

Nov 196

# The *LINK*



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Mountfitchet*

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## REMEMBRANCE



SUNDAY 10 NOVEMBER  
WREATH LAYING

IN THE  
MEMORIAL GARDENS

AT 10.50  
followed by  
MEMORIAL SERVICE  
IN  
ST JOHN'S CHURCH

*'Lest we forget'*

## FIREWORKS



SATURDAY 2 NOVEMBER  
FIREWORK DISPLAY

AT THE  
MOUNTFITCHET SCHOOL

6.30 pm  
ADMISSION  
Adults £2.50 Children £1  
PROCEEDS TO  
STANSTED WINDMILL

*'Preserve our heritage'*

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

To order your copy of The Link please contact  
Lindsey Collingwood, 15 Loates Pasture  
Tel 813428

Advertising and other enquiries to  
Sheila Parry, 16 Bentfield Causeway  
Tel 814788

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**Copy to reach 58 Chapel Hill by  
14th November for publication on 1st December  
5th December for publication on 29th December**

# 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 Andrew Spurr  
43 Gilbey Crescent  
Tel: 815025

Weekly Services: Holy Communion 8.00 am  
Parish Communion 9.30 am  
(Creche, Children's Church and Lazer Group)  
Evensong 6.30 pm

Holy Communion is also celebrated on:

Monday 7.30 pm  
Wednesday 10.00 am  
Friday 9.00 am

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



When I arrived at Stansted in January 1989 I was also appointed Priest-in-Charge of Farnham and, since Easter 1994, I have also had the pastoral care of the Parish of Birchanger.

This temporary arrangement is obviously unsatisfactory and the time has come to make it permanent. It is therefore proposed that the 'United Benefice of Stansted Mountfitchet with Birchanger and Farnham' be created. This will not affect the independence of the three parishes. Each will continue to elect its own Churchwardens and P.C.C. and each will have its own pattern of service.

This measure will make little or no difference in the day-to-day life of the parishes. However, there are two clear advantages:

Firstly, when the time comes to appoint my successor, all three Parishes will be represented in the process. The Patronage will be exercised jointly by the Bishop (Patron of Stansted Mountfitchet) together with New College, Oxford (Patron of Birchanger) and the Patron of Farnham. Each of the three parishes will appoint two representatives (normally the Churchwardens) to consult together with the Patrons in the appointment process.

Secondly, this measure ensures that the temporary links between Stansted, Farnham and Birchanger are made permanent. I understand that no parish wishes to lose its resident Vicar or Rector and equally every priest's ideal is one parish, one priest. We are, however, well enough aware of the financial and manpower problems facing the Church and must therefore seek the best arrangement in each group of parishes.

I believe that, in the circumstances, this is the best way forward for these parishes. The Church Commissioners are currently considering the proposals. If there are no objections, then they will be laid before the Queen at a meeting of the Privy Council and take effect on the first day of the following month.

I hope that the Bishop of Colchester will come to inaugurate the new United Benefice as soon as possible after this and will advertise the date in due course.

Bob Wallace

### Open Meeting

Are you interested in where the Parish Church is - and is going - in Stansted? Do you have ideas and want to contribute? Come and enjoy good company and a glass or two of wine in St. John's Hall on Friday, 8th November at 8 p.m. We hope that this will be a stimulating evening where young and not-so-young can all help towards deciding ways of strengthening the life and mission of the Church in this parish and beyond.



## St John's Church Christmas Market

Saturday 23 November

10am to 1pm

in

St John's Church Hall

Gifts - Books - Plants

Produce - Cakes - Crafts

Toys - Games - Toiletries

Refreshments - Grand Draw

AND

**FATHER CHRISTMAS**



## DIARY FOR NOVEMBER

- 1 9 am All Saints Day Holy Communion  
3 9.30 am Parish Communion for All Saintside  
6.30 pm Requiem Mass - see note  
4 8 pm Standing Committee in the Vicarage  
5 10.30am Service at Norman Court  
8.15 pm Prayer Group at 22 Bentfield Causeway  
8 8 pm Meeting of Parishioners in St John's  
Hall - see note  
10 10.55 (for 11 am) Remembrance Sunday Service  
12 10.30am Service at Mead Court  
2 pm Tuesday Club at 10 Hargrave Close  
2.15 pm Tiny Tots  
13 7 pm Confirmation meeting Vicarage - see  
note  
18 8 pm PCC in the Upper Room  
19 10.30am Service at Broome End  
23 10-1.00 Christmas Market in St John's Hall  
26 10.30am Service at Hargrave House  
2.15 pm Tiny Tots

## REGISTERS FOR SEPTEMBER

### Baptisms

- 8th India Francesca Allen  
Thomas James Culpin  
Alexander James Lupton  
15th Thomas William Burr  
Philippa Stephanie Watson  
29th Michael Paul Crane  
Leigh Jessica Crane  
Samantha Elizabeth Crane  
Charlotte Louise Crane  
Katie-Jo Crane  
Dean Robert Crane

### Weddings

- 7th Andrew Clive Bagwell and Susan Jane Tasker  
Brian Arthur Jones and Angela Rose Collis  
14th Aston Roy Lloyd Elliott and  
Liane Elizabeth Welch  
28th Peter Leonard Bolden and  
Lorraine Kirsty Goodson

### Funerals

- 9th Christopher John Turner, aged 52  
26th John Speller, aged 90  
27th Florence Rebecca Dewdney, aged 91

### Requiem Mass

We will follow the practice of the last few years in keeping this on the first Sunday evening of November viz. 3rd 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 whose funerals have taken place in the past year. However, the list is also available in Church for other names to be added during the previous week.

## Confirmation 1997

Bishop Edward will be coming to St John's, Stansted on Easter Eve, Saturday 29th March at 8 p.m. He will preside at the Easter Ceremonies, Parish Communion and Confirmation. We are planning preparation groups for Confirmation, including one for Juniors (i.e. top year at Primary School and above); and one for Adults.

If you are interested, please come to an initial meeting in the Vicarage on Wednesday 13th November at 7 p.m. Parents are also welcome at this meeting. It shouldn't last more than 45 minutes and the main business will be to introduce the subject of confirmation, to answer any questions, and to arrange dates for preparation meetings, which will begin after Christmas. If you want to know more but cannot attend the meeting, please let us know at the Vicarage (812203).

### Visit to Turkey

Bob and Brenda are planning to lead a trip to Turkey from Saturday 24th May to Saturday 31st May 1997 with an optional extension in Istanbul. This will include visits to the Seven Churches of Asia and will follow in the footsteps of the Apostles Paul and John. A brochure is available from the Vicarage and there will be an open meeting after Bob and Brenda's planning visit later this year.

### Lazer Group Weekend at Asheldham Youth Church (Sept 6th - 8th)

Picture the scene, above you is a sky like a lake of late summer blue. Only one cloud interrupts its serenity. In front of you is a lake of ..... black mud!

Well, there is also some water, but not much because of the low rainfall.

On the lake are numerous canoes and two bottomless dinghies. In the water and on the bank are some very soggy, dirty Lazer group members. Three of the youth leaders have undergone a transformation in appearance because of the mud and weed that adorns them, the other youth leader, whom we can't mention because he is a "man of the cloth" has given many of our young people the unasked-for, unwanted, experience of baptism in water, weed and mud.

What have all these wretched looking people got in common?

Well, they're happy ... yes! they are, and they've come to Asheldham Youth Church for a weekend, to explore together their journey of Christian faith.

You may feel that this is a strange way of going about it, but over the weekend we worked, played and prayed together and in doing so we learnt about ourselves and each other.

Initiative games showed us that by working together we were able to achieve what it was impossible to achieve working alone, and that by listening to each other's points of view we were able to come to workable solutions to problems. (Is there a message for today's "church" here?).

Moreover, during our short time together we explored the nature of trusting in God and the nature of our relationship with Him which is built upon that trust. In worship we thanked God that such a relationship is for all of us, whoever we are, wherever we are.

What happened after the lake?

There were hot showers followed by a very appreciated hot supper.

The evening ended with a "do-it-yourself" variety show which included singing, dancing, drama, jokes, story-telling and dance.

We returned home on the Sunday evening but our journey in faith together continues. The importance of fellowship together and of mutual support for each other as people and as Christians was made clear to us during our weekend at Asheldham. However, it is a relevant message for all who share in the Christian journey of faith.

It was a good and memorable weekend.

Ragni Whitlock

(Katy Dockerill, Andrew Spurr and Rajenda Whitlock)



The Lazer Group is for 11 to 15 year olds. We meet in the Upper Room in St. John's Church Hall on Sunday mornings at 9.30 (except for family service weekends). For more information or for a programme of meetings and events contact Katy Dockerill on 812997 or Julie Patterson on 815517.

## 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

Services: Morning Service 9.30 am

### SERVICES FOR NOVEMBER

3rd 9.30 am Mr Ron Cox of Bishop's Stortford  
10th We share in the United Remembrance  
Day Service at St John's at 11.00 am

17th 9.30 am The Revd Michael Giles  
Holy Communion

24th 9.30 am The Revd Michael Hayman

At our Stansted Fellowship Meeting on 15th November (venue to be announced) at 8.00 p.m. we shall be having a first look at the Report on Anglican and Methodist plans towards unity. Come and join us.

Best wishes

Michael Hayman  
01279 654475

If you have a  
**PROBLEM**  
or need  
**ASSISTANCE**  
Telephone  
**HELPLINE**  
**0941 104093**  
Monday - Friday  
9.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m.

Stansted's voluntary  
community care service



# 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.

### PREACHERS FOR NOVEMBER

3rd	11.00	Mrs C Bonner
10th	10.45	Act of Remembrance in Memorial Gardens followed by Service in St John's Church
17th	11.00	Rev M McKay Communion
24th	11.00	Rev Martin Cressey

### URC AUTUMN BAZAAR

Saturday 2nd November  
10 a.m. - 12.30 p.m.



Our Autumn Bazaar is our money raising event for our General Purposes Fund, for the group comprising Stansted, Clavering and Newport. In spite of our many activities to raise money for the Stansted redevelopment (which incidentally has moved from a mere possibility to a probability, and now to the point where we shall shortly be submitting plans for approval) we still need money for the general running of the three churches, and we do ask for your support.

There will be the usual 'Fancy' stall, the old-fashioned title taking on a new meaning; it now indicates a stall where there is bound to be something you fancy!

In addition, there will be jams and pickles, cakes and savouries, plants, a children's corner and a raffle, plus a fantastic good quality white elephant stall.

Tea and coffee will be available to refresh you on your way up the hill - or down - whichever you happen to be going.

We are looking forward to a bumper sale - see you there.



## Roman Catholic

St Theresa's Church, Millside

### Priest:

The Rev'd Joe White  
The Presbytery, 12 Millside  
Tel: 814349

### Services:

Sunday Masses -	
Saturdays	6.00 pm
Stansted	
Sundays	9.00 am
Henham	
Stansted	10.30 am
Holy Days -	
Henham	7.00 pm
Stansted	8.00 pm
Weekday Mass	
Tuesdays-Saturdays inclusive	
Stansted	9.30 am

### Confessions:

Saturday after 9.30 am Mass

A series of talks will be given by Father Joe during the autumn and spring: Dates and Titles for November.

- 5th The early Christians and how the New Testament was formed.
- 12th The spiritual authority of the Church and some major events in its long history.
- 19th The mystery of faith: its paradoxes and strength and the commitment of faith.
- 26th Our needs related to prayer and worship.

The sessions begin at 8 p.m. and finish at 9.15 p.m.

### Register for October

### Baptism

- 5 13th October Oliver James Boxall

# Society of Friends

Quaker Meeting House, Chapel Hill

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

Meeting for November, 1999

"Be patterns, be examples in all countries, places, islands, nations, wherever you come, that your carriage and life may preach among all sorts of people, and to them: then you will come to walk cheerfully over the world, answering that of God in every one."

George Fox, 1656

## SHALOM

Monday 4th November - Dave Morson - Topic to be confirmed. Venue: Jim Collins, Bentfield Green.

Monday 18th November - Fr Jim Brand - Speaker  
Venue: 6 Blythwood Gardens, Mike and Marion Dyer.



## STANSTED PERSPECTIVE

October saw the imposition of yet another tax and a consequent potential increase in future Council Taxes. I refer, of course, to the Landfill Tax by which all mixed rubbish carted to large holes in the ground will henceforth be charged at £7 per tonne. The initial cries of anguish at the additional charge on the local "ratepayer" (and skip hirer), together with the prophecies of even more indiscriminate fly-tipping continue to reverberate in our ears, doubtless to be repeated when the next Council Tax is announced.

Before we berate our political masters perhaps we should look more critically at the consumer society we have all unwittingly created. A simple starting point is that 40 years ago the old Rural District Council had a fortnightly collection service which for the most part we found to be adequate. Now households have one or more laden bins emptied weekly, in addition to which many of us regularly visit that popular social venue the Council Skip, that cup which constantly runneth over. Moreover, so many items from nappies to electrical appliances are over-packaged and of a throw-away rather than wear-out nature.

What should we do? Clearly everyone should segregate their rubbish and put bottles and cans into the bins at Crafton Green. Paper should be left by the front gate for collection by our present day Pharaoh. In some countries segregation of refuse is mandatory and it would be difficult to argue against it here. As one of the lesser known contributions (on recycled paper of course) from the recent National Poetry Week put it:

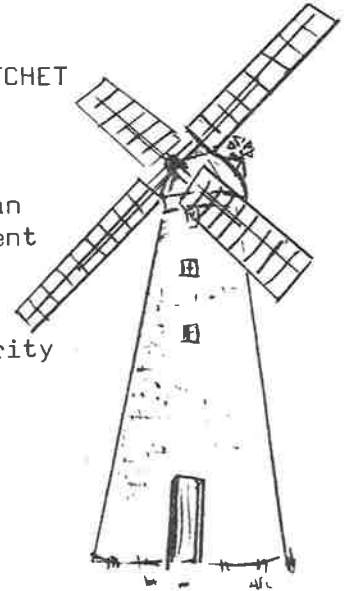
Tins and bottles, paper, card,  
Sorting them is not too hard,  
Get the habit, don't be lax,  
Save resources, reduce tax.

Cogitatus

STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET  
WINDMILL

Scheduled as an  
Ancient Monument

Registered Charity  
No. 208060



With the last mill opening of the year and the barn dance last month the official season comes to a close. There are, however, still many booked parties making visits and we will be organising the bonfire and fireworks. It is also hoped to carry out several jobs inside the mill during the winter and extra help is always welcome.

Also this year we will be having a sale of mill goods shortly before Christmas outside Savages in Lower Street on Saturday December 14th from 9.30 - 12.30, which will be a good opportunity to buy local gifts and stocking fillers. There are several new additions to the range and many unique items featuring the windmill for young and not so young.

Saturday November 2nd  
Saturday December 14th

Bonfire/Fireworks  
Mill goods on sale in  
Lower Street

If anyone is interested in helping on open days, being involved with work on the mill or wants further information they can contact Steve Clements, tel: 816514.







## SIDEWAYS

We would like to congratulate Auntie Joyce on the safe arrival of her new baby grandson born recently and send our best wishes to her son and daughter-in-law.

Sadly we have cancelled our Quiz night due to so many other events around that time, but we are reorganising again for February 97, so we hope you are able to join us then.

Our AGM will be held on 15th November. This will provide parents with an opportunity to find out the aims of the Nursery School for the coming year, and to discuss their children's progress with the teachers. We have a speaker who will give a short talk on a relevant subject.

All too soon Christmas is upon us and already we are organising for the children's Nativity play which will be held on 11th December. This is always a lovely morning for children and parents alike.



The Branch celebrated the 70th Anniversary of the foundation (1926) on 26th October 1996. A Wreath was placed on the Memorial in Chapel Hill.

The Rev. Bob Wallace kindly conducted a Rededication Service in St. John's Church on Sunday 27th October. We were honoured by the attendance of the Deputy Lieutenant of Essex, Mrs P M Samuelson, OBE, DL., and a Royal British Legion County Official.

More than 120 guests attended the service and the Branch was pleased that several former officers, their wives and relatives were able to be present, many travelling some distance. Many others attended the Rededication Service.

The Branch wish to thank the Stansted Evening Women's Institute for so kindly arranging the refreshments for our guests after the service.

Our grateful thanks must also be expressed to the Air Training Corps (Stansted Detached Flight) for their help throughout the day. Their assistance with the hall requirements, car parking and escorting the guests as required was a credit to the Corps. Their help to the Legion since their formation has always been dedicated and efficient.



## Remembrance Sunday, 10th November

The Annual Parade, organised by the Parish Council, will form at the Crafton Green Car Park at 10.30 a.m. The Parade will march down Chapel Hill prior to the Service at St. John's Church. The Rev. Bob Wallace will officiate.

This year we do not have VE and VJ Day to remember. **But we do have the 75th Anniversary** of the foundation of the **Legion** and the **70th Anniversary** of the **Stansted & District Branch**.

Please **do support us and remember those who gave their lives for us all by your attendance at the Service of Remembrance.**

## PLEASE CAN YOU CONSIDER A PAUSE TO REMEMBER

11	11	11
The Hour	The Day	The Month

At 11 o'clock Monday 11th November 1996 the Royal British Legion, Stansted & District Branch will observe the two minutes silence at the Memorial, Chapel Hill, Stansted. Please join us if you can.

J L Segar



Our harvest sale at the September meeting attracted fewer members than usual but the proceeds did not suffer. There was an interesting display of cakes, flowers, vegetables, fruit, etc. and bidding was very lively resulting in a profit of £45 for our funds.

Discussion ensued on our visit to the airport which, for various reasons, we decided to postpone until the spring.

Our Social Evening will take the place of our branch meeting on Thursday, 21st November, in the Day Centre at 7.30 p.m. All members will be very welcome.

Pat Clower



**THE NOVEMBER MOUSE**

Nancy the November mouse was a naughty mouse. Almost since the day she was born (one dreary, foggy day) she had been naughty. She said that being naughty cheered up the miserable November days. But that wasn't what her mummy and daddy said!

When she was at home she was naughty, when she went shopping with her mummy she was naughty and when she went to school she was naughty.

One day when her baby brothers were asleep Nancy tied their tails together. When they woke up they had a terrible fright and cried and cried. Her mummy was NOT pleased.

Once when Nancy went shopping with her mummy and her brothers (who were called Freddy and Fergus) she knocked over a great big stack of sweetcorn. It rolled everywhere. Her mummy was NOT pleased.

When Nancy went to school she was naughty in the playground before school started. She was naughty in the classroom and she was naughty at dinnertime. Her teachers used to say "Whatever shall we do with Nancy the November mouse?"

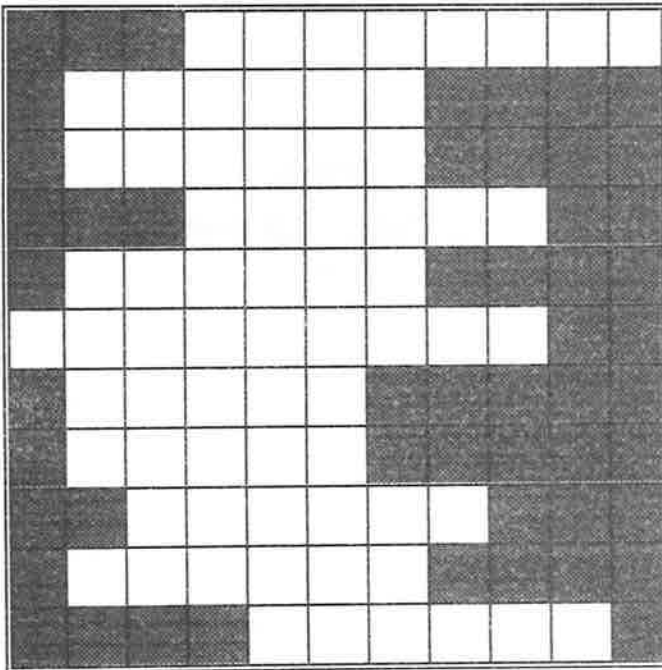
Really, Nancy liked school. She was good at reading; she didn't find maths difficult; she could draw beautiful pictures and she just loved P.E. But somehow she always managed to be naughty. It just happened.

"Maybe I'll get better as I grow bigger," she said.

Perhaps she did.

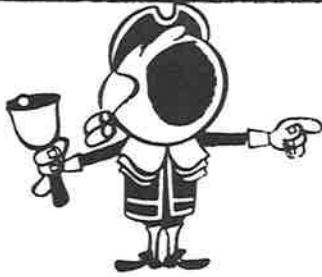
**Puzzle Time**

When you have answered the clues you should be able to find an 11 letter word running from top to bottom.



- Day you were born
- A vegetable
- Works at a railway station
- Man who lives on his own
- To die of hunger
- The ninth month
- She works in a hospital
- The opposite of south
- Three times ten
- Insect like a wasp
- Where flowers grow

Answers on page 15



## Future Events

### November

2	Sat	URC Autumn Bazaar 10-12.30 Fireworks. Mountfitchet School 6.30
4	Mon	Alzheimer's Carers Support, Quaker Hall 2-4.00
7	Thur	History Society, Crafton Green, 8.00
8	Fri	St John's Church, Open Meeting, 8.00
10	Sun	Wreath-laying, Memorial Garden, 11.00
11	Mon	2 minute silence, War Memorial, 11.00
15	Fri	Sideways AGM, St John's Hall
17	Sun	Mountfitchet School Craft Fair 10-4.00
21	Thur	RBL Ladies, Day Centre, 7.30
23	Sat	St John's Christmas Market 10-1.00 RN Assn. Concert Bps S'fd 7.00
24	Sun	Mountfitchet Boot Sale, 9-1.00

### December

5	Thur	History Society, Crafton Green, 8.00
6	Fri	Conservative Christmas Party, Day Centre, 8.00
13	Fri	WI Carol Concert, URC Church
14	Sat	Millers Sale 'Savages', Lower Street 9.30-12.00



## Stansted Football Club are pleased to announce Country & Western Evenings

recommence with  
**Kentucky Gold**

Friday 15th November

doors open at 7 pm

Members £3

Non members £4 except Specials

For details tel 812897

Please note future dates now!



20 Dec	New West
17 Jan	Steel & Lace
21 Feb	Dane Stevens
21 Mar	James Twins
18 Apr	Chrissie Sands & Oregon
16 May	Rick Hallam
20 Jun	Sandy Scott Duo
18 Jul	Country Crusaders
15 Aug	To be arranged
19 Sep	George Moody & Country Squires
17 Oct	Steve Travis
21 Nov	Pat Shaw & Shaw Fire
19 Dec	Steve's Scott Changes



## Stansted Mountfitchet Evening WI

warmly invite you to their

## Carol Concert

8 pm

Friday 13th December

at the

United Reformed Church

followed by refreshments in

the Lecture Hall

All are welcome

Hope to see you there!

## MOUNTFITCHET HIGH SCHOOL

## CRAFT FAIRE

Sunday 17th November

10.00am to 4.00pm

All articles for sale are

handmade by local craftworkers

Admission - Free or by donation

Free Car Parking

Hot and Cold Refreshments

Tel 01279 813384

## FUNDRAISING CURRY EVENING

7.30 pm

Saturday 23 November

St John's Church Hall

Tickets £7 incl Indian Meal

and Eastern Dancing

from Doctors' Surgery or

48 St John's Rd

Bring your own



The money raised will help sponsor  
Catherine Jones to teach  
underprivileged children in India  
during her GAP year before University

Your support is greatly appreciated

# STANSTED FUN RUN



**PRINTER  
CARTRIDGE  
RECYCLING  
PROJECT** 

A big **THANK YOU** to all those who have donated or promised to donate toner cartridges. Please keep them coming - even the little deskjet cartridges are worth £2.50!!

If you can manage to salvage the box from your new cartridge to put your old one in, then that would be a great help - but don't worry if you can't, it just makes transportation easier.

For those of you who missed last month's ad, we are collecting empty cartridges from laser or deskjet/inkjet printers for recycling.

20% of the money raised will go to the *Link*, the remainder towards next year's *Fun Run* administrative expenses.

Please telephone Marion Dyer on 814059 - collection can be arranged.



*Thank you for your help*

# Pilots Youth Club

Are you aged between 11 and 14 years? If so, why not come along to the Pilots Youth Club, in the United Reformed Church Hall, Chapel Hill, between 7 and 9pm,

Wednesday evenings.

Table Tennis, Snooker, Games, Crafts, Occasional outings, or just meet and chat over a coffee or soft drink. Tuck Shop available.

for information phone 813871



coffee  
morning

Hargrave Nursing  
Home

Cambridge Road, Stansted

*First Wednesday of every month*

*10am - 12 noon*

*Entrance: 40p*

*Come and Join the Residents  
for a chat and a piece of cake*

**ROYAL NAVAL  
ASSOCIATION**

presents

**OLDE TYME MUSIC  
CONCERT**

by

**THE ENTERTAINERS**

7.30 pm

Saturday 23 November

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Sunday 24th November

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**Christmas Fair**

Fri. 6th Dec. 1996

6.30 to 8.30 p.m.

Admission: Adults 50p (inc. raffle ticket),  
children free

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## Shalom Group

Reports and announcements of Shalom events frequently appear in 'Link', so it may be that you have wondered what this group really is.

In September 1995, the Shalom Group in Stansted celebrated the tenth anniversary of its founding. This group of Christians from all denominations has been meeting together on a fortnightly basis in the homes of its members for prayer and praise, to discuss issues, for bible studies and to listen to guest speakers. As well as inviting speakers from other Christian denominations, there have also been contacts with other faiths. There have been several interfaith meetings between the Shalom Group and the Jewish Community of Harlow and we are now affiliated to the Council of Christians and Jews (Harlow Branch). We were extremely fortunate to have Dr Akbar Ahmed, a foremost scholar on Islam, to speak to our group two years ago and last year we hosted Dr Ken Cracknell from Cambridge. There was a visit to the Hindu Temple at Neasden in June this year.

For some years now, the Shalom Group has had a relationship with the Black Church of Cherubim and Seraphim, when alternate visits for worship together have taken place. This has now been constitutionally adopted by CTS.

A few years ago many of the Shalom Group were very fortunate to visit the Holy Land and whilst our group leader was a Catholic Priest, two other ministers from the Methodist and Baptist Churches also took part in this very special pilgrimage. Every year, the Group holds an annual retreat which usually takes place at Hengrave Hall. Next year the Retreat will be led by Fr Gerard Hughes SJ who is a leading writer and spiritual leader. We are also linked to the Corrymeela Reconciliation Centre in Northern Ireland, being registered Friends of Corrymeela, and ecumenically organise a St Patrick's Night Dance every year to raise funds for this cause. A few years ago, members of the Group visited Belfast and Ballycastle to see for themselves the work of the Community. The Group also assist at the Whitechapel

Mission for the Homeless every sixth Sunday of the year, helping in the kitchens and shower rooms. We are also members of the Stansted Fun Run Committee which began in response to the Live Aid Appeal in 1985 and has taken place annually since then, the proceeds being divided between a local, national and international charity. This event is now linked into the Stansted Festival Weekend.

Three years ago Shalom group members, inspired by the example of the Rev'd Neal at Horncastle, set up 'Regular Aid for the Poor' (RAP). This is a structured arrangement whereby contributors - who could be anyone - donate a sum of money to three well-known charities - at present Oxfam, Save the Children and the Red Cross. These organisations have shown that they provide continuing aid for the deprived as well as being able to respond to specific crises. The system operates on a monthly basis by envelope or banker's order. Upwards of £2,000 has been raised annually and the latest indications are that membership is holding up well. A renewal is being planned shortly to which it is hoped that 'Link' readers will respond. The overall responsibility for RAP has recently passed to Churches Together in Stansted.

Perhaps I should point out that whatever Shalom is, it is not another church or sect. Almost all its members are active week by week in their mainstream churches.

I hope that this resumé gives readers a better idea of Shalom, which is a Hebrew word that embraces sharing and fellowship. Membership is open to all, so if you feel that this is something that expresses your feeling for the outgoing aspects of life, please come and join us. Meeting dates and venues regularly appear in 'Link'.

David Morson Tel 850209



# Stansted Mountfitchet Parish Council

Clerk: Mrs Ruth Clifford  
Office Hours:  
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

By now you should have received the latest edition of the Parish Newsletter enclosing a questionnaire about Playschemes. If it applies to you please do take some time to complete the form and return it to the Parish Council Offices - your input will be appreciated.

## Remembrance Sunday - 10th November

A reminder that the Parade will set off from Crafton Green at about 10.40 a.m. to the War Memorial. The Service will be held at 11.00 a.m. in St. John's Church. Please try to attend to remember the 70 (approximately) people who gave their lives from Stansted alone.

## Skip Dates

Saturday 9th and Sunday 10th November  
Monday 9th - Thursday 12th December.

1997 skip dates will be available next month.

## Garden Refuse Sacks and Blue Trade Sacks

A reminder that these are available from the Parish Council Offices at 50p (green) and 45p + VAT (blue) sacks respectively.

## STANSTED PLAYScheme 1996

After weeks of careful planning, the 1996 Stansted Playscheme got off to a cracking start back in July. The following four weeks were to be packed with activities, games, outings, sports and much more! In fact everything which entices the children of Stansted and the surrounding villages to come back year after year. Kids from five to eleven, plus all the teenage helpers, had a thoroughly good time meeting up with old friends and making new ones. This year we achieved a blend of activities ranging from popular ones the kids enjoy time after time, such as face painting, cooking, pond dipping, kite making and clay modelling, to brand new ideas such as soap sculpture, hot air balloons, making friendship bracelets and hair braiding.

Trips out this year included old favourites like Peter Kirk School, Walton-on-the-Naze and a train ride to Broxbourne swimming pool, as well as new places for the children to discover like the Lord Butler Leisure Centre in Saffron Walden. I'm not talking wet as in rain but rather wet as in water games!! Luckily it was a brilliant sunny day when we arrived and the kids, eager to get started, were split into two groups - the older ones going to join the centre's hugely popular day camp, and the younger ones spending the morning doing activities especially for them.

While the latter were icing biscuits and generally making a mess, the older kids were outside participating in a kind of sports day. This included running races, obstacle courses and lo and behold, buckets of water and wet sponges! This was great fun, especially for the helpers who were allowed to get revenge on the 'little monsters' with great big water pistols!!! Just when they thought they couldn't get any wetter we all went into the pool for an hour's swimming. After lunch, and having now been joined by the younger group, it was back outside for another soaking and mass water fight. At four o'clock most of the kids headed back to Stansted thoroughly wet and totally exhausted, while a few brave souls, myself included (being the only leader with any energy left!), stayed on for a roller disco in the sports hall. This was actually great fun - despite a few bruised knees and sore bottoms! and we eventually got back at 6 p.m.

As usual we ended the four weeks with our infamous fancy dress party and as ever were delighted to see how much effort the children (and their mums and dads!) had put into the costumes. Many thanks go to Ann Conroy, Terrie Stockwell, Lorna Ruff, Darren Hughes and all the other helpers who made this year's playscheme so successful and I'm sure everyone is now looking forward to next year.

Mark Bellamy



## Stansted Mountfitchet Local History Society

At our last meeting our own Ted Pretty took us through the long history of the DeVere family and other owners of Hedingham Castle and told of the months he worked there leaving a lasting interest in the building.

Michael Hoyle will talk on Essex Mills on Thursday 7th November and Georgina Green on Dick Turpin, Fact or Fiction, on Thursday 5th December. Both at 8 p.m. in the Day Centre.

P Honour  
813160

## Homemade Cake Stall

10.00am

1st Saturday of each month  
outside the

United Reformed Church  
Chapel Hill

(in church porch if wet)



## RAINBOW PRE-SCHOOL

You may have noticed our change of name. We have decided to replace the word 'playgroup' with 'preschool'. This is because many parents think playgroups are simply places children go to play rather than learn. Although most of a child's early learning is done through play, we felt we needed to get the message across that playgroup has a strong educational base.

We had an official renaming morning with representatives of the Parish Council present. We had a cake and some wine for the adults and all the children had a yellow balloon sporting our new name. You may have seen us in the paper with the children waving their balloons at the reporter.

It has been a busy half term for the children at Rainbow. The children have been working around the theme of food. Some of them have been for a walk with Auntie Ann to the greengrocers to buy some vegetables. They then make vegetable soup. They could all try it though some turned their noses up and stuck with the more normal milk and a biscuit.

The children made harvest baskets which were filled with donated tins. They took them up to St. John's Church where the Rev. Bob Wallace met them and talked to them for a while. The baskets will be taken to London to be distributed to the homeless.

The children will soon be busy making a huge guy for the Stansted firework display. The guy is a larger than life model and will look wonderful sitting on top of the bonfire.

The children have a sponsored alphabet sheet to fill in during the half term holiday. It is amazing to see the different ideas the children have for all the letters. They really enjoy doing it while raising funds for the preschool.

The photographer will be visiting us again and I am sure we will have some lovely portraits to give to friends and family.

## Stansted Tennis Club



### STANSTED TENNIS CLUB

#### Hospital Cup Finals Day

The 1996 Hospitals Cup Finals Day was held on Saturday 28th September at Henham Tennis Club. This knockout tournament between local tennis clubs within the Saffron Walden District was first played in 1941. It has been resurrected this year after a 3 year break.

In the finals, both the mens and ladies singles were contested by Stansted players. In the ladies singles final, Sandra Ayres defeated Hazel Smith 6-4, 6-3 in two close sets. Three weeks before Sandra had beaten Hazel in three sets in Stansted Tennis Club's final. The men's singles trophy went to Richard Johnson, who defeated his doubles partner Richard Eyre, 6-3, 6-4. Henham won the men's doubles, Grove (Saffron Walden) won the ladies doubles and Henham won the mixed doubles.

The money raised by the event will be donated to the Saffron Walden Welfare and Charitable Fund. Committee Member, Miriam Day, presented the impressive trophies. She was delighted that the tournament has been resurrected and that donations will benefit elderly people in the local area.

The 9th Pearce/Frodo Tournament was held on Sunday 6th October. Steve Aylott and Martin Sebley beat Richard Crosby and Richard Mott 6-3 in the final. The tournament was organised by Richard Mott.

The Christmas Dinner will be held at the Prince of Wales, Broxton, on Saturday 14th December.

Winter subscriptions are half price from October to March (inclusive).

On Wednesday 13th November in the afternoon we have one of our secondhand clothes and toy sales with lots of bargains to be found. We also have a man who makes wooden toys coming with his toys which make wonderful Christmas presents. Come along and have a cup of coffee or tea and a slice of cake with us while finding a bargain or two.

See you there!

All enquiries to: Janet Hollis (Chairman) B/S 812073, Richard Mott (Secretary) B/S 466348, or Gill Robinson (Treasurer), B/S 815486.

# STANSTED CONSERVATIVES



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## The Palace of Westminster

Recently, Sir Alan Haselhurst MP took a party of constituents from Stansted round the Palace of Westminster. The hour's tour through centuries of government was extremely interesting and was imbued with a powerful sense of the dignity and splendour of the 'Mother of Parliaments'. Although arranged by Stansted Conservatives, the tour was open to all, and a wide political spectrum was represented. The day was a huge success and Sir Alan has indicated that he will be happy to repeat the tour next year. Anyone interested in joining the tour should contact me.

## An Olympian Evening

Stansted Conservatives gathered at Mountfitchet High School on 4th October for their Annual Dinner. The large number of guests, who were not exclusively Conservatives, greatly enjoyed some entertaining sporting and political reminiscences from Sebastian Coe MP, the Guest Speaker. The gathering, which included Sir Alan and Lady Haselhurst, was privileged to be host to not one, but two, Olympic gold medallists in track events, with the presence of Noel Thatcher, who returned from Atlanta with golds in the 5,000 and 10,000 metres. The very successful evening concluded with an auction of a menu card signed by both Olympians.

## Forthcoming Events

At 8.00 p.m. on Friday 6th December 1996, the Branch Christmas Party will be held in the Day Centre, Stansted.

The 1997 Branch Annual Supper Dance, will be held on Saturday 11th January 1997 in the impressive surroundings and atmosphere of Pledgdon Barn, Henham. Tickets will be on sale shortly. This is a very popular fixture and early application to me for tickets is strongly advised.

## Conservative Contacts

District Council Matters:  
Jackie Cheetham 01279 870706

County Council Matters:  
Richard Wallace 01279 872477

Parish Council Matters:  
Bridget Gott - Bentfield Ward - 01279 814440  
Peter Jones - Castle Ward - 01279 813252  
Steve Morrison - Castle Ward - 01279 814152  
Alastair Richardson - Castle Ward - 01279 815959  
John Salmon - Bentfield Ward - 01279 814187

## Member of Parliament's Interviews

### Friday 15th November

The Guildhall, Town Street, Thaxted  
5.45 pm - 6.30 pm  
The Old Armoury, 3 Museum Street, Saffron Walden  
7.00 pm - 7.45 pm

### Friday 29th November

Town Council Office, 47 Stortford Road, Dunmow  
5.45 pm - 6.30 pm  
Town Council Office, Trinity Street, Halstead  
7.00 pm - 7.45 pm

An appointment is not necessary.

Alastair Richardson



## STANSTED EVENING

Our October meeting was organised by a group of members, giving the committee a rest. Mrs Rosemary Minshull took the chair and Mrs Marion Pretty was secretary for the evening.

Mrs Minshull welcomed five past members to the meeting saying she hoped we would see more of them in the future.

Business covered our Carol Concert on Friday 13th December in the U.R.C. Church. We will also have refreshments after in the Lecture Hall. Members will be able to enjoy a Christmas Dinner at The Cock public house in December. It was agreed we will lay a wreath at the British Legion's Memorial Service in November as we usually do.

Mrs Minshull then introduced our speaker Mr Peter Clark, who is the superintendent gardener at Audley End House. His interesting talk covered the gardens at the house, how English Heritage had excavated these gardens, finding the original layout and also part of the old Monastery that had been there before the house was built. They also found the bones of five monks during their excavations. His talk also covered other large gardens and houses in the care of English Heritage and the way walls and outbuildings are being restored. Mrs Ansell thanked him for a very interesting talk, with many members thinking we must go to Audley End for another good look.

Our evening continued with a flower and fruit quiz won by Mrs May Perry, the drawing of a generous raffle, and Mrs Stoddart coming first in our competition of a dried flower arrangement. The members day committee were thanked for giving us a very enjoyable evening.

Brenda Ryan  
812725





The new term is well underway and our new football game was very well received. It took us a little while to get it together but once all the screws were in place everyone wanted to join in the fun.

Everyone enjoyed Mr Smith with his wonderful collection of whistles. He had one shaped like a tea cup and he expected somebody to bring him a cup of tea every time he blew it.

We are still looking for some more drivers. We have handicapped people wanting to join the club but we have to disappoint them because of lack of drivers. Could you spare one evening a month (Thursday) to bring a new member from Saffron Walden?

We would like to say a big thankyou to the members of the United Reformed Church for letting us use their hall from time to time for meetings.

M G Johnson



Answers	
birthday	i
turnip	n
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hermit	e
starve	r
September	e
nurse	s
north	t
thirty	i
hornet	n
garden	g

**Barbara Tyson 1924-1996**

**HEAL**

**Herts, Essex and London Cancer Charity**

Barbara finally lost her brave and long battle against Cancer and died on 8th August. A funeral service for her was held at St. Mary's Church on 19th August. It was conducted by the Revd's. Andrew Spurr and Margaret Booker. Margaret, who was such a good friend of Barbara's, gave the address. Barbara would have been overwhelmed by the large number of her friends who attended the funeral, which was a very moving occasion.

Barbara had worked for months in her usual enthusiastic and tireless way, organising every detail of her Coffee Morning in aid of HEAL. Very sadly she died just seven weeks before it took place on 25th September. It was decided to hold it as a tribute to her and in her memory. Even Barbara could not have imagined how successful it would be. Not only was the sum of £1,403 raised for such an excellent cause, but, as usual, Stansted rose to the occasion in a magnificent way. The Day Centre was packed with stalls and people who spent their money so generously.

Jack Stevens, the Chairman of HEAL, spoke about the work of the charity and Jean Reed, the Administration Officer, also attended. They were both totally overwhelmed by the event and were so impressed that there is still such a strong community in Stansted. They could not thank everybody enough for all their efforts.

Our vicar, Bob Wallace, then spoke about Barbara and her work for HEAL and paid tribute to her life and work for so many organisations in Stansted.

About 70 letters of thanks are being sent out. We hope nobody will be missed but inevitably his may happen. If so, we hope people will accept heartfelt thanks through this article in the Link.

We will not forget Barbara. She was a wonderful character with many friends and she will be sadly missed in Stansted.

If desired, any further donations (please state they are in memory of Barbara Tyson) should be sent to:  
**Mrs Jean Reed, North Middlesex Cancer Centre, The North Middlesex Hospital, Sterling Way, Edmonton, London, N18 1QX. Telephone: 0181 887 2408.**

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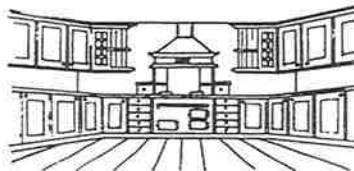
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