

The Link is published monthly by Churches Together in Stansted

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NOVEMBER 1995			
1		Gardening Club	
2	8.00pm	Local History Society	
4		Bonfire and Fireworks at Mountfitchet School	
6	6.30pm	Requiem Mass at St. John's Church	
9	7.45pm	Evening W.I.	
11	- 12	Skip at Crafton Green	
18	8.00am	Coach outing to Norwich	

1	10.00am 2.00pm	Mountfitchet School 10K Run Last public opening of the Windmill until next year
2	-	Welfare Benefits for Carers WEA course begins Shalom at 20 Bentfield Green
2 -	- 5	Skip at Crafton Green
4		Gardening Club
5	8.00pm	Local History Society
12	7.45pm	Evening W.I.
14	7.30pm	Concert at URC Church
16		Shalom at Chantry Hall, Henham
19	7.30pm	AGM Royal British Legion, Women's Section
21	2.00pm 7.30pm	
23	8.00pm	TFSR at 7 Blythwood Gardens
28		UNA Fair Trade Fair at Saffron Walden Friends Meeting House
	10.30am	Stansted Art & Craft Market

Stansted Mountfitchet Parish Council V.J. Day

Cierk: Mrs Ruth Clifford flice Hours: londay to Frida Monday to Friday 10.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.



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

Basketball

Basketball will resume at the Mountfitchet High School from Thursday 7th September, 6.30 - 8.00 p.m. The cost is still £1 and youngsters between 11-16 years of age are most welcome to come along and join in. It is hoped that this term some friendly matches will be arranged.

Anglia in Bloom

At the time of going to press, the results of the recent competition have not yet been published ... watch this space! The winners of the best Pub was once again the Rose & Crown, the runners-up being The Cock, Silver Street with the Queen's Head being highly commended. Winner of the Best Garden was 'Foxvane', Millside; 6 Lower Street being the runners-up. A big thankyou to everybody who took the time and trouble to make an effort to make Stansted bloom this year.

The Tea Party for Senior Citizens was held on Sunday 20th August at the Mountfitchet High School and a good time was had by all. The Chairman, among other Councillors, led the sing-song and everybody joined in. There was plenty of food and even more cups of tea! A thoroughly enjoyable afternoon.

Skip Dates

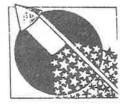


Monday 2nd - Thursday 5th October Saturday 11th and Sunday 12th November Monday 4th - Thursday 7th December.

This takes us up to the end of this year. As soon as the 1996 dates are available these will be printed in the December issue.

Bonfire and Firework Display

This year's event will take place on Saturday 4th November at the Mountfitchet High School look for posters nearer the time.



Reminder

Garden refuse sacks are available for purchase from the Council Offices at 50p each.

STANSTED PERSPECTIVE

As J put pen to paper, the school holidays are creeping to their end, lamented no doubt by children and teachers throughout the land, and also by all who enjoy the reduction in traffic which comes when the 'school run' is in abeyance. But perhaps September is greeted with relief by those whose long summer afternoons have been made hideous by the volume of squeals as paddling pools are enjoyed to the full, by weekday shoppers who will no longer have to elbow their way through teenagers proceeding six abreast along pavements designed for two, and perhaps by parents, worn out by trying to keep b-o-r-e-d-o-m at bay.

All these are minor irritants when we learn of more disturbing behaviour; reading in our local paper of youngsters gathering in threatening groups, of noise late into the night, of bad language, strong drink and worse.

And yet - surely we should not be too quick to condemn our local young people for the undoubted faults of a few. In their defence J am not going to offer stories of heroism, of committed public service, or of good works done by stealth - though J am sure such stories are there to be found. J am thinking more of small courtesies, of the lad whom J knew first as a primary



school pupil, who emerges from the midst of one of those unnerving gaggles of teenagers, big and chunky with a wide smile and a cheerful greeting. Of the crowd waiting for a school bus, seemingly impenetrable and blocking the pavement, who somehow disperse and move bags to allow a passer by. Of the new neighbour, surely at the age most capable of embarrassment in his mid teens, who has learned to establish eye contact when saying 'hello', and of all those under-tens who, unlike my own generation of shy, repressed 'speak when you're spoken to' children, will cheerfully assume that adults are to be addressed by their first names and will be infinitely interested in the young conversationalists' doings.

All in all, Jenjoy seeing our teenagers and children about; perhaps this summer J have been lucky enough to encounter them at their best. J am certainly learning not to assume the worst at the approach of a band of youngsters – denim-clad, sleeves dripping over their hands, feet shuffling in enormous trainers. And how can J presume to comment on their dress sense: when we were at that age we all wore flares!

Spinning Jenny



STANSTED WINDMILL

The sails have to be given quarter turns every so often to make sure that water does not collect in crevices and to even out the wear and exposure to the elements. Before the recent work the sails were out of balance and it was necessary to tie a rope on and haut the sails round with the help of several willing volunteers (this was the subject of an article a year or so ago). Happily, now that the sails have been off and refitted, it is much easier and they can be moved round with the aid of a crowbar from within the windmill cap.



STANSTED & DISTRICT CRIME PREVENTION PANEL

Lock up your Ladders!

This summer has again seen the use of a nearby ladder for burglary and theft. Our panel distributed a leaflet on shed safety some time ago and now seems a good time for a reminder. Please keep any "burglar aid" such as ladders, hammers and iron bars, under lock and key. It's so easy for these to be used to break into a neighbour's house or even yours!

Don't forget ...

"LOCK IT OR LOSE IT"



Hunting for bargains at the Windmill Fete

Back in August, at the end of the long and hot dry spell, the time came round to turn the sails again. It was a little overdue but there did not seem much chance of any problem from water collecting in crevices. As the sails turn round very slowly the entire mechanism within the mill also turns - the wheels acting on the main upright shaft which passes down the many floors of the mill are all original but are quite functional, and there is some satisfaction in seeing them briefly in motion again. More surprisingly though after over a month of bone dry weather, and one of the longest hot spells on record, a shower of water cascaded out of the sails onto a few lucky onlookers.

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

Opening Dates: 6.00pm (th until next year)

Sunday 1st October 2.00-(then no more public openings

STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET SENIORS CLUB

> AUTUMN SALE

Saturday 21st October at 2.00pm

DAY CENTRE

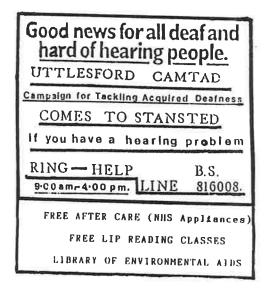


I wish to pay tribute to Judy, who was committed to the ideals of TFSR and spent many a Tuesday evening giving a sewing machine a good working over. In spite of her numerous other activities (as mentioned elsewhere in Link), she was always keen to be involved in national events and over the past few years joined us on trips to Milton Keynes, Oxford and Sheffield for AGMs and other gatherings. We shall miss her very much, both as a friend and as a willing helper. Clearly, we are now in even greater need of assistance with the sewing machine mountain so if you are even slightly tempted, please call me to find out how you could help!

Thank you to those who continue to route their old hand tools in our direction for cleaning and sharpening before being sent off to Tanzania or another developing country. Why not drop in on us at Saffron Walden Quaker House on Saturday 28th October (10 a.m. to 4 p.m.) during the UNA Trade Fair at the end of One World Week?

Alternatively join us on the fourth Tuesday in the month (24th October) at 8 p.m. at 7 Blythwood Gardens for a bit of hands-on experience!

Michael Dyer 814059







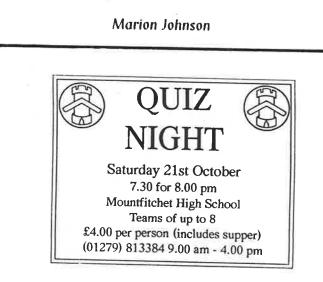
All our members were saddened and shocked by the death of Judy. She was a friend to all our members and everyone loved her. She will be missed by us all, both as a Committee Member and as someone who could make a Thursday Club night exciting and different. It was a very sad start to our Club holiday but we all agreed that Judy would want us to go and enjoy ourselves. We did have a good time, the weather was glorious and everyone enjoyed our outings.

The music at Thursford and the tour of Sandringham were excellent. Most days included a visit to the swimming pool which was a great help in cutting out the number of showers which were needed.

I would like to say a big thankyou to all our helpers who in the circumstances rallied around making it easier for everyone to enjoy the holiday just as Judy would have wanted.

Club evenings will once again be in full swing by the time you read this and we are looking forward to a "Make up evening" and another visit from the "Clog Dancers". On December 1st we will be celebrating our 21st birthday and the year will end with a visit to the Pantomime at Cambridge.

Remember you are welcome to join us any Thursday evening between 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. for a friendly welcome and a cup of coffee.



Stansted Art & Craft Market

Preparations are well under way for the 16th Annual Stansted Art & Craft Market, to take place this year on Saturday 28th and Sunday 29th October, from 10.30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

What better opportunity to do some early Christmas shopping, browsing amongst the 20 quality craft stalls and over 500 paintings by local artists on exhibition and all for sale! This year there will be a number of new artists and crafts people alongside the many returning to us from previous years. The crafts range from woodturning, candles, crochet lace mats, ceramics, wooden toys, table lamps, puzzles, miniature dolls houses, knitwear, pottery, miniature tools and novelties, toys, infant and dolls dresses, saltdough and hand painted terracotta, together with several ranges of jewellery.

The event will once again be held in the Youth *L* Education Centre in Lower Street. Admission remains at 60p for adults and 10p for children, and refreshments are available throughout the day.

Last year the Art & Craft Market saw more than 1,000 visitors through its doors and, in the usual tradition, well over £1,000 was given to local charities as a direct result.

Do support this enjoyable and worthwhile community event - make a note of it in your diary now and spread the word!





STANSTED DAY AND COMMUNITY CENTRE

Following the long and exceptionally hot summer, the harvest is now gathered in and autumn is with us. As we await the colder days and longer nights, the Day Centre offers a warm welcome to all Senior Citizens (60+) on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Tea, coffee, snacks or a cooked lunch are available at very reasonable prices in the warmth and comfort of the informal surroundings and atmosphere. Make the effort - visit the Day Centre at Crafton Green at the top of Chapel Hill - you will be pleased that you did.

If transport is a problem, ring B/S 815091, it may be possible to arrange help.

STANSTED WEA

Our autumn course will be 'Country Crafts'. It will comprise seven lectures in our regular Monday evening slot and two outings, one a Saturday, the other a Sunday, to visit appropriate museums.

The lecturer, Mr. R.C. Raine, will cover as many country crafts as possible - basket weaving, bat making, wood turning, carving, thatching, pargetting, leather work and that of the wheelwright. Ite will bring along artifacts for display and discussion and will encourage members to become involved and contribute anything of relevance, postcards, pictures, personal reminiscences and experience; he hopes for much class participation.

The course will be held at the Day Centre, beginning Monday 2nd October. The first evening enrollment from 7.15 p.m., lecture to start at 7.45 p.m. - please note the earlier time for meetings for this course. As usual, there is a reduced rate for pensioners, unemployed free. If you would like further information please ring Jean McDride, O1279 812214.





The National Childbirth Trust Education for Parenthood

As I write this the seemingly endless hot summer seems a long time ago. The children are back at schools and playgroups and we are getting back into the old routines. However we had a very busy summer with lots of events and activities to keep us all occupied. At the start of the holidays we held an extremely popular and well attended Cream Teas afternoon. I'm sure Mandy, who hosted the event, was left wondering if there were any members who hadn't been there! The sun shone down as the children spent a happy afternoon playing under a water spray while Mums, Dads, Aunts and Grandmas sat in the shade enjoying their cream teas.

We had trips to the zoo, wildlife park, farm, paddling pool and leisure park as well as pub lunches and picnics galore. As far as my youngest child is concerned the highlight of the summer was a Teddy Bears Picnic followed by a ride on the miniature railway at Audley End. He is still telling all his relatives about it and is desperate to go again "with Daddy" [who obviously missed out last time!]

We look forward to an equally busy autumn with lots going on for both children and parents. If you would like to find out more why not come along to a coffee morning.

Forthcoming Events:

October 10th Colour Analysis Evening November 4/6th Photographer



STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY



On Thursday 5th October Roy Tricker will be telling us how to "Enjoy Old Churches" and on Thursday 2nd November Hugh Joscelyne speaks on the local Joscelyne Family Business.

Both meetings are at 8 p.m. in the Day Centre.

Stansted and District NCT COFFEE MORNINGS

ALL COFFEE MORNINGS ARE 10.00am - 11.30am TEA/COFFEE: 30p (members) 40p (non-members) CHILDRENS' DRINKS: 10p (members) 15p (nonmembers)

******EVERYONE IS WELCOME ***** (please call the host for more information)

		OCT	OBER	
TUES 3rd	UNDER 1'S	SALLY	STANSTED	814208
WEDS 4th	TODDLERS	MICHAELA	STANSTED	815798
FRI 8th PF	RE-SCHOOL	MANDY	STANSTED	816895
TUES 10th	UNDER 1'S	CHRISTINE	BIRCHANGER	812544
WEDS 11t	h TODDLERS	BRIGID	STANSTED	818514
FRI 13th	STORIES + SON	IGS SUE	ELSENHAM	647343
TUES 17th	UNDER 1'S E	RIGGETTE	STANSTED	813133
WEDS 18t	h TODDLERS D	EBBIE WID	DINGTON 0179	9541547
FRI 20th	PRE-SCHOOL 2.00-3.30	BRIGID	STANSTED	816514
TUES 24th	UNDER 1'S	ISOBEL	HENHAM	850354
WEDS 25th	TODDLERS	MANDY	STANSTED	816895
FRI 27th	PRE-SCHOOL	GLENDA	STANSTED	812682
TUES 31st	UNDER 1'S	CATHY		850303
	NO	VEMBER		
WEDS 151	TODDLERS	ANN	STANSTED	814687
FRI 3rd	PRE-SCHOOL	MICHAELA	STANSTED	815796
TUES 7th	UNDER 1'S	GLENDA	STANSTED	812682
IF YOU AR	E INTERESTED	IN THE NCT	AND WOULD	LIKE

ANY FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT OUR MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY ON 815953.

ALZHEIMER'S AND CARERS ASSOCIATION

Jerry Wheeler, benefits advisor, will be giving a talk on "WELFARE BENEFITS FOR CARERS"

Stansted Day Centre

Monday 2 October 2.30 - 4.30pm



August Meeting

A well attended meeting was enthralled with our visiting speaker - Alec Cooper. Mr. Cooper had obviously fallen in love with some quite small Welsh Islands - Skomer, Stokholm and Bardsey. We saw they were beautiful places but I suspect desolate at times and rather remote. The slides supporting the presentation were of a high standard.

The members competition - 3 tomatoes, was won by Cyril Stoneham.

September Meeting

On Wednesday 6th we welcomed back Mr. Fred Etherington, who came to present part two of his talk - A year in the life of a Hedgerow. Mr. Etherington, from Runwell in Essex played to a practically full house - he had created a lot of interest from his first visit.

The members competition - Clematis, was again won by Cyril Stoneham.

Autumn Show

Our main event of the year was held on Saturday 9th September at the United Reformed Church Hall, Stansted. Exhibitors were hard at work from early morning up to the commencement of judging at 11 a.m. The judges from the Essex Guild of Judges again had a difficult task in deciding the winners from the high quality entries. The number of entries was down this year compared with 1994, but a very high standard was maintained. The poor growing conditions, lack of rain, and the hot weather, all affected the number of entries.

the crophy winners were	as tollows:
Mumford Cup -	Most points in the show
Pimblett Tankard -	Highest points in vegetables
Pimblett Tankard -	Best tray of vegetables
Sam Moule Trophy -	
Fruit Cup -	Most points in fruit
Mr. Brian and Mrs	
Mitchell Cup -	Highest points in floral art
Mrs. Janet Townse	
Hoffman Vase -	Best exhibit in show
Paronipo - Mr. Bria	in Townsend
	st points in domestic section
Jean Wilson Cup - Best	exhibit in domestic section
Mrs. Sue Williams	
Hart Rosebowl -	Most points in flowers
Mrs. Jean and Mr.	
Ernie Morton Cup -	
Mr. Claude and Mr.	
Belcher Cup -	-
Mr. Cyril Stonehan	
	est prize money in both shows
(Horticultural) -	Mr Gordon Fuller

October Meeting

a thank when and we

As usual our next meeting will be held on the first Wednesday of the month - 4th October at the Crafton Green Day Centre. Mr. Brian Self will be our speaker from the Brogdale Trust in Kent. This is a follow up to the recent visit we made to the Trust on our annual coach trip. Brogdale houses the national collection of apples both new and older variations. Mr. Self's talk is one not to miss.

As you would expect, the Members Competition is 3 Apples.

Visitors/New Members

If you are new to the area or if you have been around for some time and want to develop your gardening expertise why not come and join us. Our monthly talks are informative and entertaining - you don't have to join at once, come as a visitor, just 75p.





STANSTED EVENING W.I.

August and the summer heatwave seems a long time ago now but it was this same heatwave with attendant fires that caused our speaker travelling from Cambridge to arrive so late in Stansted that we'd almost given her up!

After a reviving cuppa, Rosemary Wheeler opened up her suitcases and told us tales about her "Hats Galore". The memories conjured up by her hats struck a chord with the audience and all of us seemed to have a similar method of remembering events and occasions in our lives.

Before the speaker arrived, we managed to complete the business when arrangements for the decoupage



class were completed and we had to decide whether or not to proceed with a corn dolly course. The stumbling block is the storage and preparation of a sheaf of corn by each member taking part! Our W.I. will be 35 years old in October and plans are in hand for a celebration at our meeting.

It will be the end of our year then, so a good time to consider joining us every month on the 2nd Thursday. We have a varied programme of speakers and outings with a good cross section of members from all parts of the village. Why not come along and meet some friendly people, not all of whom make jam, arrange flowers or knit!

If you need a lift or someone to come with, contact me, Pearl Wellings 813614, or our secretary, Brenda Ryan, 812725.

PROGRAMME, EVENING W.I.

Date	Time	Hall	Subject
Sept 14	7.45pm	St. John's	Radio Essex
Sept 26	7.00pm	U.R.C.	Decoupage class
Oct 12	7.45pm	St. John's	Memories of a Milkie 35th Birthday Celebration
Nov 9	7.45pm	St. John's	Collecting on a shoestring
Nov 18	8.00am	COACH OUTING - NORWICH Depart from London & Stansted	

CHRISTMAS SHOPPING

Still time to put your name on the list for the coach to Norwich! We are leaving the London & Stansted at 8.00 a.m. on November 18th with a pick up just after at Maitland road. All welcome - please phone 813614.

STANSTED BEAVER SCOUTS

There are now vacancies at Saturday Beaver Scouts. The meetings are held at the Stansted Scout Hut, Water Lane, by the railway station. The time is 9.15-10.15 a.m. unless stated otherwise, on Saturday mornings, for boys aged 6-8 years.

This first part of the Autumn/Winter term schedule is detailed below, beginning from the start of term.

- Sept 9 Making a collage of an airport to give to FordAir as a thankyou present for the trip in the summer.
- Sept 16 Learning about Beavers and their role in the Scouting group.
- Sept 23 Pond dipping at Stansted Nature Reserve and hike back.
- Sept 30 Nature activities; identifying minibcasts seen the week before. Leaf and twig rubbings.



Oct 7	Visit by P.C. Pike.
	Talk on the danger of strangers.
Oct 14	Looking at religion and harvests in
	different countries.
Oct 21	Party preparations for November 4th.
	Lantern making and witches masks.
Oct 24 *	Tuesday visit to Tescos, Bishop's Park.
Oct 28	No Beavers this Saturday, see * above.

Beaver Scouts is the first stage of the scouting movement with automatic acceptance into the cub scouts. The meetings are a mixture of fun, informative and educational activities.

For more information please contact Chris Daley, 813965, or Lorna Williams, 812835.



<u>STANSTED</u> PLAYSCHEME <u>1995</u>

After four action packed weeks of summer fun for the kids of Stansted and the surrounding villages, the 1995 Playscheme came to an end, (much to the disappointment of the children), with the now traditional fancy dress party. The playscheme seems to get better and better every year and this year was no exception. All the children who came along had a fabulous time and I think secretly the leaders enjoyed it just as much too. I know I certainly did!

We were delighted this year to see so many new faces as well as "the old regulars" who come back year after year to enthral us with their own unique blend of humour and creativity!

The children rolled up bright and eager to the Stansted Community Education Centre at 10 o'clock each weekday morning, full of enthusiasm for the many activities we had planned. This year they included face painting, pasta collage, clay modelling, mug painting, kite making, fish mobiles, mask making, design-a-T-shirt, cooking and, of course, who could forget the rocket making. This was a special treat for the children and for us grown-ups, who are still big kids at heart. John Wesley from Estes Industries came along to show us how to make a rocket that actually flew. Each child was given a rocket kit to assemble and once that was done, we went up to the recreation ground for a test flight. The rockets were powered by special motors which shot them up to a height of about 200 metres, where they exploded and then parachuted back down to earth ready to be Unfortunately, some us lost our used again. rockets in the neighbouring gardens and trees, but despite this, the activity proved a great success.



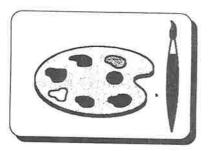


In the afternoons we did various activities around Stansted. This year we went to the Peter Kirk School several times to use their playground and soft playroom and to the recreation ground to play games. We repeated our fun sports afternoon, at which the Flintstones were this year's special guests, and also had a treasure hunt, a scavenger hunt and a visit to Gorsefield House where we were kindly allowed to see all the animals. Last but not least, we walked to the Aubrey Buxton Nature Reserve where the Warden, Mike Rowley, helped us with pond dipping and took us on a nature walk.

As in previous years we went on a day trip each week which this year consisted of a visit to Hedingham Castle, an outing to Walton-on-the-Naze, a train ride to Broxbourne swimming pool and a guided tour of Stansted Airport complete with a demonstration by the Airport Fire Service, which was coupled with an afternoon at Hatfield Forest. The trips were hugely successful and very much enjoyed by everyone who came.

At the end of it all, the only thing that remained for the leaders to do was clear up all the mess and equipment and reflect upon four thoroughly enjoyable, fun-filled weeks. I'm sure everyone who came will now be eagerly awaiting next year's Playscheme. A big "Thank-You" goes to all the leaders and helpers, whose efforts made Playscheme '95 the most successful yet!

Mark Bellamy





WOMEN'S SECTION

We commemorated the 50th Anniversary of VJ Day

by getting together over a delicious ploughman's supper with lashings of wine followed by morello cherry flan and cream. Later we were entertained on the organ by 11 year old James. He played wartime songs which we all sang. Some members danced the Hokey



Cokey, etc. as if they were still teenagers! We then drew the raffle which produced many lovely prizes.

Our AGM will be held on Thursday 19th October at 7.30 p.m. in the Day Centre. Do come along.

Pat Clower

A few months ago I found myself in Macedonia - that small disputed kingdom north of Greece and south of Bosnia. I was taken to an institution for mentally handicapped people.

It was a cold forgotten place institutional in the worst sense - badly equipped - the only touch of humanity was the welcoming smiles of bewildered people.

I was taken to a small room. It was a disused clinic with a broken sink, an old bed and two chairs. Living there was a mother and her six year old son. He was Down's Syndrome. I was told they were refugees from the Croatian war. The husband and father had stayed to fight and protect the home as best he could. The mother and child had fled and were entirely dependent on humanitarian relief.

I wonder whether the irony of it strikes you as it struck me. Fifty years after the end of a terrible war in Europe there is war again. Fifty years after Christian Aid and many other organisations rose to the challenge of refugees in Europe, there are refugees again. Fifty years after we resolved to put an end to the pathetic spectacle of homeless, uprooted people wandering across the face of the earth, there are more of them in the world than ever - two million in the refugee camps surrounding Rwanda to cite but one example.

And that is not the only irony. Fifty years on there are more poor people than when we began. We face emergencies on a scale we hardly knew before. Institutions like the World Bank, set up to fashion a world order which would give everyone a fair chance to earn a living, seem wedded to a system which breeds poverty in north and south.

So why celebrate?

Wouldn't it be better to call for a 2-minute silence, not for the dead but for the living; or a National Day of Remembrance for those who go on being sacrificed so that the minority can have far more than we need. We should certainly lack all integrity if we marked our 50th anniversary without recognising our inexcusable failure to put an end to injustice.

But we should be untrue to ourselves and our Christian faith if we let this special year go by without a note of celebration.

Human compassion may suffer fatigue, but thank God it is not dead. Hundreds of thousands of people go from door to door each year in Christian Aid Week. Ordinary people find their courage to campaign. People in high places can be

Christian Aid

The total raised from this year's envelope collection and Market is £1289.46. Well done everyone who contributed and particularly the volunteers who knocked on all the doors.

This year is the 50th Anniversary of Christian Aid and a special service was held in Westminster Abbey in Christian Aid Week. The service was attended by the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh, and also by Anne Boyd and myself! One of the highlights was a procession of people representing all the countries which Christian Aid supports.

Rev. Michael Taylor, Christian Aid's Director, preached the sermon and a synopsis is printed here.

Catherine Dean

as committed to the rights of the poor as the rest of us. The poorest communities in the world stand up to those who do them wrong. They wring their survival from the dry and thirsty ground.

Beyond all of that we must celebrate our Christian hope. Hope is all too easily reduced to a sensible reaction to the evidence; things look promising so hopes are raised; things look bleak and poverty persists so hopes are dashed. The Christian hope, like God's hope, takes on the unpromising. including unpromising people like ourselves. God hopes in us and in our world with no very good reason, and so fills the unpromising with promise.

Almost nine years ago I stood with a pastor in the Horn of Africa three years after the great famine of the 1980's. I have rarely seen a more unpromising landscape. He gave me a message for you which I have often delivered: "Tell your people that my people are hungry. Thank your people for standing by us in our troubles, and tell them I am going to plant trees and grow rain all the way from this town to the distant hills; and this land will be like paradise."

He chooses to hope. He announces good news, and the unpromising is filled with promise and the earth and its people have a future.



JUDY GODDARD

The local paper's headline "A Sad Loss" was a true summary of the effect which Judy's death on August 18th has had on Stansted. Her life touched a wide range of people and invariably bore a stamp of kindness.

The daughter of a dental surgeon and a doctor, she left the genteel comfort of Worthing when she married and lived first in Cambridge and then, from the early fifties, in Stansted. Her husband died from multiple sclerosis shortly after, which left her to bring up four young children in circumstances less favourable than those of today. By force of necessity she attended Hockerill College and became a teacher, first at Elmdon, then at Henham and finally at Pelham Field Study Centre. Those exacting middle years took toll of her health and for all the time that most of us remember her she suffered from the acute asthma which eventually claimed her life. Her love of children was well known, both among her pupils and latterly in the Tortoise Scout Group and Huw Johnson Club, both of which she loyally served from their inception. Judy also had a profound love of the world of nature which became apparent when she took up caring for gardens and animals during the past ten or so years. She was a regular worshipper at St John's Church and will be remembered for the plants she sold Sunday by Sunday. She saw the church as universal and was at home with the members and clergy of all the Stansted churches; she was a createry to Churches Together in Stansted and was a member and host to the Shalom Group amongst whom she will be greatly missed.

At all times Judy gave freely of her energies to any who were in need; almost her only indulgence was to take two holidays in Australia. She had a love for the simple things of life; many will remember with a smile her mild eccentricities, but many more will have cause to be grateful for her visits to the sick and her letters to the bereaved and those who suffered misfortune. If she could help any person, or indeed any animal for which she was responsible, she did.

Judy has no marked grave, so her monument is amongst those for whom she cared. She lived her faith and at the Wednesday prayers which she frequently led her simple beliefs came through.

If there were to be an epitaph it should be: "She lived for others".



SHALOM

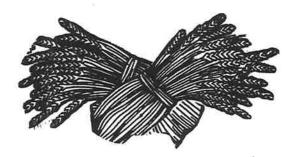
Celebrated its 10th year with an anniversary dinner for 60 people at the Day Centre on 2nd September.

A short retreat was held beforehand in the Quaker Hall, led by Rev. Harold Fisher, who was instrumental in the formation of this ecumenical group. Other leaders were the Rev. Michael Hayman, Rev. Tony Bundock and Father David Chapman. Three of our friends from the Church of Cherubim and Seraphim, an African Church in Birmingham, drove down especially to celebrate the day with us.

Thank you to everyone who came, cooked, served, washed up and ate up. We had a tremendous time and look forward to <u>another</u> 10 fulfilling years.

Meetings for October

- 2nd Rev. Ronald Rawlings 'Creation' at Jim Collins', Bentfield Green
- 16th Reflections on thoughts of Rev. Kenneth Cracknell led by Derek Honour, at Dave and Rita Morson's, Chantry Hall, Crow Street, Henham



Methodist

Meet in Quaker Meeting House, Chapel Hill

Minister:	The Rev'd Michael Hayman 2 South Road, Bishop's Stortford Tel: 654475	, Herts.
Secretary:	Mrs Catherine Dean 49 Recreation Ground, Stansted, Tel: 813579	CM24 8BD
Services:	Morning Service	9.30 am

Two things have both challenged and blessed me recently.

The first was being together with so many people from different groups in Stansted as we shared, together with her lovely family, in saying farewell to and thanking God for Judy Goddard. Her sudden death, her sudden loss to us all, was a blow to our community. The Revd. Margaret Booker summed up her life for us but in every way she blessed us and served us and encouraged us. She will be missed but how marvellous it is that one person, by their faithfulness and loveliness, can both do good to and touch so many lives. I'm glad I knew her, and in some way my life will be a reminder of her.

Then on 2nd September I shared in a special day celebrating the 10th Anniversary of Shalom. Some lovely guests, the many regulars, some hard thinking, some fun and good eating, made a typical Shalom event. It was splendid. Well done David and Rita Morson and the rest. Every time I share in a Shalom meeting I am challenged at the way in which Christians from several different denominations can be so open and loving to one another and how important they have become to each other for healing and friendship and support. Together they explore and adventure, together they face daily life and listen to its challenges, together they seek to understand and help the hurting areas of the world.

They celebrate ten years not because they are a closed group but because they are open; not because they have rules (they don't) but because they accept each other; not because of strong leadership (it isn't) but because they each know they are loved. The churches in Stansted, the Churches Together in Stansted, and Stansted are all blessed by this group.

Congratulations on ten years of Shalom (God's peace).

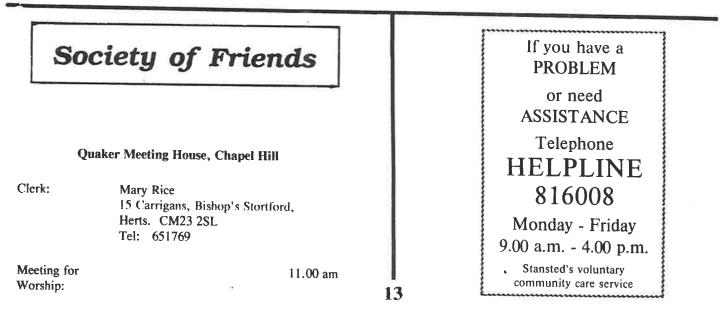
Michael Hayman

STANSTED METHODIST CHURCH

Officers as last month

Preachers for October:

- 1st Mr Ken Mark United 'Harvest' in the evening
- 8th Mr Ron Cox
- 15th Rev. Michael Hayman, Holy Communion
- 22nd Rev. Ronald Rawlings
- 29th Mrs Betty Kime United 'One World Week' Service in the evening



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	
Weekly	Holy Communion	8.00 am
Services:	Parish Communion	9.30 am
	(Creche, Children's Church	
	and Lazer Group)	
	Evensong	6.30 pm
Holy Comr	nunion is also celebrated on:	
	Monday	7.30 pm
	Wednesday	10.00 am
	Friday	9.00 am
The follow	ing 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

DISCUSSION GROUP

There will be a series of three evening discussions on the second Mondays of October (9th), November (13th) and December (11th). these will be in the

Upper Room of St. John's Hall, starting at 8 p.m. and finishing (promptly) at 9.30 p.m. Copies of a new book "This is our Faith" are available free to anyone who is interested in these evenings and the book will



form the basis of our discussions. Please contact the Vicar or collect a copy of the book (without obligation to attend the meetings).

REQUIEM MASS

We will follow the practice of the last four years in keeping this on the first Sunday evening of November, viz. 5th at 6.30 p.m. At this service we remember, by name, those who have died. Letters are being sent to the families of those who have had funerals in the past year. However, the list is also available in Church for other names to be added during the previous week up to the commencement of the service.

CURATE

After interviews in July, the Vicar has been unable to appoint a curate to succeed the Rev'd Richard Dunstan-Meadows. Further advertisements will be placed in October but the Vicar would be pleased to hear of anyone known to a parishioner who might be interested in considering the post. It is now unlikely that the post will be filled this year and the Vicar is grateful of all those who have shown their understanding on the situation and the limitations this inevitably places on his ministry.



Diary for October

HARVEST FESTIVAL:

- 9.30am Parish Communion 1 6.00pm Evensong - followed by Harvest Supper in St John's Hall
- 3 10.30am Service at Norman Court 8.15pm Prayer Group at 31 Park Road
- 9 8.00pm Discussion - see note
- 10 10.30am Service at Mead Court 2.00pm Tuesday Club at 10 Hargrave Close 2.15pm Tiny Tots
- 17 10.30am Service at Broome End
- 8.00pm Standing Committee 30
- 31 2.15pm Tiny Tots

Registers for July and August

Baptism

6th August Callum Alexander Hill

Weddings

lst July	Christopher Neil Emerson and
	Brenda Haughton
15th July	Jeremy Martin Williams and
	Lorna Ann Conroy
22nd July	Thomas Mark Owens and
	Phillipa Ann Bennett
	Mark Ashley Bennett and
	Sarah Jane Fuller

Funerals

29th Aug Judith Elizabeth Anne Goddard, aged 63

Roman Catholic

St Theresa's Church, Millside

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

Recently I was fortunate enough to be invited on board a flying eye hospital. The DC10 was standing for a few days at Stansted Airport. The converted airliner had been customised into a flying teaching hospital by the charity Orbis International. They focus particularly on the needs of the developing world where the crisis of blindness is most acute.

The professionals on board the plane teach sight

perform saving skills, raise and operations awareness of blindness and eve disease. Housed on board was a fully-equipped operating theatre, recovery room. examination and laser treatment area, TV studio, lecture room and The specialist library.



team of doctors and nurses fly into any country where their help has been specially requested. The local doctors and eye care professionals are invited on board and can watch the surgeons at work on the closed circuit TV. The local nurses can assist at the operations thereby gaining direct clinical experience.

The pilots who fly the jet also volunteer their time. Some are retired but others take time off from work to contribute their services.

I met many of the volunteer medical staff, all looking so young, so full of enthusiasm. I envied them their skills and dedication.

There are 42 million blind people in the world, the greatest tragedy being that two thirds need not be blind at all.

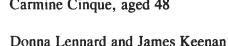
I came away thinking God for the gift of sight, for the benefits of living in a country where for all its problems we still receive marvellous free healthcare and for the lives of those young people I had met who were willing to give some years of their life for the benefit of others.

E. Quinn



Parish Registers

Funeral **26th August** Carmine Cinque, aged 48 Wedding 2nd September





OUR VILLAGE COLLECTION

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:	Miss Muriel Dalley 145 Cherry Garden Lane Newport, Essex Tel: 01799 541210
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.





On October 14th Newport Free Grammar School pupils are coming to give a concert in the Church at 7.30 p.m. Among the groups taking part will be the "Big Band" and the choir. Tickets are available now price £3 and £2 for concessions from 58 Chapel Hill.



A 'Thankyou' to all those who helped deliver envelopes around the village and to all of you who



gave so generously to our appeal to repair and redevelop the church on Chapel Hill. The appeal

raised £812. This will be added to the funds already given. We do not yet know when work will start as there are all the usual formalities to be gone through. What we do know is that it will be planned to take place in a series of phases so that the work will be done as we raise the money.

Please come to our fund-raising events. These will be continuing during the year. Notice of them will be appearing in each 'Link'.

With best wishes.

Margaret McKay



Preachers for October

1 st	11.00am	Mrs C Bonner Family Service
	6.00pm	C.T.S. 'Harvest' at St John's
8th	11.00am	Rev M McKay
15th	11.00am	Rev M McKay Communion
22nd	1.001am	Rev L Rapkin
29th	1.001am	Rev K Anderson from Gt Shelford
	6.30pm	One World Week Service
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