

May 97

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Mountfitchet*

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Christian Aid

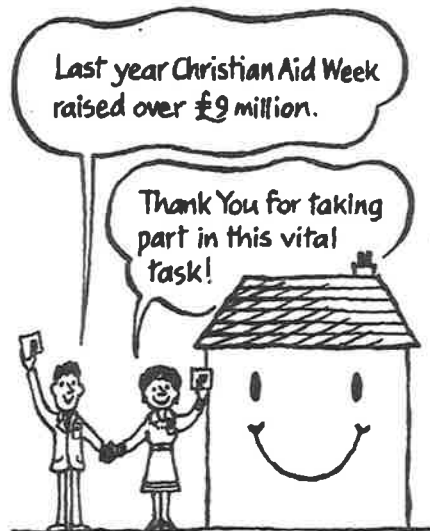
We believe in life before death

UNITED SERVICE

Sunday 11th May
6.30 pm

Quaker Meeting House

Everyone is welcome to
join us at the beginning of
Christian Aid Week



MARKET

Saturday 17th May
10.00 am - 12 noon

Quaker Meeting House

Toys, books, bric-a-brac,
Traidcraft, plants, cakes,
refreshments

Christian Aid Week 11th - 17th May

A prayer

O God, the Creator and father of all humankind, by your Holy Spirit you have made a diversity of peoples one, in the confession of your name. Lead us, we pray, by the same Spirit, to display to the whole earth, one mind in belief, and one passion for righteousness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen



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

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
15th May for publication on 1st June
12th June for publication on 29th June**

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

When I was young I had the good fortune to know a good and noble lady called Katie. I was four years old when I first met her. She had just moved to my neighbourhood with her husband, having been married a few weeks earlier. Over the years we became close friends and I often stayed on holidays with the family. Katie had a very positive and caring nature, always looking for the good in people. When I was about eight years old a neighbour died. I didn't think her particularly good looking and said so with a confidence that presumed knowing all truth. Katie listened and then smiled and said "But you didn't know on the inside". For a moment I didn't know what she meant by the 'inside', so she helped me out. "Rose", she said, "was a very nice and good person on the inside and that is more important than the outside of a person". I knew my judgement was being called into question but I did not resent the reprimand because it was done with gentleness and conviction. I learned two things as a result of the incident: judging the book by the cover can be misleading, and the 'inside' of a person, I began to realise, was what made them what they are.

In theology we speak of 'lost innocence' occasioned by the Fall from Grace of mankind. In our daily lives we still feel vibrations of that fall. As human beings we realise that we are not what we should be, and indeed often strive to be. But there is more to the story of our lives and theology also speaks of 'restored innocence'. It is a gift from God. It is new life offered through the Saviour of the world, Jesus Christ, whose victory over sin and death we recently celebrated at Easter: "I once was lost, but now I'm found, was blind, but now I see" is how John Newton (1725-1807) expressed it in his hymn Amazing Grace. Our new life of faith can be said to make us "nice on the inside" in a very real sense. And the good news is that it is not of our own doing, but of our co-operation.

Fr Joe White

ST THERESA'S

A PARISH MISSION
to be conducted by
Fr Joe O'Connell, C.S.S.R
Theme: Our Spiritual Awareness

MISSION PROGRAMME

17th - 24th May

Saturday 17th: Mission opens at vigil Mass - 6.00 pm
Sunday 18th: masses as usual at 9.00 am (Henham)
and at 10.30 am (Stansted)

Monday 19th - Friday 23rd

All Services at St Theresa's

Mass each morning: 6.30 (25 mins) and 9.30

Evening Services (Will last about 45-50 minutes)

Monday	8.00 pm	Healing Service
Tuesday	8.00 pm	Reconciliation
Wednesday	8.00 pm	Power of Prayer
Thursday	8.00 pm	The Bread of Life
Friday	8.00 pm	Mary, "Yes" to God
Saturday	9.30 am	Mass for all our deceased relatives and friends

Confessions/Spiritual help will be available after all services

A MISSION IS FOR EVERYONE

A Mission is an important event in the life of the Parish community.

The message of Jesus is announced anew to give encouragement in the difficulties and problems of modern life.

A Mission gives some an opportunity to make a fresh start.

For others an opportunity to renew their faith.

For everybody an opportunity to show their gratitude to God.

And so we are all invited to participate in this Parish Mission.

It is a unique opportunity to experience once again the love and friendship of Jesus.

THIS MISSION IS FOR YOU

Church of England

St John's Church, St John's Road

Clergy: 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

Monthly Services - Stansted Mountfitchet
All Services at the Parish Church unless otherwise stated

May

4 Easter 5	8.00 am	Holy Communion
	9.30 am	Parish Communion
	6.30 pm	Evensong
6 Tues	10.30 am	Holy Communion - Norman Court
7 Wed	10.00 am	Holy Communion
8 Thur	8.00 pm	Ascension Day - Holy Communion
11	Sunday after Ascension	
	Christian Aid Week	
	8.00 am	Holy Communion
	9.30 am	Parish Communion
	6.30 pm	Choral Evensong with Sermon
13 Tues	10.30 am	Holy Communion - Mead Court
14 Wed	10.00 am	Holy Communion
18	Pentecost	
	8.00 am	Holy Communion
	9.30 am	Parish Communion
	11.00 am	Family Service
	6.30 pm	Choral Evensong and Sermon at St Mary's,
		Preacher Mr Roy Tricker
20 Tues	10.30 am	Holy Communion - Broome End
21 Wed	10.00 am	Holy Communion
25	Trinity Sunday	
	8.00 am	Holy Communion
	9.30 am	Parish Communion
	6.30 pm	Evensong
27 Tues	11.00 am	Holy Communion - Hargrave House
28 Wed	10.00 am	Holy Communion

REGISTERS

Baptism

2nd March Chloe Helen Moulds, daughter of Mark and Anita Moulds
Harrison Michael Longley, son of Shaun Longley and Claire Steward

Marriage

1st March George Owen Williams to Danielle Harmer

Funerals

13th February Ernest Cecil Francis, aged 89
11th March Kathleen Deeman, aged 82
12th March Gladys Emma Joan Canning, aged 79
18th March Jessie Gibb Mackay, aged 81
Roy Kitchener, aged 71
26th March Sarah Reid Hancock, aged 84

Society of Friends

Quaker Meeting House, Chapel Hill

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

Meeting: Sunday 11 am

Recently I attended, with a friend, a Quiet Day held at a convent in Barnet. I went a little unwillingly because, although I enjoy and value the silence of our Meeting for Worship, the thought of a whole day of silence (including lunch - silent except for eating noises!) rather daunting. However, I soon found a little book about St Francis by Carlo Carretto and I was 'hooked' for the day. I have been lucky enough to go to Assisi twice and I find the place and all the stories about St Francis inspiring and very special. I think this little quote from the book expresses the longings that from time to time sweep over us and give us a glimpse of the Eternal:

"Anyone who has ever considered holiness possible in a human being, has seen it in the poverty and tenderness of Francis, has joined himself or herself to the prayer of the Canticle of the Creatures - has ever dreamed of going beyond the limits imposed on us by unbelief, the limits of fear, beyond which one should indeed be able to tame wolves and speak to the fishes and the swallows. I think Francis of Assisi is in the depths of every human being, for all are touched by grace".

Katherine Hurford



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 May

4th 11 am Rev Mary Irish
11th 11 am Rev M McKay
6.30 pm C.T.S. for Christian Aid
at Friends Meeting House
18th 11 am Rev M McKay Communion
25th 11 am Rev L Rapkin

The Coffee Morning for the Bible Society raised £160.00.
Thank you to all who came and contributed in any way.

Our Quiz Night for the repair and redevelopment fund is on May 17th (and not May 10th as in last month's Link). Come and join the fun. Tickets £5, which includes a Ploughman's Supper, from Betty Francis, tel. 814850.

If you are lost for something to do on Spring Bank Holiday, Monday May 26th, then come to Pennington View, Elsenham, for "Afternoon Tea" in a lovely garden for you to wander round, from 3 pm.

Advance notice of two more events for our repair fund:

June 27th Saffron Sound, the Barbershop chorus, are giving a concert and James Grimes will be playing his electronic organ. Tickets £5, to include Wine and Cheese nibbles.

Nov 22nd Essex Youth Jazz Orchestra will be coming to give a concert. As they say, watch this space.



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 May

4th 9.30 am Miss Louise Dean of Saffron Walden
11th 9.30 am The Revd Michael Hayman, Holy Communion
6.30 pm United Service for Christian Aid Week in the Friends Meeting House
18th 9.30 am Miss Elizabeth Good of Bishop's Stortford
25th 9.30 am Mr Michael Valentine of Bishop's Stortford

Our next Fellowship Meeting will be on Friday 16th May at 8.00 pm - venue to be announced.



SHALOM

SHALOM

Dates for May

May 12th Venue Mike and Marion Dyer's
7 Blythwood Gardens
Topic: to be decided

May 26th Venue: Doreen Richardson
6 Foxley Drive
Bishop's Stortford
Speaker: Kathleen Allen
"Reflections on her Ministry"

Ecumenical Fellowship. Everyone welcome.



CHURCHES TOGETHER in STANSTED

THE TWINNING WEEKEND

Once again we have welcomed friends from Chevetogne, Belgium, to Stansted. The friendship and love which these twinning weekends engender is difficult to describe to anyone not involved. Whether it is the meeting of old and dear friends or the pleasure of getting to know new ones, the bonds between us grow stronger. Being together, sharing together, worshipping together - the days are great fun, busy, enjoyable and ultimately uplifting for us all.

This year Harry and I were hosts to two lovely ladies, Madame Jeanne Pirson-Taviet, who is eighty years old, and her niece, Monique. Jeanne, spoke English very well - she learned it during the war. In 1940, when Belgium fell to the advancing German army, she was among the refugees fleeing from the war zone. She was carrying two baby sisters - her nieces - one eighteen months old and one two and a half, and she walked from Belgium through France and to the coast with no food, no money, no change of clothes, only the desperate hope of bringing the children to safety. She was lucky - they were taken aboard a boat which brought them to England (two other refugee boats were sunk) and they lived firstly in London, and then for the rest of the war years in Leicester, where Jeanne worked in a leather factory and learned her English.

At the end of the war they all returned to Belgium where the children were at first unable to communicate with their parents, having lost their French!

A lifetime ago.



Jeanne's niece Monique was the two and a half year old who arrived here with her, and Jeanne was rather hoping that the English she knew as a child would return to her over the weekend. It didn't quite happen!

All people are special and all have special stories to tell. It was a privilege to learn just how special our guests were. Thankyou, Monique and Jeanne, for giving us such a wonderful weekend with you.

Edna Goreing



This year Christian Aid week is focusing on India as it celebrates 50 years of independence. We are urged to -

GIVE - of ourselves as we worship the God of love, sharing our resources with those burdened by poverty and oppression.

ACT - in the belief that we can make a difference.

PRAY - for those who struggle for the freedom to live, and for ourselves as we seek to do God's will.

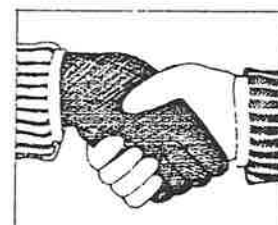
In Stansted please **GIVE** generously in the envelopes. Many people also give their time generously

ACT by volunteering to be a collector if you can
PRAY for all the collectors and for the work of Christian Aid and the success of Christian Aid Week, May 12-17.

Christian Aid Market, Saturday May 17th, 10 am.
Please support the market at the Friends Meeting House. Any donation of cakes, plants, books, toys, bric-a-brac, etc. will be welcome either on the day or in advance to me. Tea, coffee, chocolate, etc. will be available as well as handicrafts.

To launch Christian Aid Week there will be a service on Sunday 11th May at the Friends Meeting House, at 6.30 pm. It would be nice if all volunteers could attend this service. All are welcome.

Catherine Dean
813579
49 Recreation Ground



DUNMOW ART GROUP



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

Uttlesford Carers &
 Alzheimer's Disease Society

CARERS SUPPORT GROUP

A talk on the
Age Concern
Home Support Service
 2 - 4 pm Monday 12th May
 Quaker Meeting House
 Everyone welcome
 Tel 01371 875810 / 872519

Friends of Essex Churches

invite you to a
Spring Fayre

10.30 am - 3.30 pm
Tuesday 13th May

The Pavilion
 Essex County Showground
 Great Leighs

(on A131 Braintree - Chelmsford)

Stalls - Refreshments - Raffle
 Light Lunches
Entrance £2.50

Enquiries: Janet Hollis 812073

VILLAGE EVENTS

May		
4	Sun	
and		
5	Mon	Windmill Open 2.00 - 6.00 pm Art Group Annual Exhibition Foakes Hall Dunmow 10 am - 5 pm
7	Wed	Afternoon Women's Institute St John's Hall 2.30 pm Seniors Club games meeting Day Centre 2 pm Gardening Club Day Centre 8 pm
8	Thu	Seniors Club outing to Clacton
9	Fri	Evening W I Fashion Show St John's Hall 8 pm
10	Sat	Farnham School Boot Sale Gt Hallingbury Village Hall 1 pm Liberal Democrats Ploughmans Day Centre 12 - 2 pm British Legion talk and supper 8 pm
11	Sun	United Christian Aid Service Quaker Meeting House 6.30 pm
12	Mon	Carers Support Group Quaker Meeting House 2 pm Shalom Group 7 Blythwood Gardens 8 pm
13	Tue	Essex Churches Spring Fayre Essex Showground 10.30 am
14	Wed	Afternoon Women's Institute Day Centre 2.30 pm
12 Mon to		
15	Thu	Skip at Crafton Green
15	Thu	RBL (Women's Section) Day Centre 7.30 pm
17	Sat	Christian Aid Market Quaker Meeting House 10 am URC Development Fund Quiz URC Hall 7.30 pm Rotary Club Quiz Mountfitchet School 7.00 for 7.30 pm
18	Sun	Car Boot Sale Mountfitchet School 8 am
17 - 24 Sat St Theresa's Mission Week		
21	Wed	Seniors Club Quiz Day Centre 2 pm
23	Fri	Rainbow Pre-school Daytime Concert
26	Mon	URC Afternoon Tea Pennington View, Elsenham 3 pm Shalom Group 6 Foxley Drive, B. Stortford 8 pm Pearse House, B. Stortford 7.30 pm
27	Tue	Rotary Club Buffet Evening 8.45 am
31	Sat	Evening W I trip to London
31	Sat	
to		
1	Sun	Skip at Crafton Green
June		
4	Wed	Seniors Club Day Centre 2 pm
12	Thu	Rainbow Pre-school pub crawl quiz
14	Sat	Liberal Democrats Ploughmans Day Centre 12 - 2 pm
18	Wed	Seniors Club Day Centre 2 pm
21	Sat	Carnival Mountfitchet School 1.30 pm
22	Sun	Stansted Fun Run Bentfield Green 11 am
27	Fri	Saffron Sound Concert URC

Rotary Club of Stansted Stort Valley Quiz Night

7.00 for 7.30 pm

Saturday 17th May

Mountfitchet High School

Teams of 6

Tickets £6 incl fish & chip supper

PROCEEDS TO LOCAL CHARITIES

Please tel Alan Sutton 815070
 before 11th May

Christian Aid

We believe in life before death

MARKET

10.00 am - 12 noon

Saturday 17th May

Quaker Meeting House

Toys, books, bric-a-brac,
 Traidcraft, plants, cakes,
 refreshments

St Mary's School PTEA LINE DANCING & WILD

WEST FAMILY NIGHT

6 - 9pm Sat 7th June

St Mary's School

BBQ & Licensed Bar

£1.50 adults £1.00 children

Tel 812212

Rotary Club of Stansted Stort Valley

Membership Drive Buffet Evening

7.30 for 8.00 pm Tuesday 27th May

Pearse House Bishop's Stortford

Please come along if you are
 interested in getting to know
 more about Rotary

Please tel Alan Sutton 815070 before 17 May



Development
 Fund



7.30 pm Saturday 17th May

URC Hall

£5.00 (incl ploughmans)

Please tel 814850

STANSTED PERSPECTIVE

Growing Up

Bigfoot Junior should have been back by now. I say he should have, but I don't really know. It was the last full moon when we drove him out of the camp, and I wonder if something may have happened to him. In my day it would have been over by now. Our coming of age was simply a matter of being turned out, finding food to keep body and soul together during the hunt, and being welcomed back to the camp with a pig or a deer, or whatever would be accepted by the elders as the sign of our new status. There were fewer human settlements back then so there was little risk of being caught.

These days its harder. We've taught Junior everything he needs to live and to provide. But the world around us has changed, and I don't know what to make of it, and don't even know if I could get by if I were in his shoes.

The old ways were good enough for us. We could eke out a living here in the trees or in the fields after dark when the humans were settled in. Now they don't settle, or don't appear to. The small hours in which we drank in the stillness of the dark have been moved on, away from here, by the distant moan of the traffic or the drone from the airstrip. Time was we could live happily and undetected here on the margins, but the margins shrink with each cycle of the seasons. I fear that the thrill of the chase, which marked the growing up of all our young, may be reduced to whatever can be scavenged from behind the take-away after midnight. What will we celebrate then?

It's harder for the humans. At least with us, we adapt to their encroaching of the world we once knew. Human young have to grow up in a world which their elders made, and which their elders do not understand. What rite of adulthood for human young in these days when grown-ups hide in the memory of their past and abdicate responsibility for the present? The resourceful ones will always find a way, but the others? Abandoned to find their own way, furtively in doorways, boistrously in the railway station. Where will they find their wisdom for life?

Junior's howl! There it is again, he's coming back! His cry sounds different, more of an edge to it, even. Whatever my despair at the difficulty of his task, if he has succeeded in this different world, and we eat well tonight, he will have performed better than any of his elders would've done in their more gentle day.

Bigfoot



SUFFOLK CHURCHES TOUR

Saturday 12th July

The coach will leave Stansted at 9 o'clock and the cost, including tea, will be £12.

We shall stop for refreshment on the journey before our first Church visit to Ditchingham and then on to Beccles for an hour or so for lunch.

Our tour guides are still planning the rest of the day with their customary precision; those of you who came two years ago will remember just how precisely our journey was planned to include the delights of the Suffolk villages in that part of the county. They have suggested that passports might be necessary - we may cross into Norfolk this time! I expect to have more details within the next few days.

Our tour will end at The Old Hall, Barsham, where Mr and Mrs Maurice Elliott and the parishioners of Barsham will provide tea.

Please contact Audrey Rodgers, 96 Cambridge Road, Stansted, tel. 813385, if you would like to reserve seats on the coach. Further details - and requests for payment - will follow shortly.

Audrey Rodgers



YOUTH FOOTBALL



There are a number of village 15 year olds who either play football outside the village or do not play at all. It may be that there is enough interest to form a Stansted team at Under 16 level for the forthcoming season to play in the local league. If you are interested, and are still under 16 by the end of July this year, please contact Simón Ayres on B/S 814706 as soon as possible.



MOUNTFITCHET GARDEN CLUB

April Meeting

Members attending our usual monthly meeting were treated to a performance by our visiting speaker from Cambridge. Peter Blackburn-Maize, an acknowledged expert on fruit trees, had an amusing story to accompany his expertly produced slides. He concentrated on apples, recommending the best types to grow and giving helpful tips on pruning. Most gardeners know their onions --- we know our apples.

This meeting concluded with the club's Annual General Meeting. In the absence of the chairman, Paul Embleton gave a report on the year's activities. This included comments on our successful programme of speakers (except for one who failed to arrive) and the smash hit Autumn Show, with its high standard of entries. All in all a good year despite the poor growing conditions in the spring.

The Treasurer, Janet Townsend, presented her report and advised that our finances were healthy enough to allow the members' subscriptions to remain at the same level as last year. Next followed the election of officers and committee. I am sorry to say this was rather boring because all the officers and committee were elected to serve for another year. The following are the club's principal officers:

Chairman	David Williams
Vice Chairman	Paul Embleton
Treasurer	Janet Townsend
Secretary	Margaret Loynds

Spring Show

The weather having beaten us in 1996 we were delighted to stage our show on Saturday 5th April in the United Reformed Church Hall, Chapel Hill, Stansted. Over 170 entries attracted a good public attendance (for those who missed this show look out for our Autumn Show in September - Admission is always FREE).

The principal trophy winners were as follows:

Committee Shield (most points in show)
Oldfield Shield (highest points in flowers)
Prentice Daffodil Cup (best daffodil exhibit) and
Daffodil Society Medal (most points in daffodils), were all won by Mr and Mrs Gordon Fuller.
Margaret Loynds won the Humphrey Vase for best entry in floral art. Mr Cyril Stoneham took the Maud Banks Tankard for the highest points in vegetables. The winner of our members competition that has been running throughout the year was Betty Waterman.

Heartiest congratulations to all our winners, better luck next time to those who entered but did not quite make it.

May Meeting

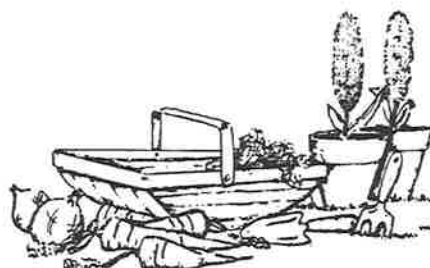
On Wednesday 7th May our guest speaker will be from the Felsted Vineyards and appropriately the members competition will be a bottle of homemade wine. The committee look forward to a good attendance at this our first meeting of our new year, usual venue, the Day Centre, Crafton Green, Stansted, at 8 pm.

VISITORS WELCOME.

Our speakers' list for the next twelve months is now being finalised. Subjects we plan to feature include the following: London's wild flowers, the rock garden, chrysanthemums, clematis, roses and economical vegetable growing.

In December we will have a presentation by a representative from Unwins Seeds. Something for everyone - why not come to a sample meeting, you will be most welcome.

P.S. We are also running a Sunday coach trip to Gt Dixter Gardens in July.



Stansted Afternoon



Stansted Evening

Our speaker on April 9th was a retired driving instructor and his talk was "Life behind the dual control" which brought back memories to many of us of when we were taught to drive in the days of hand signals and petrol was 4d a gallon.

Then, after tea, Mrs Calver finalised the arrangements for the spring group meeting to be held on April 25th and what we could put in the Cressing show, which is held in June, a show really worth a visit, a good day out, easy to reach by car and plenty of car parking.

We ended the meeting with the raffle being drawn and results of the competition which is a garden flower each month.

The May meeting on the 14th will be "resolutions" which will be explained by Mrs Keith.

P. Little



Huw Johnson Club

What a long break we had at Easter but how pleased we all were to get together again and catch up with each other's news. Jane and Kenny were delighted to tell us that they were moving into a flat in May. Now, after living in different communal homes this brother and sister were setting up home together. Jenny was eager to tell us about her holiday with Mum, while Tom and I had to tell everyone what we did at Easter.

During April we have a lot of birthdays to celebrate so we all wished Nina, Charlie and Jade a happy birthday when they blew out the candles on the cake.

We would like to say a big thank you to all who have helped us raise money for our holiday and a coach. We are pleased to say both these are now booked and we head for Porthcawl in South Wales on August 16th.

This year we are again having our "Rescue a Castaway" stall at Stansted Carnival on June 21st. For this we need lots of bottles. Anything in a bottle, from champagne to shampoo. If you can contribute a bottle please leave it at 62 Chapel Hill or give it to any club member. Thank you.

Marion G Johnson

At the April meeting, Gay Langham gave a talk entitled Life Force Energy. Gay Langham is a Bio-Dynamic Psychotherapist. This is a therapy that links body and mind. She told us there are seven centres of energy in our bodies. Everyone has an aura of energy. She got us to rub our hands together then open and close them, and everyone felt tingling sensations which she explained were our energy fields. The therapy is very good for stress management as the massage and relaxation techniques are very beneficial.

Ann Johnson gave her report on the County Annual Meeting which was held at Brentwood Centre. Pearl Wellings reminded us about the trip to London on 31st May. There are still two seats left. Members were also reminded of the Fashion Show to be held in St John's Hall, Stansted, on 9th May at 8 pm, the clothes being modelled by W.I. members. Everyone is welcome to come along. The evening ended with a Dingbat quiz organised by Mrs Kath Poole.

Kath Johnson

**STANSTED EVENING W.I.
COACH OUTING TO LONDON
SATURDAY MAY 31ST**

We shall be leaving Barclays Bank at 8.45 am with one pick up at The Estate on Church Road. The cost is £10.75 or £11.75 depending on whether you are an adult or a senior! The price includes tour, coach and driver's tip. If in doubt about what you owe, please phone me on 813614.

Pearl Wellings



Stansted Liberal Democrats

Chairman: Steve Riley, 815455

Membership Secretary: Frances Spalding, 813432

Forthcoming Events

May 4th Post election lunch
Day Centre 12 noon

May 10th Ploughman's Lunch
Day Centre 12-2 pm

June 14th Supper Club
Day Centre 7.30 pm



NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

One of the problems we seem to have had in the last few weekends has been a spate of vandalism on the Hargrave Estate behind the Police Station. The weekend of the 6th/7th we had a lot of damage and petty thefts. Please, if you hear anything or see anyone causing this sort of problem, ring us at the time - we would love to catch these vandals in the act.

Well, summer must be approaching fast because as I sit here the sun is shining and the birds singing, so you may start thinking of a well deserved break in the sun. If you go away here are a few tips.

Let the Police Station know.

Let at least one neighbour/friend know and give them a key.

Don't draw the curtains and leave the place looking immaculate before you go, leave a few dirty plates in the sink, etc. Nothing advertises the place is empty more than a really spick and span house.

Leave one or two lights on a timer so that they switch on and off at times.

Leave a radio on a timer tuned to a talk radio station so that there are voices in the house from time to time.

If you leave a light on, make sure it's an upstairs light. Don't leave the bin out for collection, unless a neighbour agrees to put it back.

These are just a few tips. If you would like further advice or advice on general household security, just give me a ring at the Police Station.

Steve Pike

Neighbourhood Beat Officer for Stansted

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?

Please telephone Janet on 812593 if you are able to help in either way.



The children are learning about people in the community at the moment. They have all written a postcard with their address on it. Then they walked up to the post office and each child bought a second class stamp, stuck it on their postcard and posted it in the post box. They then saw the postman empty the post box and put the letters in his van. They were all very excited when their postcards were delivered to their own homes.

We have been up to the fire station and Derek Bayford showed the children around. He let them try on helmets, caps and gloves. He showed us how the new doors work and told us why the overall trousers were around the boots (so they can put them on a lot quicker). The children then went outside and were sitting in the driver's seat pretending to be fire fighters. Then each of the children had a turn at squirting the hose (Derek had a very clean car at the end of the morning). Thanks must go to Derek for a thoroughly enjoyable morning. The children (and adults) had a really good time.

The children will be learning about doctors and ambulance men/women and hopefully will be able to look inside an ambulance when one comes to visit. They will be able to play with a hospital box while they are at pre-school which includes stethoscopes and bandages.

We have had a successful second hand toy/clothes sale and thanks go to all who attended. Fund raising is a vital part of pre-school because fees only cover the bare minimum, i.e. wages, rent, etc. Any funds for new equipment have to be raised in other ways and we are grateful to all who help and support us.

We do have some other fund raising events coming up, including a children's sponsored bike ride, a pub crawl quiz, June 12th, a body shop evening, 3rd July and our summer fair. We have decided to hold this on Saturday 12th July between 11 am and 2 pm. There will be many games for the children as well as craft stalls, etc. Please put this event in your diary - it should be good!

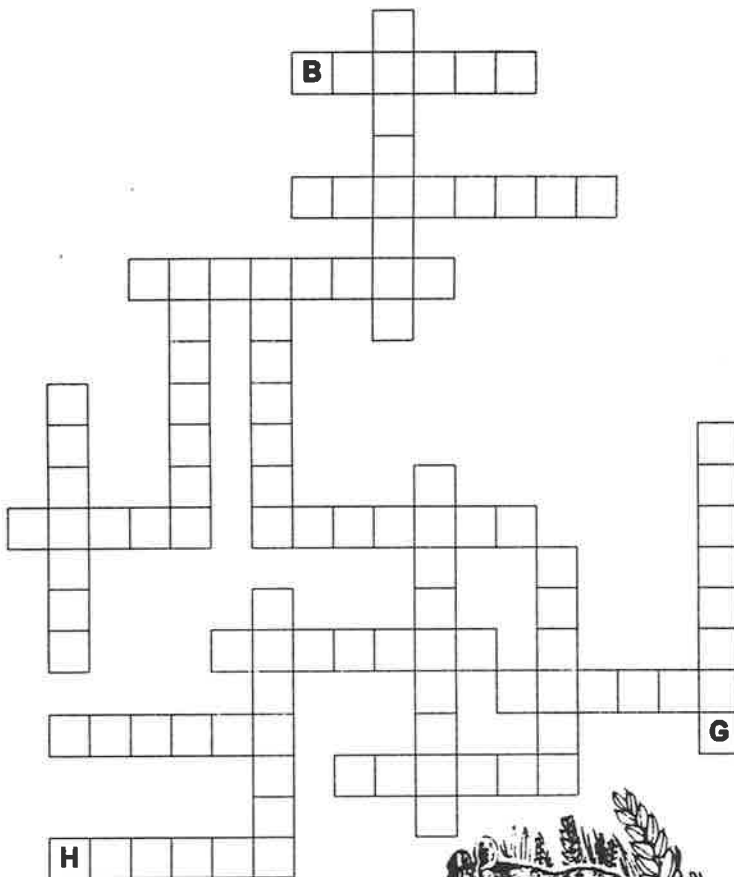
If you want information on any of the events mentioned then phone Mandy Honour, 816895.

Do these names sound familiar?

Can you fit them on the grid?

ARKESDEN	DUNMOW	HARLOW
ASHDON	ELMDON	HENHAM
BERDEN	ELSENHAM	LANGLEY
CLAVERING	FARNHAM	MANUDEN
NEWPORT	THORLEY	
SHEERING	UGLEY	
STANSTED		
TAKELEY		

Answer on page 15



THE MAY MOUSE

Marigold the May mouse was very fond of flowers. Quite by chance most of her friends were named after flowers. Her best friend was called Rose, then there was Daisy, who had white ears and Holly, who had beautiful green eyes.

But then there was Fred, who played with them sometimes. Daisy and Holly used to laugh at Fred because they thought he was ugly. Fred didn't mind because secretly he thought he was rather handsome with his long shining brown fur. Fred often used to paint pictures of flowers for Marigold.

Because Marigold was so fond of flowers, she used to keep a list of all the different sorts she saw. She was especially fond of yellow flowers, but most of all she liked dandelions. Everywhere she went she looked for dandelions and she used to pick bunches and bunches to take home. Occasionally Marigold even took a bunch of dandelions to school.

One day the friends decided to go exploring because, as usual, Marigold wanted to look for flowers. They wandered on to the golf course and were very frightened when they discovered hard, white balls flying about.

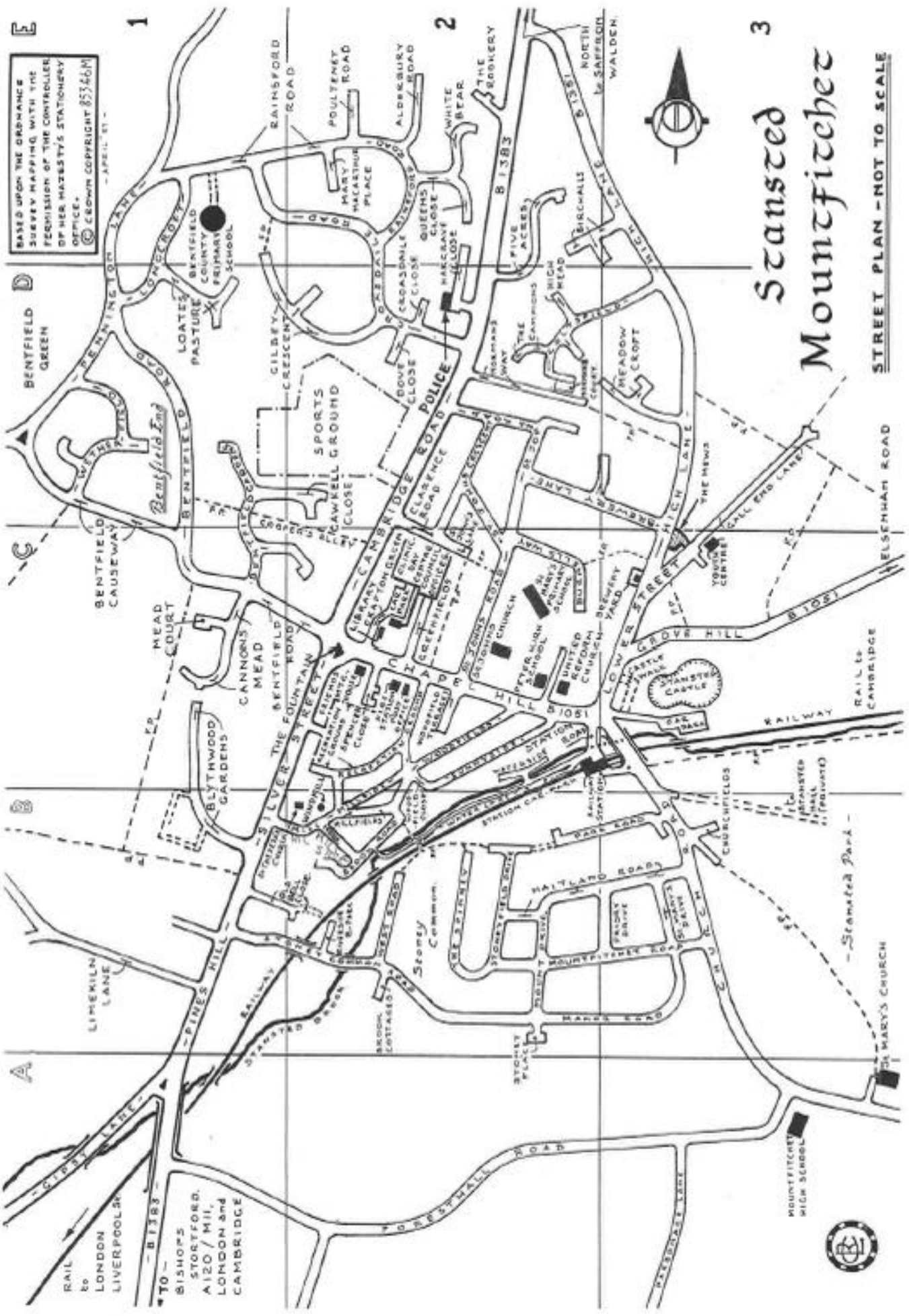
Then they went across the cricket pitch. Although there were lots of rabbits they couldn't find any flowers. Next to the cricket pitch was a beautiful garden which was always full of flowers. The friends decided to creep in to have a look. There were so many flowers to see and so many scents to smell that they felt quite dizzy.

Daisy said she liked the apple blossom best. Holly said she liked the tulips. Rose said she liked the bluebells. But Marigold said she still liked dandelions.

As soon as Fred got home she started to paint a picture of the beautiful garden, which he gave to Marigold the following day.

Marigold thought it was the most lovely picture she had ever seen and hung it on her bedroom wall.

BASED UPON THE ORDNANCE SURVEY MAPS WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE CONTROLLER OF HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.
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 - APRIL 57 -



Stansted Mountfitchet

STREET PLAN - NOT TO SCALE



TO - B193 -
 BISHOPS STORTFORD,
 11.20 / MIL,
 LONDON and
 CAMBRIDGE

STANSTED PARK -
 ST. MARY'S CHURCH

RAILWAY
 RAIL to
 CAMBRIDGE

ELSENHAM ROAD

RAIL to
 LONDON
 LIVERPOOL

E

1

2

3

D

A

B

C

1997 MAP OF STANSTED

This map and road index is printed by kind permission of Mr. Bob Clarke of Elsenham Road, to whom we are most grateful. Please note that the map is (i) not to scale and (ii) copyright and therefore may not be reproduced.

ALDERBURY ROAD	E.2	NORMANS WAY	D.2
BENTFIELD CAUSEWAY	D.1.	NORMANS COURT	D.2
BENTFIELD GARDENS	C/D.1	OLD BELL CLOSE	B.1/2
BENTFIELD ROAD	D.1	PARK ROAD	B.2/3
BIRCHALLS	E.3	PARSONAGE LANE	A.3
BLYTHWOOD GARDENS	B/C.1	PENNINGTON LANE	D/E.1
BREWERY LANE	D.2/3	PINES HILL	B.1
BREWERY YARD	C.3	PRIORY DRIVE	B.3
BROOK ROAD	B.2	POULTENEY DRIVE	E.2
BROOK COTTAGES	B.2	QUEENS CLOSE	E.2
BURNELLS WAY	C.2		
CAMBRIDGE ROAD	C/D/E.2	RAINSFORD ROAD	E.1/2
CAMPIONS (THE)	D.2	RECREATION GROUND	C.2
CANNONS MEAD	C.1	RIVERSIDE (B.P.)	B.2
CASTLE WALK (PREC)	C.3	ROOKERY (THE)	E.2
CAWKELL CLOSE	D.2		
CHAPEL HILL	C.2	ST. JOHN'S CRESCENT	D.2
CHURCH ROAD	A/B/C.3	ST. JOHN'S LANE	C.2
CHURCHFIELDS	B.3	ST. JOHN'S ROAD	C/D.2
CLARENCE ROAD	C/D.2	ST. MARY'S DRIVE	B.3
COLTSFIELD	D.2/3	SILVER STREET	C.2
COOPERS ALLEY	D.1/2	SPENCER CLOSE	C.2
CRAFTON GREEN	C.2	SPINNEY (THE)	B.2
CROASDAILE CLOSE	D.2	STATION ROAD	C.2
CROASDAILE ROAD	D/E.2	STONEY COMMON ROAD	B.2
		STONEY COMMON PLACE	B.2
DOVE CLOSE	D.2	STONEYFIELD DRIVE	B.2
ELSENHAM ROAD	C.3	SUNNYSIDE	C.2
FIVE ACRES	E.2	WATERSIDE	C.2
FOREST HALL ROAD	A.1/2/3	WATER LANE	B/C.2
		WEST ROAD	B.2
GALL END LANE	D.3	WETHERFIELD	D.1
GILBEY CRESCENT	D.2	WHITE BEAR	E.2
GIPSY LANE	A.1	WOODFIELD CLOSE	C.2
GREENFIELDS	C.2	WOODFIELD TERRACE	C.2
GROVE HILL	C.3	WOODFIELDS	C.2
HARGRAVE CLOSE	D.2	<u>PUBLIC BUILDINGS</u>	
HIGH LANE	D/E.3	CLINIC/DAY CENTRE	C.2
HIGH MEAD	D.2	COUNCIL OFFICES	C.2
		FIRE STATION	C.2
LIME KILN LANE	B.1	LIBRARY	C.2
LOATES PASTURE	D.1	POLICE STATION	D.2
LONGCROFT	D/E.1	POST OFFICE	C.2
LOWER STREET	C.3	RAILWAY STATION	C.3
MAITLAND ROAD	B.2/3	<u>SCHOOLS</u>	
MANOR ROAD	B.2/3	BENTFIELD PRIMARY	E.1
MARY MACARTHUR PLACE	E.2	ST. MARY'S PRIMARY	C.2
MEAD COURT	C.1	PETER KIRK	C.2
MEADOWCROFT	D.3	MOUNTFITCHET HIGH	A.3
MEWS (THE)	C.3		
MILL HILL	B.2	<u>CHURCHES</u>	
MILLFIELDS	B.2	ST. JOHN'S C.o.E.	C.2
MILLSIDE	C.2	ST. MARY'S	A.3
MOUNT DRIVE	B.2	ST. THERESA'S R.C.	B.2
MOUNTFITCHET ROAD	B.2/3	UNITED REFORMED CHURCH	C.2
		FRIENDS MEETING HOUSE	C.2



We have been honoured by a presentation by The Royal Engineers from Carver Barracks on Saturday 10th May at 8 pm. The topic will be "Bomb Disposal in Bosnia 1996".

The address will be followed by a Fish and Chip Supper.

Tickets are available from

John Segar, 813289
Bob Stoddart, 814015
Eddie Laird, 813458

As this is a very topical subject we hope to have many visitors.

£4.00 including supper.
£2.00 just a cup of tea.



Our President, Mrs Gabb, had a pleasant task at our March meeting. She presented a beautiful bouquet of flowers to Mrs Vera Levey who has been our Treasurer for 50 years. This must indeed be a record.

Also due for congratulations by our Chairman, Mrs Hollis, was another of our long standing members Mrs Barbara Hoffman, who had just celebrated her 80th birthday.

Our speaker was Mr Gordon Barker from Elsenham who showed some excellent slides of "Old Elsenham". We saw "The Crown" with chestnut trees in front, taken about 1920; the dining room at Elsenham Hall; photos of Lady Ellen Gilbey and Sir Walter Gilbey. Also William Bunting and Fred Alderton with bakers carts; Elsenham Cricket Team; Elsenham Old Station; a steam train going through Elsenham cutting and many, many more interesting scenes.

We then celebrated Mrs Levey's long Treasurership with delicious refreshments and drank her health in many glasses of wine.

Our Coffee Morning on 26th March made a profit of £230, including donations. Our thanks to all those who so generously supported us.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday 15th May at 7.30 pm in the Day Centre.

Pat Clower



STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

The United Reformed Church, formed in 1972 from the Congregational and Presbyterian Churches, had its origins in Stansted many years before. By the late 1600's Dissenters were very strong in the area, a meeting house was built, and the first Minister appointed in 1706. The present Church, on the original site, dates from 1864, although later altered and extended, and there are plans for more work to the building. All this, and much historical background, we learned from the Rev. Margaret McKay at our April meeting.

The last meeting of the season will be on Thursday 1st May at 8 pm in **The Friends Meeting House**. Following the A.G.M. there will be a presentation on "The Last 10 Years" of our Society and other matters.

Look out for posters and notices in the Link of next winter's programme starting in September.

Peggy Honour



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STANSTED FUN RUN

Sunday 22 June

Kenny Ball, the well-known Jazz Musician will be starting our Fun Run/Walk at 11.00 am, Bentfield Green, Stansted.

Your entry forms are now ready for completion - please contact Marion Dyer on 814059. **Remember:** It is cheaper to apply beforehand rather than on the day. Entry fees are: £5 adults, £1.50 children. However, on the day it is increased to £6 adults, £2.50 children.

Also on the day - barbecue available, coffee and drinks obtainable from the Rose & Crown, raffle and other items of interest to purchase.

NB: This village event is also a means of raising money for charity for international, national and local causes.

SEE YOU THERE!



TONER CARTRIDGE RECYCLING PROJECT

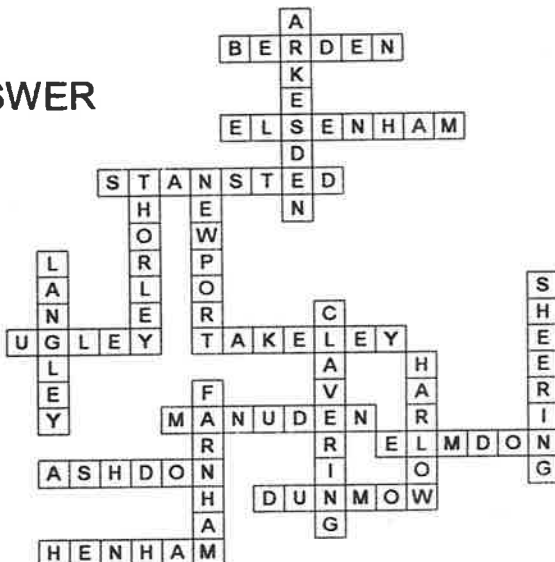


I have now sent back two batches of cartridges, which have raised the magnificent sum of £66.60. Of this, 80% (£53.10) will go towards **Fun Run** administrative expenses, and 20% (£13.50) to the **Link**. Some of this money has already been spent, as preparations are well under way for this year's run on 22nd June.

I have already received three cartridges towards the next batch and again I say 'please keep them coming' and thank you to those who have already donated.

Marion Dyer
814059

ANSWER



Parent and Child Befriending Scheme
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Tel: 01799 520728



Are you a good listener with practical parenting skills, a sense of humour, a big heart and two hours a week to spare for someone in need? Then read on ...

Uttlesford Home-start, a parent and child befriending organisation of 10 years standing, needs more volunteers to help families with small children who are experiencing stress and are in need of support and friendship.

Telephone Linda Robinson at Home-start, 01799 520728, for further details. Training is provided for volunteers and a new course starts April 1997.

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

Stansted in Bloom

As part of our village enhancement this year we have a long list of maintenance jobs from repairing broken fences to repainting a shed and weed removal!

We are seeking a 'handy person' to work for us, starting as soon as possible on a casual basis. Pay will be approximately £4 to £4.25 per hour and all materials, etc. will be supplied. Car owner essential (petrol will be paid) and hours negotiable. Please contact the Clerk for further details (01279) 813214.

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PRE-SCHOOL NURSERY

Hello again.

Wasn't it super weather for the Easter holidays for a change? This enabled the children to get out and about to collect the items for their "I Spy" Nature Boards. Some of them are finished and have been handed in with the sponsor money, but we are now asking for all of them plus monies by the end of this half term. Then we will be able to give a donation to the Church Hall roofing project.

While this work is going on, Sideways is being held at Peter Kirk School. Mr Phillips has kindly set aside a classroom, plus use of the amenities. What a wonderful school this is, a very friendly atmosphere and so busy. Why close it? I didn't realise how much it benefits this village alone, not including the surrounding villages.

The children have thoroughly enjoyed using the playground area and the wonderful weather.

Once back in St John's Hall, Mr Phillips has said the children can continue to use the play area whenever it's free.

Nursery vouchers are now being used by the four year olds' parents to pay fees, so most children are attending for more sessions.

This term is for visits and outings. P.C. Pike is going to pay a call, with his police car of course. Should be fun! Hopefully a trip to the fire station can be arranged. This is always a favourite. Maybe a visit to Linton Zoo and a picnic lunch is something to look forward to.

We have started learning songs for our Maytime Concert (May 23rd). Everyone welcome as usual, although this year Bob Wallace wont be attending. The children were very sorry to see him go and presented him with a bottle of good red and a box of chocolates for Brenda. We hope they will be very happy in their new home.

The Quiz Night was a great success. Many thanks to all those who came for their support.

Auntie Helen

Homemade Cake Stall

10.00am

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UTTLESFORD CARERS

'Uttlesford Carers' is a local voluntary organisation, covering the whole of the District. It was started four years ago to give help, information and support to the six thousand or more carers living in Uttlesford. Carers are people who are looking after a relative or friend who lives at home, usually in the same house: their lives are often restricted because they find it difficult to leave the person they are caring for, because they are disabled, elderly or frail, or have a mental or physical illness. They can be of any age but are often a spouse or daughter looking after an elderly parent. Many do not see themselves as carers and have never sought help or advice.

Our work is to try and ease their lives in whatever way we can. We can just be a 'listening ear' on the telephone: we can give advice about how to get help from Social Services, or local voluntary benefits; and we are happy to arrange for carers to attend support groups, either run by ourselves or others, where they can meet other carers and talk about their concerns. Our telephone number is **01371 875810**: there will usually be someone to talk to you on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, or you can leave a message and we will 'phone you back.

We are a branch of Carers' National Association, which is the only national charity which works specifically for carers regardless of the type of illness involved: it recently helped to get the Carers Act through Parliament. Our office is at 12 Stortford Road, Gt. Dunmow, where the offices of the Alzheimer's Disease Society, Mind and 'Rescu' are also located (with the Age Concern Home Support Scheme and the Uttlesford Transport Project next door).

Margaret Whitelaw, Organizer

RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Rhubarb Dessert

(Delicious on a hot day)

4 sticks rhubarb (if good size, more if small)
1 large orange
1 banana
Sugar to taste

- a) Chop rhubarb finely
- b) Add orange juice and finely grated peel
- c) Add about 2 oz. of sugar, according to taste, and simmer gently until rhubarb is tender
- d) When cold add finely sliced banana and serve with Greek-style yoghurt or cream

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at
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For further information ring
01371 873310 or 01799 522915

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