

July '93

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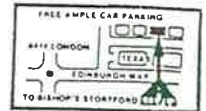
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ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, STANSTED

FESTIVAL WEEKEND

17-18 JULY 1993

FLOWER FESTIVAL

"Treasures of the Earth"

Saturday: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. - Stalls, games, etc.  
Sunday: 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Saturday: 8.00 p.m.

"Music for a Summer Evening"  
London Baroque Choir

Sunday: 9.30 a.m.  
Festival Eucharist



[See inside for more details]



The Link is published monthly by Churches Together in Stansted  
Cost is 25p a month; £2.50 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.

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represent those of CTS, its member churches,  
village organisations or advertisers.

Copy to reach 58 Chapel Hill by

N.B. 15th July for August/September combined issue



Well done Stansted! This year's Christian Aid collection is the best ever - over £1550 from the Market, Church offertory and the envelope collection. Thank you to all volunteers and to everybody who gave so generously. Stansted's contribution will give "life before death" to many people.

Catherine Dean

## Society of Friends

Quaker Meeting House, Chapel Hill

**Clerk:** Mary Rice  
92 Hadham Road  
Bishop's Stortford  
Herts CM23 2QP  
Tel: 651769

**Meeting for worship:** 11am

Words are the easiest things in the world to misunderstand. Ask ten people if they would rather be happy or unhappy and you'll get one answer. Ask the same ten people what they mean by happiness and you'll get ten different answers. Being happy for one means parties and people, happiness for another quietness and solitude. Sometimes happiness for one involves unhappiness for another. Only one person can win any particular race, come first in any particular exam, get any particular job, but life itself is made up of not one but many moments.

In the Quaker Faith we have a little green booklet called 'Questions and Counsel'. It contains questions to ask yourself and counsel or advice to help you. One of my favourites is the very last one: "Try to live so that you can respond to that of God in those you meet and in yourself. Seek to know in your innermost heart, that each human being is unique, precious, a child of God".

May you each have some happiness today in your own happiest way.

Honor Robertson



## Methodist

Meets in Quaker Meeting House, Chapel Hill

**Minister:** The Rev'd Michael Hayman  
2 South Road  
Bishop's Stortford, Herts.  
Tel: 654475

**Secretary:** Mrs Marion Dyer  
7 Blythwood Gardens  
Stansted, Essex CM24 8HG

**Services:** Morning Service - 9.30am.

Our traditional Anniversary Service in June, led by Rev. Michael Hayman and Tim Richards, was again a very happy occasion in song, prayer and witness and although at least nine of our regulars were away on holiday, a good crowd met for tea and games at Ugley Green in the afternoon.

### July Services

4th Mr. Kenneth Mark  
11th 11.00 a.m. United Service at U.R.C.  
18th Rev. Michael Hayman  
25th Mr. David Drewett



## United Reformed

Chapel Hill

**Minister:** The Rev'd Margaret McKay MA BD  
1 Howe Hall Cottages  
Littlebury Green  
Saffron Walden, Essex  
Tel: (95) 528155

The Rev'd Lydia Rapkin  
23a St John's Close  
Saffron Walden, Essex  
Tel: (95) 523296

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

**Stansted Contact:** Mrs Janet Townsend  
59 Chapel Hill  
Tel: 812593

**Services:** 11am each Sunday

For details of services at Clavering and Newport, please ring the Group Secretary.

PREACHERS FOR JULY/AUGUST

July

4th Family Service  
 11th Rev. M. McKay Communion  
 18th Rev. L. Rapkin  
 25th Mr. J. Gill

August

1st Family Service  
 8th Rev. L. Rapkin  
 15th Rev. E. McIlwain  
 22nd Rev. L. Rapkin  
 29th Mr. J. Doggett

The following is an extract from a recent letter received from the Bible Society.

"Thank you for your gift of £146.63 towards the work of the Bible Society. This year has seen a mile-stone in Scripture translation history. Imagine the excitement of reading God's word or hearing the Scripture read in your mother tongue for the first time. For the Bete:Daloa people of Cote d'Ivoire in West Africa whose language was the 2000th to be translated into a part of Scripture, this year will go down as a 'red letter year'.

.... The need and desire to read and understand God's word grows at an alarming rate each year. Worldwide the demand for Scriptures continues unabated.

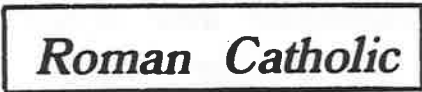
.... Your gift really does matter.

On behalf of the Bible Society, and those who will benefit from your practical loving gift, thank you. May they experience the reality of Jesus:

'Give to others and God will give to you .. a full measure, a generous helping poured into your hands - all you can hold. The measure you use for others is the one that God will use for you.' (Luke 6.38)"

Thanks to all of you who supported our coffee morning at 58 Chapel Hill in April.

Janet Townsend



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 VISIT

Wednesday 9.30 p.m.

Hello Berta, lovely to hear from you ... another 2 coming that makes 27 ... fine.. no .. no trouble at all .. of course we can manage .. you'll be arriving tomorrow at 8.00 .. no problem .. Quick think .. Lydia ... how are you? ... We have a last minute couple coming from Chevetogne .. Could you? Oh thanks. What a relief ...

Thursday

They're a bit late ... Here comes Brian, he's been waiting in his car near the motorway to guide them here ... Isn't that their coach turning into Crafton Green? ..Quick let's go to welcome them ... Funny .. not many of the faces look familiar .. They all speak German .. OK so anyone can make a mistake .. just take them to the Hilton and get back to the motorway .. We don't want to be charged with kidnapping a coachload of German tourists ... must be the way you wave!

Friday

All on board in Crafton Green, sun's shining, picnic's packed .. Let's go .. Hatfield House first stop ... Can't get the coach out? .. Blocked in ....? Quick .. scouting party .. who drives a blue Fiesta? ... What about some community singing while we wait ... Phew .. Here comes the owner .. (Thank you God) ... Only 20 minutes late leaving!

(We had a wonderful day at Hatfield House and later in St. Albans!)

Saturday

Coach isn't blocked in ... no German tourists .. no rain .. We're all set for a perfect day visiting Fakenham and Sue Ryder at Cavendish.

We've left the preparation of the day centre for the evening celebration in the capable hands of Joan and her helpers .. We've already cooked the food ... What did people do before freezers?

Evening

Who invited Maggie Thatcher and John Major? .. they look slightly different .. John's rather tall and Maggie's rather hairy ...! Alan invited them ... He'll do anything for attention ... even spend months writing a European skit en francais for the entertainment of German tourists ... (excuse me) Belgian visitors!

We had a wonderful weekend ... disasters averted, can be smiled at later .. they all add to the fun .. (?)

Our Ecumenical service was great. Thanks to all who took part ... Can't wait till the next time!

Eileen Quinn

FOUND PROPERTY!

Chevetogne Visit

The following items were left at the Day Centre after the Saturday celebrations:

- A round glass bowl
- A stainless steel dish

Please contact either Eileen Quinn, 812109 or Francis Mercer, 813945.

**Church of England**

St John's Church, St John's Road

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

The Rev'd Richard Dunstan-Meadows  
43 Gilbey Crescent  
Tel: 814463

**Honorary Clergy:** The Rev'd Margaret Booker  
Moorlands Cottage, Burton End  
Tel: 812684

**Services:** Holy Communion 8.00am  
Parish Communion 9.30am  
(Creche, Children's Church and Lazer Group)  
Holy Communion (1662) 12.15pm  
(1st Sun excl August)  
Evensong 6.30pm

Holy Communion is also celebrated on:

Monday 7.30pm  
Wednesday 10.00am  
Friday 9.00am

DIARY FOR JULY

4th 9.30 am St. Mary's School Service at St. John's  
6th 10.30 am Holy Communion at Norman Court  
8.15 pm Prayer Group at 15 Bentfield Causeway  
11th 10.00 am Ecumenical Eucharist at U.R.C.  
(NO 9.30 am Parish Communion)  
12th 8.00 pm P.C.C. in the Upper Room  
13th 10.30 am Holy Communion at Mead Court  
12.15 pm Tiny Tots picnic in the Vicarage garden  
2.00 pm Tuesday Club at 10 Hargrave Close  
17th - ST. JOHN'S FESTIVAL WEEKEND  
18th SEE PANEL

N.B. First Sunday - 12.15 p.m. Holy Communion  
This will be held as usual on Sunday  
4th July and 5th September, but NOT on  
1st August



**St. John's Church, Stansted**

**Festival Weekend**

**17-18 July 1993**

**Flower Festival:**

**Treasures of the Earth**

*also:*

**Saturday: 10 a.m.-4 p.m.**

*stalls \* refreshments \* barbecue  
bouncy castle \* games \* tombola  
music \* children's display*

**Saturday evening : 8 p.m.**

*Music for a Summer Evening*

*London Baroque Choir*

**Sunday**

*9.30 a.m. Festival Eucharist*

**11 a.m.-4 p.m.**

*Flower festival all day, with  
refreshments and organ recitals  
during the day*

**Details from the Vicarage (812203)**



REGISTERS FOR MAY

Baptisms

30th May Harry Edward Albert Toynton

Confirmations

9th May Simon Peter Ayres  
 Mark Richard Bellamy  
 Fiona Jacqueline Binder  
 Emma Grace Dockerill  
 Maryanne Edna Francis  
 Rebecca Elizabeth Jayne Francis  
 Patricia Anne Hancock-Ekberg  
 Lindsey Susan Holland  
 Paula Dora Jenkins  
 Richard James Anthony Jordan  
 Roger David George Lee  
 Susanna Catherine Lenton  
 Richard James Linford  
 Vikki Caroline Nankivell  
 Kathryn Anne Peel  
 Andrew John Scraggs  
 Natalie Smith  
 Richard James Wallace



Weddings

29th May John Michael Cozins Dudson and  
Christina Ellen Liza Halls

Funerals

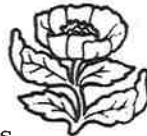
10th May Harold George Ashcroft, aged 79  
 14th May Doris Player, aged 92  
 17th May William Nathaniel Edward Major,  
 aged 77



MUSIC FOR A SUMMER EVENING

English Baroque Choir

Conductor: Leon Lovett  
Organist: Christopher McManus



This well known London Choir, under its distinguished Musical Director, Leon Lovett will be visiting Stansted on Saturday 17th July as part of our Festival Weekend.

They will be performing a concert in St. John's Church at 7.30 p.m. and music will include works by Britten, Elgar and Dvorak. Ticket prices are £6.00 (reserved centre nave) £4.00 unreserved and £3.00 concessions (unreserved) inclusive of a glass of wine which will be served during the interval in the church grounds.

The English Baroque Choir has performed in most of London's Concert Halls and in several of London's major churches. They have sung abroad and are taking part in the Cirencester Music Festival this month. We will be delighted to welcome them to Stansted on this special occasion.

For tickets or further enquiries please contact the Vicarage (812203); Jackie Corbishley (813040); Yvonne Ayres (814706) or Patricia Taylor (814823).

*Village News*



**Future Events**

July

3 2.30 Scout Hut Water Lane. Jumble Sale  
 7 8.00 Day Centre. Mountfitchet Garden Club (See notice)  
 14 11.00 Day Centre. 10th Anniversary Party for helpers  
 15 7.30 Day Centre. Royal British Legion (Women) Branch Meeting  
 17/18 St. John's Festival Weekend  
 23 8.00 Day Centre. Royal British Legion Supper & Quiz  
 26-29 Skip at Crafton Green

August

7 9.30 Conservatives Sale. "Savages" Lower Street  
 14-15 Skip at Crafton Green

September

6-9 Skip at Crafton Green



MOUNTFITCHET GARDEN CLUB

In place of our usual indoor meeting on May 2nd the club arranged an evening visit to Gt. Saling Hall near Braintree. This was by arrangement with the owner, Mr. Johnson, also known to gardeners as 'Tradescanth', the regular contributor to the Royal Horticultural Society Journal. Due to inclement weather in Stansted a smaller number than usual made the journey, but some 16 members enjoyed a two hour visit, viewing the many trees and shrubs.

Our July meeting will be held on Wednesday 7th at the Day Centre at 8 p.m. Guest speaker is Mr. B. Taggart on Design and Maintenance of a Wildlife Garden.

The members competition at this meeting is: One Specimen Rose.

Friends and visitors welcome.  
Refreshments and raffle.



### "OUR VILLAGE"

Which bridge do you call "Black Bridge"? A question raised following last month's Steam Weekend story. It is Footbridge No. 1492 that crosses the railway between Water Lane and Stoneyfield Common. Why Black Bridge? I know of no other reason than of the blackish colour the wooden boarded section takes on, probably due to many coatings of a creosote type preservative applied over the years.

The bridge itself is constructed of three sections. First a 69' iron span that crosses the track. This rests on brick pillars, followed by a 93' long wooden boarded section, itself being supported by steel girders and finishing with a Macadam surfaced ramp of some 96' (all measurements of rough estimated lengths). A bridge was finally to be built after much discussion between L.N.E.R., Parish Council and others as by June 1929 the L.N.E.R. had proposed a footbridge following a call from the Ministry of Health drawing attention to "dangerous nature of the Level Crossing". First plans produced by L.N.E.R. showed two or three grades of steps. This received objections as perambulators would not be able to cross, but by November with revised plans showing a slope the Parish Council accepted. Several years were to pass before the footbridge was ready for use (we believe as late as 1935) as a snippet found records, new footbridge opened the use of level crossing by public to be discontinued.

Today little evidence of the level crossing exists other than an overgrown dead end to Water Lane, and although the crossing warning signs have long disappeared (probably into some railway collection) there iron fixing remains. Unfortunately whilst in operation the crossing was to witness several serious accidents. A request in 1936 to have the bridge lamp lighted was not to be forthcoming but no cycling signs were affixed and asked cyclists to dismount. These also have now been removed.

If anyone remembers the names or has memories of the level crossing keepers or their huts I would as always be pleased to hear from you.

P. J. Brown  
812816



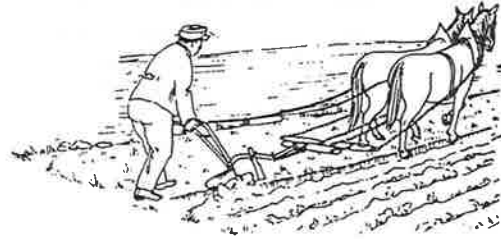
Ploughmans Supper - Fun Quiz

Friday 23rd July

8 p.m. at the Day Centre

Tickets £3 each from  
Mr. Challis 813562, Mr. Stoddart 814015  
or Mr. Laird 813458

Please come and support your  
local B. L. Branch



We heard a fascinating talk at our May meeting by Robert Burgess, the fashion editor of "Country Living" magazine. They do not use professional models but feature clothes from small or newly opened firms and take photos mostly in the country at large houses, the Royal Show, Horse Trials, etc. "Country Life" has won many awards for its photos over the years. They are at present planning their fashion pages up to January 1994.

Stansted hosted the quarterly Group Meeting on 9th June when 48 members from five villages enjoyed a most interesting talk on China by Mr. Strutt, and then tucked into delicious refreshments after which a generous raffle was drawn.

Our branch meeting on Thursday 15th July is at 7.30 p.m. in the Day Centre. All visitors are especially welcome.

Pat Clower



### STANSTED PHOTOGRAPHS

Do you have any old photos of  
Stansted that you would  
like to sell or would loan me  
to photocopy?

Please contact:  
Debra Carter  
B/S 812841





STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET DAY & COMMUNITY CENTRE

Crafton Green House, Chapel Hill

10TH ANNIVERSARY - 14TH JULY 1993

The Management Committee extend a cordial invitation to all past and present members - helpers - drivers - and committee members to a reception at Stansted Day Centre on Wednesday 14th July 1993, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Coffee 11 a.m. - Cake cutting 12 noon - Finger buffet and wine 12 noon to 1 p.m. A warm welcome awaits you at this significant celebration.



GIRL GUIDES

HELP!!!

Stansted District Guiders desperately need a District Commissioner to help co-ordinate our happy team

No guiding experience is necessary

Please contact Dawn 0279 814317

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

**UTTLESFORD CAMTAD**

Campaign for Tackling Acquired Deafness

COMES TO STANSTED

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RING — HELP B.S.  
9.00 am - 4.00 pm. LINE 816008.

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We were very pleased to receive £240 as a reward for our brook clearance exercise. Several of our members went to Enterprise House at the airport for the presentation of the cheque and they thoroughly enjoyed the buffet provided.

On June 10th we all tucked in well to the barbeque at 12 Greenfields. Sandra, Paul, Andrew and Robin as usual gave us a splendid evening and thankfully the weather stayed dry inspite of the thunder which rumbled in the distance. Three hearty cheers were called for to show our appreciation after we had all eaten far too much. Thankyou from us all to the Embleton family for giving us such a good time.

The evening was rounded off with a showing of the video of our Christmas party. Why do people fall about in fits of laughter when they see themselves on T.V.?

Plans for our holiday at St. Leonards in Hampshire are well underway and everyone is getting very excited. There are endless discussions about bedding arrangements and what everyone is going to wear. Let's hope the weather is kind to us.

We were delighted when David Howes ran the London Marathon for the club. We received £295 as a result of this and we all say thankyou very much to David for augmenting our holiday fund in this way.

Marion Johnson

## STANSTED CONSERVATIVES



The Branch held a highly successful and very enjoyable Family Summer Barbecue last month by kind permission of Mr. and Mrs. T. Lyons at Hole Farm, Bentfield End.

Later this month the Ladies Branch will hold their annual "White Elephant and Cakes Stall" underneath the arches at "Savages", Lower Street, by kind permission of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Jones, This will take place on Saturday 7th August at 9.30 a.m.

Philip Duly  
816053

# Stansted Mountfitchet Parish Council

Clerk: Mrs Ruth Clifford  
Office Hours:  
Monday to Friday  
10.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.



Council Offices  
Craffon Green House  
72 Chapel Hill  
Stansted Mountfitchet  
Essex CM24 8AQ  
Telephone: (0279) 813214



## Anglia in Bloom

Our last communication before judging on 21st July!! Work is going on apace with support from local businesses and groups, so just one more sweep and weed and dig and we'll be there! We hope to report on the competition results in a future "Link".



The Playscheme will run for five weeks starting on Monday 26th July. Venue should be Community Education Centre in Lower Street, but may later move to the Peter Kirk School. Watch noticeboards nearer the time.

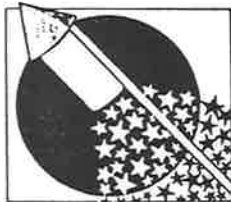


Coaching in cricket and tennis will run at the Mountfitchet High School. Booking forms available from the Clerk. Please let Ruth know if you wish to borrow a tennis racquet.



## Bonfire Night

Our bonfire and firework display will once again be organised by the Millers, so get Friday, 5th November into your diaries. More details in future "Link".



## Skip Dates

The civic amenity skip will be in Craffon Green Car Park on the following dates:

Monday, 26th - Thursday 29th July  
Saturday 14th & Sunday 15th August  
Monday, 6th - Thursday 9th September.



## 1ST STANSTED SCOUTS

### JUMBLE SALE

Saturday 3rd July 1993

at

Scout Hut, Water Lane, Stansted

Starting at

2.30 p.m.



## ST. MARY'S CHURCH

St. Mary's Church will be open from 2 p.m. - 5 p.m. on:-

Sunday 4th July  
Sunday 1st August  
Sunday 5th September

SATURDAY 11TH SEPTEMBER which is the day of the Friends of Essex Churches Bike Ride. St. Mary's will be open from 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Please contact:- Mrs. Saban, B/S 815847  
Mrs. Rodgers, B/S 813385 or Mrs. Hollis,  
B/S 812073 if you would be willing to spare an hour on any of these occasions to act as a Steward.



Essex County Council

## St. Mary's C. of E. Primary School

St. Johns Road, Stansted Mountfitchet, Essex, CM24 8JP

Headteacher: Mrs. J. Cashman

telephone: Bishop's Stortford 812212



### VISIT TO FRANCE

On Monday 10th May, 49 children from St. Mary's Primary School and Radwinter Primary School left for France. We left at 5.00 a.m. and arrived early in the afternoon at our hotel in Quiberville.

On Tuesday we visited Amiens. First we looked round the Cathedral then we looked round the stained-glass window workshop. We didn't see them being made but we saw a lot of finished windows. Then we saw puppets being made at the puppet workshop, then we drove back to the hotel.

On Wednesday we went to an agricultural college at Merval. We looked round the college and the college farm then we went to Nesle-hodeng cheese farm where we saw how to make cheese.

On Thursday we went to Dieppe to visit the fishing port there.

On Friday we piled sleepily on to the coach and started the long journey home.

Richard Wallace

### The French School

On Thursday we went to a French school. From the outside it didn't look much different to our school, just a bit smaller. First of all we went inside a classroom with nineteen pupils aged seven, eight and nine. There was a lot of work on the walls. Most of it was drawings of some kind and there were quite a few bits of writing, thought not the children's writing, it was all the teachers. The art work looked like the same sort of thing that we do. On the teacher's desk were some painted blown out eggs. The children were all doing maths while we were there. They were working in workbooks that you write straight into, like the ones we had when we were younger. The room was a bit different too. For instance they had three blackboards and we only have one. They have a television in the classroom and they have a telephone in the classroom aswell. Their classroom was only half the size of ours. Then we went into the playground and waited for the twenty-one ten and eleven year olds to come out to play. While we were waiting we looked round the playground. It was only about  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the size of our Infant playground. The playground is in between the two buildings that house the school. The toilets are also in the playground but instead of being warm and clean like ours there is a row of toilets a bit like out-houses. Then the older group came out to play.

They all seemed very nice even though we couldn't really get to know them because they didn't speak any English. The boys all played football and our class and Radwinter beat the boys of the French school. Some of us became penpals with some of the French children. But the thing that makes the French school most different from ours is the fact the the French school is spread out through three villages. The infant school is in the first village, the junior school is in the village we went to and St. Margarets, the secondary school where they start to learn English is in another village.

Katie Reeve-Arnold



On granny and grandads afternoon we sang songs.

By Ben Harrington, aged 5 years.

At nanny and grandads afternoon I took them round the school. We had to discover muddled up words.

By Ben Webb, aged 6 years.

On granny and grandads afternoon we did singing and we showed them round. I was a donkey in the play.

By Christie Hampton, aged 5 years.

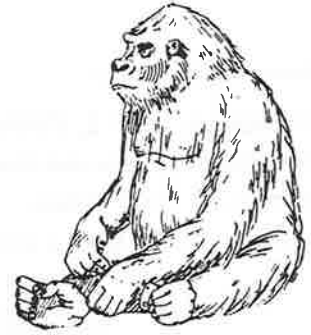
When I went to nannys and grandads day I sang all the songs. There were cakes with red sweets on the top and cakes with cornflakes melted in chocolate sauce.

By Adam Lunn, aged 6 years.

I looked round the classrooms with Great Grandad and Nanny. I had a biscuit and a cake.

By William Bush, aged 6 years.





## STANSTED EVENING

The June meeting of the Stansted Mountfitchet Evening W.I. took place on the 10th of the month. The President welcomed members and guests.

The members were reminded of the trip to Lees Priory on the 16th in the evening, also of the Stansted Carnival on the 26th, and were given the results of the Fashion Show which was very enjoyable and productive.

The President then introduced the speaker, Mr. Robert Barltrop, who spoke on "The Mover Tongue". He traced back the origin of our language from the Anglo-Saxon times up to the present day, particularly on how the cockney speech came about. He also dwelt on the different dialects and expressions used in different parts of the country, also how several different cultures and nationalities have influenced the language over the years. A most amusing and interesting talk.

The competition "A Jam Pot" was won by Mrs. Kath Johnson.

The evening ended with a quiz on gardening provided by Mrs. Brenda Ryan.

\*\*\*\*\*

Over the past year I have organised, with the help of my husband, a number of 5 or 6 mile walks for the W.I. members and their families. These walks along local footpaths have covered the four seasons and have proved very popular. We are very pleased that we are now getting more W.I. members joining us (walkers with well behaved dogs are very welcome). Our last walk started outside the village at Ugley and going to Quendon and Rickling, then back to Ugley where we had left our cars. We manage to leave our car halfway with refreshments, just to make the walk more enjoyable. So, when you next see one of my posters on the village noticeboards why not come and join us? These walks are on Saturday afternoons and the next one will be late September early October. Our July walk is a whole day one starting out of village. If anyone is interested please phone me for more information.

Brenda Ryan  
B/S 812725

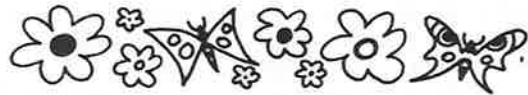


## STANSTED AFTERNOON

The meeting opened as usual with the singing of Jerusalem, followed by the distribution of birthday posies. After the reading of the record of last month's meeting, names were taken and transport arranged for members wishing to go to the W.I. County Show at Cressing Barns on 16th and 17th July.

Our speaker this month was Mrs. Batten who entitled her talk 'Visiting Relations'. We were soon made aware that these were no ordinary relations as she described her journey to the rain forest in Central Africa in search of a diminishing species of gorilla. Assisted by her husband, operating the projector, she took us on a journey with 22 people in a bus sitting on haversacks containing their personal belongings, with dried food and tents stored overhead. There followed a trek through the rain forest led by guides, hacking a path with a machete to ensure they could find the way back. We saw pictures of gorillas very close at hand - too close for comfort many of us thought. A very interesting experience, but not everybody's idea of a holiday.

Next month's meeting is on 14th July, when Mr. Wright will speak to us on Conservation.



## STANSTED TENNIS CLUB

Some of the preliminary rounds of the NSPCC Tournament were held at Stansted Tennis Club on Tuesday 18th May. Lunch was served at Bishop's Stortford Tennis Club, followed by the Finals.

The Hospitals Cup Finals will be played at Henham on Saturday 24th July.

Tennis coaching continues regularly for senior and junior members.

New and used tennis balls are always available for sale at reasonable prices.

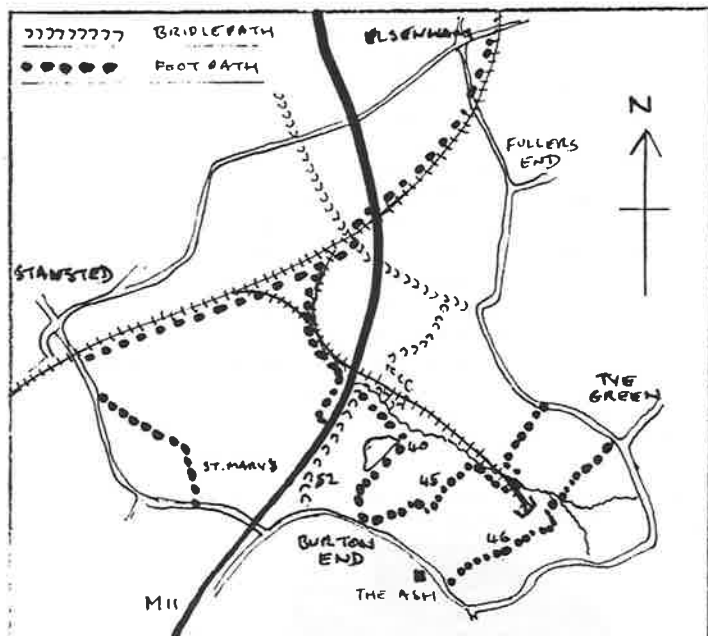
Please telephone Janet Hollis, B/S 812073 with all enquiries about membership and coaching.

## STANSTED FOOTPATHS

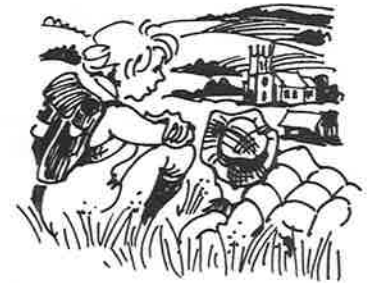
The Footpaths working party has been looking at our paths east of the motorway between Burton End and Tye Green. A sketch map is included this month to help identify the paths we are talking about. We are not describing a set walk this time, but only reporting on the paths and hope that you will find time to explore these as your fancy takes you.



Bridlepath 52 starts at the white pump at Burton End about 200 yds round from the motorway bridge. This is a good well-used path which runs down beside the M11. Down in the valley just before the brook Footpath 40 goes off to the right. It is not discernible but it follows the hedge along the brook for about 300 yds. This section has been obliterated by spoil from the airport railway tunnel and never reinstated. It is rough going but you can find a way through. There are some impressive old hornbeam pollards towards the eastern end. The path passes through a hedge and into a meadow. There is a turkey oak on the left - look at the acorn cups. The path turns right in this meadow which is part of the Turners Spring Nature Reserve managed by the Essex Wildlife Trust. The reserve is a haven for wildlife and visitors are welcome to explore sensibly. After a few yards the path leaves the meadow by the bottom of Turners Spring (spring in this instance is the term for an area of managed woodland). The public path runs up the field edge to the east of the Spring but this has been ploughed up. However, there is a well-defined path which meanders through the Spring which will bring you back to the footpath at the top end which leads to the road at Burton End by another pump between the 17th century houses Fourwinds, Evergreen and Fieldside Cottage. FP 45 also starts at this point.



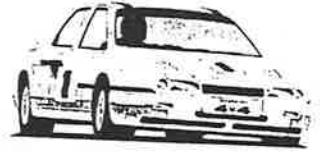
Coming from the road FP 40 forks left to Turnes Spring and FP 45 follows the field edge round to the right. After about 300 yds and halfway down a field cross an obvious bridge to the other side of the ditch and follow down to the next field boundary. Turn right here and left after 50 yds and follow the right side of hedges all the way down to the wooded valley bottom, scrambling across a ditch on the way. This path is mostly ploughed and cropped and consequently little used. The hedge running down to the brook is an example of an ancient hedge - count how many different kinds of trees and shrubs you can see. Turn right at the brook and follow the valley for about 350 yds, ignoring the old footbridge, until you reach the level crossing. Over the railway turn left and after 100 yds a sign points to the path which is clearly visible crossing the field to the right leading to Tye Green Road. On this side of the brook we are in the parish of Elsenham.



The other path we checked was FP 46 which leaves the Burton End Road about 100 yds east of The Ash public house. The path starts through a gate into an area of stables and workshops. Continue straight ahead and find a gate in the corner behind the last building. Cross a small bridge and bear half right across a field, through a gap in the hedge and continue the line to the corner of a wire fence. These fields have been ploughed but the line of the path was clearly defined by the wheel marks of a heavy tractor. Follow right round the wire fence which encloses the tunnel entrance of the airport railway until you reach large metal gates. Turn right here and follow the hedge down to the valley bottom. Cross a bridge and bear right across a meadow to another bridge. The line of the path is visible across the next field and then follows hedges up to Tye Green.

The paths which we have described this month are little used but are readily accessible and offer a number of combinations for interesting walks. The next walk will take place in mid July but it is difficult to fix a date at the time of writing this report so please watch the parish noticeboards for details.





### BOY RACERS

At the given signal the cars are off, dipping slightly at the rear under the strain of acceleration as the youngsters jostle for the lead. Some are decorated with stickers while others sport immaculate paintwork, glinting in the sunshine.

Slipping wide on the first corner a blue car hits the kerb, but luckily manages to stay on the road.

The road narrows slightly and two cars bump sideways on, neither driver wanting to give way to the other. A little further on one of the cars stops - there seems to be a bit of trouble with the suspension.

A tight bend coming up. The driver of a sleek white car misjudges his speed and the car somersaults onto the side of the road, the rear spoiler hanging off at a crazy angle. A red car skids around the corner, the back wheels going round too far and it ends up facing the wrong way. The next car round the corner is going so fast it is unable to stop and crashes into the red one. A cry of "Marshall!" The bumpers are pulled apart and with a lot of revving of engines and flying dust the two cars reverse away from each other, straighten up and head off into the distance.

A blue and white car passes quite slowly and stops a few metres further on. The driver was sure he could have won that race - if only the car had not run out of fuel!

Meanwhile, the remaining drivers are battling it out for the lead, adrenalin pumping, with only split seconds separating disaster and triumph as they cut corners, skid round bends and accelerate along the straights with dust flying.

The chequered flag, and while the judges work out the final positions, all the drivers check over their cars for race damage. Back to the "pits" for minor repairs and refuelling, they will soon be ready for the next race.

Here the thrills and (frequent) spills are perfectly safe (and environmentally friendly) because the cars are 1/10th scale models, driven by electric motors and guided by radio control. Torn spoilers, bent aerials and nuts working loose are the usual problems. The plus points are fun, the challenge of getting the car up and running again after it has broken down, comradeship and learning to be good losers as well as winners. It is great fun to watch even for the spectators who never actually race.

Anyone wanting to join in the fun can get details from Bill Barber, 812105



### STANSTED FOOTPATHS - A PLEA !!

I read with interest the article in the last Link magazine and I support the public use of 'rights of way'.

**BUT** When you go walking don't forget that someone owns the path you tread - it's not yours!

**SO** Never drop rubbish or throw it into adjacent fields (I have had to pick up drinks cans and other rubbish which would harm my animals).

Never allow your dog to wander away from you - dogs must be kept under CLOSE control on public rights of way. If you allow your dog to worry livestock (and that means any farm animal - including poultry) you may well be prosecuted and fined and perhaps have to pay compensation and have the dog destroyed. (I had to rescue one of my hens from the jaws of a dog that had strayed off the path whilst the owner looked on helplessly).

Although you may use a metal detector you MAY NOT dig up the surface of the path. Remember - it does not belong to you. (I had to politely ask a man to desist from doing exactly that on the path I own).

It is obvious that some walkers round Stansted flout the law so can you really blame the farmers for the attitude they take? I have and will continue to maintain my path so that you can enjoy walking on it. Will you, in return, take your rubbish home and keep your dogs close to you?

(Name & address withheld)



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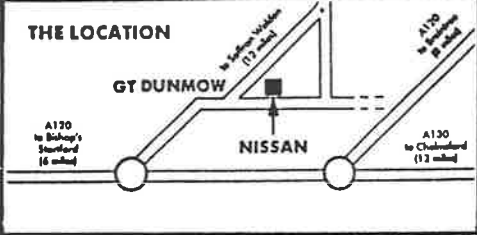
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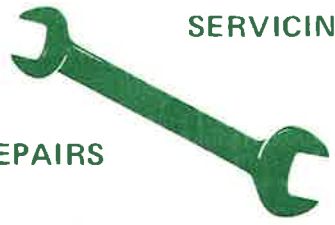
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