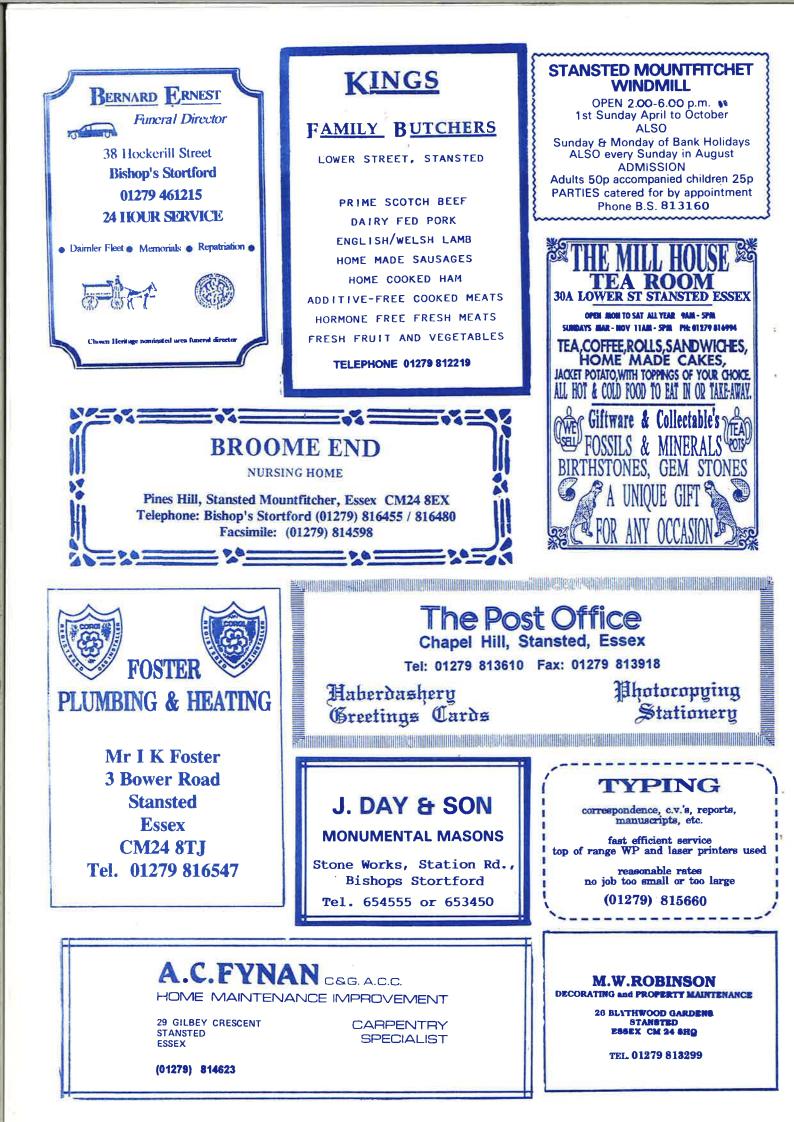
# The LINK

## Stansted Mountfitchet



Volume XVI No 2

## The LINK

December 1995



## "UNTO US A CHILD IS BORN..."

### The Link is published monthly by Churches Together in Stansted

To order your copy of Link please contact:Mrs L Collingwood, 15 Loates PastureTel: 813428Cost £2.75 per year, or 30p per issueAdvertising Manager:All other enquiries to the Editor:

Mrs S Parry, 16 Bentfield Causeway Tel: 814788 Mrs G Barber, 17 Rainsford Road Tel 812105

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DECEMBER 1995			
1	{	Huw Johnson are 21!	
2	2.00pm 2.00pm	Broome End Christmas Fayre Scout Jumble Sale	
6	8.00pm	Gardening Club	
8	6.30pm 6.30pm	Bentfield School Christmas Fair St Mary's School Christmas Fayre	
9	12.00pm 7.00pm	Lib Dems Ploughman's Lunch "Summer Wine" concert	
11		Shalom; Rita & David Morson's	
12	8.00pm	TFSR AGM	
14	7.45pm 8.00pm	Evening W.I. History Club Christmas Party	
16	7.30pm	Tennis Club Christmas Dinner	
21	7.30pm	Carol singing: Meet corner of Bentfield Gdns & Bentfield Rd	
22	7.30pm	Carol Singing: Meet in St John's Rd outside church	
23	4.00pm	Fire Station Charity Collection CTS: A Celebration of Christmas Carol Singing: Meet corner of Manor Rd & Church Road	
24	7.30pm	Carol Singing: Meet corner of Cambridge Rd & Croasdaile Road	

Village News



**Future Events** 



JAI	NUARY	Y 1996
4 8.00pm		Local History Society
20		St Mary's School "A Musical Extravaganza"
24	8.00pm	NCT AGM Crafton Green Centre
27		Rainbow Quiz Night St John's Hall

#### 1096 (Stansted Airport) Detached Flight AIR TRAINING CORPS

Flying - Gliding - Shooting - Adventure Training -Camps - Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme -Ground Training



Are you ready to Answer The Challenge?

The A.T.C. is a Youth Organisation for young people between the ages of 13 and 22 years. Although supported by the Royal Air Force, there is no obligation to join that service, but if you are interested in a career with them then A.T.C. is a must. What's more, apart from a small weekly subscription, just about everything is free of charge.

Already a number of cadets come from Stansted, so if you are interested in joining make an appointment to visit the Detached Flight to talk to the Commanding Officer or one of the staff. At that time you will be given a joining date when you will start on a short probationer training course, before being enrolled and issued with your uniform.

Contact:- 1096 (Stansted Airport) Detached Flight Building 150, Business Aviation Terminal, Stansted Airport Telephone: (01279) 681559 or Flying Officer Rob Brown Telephone: (01279) 438758 (home)

Parade Times:- Monday and Friday 19.15 to 21.30 hrs.



#### STANSTED PERSPECTIVE

December, and the Christmas season is upon us. I always think it is a pity Christmas cannot last a bit longer - not all the commercial trappings, the rubbishy "gifts", the feeling that you are obliged to spend a lot more money than you can really afford, but the atmosphere of goodwill and friendliness. Often during the rest of the year you hurry on your way, head down, thinking of all the things that have to be done by tomorrow - but at Christmas you find total strangers wishing each other "Happy Christmas" and really meaning what they say.

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In Stansted we seem to have more of the true Christmas spirit than most places.

For a smallish community we have a lot of clubs and associations; we can go to Christmas dinners for weeks! This not only indicates Stansted's love of good food but also that we like to mix and make friends, and of course, good friends tend to help each other.

One enterprise which seems almost unique to Stansted is the four evenings of "live" carol singing organised by some members of the Churches Together in Stansted. In these days of so much "canned" music it is like a breath of fresh air to have real singers and real musicians walking around the

village - sometimes in very adverse weather conditions! (No flautist has lived until the condensation has frozen on the end of their flute - to say nothing of their fingers! Its fine for the singers - they can wear



gloves.) Having joined in this expedition for several years now, I find that the camaraderie is really enjoyable and far outweighs the negative side of the cold and rain/snow. I have heard of people travelling up from north London to come and join in this activity, and this year I believe they are threatening to bring some of their friends and neighbours as well - simply to trudge around the village from lamp-post to lamp-post and sing Christmas carols - its magic! The fact that we also raise several hundred pounds for our selected charity each year goes to show that those who listen enjoy our efforts as well.

A group of "grand" fundraisers is the local fire station - although they have "proper jobs" as well as being volunteer firemen they also find time to raise funds for charity. Last year this merry band cajoaled over £3,000 from passers-by which paid for a guide dog and its training - thereby giving immense freedom and independence to a blind person.

In some places people go around to entertain the handicapped at Christmas - but in Stansted the Huw Johnson Club for handicapped youngsters goes out to entertain the residents of Broome End - it just goes to show that even those who have problems still have big hearts. While they may not be as technically good as some others, their enthusiasm makes up for this and the "feel-good factor" at the end of their evening is very high - I know, I have been there.

There is usually an advertisement in "The Link" for Christmas dinners. This scheme has been going for several years now whereby people serve up an extra dinner and deliver it to someone who lives on their own. This is a lovely thought (a small turkey for one, or worse still a pork chop or something, never cooks up like a large joint) and is an aspect of Christmas in Stansted which I have not come across anywhere else.

I would like to finish by wishing everyone a very happy Stansted Christmas and a peaceful, fulfilling 1996.



A Stansted Immigrant

(Editor's note - I understand that the Christmas dinners this year are being served by "Meals on Wheels")







After a few quiet months, there has been a flurry of activity starting with a trip to Cambridge to receive a collection of tools and sewing machines from Cambridge City

Services. Roy and I took a wrong turning somewhere and were half an hour late for our appointment with the Mayor, but fortunately she has a sense of humour and the sun was shining! As if sixteen assorted sewing machines were not enough to

be going on with, we were in receipt of another fine collection after the Fair Trade Fair in Saffron Walden. Thanks to Peter and Cecil for helping out with setting up and dismantling the stall and carrying a good few loads.



Our next event is the works party or AGM, whatever you wish to call it. We will be getting together for an informal evening on Tuesday December 12th and will be joined by Judith from the TFSR Leicester office and Sue plus husband from Cambridge City Services. If anyone is interested in hearing what TFSR has been up to over the past year then please join us at 8 p.m. on that evening.

We are still wading through sewing machines so do not be shy about offering to take a few home to refurbish on behalf of TFSR. There are people out in Tanzania and elsewhere whose lives could be changed by your generosity.

Michael Dyer 814059

Stansted

Saturday 9th December Ploughman's Lunch, 12 - 2 p.m. at the Day Centre.



For information please contact: Jane Freeman: 814084 Steve Riley: 815455 Frances Spalding: 813432





AGMs are not popular, but this year's was well attended. Secretary's, Treasurer's and Chairman's reports were all encouraging and, despite our advanced ages, we still have 50 members.

All officers and committee remain, and we are fortunate to have Mrs Janet Hollis as our Vice-Chairman (a post we have not been able to fill for several years).

The present officers and committee are as follows:-

President	
Chairman	
Vice-Chairman	
Secretary	
Treasurer	

Mrs Margaret Gabb
Mrs Sheila Parry
Mrs Janet Hollis
Mrs Catherine Whall
Mrs Vera Levey

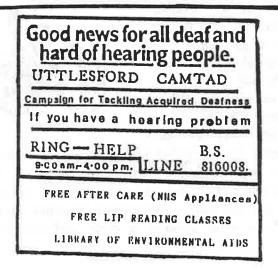
Committee: Mesdames Measures, Patmore, Snow, Wedlock and Wiffen.

We discussed briefly the venue for our 50th Anniversary Dinner next May and tentative enquiries were put in hand.

We do not meet in December or January so that our next branch meeting will be in the Day Centre on Thursday 15th February 1996 at 7.30 p.m.

We wish all our members a very Happy Christmas and a healthy and prosperous New Year.

Pat Clower





### Stansted Mountfitchet Local History Society

As most of those present put down their names for the Christmas Meeting at Stansted Hall on Thursday 14th December, any members wishing to attend who have not so indicated, please (in case we run out of room!), contact Frances Spalding, 813432, or Jane Freeman, 814084.



#### Future programme:

<u>Thursday 4 January</u> will be Members Evening with a variety of speakers giving short talks on various subjects.

<u>Thursday 1st February</u> Tom Doig on the Victorian Way of Death (perhaps not as gloomy as it sounds). Both in the Day Centre at 8 p.m.

For any further information please contact Peggy Honour, 813160.

Hugh Joscelyn's talk in October on his family's furnishings business of Clement Joscelyn, proved very popular with nearly 70 attending.



Here we are once again all very excited and looking forward to Christmas. In November we had our jumble sale which was very successful. All of the children enjoyed making the guys for the bonfire and have been very busy making Christmas cakes. At the moment the children are rehearsing for their carol concerts and the older group are also rehearsing for the Nativity Play.

Future events: Quiz Night on 27 January at St John's Hall.



#### MOUNTFITCHET GARDEN CLUB

The November meeting was held as usual on the first Wednesday in the month at the Day Centre, Crafton Green, Stansted. We welcomed our speaker, Mr Victor Scott, who spoke on Plants from Canada. Obviously a much travelled man, Mr Scott supported his talk with a superb selection of slides, all taken by himself. Many types of exotic flowers that grow wild in the Rockies were described in loving detail. Mr Scott is shortly off to Costa Rica, perhaps a subject for a future talk.

The members' competition for 6 stems of everlasting flowers was won by Bob Adamson.

#### **December Meeting**

Our final meeting for 1995 is on Wednesday 6 December at the Day Centre at 8 p.m. The main event of the evening is an exciting VEGETABLE QUIZ, supported by our usual Christmas get together.

The members' competition is: 6 Brussel Sprouts.

Members are reminded that there is no meeting in January.

The Mountfitchet Garden Club wishes everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy Gardening for 1996.







Our Annual Meeting in November was well attended and began with our President welcoming Jane Chaney as a new member.

Our speaker's table was covered with an interesting array of glassware with which she illustrated her talk entitled "Collecting on a Shoestring". Gina Clarke entertained us with stories of her treasures and made



an interesting comparison between man's hunting instinct and his interest in collecting. She pointed out that after an exhilarating chase, the trophies are always displayed with pride.

Background knowledge can be developed through reading and observation but size should be a consideration when deciding what to collect!

Earlier in the meeting, arrangements were finalised for Norwich and the Christmas Dinner. It was suggested that an outing be organised to Thriplow for the Daffodil Weekend in March and more details will follow. Reports of the Half Yearly Council Meeting at Harlow Sports Centre were given, and the "Miscellany" day organised by County Office at Rhodes Centre. There are plans afoot for a 'Trash and Treasure' sale in the early part of 1996, as a change from our usual Jumble Sale.

The Treasurer's report showed a healthy bank balance and the committee report reminded us of our W.I. activities and speakers over the last year.

The important part of the meeting, elections, took place after the refreshment break. There was no election for the committee, but as Ann Johnson was standing down this year it was necessary to find a new President. After nominations, Brenda Ryan was duly elected and will be our President for 1996.

Before we sent home there was a reminder that there will be an "Anything Home Made" stall at our December meeting.

Another reminder - visitors are always very welcome at our meetings. They start at 7.45 p.m., St. John's Hall, 2nd Thursday in the month - why not get out of the house and come?

Pearl Wellings 813614

#### HUW JOHNSON CLUB

On December 1st the club will celebrate its 21st Birthday. The club was started in 1974. Its aim was to support the parents of handicapped children and to give the children social activities. Over the years members have come and gone. A few have remained with us from the beginning and are now no longer children. We have





a membership of 20 handicapped people. Parents and able bodied brothers and sisters are encouraged to attend our club evenings. Many parents, however, take the much needed opportunity to have an evening of respite from their handicapped offspring.

Over the years, many teenagers have helped us at the club. At the moment we have five teenagers who are excellent and our members have benefitted greatly from their enthusiasm and original ideas. Not all teenagers are selfish and rude. Come along to club one evening and you will discover this for yourself.



Praise too for our drivers who regularly transport our members to club from as far afield as Radwinter, Elmdon, Saffron Walden

and Great Easton. What would we do without them? They give their service free of charge and some of them have 21 years to their credit.

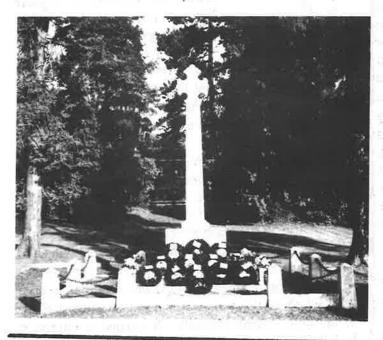
The highlight of our year is the holiday and we thank all our benefactors and helpers who make this possible. Thankyou too to all who come week by week to make the club evenings a happy and friendly time.

So on December 1st we will celebrate our birthday. We will remember those who have left us, but above all we will remember Judy who was one of our founder members, with gratitude.

On November 9th we enjoyed our annual Firework Party in the Vicarage garden. Thank you to Brenda and Bob for letting us use their house and garden. Thank you too to Tom who was in charge of the fireworks. It was an excellent display and all our members had a great time.

Marion Johnson





The Remembrance Service this year was taken by Margaret McKay. The Parade from Crafton Green was lead by Parish Councillers and joined parishioners already at the Memorial Gardens. The ATC provided a Guard of Honour at the Memorial. All the names, losses of both wars were read and a bugler from the Grenadier Guard played the Last Post. Wreath laying was lead by Councillor Peter Jones. Chairman of the Council. Mr F Hoffman laid the Royal British Legion Wreath. These were followed by Womens Section R.B.L., Burma Star, Far Eastern P.O.W., Fire Brigade, Airport Social Club, Evening W.I., A.T.C., Scouts and a pupil from St Mary's School.

It was a very well attended service, followed by a service in St John's.

On a fine sunny morning, WE REMEMBERED THEM.



#### STANSTED TENNIS CLUB

The Annual Christmas Dinner will be held on Saturday 16th December at The Prince of Wales, Broxted, at 7.30 p.m. for 8 p.m. All club members and their guests are warmly invited and should please sign the list on the club noticeboard, where the menu is displayed. The cost is £15.95.

Winter membership of the club is offered at half-price, from October to March. All details from the Treasurer, Gill Robinson, B/S 815486.

People interested in coaching for seniors or juniors should contact Normal Elson - B/S 850057.

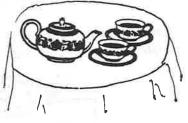
All further details from:-Janet Hollis - Chairman - B/S 812073 Richard Mott - Secretary - B/S 466348 or Gill Robinson - Treasurer - B/S 815486.



#### **BROOME END NURSING HOME**

Have you got five minutes to spare to chat to an elderly person who doesn't have any family living nearby? If you can spare some time, several

residents would be delighted to have a little conversation with you. You will receive a warm welcome from the staff and I'm sure you'll enjoy a nice cup of tea during



your visit. If you would like to have a look around before committing yourself why not come to the Christmas Fayre on Saturday, December 2nd, 2 p.m. - 4 p.m., or contact Marion Johnson on 812284 for further information.



The National Childbirth Trust Education for Parenthood

#### **Stansted and District**

In October we held a Colour Analysis evening. It was explained that the majority of people can be categorised by skin and hair colour into one of four main groups: spring, summer, autumn or winter. From this starting point a range of colours is identified which enhance rather than detract from the skin tone. The theory is that by mixing and matching these colours you will achieve a co-ordinated wardrobe full of colours that do wonders for you. A very entertaining evening was spent by those that attended although a few were dismayed to discover that they shouldn't be wearing dark navy - a colour that figured prominently in their wardrobe! The January sales may well be very popular this year!

Plans are well underway for a variety of Christmas events. We are once again taking the children to the miniature railway at Audley End to visit Father Christmas in his grotto. If previous years are anything to go by the parents will freeze to the bone and the children thoroughly enjoy themselves!

Father Christmas will also be joining us at the children's Christmas party where there will be lots of Christmassy activities and songs as well.

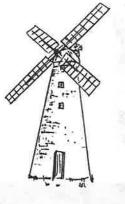


If you would like to find out more about the NCT please contact our membership secretary on 815953 or come along to a coffee morning.

#### **Forthcoming Events:**

AGM January 24th, Crafton Green Centre, 8 p.m.





#### STANSTED WINDMILL

It was a beautifully crisp, cold and clear night for the Fireworks and Bonfire this year and with the exception of two splendid Guys, everyone had an enjoyable time. This village event has become a regular feature on the calendar and has steadily grown, despite the effects of the soaking in the

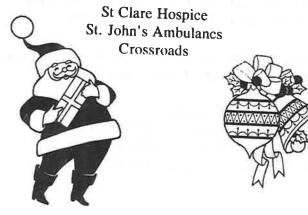
downpour last year. The firework budget this year was bigger than ever and they generated a noisy and colourful display. Our thanks are due to the Millers and others who helped to make the event successful.

Inside the windmill there is still work to be done. After the major works, which were completed earlier this year, there is some painting to be completed, most particularly for the walls. Attention has to be paid to use of the correct materials and the work, which is being carried out by the millers, will take care to retain all the old graffiti. In several places letters and figures have been drawn, including a large "JL" which is believed to be the initials of the builder of the mill, Joseph Lindsell. If anyone is interested in helping on open days, being involved with work on the mill or wants further information they can contact Malcolm Binder, Tel: 814069.

(No more public openings until April next year).

#### FIRESTATION COLLECTION 1995

Our intrepid firemen this year will be collecting for several local charities. At the time of going to press it had not been decided which ones, but will probably include:



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"OUR VILLAGE"

Remember, remember the fifth of November, Gunpowder, Treason and Plot.

Saturday the fourth of November was to see (under controlled direction of Malcolm Binder) busy preparations being made towards collection of clean materials for transportation to the playing fields of Stansted Mountfitchet High School for the purpose of "Building a Bonfire" and preparing a safe display area that would host this years Guy Fawkes (1570-1606) night celebrations. (History informes us that it was 390 years ago, during the reign of James I that the Gunpowder Plot was discovered). Materials gathered were soon transformed from a "heap" into a "State of the Art Bonfire" with two well dressed Guys afforded the top seat.

A cold, crisp, clear moonlit night was provided (by others) to greet our visitors, where on the stroke of 7 o'clock ignition sources were applied to the bonfire which quickly took hold and produced a roaring, warming blaze.



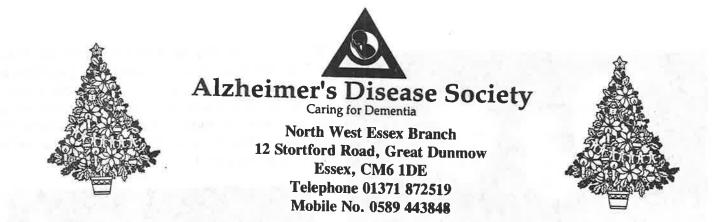
The Pyrotechnic display (nature of fireworks) began at 7.30 where we all were treated to a grand display with rockets that appeared to be well on their way to the moon, then cascading in various formations and colours back to earth. There were bangers and crackers, whizzers and fizzers, oh'ers and ow'ers which together gave fine entertainment.

To make a good evening complete, an array of "delicately prepared hot dogs and burgers, with or without onions" were on hand to fill and warm.

Our main concern is that you enjoyed this evening. If you did, please tell your friends and bring them all along with you next year as only with your support can the "show go on".

By 9.30 everywhere had been cleared and all departed except for the three Firewatchers who, it is reported, sat beside the fast dying flames and glowing embers discussing the night's events and what might be in store for next year. Remember, remember.

"When the Flame of powder toucheth the sole of Man it burneth exceeding deep". (Robert Bacon, 1242).



Are you caring for a person with Alzheimer's Disease? If you are then you know what a difficult, demanding, but sometimes rewarding task it can be. There are no simple answers to the problems you will face, no simple rules to follow that will 'work' every time. The illness not only affects the person who is ill but can change the lives of family members and friends who are close to them. Please do not despair, the North West Essex Branch is here to help you.

Our aims are:

To give information about the illness and the services that are available.

To give support and advice.

To listen to carer's needs.

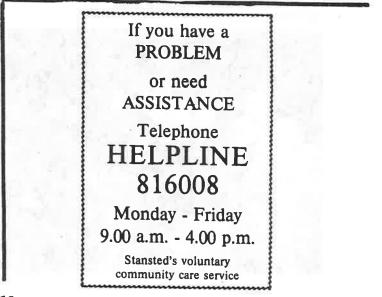
To make representations on carer's behalf to those who plan and allocate resources.

We have four local support groups. These are two Memory Clubs/Carers Support Groups and two lunch-time Pub Social Groups. The Memory Clubs are for the patients and these are run alongside the Carers Support Groups. Activities are provided for the patients on a one to one basis, while the carers either have a social afternoon or on a more structured basis a speaker. It is also an opportunity for carers to talk to others who understand exactly what they are going through, and hopefully help carers feel less isolated. We also have many former carers whose knowledge is invaluable, as no one really knows what a situation is like unless they have experienced it.

At the Pub lunchtime Social Group, carers and their patients come along and have a 'normal' outing. Often when a partner has dementia they stop going out as a couple because they are embarrassed by their patient's behaviour. In our groups everyone understands. Last June we took a party of carers, former carers and patients on a holiday to Cromer. Everyone had an enjoyable time. There were six volunteers, including two nurses, and carers were able to leave their patients with the volunteers and go off and enjoy themselves knowing their patients were being entertained. For those who wanted it, the daily task of caring was carried out by the volunteers. We were also on call during the night to help if needed.

This is just one side of the work that the Branch is doing at the present time, but we still have a lot to do. We would like to see in Uttlesford, a specialist service for patients with dementia. A service designed for them, not a service that they have to be slotted into as it is at present. I refer particularly to the younger person with this illness. Those who are in their 40's, 50's and early 60's. At present their is absolutely nothing.

If you would like further information on the illness, our support groups, or if you would like to help our Society by becoming a member or a volunteer, then please contact me, Valerie Reavell, at the above address or telephone number. I look forward to hearing from you.







#### Churches Together in Stansted present:

#### A CELEBRATION OF CHRISTMAS

A Concert of congregational carols, Christmas music, readings and poetry will be held in St Mary's Church, Stansted on Saturday 23 December at 4 p.m. Admission will be free

Car parking at St Mary's is limited, additional car parking will be available at the Mountfitchet High School

#### Carol Singing 1995

In aid of **Home Start.** Meet at 7.30 p.m. each evening.

#### Thursday 21 December

Meet at corner of Bentfield Gardens and Cannons Mead to sing in Bentfield Gardens, Bentfield Road and Cawkell Close.

Friday 22 December

Meet in St John's Road outside the church to sing in St John's Road, St John's Crescent and Clarence Road.

#### Saturday 23 December

Meet on the corner of Manor Road and Church Road to sing in Manor Road, Stoneyfield Drive and Park Road.

#### Sunday 24 December

Meet on the corner of Cambridge Road and Croasdaile Road to sing in Gilbey Crescent, Croasdaile Road and Rainsford Road.

Everyone is welcome to come and sing (or play). For further details contact Jane Freeman, 814084, Helen Baker, 814865, or Mike Dyer, 814059.

This year we shall be raising money for Home-Start. Many parents feel overwhelmed or exhausted by the stresses and difficulties of everyday life. Too often they have no close family members or friends who can give them encouragement or breathing space when they most need them. Lack of support at a crucial stage may increase the risk of family breakdown. What help is both readily available as well as accessible?... Home-Start.



#### What is Home-Start?

Home-Start is a Voluntary Home Visiting Scheme which offers practical support and friendship to families with pre-school children. It is available to families living in Uttlesford who are experiencing frustration or difficulties, perhaps because they are feeling lonely, depressed or exhausted.

Families are visited in their own homes where their dignity and identity are protected. Great emphasis is placed on confidentiality.

The approach is different according to the needs of each family. It may be to play with the children or take them out, talk with the mother, help in the home; whatever their need. The volunteer will use her own initiative and may visit once a week or more frequently if necessary.

#### The Home-Start Approach

Through the privilege of getting to know a family really well, by sharing their time, concern and interests, Home-Start volunteers can encourage parents' own abilities, help them to make new friends and to use community resources. Often this leads to renewed interest in the children and the pleasures that children can bring.

Where there is a Health Visitor or maybe a Social Worker visiting the family, the role of the Home-Start volunteer is complementary to that of the professional worker.



Our lead article this month comes from the Church of England's new, "yet to be sworn in", Fr. Andrew Spurr, on his thoughts of moving to Stansted

Father Andrew writes. . .

8:40am 6.11.95 Rainham, Kent

An otherwise slow start to the week was jolted into life by a cheery phone call from Fr. Bob Wallace asking for an introductory piece for the December Link, and so, as I look out across the back garden at the scattered shells of dead fireworks, I suddenly find I'm uncharacteristically tongue-tied.



Life here in Rainham is now reduced to the three piles of paper in front of me, representing what I want to take, what to leave and what to trash. The last pile is the largest, and I can't resist its pious reminder that very little we do is profound, except by accident, and so we shouldn't take ourselves too seriously, even if the job has its serious aspects.



My son Ben, who lives near Boston, Massachusetts for nine months of the year, hasn't quite caught my enthusiasm for

the prospect of a few years of English rural life. His experience of from sheep is camping where he has vivid memories of rude awakenings at



first light, and of seeing his cornflakes being raided after leaving the tent open. His teacher is more inspired by the news of my move, and is already E-mailing me with a proposal for an Internet exchange with a local junior school, and wanting to know more about Stansted Mountfitchet and its 1215 entry in the Magna Carta, (any local historians out there?).

We enjoy the opportunities for ecumenical teamwork in Rainham, even though we are only three denominations, and I'm looking forward to the ecumenical scene in the Stansted area which looks to be much larger. I'm also hoping to continue some of the youth work which in Rainham has grown out of our involvement with the Greenbelt Festival, Christian Aid and alternative worship.

I think why I find so little to say, is because I don't know what this next part of the journey will bring. I expect to do a lot of listening, particularly in Birchanger, and to learn a good deal. I also hope to enjoy life there as much as my predecessor, Richard Dunstan-Meadows, has done. I'm looking forward to the move, but I have no idea what it will bring, but I'm quite content to leave it like that for now.



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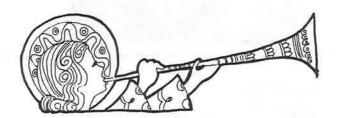
## Church of England

#### St John's Church, St John's Road

<b>C</b> 1		
Clergy:	The Rev'd Bob Wallace	
	The Rev'd Brenda Wallace	
	The Vicarage, St John's Road	
	Tel: 812203	
Weekly	Holy Communion	8.00 am
Services:	Parish Communion	9.30 am
		7. JU 4111
	(Creche, Children's Church	
	and Lazer Group)	
	Evensong	6.30 pm
	0	0.50 pm
Holy Comm	union is also celebrated on:	
	Monday	7.30 pm
	Wednesday	
	*	10.00 am
	Friday	9.00 am
The following	ng services are held monthly.	

The following services are held monthly:

1st Sunday	Holy Communion (1662)	12.15 pm
2nd Sunday	Holy Baptism	4.00 pm
3rd Sunday	Family Service	11.00 am



In the October "Link" I was rather pessimistic about the possibility of a colleague in the foreseeable future. In the event, things happened very quickly. I am delighted that Fr. Andrew Spurr, at present Curate of Rainham in Kent, will be joining us at the beginning of February.

The Bishop of Colchester will license Fr. Andrew at Evensong at 8.00p.m. on Candlemass Day, Friday 2 February 1996. This will take place in Birchanger Parish Church but it is hoped that folk from all our three parishes will attend. I have asked Fr. Andrew to write a letter introducing himself.

#### Confirmation 1996

The Bishop of Colchester will be with us again two months later. On Easter Eve, Saturday 6 April, he will preside at the Easter Ceremonies, Parish Communion and Confirmation at St John's. Please contact me as soon as possible if you are interested in preparing for Confirmation. C of E

	D	IARY FOR DECEMBER
5	10.30am	Service at Norman Court Prayer Group at 9 Hargrave Close
11	8.00pm	Discussion Group in Upper Room
12	10.30am	Service at Mead Court Tuesday Club at 10 Hargrave Close
17	11.00am	Christingle Service
19	9.15am	St Mary's School Carol Service Service at Broome End
20	2.00pm	Peter Kirk School Carol Service
23		CAROL CONCERT at ST MARY'S
24	8.00am 9.30am 3.00pm	CHRISTMAS EVE Holy Communion (Said) Holy Communion and Hymns Crib Service Midnight Mass
25	8.00am	CHRISTMAS DAY Holy Communion at ST MARY'S Parish Communion
27		ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST Holy Communion

#### **REGISTERS FOR OCTOBER**

**Funerals** 

The second s	
20th October	David Aley, aged 45
24th October	Milly Sarah Carter, aged 84

The Pavilion Players will be presenting

"A Musical Extravaganza"

in St Mary's School, Stansted on Saturday 20 January 1996

There will be a Fish & Chip Supper and a licenced bur - full details will be in January's Link but please note the date for your diaries now



## **Roman Catholic**

#### St Theresa's Church, Millside

Priest:	The Rev'd Joe White	
	The Presbytery, 12 Millside Tel: 814349	
Services:	Sunday Masses -	
	Henham	9.00 am
	Stansted	10.30 am
- C	Holy Days -	
	Henham	7.00 pm
	Stansted	8.00 pm

Advent is not a season separate from Christmas. It's not just facing the darkness squarely (though it's partly about this), nor just about the strength to "tough it out" until the Second Coming (though it is about this too). Advent is the vigil of preparation for Christmas, so we won't miss our God, who gives Himself, whenever He comes. We could miss the stable in Bethlehem as easily as we skip by Advent with all our fuss and bother. We need to go out to greet the Lord, where He has always promised to come - to walk with the humble, the broken-hearted, the afflicted, those in sorrow - as Immanuel, God with us.

Katharine Temple



## Methodist

#### Meet in Quaker Meeting House, Chapel Hill

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

Secretary: Mrs Catherine Dean 49 Recreation Ground, Stansted, CM24 8BD Tel: 813579

Morning Service

Services:

9.30 am

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#### St Theresa's Church Services for Christmas

<u>Penetential Service</u> Wednesday 20 December, 8 p.m.

<u>Christmas Eve</u> 3 p.m. Children's Service 9 p.m. Mass, St Anthony's, Henham 11.30 p.m. Carols followed by Midnight Mass

<u>Christmas Day</u> 10.30 a.m. Mass

<u>26 December</u> St Stephen's Day 10 a.m. Mass



December 11th - Last Meeting before Christmas -Christmas Party to be held at Rita and David Morson's, Crow Hall, The Street, Henham.

SHALOM DATES

#### PREACHERS FOR DECEMBER

- 3 Mr Jerry Heyhoe
- 10 Mr Doug Coulton
- 17 United Service with Friends to celebrate Christmas
- 24 The Rev'd Michael Hayman, Holy Communion





United Reformed

#### **Chapel Hill**

Ministers:

The Rev'd Margaret McKay, MA BD 1 Howe Hall Cottages Littlebury Green Saffron Walden, Essex Tel: 01799 528155

The Rev'd Lydia Rapkin 23a St John's Close Saffron Walden, Essex Tel: 01799 523296

Group Secretary:

145 Cherry Garden Lane Newport, Essex Tel: 01799 541210

Miss Muriel Dalley

Stansted Contact: Mrs Janet Townsend 58 Chapel Hill Tel: 812593

Services:

11.00 am each Sunday

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

#### PREACHERS FOR DECEMBER

- 3 11.00am Mrs C Bonner Family Service
- 10 11.00am Rev M McKay Communion
- 17 10.30am Rev Rapkin Group Gift Service, followed by Coffee and Mince Pies
- 24 11.00am Mrs J Townsend Carols & Lessons
- 25 10.30am Rev L Rapkin Group Christmas Day Service
- 31 11.00am Rev M McKay





Worrying about what to give for Christmas presents? Worry no more - buy STANSTED SOUVENIR. a Tea Towels, Notelets and Mugs available from 58 Chapel Hill. They are light and easy to pack to send through the post. What more could you want?

## Society of Friends

#### Quaker Meeting House, Chapel Hill

Clerk:

Mary Rice 15 Carrigans, Bishop's Stortford, Herts. CM23 2SL Tel: 651769

Meeting for Worship:

11.00 am

Quakers have no creeds. We believe that faith must be rooted in experience which need not necessarily be reduced to dogma and rules. This lack of rigidity is both a strength and a weakness: we are able to approach new ideas as things to be explored rather than demolished, but this means that we lay ourselves open to the danger of tolerating ideas which might not ultimately be helpful to spiritual growth.

I was greatly heartened recently when I attended a conference of Young Friends to see how open they were to new and challenging ideas. They listened respectfully and attentively, evaluating the arguments put forward courteously but not uncritically. They faithfully followed the guidance to be found in Advices and Queries "Spiritual learning continues through life, and often in unexpected ways ... Are you open to new light, from whatever source it may come?" But they remembered also the conclusion of "Do you approach new ideas with that Advice: discernment?" The word 'discernment' comes from the Latin word meaning 'to sift'. On our spiritual journey we will be confronted with many differing ideas, not all of them consistent with truth. It behoves us all to learn from these Young Friends, maintaining our Quaker tolerance but also exercising judgement and discernment.

Anna Knowles

#### **Music for All**

**On December 9** SUMMER WINE and Friends are giving a Christmas Concert in the Church at 7.00pm. Programmes available now £3.00, £2.00 concessions. from 15 Bentfield Gardens and 58 Chapel Hill

#### HARGRAVE HOUSE REOPENS WITH A NEW CHAPTER IN IT'S LONG HISTORY.

For many years Hargrave House has been empty and there have been concerns as to whether it would remain. A lovely mid-Victorian building, the House has always been fondly thought of within the Village.

Hargrave House reopened in late November as a Nursing and Residential Home for the elderly with Wendy Kerr as Matron. It has been fully restored in a sympathetic fashion by the owners, with an extension of a further wing to create a 61 place home.

The present House was created by the Pulteney family, who bought the House in the 1870's, and the House you see today, is based on their creation in 1875. The history continues until after the second World War when the House was used by Essex County Council for a home for handicapped children. It finally closed in the mid 1980's Bentfield Primary School did a project on Hargrave House in the late 1980's which has been reproduced with kind permission of Mr Patrick Draper, the Headteacher, and can be obtained from the House at a cost of £1, the proceeds going to Bentfield School. It tells the story of the House from the 1770's until the present, and gives some lovely anecdotes about the various owners from the Croasdailes in the 1770's, the Spellings in the 1850's and most famously, the Gilbeys (of Gin fame) who owned the House from the mid 1860's.

Hargrave House, Nursing Home looks forward to being a good neighbour in the Stansted Community. We will be pleased to provide any details about our Home. (Telephone 01279 817272)

Paul B Duhig



#### JUMBLE SALE

٥n SATURDAY 2ND DECEMBER 2 p.m.

at the Scout Hut, Water Lane

Admission Charge: 20p Refrechments available

For further details or collection of jumble please contact Anette Wright, tel: 01279 816409







A new Nursing and Residential Home offering the highest standards of care. For Long Stay, Short Stay, Respite and Convalescence.

Hargrave House which has been beautifully restored and extended, is close to village amenities with good public transport and road communications.

The emphasis is on personal care and attention with an active outlook on life.

NURSING HOME







DUC

formerly

Chapel Hill

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BERNARD ERNEST

38 HOCKERILL STREET BISHOP'S STORTFORD

TEL: 461215

