

Aug/Sep '97

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Mountfitchet*

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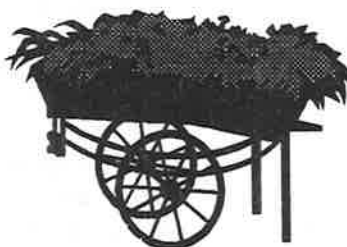
STANSTED'S UNITED HARVEST FESTIVAL

Sunday 5th October



6 pm United Service at
St John's Church
followed by Supper

Everyone Welcome



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
11th September for publication on 28th September
16th October for publication on 2nd November
NOTE: No September edition**



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

Preachers for August

3rd 11 am Rev S Evans
10th 11 am Rev J Stone
17th 11 am Rev M Irish Communion
24th 11 am Rev L Rapkin
31st 11 am Mrs C Bonner

Preachers for September

7th 11 am To be announced
14th 11 am To be announced
21st 11 am Rev M McKay Communion
28th 11 am Rev L Rapkin Harvest

Two more concert dates for your diary:

October 4th an a capella group from South Essex who call themselves *Times and Seasons* are giving a concert in the church for the repair and redevelopment fund. Also on the programme will be musical items by the pupils of Valerie Trundle. Tickets priced £3.50 available shortly.

On November 22nd the Essex Youth Jazz Orchestra are coming for a workshop and concert. Please make this well known among Jazz enthusiasts. More details in October.



Saturday 4th July dawned bright and clear. It proved to be a day full of sunshine, fresh breezes and blue skies. A coach left Stansted heading for the Blackwater estuary and St Peter's Chapel at Bradwell to join many others together with cars, walkers and cyclists. The travellers were a 'mixed bunch' - mixed in the sense of one-ness and a feeling of unity but mixed too in the sense of coming from various Christian traditions. This was the 1997 version of the annual Bradwell Pilgrimage.

What happens on a 'pilgrimage' such as this? The word 'pilgrimage' can produce all sorts of images in our minds and imaginations. We can picture a poor monk or nun, travelling hundreds if not thousands of miles on foot centuries ago towards one of the great Christian shrines or to the Holy Land. We can picture the sick and the dying with their carers, in the present age, travelling to Lourdes. We can have in our mind's eye Brother Cadfael, of book and TV fame.



None of these, however, can really help you to understand the annual Bradwell Pilgrimage. Physically we have it very easy - except for a certain shortage of 'loos'! Our travel is easy; there are refreshments provided for us to buy; there is shelter from the sun if you want it; we could listen to a Celtic harp; we were entertained by singers and dancers.

A pilgrimage, however, it truly was because it was a seeking after unity for Christians of all traditions and 'flavours' too, from charismatics to very traditional and from conservative to liberal (yes, the Church uses these labels too). We went to Bradwell to return to the roots of Christianity in this part of England because it was here that a missionary called Cedd came from Lindisfarne, built a small monastery and so brought alive again the tiny seed of Christianity which had been sown during the time of the Roman Empire. From Bradwell went out the message of Jesus Christ. But beyond returning to our roots the pilgrimage is also a statement about the Christianity of today. All the Church leaders in East Anglia were there, including our own Katherine Hurford sitting alongside Bishops and Moderators and the Archbishop of Westminster, Cardinal Hume, and there were people from all the denominations happily joining together in all the activities and in the worship. Thus the pilgrimage was a statement both of our present division and our unity but above all it was an expression of hope and vision for the future. Most of all it was a statement of our re-commitment to the vision and ideals together with the practicalities of Christianity.

A traditional prayer from the Hebrides expresses what lay at the heart of the pilgrimage:

O Christ of the poor and the yearning
Kindle in our hearts within
A flame of love for our neighbour
for our foe
for our friend
for our kindred
From the humblest to the highest
Kindle in our hearts within
A flame of love. AMEN.



Margaret McKay



As well as the Inaugural Meeting of a local branch of the national organisation there will be on **Wednesday 10th September** at the **Day Centre**, the second **Annual Coffee Morning** from 10 to 12, entrance 50p.

There will be a bring and buy stall, cakes, raffle, etc. Please make a note of this in your diary.

Anyone interested in contributing in any way please ring Pam on 01279 647354 or Sue 01279 814265.

SEE YOU THERE!



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

Sheila Stebbings

We were shocked and very saddened to hear of the death of Sheila Stebbings in June. Sheila first moved into the parish of St Theresa's 30 years ago. She became a member of the Guild of St Theresa. We were the group that did everything; there were no separate committees in those days. We met regularly to pray - we visited the sick and housebound - arranged fund raising events - arranged Pilgrimages to Walsingham and Aylesford - tore up sheets to make bandages for Mother Theresa of Calcutta. Sheila was part of all this. Later on when separate committees were formed Sheila became a member of the Care Group, visiting the sick and housebound. She would also make delicious chocolate cakes for our Christian Aid Cake Stall. She was a daily communicant, whenever possible and was always willing to help wherever she could. She was a member of the Ecumenical Shalom Group and always supported the United Services, which did not in any way diminish her great devotion to her own faith.

Many of you will remember Sheila when she worked at the chemist on Cambridge Road - always helpful - always cheerful and quite often suffering with shortness of breath due to her asthma.

Sheila and Roy were so proud of their children Sally and Jonathon, but have had their share of sorrow as sadly their daughter Sally died of a brain tumour seven years ago. She was so brave in her illness. Sheila was such a lovely person, a real lady as many have described her. She will be sorely missed. Our sincere condolences and prayers are with Roy, Jonathon and the family at this time.

Mary Warnett



Society of Friends

Quaker Meeting House, Chapel Hill

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

Meeting: Sunday 11 am

Live Adventurously

In our book "Quaker Faith and Practice" there is a section at the beginning entitled "Advices and Queries". One of these tenets to live by is:-

"Live adventurously. When choices arise do you take the way that offers the fullest opportunity for the use of your gifts in the service of God and the community? Let your life speak."

About a year ago I came across a poem by a lady called Nadine Starr. She wrote this when she was aged 86. I was intrigued by it and I hope you are as well. This is only the first verse - I will leave you to ponder what the second verse is about. The title is "If I had my life over".

If I had my life to live over again,
I'd dare to make more mistakes next time.
I'd relax, I'd limber up, I'd be sillier than I've been this trip.
I would take fewer things seriously.
I would climb more mountains and swim more rivers.
I would eat more ice cream and less beans.
I would perhaps have more actual troubles,
but fewer imaginary ones.
You see I'm one of those people who was sensible and sane,
hour after hour,
day after day.

Peter Burgess



Church of England

Parish Church of St. John the Evangelist

Rector: *Vacant*
Curate: The Revd. Andrew Spurr
43 Gilbey Crescent
Stansted, CM24 8DT
Office 812203
Home 815025
Email *andrew.spurr@zetnet.co.uk*

Office Hours: for Baptism, Banns and Marriage
bookings are Tuesday evenings 7:00pm-
9:00pm and Saturday mornings 10:00am-
12:00 at 5, St. John's Road.

Diary for August and September 1997

Worship in August will include the following:

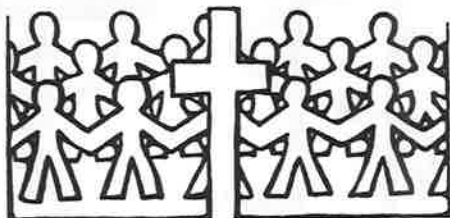
Sunday services: 9:30am Parish Communion and 6:30pm
said Evensong, there will be no Family Service or 8:00am
Holy Communion this month. Wednesday Holy
Communion at 10:00am remains throughout the month as
do 7:30pm Wednesday Prayers.

The guest preacher and president at the Parish Communion
on August 10th will be the Revd. Margaret Booker.

Other services are as follows: Norman Court, August 5th
10:30am; Mead Court, August 12th 10:30am and Hargrave
House, August 26th 11:00am.

Participants in the Greenbelt Festival will depart from
Birchanger Services at 11:00am on Thursday 21st August
and will return to Stansted at about 1:00pm on Tuesday 26th
August.

September reverts to the usual pattern of services for the
interregnum: Sunday's 8:00am Holy Communion, 9:30am
Parish Communion and 6:30pm said Evensong.
Wednesday Holy Communion is at 10:00am and
Wednesday Prayers at 7:30pm. Sunday September 7th is
being kept as St. Mary's tide, the guest preacher at the
9:30am will be Dr. Jane Freeman and Choral Evensong
will be at 6:30pm at St. Mary's Church where the Curate
will be preaching. Sunday 28th September is being kept as
Michaelmas, and our guest preacher at the 9:30am service
will be the Revd. Dr. Judith Maltby, Chaplain of Corpus
Christi College, Oxford. Broome End Nursing Home will
celebrate Harvest Festival at 3:00pm on Saturday 27th
September.



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

Services and Preachers for August and September

August

3rd 9.30 am The Revd Ronald Rawlings
10th 9.30 am The Revd Michael Hayman,
Holy Communion
17th 9.30 am Mrs Maureen Hildon of Manuden
24th 9.30 am Mr Jerry Heyhoe of Bishop's Stortford
31st 9.30 am Mrs Julie Finbow of Bishop's Stortford

September

7th 9.30 am Mr Ron Cox of Bishop's Stortford
14th 9.30 am The Revd Michael Hayman,
Holy Communion
21st 9.30 am Mr John Banks of Bishop's Stortford
28th 9.30 am Mrs Margaret Richardson of Chrishall

This month we say our goodbyes and good wishes to the
Revd Michael Giles of our Saffron Walden section of our
Methodist Circuit. He has been with us six years and is
moving to St. Albans. We wish him and Gillian and their
three children every joy and blessing.

A Circuit Farewell will be held on Saturday 2nd August
at 7.00 pm at our Saffron Walden Methodist Church. All
welcome.

On 6th September we welcome the Revd Harry Wood who
comes to take over our northern section, and his wife
Isobel. The Welcome Service will be at the Saffron
Walden Baptist Church at 7.00 pm and our Chairman of
the District, the Revd Ron Crewes, will preach. All are
welcome.



A gentle solitude

Joan Freeman recalls a day spent in the company of Terry Waite



None of us can have forgotten those years in the early 1980's when John McCarthy, Brian Keenan and Terry Waite were taken hostage; when it seemed that the whole country, if not the wider world, was praying for them, when it was with such thanks that we all celebrated their individual release. Terry Waite, particularly, endured long months of solitary confinement in Beirut before he was allowed to join the others, though still in captivity.

Terry has seldom been out of the news during the ensuing years and so it was with delight and admittedly some trepidation that I was pleased when Andrew Spurr asked if I would like to accompany him on one of his visits at the end of June.

Now a Fellow of Trinity College,

Terry has chosen to live in a quiet Suffolk village - 'After busy days full of people, the peaceful evenings in the countryside still have a liveliness that

the peaceful evenings in the countryside still have a liveliness that can't in any way compare with the loneliness of a solitary cell.

can't in any way compare with the loneliness of a solitary cell.' The attractive old house has a studio-study above the garage, and it was there that we spent several hours.

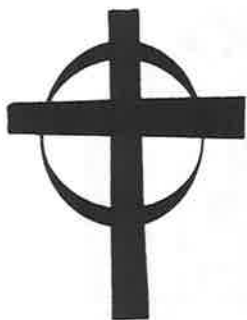
Terry was the perfect host - he conveyed the impression that his

guests were terribly important, that he must do his utmost to make sure we were comfortable and entertained; he has a very ready humour and an engagingly spontaneous laugh. His love-affair with books is evident from the amazingly catholic taste of the countless numbers filling the shelves, and there were of course many photographs and mementos of the time after his release. Music 'machines' of varying kinds were evident everywhere - study, kitchen, sitting room and even the loo - again CD's and tapes of the widest taste - 'Music is a must when I am here, working on my own.'

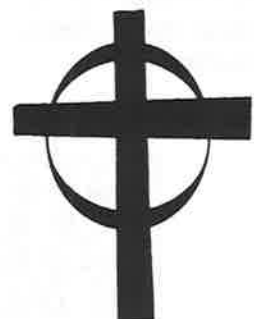
It wasn't surprising to hear of the constant calls on his support and his time. 'It isn't possible to agree with many of these, and sometimes this results in the kind of press headlines which, at one time, were so hurtful - but now at last I'm able to dismiss them.'

A cause particularly important to him at present is the Emmaus project in Cambridge which Churches Together in Stansted is considering as part of its review of charities for the homeless. We will be seeing Terry at St. John's church later in the autumn when he will be coming to preach.

Having met and talked to this large, gentle man, it seems that he carried with him the scars of those dreadful years in captivity, and one can but hope and pray that, in time, his faith, his family, his friends and his work will help to heal them. ●

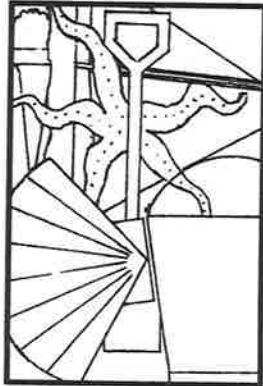


**REMEMBER
THE
HOSTAGES**



A Holiday Puzzle

What **6** things can you find that you might see at the seaside?



Answers on Page 12

Holidays

What shall I do on this school holiday?
Perhaps I will ask my friend to play,
Or I could take my dolls out in their pram
Or help Mummy make tarts with strawberry jam.

What shall I do on this school holiday?
Take my cat for a walk - or will he run away?
I **should** clean out my rabbit's hutch
But I don't like doing it very much.

What shall I do on this day from school?
I'm quite good at jig-saws as a rule.
To Granny I think I'll write a letter
Or would painting a picture be much better?

What shall I do, oh, please tell me.
Shall I read a book of adventures at sea?
I think after all I'll play with my Teddy.

Oh dear, the day has gone by already.

Barry Bear's Holiday

Barry the teddy bear felt so lonely sitting up there on the bedroom shelf all by himself. His owner, Betty, had gone on holiday with her Mummy and Daddy. The other toys had been put in the cupboard, but Barry had been left out because Betty had wanted to take him too. They all tried hard to fit him in the case, but he would not go in, and he had to be left behind, feeling rather squashed.



The teddy bear soon grew tired of the shelf, so he jumped down. Luckily he landed on the soft bedroom rug. He ran out of the open door to the bedroom where a small window had been left open. He managed to climb up, get out of the window, and slide down the drainpipe into the back garden.

Barry was marching down the garden path when he heard a little noise from behind the shed. He peeped round the corner and there, with a frightened look on her face, and tears in her eyes, was a baby bunny!

"What's the matter?" asked Barry bear. "I'm lost", said Bunny, "please help me to find my mummy".

"Of course I will", said Barry, "here, wipe your eyes on my handkerchief". Having dried her tears, she said, "I feel much better now I am not alone". "That's good, said Barry, "come on, let's go and find your home".

Off they went to the bottom of the garden, where they found a thick hedge they could just push through. They walked along it a little way until they came to a gap which led into a field. Mr Hedgehog was sitting just beyond the hedge, and although he looked very prickly, they plucked up courage and asked him if he knew where Mrs Bunny lived.

Mr Hedgehog was kind in spite of his looks and told them where to go. Before they had gone far, however, they met Mrs Bunny. She was so pleased with Barry for finding her baby that she asked him to tea. While they were eating, Barry told Mrs Bunny he was lonely at home while everybody was on holiday.

"Would you like to stay with us for a few days?" asked Mrs Bunny. So Barry stayed with them for the rest of the week. At the end of that time he thanked Mrs Bunny for having him and said, "I must hurry home now before Betty returns from her holiday".

Barry ran across the fields, through the hedge, and up the garden path. But, oh dear, he found that he could not get back up the pipe and through the window. When Betty came home, she was surprised to find her teddy bear sitting on the doorstep. She wondered how ever he could have got there. She never knew that Barry had been away for a holiday too!



INAUGURAL MEETING

7.45 pm

Mon 4th August

Day Centre,
Crafton Green

*A very warm welcome
to anyone who is
interested in learning
more about this charity*



SPONSORED BICYCLE RIDE

Saturday 13th September

Visit as many or as few
churches in Essex as you like
and raise money for charity and
your local Church.

For further details please tel
Joan Freeman 813186

HOMEMADE CAKES

10.00 am Saturday
2nd Aug & 6th Sept

outside the
United Reformed Church



Chapel Hill
(in church if wet)



Uttlesford Carers &



Alzheimer's Disease Society

CARERS SUPPORT GROUP

Social and Information
Sharing Afternoon

2 - 4 pm Monday 4th August
Quaker Meeting House

Everyone welcome

Tel 01371 875810 / 872519

VILLAGE EVENTS

August

- | | | | |
|----|-----|--|---|
| 2 | Sat | Conservatives White Elephant
Cake Stall | Savages, Lower St 10 am
URC 10 am |
| 3 | Sun | Windmill Open | 2.00 - 6.00 pm |
| 4 | Mon | Carers Support Group
HEAL Inaugural meeting | Quaker Meeting House 2 - 4 pm
Day Centre 7.45 pm |
| 6 | Wed | Coffee Morning
Gardening Club | Hargrave House 10 am - noon
Day Centre 8 pm |
| 9 | Sat | Lib Democrats Ploughmans | Day Centre 12 - 2 pm |
| 9 | Sat | | |
| | to | | |
| 10 | Sun | Skip at Crafton Green | |
| 10 | Sun | Liberal Democrats Barbecue
Windmill Open | 7 Blythwood Gardens 12 noon
2.00 - 6.00 pm |
| 13 | Wed | RBL (Women) Coffee Morning | Day Centre 10.30 am |
| 17 | Sun | Windmill Open
Shalom Cream Tea & Auction | 2.00 - 6.00 pm
Quaker Meeting House 3 - 5 pm |
| 24 | Sun | Windmill Open | 2.00 - 6.00 pm |
| 25 | Mon | Windmill Open & Fete | 2.00 pm |
| 31 | Sun | Windmill Open | 2.00 - 6.00 pm |

October

- | | | | |
|---|-----|-----------------------|-----------------|
| 1 | Wed | Gardening Club | Day Centre 8 pm |
| 2 | Thu | Local History Society | Day Centre 8 pm |



Development Fund Concert

TIMES & SEASONS

A Cappella group

and

pupils of

Valerie Trundle

7.30 pm

Saturday 4th October

United Reformed Church

Tickets £3.50

Please tel 814850 or 812593

1st Stansted Scouts

MEGA JUMBLE SALE

2 pm

Sat 27th September

Scout Hut Water Lane

Entrance 25 pence

If you have jumble to
be collected please tel
814471 or 814701

STANSTED BASKET BALL CLUB



New season starts

6.30 pm

Thurs 18th September
(then every Thursday)

Mountfitchet School Gym

Boys & Girls 11 - 16 yrs

No experience required

For details please tel

Tony Mills 812692

Coffee Morning
Hargrave Nursing Home
 Cambridge Road
 10.00 am - 12 noon Weds
 6th Aug, 3rd Sept & 1st Oct
 Entrance 40p
*Come and join the residents for
 a chat and a piece of cake*

 **STANSTED PARISH
 COUNCIL**
SKIP DATES
 Sat 9th - Sun 10th August
 Mon 1st - Thu 4th September
 Mon 6th - Thu 9th October

 **Stansted
 Mountfitchet
 Windmill**
ANNUAL FÊTE
2 pm
Bank Holiday Monday
25th August
 Stalls and Sideshows
 around the Mill
 Competitions - Prizes - Teas
 Please come and enjoy
 this village event
 All proceeds to Windmill Funds


VILLAGE EVENTS

September

1 Mon	Carers Support Group	Quaker Meeting House 2 - 4 pm
1 Mon		
	to	
4 Thu	Skip at Crafton Green	
3 Wed	Coffee Morning	Hargrave House 10 am - 12 noon
4 Thu	Local History Society	Day Centre 8 pm
6 Sat	Cake Stall	URC 10 am
	Gardening Club Show	URC Hall 2.30 pm
7 Sun	Windmill Open	2.00 - 6.00 pm
8 Mon	Shalom Group	Chantry Hall, Henham 8 pm
10 Wed	HEAL Coffee Morning	Day Centre 10 am
13 Sat	Lib Democrats Ploughmans Sponsored Bike Ride Windmill Barn Dance	Day Centre 12 - 2 pm
16 Tue	Carnival AGM CTS Annual General Meeting	Mountfitchet School 7.45 pm Day Centre 8 pm
18 Thu	Basketball Club starts RBL (Women) Harvest Sale	URC Hall 8 pm Mountfitchet School Gym 6.30 pm Day Centre 7.30 pm
21 Sun	Car Boot Sale	Mountfitchet School 8 am - 12 noon
22 Mon	WEA Enrolment Shalom Group	Day Centre 7.30 pm Mont House, High Lane 8 pm
27 Sat	Scouts Mega Jumble Sale Liberal Democrats Quiz	Scout Hut 2 pm Day Centre 8 pm

Mountfitchet High School
Car Boot Sale
 Sunday 21st September
 8.00 am to 12 noon
 £6 in advance £7 on the day
 Refreshments
 Tel 01279 813384

 **Stansted
 Mountfitchet
 Windmill**
BARN DANCE
 with the
Redbridge Folk Band
 7.45 pm
 Saturday 13th September
 Mountfitchet High School
 Tickets £6.50 (incl supper)
 Tel Steve Clements 816514
 All proceeds to Windmill Funds

 **MOUNTFITCHET
 GARDEN CLUB**
AUTUMN SHOW
 2.30 pm
Saturday
6th September
 United Reformed
 Church Hall
ADMISSION FREE

 **Stansted
 Windmill**
Open Days
 2 - 6 pm
 Sunday 3rd August
 Sunday 10th August
 Sunday 17th August
 Sunday 24th August
 Mon 25th Aug (Fête)
 Sunday 31st August
 Sunday 7th September
 Sunday 5th October

STANSTED CARNIVAL

A little matter of torrential rain failed to dampen the spirits of those who took part in the Stansted Carnival this year. The rain held off whilst the floats assembled at Bentfield Green but the heavens opened as the procession set off to the sound of Chinese Firecrackers - luckily the judging had already taken place.

The floats were bright and colourful and the interpretation of the theme of A Midsummer Nights Dream varied from Titania's Dream float from St. Mary's School (overall winners) to Rainbow Pre-School's float with hippies celebrating the summer solstice. Leaders of the procession, the Emerald Express Show Band, managed to play for the entire procession despite the rain!

Attractions at the Stansted Mountfitchet High School had to be positioned on the various car parks, with the beer tent and entertainment from the R Two Jazz Funk Bank proving to be the most popular spot.

There was a great effort made by all the usual stall holders and some new ones this year. The Mountfitchet

PTA provided excellent cream teas from their enviable position in the school dining room!

Dick Pollard, as Carnival jester, made a sterling effort to entertain us all and keep us informed of the proceedings.

Our sincere apologies to any adult, child or animal that was frightened or alarmed by the fireworks at Mountfitchet High School.

Unfortunately a loss was made on the day but the carnival committee are not despondent - those that came enjoyed themselves and it gives us the incentive to work hard this year to raise funds for the Stansted Needy Children's Trust.

Do please join us for a glass of wine at our AGM on Tuesday 16th September, 8 pm at the Day Centre - we would like your input in deciding how the carnival should function in the future. We would also welcome new members to the committee so please come.

We will be holding a Music Quiz some time in the autumn - so watch out for the posters with the date.





St. Mary's School Prizewinning Float





Chairman: Steve Riley, 815455
Secretary: Robin Scarr, 813080

Forthcoming Events

August

Ploughman's Lunch 12 noon - 2 pm at the Day Centre, Crafton Green, Saturday 9th August

Barbecue 12 noon at 7 Blythwood Gardens, Sunday 10th August.

September

Ploughman's Lunch 12 noon - 2 pm at the Day Centre, Crafton Green, Saturday 13th September

Quiz 7.30 pm at the Day Centre, Saturday 27th September.

HELPLINE

It was with great sadness that we learnt of the sudden death of David Bullock on 6th July. David was Helpline's Transport Officer from October 1988 until February 1994, a role which he performed with great gusto and dedication - not to mention an abundance of good humour. I doubt that there are any transport volunteers from that period who did not feel they knew David well, albeit that they may never have had contact with him other than by means of the telephone. He was, in many ways, the very essence of everything that Helpline has strived to achieve in that no matter what problems of his own he had to deal with, his first concern was always for helping others. Indeed, had David owned a car I think the Helpline system would have ground to a halt because I have little doubt that he would have personally dealt with every transport request that he received!

It is hard to imagine walking down Chapel Hill without seeing David with his beaming grin, running the gauntlet of the traffic to cross the street with the words "Have you heard the one about ...?" But I think the next time I hear a rumble of thunder I will wonder whether it is the sound of angels' laughter - because David, with his heart of gold and endless supply of jokes, has arrived!

Our heartfelt sympathies to Christine and their two sons at this time. Our prayers are with you.

Francine Cope



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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



We have had a very busy half-term with lots of trips for the children. We went to the airport by train and Harlow Town Park to paddle in the pool. We visited Old McDonalds Educational Farm and although it rained the children had a good day.

We also had our summer fair. A big thank you to everyone who supported this event by buying raffle tickets, manning a stall or simply attending and spending some money. We made about £380 which we will spend on new equipment for the children.

Answers to Children's Puzzle

Ice Cream
Yacht
Bucket
Spade
Star Fish
Shell

How many did you find?



Hello again.

We are now fast approaching the end of this school year and the children will be out and about in the village. The fire station trip was a huge success despite the rain and the little concert performed for the "Old folk" at Broome

End was very well received. Afterwards the children enjoyed cakes and juice and packets of sweets to take home.

This year's carnival stall had books and toys for sale; there was a cake stall and a "decorate your own biscuit" stall for the youngsters.

The monies raised from the I Spy Nature Boards has now been counted, nearly £400! We will present the Church Hall Committee with a cheque for the re-roofing fund with our thanks for the way they look after our interests in the day to day running of Nursery School.

This year many of our children will be starting "Big School". We wish them well and hope they can cope with all the pressures they will face at such a young age. We will miss them but they know they can visit any time when they have a day off from school.

Sports Day and a Barbecue will end the school year before the summer holidays start. We hope you all have a lovely time and good weather. See you in September to welcome the new children.

Auntie Helen



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Huw Johnson Club

What a lovely time we had on our sports evening. This year we had a new venue and were lucky enough to be able to enjoy the beautiful garden belonging to the Lenton family at Burton End. Everyone had a great time trying to throw hoops on to skittles, throwing the wellies and getting the ball through the croquet hoop. We were all very please to tuck into the goodies that Julie had prepared and as the evening was very hot to refresh ourselves with coke, lemonade and orange juice. Everyone was a winner and received prizes for their efforts.

We have a break now from club evenings until September 18th but we still have our visit to Ely and our week's holiday at Trecco Bay to look forward to in August. Thirty-five of us are heading for South Wales and no doubt we will all have a good time.

The carnival as everyone knows proved very damp but we did manage to make £132 on our "Rescue a Castaway Stall". A big thankyou to everyone who provided bottles.

A rather belated thankyou to the St Michael's Youth Group who entertained us with a delightful musical evening. Our members joined in heartily whenever they recognised a song. The group presented us with a cheque for £500 which they had raised at their concert. What a marvellous effort by this very talented group. Thankyou to all and especially to Lindsey who nominated us as benefactors.

M G Johnson



Recipe of the Month Cheesy Courgettes

2lbs courgettes
3 eggs
½ pint (10 oz) single cream
4 oz grated cheese
salt, pepper & pinch of nutmeg

- (a) cook chopped courgettes in water (3-4 mins)
- (b) beat eggs and cream together
- (c) add seasoning
- (d) spread courgettes in baking dish
- (e) pour mixture over
- (f) sprinkle cheese on top
- (g) bake for 20 mins (gas mark 6)



Mrs Jean McBride's talk on Stansted Home Guard was much enjoyed and it was good to welcome to our meeting two members of the Royal British Legion - Mr Bob Stoddart and Mr Eddie Laird.

Jean told us that the Home Guard - at first called the SDV - was started in May 1940 and men went to the local police station to volunteer. There were no guns to begin with and pitchforks and broom handles had to be carried, but later on rifles were sent from USA. Pill boxes had to be manned and there was a gun base in Church Road and a hut in May Walk for those on night duty. The Home Guard had precedence over the police. Weapons were finally handed in in December 1944 and the Home Guard was disbanded. She also told some interesting facts involving members of the Home Guard in Stansted.

We had a very good Group Meeting at Felsted in June and also a most enjoyable visit to the Airport.

Our coffee morning is on Wednesday 13th August in the Day Centre at 10.30 am. Do come and bring a friend.

There will be no meeting in August but at our meeting on Thursday 18th September we shall be holding our usual Harvest Sale.

Pat Clower



Stansted and District Branch

POPPY APPEAL

Yet again the Poppy Appeal is on my mind. As always I am seeking additional helpers for the House to House collections for early November. Also if someone in Stansted could assist in the distribution of boxes and trays in the village please contact either Bob Stoddart, 38 Sunnyside, 814015 or myself. Your help would be much appreciated.

John Segar
Crossways Elsenham
813289

Hon Poppy Appeal Organiser



SHALOM

Dates for September

8th September, 8 pm, Prayer and Praise at Chantry Hall, Crow Street, Henham.

22nd September, 8 pm, Meeting at Mont House, High Lane, Stansted. Subject to be arranged.

All welcome to ecumenical fellowship.

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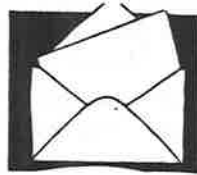
STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Our 1997/8 season of monthly meetings commences with Robert Wood on The Charman Family at Clavering 1332-1376, on Thursday 4th September and H E Pimblett on Henham : Past and Present on Thursday 2nd October. Both at the Day Centre at 8 pm.

We endeavour to have a mixture of local and general talks, some of a serious nature and some more lighthearted. The future programme includes the histories of English Pubs and Gramophones as well as our popular Members Evening with its variety of contributions.

Our Society Officers, re-elected at this year's AGM are: Chairman, Jane Freeman, 814084, Secretary, Marion Pretty, 814433 and Treasurer, Jean McBride, 812214. Please contact one of them if you require any further information.

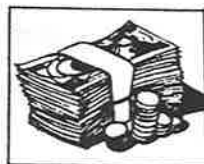
Peggy Honour



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But I can't find what I need any more.
The writing paper is not near the door.
By the time I have seen the things that I want,
Help, it's my turn, I'm at the front!
Can't lose my place now, so meekly I say
2 first class stamps, please, and shuffle away.
But I shall get used to it I dare say.
Progress must come - old things pass away.
One good thing at least, the staff are the same,
We all know their faces, their smiles and their names.
They're patient and helpful, with a kind word or two,
So good luck to David and all of his crew!

Anon.



STANSTED PERSPECTIVE

The place of the milkman in everyday life is so long established that it seldom provokes comment. Whether or not we use him/her the muted morning rattle of bottles and the slow-moving floats are benignly accepted, barely rating a second thought.

Unfortunately the milkman is now an endangered species, compelled to diversify into miscellaneous products only tenuously related to the dairy, and under threat of economic extinction from the superstores.

Before his demise becomes inevitable we should remember that the milkman is also our unsolicited guardian in the small hours and often the first to notice when an elderly customer is in trouble. Some police forces ensure that the milkman is equipped with a mobile phone and there have been recent local instances of police seeking his help when early morning break-ins have occurred. Another and green merit of milk delivery is the use of recyclable glass bottles having a statistical life of eight deliveries against the disposable plastic carton.

Yes, the price of a pinta in the supermarket is less than the doorstep-delivered product and many of us must of necessity buy their milk from them. However, where cost is not the first consideration we should reflect on the social benefits of a delivery service and hopefully give it our support.

There can be few service industries which provide such valuable incidental benefits.

Long live home deliveries.



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If you can't ride or walk you can still help by marshalling for an hour at one of the churches. A rota is being drawn up - offers please to John or Joan 813186.



MOUNTFITCHET GARDEN CLUB

Stansted Carnival

As everyone knows, the carnival suffered from atrocious weather this year and of course attendances were down. This is just to draw a veil over the proceedings and to record a vote of thanks to all who visited the club's stall and in particular to thank those members who braved the elements and manned the stall.

July Meeting

On Wednesday 2nd July members were enthralled by our visiting speaker, Mr David Bevan, who is obviously dedicated to preserving any natural habitat that has managed to avoid development in London. His working life is spent caring for the 'Green Areas' and to this end he is involved with schools and pupils in the hope that education at an early stage will ensure that the green spaces will still be there in the years to come. Mr Bevan is currently involved in the London Airport enquiry into the fifth terminal.

Mr Adamson won the members' competition, a collection of ornamental grasses.

August Meeting

We meet as usual on the first Wednesday at 8 pm. This month we have a special showing of some Royal Horticultural Society Slides featuring the Rock Garden. Appropriately the members' competition is an alpine or rock garden plant in a pot or pan, max. pot size 10 cm.

September Meeting

On Wednesday 3rd September we welcome Alan Butler on the subject of Chrysanthemums.

Members' competition - one spray chrysanthemum.

NEWSFLASH ADMISSION FREE AUTUMN SHOW

Our eagerly awaited and spectacular show this year is on SATURDAY 6TH SEPTEMBER at the UNITED REFORMED CHURCH HALL, CHAPEL HILL, STANSTED at 2.30 PM. Refreshments will be available and raffle tickets on sale. The afternoon will conclude with the presentation of awards and the selling of produce. SEE YOU THERE!!



WORKERS' EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION

At the time of writing this our autumn course seems a long way ahead. However, as there is no 'Link' in September, please make a note in your diaries and watch out for posters nearer the time.

The course will be 'Children of the Great War' and not 'The Unstable Planet' which you were expecting, but which has been deferred to the spring next year. 'Children of the Great War' will be tutored by Mrs Gillian Holman of Clavering, who published the book last year 'Violet Dix's Trunk'. In that she tells of her research into the life of the girl who died very young and whose effects were left in a trunk and donated to the Saffron Walden Museum. During that study Mrs Holman reconstructed local life at home and at school, town and country, holidays, clothing and the effects of the 1914-18 War on the locality.

In our ten week course Mrs Holman aims to illustrate our early 20th century ancestors in childhood, to show how society was then and how it has changed within two or three generations. She will demonstrate the importance of oral history as a research source for recording events. This course will have a particular local emphasis and one meeting will be a visit to Saffron Walden Museum which will be specially opened for the group.

As usual our meetings will be at the Day Centre on Monday evenings. The first meeting will be on September 22nd when we shall be open at 7.30 pm for enrolment, followed by the lecture at 8 pm. I look forward to seeing you all then and hope you will encourage your friends to come along; new members are always welcome. Meantime, if you have any queries please ring Jean McBride, 812214.



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Stansted Tennis Club



The mixed doubles club tournament preliminary rounds were played in June. The final will be between Chris Hollis and Corrine Gladwin and Richard Crosby and Frances Rafferty on Sunday 7th September. The club tournament singles ladder is well under way and it still not too late for members to add their names to the bottom of the ladder if they would like to take part.

Stansted Tennis Club will hopefully be participating in the Essex Small Clubs League one day tournament at Hockerill School on Sunday 31st August. This will involve a mens doubles, ladies doubles and mixed doubles team competing against all other small clubs in the local area.

Anyone interested in tennis coaching should contact Norman Elson, tel. 850057 or Chris Hollis, tel. 466973.

If you would like to join the club please contact Kate Rutter, tel. 813053.

Any other enquiries, please contact either Janet Hollis, tel. 812073 or Richard Mott, tel. 466348.



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Forthcoming Events

Diary dates for later in the year are as follows:

White Elephant: 10.00 am on Saturday, 2nd August at Savages, Lower Street. Contributions welcome, tel. 814440

Annual Dinner 7.30 pm on Friday, 3rd October
Speaker: James Clappison MP (Spokesman on Home Affairs)

Ladies' Luncheon: Noon on Wednesday, 29th October

Christmas Party: 8.00 pm on Friday, 5th December

Member of Parliament's Interviews

Friday 5th September
Town Council Office, 47 Stortford Road, Dunmow
5.45 to 6.30 pm
Town Council Office, Trinity Street, Halstead
7.00 to 7.45 pm

Friday 10th October
Parish Council Office, Crafton Green, Stansted
5.45 to 6.30 pm
Old Armoury, 3 Museum Street, Saffron Walden
7.00 to 7.45 pm
Conservative Contacts

County Council Matters: Richard Wallace 01279 872477
District Council Matters: Jackie Cheetham 01279 870706
Alastair Richardson
815959

The LINK needs help!!

Can you spare a couple of hours a month on a Friday to help us collate and staple the Link?

Could you deliver a few copies of the Link in your area, when your regular deliverer is on holiday or unwell?

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References available

