

March '97

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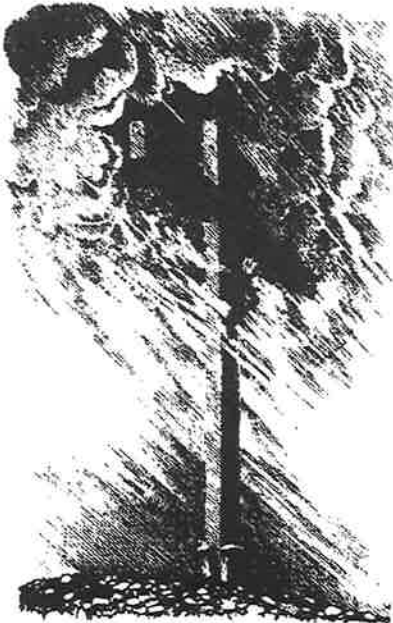
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Jesus

died

so that

we

may

LIVE

**A HOLY WEEK leads to a HAPPY EASTER**

**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  
13th March for publication on 30th March  
10th April for publication on 4th May**

# Society of Friends

## Quaker Meeting House, Chapel Hill

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

Meeting: Sunday 11 am

We are in the middle of the course for the Lent house groups - "Pilgrim's Way" - sharing faith and learning from each other. The word pilgrim is used in various contexts. Most of us have read John Bunyan's "The Pilgrim's Progress" which shows the meaning of pilgrimage to be our journey through life with its trials, temptations and mysteries, towards the Celestial City and unity with God. There are pilgrims and pilgrimages among those of other Faiths - Hindu holy shrines and holy places bring many followers and the Islamic Faith likewise - also secular pilgrims as can be seen at Lenin's tomb in Moscow. Near home we shall be coming to the annual Pilgrimage to Bradwell, honouring St Cedd; on a bigger scale this year with the anniversary of the death of St Columba in Iona and the arrival of St Augustine in Canterbury 1400 years ago, celebrating our Christian heritage.

The seventeenth century was a time of great political and religious turbulence in England. The translation of the bible by William Tyndale (401 years ago) into the vernacular fostered passionate interest and led to people perceiving new insights. Dissenting groups, who thought that the church was straying from the teaching of Jesus, grew up. Among them were Quakers. George Fox's long and difficult struggle searching for truth culminated in his conviction that Jesus spoke to his condition and that God was immediately available to each individual. Fox's early followers called themselves "Friends of Truth" - Quaker was an abusive nickname, to ridicule them.

Some of these dissenters became pilgrims; sailing to the New World, America, to escape the constraints or persecution at home. Non-conformity was illegal until the Toleration Act 1689. In 1671 two brothers named Leeds left Stansted for New Jersey and the earliest record of a Quaker in Stansted is 1665.

Since these early days Friends have tried to be open to new insights and to tolerate differing opinions, working for reconciliation where there is strife and enmity and refusing to practice discrimination by sex, social class or race. Because they were not permitted to study at Oxford and Cambridge, many Quakers went into banking, iron founding and other trades and became paternalistic employers such as Cadburys and Rowntrees; often active in social concerns - anti-slavery, mental health and

prisons. Today, work continues in many troubled areas of the world, especially in reconciliation and peace studies. In Brussels the Quaker Council for European Affairs, consisting of Quaker representatives from all over Europe, watch and study European affairs. In Belfast a similar centre means that there is a meeting place for the two sides in conflict, on neutral ground.

Today we live in another turbulent and exciting century. The growth of communications means that we know more about other people and their lives and beliefs. Intolerance, violence and the widening gap between rich and poor continue, but there is more awareness of human interdependence. However, we still see fear and a desire to hide behind the old barriers and creeds; even forming new cults and reviving old superstitions. It is easy to say "There is that of God in everyone" - not so easy to live it out.

William Penn (1644-1718) wrote:- "The humble, meek, merciful, just, pious and devout souls are everywhere of ones religion; and when death has taken off the mask, they will know one another, though the diverse literics which they wear here makes them strangers -" We must strive to travel together so that we may see beyond barriers in the here and now, seeking justice and peace and the care of our Earth.

A need always for pilgrims.

Mary Rice

## 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 FOR MARCH

- |    |        |   |
|----|--------|---|
| 2  | 9.30am | Mrs Margaret Richardson of Chrishall        |
| 9  | 9.30am | The Revd Ronald Rawlings                    |
| 16 | 9.30am | The Revd Michael Hayman,<br>Holy Communion  |
|    | 6.30pm | Agape Meal, United Service at U.R.C.        |
| 23 | 9.30am | Mrs Julie Finbow                            |
| 30 |        | EASTER DAY                                  |
|    | 9.30am | The Revd Ronald Rawlings,<br>Holy Communion |

*We also join with other Christian friends in the Stations of the Cross at St Theresa's on Good Friday (28th) at 6.30 pm.*

At our March Fellowship Meeting we will be taking a second look at the Anglican/Methodist report on unity.



# 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

Bob and Brenda Wallace are to leave Stansted after Easter. They and their family (Richard 15, Catherine 12 and Sarah 8) will move during Easter week to Hutton near Brentwood. They will return for Parish Communion with the visitors from Chevetogne on Sunday 13th April at 9.30 a.m.

On Tuesday evening 29th April at 8 p.m. Bob will be instituted as Rector of Hutton by the Bishop of Bradwell, the Rt. Revd. Dr. Laurie Green. At the same service, the Bishop will license Brenda as Curate of Hutton. Friends from Stansted will be very welcome at this service.

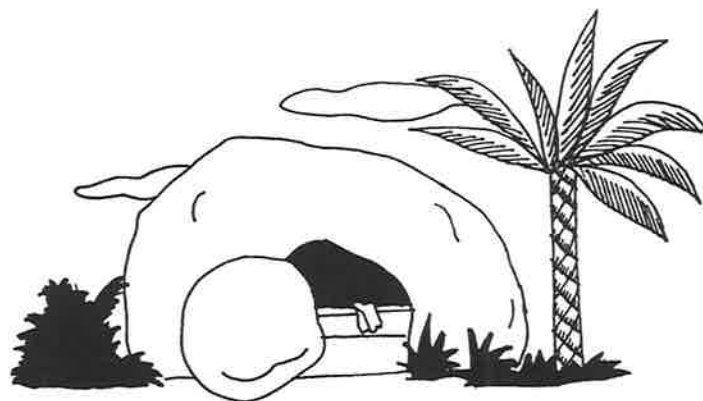
## STOP PRESS

Together with our sister parishes of Birchanger and Farnham, we are having a farewell supper and presentation on Tuesday 1st April at 7.30pm in St John's Church. Tickets are £2, to include a light supper, and are available from Sarah Ludlow-Elston, Alan Corbishley or the Churchwardens.

A collection is being made for a leaving present for Bob and Brenda; all contributions will be welcomed by the Churchwardens.

## DIARY FOR MARCH

3	7.30pm	Holy Communion with Stations of the Cross
4	10.30am	Service at Norman Court
	8.15pm	Prayer Group at 22 Bentfield Causeway
9		<b>MOTHERING SUNDAY</b> Usual services plus
	11.00am	Family Service
10	7.30pm	Holy Communion with Stations of the Cross
11	10.30am	Service at Mead Court
	2.00pm	Tuesday Club at 10 Hargrave Close
	2.15pm	Tiny Tots
16		<b>PASSION SUNDAY</b> (No 11am Family Service today - moved to 9th)
	6.30pm	Agape at U.R.C. Hall (No Evensong today)
17	7.30pm	Holy Communion with Stations of the Cross
	8.00pm	P.C.C. in the Upper Room
18	10.30am	Service at Broome End
21	9.15am	Holy Communion in St Mary's School
		<b>HOLY WEEK</b>
23		<b>Palm Sunday</b>
	9.30am	Procession and Parish Communion
24	7.30pm	Holy Communion with Stations of the Cross
25	10.30am	Service at Hargrave House
26	10.00am	Holy Communion
27		<b>Maundy Thursday</b>
	8.00pm	Parish Communion
	9.00pm	Vigil (till 11 pm)
28		<b>Good Friday</b>
	11.00am	Good Friday Liturgy at Farnham
	2.00pm	Family Service at St John's
	8.00pm	Compline at Birchanger
29		<b>Easter Eve</b>
	8.00pm	Confirmation and Easter Vigil The Bishop of Colchester
30		<b>Easter Day</b>
	8.00am	Holy Communion at ST MARY'S
	9.30am	Family Communion at St John's
	6.30pm	Evensong at St John's
31		(No 7.30pm Holy Communion today)



**THE CHURCH HALL ROOF** .....  
 will be **RAISED** quite literally on 24th march when work commences to completely replace it with a new roof. Before that time we need to **RAISE** the cost, some **fifteen thousand pounds**.

Many of you will have received an appeal letter and we are hoping that there will be a very generous response to this. In addition, several fund raising events are being held and details will announced as individual arrangements are made.

If you feel you could and would like to make a donation towards the cost of this vital work then please do so to The Rectory, St John's Road, or to Jackie Corbishley, 36 Bentfield Causeway.

At the time of going to press the fund stands at £1,675.

**REGISTER FOR DECEMBER**

**Funeral**

20th John Dennis Stannard, aged 54

**REGISTERS FOR JANUARY**

**Funerals**

- 3rd Olive Yvonne "Dickie" Owen, aged 76  
 Edward Alexander Dicks, aged 91  
 William John Hinson, aged 87
- 8th Sylvia Margaret Ashcroft, aged 74
- 14th Edward Walter Hayden, aged 72
- 16th Herbert William Charles Warby, aged 81
- 31st Alan Eldridge, aged 77



**Roman Catholic**

**St Theresa's Church, Millside**

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

<b>Masses:</b>	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

**Christ is the peace between his followers**

An historical reconciliation of the Cilician Armenian church with Rome having been notified earlier, it was fitting that Pope John Paul was accompanied by His Holiness Aram I Keshishian, Catholicos at supreme patriarch, in prayers for Christian unity at St. Paul's Basilica on January 25th.

We hear so often of divisions between the churches that it is heartening to hear of such an event. It is also encouraging that further talks were held in Rome in January between Anglican and Catholic officials on the subject of unity, following on from the informal talks held in November 1996.

For non-believers and those of other than the Christian faith the differences and divisions, even hostilities between branches of the Christian Church must at best be confusing and at worst unedifying.

The Pope had underlined this problem when he spoke on the previous Sunday in Rome of the "pressing" obligation on Christians to make every effort to overcome their divisions "if they wish to remain faithful to Christ".

While questions of authority and doctrine can be left to our bishops, presbyters and theologians to grapple with, ordinary Christians could prepare the ground by stressing their brotherhood in Christ and making their peace in Him. We need to proclaim our common Christian values in an increasingly materialistic and secular society. We know this "embrace of peace" in our Christian experience together in Stansted but there remain pockets of bigotry in these islands which we can help to change through our words and example.

John Jacobs

**Father Joe's Talks**  
**8.00 pm Tuesday**

- March 4 Life Everlasting and the Eternal Truths
- March 11 Mary the Mother of the Church and the Communion of Saints
- March 18 Catholic Life Today and My Life In It





## 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 MARCH

- 2 11.00am Mrs C Bonner
- 9 11.00am Rev M McKay
- 16 11.00am Rev L Rapkin Communion  
6.30pm Agape Supper in the Lecture Hall  
Speaker Rev M McKay
- 23 11.00am Rev L Rapkin
- 27 7.30pm MAUNDY THURSDAY Communion  
Rev L Rapkin
- 28 11.00am GOOD FRIDAY Meditation at Clavering  
Rev M McKay
- 31 10.30am Group EASTER DAY Communion  
Rev M McKay  
followed by Coffee and Hot Cross Buns

### Just a Thought

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

### Homemade Cake Stall

10.00am

1st Saturday of each month  
outside the  
United Reformed Church  
Chapel Hill  
(in church porch if wet)



## CHURCHES TOGETHER in STANSTED

### Visit to the Church of the Cherubim and Seraphim, Birmingham

For some years now, at first through SHALOM, the ecumenical fellowship group in the village, but now under Churches Together, we have been making annual visits to Birmingham, or they to us. This year it is our turn to visit the Church of the Cherubim and Seraphim in Birmingham. The chosen date is Sunday, 20th April. Travel has usually been by coach or cars. We will need to leave in good time for their 2.00 pm service.

If you are interested in going, please wait for more details from within your own church or contact the Revd Michael Hayman (tel. 01279 654475).

### CHEVETOGNE VISIT TO STANSTED

Thursday 10th - Sunday 13th April

Our Belgian visitors will be arriving on April 10th. An itinerary is being prepared for them and they will be staying locally with host families. If you would like to be a host or help at the dinner on Saturday 12th, either by setting up the tables/serving the meal or helping with the washing up please ring **Eileen Quinn, tel. 812109**.

Many hands make light work and we would love to share the weekend with some new faces. We have lots of fun and it's a great way to make new friends.

Don't worry if you can't speak any French, most of our visitors have a basic knowledge of English and it is a great incentive to learn some useful phrases such as - BON APPETIT! or SALUT!

### SHALOM DATES

- 3rd March Lenten Meditation - Baptist Minister from Saffron Walden  
Venue: Ruth Rawlinson, Mont House, High Lane
- 17th March Celtic Evening - Feast Day of St Patrick led by Francis Mercer  
Venue: Dave & Rita Morson, Chantry Hall, Crowe Street, Henham
- 24th March Agape - Mary Warnett  
This is an 'extra' Shalom, being *one* week interval from the last meeting.  
Venue: Mike & Marion Dyer, 7 Blythwood Gardens

## STANSTED PERSPECTIVE

I have enjoyed living in Stansted - no, I'm not planning to pass on in either sense - but am looking back on 32 years of being here. 32 years in the same house and with some of the same neighbours! I was saying this to my daughter the other day - 'How awful' she said 'It must have been boring to be in the same place for all that time!' Well, I never say that I am bored, but she does!

A group of us were talking the other day and somebody said "How long do you have to be here to be accepted?" Well I'm not sure that this applies these days, for surely the 'newcomers' far outnumber those born and bred. I've always put the question to myself, how long do I have to live here before it feels like home?

I was lucky to move here in the middle sixties, when so many of the local 'characters' were still around and family businesses abounded. The 'local gentry' living in large houses gave the use of their gardens for village fetes, so the opportunity to mix and get to know the locals was always there. This was also the time when 'Stansted Carnival' lasted for a week, with events held on each evening, and the big day at Hargrave Park always opened by a celebrity. My children still remember the excitement they felt when the band marched along the Cambridge Road and all the traffic was stopped.

I remember village concerts in the Central Hall and marvelling at some of the local talent - who could forget Irving Sanders giving one of his 'lectures'? The W.I. was still meeting in the Central Hall when I joined, and with nearly 100 members what better way for a young newcomer to the village to get to know people? The Institute's Whitsun Garden Party was a well-established local event by then and took place in Ivy Turner's garden at Bentfield End (the Turners still ran a grocery shop there). The garden was beautiful and a variety of stalls would be dotted about amongst the flower-beds, with a handy pond for the smallest children to fall into. Records show that even in those far-off days well over £130 would be raised.

The W.I. had a small Drama Group in the sixties and seventies and we would entertain our own W.I. as well as go on tour! I well remember the time we went to Ugley with a melodrama, which involved the 'village maidens' (we were quite young then) dancing around a Maypole. The Maypole (a piece of grey plastic drainpipe) proved to be too tall for the stage - but we hastily improvised by using floor space in front of the stage - and sang and danced to the 'Archers' signature tune!

There was the play that involved having a dead chicken as one of the 'props' - supposedly knocked down by an 'L' driver. One of our members obtained a dead chicken with feathers which she put in the deep freeze. On the day of the performance she hung it on the line to thaw out - it was a hot day and as it melted the blue bottles arrived. By

evening it was pretty disgusting and I was the one who had to hold it - but the show must go on - so I wrapped it in a blanket and tried not to breathe!

Nowadays in the village there are so many organisations, educational and recreational. How lucky we are! There is plenty of opportunity too for doing voluntary work which is another way to get to know people. So yes, I do feel at home here and can now look forward, I hope, to the next 32 years of living in Stansted!

A Happy Villager



## Stansted Evening

Much Hadham was the theme for Jean Page's talk for our February meeting. She told us about the many large houses in the village including 'The Palace' that had been the country retreat for the Bishops of London. She said that Much Hadham had been given to the Bishops by two sisters who owned it in the 11th Century having no-one else to leave the land to. She also spoke about the village church which is shared between the Anglicans and the Roman Catholics, and the beautiful Henry Moore window which unfortunately has been vandalised. Her own house, the Forge, has most beautiful Elizabethan wall paintings in one small room which are gradually being restored. These were uncovered when Jean's mother decided the room needed redecorating and the wallpaper was removed.

She was thanked by Mrs Ryan who said that when her W.I. walking group next visits Much Hadham in March they would see the village in a new light.

During business members were reminded about the forthcoming coffee morning on 17th March in the Day Centre in aid of Meningitis Trust and the Quiz Evening on Saturday 5th April. Tickets cost £4.50, all members being urged to support these events.

Our trading stall of "Unwanted Gifts" proved a great success with members picking up bargains. The meeting continued with a quiz on everyday Logo's, this being organised by Mrs Chastney and Mrs Pretty and won by our youngest member, Lindsay Holland.

Our March meeting on the 13th will be on Astrology; the speaker Alan Hale. Any visitors are most welcome.

Brenda Ryan  
812725



Uttlesford Carers &  
Alzheimer's Disease Society  
**CARERS SUPPORT GROUP**

**A talk about the work of the  
Local Access Group**

2 - 4 pm Monday 3rd March  
Quaker Meeting House

Everyone welcome  
Tel 01371 875810 / 872519

**Women's World  
Day of Prayer** 

2 pm Friday 7th March  
St Theresa's Church,  
Millside

Speaker Mrs Rita Morson  
All are Welcome

**JUMBLE SALE**

2 pm  
Saturday 8th March  
**Peter Kirk School**

For collection please tel  
812627

**March**

**VILLAGE EVENTS**

3	Mon	Carers Support Group Shalom Group	Quaker Meeting House 2 pm Mont House High Lane 8 pm
5	Wed	Gardening Club	Day Centre 8 pm
6	Thur	Local History Society	Day Centre 8 pm
7	Fri	Women's World Day of Prayer	St Theresa's 2 pm
8	Sat	Liberal Democrats Ploughmans Jumble Sale Village Music Club	Day Centre 12 - 2 pm Peter Kirk School 2 pm St John's Church 8 pm
12	Wed	Afternoon Women's Institute	Day Centre 2.30 pm
13	Thu	Evening Women's Institute	St John's Hall 8 pm
15	Sat	Essex Churches Seminar CTS Quiz for Chevetogne	Essex Showground 10.30 am St John's Hall 7.00 for 7.30 pm
16	Sun	Car Boot Sale	Mountfitchet School 8 am - 12 noon
17	Mon	Evening W I Coffee Morning Shalom Group	Day Centre 10.30 am Chantry Hall Henham 8 pm
17-20		Skip at Craffton Green	
18	Tue	Tennis Club AGM Windmill AGM	105 Cambridge Road 8 pm Day Centre 8 pm
19	Wed	Annual Parish Meeting	Day Centre 8 pm
21	Fri	St Patrick's Evening Liberal Democrats AGM	Mountfitchet School 8 - 11.30 pm Quaker Meeting House 8 pm
24	Mon	Shalom Group	7 Blythwood Gardens 8 pm
26	Wed	RBL (Women) Coffee Morning	Day Centre 10.30 am
30-31		Windmill Open	2.00 - 6.00 pm
<b>April</b>			
3	Thur	Local History Society	Day Centre 8 pm
5	Sat	Liberal Democrats Grand Auction	Day Centre 7.30 pm
6	Sun	Windmill Open	2.00 - 6.00 pm
12	Sat	Village Clean-Up	



**THE VILLAGE  
MUSIC CLUB**

FLORIAN UHLIG piano  
Liszt, Chopin & Schumann

8.00 pm  
Saturday 8th March  
St John's Church

Tickets from Stansted Carpets Chapel Hill,  
Nockolds Bishop's Stortford & at the door  
£6 adults £4 concessions £2 children

**QUIZ  
NIGHT**



CHURCHES  
TOGETHER  
IN  
STANSTED

for Chevetogne funds

7.00 for 7.30 pm  
Saturday 15th March  
St John's Hall

Refreshments provided - Prizes - Raffle  
Bring your own drink and glass

Tickets from Eileen Quinn 812109

**Royal British Legion  
Women's Section  
Coffee Morning**

10.30 am Wednesday 26th March  
Stansted Day Centre

Raffle - Bring & Buy - Cakes - Tombola  
Please come and support us!



**Irish singing and dancing**

in aid of the Corrymeela centre for  
reconciliation in Northern Ireland

8 - 11.30 pm Friday 21st March  
Mountfitchet School  
Refreshments - Bar - Raffle

**An evening of Celtic delight!**

Adults £5 Under 12's £2  
Tel Dave & Rita Morson 850209

**PLEASE NOTE CHANGE  
OF DATE**

**Mountfitchet High School**

**Car Boot Sale**

Sunday 16th March

8.00 am to 12.00 noon



Tel 01279 813384



**Quiz  
Night**

Evening

7.45 pm Saturday 5th April  
St John's Hall

Entry by ticket only £4.50  
Please tel 812740

**Stansted Evening**   
**COFFEE MORNING**

10.30 am  
Monday 17th March  
Stansted Day Centre

In aid of Meningitis Trust

## STANSTED EVENING W.I. COACH OUTING

Our "summer" outing this year is a guided tour of "Hidden London" followed by a narrow boat cruise on the Regents Canal from Camden Lock to Little Venice. We shall be at the Barbican at lunchtime when you can buy a meal or eat your own packed lunch.

The date for this interesting outing is Saturday May 31st and the cost is likely to be in the region of £7.50 per person plus coach fare not exceeding £5.

More details will be available later but if you are interested in joining us, member or not, male or female, telephone me to reserve a place.

Pearl Wellings  
813614

## 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

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

We have two forthcoming village events which we hope you will support. The first is the **Annual Parish Meeting** to be held at 8 pm on **Wednesday 19th March** in the Day Centre, Crafton Green. Whilst it has not yet been confirmed, we are hoping to have a representative from Uttlesford District Council to speak about the proposed Sports and Leisure Centre and Railway Sidings Car Park projects.

The second date is **Saturday 12th April** when we will be looking for volunteers to help in the **Village Clean Up**. We are fortunate enough to live in a relatively clean and litter-free village, but there are areas where litter gathers and needs to be manually cleared away. Further details will be published in our Newsletter due out later this month.

### REFUSE SKIPS

The refuse skip will be in the car park at Crafton Green on the following dates:

Monday 17th - Thursday 20th March  
Monday 21st - Thursday 24th April

A full list of dates will be published in the Newsletter.



## NEWSPAPER AND CARDBOARD COLLECTIONS

The doorstep collection, started by Pharaoh on behalf of Uttlesford District Council, was at risk for a while, but UDC have assured us that they will continue with the doorstep collections at least until the end of March 1997, so please stick to the original schedule for collections.

### REMEMBER ....

The Village Diary is now kept on the wall outside the Parish Council Office door at the top of the stairs in Crafton Green House. The building is open Monday-Friday, usually between 8.30 am and 5 pm. Alternatively, a quick phone call to the Clerk (813214) will ensure that your event is placed in the Diary.

**FOR YOUR INFORMATION**, the following people are members of the Parish Council:

Andrew Abery, 814278  
Catherine Dean, 813579  
John Hudson, 814489  
Janice Loughlin, 812346  
David Parry, 814788  
Alastair Richardson, 815518  
John Salmon (V.Chair), 814789  
Melanie Watson, 814231  
Ray Clifford (Chairman), 812239  
Bridget Gott, 814440  
Peter Jones, 813252  
Steve Morrison, 814152  
Adam Pounds, 816823  
Brenda Ryan, 812725  
Geoffrey Sell, 815925

Please don't hesitate to contact any of them if you are in need of advice.

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Answers to puzzle on page 10

1.  $(12 + 24) - 7 = 29$
2.  $(24 + 3) \div 3 - 1 = 8$
3.  $(11 + 7 - 15) \times 9 = 27$
4.  $13 + 20 = 33$
5.  $(144 \div 12) \times 2 - 20 = 4$
6.  $6 - 3 + 10 - 8 = 5$
7. 121

## OUR VILLAGE

During January 1997 road and footpath refurbishment work started on Chapel Hill which firstly involved (Fire Station side) sectional removal of the original granite and later pre-cast concrete kerbing stones, then being re-sited and relayed retaining the older granite where possible and the later concrete type being replaced with new pre-cast concrete exposed aggregate type stones. (Thanks to Brian for latter description). The footpath (at the time of writing) is in sections being resurfaced with a smooth Bit-Mac type finish.

Vehicular traffic during these works was being controlled firstly by traffic lights, then from the 27th by a complete daytime road closure, which was, we understand, to have caused some disruption and confusion. Pedestrians meanwhile were controlled by footpath diversions. When the first kerbstones appeared in the village I am not sure, but in 1897 as part of the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations of Queen Victoria, improvement work was undertaken on kerbing some of our village paths.

Chapel Hill at this time had only one footpath from top to bottom, this being on St John's Church side and was in all probability so until the latter 1910's early 1920's. Also during this same year we find that some 9 truck loads of granite chippings were rolled into the road surface and road watering was taking place and charged at 7/6d for an 8 hour working day, plus 1/- for the water cart. Road watering was necessary to help lay the dust and to compact the surface as we should remember the road surface was generally made up from the natural underlay, large then smaller stones, gravel and sand to in-fill the gaps. (Several of our roads which I am sure you are well aware of, still can be said to fall under this description). Chapel Hill, in all probability, remained in this state until around the late 1920's as Mr Verco had to take in his clocks because the dust from the road "choked them up". By trade, Mr Verco was a practical watch and clock maker, who advertised "Every description of Watches or Clocks repaired", and had for sale "New Silver Watches Capped and Jewelled 21/- (shillings) each".

Several incidents occurred on Chapel Hill involving horses and carts, steam, motor traffic and bicycles, due mainly to their excessive speed (must have been down hill) or brake failure as the hill is said to have a gradient of around 1 in 22. Speed was causing particular problems in 1910 when cyclists were said to be causing more problems than motorists. This was one reason (amongst others) that a village speed limit was applied for. Perhaps we can recall the implementation of this and a few other of the road problems faced by our village travellers of yesteryear, and also perhaps be able to report that the present day works are complete, which may or may not be interest to travellers in another 100 years' time!

P J Brown



## Stansted Mountfitchet Local History Society

February's meeting was 'members' evening', when speakers from within the Society offered information and insights on a wide variety of topics. Frances Spalding briefed us on the Heath family, 18th Century lords of Stansted Manor; Bob Clarke introduced us to the complexities of measuring longitude, with some pungent asides on the inability of historians to agree upon matters of fact; Peggy Honour *in absentia* contributed thoughts on the early history of mills in Essex; and Jean McBride brought us into the 20th Century and awoke memories among some of our older members with her researches into the story of the Stansted Home Guard. As always at such meetings the audience was large and properly appreciative; members were exhorted to start thinking immediately of subjects to be offered for the 1998 members' evening.

6th March Fred Feather on Essex Police

3rd April United Reformed Church in Stansted  
by Rev. Margaret McKay

Both in the Day Centre at 8 pm.

**CHRIST IS  
RISEN**



**TODAY!**

**DON'T BE LATE FOR  
EASTER SERVICES  
Clocks go FORWARD**

**ONE HOUR**

**29/30TH MARCH**



## CHILDREN'S PAGE

### The March Mouse

March was usually a windy, stormy month and Maisie's parents didn't like March because the weather sent Maisie mad! She jumped and danced and shouted and pranced and was generally a very noisy nuisance.

Maisie's younger brothers and sister copied everything she did, so they were very noisy too. Their aim was to make more noise than Maisie, but thank goodness they couldn't.

Her brothers were called Nick and Henry and her sister, who was the youngest, was called Molly.

One day when the four of them were racing about the garden they spotted the March hares in the field beyond. To their amazement the hares were standing on their hind legs boxing. So, of course, the four mice started to do the same, along with much shouting and stamping.

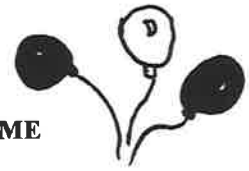
Then Maisie disappeared. One moment she was there but the next she was gone. Nick, Henry and Molly searched in the long grass under the oak tree. No Maisie. They searched all along the base of the hedge, but no Maisie. Suddenly, with a very loud Boo! Maisie jumped out of a daffodil trumpet on top of Henry.

Later that day after Maisie had gone to bed and when everything was still and quiet, Maisie woke up to find a full moon shining on her face. She jumped out of bed, looked outside and decided she'd go out and sing to the moon.

Maisie woke up Nick, Henry and Molly and they crept outside. They marched round and round the garden singing all the songs they could think of. Then they went back in to bed.

In the morning there were muddy footprints everywhere.

"What will those children get up to next?" asked their mother.



### PUZZLE TIME

1. Add the number of months in a year to the number of hours in a day then subtract the number of days in a week.
2. Add the pie baked blackbirds to the blind mice, divide by the full wool bags then take away the time the clock struck.
3. Add a cricket team to a netball team, subtract a rugby team and multiply by a rounders team.
4. Add a baker's dozen to a score.
5. Divide a gross by a dozen, multiply by a brace and subtract a score.
6. Subtract the sides of a triangle from the sides of a hexagon, add the sides of a decagon and subtract the sides of an octagon.
7. Work out the pattern, then fill in the missing numbers.

9 5 11 ? 25 81

Answers on page 8



**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



# STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET WINDMILL

March sees the first open day of the year for Easter Sunday and Monday and also the AGM at the Day Centre, Crafton Green on Tuesday 18th March at 8.00 pm. We had a good year in 1996 and hope to introduce some new ideas for the coming year, so we are eager to hear from those who would like to help in looking after our mill.

After the business we will have a talk from Michael Hoyle from Essex Council who will be telling us about Essex Mills and his role as mills co-ordinator. We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible.

The open days for the mill in 1997 are:

- Sunday/Monday Mar 30/31 (Easter weekend)
- Sunday Apr 6th
- Sunday/Monday May 4/5th
- Sunday May 11th (National Mills Day)
- Sunday/Monday May 25th/26th
- Sunday June 1st
- Sunday July 6th
- Sunday August 3rd
- Sunday August 10th
- Sunday August 17th
- Sunday August 24th
- Monday August 25th (Bank Holiday Fete)
- Sunday September 7th
- Sunday October 5th

If anyone wants further information please contact Steve Clements, tel. 816514.



It has been a very short half term, but the children have been very busy with lots of activities. They have made a Chinese dragon and have been dancing around the hall with it on. They have made some pancakes which they ate with sugar and lemon. They saved two of them for races. The children lined up, then at the word 'go' they had to run to the fence, toss their pancake, try to catch it, and run back. This was thoroughly enjoyed with many pancakes landing on the ground rather than in the frying pans, but nobody minded!! It was then the turn of the Mums (and Dads) who had to toss their pancakes *all* the way rather than just at the end. A few pancakes landed on the ground in their races too. The Pre-School leaders weren't allowed to be left out, and they had a race too, which the children thought was great.

We had a very successful Quiz Evening, with many people answering all sorts of questions. There was a ploughman's supper in the middle of the evening which everyone seemed to enjoy. We raised over £300 that night, so *thank you* to everyone who attended and contributed. I must say *well done* to the Bentfield School team who won (though it was very close!!).

Mandy Honour

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Dear Occupant

On the 24th Dec 96 an accident occurred on the Cambridge Road, Stansted Mountfitchet, near to Mercer & Hughes Veterinary Surgery. A male was knocked over by a passing motor and received injuries to his arms and legs, though not serious. The accident occurred at about 13.00 hrs.

A driver who was passing witnessed the accident and left his name and address with the victim, however, the victim was not able to recall the details left with him, thus this witness has not been traced.

The witness was believed to be driving a blue Vauxhall motor and resides in Stansted. The information that this witness can provide is considered to be vital to the investigation of the accident and I would ask that it is was you or you know who the person is then please contact me at Stansted Police Office.

Your help with this matter will be appreciated.

T. G. Hazell  
P.C. 640

### RUNNING FOR BREAKTHROUGH

I am a Stansted resident and member of the Bishop's Stortford Running Club currently training hard for my first ever marathon, the London marathon on Sunday 13th April.

I am hoping to raise at least £1000 for **Breakthrough** Breast Cancer and I am looking for sponsorship.

**Breakthrough** is raising £15 million to establish a Breast Cancer Research Centre which will bring together leading doctors and scientists specialising in the disease. The ultimate aim is to find a cure. 15,000 women die from Breast Cancer each year in the UK. When the £15m target is reached, then the battle for the real breakthrough can begin. This dedicated centre is now being built next to the Royal Marsden Hospital and should be opening in Spring 1998.

If you would like to offer your support please contact me on 814360.

Many thanks.

Lorraine Evans  
For **Breakthrough** Breast Cancer  
Registered Charity No. 328323



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Summer 1997



## Stansted Tennis Club



The Annual General Meeting of the Club is on Tuesday 18th March at 8 pm at Little Fosters, 105 Cambridge Road, Stansted.

Members or potential new members will be very welcome to attend.

Enquiries to:

Richard Shervington (President), 812022  
Janet Hollis (Chairman) 812071  
Richard Mott (Secretary) 466348  
Gill Robinson (Treasurer) 815486.



**MOUNTFITCHET  
GARDEN CLUB**

At our first meeting in 1997 members were expecting a talk on orchids, but due to circumstances beyond our control the arranged speaker was not available. Mainly due to some sterling work by our Vice Chairman, Paul Embleton, we were able to enjoy a presentation on daffodils. Literally at the very last minute David Townley came from Saffron Walden to talk to us on what was obviously a passion for him. A large audience of members enjoyed an informative talk followed by a question and answer session. **Gardening Tip ...** when your daffodils have finished flowering **do not** remove the leaves because the bulb is nourished from the leaves.

The members' competition ... a flowering bulb, was won by Betty Waterman ... well done Betty.

March Meeting

On Wednesday March 5th all are welcome to meet Mr A Booth who will tell us about Safety in the Garden. Come and learn how to garden safely.

Members competition ... best safety hint.

## STANSTED CONSERVATIVES



**Sir Alan Haslehurst MP** will be available for interviews  
on **Friday 7th March:**

5.45 - 6.30 pm Thaxted Guildhall

7.00 - 7.45 pm The Old Armoury, Saffron Walden  
(No appointment necessary)

It is still hoped to arrange another guided tour of **The Palace of Westminster** with Sir Alan in March or April.

The Joint Branch A.G.M. is on Friday 14th March at 8 pm;  
the Ladies Branch A.G.M. is on Wednesday 19th March at noon.

### Future Events

Fashion Show	8 pm Friday 11th April
Ladies Luncheon	12 noon Wed 30th April
Summer Barbecue	12 noon Sunday 8th June

Alastair Richardson



### THE VILLAGE MUSIC CLUB

For the final concert in our 1996/7 season we shall be welcoming one of today's finest young pianists, Florian Uhlig.

Florian has performed extensively throughout Europe in the festivals of Bonn and Feuchtwangen, the "Schubertiaden Schnackenburg" in Germany, the "Musikalische Lenzburg" in Switzerland and in the UK at the Tudeley Festival. In June he will make his orchestral debut at the Barbican with the Clara Schumann Piano Concerto.

His programme in Stansted on **Saturday March 8th** in St John's Church at 8 pm will include music by Scarlatti, Beethoven, Mendelssohn and Liszt (see separate box advertisement for ticket details).

Advance Notice for a special "Summer Soiree" on Saturday 12th July at 7 pm with light supper. Full details will be announced in May, but please reserve the date now!



### ROYAL BRITISH LEGION STANSTED & DISTRICT BRANCH

Whilst we are a small Branch without a permanent club we would like to think that after celebrating our 70th Anniversary in October 1996 we can survive for a long time to come. However, in order to do this we desperately need new members and new ideas to fulfil our aims and objectives. We are very active with the Poppy Appeal and with our benevolent work but we do require more help.

Naturally we like to encourage ex-service man and women, young and old, and also the many National Service 'conscripts' to join us, but we welcome anyone interested in the work of the Legion to become Associate Members.

At the A.G.M. in November, Mrs Kath Stevens retired as Chairman but has been honoured by being elected President.

The present officers of our branch are:-

Hon. Chairman - David Challis (815183)

Hon. Secretary - Bob Stoddard (814015)

Hon. Treasurer and Hon. Poppy Appeal Organiser - John Segar (813289).

Please contact any of the above if you can help in any way or wish to join the Legion.

J L Segar

### THE FRIENDS OF ESSEX CHURCHES

#### Preserving our Churches for the Next Millennium

The Friends of Essex Churches are holding a Seminar on Fund Raising on Saturday 15th March 1997, 10.30 am - 3.30 pm at The Pavilion, Essex County Showground at Great Leighs, near Chelmsford.

The aim of this Seminar is to give practical advice on fund raising for Churches of all denominations.

For further details please contact Janet Hollis, 812073.

The Friends of Essex Churches are holding a Spring Fair on Tuesday 13th May at The Pavilion, Essex County Showground between 10.30 am and 3.30 pm. Entrance will be £2.50 to include coffee. There will be 24 stalls plus cake and plant stalls and a raffle. Light lunches will be served.



Chairman: Steve Riley, 815455  
 Secretary: Frances Spalding, 813432

**Forthcoming Events**

Ploughman's Lunch: Saturday 8th March - Day Centre, Crafton Green, 12-2 pm.

Annual General Meeting: Friday 21st March - Quaker Hall, Chapel Hill, 8 pm.

**April**

Auction: Saturday 5th April - Day Centre, Crafton Green, 7.30 pm.

Ploughman's Lunch: Saturday 12th April - Day Centre, Crafton Green, 12-2 pm.

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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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# Huw Johnson Club

Plans for our week in Porthcawl are gathering pace. the caravans are booked and we are considering which outings we will choose from the many interesting places South Wales has to offer. Before that, however, we have Mothering Sunday presents to make and Easter cards to prepare.

Our meeting before Shrove Tuesday was a good excuse to make pancakes and Derek and Dick manfully took charge of the proceedings. In spite of a rather thick smoke haze which settled over the kitchen the pancakes proved delicious. Our members certainly made short work of them. Thankyou gentlemen, it was a great evening and everyone had a lot of fun. The races to finish up with led to a lot of pancakes on the floor - what a good job St John's Hall ceiling is very high!!

Valentine cards were next on the list and many a sweetheart received lovingly made tokens of love on February 14th. "How do you spell Valentine?" "How do you spell love?" were the main cries during the evening. The evening ended with a hilarious game of Beetle. We have our own version of this game based entirely on colour which means that everyone can join in.

A big thankyou to the Stansted Firefighters for a £400 donation to our funds. Those traffic jams at Christmas were worth it after all.

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*References available*

