

Oct '98

The *LINK*



*Stansted
Mountfitchet*

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59 Blythwood Gardens, Stansted

Stansted's Art & Craft Market

Youth & Adult Centre
Lower Street



MORE Craft Stalls THAN EVER



Exhibition & Sale of Paintings



Demonstrations - Face Painting

Saturday 31st October & Sunday 1st November

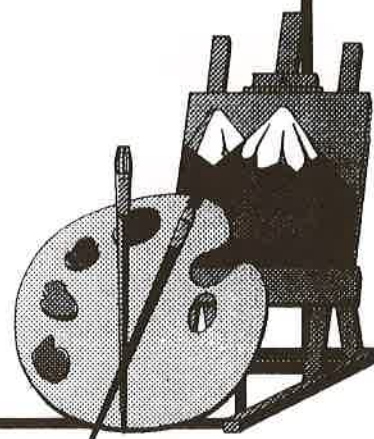
10.30 am to 4.30 pm

Refreshments

Light Lunches, Home-made Cakes
Tea and Coffee

Admission 70p Children 20p

**BE SURE
TO COME!**



The Link is published monthly by Churches Together in Stansted

Advertising and other enquiries to Sheila Parry 16 Bentfield Causeway Tel 814788

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**Copy to reach 58 Chapel Hill by
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12th November for publication on 29th November**

Church of England

St John the Evangelist, St John's Road

Rector: Rev'd Andrew Spurr
The Rectory, St John's Road
Stansted
Tel 812203
email andrew.spurr@zetnet.co.uk

Benefice Office:- Tel. 815243

'Managing change' - my slight acquaintance with the world of business-speak has made me conscious of this phrase, though it's probably by now been superseded by some more immediately fashionable concept.

But it describes accurately what I'm seeking to do at the moment. I sit at my desk, 10 days before I'm due to leave Stansted for Birmingham to start my training for ordination, surrounded by boxes and black plastic sacks; surrounded too by decisions to be made about what goes, what stays, letters to be written, ends to be tied up.

It's a radical change - literally pulling up my roots from a community which I have known since childhood, and which holds many of those closest and dearest to me, for an uncertain future. Of course, the outlines are clear; I know where I shall be for the next two years, and the sort of pattern my life may take thereafter. Who, though, will I meet on my journey, who will travel with me, what terrain will be covered, where will the stopping places be?

Part of me - the timid part - sees this as leaving safe haven for risk. Certainly it's leaving the known for an extremely challenging partly known. The safe haven, though, was never truly there if I was to live honestly with God and with those around me. None of us live in absolute security, however we may hedge ourselves round with human affection, financial provision and community solidarity. We have to live provisionally; knowing that change is an inevitable part of the human condition and that changelessness is only divine.

This week I shall cease to be an historian, my study and profession since leaving school, and next week I shall be come an ordinand. Wearing one hat, it was my calling to study change; now I shall be part of the process in new ways, seeking to be open to the changes which are required of me as I learn to serve in a different calling. But the process is the same as it is always and for each of us, the understanding of how we live our lives most fully in the knowledge of God's love and to the coming of his kingdom.

Jane Freeman

Services in September are:

Sundays

8 am Holy Communion
9.30 am Parish Communion
6.30 pm Evening Service

On 4th October, United Harvest Festival

Wednesdays

10 am Holy Communion
7.30 pm Prayers

Sunday, October 18th, Family Service 11 am



On behalf of all their friends at St John's and other Stansted churches, we wish to congratulate Fr Andrew and Jayne on their marriage, and to wish them all happiness together.

Photograph Brian Harris

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)		

Baptisms

19th July	Naomi Bonich
30th August	Daniel Keating
6th September	James Flowers

A small party of us from the Stansted area have just returned from a fascinating and thought-provoking holiday in Russia. Although planned a year ago, our stay happened to coincide with the start of the Russian economic crisis, although as western tourists we were not really affected by it.

We flew to Moscow and, after spending a couple of days there, embarked on a cruise through 1000 miles of waterways - rivers, canals and huge inland lakes - calling at various islands and villages on the way until we ended up in St Petersburg for the final three days before flying home.

It is only possible to pick out a few impressions of this vast and mysterious land with its violent contrasts between the legacy of incredible wealth and opulence from the Tsars and the drab, utilitarian life of the majority.

To stand in Red Square (the name means beautiful in Russian) in Moscow, dominated by the red brick walls of the Kremlin on one side and St Basil's Cathedral with its exotic and colourful 'onion' domes, is to feel the weight of history. In spite of much destruction under the Communists, the Moscow skyline is still crowded with the gilded domes of churches, many of which have been restored both architecturally and as places of worship since perestroika. The waterways had their own poignancy. The canal network linking the rivers and lakes had been conceived by Peter the Great in the 17th Century, but only finally completed under Stalin in the 1930s using the labour of thousands of political prisoners, many of whom died in the process. Now they are tranquil places, bordered by immense and unspoilt forests of silver birch and pine. We made a memorable visit to the island of Kizhi, now an outdoor museum of beautiful wooden buildings, including the Transfiguration Cathedral with its 22 domes of silver hued aspen wood.

Our final destination, St Petersburg, was built on 42 islands by Peter the Great as the Venice of the north. Now its magnificent architecture, left alone by the Communists, is rather shabby and crumbling, and the roads are potholed and hazardous, but the wonderful views and vistas are still there. The Hermitage Museum was stunning and included a special exhibition of art treasures taken from Nazi Germany during the Second World War, whose existence has only recently been disclosed. The sense of being part of history in the making was reinforced by a visit to the Peter and Paul Cathedral, which houses the tombs of the Romanovs. Since July this year, these have been joined at last by one small tomb, in a separate little chapel, containing the remains of the last Tsar and his family.

For all the distance we covered, this was only one tiny corner of a huge land, where ordinary people have been oppressed, one way or another, for centuries. Suppression under the Communists, where at least people had the basic necessities of life, may have been better than oppression and serfdom under the Tsars, but now the future is very uncertain. Our visit to Russia was short but made a deep impression on all of us. We shall be following events with an even greater interest now, and keeping the people of Russia in our thoughts. May their resilience and talents, with the help of God, bring them through the present difficulties.



The party at Petrosovorsk

Photo Ruth Rawlinson



CHURCHES TOGETHER in STANSTED

CTS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

October 20th, 7.30 pm for 8 pm in the United Reformed Church Hall

We are holding our AGM a bit later this year and hope that holidays will be over and lots of people free to attend! As always, AGMs are open to everyone.

A group of us have been thinking out ideas for Churches Together in Stansted to mark the Millennium and we will be presenting them at the AGM for comments and suggestions. One or two of them depend very much on the enthusiasm and backing of the local churches, so we would like to hear everyone's point of view. It will be too late to start thinking about it in a year's time!

Katherine Hurford

United Reformed

Chapel Hill

Minister: 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

4th 11 am Mr John Thorn
6.30 pm C.T.S. Harvest Service - Supper
at St John's
11th 11 am Mr C Wright
18th 11 am Mr R Friday
25th 11 am Rev L Rapkin; Communion
6.30 pm C.T.S. for One World Week
(St Theresa's)

November

1st 11 am Group Service.
Speaker Amanda Wilson from the
charity, 'Children with AIDS'.
Everyone welcome

By the time you read this we will have celebrated our Tercentenary celebrations. A lot of hard work was involved by many people. Thank you to all who helped and came and supported the events. However, we cannot sit back; the bills still keep coming in, so, to help with the regular running expenses of the church, the Annual Bazaar is on November 7th. See you there. (The display page has details)

Society of Friends

Quaker Meeting House, Chapel Hill

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

QUAKER PIRATES

Quaker pirates? Surely not? Well yes, there really were. Or perhaps not quite. It happened at the time of the American War of Independence in 1778. The French were, of course, on the side of the rebellious colonists and the British monarch encouraged and gave free rein to British ships to attack any French vessels they could find. One British Quaker, Joseph Fox, co-owned two ships, Greyhound and Brilliant, and quite unbeknownst to him, his co-owner was gainfully attacking and raiding French ships as they crossed the Atlantic. The privateer trade was extremely profitable.

When he realised this state of affairs, Joseph Fox was appalled and in 1785 he took a full page advertisement in the official Gazette de France. In this he categorically stated that Quakers did not indulge in piracy and he detailed the faith and practice of the Religious Society of Friends. He further offered to compensate all victims of his two ships and invited people to come to Paris where his son, Edward Fox, would be installed to refund their losses.

This advertisement amazed the French public and the victims were indeed reimbursed. Some in their turn published their gratitude in the Gazette de France for this rare and honourable act of restitution. Not all the money was claimed and the balance of £600 was finally used in 1818 to create a fund in Bordeaux for sick merchant seamen which I understand still exists, although it is now minuscule.

More significantly, the Gazette de France was read by the people of Congenies, a small village in Languedoc near Nimes. Always an area of independent thinkers, Congenies was home to the "Inspires", the inspired ones, and five of them wrote to Fox explaining that they were not claiming any booty but they were impressed by Quaker ideas which they shared in full and would like to meet a man so inspired by honesty and pacificism. They sent Jean de Marsillac to visit Friends in London and in 1788 founded the first Quaker meeting in France. (The bi-centenary was well celebrated by French Friends in 1988)

Anthea Lee



Methodist

Meets in Quaker Meeting House, Chapel Hill

Minister: Rev'd John Graham
2 South Road, Bishop's Stortford
Tel 654475

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

Thank you to those who came to Bishop's Stortford on 5th September for an inspiring induction service and warm welcome for our new minister John Graham, his wife Liz and daughter Lydia. We were sorry that, due to sickness, John was unable to be with us on 13th September. Perhaps the stress of moving from sunny Skegness to bonny Bishop's Stortford took its toll! John and Liz are in our prayers and we look forward to their ministry in Stansted and beyond.

Services and Preachers for October

Sundays at 9.30 am

4th Mike Valentine
11th Revd John Graham, Holy Communion
18th Revd Harry Wood
25th Jerry Heyhoe

In addition, Methodists will also be supporting the following United Services:

4th United Harvest Festival, St John's at 6.30 pm
25th One World Week, St Theresa's at 6.30 pm



Chairman: Steve Riley (815455)

Forthcoming Events:

Quiz, 17th October at 7.30 pm in Stansted Day Centre.
Supper and bar - entry £5.00.

Henham Evening. Saturday 21st November at 8.00 pm.
Greek evening with supper and topical quiz. Chantry Hall, Crowe Street, Henham.



Stansted & District Branch

We do not have a Club House

We do not have many members BUT

We do have a lot of Ex-Service men and women who live in the district, all entitled to our care and help.

Many ex-service personnel do not wish to talk about their war service and this we respect - however, the Legion cares for all and their dependants, whether members or not, whether veterans or still serving. We need more members. We cannot offer much other than two or three social evenings a year, but we are there to help where we can every day of the year.
How can you help?

Please become a member. You do not have to be ex-Service.

The Poppy Appeal will be the fortnight before Remembrance Sunday. We have a very dedicated band of helpers for the House to House Collection but if you can assist us please volunteer.

For further information or offers of help please contact:

Bob Stoddart (814015)
Eddie Laird (813458)
John Segar (813289)



The third annual Coffee Morning was held at the day centre on 9th September where £600 was raised. The organisers would like to thank all those involved who made this event so successful. This wonderful amount will start our new year in good style. During 1997/1998 £4,545 has been raised.

LAST CHANCE

The final opening of the year of the Windmill takes place on Sun. October 4th from 2 - 6 pm.

Stansted Mountfitchet Parish Council

Clerk Ruth Clifford
Office Hours
10 am - 1 pm
Monday - Friday



Skip Dates

Council Offices
Crafton Green
Chapel Hill
Tel 813214

Saturday/Sunday 14th & 15th November
Monday 7th - Thursday 10th December.

As a trial run we are going to have the weekend skip supervised which should make things easier as somebody will be on hand to help with heavy items.

THE STANSTED PLAYSCHHEME

Q: What do Origami, Line Marbling and Sock Puppets have in common?

A: The Stansted Playscheme!

Almost ten years ago a small child entered the Youth Centre's playground in Gall End, full of anticipation. She couldn't wait to make a badge or play rounders. Now, in 1998, that same girl walked in and made badges and played rounders, but the difference was this time she was one of the team of leaders, led by Ann Conroy, who help to run Stansted Parish Council's summer playscheme. As that girl I have been at the playscheme right from the start. I think one of its best features is that it has kept the same basic structure of the two sessions (morning and afternoon) on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday and an all day trip on Wednesday. Many of the activities appear year after year, for example "Junk" modelling and pasta collage, but also we try and introduce a few new ideas each year. For instance in the mornings as well as sport the children had the choice of doing things like clay modelling, soap sculpture and potato printing. One of our biggest successes was our design a T-shirt morning. All the children brought in a white T-shirt of pillow case and used special fabric pens to create their very own design. You can still see some of the master pieces wandering around Stansted! One of our less successful (but still enjoyable) mornings included making kites. The kites were fine, but unfortunately there was no wind so we had to make the children run up and down the playground if they wanted the kite to fly.

The afternoon activities are always more of a gamble as most days we take the children out to visit somewhere like the windmill. Old favourites include going to the Recreation Ground and going to Stoney Common to pond dip. This year we repeated a new idea from last year, that of a murder mystery afternoon based on the game of "Cluedo"; I am pleased to say my team won, though not through any stroke of genius, more like pure luck! One of the completely new ideas we road-tested was a drama workshop, led by representatives from A.C.T. Theatre Company. The workshop was taken by the Company's Director, Iain Court, who was helped by Paul Crommie. Children and helpers joined in to experience exercises to do with voice, movement and imagination. The afternoon was enjoyed by all.

Sadly, one of our all time favourite venues, Peter Kirk's soft room and play area, is unlikely to be on next year's schedule due to its closure. I know that many children and helpers will miss it a lot.

I mentioned briefly before that on Wednesday we go on an all day trip. This year the four venues were:

Walton-on-the-Naze - always the most popular.

Riverside Leisure Centre (Swimming and Ice Skating) - very tiring for the adults.

Whipsnade Zoo - difficult to spot the difference between the children and the animals.

Harlow Ski Slope (Tobogganing) - involves the playscheme hijacking the WAGN line down to Harlow.

Seriously, these days long outings are really enjoyable, both for children and the adults. On the last day, in previous years, the morning has been spent preparing for a party in the afternoon. This year this was abandoned in favour of a visit by Mike the Clown in the afternoon and spooning huge amounts of bright pink icing and marshmallows on to Rich Tea biscuits in the morning. Both these new ideas worked well. Thanks must go to Mike the Clown for his superb workshop which culminated in a Circus Skills Performance by the children. It was a lovely end to a pleasant, if hectic, four weeks.

Lastly, I must thank the dedicated team of leaders and helpers, especially Ann Conroy, without whom it all would not have been possible.

Kaye Salvidge

A seasonal contribution from Stansted's poet, Norah Turner.

Song of Autumn

So October:
And copper crested beeches
Spare their leaves for stealing winds
And birches tall and silvered ladies gown
Shower seasoning of gold,
And fall, coffers of cones,
And apart, dark fir trees stand
Betraying their treasures, untold,
Earth's burnished cauldron bubbles
Endlessly, the wind ladle fingered
Stirs and madly twirls and hurls heedlessly
Bewitched wet leaves. By the lade side
A loan swan dying, lifts a hooked wing
Pulsing blood red, dapples the bronzed leaves and prepares
to sing.

**Stansted Mountfitchet
Seniors' Club**
AUTUMN SALE
10.30 - 12 noon
Saturday 3rd October
Day Centre

HOMEMADE CAKES
10.00 am
Sat 3rd October
outside the
United Reformed Church
 Chapel Hill
(in church if wet)

St John's Church
Quiz Night
7.30 for 8 pm
Saturday 3rd October
St John's Hall
Tables of 8 ~ Bar ~ Supper
Tickets £5 Tel 813160/815225


VILLAGE EVENTS


October			
1	Thu	Local History Society	Day Centre 8 pm
2	Fri	MP's Interviews	Dunmow Coun Off 5.45 - 6.30 pm
3	Sat	Cake Stall	Outside UR Church 10 am - noon
		Seniors' Autumn Sale	Day Centre 10.30 - noon
		HEAL Jumble Sale	URC Hall 2 pm
		Quiz Night	St John's Hall 7.30 pm
4	Sun	Windmill Open	2 - 6 pm
5	Mon	Shalom Group	4 Greenfields 8pm
	to		
8	Thu	Skip at Crafton Green	
6	Tue	HEAL AGM	Day Centre 7.30 pm
7	Wed	Gardening Club	Day Centre 8 pm
8	Thu	Carers Support Group	Quaker Meeting House 2 - 4 pm
		Evening W I	St John's Hall 7.30 pm
10	Sat	Jumble Sale	Scout Hut 2 pm
		Green Waste Collection	Crafton Green 9 am - noon
17	Sat	Liberal Democrat Quiz	Day Centre 7.30 pm
19	Mon	Shalom Group	7 Blythwood Gardens 8 pm
20	Tue	Churches Together AGM	URC Hall 7.30 pm
21	Wed	Mountfitchet Seniors	Day Centre 2 - 4 pm
30	Fri	HEAL Talk	Day Centre 7.30 pm
31	Sat		
	to		
1	Sun	Art & Craft Market	Youth & Adult Centre 10 am
November			
2	Mon	Shalom Group	8 pm
3	Tue	RBL AGM	Day Centre 8 pm
4	Wed	Mountfitchet Seniors	Day Centre 2 - 4 pm
		Gardening Club	Day Centre 8 pm
5	Thu	Local History Society	Day Centre 8 pm
7	Sat	Annual Bazaar	URC Hall 10 am - noon
		Bonfire & Fireworks	Mountfitchet School 6.30 pm

1st Stansted Scouts
MEGA JUMBLE SALE
2 pm Sat 10th October
Scout Hut Water Lane
Entrance 20 pence
Raffle ~ Refreshments
Jumble collection tel 814471/814701

**Churches Together in
Stansted**
A G M
7.30 pm Tues 20th Oct
URC Hall
Theme - Stansted's
Churches at the Millenium
Everyone welcome


 **ANNUAL BAZAAR**
10 am Sat 7th Nov
URC Hall
Numerous stalls ~ Plants
Gifts ~ Cake stall
Refreshments
Admission free

REMEMBRANCE DAY
 **Lest we forget**
Sunday 8th November
10.45 am Annual wreath laying at the War
Memorial followed by service in St John's Church

 **Christmas Shopping
in Canterbury**
Saturday 14th November
Depart - 8 am Sworders
Deposit £5.50
(shouldn't be any extra)
A great day out - All Welcome
Tel Pearl Wellings 813614
Organised by Stansted Evening W I

Bonfire & Fireworks
Mountfitchet High School
Saturday 7th November

6.30 pm Bonfire 7.30 pm Fireworks
Admission - adults £2.50
concessions and 5 - 14 yrs £1
Refreshments

 *Forthcoming Events*
JUMBLE SALE
2 pm Sat 3rd Oct URC Hall
A G M
7.30 for 8 pm Tue 6th Oct
Day Centre
CASTLES & CHURCHES
7.30 for 8 pm Fri 30th Oct
Day Centre
£2.50 inc tea/coffee & bisc
Tel 814265/813871/647354
All are warmly welcome



Huw Johnson Club

Cleethorpes 1998

Another holiday over and already members are asking "Where are we going next time?" In spite of rather chilly weather everyone had a good time. The highlight for our members was a visit to Pleasure Island where they were twirled around, turned upside down, shot at speed up in the sky and rushed back to earth at even greater speed. Not exactly my idea of fun but many members carried out all these activities for six hours. The more sedate of us were happy to watch the circus act, the seals performing and the colourful cascading water display.

We have to thank Ray Vidler of Halls Coaches who once again far exceeded his duty as a driver. He is a great friend to all our members and the help he gave lifting wheelchairs, supervising activities and even doing the cooking was a great asset to everyone.

Thanks too to all our helpers, especially Gerry, for organising the shopping and menus. Ten of us are now O.A.P.'s but we all worked really hard and the hugs and kisses from our members made it all worthwhile.

Marion Johnson



Carmel, Sarah, Stephen and Amy enjoying a ride.



Stansted Tennis Club



After a sometimes wet and frustrating tournament season, the tennis club managed to stage the annual finals on a glorious September Sunday. The first match of the morning was the tense and fiercely fought ladies doubles final. Last years' champions, Corinne Gladwin and Sue Sebley actually held a match point in the final set at 5-4 before eventually succumbing to this year's champions, Sandra Ayres and Joyce Barton. The final score was 6-1, 2-6, 7-5. The men's singles final was a much more straightforward affair with Richard Johnson dominating the rallies against Matt Whitbread to win 6-0, 6-1. Sandra Ayres was involved in another three-setter against Sue-Sebley in the final of the ladies singles. Having won the first set 6-3, Sue ran out of steam and Sandra took ~~the~~ next two sets and the title 6-2, 6-1. The final of the men's doubles proved to be a thriller with last year's winners Richard Eyre and Richard Johnson coming out on top against Tim and Chris Hollis. The score was 6-3, 4-6, 6-4. The last event of the day was a relatively quick match with Sandra Ayres winning her third trophy of the day. She teamed up with Tim Hollis to win the mixed doubles against Chris Hollis and Corinne Gladwin 6-2, 6-2. The trophies were presented to the winners by Martin Sebley and the matches were umpired by Chris Hollis, Ken Kemp, Martin Sebley and Gill Robinson.

July saw the Saffron Walden and District Hospital Cup Finals competed for at Stansted Tennis Club. Sandra Ayres played superbly well in the ladies singles final to avenge her defeat in last year's final by Rebecca Chapman of The Grove. Sandra won 7-5, 7-5. In the final of the ladies doubles, Stansted pair Sandra Ayres and Sue Sebley lost 1-6, 5-7 to the Henham pair, Catherine White and Linda Kelsey.

The Eddie Wilby shield was as always very well supported. This year Richard Eyre and Sandra Ayres defeated Richard Johnson and Caroline Tapster 6-4 in the final.

The next Open Tournament to be competed for at the club will be the Pearce/Frodo Cup on Sunday 4th October at 10.30 am. A ploughman's lunch will be provided and the cost of entry will be £5.00.

Coaching is continuing at the club with a lot of enthusiasm so, if you are interested in joining in please contact either Chris Hollis on 01279 466973 or Norman Elson on 01279 850057.

If you are interested in joining the Tennis Club please contact our Membership Secretary, Kate Rutter, on 813053. If you have any other queries please contact either Janet Hollis (Chairman) on 812073 or Richard Mott (Secretary) on 466348.



The National Childbirth Trust
Education for Parenthood

Planning summer events in advance can be a bit of a lottery when it comes to the weather. However, we were lucky with many of our outdoor get-togethers and, even when we weren't, children don't seem to mind a bit of rain. They didn't even feel the cold at our two paddling pool gatherings, splashing about as if it was the best of weather.

The outdoor "messy morning" lived up to its name. The children went home, grubby but happy, with coloured feet (from foot painting), grimy hands (from playing with trucks in real mud) and wet (from splashing in coloured water). The teddy bears' picnic and train ride at Audley End was as popular as usual with the children and various pub lunches were just as popular - with the adults.

Our coffee mornings and afternoons - for babies, toddlers and pre-schoolers - continue regardless of the weather. We've also produced a new diary of outings to entice parents and children during the autumn.

So, if you'd like to join in and make some new friends, phone Hayley on 850 287.

Penelope Christoffel



Recipe of the Month

Apple Crisp

2lb / 900gm cooking apples, peeled and sliced
1 tablespoon lemon juice
4 level tablespoons clear honey
2oz / 57gm plain flour
2oz / 57gm rolled oats
3oz / 85gm soft brown sugar
¼ level teaspoon salt
3oz / 85 gm butter

- (a) set oven to gas mark 5 / 190°C (375°F)
- (b) lightly grease a 2 pint ovenproof dish
- (c) arrange apples in dish
- (d) sprinkle with lemon juice
- (e) spoon honey over top
- (f) mix flour, oats, sugar and salt
- (g) rub in butter to make a fine crumble
- (h) sprinkle mixture over apples
- (i) bake in centre of oven until top is brown (approx 40 mins)
- (j) serve hot with cream

Serves 4 to 6

Stansted

Art & Craft Market

This year's Market - to be held on Saturday October 31st and Sunday November 1st - is set to be the most ambitious for many years.

The event, which annually raises funds for local good causes, will be held at the Youth and Adult Education Centre in Lower Street, Stansted, and will feature a wider variety of crafts than before, including several exhibitors who will demonstrate their work.

Among these are artists who specialise in ceramics, patchwork, silk-painting, jewellery, wood-turning and wooden toys, face-painting for children, pressed flowers, knitted toys and clothes, basketry, trellis and garden furniture, decoupage, papier-mâché, clocks, decorative boxes and many more. In addition, there will be the usual range of quality paintings on display, all by local artists, and homemade refreshments to enjoy.

The market is the perfect place to start early Christmas shopping with a wide range of gift ideas to suit all ages at affordable prices. It is also a unique and established village event, which raises valuable funds for the local community and with so many new and interesting features this year it deserves strong support.

Philip Duly (816053)



HARGRAVE HOUSE NURSING HOME TO SET UP 'FRIENDS' GROUP

Hargrave House caters for the requirements of both long-term residential and nursing residents and for short-term respite care.

Always keen to be part of the local community, the Home already has well established links with local groups such as the churches and has enjoyed welcoming local residents to its open day functions over the years, such as Carol Services, Craft Fairs or the recent Summer Fete and BBQ. Now we aim to establish a group of 'Friends of Hargrave House Nursing Home', who will help us to enrich the social side of the life of the Residents through fund raising ideas, suggestions for the social calendar and practical support - and, hopefully, have fun whilst doing a worthwhile job. Family and friends of present or past residents, local residents, those who have special knowledge or interests - would you like to help establish and run our Friends Group?

In the first instance, please contact Catherine Thompson, the Matron Manager, or Linda McIntyre, Activities Co-ordinator on 01279 817272.



PRE-SCHOOL NURSERY

Hello again

Hope you all had a good holiday and are now ready for a new school year, especially all those children who left us to start **BIG SCHOOL**. The end of last term was packed with fun things. We had a special lunch for the leavers and a party with a magician for everyone to enjoy. Sports day, unfortunately, had to be held inside due to horrid weather but was lots of fun with everyone taking part.

Our **OFSTED INSPECTION** was a huge success with special emphasis placed on the warm and caring relationships between staff, parents and children and the high priority given to language and maths.

The topic for this new term is **NURSERY RHYMES**, which is something familiar for the younger children and can be extended for the older ones. It is an ideal topic to involve all **SIX AREAS OF LEARNING** required by the National Curriculum, with plenty of collage making to decorate the windows, counting and number work and chances for children to be creative while learning their colours through painting and drawing.

If you would like your child to join Sideways, please call in and see us any time, any day, between 8.30 -12.15 for a brochure and a chat with staff. You will be very welcome to stay and play.

Auntie Helen (813828)
or call the Pre-school during opening hours
on 01279 816600



STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

At our opening meeting of the season, Wally Wright gave an illustrated talk on the Sawbridgeworth Town Trail. It was his fourth visit to the Society and was, as ever, informative and entertaining.

Next meeting Thursday 1st October when our own Peter Brown will continue with the Stansted Fire Service, part 2, and on Thursday 5th November we will have Anne Padfield on Farm Buildings in Essex. Both at 8 pm in the Day Centre.

Peggy Honour



St Clare Hospice

Over £1.1 million has been raised towards the building of the in-patient unit for St Clare Hospice in Hastingwood. This has been achieved with the hard work and support of many people, some of whom were able to join patients, volunteers and staff at noon on Friday 24th July 1998 for the St Clare Hospice Cutting of the First Trench Ceremony.

The ceremony was performed by The Rt Hon Lord Braybrooke, JP, HM Lord Lieutenant of Essex. It symbolises the official beginning of building the in-patient unit for St Clare Hospice, which will benefit people living in the Stansted area. It was a moving occasion marking the achievement of the many people who have been part of the project, who were represented by approx. 150 people to witness the ceremony.

The Trustees of St Clare aim to have the in-patient unit operating by September 1999 and there is still a considerable sum to be raised to bring the project to completion on time.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this success - the end is in sight.



STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET WINDMILL

The August Bank Holiday Fete was held on 31st August. The event raised about £600 and was made possible by an excellent attendance and generous support from local businesses. A variety of stalls offering all sorts of prizes did good trade whilst testing our luck and skill. Particularly difficult in the fine but blustery conditions were the rotating dart board and the 'electronic steady hand' stalls. The refreshments lived up to their near legendary reputation.

We were visited by The Essex County Millwright, Vincent Pargeter. On his visit he 'unearthed' some unusual and rare pieces of equipment that we hope to display for the first time in generations. He also explained how the sack hoist could be made to work again and how to operate the main brake more effectively, the latter enabling much easier sail turning. Anybody wanting to get involved in some minor repairs and routine maintenance, now is your chance! Anyone wanting more information, interested in helping or becoming a Windmill member (free admission), please call Steve Clements on 816514. See Village Events for other open days.

THE BLACKBERRY TIME

The little field mice scampered up to Bertie Bouncer when they saw him appear from under the old railway station where the Bouncer family lived. "There's lots of lovely big blackberries over the other side of the meadow, by the lane," they squeaked. Bertie rushed in to tell his Mother and borrow her basket. "Don't be late for tea," she said.



The mice showed Bertie where there were berries he could reach easily, for with his little arms and legs he could not stretch up very high. The mice soon got bored with watching Bertie and scurried off. Bertie had nearly filled the basket when he felt tired. "I'll just sit down for a little while," he thought, but soon he was sound asleep.



Bertie dreamt about the monkeys he had seen in a picture book and imagined that he had longer arms so that he could swing about in the trees and bushes gathering fruit and nuts.



Some time later two children came along the lane and they stopped to pick some blackberries. "Oh, look," cried the girl, "Someone has dropped a toy." Her brother picked up Bertie who was so tired he did not wake up. They took him to their house further along the road and showed him to their Mother. "Someone might be looking for it," she said, "put it on the front wall so it can be seen easily." Just then Bertie woke up and heard what she said but managed to keep very still. The girl gave him a hug and whispered, "If no-one finds you I'll bring you in tomorrow - I would like a cuddly toy." She gently laid him on the wall and went in for tea.

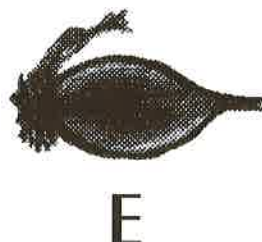


Bertie did not dare to move until it was nearly dark, then he rolled off the low wall and bounced home. Mr. Bouncer was out looking for him and was relieved to see Bertie was safe. "You go in and tell Mum what happened," he said, "and I'll go and look for the basket." So he did, and the next day they all enjoyed a delicious blackberry pie.

A Puzzle

As well as the blackberries Bertie found, he might have seen these along the hedge. What are they and on what do they grow?

Answers on page 12.





Stansted Evening Women's Institute

The "Craft of a Potter" was the theme of our August meeting. John West, who was originally a carpenter, told members how, while making tables for a potter who put pottery tiles on the top of them, he became interested in the craft and so learnt how to become a potter. His wife, who was a teacher and painted in her spare time, also took it up. He brought to the meeting his potter's wheel and demonstrated some of the items he makes as well as displaying pieces for sale. he regularly goes into a Leper Hospital where he helps the patients by taking in clay and helping them make simple pots. The neading of the clay helps the mobility of their fingers as many patients lose the first joint of each finger.

In our social time Mrs Elsie Stoddart brought along a tape of a recording she and her husband Bob made for "Radio for the Blind". The subject was her and her husband's attendance at the Queen's and Prince Philip's Wedding Anniversary party at the Palace. She was very lucky to be presented to the Queen and Prince Philip in their tea tent.

For our Christmas shopping trip see the display page. Our Carol Concert in the U.R.C. Church will be held on Thursday 17th December.

Our speaker in September, John Reid, took us around the country by boats, trains, hovercraft, the Volks electric railway at Brighton, a rather bumpy trip on the Concorde and a tour over London by airship. All these took place in 1986 when his wife went off to Canada for a wedding, so he took time off work during the year to do these various trips which he had always wanted to do. During social time members split into groups to take part in a quiz which cause much laughter and amusement, this being organised for us by Claire Frances and Julia George.

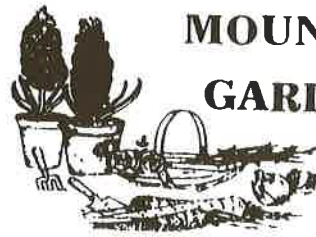
During business, members were thanked for their help at the recent Windmill Fete and some agreed to assist Mrs Ryan with the refreshments at the forthcoming Art and Craft Market.

Our October 8th meeting in St John's Hall, 7.30 for 7.45, will be a talk and demonstration on Taoist Tai Chi by Paul Cochran. Visitors are welcome.

Mrs B Ryan (812725)

Answers to Children's Quiz

- A Conker / Horsechestnut tree
- B Acorn / Oak tree
- C Seed wing / Sycamore tree
- D Berries / Holly bush
- E Hip / Rose bush
- F Haws / Hawthorn bush



MOUNTFITCHET GARDEN CLUB

At our monthly meeting on 2nd September, the speaker was Mr Andrew Stewart from Van Hages Garden Centre. The topic of his talk was The Spring Garden and making the best use of bulbs. Included in the talk was ideas for filling hanging baskets with small daffodils. He also showed a number of slides of the newer varieties of daffodils, tulips, etc. The monthly competition was for one dahlia bloom and was won by Gordon Fuller.

The speaker on 7th October is Ms P Leichti, talking on "How I Made my own Garden". The competition is for the longest runner bean.

We held our Annual Autumn Show at the URC Church Hall on 12th September. Once again the judges commented on the high standard of the entries. The cups and awards were won by Mr & Mrs G Fuller, Mr & Mrs B Townsend and the domestic cups going to Mr & Mrs Morton.



After normal business at our last meeting our Chairman, Mrs Hollis, read a letter from our Treasurer, Mrs Levey, thanking the branch for arranging presentation of the Golden Award, given to her at our June meeting. Mrs Hollis then had the pleasant task of presenting an attractive porcelain jug to Mrs Snow to mark her 50 years as a member of the Women's Section.

Our speaker for the evening was Mr D Hall who gave a very interesting talk on the 1000 mile trip up the Amazon River which he and his wife took in February and which he illustrated with some beautiful slides.

They sailed in the cruise ship "Victoria" as far as Manaoc which was originally the centre of the rubber trade and is now a thriving electronics centre. At its mouth the Amazon is 14-15 miles wide, quite shallow and milky brown in colour because of the silt which comes down from the Andes. The mouth of the river is in the Northern Hemisphere and the remainder in the Southern Hemisphere. They took trips into the jungle on small boats and we saw shots of egrets, kingfishers, monkeys and a sloth and a giant water lily.

We made a profit of £282 at our Coffee Morning on 12th August. Our thanks to all those who made donations and those who so generously supported us on the morning. Our next meeting is our AGM on Thursday 15th October in the Day Centre at 7.30 pm.

Pat Clower



STANSTED FUN RUN

The money raised from this year's Fun Run has broken last year's record - we raised a total of £2512 which will be shared equally between our three charities for this year - Amnesty International, Emmaus UK and Uttlesford Carers. This total was boosted considerably by those entrants who raised individual sponsorship money and our special thanks go to them, viz: Lorraine Evans, Chris Street, Tom Wood, Brian Lord, Reginald Tansley and Jon Tann (who raised over £123 between them) and the WI team who raised nearly £40.

Those of you who attended the event will have seen that we were taking no chances with the weather and we had purchased a number of gazebos with some of the £240 raised from toner recycling. A donation of £50 has been given to The Link from this money in recognition of the advertising that is afforded throughout the year for the Fun Run Toner Recycling Project and also for the Fun Run itself.

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, Mike the Clown of Amnesty, who so willingly gave up his time to start the race and entertain those less energetic spectators.

We look forward to seeing you next year.

Marion Dyer (814059)



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Letter from Middle England

'Multum in parvo' (much in little) - the motto of Rutland, once again reinstated as England's smallest county.

By the time this reaches publication I shall have been here almost a year - the time has flown. I now feel quite settled and happy here. The people are very friendly, the countryside is beautiful and, despite the traffic clogging the centre of Oakham (the A606 runs though the middle en-route to pork pie and Stilton country) my house is an extremely quiet part of the town. Quiet, that is, apart from the geese, which wake my son early in the morning and the Tornados, which roar overhead two or three times a day!

As a town, Oakham supplies one's earthly needs with a range of useful shops, a thriving twice-weekly market and the nowadays, common place Indian, Chinese and fish and chip joints. We also have a bandstand where music can be heard every summer Sunday afternoon. Spiritual needs are also well catered for with all denominations represented. Most Sunday mornings find me at All Saints. Rutland Water is a wonderful leisure amenity on our doorstep for sailors, fisherman, wind surfers, walkers and cyclists. Most especially for birdwatchers now that the osprey has returned. Summer brings a huge influx of tourists to the town and boosts the income of the local hostels somewhat!

I keep in touch with Stansted via the Link and the Editor. The former has changed in some ways since I left - the latter not at all! I may be 80 miles away but still retain an interest in the news - oh, all right then - gossip!

The only drawback is that I cannot find it in me to cheer on Leicestershire's cricketers so my allegiance to Essex holds firm. I guess you can take the girl out of Essex but not Essex out of the girl!

Best wishes to all.

Lyn Everitt (former co-Editor, The Link)



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STANSTED PROFILE no.5

NANCY TENNANT

Although a resident of Ugley, Nancy Tennant is such a long established part of life in Stansted and its environs that this series would be poorer for her exclusion.

Now aged 101, Nancy came to Ugley from Hoddesdon in 1908. Her schooling was in Scotland, but together with Miss Chester (well-known to older Stanstedians) she spent her early Essex years under a governess, which sadly she feels yielded few benefits.

At the age of 11 Nancy remembers being sent by her mother to visit the villagers to obtain information on what we would now call their lifestyles. It revealed a degree of poverty which inspired her mother to form the first of many local nursing associations. Those were the days when evictions with only a few days notice were commonplace, and she recalls one such unfortunate family being given a newly-vacated cottage on the Orford farm.

A short period in Paris was terminated by the Great War and during those harrowing years she helped the YMCA, firstly with troops stationed on the Rochford Nursery site and then on Salisbury Plain. Her abiding recollection, apart from the bitter winters, was of the courage and sense of crusade which motivated the soldiers of that great generation. In 1918 she returned to Ugley to work on the family farm which was at Orford House (now occupied by the Home Farm Trust) and then extended over some 75 acres.

Her parents took their full part in the life of Ugley, which included building the Village Hall in 1920. In 1921 her mother started the Ugley W.I. which soon had some 90 members. Nancy was enlisted to help and has ever since been an active member, at one time rising to be Vice Chairman of the National Federation.

Typically modest, she feels that her only attribute was her singing voice. A fine choral society was formed in the 20's with the help of Ron Turner (a grocer in Stansted and organist at All Saints Hockerill) and the well known Dr. Dykes Bower from Quendon. Peter Pears once came on a £3 fee! Her other great joy was the creation of the garden at Hill Pasture Broxted to the design of her artist friend Humphrey Waterfield. She was delighted to revisit the garden in August of this year and see part of it being carefully tended and maturing as intended.

Nancy became a Quaker in 1947 and has since consistently attended the Stansted Meeting. She was a founder member of the Stansted Association of Christian Churches in the early 60's and rejoices at the understanding which has since developed.

She feels that the greatest single change that she has witnessed over the years is mobility, not so much in the vehicular sense but in the constant moving of families away from their roots. She is however encouraged by the removal of the poverty and social instability of her girlhood days. However, the pervading friendship of the villagers in Ugley

has changed little over the years, reflecting so much the size and loyalty of its population.

Since 1963 she has lived at The Chase, a charming house in completely rural surroundings. On her land Roman relics have been found which she now keeps in a box. Her home receives a constant flow of relatives as well as many local friends and helpers and at 101 she still enjoys hosting her visitors and sharing good conversation with them. Nancy also derives pleasure from Linnets Wood which has grown up since 1976 on the former Orford land just over the road, and where she planted a tree on her 100th birthday.

She is fully prepared to play a part in the contemporary world and recently compiled a tape of her reminiscences for the Imperial War Museum.

Nancy Tennant feels as privileged to be an active member of the Ugley community as Ugley people are to have her in their midst, a feeling shared by so many of us in Stansted.

Derek Honour



STOP PRESS

Harvest Festival is to be at 6.30 pm at St. Johns Church on October 4th. It will be followed by Harvest Supper at which the entertainer will be the Revd. Chris. Bishop. From previous experience, an event not to be missed!



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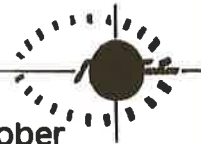
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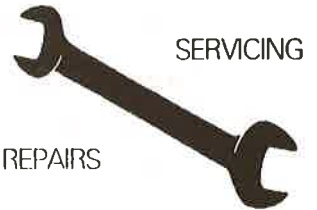
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