

April 97

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Mountfitchet*

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# **JOIN IN STANSTED'S VILLAGE CLEAN - UP**



**Saturday 12th April**

*See Diary page for details*

**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  
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**Cost £3.00 per year or 30 pence per issue**

Printed by 'The Print Shop' Bishop's Stortford

Opinions expressed in this magazine are given freely and do not necessarily represent those of CTS, its member churches, village organisations or advertisers.

**Copy to reach 58 Chapel Hill by  
17th April for publication on 4th May  
15th May for publication on 1st June**

# Church of England

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

Clergy: Rev'd Bob Wallace & Rev'd Brenda Wallace  
The Rectory, St John's Road, Stansted  
Tel 812203

Rev'd Andrew Spurr  
43 Gilbey Crescent, Stansted  
Tel 815025

### Weekly Services:

Sunday	Holy Communion	8.00 am
	Parish Communion	9.30 am
	(Creche, Children's Church & Lazer Group)	
	Evensong	6.30 pm
Monday	Holy Communion	7.30 pm
Wednesday	Holy Communion	10.00 am
Friday	Holy Communion	9.00 am

### Monthly Services:

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

### DIARY FOR APRIL

- 1 10.30 am Service at Norman Court  
7.30 pm Farewell Party for Bob & Brenda  
Wallace in St John's Church
- 8 10.30 am Service at Mead Court  
2.00 pm Tuesday Club at 10 Hargrave Close  
2.15 pm Tiny Tots  
8.15 pm Prayer Group at 16 Bentfield Causeway
- 15 10.30 am Service at Broome End
- 18 8.00 pm Election of Churchwardens and Annual  
Parochial Church Meeting (in the Hall)
- 21 8.00 pm Benefice Committee
- 22 10.30 am Service at Hargrave House  
2.15 pm Tiny Tots
- 28 8.00 pm P.C.C. in the Upper Room
- 29 8.00 pm Institution of Bob Wallace as Rector of  
Hutton and licensing of Brenda Wallace  
as Curate of Hutton by the Bishop of  
Bradwell in St Peter's Church, Hutton.  
This will be followed by a reception in  
All Saints (C of E) Primary School  
adjacent to the Church. All welcome.

From Thursday 3rd April 1997:

Bob & Brenda Wallace, Richard, Catherine and Sarah  
The Rectory  
175 Rayleigh Road  
Hutton  
Brentwood  
Essex  
CM13 1LX  
Tel: 01277 215115

## REGISTERS FOR FEBRUARY

### Wedding

1st Jonathan James Hart and Hayley Moss

### Funerals

4th David John Rogers, aged 77  
Herbert Warby, aged 81

17th Donald Baker, aged 59  
Florence Lilian Wooldridge, aged 88

18th Ellen Powell, aged 93

27th Gordon Felstead, aged 64

Saying goodbye is never easy. On the one hand there is the sense of expectation of going on to a new home and a new job. On the other hand, there is sadness at leaving a place and, more importantly, some people whom you have got to know and like.

This move finally gives Brenda and I the situation we have sought during the 23 years we have been married. From our first meeting in Theological College we have always hoped to be able to work together in parochial ministry. Now, at last, this has been made possible and we are excited at the prospect. We have always argued that clergy couples should be seen as an opportunity and not as a problem for the Church. We were beginning to wonder if anyone had heard us!

Hutton is a large parish the other side of Brentwood with a population of over 15,000. There are two Churches: All Saints' which is ancient and in a village setting at the Billericay end of the parish, and St Peter's which is modern and in the centre of the parish (on the A129, exactly one mile from Shenfield Station).

We will be moving into the new Rectory opposite St Peter's on Thursday 3rd April and will begin our new jobs with a special service at St Peter's on Tuesday 29th April at 8 pm. We hope to see many friends on this occasion - there will be a reception in the adjacent All Saints' Primary School afterwards.

The past eight years have been eventful ones in the life of the parish. The redundancy of St Mary's was a necessary but painful business. Parish re-organisation meant the uniting of this Benefice with those of Birchanger and Farnham. Although things may look the same from the Stansted point of view they have changed. I hope that it will be properly understood that my successor will also have commitments as Rector of Birchanger and Rector of Farnham.

But it is the people I will remember most. My fellow clergy: Margaret Booker, Christopher Kevill-Davis, Tony King, John Cardell-Oliver, Richard Dunstan-Meadows, Andrew Spurr (and, of course, Brenda!). The congregations and parishioners - even those whose faces I always recognise but whose names I never learnt! May God bless you all and give you a good and faithful pastor as your next Rector.

Bob Wallace

# Methodist

## Meets in Quaker Meeting House, Chapel Hill

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

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

### PREACHERS FOR APRIL

6th 9.30 am Mr Bernard Engel  
13th 9.30 am Mr Ron Cox  
20th 9.30 am The Revd Michael Hayman,  
Holy Communion  
27th 9.30 am The Revd Ronald Rawlins

Our church Fellowship will meet on Friday 18th April at 8.00 pm at Mrs F Richards, 17 Spencer Close, off Chapel Hill. The subject - A Second Look at Church of England/Methodist Unity.

We share with the other Churches of Stansted in wishing Bob and Brenda Wallace and their children rich blessings in their new appointments and home at Hutton, near Brentwood.

Michael A Hayman

# Roman Catholic

## St Theresa's Church, Millside

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

Masses: Saturday Stansted 6.00 pm  
Sunday Stansted 10.30 am  
Henham 9.00 am  
Holy Days Stansted 8.00 pm  
Henham 7.00 pm  
Weekdays Stansted 9.30 am  
(Tues-Sat )

Confessions on Saturday after 9.30 mass

### REGISTERS FOR MARCH

#### Baptisms

2nd March Jack Kieran Staunton  
9th March Catherine Mary Boggis



# CHURCHES TOGETHER in STANSTED

### ELECTION FORUM

We are holding an Election Forum on the Saturday evening before Polling Day. The prospective candidates of the Liberal Democrat, Labour, Referendum and Independent parties have agreed to take part. So far our present M.P. Sir Alan Haselhurst has declined our invitation.

Please come along, bring friends and lots of questions. The time and venue will be on noticeboards and posters nearer the date.

### STANSTED R.A.P. (REGULAR AID TO THE POOR)

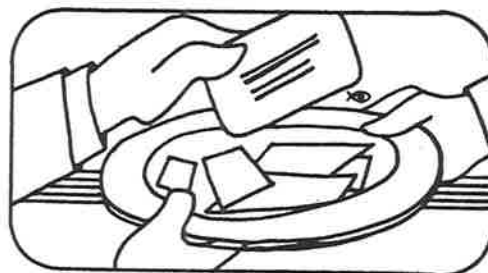
On a beautiful summer Saturday in August 1993, much-loved actor Paul Eddington came to Stansted to give his blessing to the inauguration of our village charity Regular Aid to the Poor. The little ceremony was held at a bread and soup lunch at St John's Church Hall after which Paul left us with his best wishes and his photograph - recalling to us now, as it does, those happier days before the cancer which overtook him.

In the three and a half years since it started, "R.A.P." has, through its good supporters, raised some £2,000 a year. You too who read this could, like Paul Eddington, bring "Good Luck to Regular Aid"!

Come and join us as a subscriber (gifts in anonymous envelopes received at the Post Office). All money raised divided equally between Red Cross, Save the Children and Oxfam for relief of suffering at home and abroad in crisis situations.

For information - Hon Treasurer 01279 813745.

Phyllis Harrison





# United Reformed

## Chapel Hill

Ministers: Rev'd Margaret McKay  
1 Howe Hall Cottages  
Littlebury Green  
Tel 01799 528155

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

Contact: Mrs Janet Townsend  
58 Chapel Hill  
Tel 812593

The gremlins attacked our Link entry last month and changed the meaning of the verse. This is the correct version of "JUST A THOUGHT"

Yesterday is history  
Tomorrow is a mystery  
Enjoy today it is a gift  
That's why we call it the present.

The annual Bible Society Coffee Morning is on April 8th at 58 Chapel Hill from 10 am. There will be a Bring and Buy Stall and Raffle, entrance 50p. Please come. As you are doing your spring cleaning of cupboards and book shelves, watch out for any Ladybird books and bring them with you to add to our collection for Book Aid who repair them if necessary and send them to Africa.

Another date for your diary: May 10th, 7.30 pm, Quiz Night for the redevelopment fund.

Tickets available now £5.00 (which includes a Ploughman's Supper) from Betty Francis on 814850.

It is with sadness we learnt of the death on March 14th of Doris McIlwain, wife of Eric who was Minister of our Church from 1978-1990 and known to many in the village. Doris had been in hospital following a series of strokes since Christmas.

Our thoughts are with Eric and all the family both here and in Canada at this time.

### PREACHERS FOR APRIL

6th	11 am	Mr Huband
13th	11 am	Rev M McKay
20th	11 am	Mrs C Bonner
27th	11 am	Rev L Rapkin Communion

## Homemade Cake Stall

10.00am

1st Saturday of each month

outside the

United Reformed Church

Chapel Hill

(in church porch if wet)

## Society of Friends

### Quaker Meeting House, Chapel Hill

Clerk: Mrs Anthea Lee  
24 Lea Close  
Bishop's Stortford  
Tel 656707

Meeting: Sunday 11 am

### BACK - LOOKING - FORWARD

Like a number of you I have been ill recently and spent a lot of time doing very little - hopefully recovering, but unfortunately mainly feeling sorry for myself. Then as recovery set in, my feelings changed to being annoyed with myself for my lack of stamina and drive. I am now back at work and cannot avoid a feeling of guilt because I feel 'out of touch' with the happenings and have to 'catch up' as quickly as possible. My guilt is even more acute as my wife and I have organised a holiday in U.S.A. This we arranged last year and so I will be away from work yet again!

I suppose these feelings are similar to everybody else's who contemplates their own thoughts. Change happens imperceptibly at the time, but on looking back is quite rapid and the time of change from despair to hope is also very fast as recovery sets in.

Now I look forward to some sunshine and a period of relaxation and excitement with new situations looming and this I do with gratitude.

"Wait in patience till Light arises out of darkness to lead thee. Art thou wounded in conscience? Feed not there, but abide in the Light which leads to Grace and Truth, which teaches to deny and puts off the weight and removes the cause and brings saving health to Light". James Naylor, 1650.

Peter Burgess

## SHALOM

### PEP FICTION?

Where do we look for our healing and wholeness? For Shalom, which is the name we have adopted for our group. As we meet fortnight by fortnight, becoming more open to one another's Christian position and faith history we find that the barriers of prejudice begin, like the layers of an onion, to be peeled away. And yet we feel also a deep need to look each year with expectation to a particular focus of strength-gathering, to a special time of being together in joyful company, a particular taking of bearings on the spiritual journey. This point of focus is the annual Shalom retreat in the beautiful Tudor manor house of Hengrave Hall.

Friday evening: Almost as the words slip from our mouths we know we have blundered. That wasn't quite the answer we meant. The snap reaction to "What are you looking for this weekend?" "A spiritual shot in the arm", "a pep-up". Yes, of course, we yearn for a special feeling and for a new awareness. Of course we look to the celebrity who leads us here this weekend for pearls, like children waiting for balloons from the special grown-up. Absurdly, in Morsonesque language we long for "a massage from the Swedish Prime Minister"!

We should have known better, having pored over our leader Gerry Hughes' books. Renewal and awareness of God, he says, don't emanate from the retreat leader but from a looking for spiritual treasure in an unlikely field - ourselves!

During the weekend we are asked to listen much more carefully. Primarily, to listen to God speaking. With difficulty we are being taken on the path of relearning the art of wonder, of refreshing ourselves in the abundance of God's love. But listening also to the other person and most importantly, listening to ourselves. It is vital, in Gerry Hughes' understanding, that we listen to our desires; not criticising them and not commenting. For our desires when looked at carefully reveal where our security lies and that will indicate whether we are on the Way of Holiness or on Desolation Row.

By looking inward we also begin to identify the location of God. Not outside ourselves but extremely close to us, the God in whom we "live and move and have our being". It is this God who cherishes us, who continually courts us as His bride, continually eucharistically gives his body every day in beautiful things and beautiful experiences.

When we face the world's problems, says Gerry Hughes, we often feel helpless. But who is helpless? God or me? Atheistically we expect to handle our own problems, keeping an external God boxed away for the religious fragment of our lives - our Sunday selves. Yet, if we could only see beyond the helplessness we would see that a God who is closer to us than our very breath is here in the problem with us.

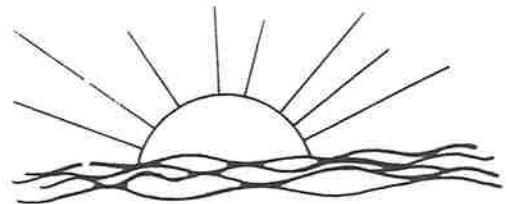
How soon desolation comes to haunt us! Not long after the last fruit cake is eaten and the last Abbot ale drunk, the last Bob Dylan song sung and the last silent breakfast endured there's a low we tend to hit about Tuesday morning after the retreat. It's the point when we start to think about throwing away the notes we made on the weekend. We try desperately, aching to capture in our memory the loving closeness, to savour again the wisdom and, yes, fun that pervaded the weekend. At that stage the notion of a spiritual pep-up or massage doesn't seem so far from the truth. It's in the nature of pep-ups and massages to be temporarily induced highs from which we soon come down. But there again, just at that point in the atheistic gloom of Tuesday morning it can happen that the God of Surprises astounds us and brings us back to the core message that He is With Us by demonstrating in a subtle and unexpected way that he cherishes us and that His covenant with us is for all time.

At that point we open wide our ears and eyes in anticipation of the retreat to end all retreats!

AW

### SHALOM DATES - APRIL

14th - 8 pm -	Prayer and Praise at Rita and David Morson's, 'Chantry Hall', Crow Street, Henham
28th - 8 pm	Venue Ruth Rawlinson Mont House, Lower Street, Stansted



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## Stansted Mountfitchet Local History Society

Victorian Murders in Essex hardly seems anything but a gruesome subject but Fred Feather found the lighter side of some of the incidents he related in his talk to the March meeting.

On Thursday 3rd April at 8 pm in the Day Centre, The Rev. Margaret McKay will speak on the history of the United Reformed Church in Stansted.

Our last meeting of the season on 1st May will consist of the Annual General Meeting and, amongst other things, a look back at the 10 years since the History Society was formed. Please note that this will be held at **The Friends Meeting House, Chapel Hill**, not our usual venue but still at the usual time of 8 pm.

Peggy Honour  
813160

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**Editorial Note.** The Link is pleased to receive contributions from readers, but it is necessary for a name and address to be supplied irrespective of whether or not it is withheld from publication.

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**VOLUNTEERS URGENTLY NEEDED!** If you can give a few hours in Christian Aid week (May 11-17) to do an envelope collection please come and lend a hand. It's more fun to go out with a friend so if we have enough collectors we can do some pairing. Your reward will be knowing that your contribution will make a difference to the lives of those less fortunate than ourselves. So please let me know if you can help.

Catherine Dean  
813579  
49 Recreation Ground  
Christian Aid Co-ordinator

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**MOUNTFITCHET  
GARDEN CLUB**

## SPRING SHOW

2.30 pm

Saturday 5th April

United Reformed Church Hall

**ADMISSION FREE**



**Quiz  
Night**

Evening

7.45 pm Saturday 5th April

St John's Hall

Entry by ticket only £4.50

Please tel 812740

## Lunch at The White Hart

Cambridge Road, Ugley  
Sunday 6 April at 12.30 pm



In aid of  
St. John's Hall Roof Fund  
by invitation of Alastair & Susan Bone  
Tickets £5 - Family £12  
from Alan Corbishley 813040

## VILLAGE EVENTS

### April

1	Tue	Farewell to Bob & Brenda	St John's Church 8 pm
2	Wed	Gardening Club	Day Centre 8 pm
3	Thur	Local History Society	Day Centre 8 pm
5	Sat	Cake Stall	United Reformed Church 10 am
		Gardening Club Spring Show	URC Hall 2.30 pm
		Liberal Democrats Auction	Day Centre 7.30 pm
		Evening W I Quiz Night	St John's Hall 7.45 pm
6	Sun	St John's Roof Fund Lunch	White Hart, Ugley 12.30 pm
		Windmill Open	2.00 - 6.00 pm
7	Mon	Carers Support Group	Quaker Meeting House 2 pm
8	Tue	Bible Society Coffee Morning	58 Chapel Hill 10 am
9	Wed	Afternoon Women's Institute	Day Centre 2.30 pm
11	Fri	Conservatives Fashion Show	St John's Hall 8 pm
12	Sat	Village Clean-Up	Crafton Green 10 am
		Liberal Democrats Ploughmans	Day Centre 12 - 2 pm
13	Sun	Treasure Hunt	Meet Bentfield School 11 am
14	Mon	Shalom Group	Chantry Hall, Henham 8 pm
15	Tue	Keep Fit	St John's Hall 8.15 pm
17	Thu	RBL (Women's Section)	Day Centre 7.30 pm
20	Sun	Car Boot Sale	Mountfitchet School 8 am - 12 noon
21	Mon		
	to		
24	Thu	Skip at Crafton Green	St John's Hall 7.30 pm
26	Sat	New Roof Party	Mont House, High Lane 8 pm
28	Mon	Shalom Group	Day Centre 12 noon
30	Wed	Conservative Ladies' Lunch	

### May

1	Thu	Election Day	
3	Sat	Cake Stall	United Reformed Church 10 am
		Carnival Line Dancing	Mountfitchet School 7.30 pm
4	Sun		
	and		
5	Mon	Windmill Open	Foakes Hall Dunmow 10 am - 5 pm
		Art Group Annual Exhibition	St John's Hall 2.30 pm
7	Wed	Afternoon Women's Institute	Day Centre 8 pm
		Gardening Club	St John's Hall 8 pm
9	Fri	W I Fashion Show	Gt Hallingbury Village Hall 1 pm
10	Sat	Farnham School Boot Sale	Day Centre 12 - 2 pm
		Liberal Democrats Ploughmans	Quaker Meeting House 10 am
17	Sat	Christian Aid Market	



**Stansted Mountfitchet  
Parish Council**

## VILLAGE CLEAN UP

Saturday 12th April  
10.00 am at Council Offices  
Sacks provided



**TUESDAY KEEP-FIT**

**CLASSES** resume

Tuesday 15th April  
St. John's Church Hall  
8.15 to 9.15 pm  
**Everyone Welcome**  
*"Come along and shape  
up for summer"*  
Tel 812816

## New Roof Party



St John's Hall  
7.30 pm  
Saturday 26th April

*"Celebrate the new roof by  
dancing your way from  
Athens to the Wild West"*

An informal evening of  
international music and dance  
led by Mike Gutteridge

*Great fun for all from eight to eighty!*

Supper - Bar - Raffle

Tickets £5 - Family £15  
from Jane Freeman 814084  
or Joan Freeman 813186

## DUNMOW ART GROUP



23rd Annual Exhibition  
Foakes Hall - Stortford Road  
Sun 4th - Mon 5th May  
10 am - 5 pm  
Entrance 50p - Children 10p



**Stansted Carnival  
Committee**

## Line Dancing

7.30 for 8 pm Sat 3rd May  
Mountfitchet School  
Licensed Bar  
Tickets £5 (incl supper) from  
Stansted Carpets or tel 812743  
Caller: Valerie Martin

## Stansted Afternoon



## Stansted Evening

On February 12th our meeting opened with the singing of Jerusalem and after the business was finished our President welcomed our speakers Mrs Leech and Mrs Richmond.

Mrs Leech spoke about reflexology, showing slides demonstrating how the fingers and thumbs are used to work the whole foot area identifying the healing point the natural way. It was first used in Egypt and China 5000 years ago, but was only revived during this century in the western world.

Aromatherapy, another healing and relaxing treatment, used thousands of years ago was explained by Mrs Richmond, again used by the Greeks and Egyptians with oils to massage the body, not used here until the 1920s which is now found to be very beneficial. Our speakers kindly donated a raffle prize and the lucky members were Mrs Goose winning reflexology and Mrs Torkington aromatherapy, a most enlightening and educational afternoon.

Our March meeting was held as usual on the second Wednesday in the month at the Day Centre at 2.30 pm. We tried for the first time a games afternoon, very relaxing with a break halfway when tea and biscuits were served which was enjoyed by members. One tends to forget that you can't play board games living on your own.

Sadly, membership numbers are declining and we are looking for new members. The afternoon W.I. has been going for 75 years and it would be very disappointing if it had to close. So how about giving it a go?

Our March meeting opened with a welcome to four more new members, Julie George, Iris Hobday, Diane Watts and Ann Neville, so bringing our total of new ladies joining us to seven since October'96.

The Jumble Sale in February proved a great success. Along with the sale of homemade cakes and a raffle we raised over £200 towards our funds.

Members were reminded of our forthcoming Quiz Evening on April 5th in St John's Hall. Tickets are £4.50 and are available from these phone numbers: 812470 and 813542. Another fund raising event will be a "Feathers Fashion Show" on Friday 9th May at 8 pm in St John's Hall when our own members will be modelling some of the clothes that will be on sale during the evening.

Members were thanked for their contribution of high protein food sent out to the Ukraine by Exobus and multivitamin tablets for the children of Chernobyl. The members agreed to donate the proceeds of our April meeting raffle to the Church Hall Roof Appeal.

Our speaker, Alan Hale, an astrologer, took us through the mysteries of the star signs, the effects of the sun's position and the time of day when we are born, as to what our future holds for us. Members were able to ask Mr Hale questions during his most interesting and amusing talk and he was thanked on behalf of the members by Lindsey Holland.

The meeting continued with a musical sound quiz organised by Mrs Johnson, Mrs Clarke and Mrs Woor and won by Mrs Sue Holland.

Our next meeting on Thursday 10th April is a talk by Gay Langham entitled Life Force - Energy. Visitors are most welcome to attend this meeting.

Brenda Ryan  
812725

**CARERS SUPPORT GROUP**

**MONDAY 7TH APRIL**

**2 pm - 4 pm**

**at Quaker Meeting House**

**Chapel Hill**

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## MOUNTFITCHET GARDEN CLUB

Our February meeting was well attended to welcome our speaker from the Horticultural and Agricultural College in Cambridge. Alan Booth had a very attentive audience to learn about Safety in the Garden. The subjects dealt with included care and use of machinery including power tools, fertilisers, poisons and electrical safety measures. Mr Booth was able to inject a degree of humour into his presentation that served to make his serious points very well.

### Member's Competition.....

Best Safety Hint, was won by Betty Waterman with the following hint (judged by our speaker).

When using an electric mower use an armband to secure the lead - instead of throwing it over your shoulder where it can easily slip off creating a dangerous situation.

Other entries from this competition will be published from time to time .... watch this space.

### April Events

Wednesday 2nd at 8 pm. Peter Blackburn-Maize will tell us "Something Different with Tree Fruit". This meeting will also incorporate the club's Annual General Meeting, so if any members want to be involved in the running of the club now is your chance to serve on the committee, etc. Nominations will be welcomed, maybe some new faces will provide some new ideas for the club.

### Saturday 5th - Spring Show

As usual this will be held in the United Reformed Church Hall, Chapel Hill, Stansted. Admission from 2.30 pm is free to all, refreshments and raffle available. If you missed us last year (show was cancelled because of poor growing conditions) do come along and see the magnificent display of spring flowers that Stansted gardeners produce.

Visiting speakers ... we will shortly be publishing our 1997/98 programme of speakers. If you have an interest in gardening why not join us, you will be very welcome.



The children have been very busy as usual. They made biscuits for Mothering Sunday which they put in baskets that they had also made. They have been making Easter cards as well as many other activities, woodwork being one of them. Rainbow have a child's size woodwork bench with real child size tools. My son came home with a large piece of wood with some nails in it of which he was very proud. "I banged them in myself Mummy!" We are still trying to think of a use!

The older group went to visit the lambs at Bentfield Bury Farm. They were allowed to feed some of the orphan lambs and one was small enough to be carried around by the children. It didn't seem to mind, in fact started bleating more when the children went away.

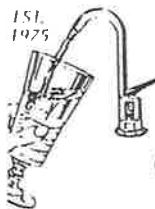
Both groups performed an Easter concert for their parents and hot cross buns were provided as refreshments for the visitors. We held an Easter raffle with a lovely simnel cake as one of the prizes.

We are looking forward to the better weather and I'm sure the children will be out and about around the village visiting places like the fire station before long.



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Hello again from everyone at Sideways. How time flies when you are having fun! It is nearly Easter and the children are busy making cards and Easter bunnies and helping to decorate the windows. The Mother's Day cards were well received I hear.

Spring is in the air and once again the "I Spy" nature boards idea to raise money for funds. The children have to collect 15 items in and around the village and pin them on to a board then label them. They then get sponsored for as many items as they can find. This year we will be donating some of the proceeds from the "I Spy" boards to St John's Church Hall towards the New Roof Fund. As we use the Hall more than most in the village, the parents, committee and children felt it would be nice to give something towards the re-roofing.

After Easter the summer term. There will be a Maytime concert for parents, grandparents, friends, etc. Our usual outings in and around the village. Perhaps a visit from Broxbourne Wildlife Park bringing some young animals to see the children. (I'd like to see the giant spiders and snakes although a baby tiger would be good).

At the end of term we will be holding a special leaving party for those children who are starting "Big School" in September. There will be a magician, a barbecue and lots of games and sports for all. Watch this space!

Auntie Helen

**PROBLEMS WITH YOUR HEARING AID ?**

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For further information ring 01371 873310 or 01799 522915



We are hoping to arrange a social evening on Saturday 10th May when a speaker will talk about Bosnia. It is hoped that such an evening will attract many others besides Legion Members. Further details will be in the next Link but in the meantime please contact Bob Stoddart, 814015 or John Segar, 813289.



At our February meeting our chairman, Mrs Janet Hollis, welcomed us back after the winter break and referred to the very enjoyable social evening we had spent together in November. A Quiz to test our memory and knowledge of Films, TV and Radio kept us all pleasantly occupied.

An important occasion on the same day as our meeting was the 90th birthday of one of our long-standing members, Mrs Queenie Sweet. The branch had sent congratulations and good wishes and a note of thanks from Queenie was read out at the meeting.

On Thursday 17th April at 7.30 pm in the Day Centre Mr and Mrs Alan Wright will be showing us some more of their beautiful slides of the countryside.

Pat Clower



**HELP WANTED PLEASE ...  
STANSTED RED CROSS WEEK  
4-11 May 1997**

It would be greatly appreciated if I could have some volunteers to help with the door-to-door collection in the village. Quite a few people who have kindly helped me in the past cannot manage this year so there are gaps to be filled. If anyone could spare two or three hours for this - very good cause please contact Diana Pelly (tel. 812883). Thank you.



## NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

P.C. Pike asks if anyone can shed some light on a couple of recent crimes: Between the 15th and 17th of February someone stole a Ford New Holland tractor from Ernest Doe in Lower Street. They must have taken this on a low loader lorry; perhaps you saw one leaving at an unusual hour?

Early in February the football club in Stansted was broken into. We are still looking for witnesses, perhaps you heard or saw something suspicious in the area of the football club.

Talking of the football club, there will be a Neighbourhood Watch Quiz Night there on 26th April starting at 8 pm. Entry is only £2.00 per head which includes light refreshments and, of course, the bar will be open. It's only a fun quiz so come and have a go.

Perhaps I could take this opportunity to remind you that if you do see anyone or anything that appears suspicious to you, PLEASE ring us at the time you see it; you will not be wasting our time, that's what we are here for. The only way we can catch these people is with YOUR help. You can ring us in confidence and do not even have to give your name.

Steve Pike  
Neighbourhood Beat Officer for Stansted



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## Huw Johnson Club

When Judy Goddard died we learnt that she had left £300 to the Club. The Committee were anxious to use this money in such a way that as many members as possible would benefit from this legacy.

We turned over several ideas until eventually Dick suggested purchasing a wheelchair. Every year when we are on holiday we have to hire wheelchairs as it is impossible to transport all the wheelchairs needed in the Peter Kirk trailer. These wheelchairs were never up to scratch, in fact when wheeling Harold near York Castle a wheel came off and even a rendering of "Three wheels on my Wagon" didn't keep the chair rolling.

Everyone agreed that a chair was the answer so we are now the proud owners of a beautiful wheelchair complete with pump and spanner. Denise has tried it out and declared it comfortable. As we have hired a coach for this year's holiday in South Wales transport will be no problem.

I'm sure Judy would have approved of our choice.

M. G. Johnson



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## STANSTED PERSPECTIVE

Do you give to beggars?

Not a question relevant to the inhabitants of Stansted you may say. Rarely is one accosted in the village by the dirty and dishevelled vagrant who is the archetypal beggar. Few of us, however, can have escaped such an encounter when in London or another large town, and for those who work in such centres the issue is a daily one. For myself, I rarely carry small change easily available for distribution even to the charity collector, but I salvage my conscience by buying the *Big Issue*, the magazine sold by and benefiting the homeless.

Conjuring up the image of the volunteer rattling the collecting tin for some good cause or other raises another aspect of begging - and of course response, to give or to withhold. Looking through the pages of the *Link*, we see that the calls on our charity are many, even in a single month and through a local magazine. Schools, recreational organisations, political parties, churches, all run events designed to raise money for their own immediate purposes, and individuals and groups turn their attention to wider charitable causes, designing quiz nights, jumble sales and coffee mornings to relieve us of our cash in the interests of the greater good.

Our response to such invitations helps to fuel the great engine of voluntary social action, but is perhaps often unconsidered. The coffee morning and the quiz night are social events, to be enjoyed with our friends and with the bonus of a sense of virtue since by attending we are also doing good. When the appeal is directly for cash many of us are less free in our giving and we think rather harder about what we are doing; anyone involved with a church, a youth organisation, a political party, will have heard the cry go up "But you are always asking for money".

The direct appeal which prompts us to pause and think is perhaps the more powerful route in the long run. The decision to give to a particular cause, often on a regular and committed basis, may derive from a stand of principle or faith, from an emotional reaction to an international crisis or a personal tragedy, but the care behind the gift must add to its value.

But in my fantasies I imagine myself willing (and rich enough) to give freely wherever and whenever asked, to the 'homeless and hungry' youngster on the London streets, to the charity collector, to all those appeals which come in the post, and, yes, to all the coffee mornings the *Link* can advertise.

Spinning Jenny



## STANSTED FUN RUN

Sunday 22nd June 1997

A date for your diary to enjoy our annual 'fun run', making this a village weekend commencing with the Carnival on Saturday 21st June.

Each year the charities supported are from an international, national and local dimension and this year the money donated will go to the following -

- LEPRA An international charity for the relief of leprosy.  
NETWORK'81 A national charity for children with special needs.  
CAMBRIDGE  
CANCER CARE A local charity for local sufferers.

The Fun Run starts from Bentfield Green and covers 10 km over road and countryside. Sponsorship forms and application forms are available from Marion Dyer (814059). **Remember**, it is a cheaper entry fee if you 'sign up' before the day. More details in next month's *Link*.



## TONER CARTRIDGE RECYCLING PROJECT



In order to get the best prices I have been dealing with two companies. Both companies collect free of charge by courier, which is very useful. One company (the one that pays most for the laser cartridges) requires a minimum quantity which I have not quite collected although the ones I already have are worth over £30. However, I have sent a batch of deskjet cartridges to the other company which should raise £22. Of this, 80% (£17.50) will go towards **Fun Run** administrative expenses, and 20% (£4.40) to the **Link**.

There are some cartridges which are not suitable for recycling as cartridges, but the components such as the plastic are removed and recycled, thus still being 'environmentally friendly'. So please keep them coming and thank you to those who have already donated.

Marion Dyer  
814059



THE APRIL MOUSE



Anthony the April mouse couldn't think why his parents had wanted to call him Anthony Aloysius. He thought it was a dreadful name and vowed that when he had children he'd give them sensible names like Dick or Dora or Bill or Ben.

Anthony made jolly sure that none of his friends found out what his second name was, because he knew they would tease him unmercifully.

However, when Anthony was older he found out that his grandfather Aloysius had been a well known tailor. His great grandfather Aloysius had been a famous jockey and his great, great grandfather had been called Aloysius Aloysius. Then he didn't feel quite so bad about it.

One day when Anthony was out playing with his friends and his sisters, Alice and Amelia, he saw a very elegant mouse walk by wearing a bow tie. Anthony thought it was very smart. When he went home he asked his mother if she could make him one, which she did, because she was very good at sewing.

When Alice and Amelia saw the smart bow tie they wanted one too and were most upset when their mother said no. However, she said she would make them each a sash and then they could still have a bow.

Anthony was so proud of his bow tie that one night he even went to bed wearing it on his pyjamas. He was most distressed in the morning to find it all crumpled and creased.

Anthony decided he would like to have lots of bow ties, so he started a collection. he had plain ones, patterned ones, floral, striped, big, small, floppy, stiff and spotty ones.

As his collection of bow ties became famous his friends would say "I wonder what Anthony will wear today?".

Then Anthony's mother decided she had made quite enough bow ties and said she wouldn't make him any more.

Anthony said, "In that case, I shall make some myself". And he did.



Alphaquiz

1. What A is the fruit of the oak tree?
2. What sort of animal is Paddington?
3. A prickly plant.
4. Who are thought to have worshipped at Stonehenge?
5. This holds an artist's painting.
6. They are raised and lowered on poles.
7. Sort of white sugar.
8. Pirate captain in Peter Pan.
9. Used for writing.
10. Who traded the family cow for a sack of beans?
11. Used to unlock a door.
12. Which L cannot change its spots?
13. Female horse.
14. Middle of the day.
15. A fruit.
16. Son of a king and queen.
17. One fourth.
18. Arch of colours sometimes seen in the sky.
19. Tool to cut wood.
20. Not wild.
21. The opposite of beautiful.
22. Machine that records T.V. Programmes.
23. You might hang your clothes in here.
24. A musical instrument.
25. A colour.
26. A striped animal.

Answers on page 14

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## FRIENDS OF ESSEX CHURCHES

### SPONSORED BIKE RIDE

Saturday 13th September

10 am to 6 pm

#### Organisers needed urgently

Your church could benefit from this fun fund-raising effort - 50% of your sponsorship will go to the church you nominate.

BUT we do nothing without organisers - whose responsibility it is to publicise the event, enthuse bikers, walkers or whatever means of transport you choose, to distribute sponsorship forms, organise light refreshments and a team of church-sitters. At the end of the event there will be the gratification of collecting sponsorship monies to be sent to the county organiser.

Last year 1,300 riders took part in Essex and raised £77,000, with five congregations raising £1,000 or more. One single rider raised over £1,100.

There is no age limit - in West Hanningfield £144 was raised by children aged two to ten years riding laps at a local farm. Chadwell Heath URC raised £300 in the afternoon when 'riders' aged 4 to 80 'cycled' over 100 miles in their own Hall - on exercise bikes!

26 counties took part last year - and raised a total of £937,000. Suffolk is top of the League Table, with £120,000, followed by Norfolk with £92,000. Essex comes next, with £77,000. The county organiser, Mrs Eileen Hance, says that in the thirteen years since Essex have taken part, the county has raised over £700,000 - and when you work that out on a 50-50 basis, all the effort is worthwhile. Friends of Essex Churches are then able to give grants for church repairs. Last year they gave about £90,000 to churches and chapels all over the county.

It would be great to see the Stansted Churches nearer the top of the fund-raising tables. Please help, either to volunteer as an organiser for your church, a rider, walker or fund-raiser in any way, or as a 'church-sitter' handing out those welcome refreshments.

The county organiser is Mrs Eileen Hance, MBE, JP, 384 Baddow Road, Chelmsford, CM2 9RA, tel. 01245 259659.

If you would like copies of last year's results and posters for 1997 please contact Audrey Rodgers, 96 Cambridge Road, Stansted, tel. 813385.

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#### Answers to Alphaquiz

- |               |               |
|---------------|---------------|
| 1. Acorn      | 13. Mare      |
| 2. Bear       | 14. Noon      |
| 3. Cactus     | 15. Orange    |
| 4. Druids     | 16. Prince    |
| 5. Easel      | 17. Quarter   |
| 6. Flags      | 18. Rainbow   |
| 7. Granulated | 19. Saw       |
| 8. Hook       | 20. Tame      |
| 9. Ink        | 21. Ugly      |
| 10. Jack      | 22. Video     |
| 11. Key       | 23. Wardrobe  |
| 12. Leopard   | 24. Xylophone |
|               | 25. Yellow    |
|               | 26. Zebra     |



## Recipe of the Month

### Chicken with lemon

4 chicken breasts  
Juice of  $\frac{1}{2}$  lemon, and juice of 1 large orange  
1 tablespoon soy sauce  
Butter, salt, pepper, honey

- rub spoonful of honey into each piece of chicken.
- cover with foil and bake for 40 minutes, Gas Mark 3.
- mix orange and lemon juices with soy sauce.
- season sauce and pour over chicken.



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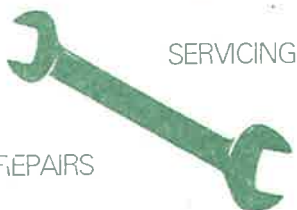
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