

October '97

# The *LINK*



*Stansted  
Mountfitchet*

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29 GILBEY CRESCENT  
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deprived  
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war victims

the affluent  
sick followers

the well fed  
students  
unloved  
the famous



unemployed  
non-believers  
traditional families

children in need  
carers the hungry

leaders  
unskilled

employed  
the unrecognised

**United Service at  
St John's Church  
Sunday 26th October  
6.30 pm  
Everyone Welcome**

lonely  
homeless  
elderly  
children  
loved  
outcast



**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  
16th October for publication on 2nd November  
13th November for publication on 30th November**

# Church of England

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

*Rector:* *Vacant*  
The Rectory  
5 St. John's Road  
☎ 812203

*Assistant Curate:* The Revd. Andrew Spurr  
43 Gilbey Crescent  
☎ 815025  
[andrew.spurr@zetnet.co.uk](mailto:andrew.spurr@zetnet.co.uk)

Bookings for Marriages, Banns and Baptisms should be made in person to the Parish Office at the Rectory. Parish Office Hours are 10:00am-12:00noon each Saturday.

### Church Services

Sunday 8:00am Holy Communion (*said, Rite B*)  
9:30am Parish Eucharist (*sung, Rite A*)  
11:00am Family Service (*19th October*)  
6:30pm Evensong (*1662*)

Wednesday 10:00am Holy Communion (*said, Rite B*)  
7:30pm Prayers

### Baptisms

Thomas Peter James Wall, son of Angela and Christopher  
Fiona Louise Paterson, daughter of Phillip and Charlotte  
Annabel Jones, daughter of David and Carol  
Sophie Marie Banks, daughter of Richard and Caroline

### Marriages

Adrian Byrne and Jill McAiney  
Mark Davies and Suzannah Starr  
Martin Scott and Kelly Rowe

### Funerals

Margaret Lilian Sprowell *Parndon Wood Crematorium*  
Fred Hoffman *St. John's Church/Parndon Wood*  
Alice (Lizzie) Blake *St. Mary's Church/Stansted Cemetery*  
Stanley George How (Bob) *Parndon Wood Crematorium*  
Vera Gladys Elsie Burford *St. John's Church/Parndon Wood*

*October 5th 6:30pm*

Churches Together in Stansted **Harvest Festival Service**,  
St. John's Church followed by Harvest Supper in the  
Church Hall.

*October 26th 6:30pm*

Churches Together in Stansted **One World Week**  
Service, St. John's Church.



### Advance Notices:

**November 1st** is All Saints' Day, and the Eve of All Souls' when we give thanks for the lives of those we love and recall those who have passed away in the last year by name. If there are any who would like to add the names of others to the list, please send them to the Rectory in an envelope marked 'Memorial Service' and they will be included in the service and in prayers in the week before.

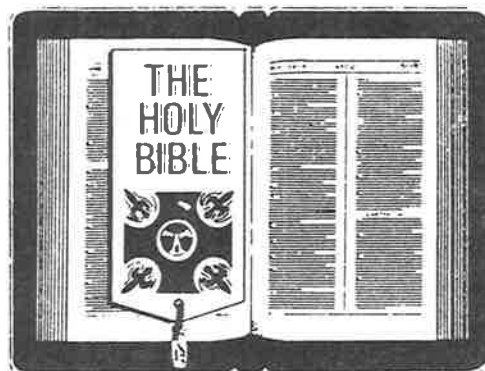
On **November 15th** we will be hosting a day conference to look at worship and ritual as sacred theatre. The day will be conducted by the Fr. Geoff Steel, a noted Roman Catholic liturgist and member of the International Consultation on English Liturgies. Fr. Geoff will be setting out the modern holy communion/mass services to look at what they are set out to do, and what they say about our relationship with God. This is highly recommended for anyone who would like to be involved in discovering vital Christian worship.



### BIBLE STUDY FOR ALL

A month or so ago a group met at 3 White Bear to look at the books of the Bible which describe a time when the people of Israel were exiled in Babylon, present day Iraq, or were written at that time. Then we looked very briefly at the books describing the return to Jerusalem, the rebuilding of the walls of the city and the temple and the books probably written during that time.

During November, on Tuesday evenings, again at 3 White Bear, the group will look at this post-exile time. Anyone who is interested is invited to come. It does not matter if you were not at the previous meetings. We meet at 7:30pm, talk and discuss for no longer than 1½ hours and end with coffee. The study is led by Margaret McKay. The meetings will be on November 4, 11, 18 and 25. You can come to one, some or all of them.





# 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 October

5th 9.30am Mr Bernard Engel of Bishop's Stortford  
6.00pm United Evensong and Harvest Supper  
at St John's

12th 9.30am The Revd Ronald Rawlings,  
Holy Communion

19th 9.30am Mr Michael Render from Braughing

26th 9.30am The Revd Michael Hayman  
6.30pm United One World Week Service at  
St John's

The Welcome Service for the Revd. Harry Wood and his wife Isabel at Saffron Walden was splendid. We pray God will bless them and the churches.

Our Church Council will be held on Friday 24th October at 8.00 pm, venue to be announced.



# Society of Friends

## Quaker Meeting House, Chapel Hill

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

**Meeting:** Sunday 11 am

### Servant-Leaders

It's generally believed to be a great thing to be 'a born leader', but what about 'a born servant'? It may not sound so appealing but should the two really be seen as opposites? Which would say Mother Theresa was for instance? And what does Jesus' washing of the disciples' feet tell us about the value of serving? A recent article in *The Friend*, a Quaker monthly magazine, looks at how the leading and the serving can be two sides of the same coin.

One of the things about Friends which most often puzzles people is how they seem to manage - at Meeting for Worship and in administrative terms - without obvious leaders. In fact, each meeting does have its 'elders', and there are any number of committees and representatives to deal with the 'management' side of things, but responsibilities are shared and regularly transferred between Friends, in an approach based on teamwork and community. The article in *The Friend* explains:

'This approach seeks to involve others in decision-making ... we call this 'servant-leadership'. The great leader is first experienced as a servant to others, and this is central to his or her greatness ... true leadership emerges from those whose primary motivation is a deep desire to help others. It begins with the natural feeling that one wants to serve. Servant-leadership encourages everyone to balance leading and serving in their own lives. It reminds those in leadership positions that the primary responsibility is in serving others ... it begins with the desire to change oneself.

We may be born with or without so-called 'leadership qualities', but if we make serving our priority this may provide the 'lead' to bring out the best qualities of each individual and of the group to which he or she belongs.

With thanks to Larry C Spears, author of "Being a servant-leader", *The Friend*, 8 August 1997.



CHURCHES  
TOGETHER  
in  
STANSTED

### THE MILLENNIUM - A POSSIBLE PROJECT?

At the Essex and East London Annual Meeting of Churches Together, a possible project for the Millennium was put forward. This involved all Churches in a community setting up a centre where people could find out information about local churches and services, purchase books and meet socially.

If this was to be adopted in Stansted - a location and venue would have to be found, printing of information be co-ordinated and displayed, and rotas be established for a welcoming cup of tea and coffee whenever possible.

Such a centre would be a witness to the co-operation and fellowship of churches in the village and a pointer to a desire for ever increasing unity in the next century.

David Morson  
CTS

# 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<br>(Tues-Sat ) | Stansted | 9.30 am  |          |

Confessions on Saturday after 9.30 mass

### Eucharistic Ministers

In 1973 Pope Paul VI issued an instruction "Immensae Caritatis" which permitted lay men and women to help in the distribution of Holy Communion. They were to assist the parish priest in the giving of communion at Mass and to the sick to enable them to receive more frequently.

This was not something new in the Church for it was an ancient custom for the faithful to take communion home to their sick relatives, so what was introduced in 1973 was the revival of a very ancient practice. The custom of lay people taking communion to the sick declined from the 8th Century onwards, although there are traces of it continuing as late as the 12th Century, therefore what is now present is an old custom which has been re-introduced for the benefit of the Church of the 20th Century.

Here at St Theresa's Church we have a number of Eucharistic Ministers, or Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist as they are also called, and recently new guidelines have been introduced. Our Bishop has asked that Extraordinary Ministers assist their Priest in ensuring that Communion under both kinds, i.e. bread and wine, should be the norm at all Masses, and that the Special Ministers should be commissioned for a period of five years (which can be renewed) instead of the practice of commissioning "ad revocandum". So from the First Sunday of Advent 1997 all faculties will expire. There will be those who will be invited to remain Special Ministers and there are those who will be commissioned for the first time.

Our Parish Priest, Fr Joe White (who celebrates 25 years in the Priesthood this year) will be helping and instructing his group of Extraordinary Ministers to carry out as fully as possible the functions of this 'special' ministry. To this end Fr Joe has initiated a series of courses reflecting on the Last Supper and Passover, the meaning of the Ministry and its history, Prayer and Worship and other aspects relating to the Eucharist. It

will, hopefully, be a time of strengthening and reflection for everyone, another step in the spiritual growth of our parish and an opportunity for sharing and community.

The functions of a Special Minister are as follows:-

|              |  |
|--------------|--|
| During Mass  | Assisting with the distribution of Holy Communion.   |
| Outside Mass | Administering Holy Communion during a service of the Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion when the priest is not available.<br>Bringing Communion to the sick and housebound in the parish.<br>Exposing the Blessed Sacrament for a period of Adoration. |

Rita Morson

**Christian Aid**  
We believe in life before death

Thank you to everybody who contributed to the £1,400 raised in Stansted in Christian Aid week.

### Change the rules campaign

During June we collected supermarket till receipts in the churches and these were sent to the three main local supermarkets, Tesco, Sainsbury and Waitrose with the following questions:

1. How does your supermarket ensure that workers in developing countries who produce goods sold in your shops receive basic rights such as minimum wages and safety at work?
2. Does your supermarket have a code of conduct for overseas suppliers of your own brand products? If so, is that code of conduct monitored by an independent body?
3. Which "fairly-traded" products does your branch stock?

A reply has been received from Waitrose from which the following extract is taken.

"In the light of recent customer concerns we are currently reviewing our practices and policies. We are doing this in conjunction with several concerned parties including Christian Aid and the New Economics Foundation. We will continue to meet with the aim of devising common agreed principles which all parties can work towards.

J Sutcliffe (Mrs)"

Catherine Dean



# 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 October

|      |        |   |
|------|--------|---|
| 5th  | 11 am  | Mrs C Bonner  |
|      | 6 pm   | CTS Harvest Service and Supper<br>in St John's Church |
| 12th | 11 am  | Rev Margaret McKay                                    |
| 19th | 11 am  | Rev Margaret McKay Communion                          |
| 26th | 11am   | Rev Lydia Rapkin                                      |
|      | 6.30pm | Service for One World Week in<br>St John's Church     |

Congratulations to Heather Thomas and Nicholas Fouracre of Stoney Common who were married by Rev Lydia Rapkin on 13th September.

Now that the summer is over our fund raising for the repair and redevelopment of our church buildings begins again.

On the Village Events page you will see notices of our next two Concerts on 4th October and 22nd November. Please book the dates now. The Essex Youth Jazz Orchestra led by Martin Hathaway, Professor of Musicianship and Jazz Studies at the Guildhall School of Music, has a reputation for exciting and spontaneous performances of all jazz styles and is equally at home with Count Basie's Big Band or classical band pieces. It is one of the top Young Jazz Ensembles in the country. The Time and Seasons Choir from Ingrave is also a highly talented group.

In between the concerts our Autumn Quiz Night is on October 25th. Ring Betty Francis 814850 to book your table.

But we still have to fund our ordinary running expenses of the church and to help with this our Annual Bazaar is on November 1st. This will incorporate our Cake Stall for November as well as other stalls of plants, gifts and household items and, of course, coffee and cakes. This opens at 10 am in the Lecture Hall. Hope to see you there.



# SHALOM

Dates for October

6th Rev Harold Fisher - Part 1 of - The 4 Quartets - T.S. Eliot  
Venue Anne Boyd, 5 St John's Lane, Stansted

20th Rev Harold Fisher - Part 2 of - The 4 Quartets - T.S. Eliot  
Venue Phyllis Harrison, The White House, Ugley

All welcome for ecumenical fellowship, prayer and discussion.



## Uttlesford Carers and Alzheimer's Disease Society Carers Support group

The Support Group on  
Monday 6th October  
at the Quaker Meeting House, Chapel Hill,  
from 2 pm - 4 pm  
will be a discussion of issues  
affecting Carers  
(plus time to chat over tea and biscuits)

## Harlow ITeC

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(and Feb 98)*

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- Wordprocessing/Spreadsheet/Database - intermediate
- Windows 95 and Word 7 Wordprocessing
- Quark XPress for beginners

**FREE Computer Courses for unemployed or returners to work - 5 days a week from 9.30am-2.30pm OR 2 days per week 9.30am-4.30pm plus MS Office, Lotus, Corel 1 day fast track courses**

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Harlow ITeC, Latton Bush Centre, Southern Way, Harlow CM18 7BL  
email: ajohnston@itecharlow.co.uk

# Mud, glorious mud

*Jane Freeman wallows in the delights of the 1997 Greenbelt Festival*



**A** camp site at the top of hill, against a belt of trees. Below, tents, caravans, camper vans stretching down into the valley; and on the opposite slope, circus tents, booths, marquees, and the lights and rides of the fairground. By Monday morning, mud everywhere.

**This was Greenbelt.**

"Programme's a bit thin, this year" was the comment of the veteran Greenbelter, Andrew Spurr (festival attender since 1974). For most of us from Stansted, Greenbelt virgins, the schedule looked extraordinarily rich. Bands in three circus tops and on the open Mainstage, seminars and debates from nine in the morning until the early hours of the next day, workshops in dance and in music, teach-ins for aspiring writers, Bible readings, poetry readings, films, drama, crafts - the list seemed endless and the challenge was to master what was on when and to balance competing claims.

We were a fairly diverse group - twelve or so from Stansted, joined by others from Rainham in Kent (converts to the festival from Andrew's previous parish), and a few additional friends and family. The newcomers were aware that they had signed up for a Christian arts festival, that they were to camp in fairly basic conditions, and to share main meals and a few chores. We had been warned about the absence of plumbing, and became stoic about, if not injured to, the state of the loos and the shortage of showers, and by the end of the day our



*Bands on Mainstage used to dominate the weekend's programme. Now people come more to take part in workshops and seminar groups with guest speakers.*

stomachs had recovered enough to enjoy the delights of Andrew's cooking.

For me, to be part of such a large event, attended by several thousand people, was in itself a novel experience, and one of the joys was the relaxed and friendly atmo-

sphere - never a hint of trouble, and only two policemen spotted in the entire time. The younger members of the party appeared to revel in the independence it was possible to grant them in such conditions, and used it well, reporting on bands heard, debates attended, and the joys of African dance. For me, highlights included hearing Graham Cray, principal of Ridley Hall, Cambridge, drawing the parallels between the

cultural shift we are currently experiencing and that recorded in the New Testament, and listening to John Sentamu, Bishop of Stepney, speaking with passion and from experience on the breakdown of civil society.

And then there was the morning service on Sunday: thousands gathered around Mainstage in the pouring rain, learning and using new responses from the Wild Goose worship group, and sharing a communion of bread rolls and wine from plastic cups. Not quite 9.30 eucharist at St. John's, where the dress codes are slightly different, and the enthusiasm rather less obvious - but a lesson in what and how we share with those who hold the same faith, and with what



*Whatever you do, don't look down! Yes it really was like that.*

joy we can celebrate that communion. ●





## THE VILLAGE MUSIC CLUB

The piano music of Mozart, Schubert,  
Ravel & Debussy played by

**ANDREW WEST**

3.00 pm Sunday 12th October

St John's Church

Tickets from Stansted Carpets 812019,

Sonia Levy 815282 and at the door

£6 adults £4 concessions £2 children

## Mountfitchet High School Car Boot Sale

Sunday 19th October

8.00 am to 12 noon

£6 in advance £7 on the day



Refreshments



Tel 01279 813384



## Development Fund Concert

### TIMES & SEASONS

Unaccompanied singing

of the lighthearted

and the serious

plus items by

local young people

7.30 pm

Saturday 4th October

United Reformed Church

Tickets £3.50

Please tel 814850 or 812593

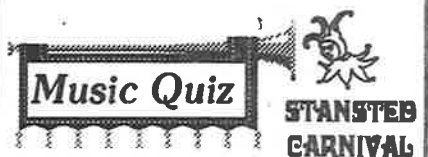
### October

## VILLAGE EVENTS

|    |     |                                       |  |
|----|-----|---------------------------------------|--|
| 1  | Wed | Coffee Morning<br>Gardening Club      | Hargrave House 10 am - 12 noon<br>Day Centre 8 pm      |
| 2  | Thu | Local History Society                 | Day Centre 8 pm  |
| 3  | Fri | Conservatives Annual Dinner           |  |
| 4  | Sat | Cake Stall<br>Concert                 | Outside URC 10 am<br>United Reformed Church 7.30 pm    |
| 5  | Sun | Windmill Open                         | 2.00 - 6.00 pm   |
| 6  | Mon | Carers Support Group<br>Shalom Group  | Quaker Meeting House 2 - 4 pm<br>5 St John's Lane 8 pm |
| 6  | Mon |                                       |  |
|    | to  |                                       |  |
| 9  | Thu | Skip at Crafton Green                 |  |
| 10 | Fri | MP's Interview Time                   | Council Offices 5.45 - 6.30 pm                         |
| 11 | Sat | Liberal Democrats Ploughmans          | Day Centre 12 - 2 pm                                   |
| 12 | Sun | Stansted Music Club                   | St John's Church 3 pm                                  |
| 16 | Thu | RBL (Women) AGM                       | Day Centre 7.30 pm                                     |
| 18 | Sat | Lib Dem Supper Club                   | Day Centre 8 pm  |
| 19 | Sun | Car Boot Sale                         | Mountfitchet School 8 am - 12 noon                     |
| 20 | Mon | Shalom Group                          | White House, Ugley Green 8 pm                          |
| 25 | Sat | URC Quiz Night<br>Carnival Music Quiz | URC Hall 7 for 7.30 pm<br>Mountfitchet School 7.30 pm  |
| 29 | Wed | Conservatives Ladies Lunch            | 12 noon  |

### November

|   |     |  |  |
|---|-----|--|--|
| 1 | Sat |  |  |
|   | to  |  |  |
| 2 | Sun | Stansted Art & Craft Market                      | Youth Centre 10.30 am - 5 pm                 |
| 1 | Sat | URC Annual Bazaar<br>Inner Wheel Bazaar & Coffee | URC Hall 10 am<br>Day Centre 10 am - 12 noon |
| 5 | Wed | Gardening Club                                   | Day Centre 8 pm                              |
| 6 | Thu | Local History Society                            | Day Centre 8 pm                              |



7.30 pm Saturday 25th October

Mountfitchet High School

Teams of 8

£5 including supper

Please tel 812743



## Christmas Shopping in Norwich

**Everyone Welcome**

Interesting shops - Museums

Cathedral - Bookshops

Antiques - Markets etc etc

Saturday 15th November

Depart - 8 am Barclays Bank

Return - leave Norwich 5 pm

Cost - £5 deposit (plus a little more)

Tel Pearl Wellings 813614

Organised by Stansted Evening W I



## ESSEX YOUTH JAZZ ORCHESTRA

Director Martin Hathaway

7.30 pm

Saturday 22nd November

URC Hall

Adults £4.00 Students £3

Tel 812593



7 for 7.30 pm

Saturday 25th October

URC Hall

£5.00 (incl ploughmans)

Tel 814850

Please bring your own drinks



## ANNUAL BAZAAR

10 am

Saturday 1st November

URC Hall

**Bargains for everyone**

**Cake stall**

## Inner Wheel Club of Bishop's Stortford

Autumn Bazaar & Coffee Morning

10 am - 12 noon

Saturday 1st November

Stansted Day Centre

All proceeds to charities

For information tel 815070



I was amused to read the 'poem' about Stansted Post Office's new look because the re-siting of the counter is putting it back to how it was years ago. We were told at the time of the original moving of the counter that it was for safety reasons so that no-one could burst in and hold up the assistants!

These thoughts on how the Post Office was fifty or sixty years ago reminded me that at one time there was a public telephone box outside to the right of the outer front door, and also one inside the Post Office itself, actually to the left as we now face the counter. Those people who knew how poorly it was sound proofed always tried not to use the box inside as every word could be heard by anyone waiting to be served. I remember during the Second World War standing in a queue there when a young woman swept in to use the phone and, oblivious of how she was being overheard, went into graphic and detailed explanations of how she had fared on her date the previous evening; she had met this new man and how wonderful he was and what they did! Everyone was forced to hear all the raunchy details much to our embarrassment, each trying not to catch the eye of our fellow waiting customers and hoping for the queue to move quickly.

Queues at the Post Office were an accepted way of life during the War and at one time caused a big fuss in the village. At the end of one Parish Council meeting in August 1942 a casual remark by one of the councillors was overheard by the reporter from the Herts and Essex Observer that the councillor had had a wait of twenty minutes to be served at the Post Office and he asked if this was a normal occurrence; perhaps a request should be made to Bishop's Stortford for extra help. The remark was published in the next edition of the paper. Major Treacher, the Post master, was up in arms, strongly objecting to his efforts being criticised, and the idea of anyone coming over from Bishop's Stortford was firmly rejected, with great indignation. Letters went to and fro, to the Post Office, the Parish Council Office and the local paper in support of and against the situation at the Post Office. The matter rumbled on for several weeks in the correspondence columns of the paper and eventually fizzled out with a final quote: "Councillor Rose conceded that it might add to the interest of their meeting if business was put in the agenda beforehand, to see what the outcome might be"! Meantime, of course, we continued to queue at the Post Office.

Jean McBride



**The National Childbirth Trust**  
Education for Parenthood

Coffee Mornings

**October**

|                                   |         |                            |
|-----------------------------------|---------|----------------------------|
| Wed 1st Toddlers                  | Joy     | Stansted 812447            |
| Fri 3rd Pre-school 1.30-3.00      |         |                            |
|                                   | Petrina | Elsenham 816675            |
| Mon 6th Under 1s & Expectant Mums |         |                            |
|                                   | Wendy   | Stansted 813387            |
| Wed 8th Toddlers                  | Debbie  | Widdington<br>01799 541457 |
| Fri 10th Pre-school               | Danuta  | Stansted 816263            |
| Mon 13th Under 1s ..              | Claire  | Stansted 815225            |
| Wed 15th Toddlers                 | Sally   | Stansted 814208            |
| Fri 17th Pre-school               | Dave    | Stansted 816263            |
| Mon 20th Under 1s ..              | Sarah   | Stansted 812804            |
| Wed 22nd Toddlers                 | Jane    | Henham 850735              |
| Fri 24th Pre-school               | Jane    | Stansted 813010            |
| Mon 27th Under 1s ..              | Danuta  | Stansted 816263            |
| Wed 29th Toddlers                 | Kim     | Elsenham 812854            |

**November**

|                              |          |                 |
|------------------------------|----------|-----------------|
| Mon 3rd Under 1s ..          | Penelope | Elsenham 814219 |
| Wed 5th Toddlers             | Isobel   | Henham 850354   |
| Fri 7th Pre-school 1.30-3.00 |          |                 |
|                              | Petrina  | Elsenham 816675 |

For further information please contact our membership secretary on 815953.

All coffee mornings are 10.00-11.30 am  
Tea/coffee 30p (members), 40p (non-members)  
Children's drinks 10p (members) 15p (non-members)  
Everyone is welcome (please call the host for more information)

**Old Photographs Never Die...**  
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## An Autumn Day

John did not feel like doing anything.

His Dad said he could take him swimming - 'Don't like the smell of the swimming pool water'.

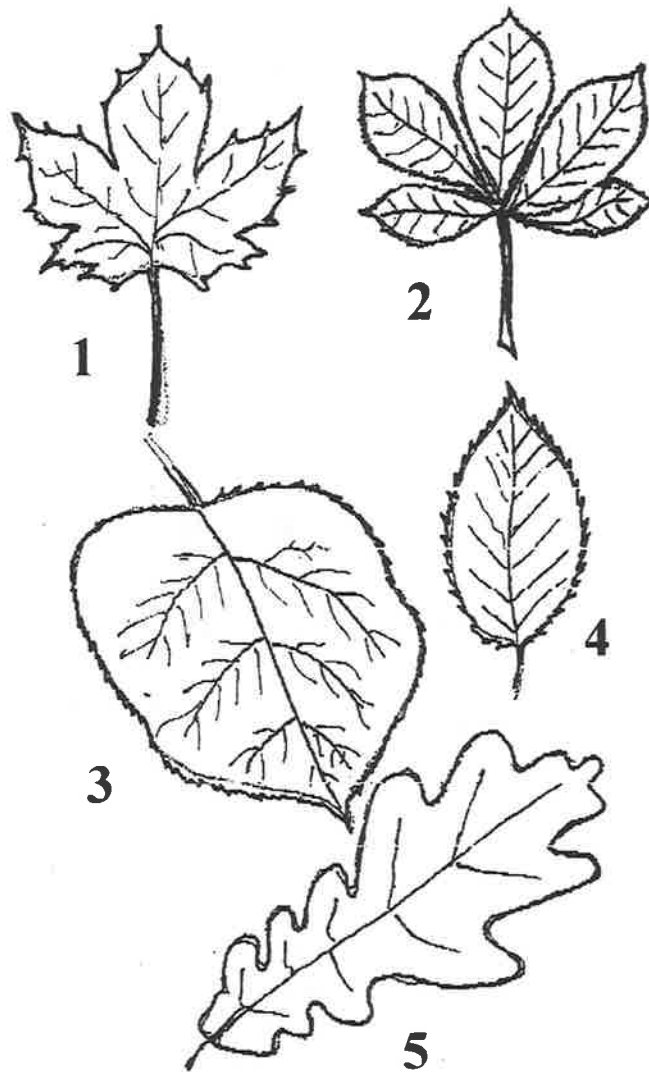
His brother said they could play foot ball - 'I'm too tired'.

His mother said wasn't there anything interesting to watch on television? - 'No!'.

His big sister was going shopping, would John like to go? - 'Spent all my pocket money already'.

His family left him alone after that, but he was soon bored. After a while he called out 'I'm going for a walk' and set off for the Recreation Ground. James and Richard from his school were there, wandering about, looking down at the ground and occasionally picking up something. John went over to see what they were doing. Collecting dead leaves! That didn't look much fun. Then James showed him one with a lovely red colour on it, and another with bright yellow. Richard said that the shapes were interesting and soon John was collecting leaves too.

When James and Richard said it was time to go home, they arranged to meet John the next day to look for different leaves. When John arrived home, his family were pleased to see he was in a better mood and Dad got out his book about trees so that they could look up the leaves John had collected.



Do YOU know which trees they came from? Answers on page 13



After normal business at our July meeting we were entertained by Miss Frances Spalding who showed some delightful slides of her visit to Japan. She told how, in Japanese homes, you take off shoes and put on slippers when coming into the house; but sit at ordinary tables eating meat and vegetables and drinking tea. She was shown round Tokyo and old capital cities; Sheba castle - now a museum; a gold-leaf factory and many other interesting sights. She saw the Memorial to Hiroshima which was built in the hope that the city would be rebuilt as a City of Peace. Everywhere there are beautiful parks and flowers and blossom of every description.

Our coffee morning raised £192 towards our funds and we thank all those who so generously supported us.

Our Annual General Meeting will be on Thursday 16th October at 7.30 pm in the Day Centre when we shall have a county speaker.

Pat Clower



## The Memorial Gardens

One morning this summer as I approached the garden I could smell newly mown grass. The gardeners had been busy - the beauty of the gardens was a credit to the village. The sun shone on the white stone, standing as proud as the men it represents.

The flower beds, newly planted, gave the gardens a feeling of peace - an oasis of calm amidst the sea of noisy traffic. Birds were singing as I walked on through the garden and I remembered years gone by when the Legion's members looked after the memorial. Sadly now the task is too much for many of us, but, thankfully, the Parish Council has taken over the role of custodian.

As we head towards Remembrance Day, try to walk in the garden, pause and reflect on the debt we owe to those who went before.

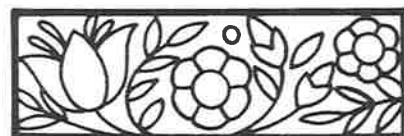



## STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET WINDMILL

Looking up at the grey skies teeming down with rain on the morning of the bank holiday fete there were some who stayed optimistic that the weather would brighten up as promised in the forecast. Indeed half an hour before the start it did clear up, many stalls were quickly set up, joining the selection of tents and shelters and the sun shone all afternoon. The event was a great success and thanks go to all those who helped and those who supported the event in raising well over £400 on the day.

It seems a long time since the bank holiday fete now and October sees the mill opening season draw to a close with the final opening on Sunday 5th October. After that the millers will be involved with other village organisations in setting up and running the Bonfire and Fireworks on Saturday November 1st so make a note in your diary.

If you would like further information about the mill and mill events please contact Steve Clements, tel: 816514.





### Recipe of the Month

## Haddock & Tomato Hotpot

1¼ lbs haddock fillet  
1½ onions, finely chopped  
Salt, pepper & 1 teaspoon dried basil  
1 large tin tomatoes  
1½ lbs potatoes  
2 oz grated cheese

(a) par-boil potatoes for 10 mins and slice thinly  
(b) lay half the fish in a greased casserole  
(c) sprinkle half the onion, salt, pepper & basil  
(d) add half the tomatoes and a layer of potato  
(e) repeat (b) - (d)  
(f) bake for 30 mins (gas mark 4)  
(g) remove lid and sprinkle cheese on top  
(h) bake for a further 25 mins

### 3 MONTH PLACEMENT IN INDIA WORKING WITH MENTALLY HANDICAPPED CHILDREN

Thanks to the generosity of my family, friends and the people from Stansted (partly from my appeal in Link) I achieved my aim to go to India and help look after mentally handicapped children.

The Peace Haven Convent is situated in a little village on the outskirts of Panjim, the capital of Goa. It is run solely by five nuns and it is their caring alone that sees to the day to day well being of approximately 25 mentally handicapped children of different ages. This was a hard situation to find myself in especially when I had had very little preparation beforehand. The first few days settling in and getting the children to accept me was hard but it was all made considerably easier thanks to the hospitality of the nuns. They made sure that I wasn't thrown straight in the deep end with the children and that it was a gradual process. I wasn't expected to automatically take responsibility for the children and this was greatly appreciated as trying to control such a varied class of children is difficult and a lot of patience is required.

Throughout my 3 months at the convent the daily routine was varied; it normally began at 8.30 and ended at 1.00pm from Monday to Saturday. I would prepare the children's books the night before and then for one and a half hours every day I would try and motivate the so-easily distracted children. Due to the children's mental abilities which were roughly the same, with just a few exceptions, I gave them simple numbers and letters to copy. After class I would spend anything up to an hour singing numerous nursery rhymes and even a few English chart songs and this was something they loved doing. Despite the constant repetition, every day the children

would all join in enthusiastically. It was really lovely to see them all enjoying themselves. Besides the class work I was caring for the children and helping them with their basic needs such as eating and cleaning themselves.

I also had to help to prepare the children for a few special events, the annual Special Olympics was one. This meant that I had to take the children out at 7.30 every morning for a small amount of exercise, running and throwing practice. All the hard work by the children paid off and we came second over all on the day. Then I had to help the nuns and children prepare for a big concert they were holding in commemoration of a new building and this too was a success. My own participation in the concert really made it a memorable experience and it was so nice to be able to contribute so much to their special day. Towards the end of my time with the children exams loomed up and I had to prepare a Maths, English and Art paper for each of the children. Quite a big job but the result was pleasing and it was nice to see the children so excited and nervous at the same time.

I found it frustrating sometimes because it is hard to accept that I was not there to change anything but simply to help. The system is very different to anything in England and it does take a while to adapt but it is such a friendly atmosphere that I didn't once feel under pressure to perform.

I feel that I have gained invaluable experience during my time at the convent and hopefully have been of some use at the same time. I would recommend the experience to anyone considering taking a gap year or time out to help in a third world country.

In case anyone wants information about the organisation I went with it is: Fill the Gap, World Challenge. Alternatively you could reach me via the Link.

Catherine Jones







## MOUNTFITCHET GARDEN CLUB

### September Meeting

At our monthly meeting held on 3 September at the Day Centre Stansted, a good attendance of members welcomed our speaker, Mr Alan Buller, from Chessington, Surrey. An obvious enthusiast as far as Chrysanthemums are concerned and also an expert on the subject being involved with Wisley and the Royal Horticultural Society. Mr Buller's talk covered a whole range of topics from cuttings, disease, pests and recommendations on the types of variety to go for. Mr Buller judged our members' competition and declared Cyril Stoneham the winner this month for his spray of Chrysanthemum ... Well done Cyril.

### Autumn Show

Having taken soundings from committee members and as many members as possible it was decided at the September meeting to cancel our Autumn Show which was scheduled for Saturday September 6. This action was taken as a token of our respect for the funeral of Diana, Princess of Wales which was held on the same day.

### October Meeting

On Wednesday 1st October at our meeting at the Day Centre, Stansted, Pauline Greenaway will be our visiting speaker on Clematis, Honeysuckles and Passion Flowers .. usual time 8 pm.

New members are always welcome. If you are new to the area or if you are not, why not come along for a trial meeting as visitor. We can promise an interesting evening.

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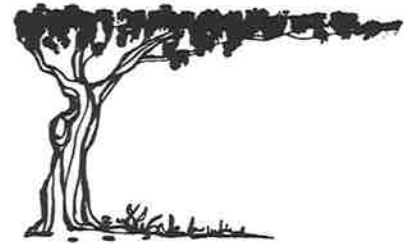
Mobile                      Ansaphone  
0378 549866                01279 655060

### INDIA - "The Jewel in the Crown"

In 1947 India gained independence. Fifty years later on Friday 18th July there was a Tomasha (assembly or party) of many people from this country who had served in the Indian Army, the Royal Indian Navy, the Indian Police and the Indian Civil Service. Nearly all regiments of the Indian Army were represented.

A day of brilliant warm sunshine greeted nearly 2,000 men, wives and service women assembled in the square outside the Guildhall in Portsmouth for a service of commemoration of those who did not return home after World War II and also of thankfulness for those who did come home from the Allied Forces in the Near and Far East.

The Union Jack flew from the top of the Guildhall and regimental and corps flags of the Indian Army flew from standards around the square. The service was conducted by the Provost of Portsmouth and at the end the only son of Field Marshall Viscount Slim recited what has become known as the Kohima Epitaph. "When you go home, tell them of us and say - for your tomorrow we gave our today"



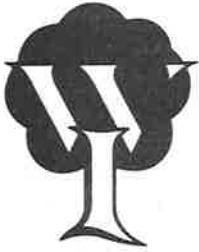
The service concluded with this great gathering proudly singing the National Anthem and many of us felt that it must have been heard a long way away.

By invitation of the Lord Mayor of Portsmouth, ticket holders had lunch in the Guildhall and then went to the small attractive park behind the Guildhall where we had the opportunity to renew old acquaintances and to meet new friends.

After tea in the park we returned to the square where the Band of the Brigade of Gurkhas and the Pipes and Drums of the 2nd Battalion of the Royal Gurkha Rifles Beat Retreat.

We are all getting older and this Tomasha may be the last assembly. It was a wonderful day tinged with a touch of sadness but it was a day of which to feel some pride and to be long remembered by those of us privileged to be there.

R A Finn  
(Ex-Indian Army)



## Stansted Evening

At our July meeting speaker Peter Wright had members in fits of laughter with his talk on a Life as a Funeral Director. It might sound a gloomy subject for a summer evening but the opposite was true as Mr Wright told us of various things he had come across either in the spoken or written word and of special requests made by the deceased or their families. He told us of one individual who didn't want his funeral cortege to go at a funeral pace, so his request was duly granted and the hearse sped along only to be stopped by the police for speeding.

Buttonholes were presented to May Perry and Claire Frances on their 80th birthdays, and a special 50th wedding anniversary buttonhole went to Elsie Stoddart. She and her husband were lucky enough to be chosen to go to Buckingham Palace for the 50th wedding anniversary garden party.

Despite the appalling weather at the carnival our cake stall was a sell out and we were able to pass £28 on to the carnival committee.

August brought Ted Pretty to our meeting. His talk "Audley End and Beyond" was about some of the places he had worked on during his time with English Heritage. He showed the members slides of the different houses, castles, gardens and buildings he had helped renovate over recent years.

September and autumn is upon us, so a harvest theme was most appropriate as John Stock from "The Anglia Archives" brought films of East Anglian farming and holidays from the 1920s up to the 1950s. We saw the harvest being gathered at a Thaxted farm, some Butlins holiday camp fun at Clacton on Sea and other promotional films. A most amusing and interesting evening.

Our competition of a 'Harvest Festival Parcel' proved great fun when these were auctioned off with the proceeds, together with our raffle takings, going towards the refurbishment of our Essex bedroom in the WI's Denman College. Our October meeting will see us taking a trip to the Antarctic with Kate Muskett. Visitors are most welcome.



## Stansted Mountfitchet Local History Society

The new season opened with Robert Wood on the Charnan family of Clavering 1332-1376. Their resident bailiff had kept careful accounts on rolls of parchment, many of which survive. They show rents, paid and collected, and what livestock and buildings were owned. Also which crops were sown, how much seed was used, how much grain harvested and many other details. About 200 deeds also exist, which, together with the rolls, give a good picture of life at the time.

On Thursday 2nd October, H.E. Pimblett will talk on Henham: Past and Present, and on Thursday 6th November, Jean Gumbrell will tell us about Favourite Haunts in Saffron Walden. Both at 8 pm in the Day Centre.



I hope you had a really good summer. The children have come back to Pre-school full of energy and ready for action. The new children have settled in well and are enjoying a host of new experiences while learning about the world around them.

By the time this goes to print Rainbow will have a new committee and we wish them all the best with the activities that they undertake.

Without the support of people in the village the fundraising events that we hold would not be so successful and so we hope for continued support to enable us to buy new equipment and toys for the children's benefit.

### Answers to the Leaves Quiz

- 1 Maple
- 2 Horse Chestnut
- 3 Lime
- 4 Hornbeam
- 5 Oak

How many did you get right?



## STANSTED FUN RUN

This year's Fun Run was financially our most successful ever - we raised a total of £2,345 which will be shared equally between our three charities for this year - LEPR, Network 81 and Cambridge Cancer Care. This total was boosted considerably by those entrants who raised individual sponsorship money, and our special thanks go to them, viz: Under 16s: Ben Hutley, Niall Jacob and James Whitmarsh (who raised over £37 between them). Over 16s: Gerry Caplis, Lorraine Evans, Gillian Harratt, Lorraine Kinsley, Chris O'Brien and David Ruff (who raised over £375 between them). In addition, much of our administrative expenses were covered by the £100 raised from toner recycling (see separate article).

I am sure anyone involved in the run, either as a helper or participant, will not need to be reminded of the torrential rain that prevailed during the day. In view of this, we were absolutely delighted that we had 345 entrants - only a dozen less than last year. This was the first ever 'wet' run. It served to show us that we were not fully equipped to deal with it - but be assured that we will be in future!

On behalf of the committee, I would like to say a very sincere thank you to everyone who participated or helped and especially to our local celebrity, Kenny Ball, who so willingly gave up his time to start the race and ended up standing under an umbrella like the rest of us! Kenny very kindly autographed some photographs which are for sale to raise further money for our charities. Please contact me for further details.

We look forward to seeing you next year on 21st June.

Marion Dyer  
814059



### TONER CARTRIDGE RECYCLING PROJECT



In the past year nearly £120 has been raised from this project, of which £20 has been donated to the Link.

Clearly this has been a very worthwhile project so I shall continue to collect laser and deskjet/inkjet cartridges. Any money collected this year will be used to purchase one or more Gazebos which can be used on the day of the run to give protection against the rain or strong sun.

Any used cartridges can be left in my porch or I am happy to collect. Remember, recycling not only raises money but is environmentally friendly! Many thanks for your continued support.

Marion Dyer  
7 Blythwood Gardens  
Tel: 814059

## Stansted Art and Craft Market

This year's event takes place at The Youth and Adult Centre, Lower Street, on the weekend of Saturday & Sunday 1 & 2 November from 10.30 - 5.00 on each day.

As usual there will be paintings by local artists on exhibition and for sale as well as a large number of craft stalls ranging from decorated eggs and beautiful hand-made greetings cards through to garden furniture and garden trellis. Other stalls will be selling miniature tools, dried flowers, candles, cushions and toys while more still will have ceramics, jewellery, toys, painted glass and preserves. The wood turner and the hand weaver will also be there again. There will be plenty for all to see and the all day cafe will be providing its usual snacks, drinks and lunches.

A further attraction will be a display of THE STANSTED POSTCARD COLLECTION which went under the hammer at Sworders last month. It is a collection of nearly 150 old postcards of Stansted dating back to the beginning of the century and we hope that many will want to come and see this delightful collection.

The proceeds from the market which is organised by the village for the village will be donated to village charities. Any organisation wishing to benefit from the proceeds of the market is invited to write to the Secretary, Gwen Hopkins, 20 Meadowcroft, Stansted, before 15th November 1997. Since the market started in 1979 more than £20,000 has been donated to local causes.

Do come along and help to ensure once again the success of this popular event.



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

### Forthcoming Events

Saturday October 11th  
Ploughman's Lunch at the Day Centre, 12-2 pm.

Saturday October 18th  
Supper Club at the Day Centre, 8 pm. The guest speaker will be Sal Brinton speaking on constitutional reform. Tickets £7.50.

## Stansted Tennis Club



The annual finals day took place on Sunday 7th September. The first match of the day, the ladies singles final, saw Frances Rafferty win her first title, beating Sarah Hollis 6-3, 6-3 in a match full of very long rallies. This was followed by the mens singles final, which was won by Richard Johnson who defeated his doubles partner, Richard Eyre 6-1, 6-1 in a display of powerful ground strokes.

The ladies doubles final opened the afternoon's play. Corinne Gladwin and Sue Sebley teamed up to beat Fran Cayless and Jane Harrison 6-0, 6-2. Next the two mens singles finalists, Richard Eyre and Richard Johnson together won the mens doubles trophy by beating Steve Aylott and Richard Mott 6-3, 6-0. The last event of the day, the mixed doubles final was won by Chris Hollis and Corinne Gladwin who beat Richard Crosby and Frances Rafferty 6-3, 6-2. The trophies were presented to the winners by club member Martin Sebley.

The Saffron Walden and District Hospital Cup tournament was played during May, June and July by players from clubs from Saffron Walden, Stansted, Henham, Thaxted and Elsenham. The finals day was a great success for Stansted. Richard Johnson won the mens singles, defeating Elsenham's Hussain Shaida 6-0, 1-6, 6-3. A very exciting ladies doubles final was won by Stansted's Sandra Ayres and Sue Sebley who beat Sylvia Banks and Rachel Sullivan from The Grove 3-6, 7-6, 6-3.

The Wilby trophy was played for on July 20th. The event was won by the oldest and youngest players on the day, John Eyre and Lucy Wombwell, who defeated Matthew Whitbread and Sarah Hollis 6-3 in the final. Generous prizes were presented to the finalists by Angela Wilby.

Anybody who would like to take part in the Pearce Mixed Doubles Open Tournament on Sunday 5th October should put their name down on the list in the clubhouse.

### Bentfield School

#### Autumn, by Class 5



All the leaves are falling down  
Unbreakable conkers falling in autumn  
Trees lose their leaves  
Ummar likes picking conkers  
My friends like throwing leaves  
Nuts are hidden in the lawn.



## Huw Johnson Club

Well the holiday is over and we must now settle back into our Thursday Club Evening routine, although we already have the Pantomime Robin Hood to look forward to at Christmas.

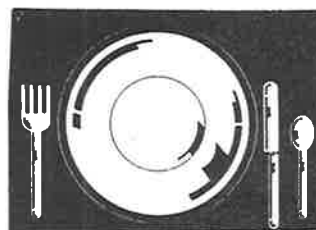
Thanks to our many generous benefactors of which there are too many to name, the holiday was a great success. This year we hired one of Hall's Coaches with Ray Vidler as our driver. We could not have chosen better. Ray soon became a popular member of the Club, joining in all our activities and helping us in many ways far beyond the call of duty. "Thankyou Ray, you were great".

We had a fantastic visit to Techniquet in Cardiff, (if you visit Cardiff this is a must) followed by fish and chips at Harry Ramsden. The staff in both places were most helpful and kind. We also treated ourselves to a tour of Cardiff on the open deck bus and a visit to the "Museum of Welsh Life" at St Fagans. As John Edgar kept on singing "We'll keep a welcome in the hillside" we had to make for the valleys and view the Brecon Beacons.

Unfortunately our birthday party for Julia who was 18 and Sandra - age not mentioned, ended with torrential rainfall. At one point there were 35 people in my caravan but I'm pleased to report that no one fell through the floor.

A big thankyou to all our leaders and cooks without whom the holiday would be a disaster. Already one member has said "Where are we going next year?"

M G Johnson



### DRIVERS FOR "MEALS ON WHEELS"

Janet Hollis would love to hear from any drivers who would be willing to volunteer for helping with the "Meals on Wheels" service.

The commitment is small - a couple of hours each month, with a petrol allowance.

Please telephone me and I hope to be able to answer any queries. B/S 812073. Thank you very much indeed.

## A MOVING STORY

I think I have taken leave of my senses. (Three young people very dear to me would dispute my ever having any - but that's another story).

No, I haven't embarked on a go-go dancer's course or bought a barrel in which to race down Niagara Falls. I have decided to move. Not being one to do things by halves, I am actually moving 80 miles away.

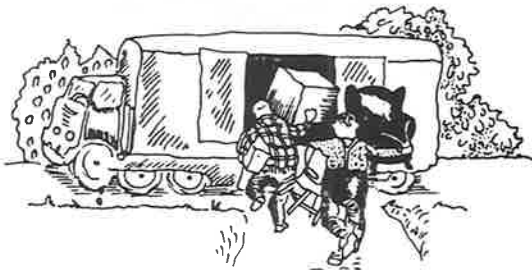
My family and I have had a house in Stansted for 24 years and have lived here permanently since my husband's death 10 years ago. It was not long after this when the then curate, Tony King, asked if I would consider helping with the Link. Those of you who remember Tony will recall how persuasive he could be. How could I say no? My first job was to take over the advertising burden from Margaret Booker. Not being a natural saleswoman, I eventually decided a change was a good thing - not least for the magazine! Around this time we found ourselves without an editor and Derek and I fell in to co-editing Link - initially for a three month period. This seemed to work well so we continued happily and successfully in this way. Our Friday evenings reading contributions and cajoling people whose copy was late (AS please note) were happy times, smoothed along by a G&T or two! I also wore the proof-reader's hat, so now you know who was to blame for all the spelling and punctuation mistakes. Just lately I have also joined in on paste-up day. Great fun this - play school for grown-ups!

I shall miss the friendliness of all associated with Link and the cheerful banter at committee meetings but things must change.

My new home is only three minutes from Rutland Water so if ever you feel the need to sail or fish there let me know. Sadly, Rutland has no county cricket team, so I shall continue to support Essex - may they continue their winning streak.

Good luck to Link and all who contribute in however small a fashion. I have enjoyed it.

Lyn Everitt



### Editor's Note

Our thanks go to Lyn for her many years of service to Link. She - and her sense of humour - will be greatly missed. Good luck Lyn, we hope to hear from you when you have settled in Oakham.

## STANSTED CONSERVATIVES



### Forthcoming Events

Diary dates for later in the year are as follows:

- Annual Dinner:** 7.30 pm on Friday 3rd October  
Speaker James Clappison MP
- Ladies' Luncheon:** Noon on Wednesday 29th  
October
- Christmas Party:** 8.00 pm on Saturday  
6th December

### Member of Parliament's Interviews

- Friday 10th October:** Parish Council Office,  
Crafton Green, Stansted  
5.45 to 6.30 pm

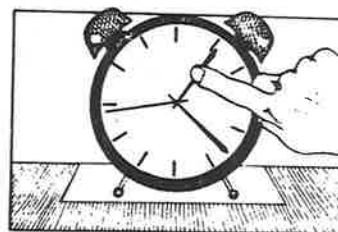
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