

January 1999

# The *LINK*



*Stansted  
Mountfitchet*

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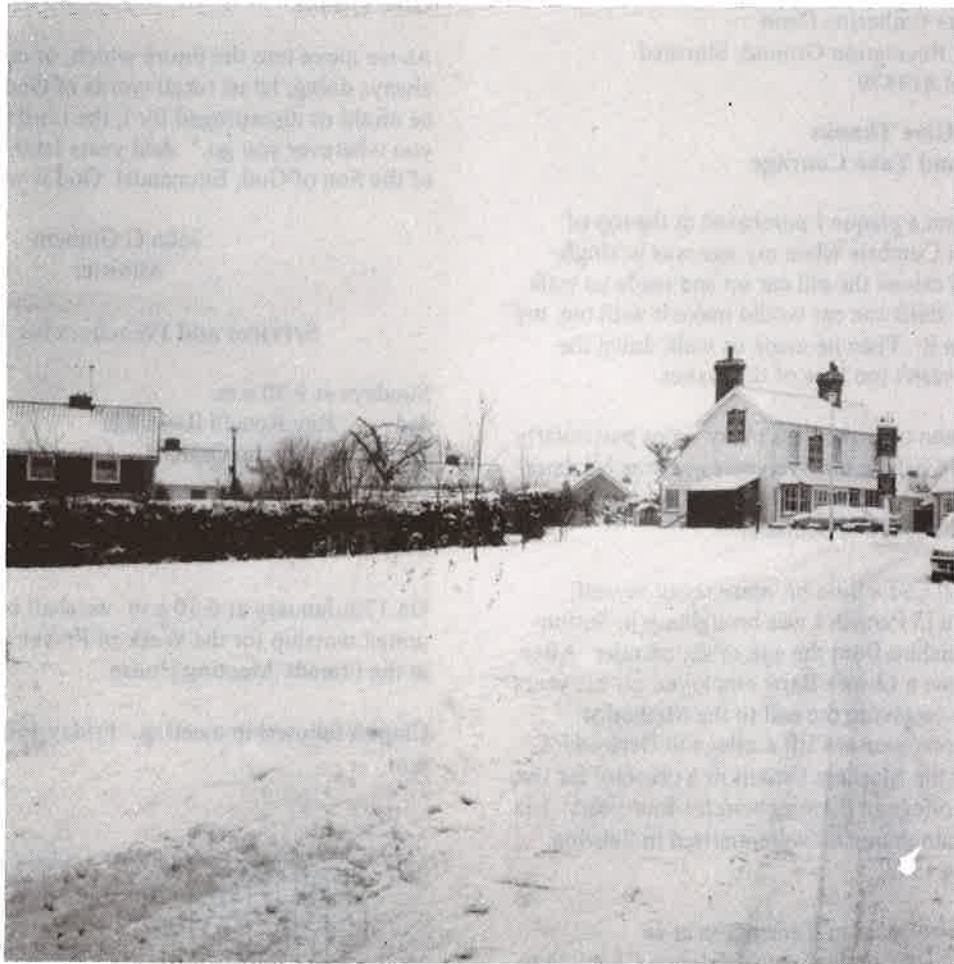


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The air bites shrewdly; it is very cold.

*Hamlet*



**BENTFIELD LOWER GREEN**

*Photograph by Paul Embleton*

The Green enables this end of Stansted to retain its rural origins. The Rose and Crown pub was formerly The Waggoner and still happily complements the village green atmosphere. Below the Green on what is now an engineering works stood the factory where Norman's *Conqueror* Ginger Beer was made until just after World War II. Wetherfield is built on land which, having served as a brick-field, became the annual venue for Fairs, and until 1959, a visiting Circus. Something of this tradition is kept up by the use of the Green as the assembly point for the Carnival procession and the centrepiece of the Fun Run.

**The Link (price £3 per year) is published monthly by Churches Together in Stansted**  
Advertising and all other enquiries to Sheila Parry 16 Bentfield Causeway Tel 814788

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**Copy to reach 58 Chapel Hill by**  
**14th January for publication on 31st January**  
**11th February for publication on 28th February**

# 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

### Look Back and Give Thanks Look Forward and Take Courage

These words are on a plaque I purchased at the top of Kirkstone Pass in Cumbria when my age was in single figures. Dad had driven the old car up and made us walk because he didn't think the car would make it with me, my mum and sister in it. Then he made us walk down the other side as he wasn't too sure of the brakes.

Since then I've been over the Pass many times particularly when we lived in Carlisle for five years as I was Minister at the Central Hall. A superb Circuit for days out fell walking and for holidays in Scotland.

To continue to tell you a little bit more about myself. Having been born in Penrith I was brought up in Sutton-on-Sea in Lincolnshire from the age of six months. After schooling I became a Lloyds Bank employee for 5½ years in Skegness. On receiving the call to the Methodist Ministry I spent one year at Cliff College in Derbyshire, was lay pastor in the Masham Circuit in Yorkshire for two years and then College in Birmingham for four years. Liz and I met in Birmingham and were married in Selsdon Baptist Church in 1973.

We then spent three years in Kensington at an Anglican/Methodist Church along with being Chaplain to the West London Colleges.

During our nine years in Northampton, Lydia was born. We were at Emmanuel Shared Church, 4 denominations and a team of 6 clergy. The area to the east of Northampton was growing from nothing to 35,000 people. 'Busy' is one word that can describe that time.

Carlisle came next and then Skegness. Back to my home area to be around for my mum in her later years - she died 2 ½ years ago at the age of 91.

And so to this Circuit. Our daughter is busy pursuing a Performing Arts Degree at Hitchin and has just been Sleeping Beauty in the Pantomime at Eye on Suffolk. Liz is a Nursery Nurse and is child minding part time at present.

Having used the opening words as a way of introducing myself, we can also use them at the turn of a year. The media and press spend time looking back over the previous year and looking forward making predictions for the incoming year. Looking back is something we seem automatically to do - the press, radio and T.V. are doing their reviews of the year just gone - and each of us with our memories will recall certain events and happenings, both sad and joyful. As we reflect we notice that God has been there for us in every moment. So, we Look Back and Give Thanks.

As we move into the future which, of course, we are always doing, let us recall words of God to Joshua, "Don't be afraid or discouraged for I, the Lord your God, am with you wherever you go." And years later we read the name of the Son of God, Emmanuel 'God is with us'.

John G Graham  
Minister

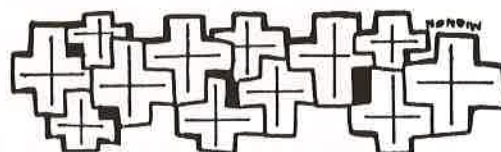
### Services and Preachers for January

Sundays at 9.30 a.m.

3rd Rev Ronald Rawlings  
10th Rev John Graham - Annual Covenant Service  
17th Julie Finlow  
24th Bernard Engel  
31st Rev Harry Wood

On 17th January at 6.30 p.m. we shall be joining in the united worship for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity at the Friends' Meeting House.

Church fellowship meeting - Friday 15th January at 8.00 p.m.



# SHALOM

Forthcoming meetings:

Jan.11 Prayer and Praise  
7 Blythwood Gardens.  
Jan.25 Subject to be confirmed  
4 Greenfields

# 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

### NEW YEAR

The last minute of the Old Year is exactly the same as the first minute of the New Year; but we treat it differently. It is no longer tainted by past memories and we treat it as a clean page to write our future hopes on

### A ROMAN THANK YOU LETTER

For New Year, Posthumous, ten years ago, you sent me four pounds of good silver-plate. The next year, hoping for a rise in weight (for gifts should either stay the same or grow), I got two pounds. The third and fourth produce inferior presents, and the fifth year's weighed only a pound - Septicius' work, ill-made into the bargain. Next I was reduced to an eight-ounce oblong salad-platter; soon it was a miniature cup that tipped the scales at even less. A tiny two-ounce spoon was the eighth year's surprise. The ninth, at length, and grudgingly, disgorged a pick for snails lighter than a needle. Now I note, the tenth has come and gone with nothing in its train. I miss the old four pounds. Let's start again!

(Martial Translated by James Michie)



# Roman Catholic

## St Theresa's Church, Millside

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

Masses:	Saturday	Stansted	6.00 pm
	Sunday	Stansted	10.30 am
		Henham	9.00 am
	Holy Days	Stansted	8.00 pm
		Henham	7.00 pm
	Weekdays	Stansted	9.30 am
	(Tues-Sat)		

Confessions on Saturday after 9.30 mass

It's an amazing mystery!

Now, as never before - one world,  
From out of space, a ball of white and blue,  
yet alive with life - alive with people - one world,  
From its surface  
life and matter held in delicate balance - one world,  
And humanity, with technical power to shape the world,  
and with decisive responsibility  
To use its resources in one world

For the world is one.

People can be fed and free;  
the homeless can have homes;  
the sick can have health;  
the hungry can be fed.

The vision is full of hope,

Rejoice in it - accept it.

But there is a price to be paid,

A dependence to be recognised,

Brothers and sisters to be acknowledged and loved.

(Tony Jones, from prayers and meditations)

As we look forward to the millennium, let us look to the past for inspiration and for the future let us share together our world wide hopes for Christian unity.

### Preachers for January

3rd	11 am	Mr Chris Wright
10th	11 am	Mr Ralph Friday
17th	11 am	Mrs S McKenzie
24th	11 am	Rev L Rapkin: Communion
31st	11 am	Rev K Anderson

Please note that there will be no Cake Stall in January.  
Next stall: 6th February 1999.

### A Thought for the New Year!

Some time when you are feeling important,  
Some time when your ego's in bloom  
Some time when you take it for granted  
You're the best qualified man in the room,  
Some time when you feel that your going  
would leave an unfillable hole,  
just follow these simple instructions  
and see how they humble your soul.

Take a bucket and fill it with water.  
Put your hands in it up to your wrists.  
Pull them out, and the hole that remains  
is the measure of how much you'll be missed.  
You may splash all you please when you enter,  
you may store up the water galore  
But - stop - and you'll find in a minute  
That it looks just the same as before.

The moral is this is quite simple  
You must do the best that you can,  
Be proud of yourself, but remember -  
"There is no indispensable man".

Anon.

# Society of Friends

## Quaker Meeting House, Chapel Hill

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

Meeting: Sunday 11 am

## MILLENNIUM

I am looking forward to the new Millennium or to the Millennial year, is it 2000 or 1999? What is 1000 years and how significant is it?

I have in front of me two pieces of rock collected on a beach near Dunbar in Scotland. One is a red coloured rock, it is a piece of Old Red Sandstone, the other is a piece of limestone containing a colonial coral. The first was produced in Desert conditions some 380 million years ago and the other produced in warm lagoon conditions some 300 million years ago.

The thought has come to me that there has been 380,000 millennia since the sandstone was laid down and 300,000 since the coral was being formed. Hominids, and later humans, have it is thought evolved on earth for only some 5 million years. Was God invented only then, within the consciousness of early thinking man? Was God around before mans arrival, at the creation of the world and the beginning of the Universe?

My answer is "yes" because there is an order to the cosmos from the miniscule to the vast. There is not chaos within the Universe; there is a high degree of predictability. This certainty and order is the divine being that I and we call "God". May God continue to go with us throughout the remainder of this millennium and through the next, however insignificant a millennium happens to be.

Peter Burgess

Editorial Note: There is the Chaos Theory which relates to the cosmos but this does not weaken belief in God - rather the reverse.



# 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](mailto:andrew.spurr@zetnet.co.uk)

Benefice Office:- Tel. 815243

Compiling one's thoughts for the January Link has not been an easy task; the copy date was earlier than usual and it was not possible to anticipate Christmas in any journalistic sense. It was, of course, possible to approach Christmas in a true spirit of preparation. We can but hope that despite the many competing claims on our time and (more importantly) our consciousness, we were able to achieve that special combination of detachment and sensitivity, which enabled the Advent season to be absorbed. Of all the seasons Advent and Lent are the two which have to be treated holistically if they are not to be just a succession of dates.

For many of us December 1998 will be remembered for the closure of the Peter Kirk School, culminating as it did in the Service of Thanksgiving in St. John's. Seldom can a more appropriate service have been devised or a finer atmosphere created. In his short but telling address, Martyn Phillips spoke of the Peter Kirk Community which during its 18 years touched far more homes in the Stansted areas than the number of pupils would suggest. Social analysts could write at length about the factors leading to the unique position which the school held in the village, but we had the privilege to experience the integration of everyone - pupils, staff and governors alike, into a community which the village wanted to have in its midst. The abiding lesson for us all is that a community embraces everyone and everyone is then pleased to belong.

### Services in January are:

Sundays  
8 am Holy Communion  
9.30 am Parish Communion  
6.30 pm Evening Service  
Wednesdays  
10 am Holy Communion  
7.30 pm Prayers

On Sunday 10 January we keep the feast of Epiphany.

D. Honour

## A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

Did you have a Merry Christmas and are you having a Happy New Year as the greetings cards say?

Personally, I got off to a bad start.

At the beginning of Advent, you know, that run up to Christmas when all the shops invite you to visit them to buy your Christmas fare and presents at inflated prices, was a disaster. One shop I went in to said 'Gifts for All' in big lettering in the window. In expectation, I entered, only to find they weren't actually giving anything away; to the contrary, they even had a security guard just inside the door to encourage one to pay for their so called gifts.

Well, like every good law abiding citizen, I paid for what I bought using my credit and debit cards. I'm expecting letters any day now from the credit card company and the bank saying that I've exceeded my credit limits. I will now have to pay up by using some of my hard come by savings in the building society.

Frankly, I was in a mess financially and I was unhappy to boot.

In an effort to cheer myself up, I went to my 'local' on Christmas Eve in search of at least commiseration, if not good cheer. I found not much of either but at about 11 pm some of the quieter people started leaving, making comments about going to the midnight service at the nearby village church. I thought I would tag along just to see what this was all about.

When I got to the church, already getting quite full, I sat down and I began to think about the commercialism of the past few weeks. Then, we all stood up as the choir entered and a solo voice sang the first verse of 'Once in Royal David's City' followed by the tumultuous sound of the whole congregation singing the subsequent verses.

The memories of my schooldays came flooding back; of nativity plays and the story of the birth of Jesus in that stable in Bethlehem. Here I was, in a church for the first time since I can't remember when, celebrating the birth of a child some 2000 years ago for whom it was claimed he would become the 'Saviour of the World'.

I suddenly felt happy and with an inner peace and calm that I find hard to describe. The Christmas message had got to me; I became convinced that all the commercial hype of Christmas was largely misplaced. To be sure, Christmas is a family time; we celebrate and remember our friends and families and we give presents; but we do this all in memory of that first Christmas and the birth of Jesus to Joseph and Mary. May this long continue to be so.

As for the New Year that is now upon us, with its tradition of resolutions, surely this is the time to reflect, to play down the extreme commercialism and to give Christianity a chance. That's my resolution anyway.

Tacitus II



## THE VILLAGE MUSIC CLUB

### CANTATE YOUTH CHOIR

On the afternoon of Sunday, 6th December, a packed St John's Church reverberated to the glorious sounds of the Cantate Youth Choir under their director, Michael Kibblewhite. The main choir, founded in 1994, is normally 80 strong but on this occasion it was supplemented by members of the training choir bringing the total number of performers to 104 plus their accompanists on keyboards and percussion. Billed as the Village Music Club's Christmas event, the choir performed many well known traditional carols and some lesser known and more recent works. The audience were invited to join in with some items and this they did with enthusiasm, which further enhanced the success of the event. Although the emphasis was firmly upon Christmas, perhaps the two items, 'Blue Skies' and 'The Rhythm of Life' which concluded the first half of the concert, contained the most 'theatre', being reminiscent of the musicals of bygone years. This was truly a concert not to have been missed.

### FOURTH DIMENSION

As you will see on the Village Events page, the Village Music Club presents a concert by 'Fourth Dimension' at 3 pm in St John's Church, Stansted, on Sunday, 24th January. This group of young musicians play in the modern style and will present an appealing programme of string quartets by Mozart, Dvorak and Ravel. Ticket prices are £7 adult, £3 children, £5 concessions and member's children at £1. Tickets are available in advance from Stansted Carpets, Chapel Hill, Stansted (01279 812019), Nockolds Solicitors, Market Square, Bishop's Stortford, Sonia Levy, 31 Chapel Hill, Stansted (01279 815282) and on the door. This concert is sponsored by D C Poulton & Sons, whose new offices are at 2 Chapel Hill, Stansted (01279 813219).



## Royal British Legion Women's Section

In November nearly forty members of the Women's Section and friends from the Royal British Legion enjoyed a social evening tucking into either fish and chips or ploughman's washed down with lashings of white wine - or orange juice, as preferred. Our thanks are due to those hard working ladies who prepared such delicious food. A raffle with a large selection of generous prizes completed the evening.

We meet again on Thursday 18th February 1999, at 7.30 pm in the Day Centre. Group Meeting is on Thursday 4th March.

Pat Clower

# Stansted Tennis Club



The leaves from the trees around the tennis courts have finally all dropped and with slightly drier weather the courts should be much more playable than they have been in the past couple of months. The club has also purchased a wonderful "roller sponge" which clears unwanted deluges in no time at all.

The next tournament date for your diary will be Sunday January 10th 1999. This will be a mixed round-robin tournament, with a curry lunch. The inclusive cost will be £5. If you would like to play please put your name down on the list in the clubhouse - 10 am arrival time.

Junior coaching with Chris Hollis continues through the winter months. The classes are held on a Saturday morning - ages 10-13, 9.00 - 9.45 am, followed by ages 7-10, 9.45 - 10.30 am. If you would like to join in or require further information please contact Chris on 644973.

If you would like to join 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.



## Computer Courses for January at HARLOW ITeC

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### **Basic Computing for absolute beginners**

Friday mornings or afternoons for 6 weeks  
Thursday evenings for 7 weeks

### **Introductory Wordprocessing, Spreadsheets and Database**

Friday mornings or afternoons for 12 weeks  
Thursday evenings for 14 weeks

### **Intermediate Wordprocessing, Spreadsheets and Database**

Thursday evenings for 14 weeks

Advance booking essential - please telephone  
01279 446556 for details and application form



From a local fund-raising point of view, we in the Stansted group have had a 'less than totally successful' time recently. On the 20th of October the illustrated talk 'Castles & Cathedrals' had to be deferred when the guest speaker, Mr. Keith Gibbs, got held up in a major traffic jam on the M11. Thank you to all who came along that evening and, as our transatlantic cousins say, we issued a 'rain-check' to everybody. We have now rescheduled the event for Tuesday 2nd February at the same venue.

On the 21st November we were to have held a Folk Music evening at the Day Centre but at the last moment Uttlesford District Council stepped in and told us we could not hold it without an entertainment licence. We tried to contact everybody we knew to be coming but to anyone who came along on the evening only to find a notice outside the door, we would like to extend our apologies. Correspondence on that debacle is still being exchanged with the UDC because we believe they could have been a bit more lenient given the circumstances. We hope to be able to reschedule that event also in the New Year.

Another date for your diary is Saturday 20th February at Mountfitchet High School when we will be holding a dance to the music of 'The Jim Freeman Sound' and, yes, the school is licensed for entertainment!!

HEAL Cancer Charity held its AGM in October. We heard that fund-raising is progressing well and some equipment has been purchased for use at the North Middlesex and King George's hospitals with Epping to follow soon. A holistic treatment centre is open on a 'one day a week' basis at the North Middlesex Hospital and opening is to be extended as soon as funds allow. Progress towards the CT Scanner Simulator has progressed far enough for exploratory work to be started on the choice of machine but there is still a very long way to go. We also heard that Helen Rollason, the TV sports presenter stricken with cancer of the liver, has agreed to become a patron of HEAL. You may have seen the TV programme 'Hope for Helen' recently. We wish her well in her brave fight and we look forward to working with her support in the future. Incidentally, I wonder how many of you know that John Inman of 'Are you being Served' fame is also a patron.

Thank you to everybody who has supported our events during the past year and we look forward to your continued support in the future.

Richard Thomas



Uttlesford Carers &  
Alzheimer's Disease Society

### CARERS' SUPPORT GROUP

A discussion of carers' issues  
over a cup of tea & biscuits  
2 - 4 pm Thursday 14th January  
Quaker Meeting House  
Everyone welcome  
Tel 01371 875810 / 872519



### THE VILLAGE MUSIC CLUB

#### FOURTH DIMENSION

String Quartets by Mozart,  
Dvorak & Ravel  
3.00 pm Sun 24th January  
St John's Church

Tickets from Stansted Carpets 812019  
Sonia Levy 815282 and at the door  
£7 adults £5 concessions £3 children



### Stansted Evening WI

#### JUMBLE SALE

2 pm Sat 30th January  
St John's Hall

Entrance 10 pence

Refreshments ~ Raffle  
Cake Stall

Tel 812725 for jumble collection

## VILLAGE EVENTS

### January

7	Thu	Local History Society	Day Centre 8 pm
11	Mon	Shalom Prayer & Praise	7 Blythwood Gardens 8 pm
11	Mon		
		to	
14	Thu	Skip at Crafton Green	
14	Thu	Uttlesford Carers W I	Quaker Meeting House 2 - 4 pm St John's Hall 7.30 pm
18	Mon	WEA resumes	Day Centre 7.30 pm
24	Sun	Village Music Club	St John's Church 3 pm
25	Mon	Shalom Group	4 Greenfields 8 pm
30	Sat	W I Jumble Sale	St John's Hall 2 pm

### February

2	Mon	HEAL Talk	Day Centre 7.30 for 8 pm
3	Wed	Garden Club	Day Centre 8 pm
4	Thu	Local History Society	Day Centre 8 pm
6	Sat	Cake Stall	Outside URC 10 am
8	Mon		
		to	
11	Thu	Skip at Crafton Green	
11	Thu	Uttlesford Carers W I	Quaker Meeting House 2 - 4 pm St John's Hall 7.30 pm
18	Thu	RBL (Women)	Day Centre 7.30 pm



### CASTLES & CATHEDRALS

Illustrated talk by Keith Gibbs

7.30 for 8 pm

Tuesday 2nd February

Day Centre

Entrance £2.50. Refreshments

### HOMEMADE CAKES

10.00 am

Sat 6th February

outside the

United Reformed Church



Chapel Hill

(in church if wet)

Has your organisation planned an event for February?

Why not advertise it on this page?

Please submit details in writing to 58 Chapel Hill  
by 14th January

Please note, all items are subject to the editor's approval.

### Stansted Parish Council



### Skip Dates

#### Mon - Thurs

11 - 14 January

8 - 11 February

#### Weekends

10am - 3.30 pm only

20 - 21 February

#### Mon - Thurs

15 - 18 March

19 - 22 April

#### NOTE

These dates **replace** those advised in the last edition of the *Village News*  
Compost Recycling begins again in April. Watch this space for dates!



### Stansted Evening WI

#### FASHION SHOW

by **ZOOM**

8 pm Fri 26th February

St John's Hall

Clothes in sizes 8 - 18 from  
High Street Stores

Something for everyone!



Stansted  
Liberal Democrats

### EUROPEAN EVENING

with Mike Gutteridge

Dancing - Supper - Bar

7.30 for 8 pm Sat 27th Feb

Ugley Village Hall

Entry £7.50 (by ticket only)

Tel 813080 or 813432

## BERTIE IN TROUBLE AGAIN!

It was a cold but bright day. There had been snow in the night but the wind had blown some of it away from the top of the meadow so it was not too deep for the Bouncer children to play. They came out from their home under the old railway station wearing the woolly hats, scarves and gloves that Grandma had made for them all for Christmas presents. Baby's were pink, Bunty had dark blue and Bluebell light blue. Bertie's were red and Billy's green, and they all knew their own colour so could not get them mixed up. Dad had made a sledge already in case it snowed and the children took turns towing each other about on it. They played snow balls, built a snowman and generally had a good time. All too soon it seemed it was time to go home. "Where's Bertie?" asked Mum.

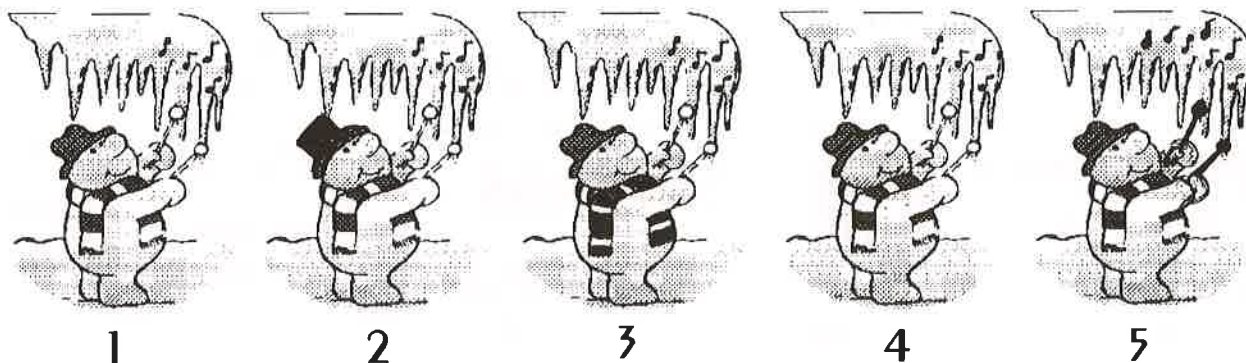
Bertie was feeling cold, hungry and very sorry for himself but he knew it was all his own fault. Mum would say, "Bertie, will you never learn?" and Dad would explain that he really must stop and think! He had got tired of waiting for his turn on the sledge and had found a piece of plank to ride on but he forgot that the slope in the meadow got steeper. He was half way down when he remembered what had happened last summer when Baby's pram had run away with him and he had ended up in a bed of stinging nettles. This time he was heading for a snowdrift.



At home, the Bouncers were worrying when Bertie did not come in for tea. Dad and Billy loaded the sledge with things they thought they might need to rescue Bertie from whatever trouble he had got into this time. They soon found tracks where Bertie's plank had been and followed them down the meadow, but at first they could not find him. Then Billy spotted a red woolly bobble sticking out of the snow. It was on Bertie's new hat and he was underneath it. It was a struggle getting him out, onto the sledge and back home again, as Bertie was stiff with cold.

Bertie was tucked up in bed and Mrs Bouncer made him one of her special hot drinks with mint and other herbs in it. "I really will try not to get into trouble again," he murmured as he fell asleep, but do you think he will?

### WHICH TWO PICTURES ARE THE SAME?



**Profile Series No. 8**

**PHYLLIS HARRISON**

Phyllis, who was Editor of the Link for 10 years, is very much part of all Stansted's activities, although she lives in Ugley Green. She, and her late husband, Bruce, have been active member of Stansted's Methodists since they moved from London in 1972.

Phyllis, a Scot (though neither dour nor mean!) spent her early youth in Perth and Dumfries; her father was a Church of Scotland Minister and missionary. At 9 years old she won a place to Oxford University but, eventually, went to London University, where she gained a degree in French and German.

She was staying with French friends in the Pyrenees when the Second World War broke out and she has an adventurous journey back to England. She worked for a time in the Ministry of Information, but her peace-loving nature led her to a Conscientious Objector's Tribunal. She then did youth work in the Docklands during the London Blitz - and also edited the Churches' Newsletter "The Nearer East". In 1946 she went with the Friends Relief Service back to the Pyrenees to help the refugees from the Spanish Civil War who had been interned - and ruthlessly treated - by the Germans when they occupied France. The Service set up training workshops for carpentry and shoe making, and they also made artificial limbs - as many of the refugees were amputees. Refugees of other nationalities joined the Spaniards - and Phyllis remains in touch with one of the Russians she first met there. During this time she went to Spain (pretending she had come from England) and under cover visited some of the families of the refugees she was helping. She met Bruce some years before as he, like her brother, had worked during the War with the Forestry Commission;

and they were married in 1948. They lived for the next 24 years in North London and had three children - Roger, Claire and Andrew, the latter well known as an actor in Riding Lights. Phyllis's activities were inevitably more home based - Brownies, Guides, etc, not to mention a stream of overseas visitors, many of them ex-refugees. She did manage to fit in several rock-climbing exploits in Derbyshire with her troop of Rangers!

The family moved to Ugley Green in 1972, when the boys were attending Bishop's Stortford College. As well as becoming a Care Assistant at Elmhurst Home for the Elderly, Phyllis was a founder member of Bishop's Stortford Citizens Advice Bureau. Her wisdom and common sense made her a very valued member of the team. I first met Phyllis then and remember, with delight, hearing her 'odes' on various members of staff as they left - highlighting their characteristics and not forgetting to mention their blemishes! More recently I heard her verses on Michael Hayman's retirement - both hilarious and profound. Her acting ability is well-known - a Lady Bracknell that will not be soon forgotten!

Churches Together in Stansted has benefited greatly from Phyllis's insight; the formation of RAP and the exchange visits with Chevetogne are two of her brainchildren; the next bright idea is expected soon! To all her other activities has recently been added helping at the Cambridge Emmaus Centre.

Bruce's death six years ago has meant carrying on their joint activities alone, which her unbounded energy and faith have enabled her to do.

It was typical of this devoted and enterprising couple that the celebration of their 70th birthdays was a Himalayan walk in Nepal!

Katherine Hurford



**THE LINK RECIPE OF THE MONTH**

We shall resume our series of recipes next month. Do you have a favourite one (or more) which you would like to share? If so, we would be delighted to publish them. Just slip your contribution into 58 Chapel Hill as soon as convenient.

# STANSTED JUNIOR



This photograph shows all the Junior Football Club players and their coaches on the occasion of their Presentation Night held in June. 1998 was the Club's 20th year.



## **THE SWIFTS TEAM (under 9 y.o.'s)**

Back Row

Daniel Debley, Luke Moralee, Jonathan Pearman, Freddie Kirby, Mike Moralee (manager)

Front Row

Robert Dunbar, Robert Eldridge, Matthew Berry, Jack Lenton, Simon Hendricks

# FOOTBALL CLUB

The Club was officially founded in 1985 although its origins date from 1978.

Our juniors club has over 300 boys on the books and currently 7 teams. The ages run from under 8's to under 16's. The teams all play in the Sunday leagues of Harlow and we also have an under 9's that play in the newly formed Bishop's Stortford Saturday League.

We have a chairman/secretary/treasurer and each of the committee do a bit of fund raising. The committee meet each month to organise forthcoming events and, obviously, to sort out fixtures, pitches, etc.

The club has also run its own fanzine for over a year now (the boy done good) which has seen its sales go from 40 to just over 100 for the current issue. This has recently been covered by the Herts & Essex Observer, which gave us a great write up. We charge £1 for the fanzine and every penny made goes straight back into the club and to the benefit of the boys.

Each team has the traditional black and blue striped kit (similar to that of Inter Milan, who incidentally, kindly donated a shirt to the club last year). Like all clubs of our size, we are always looking for new ideas for fund raising, so that the club can run as smooth as possible.

Our current chairman, Dick Moore, is due to retire at the end of the season and, again, we will be looking for someone to fill the position. Dick has been with the club for many years and will be greatly missed by all who know him. There is so much more to running the club than most would think. This includes holding our

presentation night (in June) and involves getting all the boy's medals and trophies for those who are lucky enough to win! We also have to run to strict guidelines laid down by the county FA; each boy has to be registered to play for both insurance reasons and to make sure no cheating goes on!

We held our last fund raising event on December 13th at Hargrave Park, Stansted. This included both a quiz for children and one for adults. After the quiz there was an auction of an autographed football, donated by Manchester United, and an autographed photo sent to us from the Prime Minister. We thank everyone for the support they gave us and the help they provided towards the boys and girls of the village.

The Club's officers are:

Chairman - Dick Moore

Secretary - Mike Moralee

Treasurer - Danny Haylett

Commercial manager - Luke Pearman

Managers:

Spartans - Glyn Warwick

Swifts - Mike Moralee

Scorpions - Tony Matthews

Comets - Glyn Warwick

Santos - Danny Haylett

Continental - Dick Moore

Crusaders - Greg Wood

Fanzine Editor - Luke Pearman

If there are any boys who want to join, please call Mick (814603), Dick (816975) or Luke (813769) for details.

Thank you for taking time to read this report and thanks to The Link magazine from Luke Pearman and all connected with the club

**Free!!**

(a small donation to Link funds is suggested)

The following items are in good condition and surplus to requirements. If you could make good use of them (or know anyone else who could), then please give us a ring.

Local delivery may be possible.

**Pink hessian-backed carpet 12ft x 15ft**

**Two veneered bookcases**

**White melamine double wardrobe**

**Photocopier (needs attention, very heavy)**

**Foam mattress (double)**

**2 black ash Hi Fi cabinets on wheels**

**Set glass topped occasional tables**

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Monochrome display

Includes software, mouse and manuals

**Epson LX800**

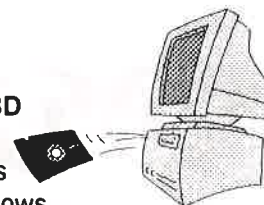
9 pin dot matrix printer and manual

These are in full working order and have served

"The Link" book-keeping well, but we have now

upgraded to something a bit faster!

Please call Janet on 812593 if interested



**UTTLESFORD CARERS AND ALZHEIMER'S  
SOCIETY- SUPPORT GROUP**

Our next meeting will be on **Thursday January 14th, 2-4 pm** at the Quaker Meeting House, Chapel Hill.

At this meeting **Angela Lever, Solicitor**, will be talking about **Enduring Powers of Attorney** and other legal matters of interest to carers.

February meeting - Thursday 11th February.

Margaret Whitelaw



Our next course "Britain in Medieval Europe" will mean a return visit to Stansted of the lecturer, Dr Rosemary Morris, who took "King Arthur" with us some years ago. This time she will explain the melting pot that made up our population; Celts, Angles, Saxons, Vikings, all of whom lived in the "Dark Ages" in Britain; then the Norman arrival and the gradual development of Britain. As a nation we absorbed Europe's culture, Christianity, language, literature and the arts; and the influence was two-way. There was the importance of Britain's trade with Europe, Royal treaties and wars. Dr Morris will also trace the connections between the British experience in the Middle Ages and modern, and very pertinent, attitudes to Europe today.

This will be a ten week course on Monday evenings at the Day Centre, starting on **January 18th**. The first evening enrolment will be between 7.30 and 8, with the lecture to start at 8 pm. As usual we look forward to meeting old friends and to welcoming new members.

If you have any queries please ring Jean McBride, 812214.



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# Stansted

## Art & Craft Market

**OCTOBER 31 AND NOVEMBER 1, 1998**

This year's Market was hugely successful, maintaining the past format of an annual event with local artists and crafters and held within the charming setting of the Community Education Centre in Lower Street. With the addition of many new crafters and live demonstrations of wood-turning and silk painting to name just two, the event attracted 1000 visitors, 25% more than last year, with record takings over the weekend.

Local beneficiaries of the profits include local schools, Stansted in Bloom, village playgroups, the Youth Centre, the United Reformed Church, Homestart and the Stansted Trust, Neighbourhood Watch, Crossroads, the Talking Newspaper for the Blind and The Link. In addition, the raffle was won by local people; we thank those who donated the prizes.

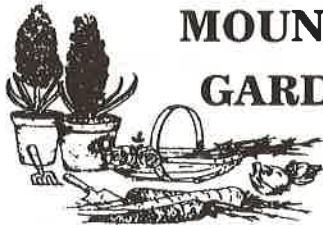
The Committee were particularly pleased that the event attracted visitors from far and wide, some even travelling from other Home Counties seventy miles away. The committee would like to thank all those who attended including the local artists and crafters, some of whom have already pledged to return next year. On behalf of the local community, I wish to thank all those who have served on the committee and helped to organise such an outstandingly successful village fund-raising event. I am confident this will provide a springboard for further success next year. Anyone who is interested in joining the committee should contact either Rachel Mortishire-Smith (816837) or myself.

Philip Duly  
(816053)

### Answer to Children's Puzzle

Pictures no. 1 & 4 are the same.





## MOUNTFITCHET GARDEN CLUB

At our meeting on December 2nd the speaker was Mr Peter Blackburn-Maze who gave a very entertaining talk called "Not Everything in the Garden is Lovely". The subject mainly concerned pests, etc. found in the garden.

The monthly competition, which this month was for the best photo of something you hate in your garden was won by Mr Bob Adamson. The evening closed with our Christmas Party.

As there is no meeting in January, the next will be February 3rd when the speaker will be Mr Derek James talking on geraniums (pelargoniums).



### Forthcoming Events:

A European Evening with Mike Gutteridge - folk music with dancing, supper and bar on. Saturday 27th February 1999 at Ugley Village Hall 7.30 for 8.00 pm. Entrance (by ticket only) £7.50 Ring 813080 or 813432 for tickets and more information.

An Auction of Promises, Saffron Walden Library on Saturday February 13th at 8.00 pm. Come and buy and provide promises or small good quality articles to be auctioned. For more information ring Mary Asinya on 815417.

Chairman: Steve Riley 815455



## STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Mulled wine or fruit cup on arrival put members in a mellow mood at the December meeting. Tony Rook, author, archaeologist, university lecturer and much more, was the speaker on 'Hertfordshire'. With the aid of slides he took us through the county's history from the geological formation to the transport communication systems, which all contributed to Hertfordshire as it is today. His talk, informative and humorous, was followed by mince pies and coffee, with a chance to chat and look at Tony Rook's books.

A home-grown product for the next meeting on Thursday 7th January when there will be contributions from members, including Tony Wellings on 'Canals' and Steve Welch with 'Family Letters'. Having had speakers on the history of other Stansted Churches, on 4th February it is the turn of the Roman Catholic Church in this area with a member of St Theresa's Church. Both meetings are at 8 pm in the Day Centre.

Perhaps some of you have wondered what the History Society logo signifies? This is taken from the design on a Roman "intaglio" (stone from a finger ring) which shows the Greek hero Diomedes stealing the Palladium (good luck trophy) from the Trojans. This was a war scene well known to Roman soldiers. The stone was found at the Airport Catering Site to the north-east of Bassingbourne Hall when excavations were being carried out for the new airport buildings.



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## The Story of Albrecht Dürer

As you read this poem  
Perhaps you'd like to know  
That this story really happened  
Many centuries ago  
When two talented young artists  
Were struggling hard to earn  
Just enough to live on  
So both of them might learn  
How to be great artists  
And leave behind a name  
That many centuries later  
Would still retain its fame.  
But in their dire necessity  
For the warmth of food and fire,  
One of the artists sacrificed  
His dream and heart's desire  
So he might earn a living  
And provide enough to eat  
'Til both of them were back again  
Securely on their feet...  
But months and years of gruelling toil  
Destroyed the craftsman's touch,  
And scarred and stiffened were the hands  
That held promise of so much,  
He could no longer hold a brush  
The way he used to do,  
And the dream he once had cherished,  
No longer could come true...

So uncomplainingly he lived  
With his friend who had succeeded  
Who now could purchase all the things  
They once had so much needed...  
But the famous *Albrecht Dürer*,  
The friend we're speaking of,  
Was always conscious that he owed  
A debt of thanks and love  
To one who sacrificed his skill  
So that Dürer might succeed,  
But how can anyone repay  
A sacrificial deed?  
But when he saw these hands in prayer  
He decided he would paint  
A picture for the world to see  
Of this 'unheralded saint'...  
So down through countless ages  
And in many, many lands  
All man could see the beauty  
In these toilworn praying hands...  
And seeing, they would recognize  
That behind Fame and Success  
Somebody sacrificed a dream  
For another's happiness.

*Helen Steiner Rice*





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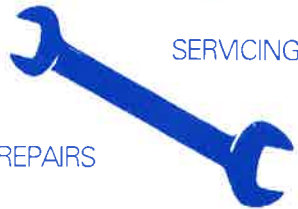
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