church. The Mothers Union were on their knees using their bare hands to wax and shine the floor! At midday cars began arriving from all the daughter parishes. People were crammed in like sardines. There was even an old granny sat upon a driver's lap! We borrowed chairs from a nearby school and finally managed to seat a 700 strong congregation.

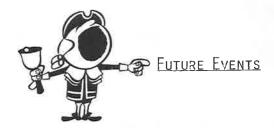
The service was unforgettable. The church was full to the brim and everybody seemed so pleased to be there. Their excitement and joy added to ours. The people who had been preparing for the service since early morning reappeared in traditional dress and looked stunning. I felt a bit apprehensive about the whole affair. Rehearsing people for the service had been difficult. The Churchwardens kept disagreeing over which direction to walk next and people had been asking me countless questions which I did not understand a word of. I answered by giving a thumbs up sign and saying 'Six Five' which for reasons beyond me has come to mean 'OK'. I also knew that I would have to speak substantial parts in Setswana. Not an easy task I can assure you.

Thankfully the whole service went like a dream. In fact it did have a dreamlike quality about it. The Archbishop is very much an Archbishop and conducted the service with great dignity and presence and prodded the churchwardens with his crook whenever he wanted them to move. The highlight of the service for me was when I delivered my "Let's go forth and spread the Gospel" speech in Setswana which was met by lots of clapping, cheering and ullulations (high pitched screaming). I couldn't wipe the grin off my face. At the end of the service people began dancing in the aisles and as I walked out with Helene, behind the Bishop and his wife, the congregation danced after us singing 'Joy has come to us this day' which had Helene in tears. Still singing everybody shook our hands, a monumental task, before we started the feast.

So today parish life is beginning for us in a new parish. There are complex problems here but we feel hopeful and the joy of my induction yesterday healed the angers and frustrations of recent months. As we begin to understand the life of the church here then we hope it will be possible for us to find areas for mutually beneficial partnership between Stansted and Molepolole. Thankyou for keeping us in your prayers.

Moruti & Mma Moruti King Tony & Helene

Village News



September

1 10.30 URC Hall Garden Club Annual Show

3-7 Skip at Crafton Green

8 7.30-11.30 Windmill Barn Dance (see notice)

15 7.30 UR Church Chapel Hill, Concert for W. Essex Hospice (see notice)

17 8.00 URC Hall SACC AGM

22 11.0-6.0 Quaker Tapestry Exhibition at The Meeting House, Chapel Hill

22 4.0-7.0 St Teresa's Family Barbecue & Supper (see notice)

22 8.00 St John's Hall, Stansted Democrats Ouiz

30 9.0-1.0 Mountfitchet School PTA Car Boot Sale

October

7 4.30 St John's Hall Harvest Tea

6.30 Festival Service

12 Royal British Legion Poppy Collectors' awards Day Centre

12 8.00 St John's Hall. Lent Group's 6th
Meeting



Our year ended in July with our usual boat trip on the River Stort. Everyone had a great time and we all felt that it was a good ending to a very exciting year. We had a lot of fun with our stall at the Stansted Carnival and our cake stall at the Essex Police Gala was a complete sell out.

All club members I'm sure would like me to say a big thankyou to Ken Gerrard for the many times he has driven us to our different events in the Peter Kirk Mini Bus, especially for all his efforts at the Police Gala.

Cdlub begins again on September 20th and on September 27th Uncle David from Takeley will entertain us with an evening of magic.

We are still looking for drivers who would be willing to take one of our members back to Barnston at 9 pm on a Thursday evening. With four people on a rota this would oly involve a trip once a month. Can you help?

M. G. Johnson

THE PARISH COUNCIL OF

STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET

Council Offices Crafton Green House 72 Chapel Hill Stansted Mountfitchet Essex CM24 8AQ Tel: 813214

Clerk: Owen Wilson

Playscheme

The playscheme was most successful; about 60 youngsters attended the sessions and, in response to demand, it was extended a further week.

"Save our trees"

New trees are particularly vulnerable during the long period of dry weather. Assuming there has not been a drastic change in the weather by the time you read this article, please consider "adopting" a sapling to be the recipient of your surplus water.

Mile Iron

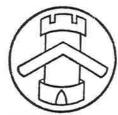
Parishioners have expressed concern about the disappearance of the Mile Iron from the junction of Bentfield Road and Silver Street. Worry no more. The Iron is safely stored in the Council garden shed while construction works are in progress and will be reinstated.

Bulb Scheme

The successful bulb scheme is to be repeated. Please contact the Clerk if you wish to make a donation (money/bulbs) and/or have suggestions of locations.

Skip Dates

The skip will be at the Crafton Green Car Park from 3rd to 7th September.



MOUNTFITCHET HIGH SCHOOL PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION

SUNDAY 30TH SEPTEMBER

CAR BOOT SALE 9AM - 1 PM

MOUNTFITCHET HIGH SCHOOL ON BEHALF OF PTA FUNDS

Tel - 813384

STANSTED AFTERNOON

Our president, Mrs. Anne Calver, chaired our July meeting. Birthday posies were presented to Mrs. M. Walker and Mrs. J. Freeman.

Mrs. Calver reminded members of our afternoon cream tea on Tuesday 11th September at 3 p.m. This is to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the N.F.W.I. and by kind invitation of Mrs. Trix Little shall be at 17 Park Road. Tickets are 75 pence, profits go to charity.

If the weather is unsettled, the teas shall be held in the United Reformed Church Hall. Please phone either Mrs. Calver, Mrs. Cianciola or Mrs. B. Little for final arrangements on the day.

Our speaker, Mrs. Dudding, brought many lovely examples of Coggeshall Tambour Lace and gave us a very interesting talk and demonstration on the making of this lace. It differs from the usual bobbin method by sewing on fine muslin with a Tambour hook.

Our competition "a paper doyley" was won by Mrs. Calver, Mrs. Fuller being second. The raffle winners were Mrs. Cooper and Mrs. Fuller.

Our next meeting on Thursday 9th August is the "Joint Meeting" with Stansted Evening W.I. The competition is "an old coin".

Liliane Bowman 814325



The National Childbirth Trust
Education for Parenthood

NATIONAL CHILDBIRTH TRUST

Coffee mornings - September Under Ones : Tuesday 10 - 11.30 Toddlers : Friday 10 - 11.30

- 4th Penny Brooks, 42 Bentfield Gardens Stansted 814763
- 7th Angela Mason, 6 Stansted Road, Elsenham 812545
- 11th Margaret Davies, Ivy Cottage, Ugley 815717
- 14th Jane Edwards, Police House 2, Station Road, Elsenham 816235
- 18th Lorraine Brewster, 44 Bentfield Gardens Stansted 815710
- 21st Louise Storey, The Laurels, Hailes Wood Close, Elsenham 814425
- 25th Beverley Forsythe, The Thatch, Stoney Common, Stansted 812121
- 28th Jackie Weston, 6 High Street, Elsenham 816282



STANSTED WOMEN'S INSTITUTES

Mrs Anne Calver presided over the annual joint meeting of the Afternoon and Evening Institutes when Mr Tony Rook told the members "I've come about the drains". These drains were parts of Roman plumbing — and his talk, which was illustrated by slides, proved both entertaining and instructive. An experienced archeologist, Mr. Rook showed photographic evidence of the exciting find of a Roman bath house at Welwyn which e and his associates were about to have protected by a steel cover — and which now lies directly beneath the motorway.

He was thanked by Brenda Scarr and the competition for an interesting old coin was won by Judy Colliver with a 1780 Marie Theresia Austrian silver dollar.

The mind-stretching memory competition was won by June Riley and raffle prizes were won by Mesdames Bunting, Chambers, Barrett, Perry and Scarr.

It was a very happy evening, enjoyed by everyone.

MOUNTFITCHET SENIORS CLUB

At their meeting last week the Mountfitchet Seniors were given a musical entertainment by five Stansted children. They were Katy Blurton aged 12 who played the flute and the piano, Nikki Giles 10, piano and trombone, Katharine Giles 12, piano and recorder, Rajenda Whitlock 12, violin, and Katie Errington 11, flute.

The afternoon's programme was arranged by Katy Blurton to include songs and pieces to appeal to all tastes. Not only was the music a delight to us all but also the way in which Katy announced the various items and the way the children worked together to make the programme flow. They had obviously put a great deal of time and thought into giving the Over Sixties an afternoon of real enjoyment.





"QUIZ NIGHT"

A "Quiz Night" is to be held on Saturday 27th October 1990 in the Football Club starting at 7.30 p.m. Teams of four. f1 per head (including light refreshments). Emphasis on enjoyment rather than intellectual prowess. Proceeds to Neighbourhood Watch. Further information from P.C. Pike at Stansted Police Station - Bishop's Stortford 812211.



DAY CENTRE

In July a party of Day Centre users and friends went by coach to Canterbury. The weather was good and many old and interesting places were visited, one person taking the local bus to Dover and spending the afternoon there.

On 8th August we have the last outing of the year to Brighton. The weather forecast is good so all should have a good time.

Diary for September

Tues 4th	Beetle Drive	30p	2,0	00 pm
Thur 6th	Bingo	2.00	pm	
Fri 7th	Whist Drive	2.00	pm	40p
Tues 11th	Bingo	2.00	pm	
Thur 13th	Scrabble	2.30	рm	
Fri 14th	Whist Drive	2.00	pm	40p
Tues 18th	Beetle Drive	2.00	рm	30p
Thur 20th	Bingo	2.00	рт	
Fri 21st	Whist Drive	2.00	pm	40p
Tues 25th	Bingo	2.00	рm	
Thur 27th	Scrabble	2.30	рm	
Fri 28th	Whist Drive	2.00	pm	40p



OUT AND ABOUT IN STANSTED

A few weeks ago a large stone was unearthed behind what was until recently the chemist's shop on Cambridge Road. This stone is granite disc-shaped, about 4ft diameter by 1 ft deep, and as at first it was assumed to be a mill-stone the builders were kind enough to remove this to the green at the windmill. Now that the dirt has washed off there is some doubt that it is a millstone, and if anyone has any suggestions as to its origin the Stansted Millers would be pleased to hear from you.

The name Stansted is of Saxon origin and means Stony Place, which it obviously is in some areas. Much of Brook Road and Mill Hill and adjacent roads were surfaced with stones cleared by the barrowload from neighbouring gardens when the houses in the area were first built.

Being on the edge of chalkland, flint has always been a local building material and is common in houses and walls throughout the village. Because it is virtually impervious to weathering, flint can be re-used time and again and probably many of the flints in walls in Lower Street and Grove Hill were once used in the walls of Mountfitchet Castle. You will also see incorporated in these walls lumps of granite, sandstone and puddingstone, presumably deposited locally by glaciers during the ice ages.

There is a large puddingstone by the bridlepath to Bollington Hall and another by the pump at Ugley Green. In Roman times pudding stone was used to make querns, simple hand driven corn milling machines, a local example of which can be tried out in Saffron Walden Museum. For years part of a puddingstone quern lay with some large flints by the doorstep of a cottage in Bentfield Green, but these have now been tidied away.

Sandstone boulders are quite common and can frequently be seen a farm entrances where they were possibly used as makeshift mounting blocks. There are still some outside Bentfield End Farm and Bentfield Farm by Bentfield Flace. In the latter's courtyard a boulder has been built into what looks like a concrete mounting block. There is also a large stone incorporated into the foundations of the bridge into the car park behind Doe's Yard.

Ond the London to Newmarket Road milestones are a familiar sight and two fall within the parish. One of these stands half-way along Stansted Flats and the other, which is not a stone at all but quite a unique iron mile post, is sited at the Chapel crossroads, not far from where the stone was found which inspired this article. At present this mile post is removed for safekeeping during building works. Looking at an old photograph dating from 1920 or thereabouts I see that the mile post was not there then either. Does anyone remember where it used to be sited?

Felix



The 1989 Poppy Appeal raised nearly f12 million in aid of ex-servicemen and women and their dependants. It seems a staggering sum, but as we have emphasised before it is little enough to meet the need.

We wonder whether our branch Service Committee always hears about cases of local need. It depends, of course, upon communication.

Mrs. Stevens, our Chairman, is also chairman of the Service Committee which is charged with assisting anyone in need who has service links. A call to her on 813562 would produce a response — in the most confidential terms. All deserving cases receive sympathetic and generous help.

We were delighted to congratulate Mrs. Kath Stevens, at our August meeting, on her being selected to attend a Buckingham Palace Garden Party. This was in recognition of her outstanding service to the Royal British Legion.

A few more dates for your diary -

October 12: Poppy collectors' awards the recipients being mainly school in the district (at the Day Centre)

November 8 : AGM (probably at the Cricket Club

Pavilion)

November 11 : Remembrance Sunday parade

Where did the summer go?



STANSTED DEMOCRATS

QUIZ EVENING

SATURDAY 8.00 PM 22 September 1990 St John's Hall, Stansted

Tickets - £3.50 per member of each team of 8, including Fish and Chip Supper

Bar

ALL WELCOME - to book your supper telephone 813914, 813579 before 17 September :::

Stupendous Prizes to be won! Booby Prize also available.



Having one "Link" for July/August we naturally have more to report in this issue. Our Group Meeting at Clavering on 14th June was very enjoyable and members from seven villages were present.

At our branch meeting on 21st June Mrs. Forrester told a fascinating story of her life as a dancer. She worked very hard touring provincial theatres and then became a "Bluebell" girl where discipline was even more severe.

On a very, very hot evening in July what more cooling pastime than to listen to Miss Frances Spalding telling us about her energetic horseriding holiday in Iceland where night never really came, and in June the snow still lay on the ground.

On another very hot July day our mini fete in our President's garden attracted a faithful following who gave us a profit of £174 including donations. Our thanks to all those who so generously supported us.

Our next Group Meeting is our AGM which will be at Birchanger on 12th September; at our branch meeting on 20th September we shall prepare poppies for distribution and hold our annual harvest sale; and our branch AGM will be on 18th October.

County Conference is on 14th November and on Sunday 9th December the Royal British Legion Annual Carol Service will be held in St. John's Church, Stansted.

> Pat Clower 815220



SEPTEMBER 15TH 1990

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IN CONCERT

AT THE UNITED REFORMED CHURCH STANSTED

AT 7.30 PM

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I would like to say thank you to all who helped make the clubs stall at Stansted Carnival a success.

The monthly competition for September is "An attractive leaf". This will be judged by Mr Mitchell who will be present at the September meeting on September 5 to talk on the topic of "Seasonal Gardening".

Everyone is invited to attend the Club's Autumn Show on September 1st.

MOUNTFITCHET GARDEN CLUB

Ninth AUTUMN SHOW

SATURDAY 1ST SEPTEMBER 1990

at

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STANSTED CONSERVATIVE ASSOCIATION

A Mid-Summer Ball, which was a Saffron Walden Constituency event, was held at Waterside School, Hassobury, Hazel End on Saturday 23rd June.

On Saturday 28th July a White Elephant Sale was held at 'Savages', Lower Street, Stansted (by kind permission of Mr & Mrs. Peter Jones).

On Tuesday 4th September there will be a coach trip to Leeds Castle in Kent (departing from London & Stansted Furnishing Co Ltd at 9.30 am).

On Friday 28th September there will be a Fashion Show given by 'Valeries' of Sawbridgeworth in St'John's Church Hall at 8 pm. Tickets f3.

All enquiries to Bridget Gott, B/S 814440 or JOan Summers, B/S 814854.



A WORD OF THANKS

I would like to thank everyone who gave donations in memory of my mother, $\ensuremath{\mathsf{May}}$ Jordan.

A sum of £340 was divided between the United Reformed Church, Stansted, and the Bishop's Stortford Talking Newspaper.

Marion Pretty

ERRATA

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The Hopkins Tournament was played at Dunmow on Sunday 1st July. Mike Mutimer and Janet Rodgers (Grove) beat Tim Hollis (Stansted) and Sheila Swain (Henham) 6-3 in the final.

The Pearce/Frodo Cup American Tournament was played at the Club on Sunday 22nd July. Tim Hollis and Georgina Rose beat Richard Mott and Gill Robinson 6-4 in the final.

The club finals will be held on Sunday 9th September.

The Saffron Walden Hospital Cup finals will be at Thaxted Tennis Club on Saturday 22nd September.

There will be a Senior/Junior American Tournament at the Club on Sunday 23rd September.

The Hospital Cup One Day Tournament will be held at the Grove Tennis Club, Saffron Walden at 2 pm on Sunday 30th September.

We are planning to re-surface the courts in October.

Half-price membership of the club is offered from 1st October to 31st March 1991.

All enquiries to Jamet Hollis, B/S 812073.







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