

The LINK





A HAPPY NEW YEAR!

RING OUT, WILD BELLS.....

Ring out the grief that saps the mind, For those that here we see no more; Ring out the feud of rich and poor, Ring in redress to all mankind.

Ring out false pride in place and blood, The civic slander and the spite; Ring in the love of truth and right, Ring in the common love of good.

Ring out old shapes of foul disease; Ring out the narrowing lust of gold; Ring out the thousand wars of old, Ring in the thousand years of peace.



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> Copy to reach 58 Chapel Hill for February issue by January 13th for March issue by February 10th



VILLAGE DIARY

January

- 4 8.15 St. John's Hall. Ladies Keep Fit
- 5 2.00 Day Centre. Seniors Club
- 5 8.00 Day Centre. Garden Club
- 12 2.30 Day Centre. Afternoon W.I.
- 17 7.30 W.E.A. Enrolment. Archeology Course (See notice)
- 29 7.30 Mountfitchet High School. Liberal Democrats Jazz Supper (see notice)
- 30 9.30 St. John's Church. Education Sunday Presentation by St. Mary's School

Stansted Tennis Club



Chris Hollis won his 9th Stansted Tennis Club Men's Singles title when he beat his brother Tim Hollis 6-2, 6-2, on Sunday 5th December when the club finals were completed.

The Men's Doubles lasted for two hours and Ken Kemp and Martin Sebley beat Chris and Tim Hollis 7-5, 3-6, 6-4.

Tim Hollis played his third final, the Mixed Doubles, with partner Sandra Ayres. They had won the first set 6-4 against Richard Mott and Gill Robinson back in September when rain had stopped play, and in the resumption they won the second set and the match in a very tense tie break which went to an 11-9 score.

The matches played 3 months ago saw Sandra Ayres beat Hazel Smith 6-2, 6-3, for the Ladies Singles title and Corinne Gladwin and Sue Sebley beat Sandra Ayres and Joyce Barton in the Ladies Doubles 6-4, 4-6, 7-5.

The December finals were supported by an enthusiastic crowd of members and friends who were treated to some top class action. The cups were presented by Janet Hollis, the club chairman.

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Coaching lessons continue at the club.

Subscriptions for winter membership are half price from October to March.

Please contact Janet Hollis, B/S 812073, for any further details.

Royal British Legion



REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

As Chairman of Stansted and District Royal British Legion I would like to thank all who braved the weather to parade to the War Memorial. A special thank you to the cubs and brownies, too young really to know what it is all about but still willing to brave the elements and do their duty. It was good to see the Stansted Flight of the Air Cadets joining us. To all who packed the church, the trumpet player from Henham, to those who contributed to the collection, £168 plus, A VERY BIG THANK YOU.

Mrs. K. Stevens

Many of you may wonder why the Branch Standard was not carried on Remembrance Sunday Parade. The branch covers in membership and caring the villages of Farnman, Manuden, Elsenham and Ugley as well as Stansted. We feel that where possible the Standard should be carried in turn at all these villages. This year it attended the wreath-laying at the newly repaired Elsenham Memorial then continued to service and wreath laying at Ugley Parish Church.

If you are an Ex-Service man or woman or believe in the Legion's aims you can be sure of a warm welcome as a member of our branch. Subscriptions are OAP £4.50, Non OAP £6.00. Contact Mrs. Stevens 813562 for further details.



Our meetings are always held past the deadline date for copy for the Link so we are not able to give you recent news.

The November meeting was our Social Evening with a Ploughman's Platter and a glass of wine, not forgetting the usual raffle prizes. The Rev. Chris Bishop entertained us with a few tales to make us chuckle and sang some folk songs. A charming and refreshing evening. We do not meet in December. Mr. King, the local butcher will be talking to us in January.

The next meeting is January 20th, 7.30 p.m. at the Day Centre. We meet on the THIRD THURSDAY of each month. Come and join us ladies.

Perhaps you don't know, but it's the ladies of this Branch who provide the fresh cut flowers on the War Memorial every week. Any donation towqrds this would be most welcome.

May we take this opportunity to wish everyone a Very Happy New Year.

> Sheila M. Parry 814788

DC TRANSCOMMENT



BROOME END NURSING HOME

We would like to thank all our friends in the village who have supported us throughout the last year. We would also like to wish you all a Very Happy New Year.

We would also like to ask if anyone in the village would visit some of our residents who do not have regular visitors. Maybe you have an interest that you would like to share with our residents. A talk on gardening, a country or a topic that you may feel our residents would enjoy.

> Happy New Year From all at Broome End



STANSTED DAY CENTRE

Diary for January 1994

Friday7thWhist 1.45 pm 50pTuesday11thBeetle 2.00 pm 40pThursday13thBingoFriday14thWhistTuesday18thBingoThursday20thScrabbleFriday21stWhistTuesday25thBeetleThursday27thBingoFriday28thWhist	
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As you can see, we have various events each afternoon that the Day Centre is open. Why not join us? You can come in for a rest and the cup that cheers before lunch, have a light snack, or if you order before 11.00 am partake of a good lunch served from 12.30ish. Cost? A very modest £1.30p, including a sweet. If this doesn't appeal to you just come for a chat - you are sure to find someone there that you know and can exchange news with. A WARM WELCOME AWAITS ANYONE OVER 60 OR WHO IS DISABLED. DO COME AND TRY IT OUT.

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Many thanks to everyone who helped to make our coffee morning such a success. We raised £136.88 towards our Holiday Fund. In November we celebrated James' 21st birthday with music played by James' Dad and his friend. James' Mum provided us with a large quantity of food and a beautiful birthday cake made as a football field complete with two teams of players.

We were pleased to celebrate John Edgar's 50th birthday with some spectacular dancing by the Caledonians and about 80 guests, all of whom have had some connection with the club over the past nineteen years. John was one of our founder members and we were all pleased to wish him well. Tributes were paid to his father Joe and mother Nora who in the past did so much work to keep the club running smoothly. The club gave John a radio so that he can play his favourite Scottish music and hymn tunes whenever he wishes.

We ended 1993 with our annual visit to the Pantomime to see Jack and the Beanstalk at Cambridge Corn Exchange.

We begin 1994 with our New Year Party and another exciting programme.

Marion G. Johnson



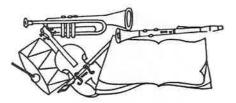
THE MOUNTFITCHET SENIORS

The Seniors' Club will meet on January 5th as usual at the Day Centre from 2 p.m. – 4 p.m. A short entertainment is arranged. The subscriptions of £1.50 for 1994 are due and new members are welcome.

At the December meeting our new Chairperson was introduced.

Seasonal greetings to all. My thanks to the Committee.

From the Treasurer



MUSIC FOR STANSTED

On 13th November I was fortunate to be among an enormously enthusiastic audience at a concert in Stansted Mountfitchet School intriguingly titled as above. The main work was Schubert's 'Trout' Piano Quintet. I am not a musical cognoscente but chatting afterwards to some who are I was gratified to have my enthusiasm confirmed. As a village we were privileged to have such musical excellence on our doorstep. For the record, the musicians were Ben Lowe - violin, James Pullman - viola, Sarah Boscall - cello, Victoria Swan - double bass and Sonia Levy piano.

Wanting to know more about the title I spoke to Sonia Levy who told me that Councillor Alan Dean and Head Teacher David Williams were keen to see the excellent facilities ar the school fully utilised for the benefit of the whole community. This concert was a pilot and another is already planned for 12th March with something completely different. To be sustained this endeavour needs more support and the organisers are confident it is there. Those present on 13th November will have passed on the good news. I hope this article will alert others. The luxury of having such a musical treat without having to fight my way back form London or elsewhere is overwhelmingly seductive. It also seems a golden opportunity to open the door of classical music to more young people from local schools as resources to finance such outings are shrinking.

Alan Dean has also promoted a concert at the Airport on <u>4th February</u> as a new venture in the same vein. Anyone wanting to learn more about these events is welcome to ring Sonia Levy on 815282. Thankyou to all concerned for your work on our behalf. It is our good fortune that Sonia Levy settled in Stansted and is prepared to put her professional contacts at our disposal. Our support is all that is now required.

Angela Gough



Grateful thanks have been "sent in" to the LINK to be offered to Mr. Bunting for so faithfully keeping the footpath from Burnells Way clear of rubbish, etc.

ANY MORE THANKS FOR KIND SERVICES? THERE'S SPACE HERE EVERY MONTH.



St. Mary's C of E Primary

Links with Uganda



St. Mary's school has formed a link with St. Peters Church of Uganda Primary School in the Diocese of South Rwenzori, Kasese, Uganda. After making the initial contact and sending letters from the children and photographs last January we didn't hear anything again until early October when a reply arrived from the Headteacher Bisogho Taabu Jackson. Our letters hadn't arrived at the school until lst September.

The Jackson's letter was accompanied by more letters from the children at Kasese and some photographs which showed how different their school is. St. Peter's school was started in 1988 by a few parents. It's in an up country area in the western part of Uganda 1 km east of Kasese in a suburb of Nyakasanga. It was built by parents in conjunction with the Diocese of South Rwenzori and was assisted by some funding from Norway. The building of the school was a considerable achievement and welcomed by parents as about 70% of the population is illiterate or semi-illiterate.

The children come from many ethnic tribal families and backgrounds. The building itself is not quite finished and they have little or no furniture or materials. There are two hundred and sixteen children in six classes. The highest class number is 96 children (and we complain about high class numbers). The ages of the children are 6-13. There are 8 teachers including the head. Teachers salaries are paid from the children's fees and there is no other funding available to them.

Reading about St. Peter's school made us all realise how much we take for granted about our education system. We decided we would like to do something to help. At our Christmas plays collections were made for the school. We are also having a Uganda Week from Monday January 24th to Sunday January 30th which is Education Sunday. The children throughout the school will be learning about Uganda during the week. On Education Sunday the children will do a presentation during the Church service and the members of the congregation are invited to join us for coffee in the school afterwards and look at the work that the children have done.

If there is anyone in Stansted who has knowledge of Uganda or artefacts that the children could look at we would be very grateful. Also if anyone has any contacts in Uganda or can offer materials etc. or ideas of inexpensive ways of shipping materials to Uganda we would be very grateful. Finally, I hope that lots of people will join us in Church on Education Sunday in St. John's Church to show concern and support for the staff, parents and children of St.'Peters.

> Jean Cashman Headteacher

Stansted Afternoon



A cold lunch of turkey, ham and salad, prepared by the committee formed the basis of our Christmas Party this year. Unfortunately not only was the weather distinctly unfavourable, our speaker was prevented from coming by illness and our chief guest, Dwin Hendry, was called to Wales to nurse an elderly relative. Nevertheless those who were able to come enjoyed a splendid lunch in good company.

The usual business meeting followed, after which we entertained ourselves with carol singing and quizzes. The afternoon ended with a cup of tea and a mince pie and then it was out to face the elements again.

Our next meeting will be on January 12th, 2.30, in the Day Centre and the speaker will be Miss N. Woodley, 'Land Army Girls'.

Visitors are welcome, fl including tea.

W.E.A.

Our most successful and popular course on "The History of Cambridge" has just finished and we now look forward in the New Year to "Archaeology - How It Works". The tutor will be Mr. Howard Brooks, who worked from 1985 to 1992 for Essex County Council, Planning Department, Archaeology Section, and who directed the Stansted Archaeological Project at the Airport.

The course will be of ten lectures. In the first five Mr. Brooks will explain the modern approach to archaeology using latest methods to discover where "digs" should be located field and geochemical survey, air photography, etc., and why to dig in one place and not another - then through the process of identification of finds to the final publication of reports. The second five lectures will deal with work on the Stansted Airport project and what was discovered in our area. We feel fortunate that the man directly involved in making these "finds" in our locality will come back to explain their discovery and importance.

The meetings are, as usual, at the Day Centre on Monday evenings. The course starts on Monday 17th January, 7.30 p.m. for enrolment, lectures at 8 p.m. Reduced rate for retired people, unemployed free. New members are always welcome. If you would like further details please ring Jean McBride, 812214.

Stansted Evening

First, a quick report on our shopping trip to Norwich in November - it will seem a long while ago when you read this! In spite of it being a rainy day, everyone (53 of us) turned up: members, non members, husbands and sundry village people alike dressed for the weather and whatever they planned to do in Norwich. Everyone said that they enjoyed the trip and we hope to organise another for next Christmas.

Before that we are proposing to reintroduce the trip to Tunbridge Wells in the spring, the Norfolk Lavender Fields in the summer and perhaps the Lord Mayor's Show in November. The provisional date for Tunbridge Wells is April 23rd - St. George's Day. Again a Saturday because then there's usually someone at home to look after the children for those who have some!

The town should appeal to most people as it has an interesting history with beautiful buildings as well as good shops and "eateries". If you are likely to be interested please let me know so that I can see if it's an economic proposition. Once again, all welcome to join us.

The December meeting began in festive fashion with wine and mince pies to be followed by our speaker Mr. Dickenson whose talk was entitled "From Mammoth to Marmalade". His excellent, interesting slides illustrated his point that the foods which we consider to be really 'home grown' are in fact descended from foreign imports!

There was a colourful display of seasonally decorated pillowcases containing some of our donations of good clothing for St. Botolphs in the East End of London. There were many other parcels too and they will all be delivered by our President Ann Johnson and her husband Andrew to St. Botolphs where homeless people are helped back to work and into society. The winners of the competition for best decorated pillowcases were Sally Smith, Marion Pretty and Maisie Bunting.

Brenda Ryan and Sheila Rolfe recently went on a rambling course at Denham College which is the W.I.'s own College near Oxford. Brenda had taken some very good slides both of the house and out on location and we rounded off a most enjoyable evening by watching them and putting in our comments as appropriate.

Our New Year Party will be on January 13th, so more about that next month.

Pearl Wellings 813614



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All in all we've had a busy and successful autumn term. We did very well with our Indoor Car Boot sale. Thank you to everyone who supported us.

A Parent and Toddler training course is to be held in the future at Lower Street. The course lasts for 10 weeks. Sessions will be for 2 hours. There will be a creche available. For further information please contact 0279 816693.

There will be a fund raising event in the near future, look for posters around the village.

Happy New Year to you all.



For our final meeting of 1993 a large number of members were entertained to an informative presentation on British and European Wild Orchids by Mr. A. Cooper. The speaker, an official of the Wildlife Trust, has travelled extensively in search of the wild orchid.

The November members competition of a table arrangement was won by Mr. & Mrs. David Williams.

Now to 1994 -

The January meeting at the Crafton Green Day Centre on Wednesday 5th will include gardening videos and the members competition is - A photograph of your garden in Summer.

Visitors welcome - Refreshments - Raffle.

Happy Gardening in 1994.

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TUESDAY KEEP FIT CLASSES

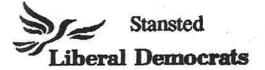
St. John's Church Hall

Tueaday 4th January 1994

8.15 p.m. to 9.15 p.m.

Come and Join Us

Further Enquiries Please Telephone Queenie Brown B/S 812816



Welcome you to our

JAZZ SUPPER

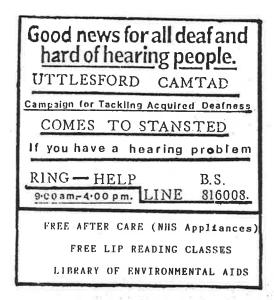
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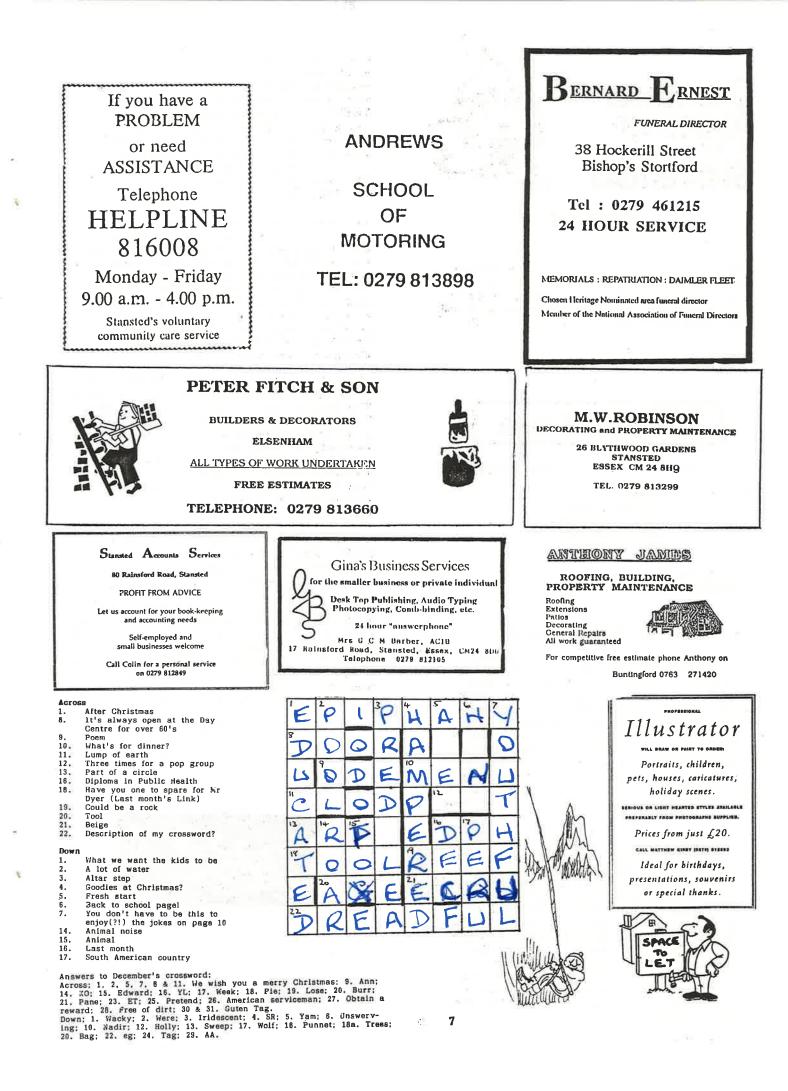
Mountfitchet High School

7.30 for 8.00 p.m.

SATURDAY 29TH JANUARY 1994

Tickets at fll per head available from: Catherine Dean 813579 Jane Freeman 814084







STANSTED R.A.P.

Regular Aid to the Poor

Good News! On going to print, STANSTED R.A.P. has already raised over £450 - but this does not include December giving. Many thanks to all subscribers. Keep spreading the word and encourage new names to join the list. The funds go monthly to:

RED CROSS - CHRISTIAN AID - OXFAM.



Quaker Meeting House, Chapel Hill

Clerk:

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

Meeting for worship: 11am

SOCIAL ASPECTS OF THE HYMN

When I was in hospital last year I amused myself by counting how many hymns I could remember - I think I got to forty but what struck me was how important hymns are, apart from their religious connotation, in illustrating changes in social attitudes and conditions. The earliest hymns, for example, 'Come Holy Ghost our Souls inspire', have a timeless beauty that belongs to all ages and to a certain extent so do those of the 17th and 18th Centuries (Herbert, Addison, Cowper). Is this because they were more objective than their successors?

My enjoyment of hymns dates from 1900. We sang them every Sunday after tea, all choosing in turn - I only remember one rejection, my father drew the line at 'A few more years shall roll' - I never questioned the ethics of what we were singing and swallowed "the rich man in his castle, the poor man at his gate" in that questioning. I did not mind being "a little child and weak" but thought it unfair that "kind good human" should be "bidden to 'Brighton'" where I was unlikely to be able to go and see him. We always ended with a hymn for "absent friends" - sentimental, yes, but remembered with pleasure. Hymns dealing with the seasons or special events seem to have survived changes of religious thought - "We plough and scatter" year by year - and "Hark to the Herald Angels". It is the "general" hymns that become dated, and happily many of the "Art thou weary, art thou languid" type seem to have disappeared. Was it the influence of the Salvation Army that made us sing "Onward Christian Soldiers" and "Fight the Good Fight" with such gusto?

The First World War brought changes in this sphere as in so many others. "Oh God our help in ages past" is as much its signature tune as "Goodbye Tipperary". And, because we had to keep our spirits up somehow we sang "For all the Saints who from their labours rest" (with its beautiful tune by Vaughan Williams) with all our hearts, hoping our loved ones were indeed streaming thro "pearly gates" rather than floundering through mud and barbed wire.

After the war hymns became less personal and rather more concerned with the world at large "Thy Kingdom come, Oh God, thy rule Oh Christ begin" starts splendidly but "in heathen lands afar" is no longer acceptable; and tho there is plenty of 'darkness' still 'brooding' the valiant souls who go out to try and lighten it are mostly doctors or agricultural advisers. They find much to learn as well as teach, for the darkness has kept values especially family values, that we have lost.

Modern hymns too are symptomatic of their period, sounding to me - ignorant and prejudiced perhaps - brash and lacking in mystery and reverence.

What will we be singing in the year 2000? I like to think that George Herbert will still be relevant "Let all the World in Every Corner Sing My God and King" - but this can only happen if we recognise, and gladly accept, that in the foreseeable future, every corner will have its own interpretation of the words and will probably be singing a different tune.

Nancy Tennant



BACK TO SKOOL!

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: 815025

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

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

Holy Communion is also celebrated on:

Monday	7.30	pm
Wednesday	10.00	am
Friday	9.00	am

DIARY FOR JANUARY

4	10.30 am 8.15 pm	Service at Norman Court Prayer Group at 16 Bentfield
		Causeway
5	8.00 pm	Social Committee in the Vicarage
6		THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD
	8.00 pm	Parish Communion
10	8.00 pm	P.C.C. in the Upper Room
11	10.30 am	Service at Mead Court
	2.00 pm	Tuesday Club at 10 Hargrave Close
	2.15 pm	Tiny Tots
23	6.30 pm	United Service for the Week of
		Prayer for Christian Unity at
		U.R.C NO Evensong at St. John's
26	Evening	Deanery Synod in St. John's Church
30	9.30 am	Family Communion for Education
		Sunday led by St. Mary's School
		(see separate note)

REGISTERS FOR NOVEMBER

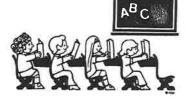
Baptisms

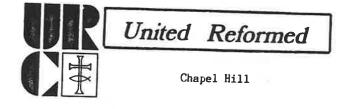
14th November	Hayden James Briggs
28th November	Jack David Coy
E	

<u>Funerals</u>

12th 19th	November	Robert McGregor, aged 86 Jack Keith Isherwood, aged 61 Barbara May Smith, aged 73
22nd	November	Ivy Amelia Dyer, aged 76
26th	November	Gertrude Norah Edgar, aged 88

The Vicar is on sabbatical from 1st January to 31st March. He will be spending several weeks at Lincoln Theological College (where he trained 1973-76) and a few days in Chevetogne. He will be studying ways in which the various denominations cope with the increasingly common situation of one minister or ministerial team serving several churches. During this period all parish matters should be referred to Fr. Richard or to Margaret Booker. If you see the Vicar around the village during this period do please still speak to him but don't expect him to know very much about what is happening - not that he normally does anyway!





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: 11 a.m. each Sunday

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

PREACHERS FOR JANUARY

2nd	11	a.w.	Mr. John Young	Family Service
9th –	11	а.н.	Rev. M. McKay	
16th	11	a.m.	Rev. L. Rapkin	Communion
23rd [11	a.m,	Mr. J. Gill of	Bishop's Stortford
30th 1	11	a.m.	Rev. L. Rapkin	•
BAPTI	SM	Nover	iber 21st James	Doutd Starra

Son of David & Michelle King (Nee Trundle)

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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.



Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

Service United Reform Church

> 6.30pm 23 January 1993

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.

SERVICES FOR JANUARY

2nd	Rev. R. Rawlings - Covenant & Holy
	Communion
9th	Mr. B. Engel
16th	Rev. M. Giles
23rd	Rev. M. Hayman - Family Service
30th	Mrs. B. Kime

On going to print we are looking forward to "raising the roof" (i.e. helping to pay for the newly-raised roof and other "works" at the Quaker Meeting House) with a Christmas Soiree - supper and entertainment. Thanks to all who are coming/came!



THE TWELFTH DAY

HAVE you recovered from Christmas yet? Actually Christmas doesn't really end until Twelfth Night, January 6th. In days gone by all the twelve days of Christmas were celebrated with feasts and parties.

January 6th is also the Feast of the Epiphany, the day when we remember the wise men who followed the star to the stable at Bethlehem. We don't know much about them, but we do know they brought very expensive gifts for Jesus. They weren't the usual gifts that you would give to a baby, but each one had a special meaning.

GOLD is for a King, FRANKINCENSE (sweet smelling incense) is for God, and MYRRH (a spice used to prepare bodics for burial) is for mortal man.

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GOLDEN ANSWERS

All the answers to this quiz begin with the letters GOLD (well, I couldn't find many words that began with the letters of frankincense!). Can you say which GOLD is...

- 1. a small bird?
- 2. kept in aquarium?
- 3. made from sugar and used in cooking?
- 4. a source of wealth?
- 5. a tall yellow flower?
- 6. ate the three bears' porridge?
- 7. awarded to the winner of
- race? 8. a 50th wedding anniversary?

What colour is a lawn covered with snow? *Invisible green.*

What is Indian snow? Apache here, Apache there.

What do you get if you cross a snowman with a man-eating shark? *Frostbite.*



Rolden wedding. Boldinocks J. Bolden syrup 4. Bold mine 5. Bolden rod 6. Boldilocks J. Bold medal 8. Bolden wedding.

