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The Link (price £3 per year) is published monthly by Churches Together in Stansted
All enquiries to Janet Townsend Tel 01279 812593

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Copy to reach 58 Chapel Hill or email to editor.thelink@stansted.net

14th October for publication on 31st October 11th November for publication on 28th November

Roman Catholic

St Theresa's Church, Millside

Priest Rev'd Joe White

The Prebytery
12 Millside
Stansted

Tel 01279 814349

Masses Saturday

6 pm

Sunday

10.30 am

Weekdays

9.30 am

(Tues-Sat)

Baptisms

11 July Jack Ewington
25 July George Tillbrook
22 August Louis Jones
5 September India Gill

THINGS OLD AND NEW

As we come to the end of the second millennium in the life of the Christian Church we are grateful for the sense of history, continuity and Living Faith that is still present in our world and our lives, despite many problems and obstacles. Our Faith gives presence, direction and support to our lives.

In the parish of St Theresa we are presently focusing on building our new Church during the millennium. At the moment we are looking at church designs and to help us in the process we have an experienced Church Architect. We aim to be finished, or nearly finished, for the feast of St Theresa on 1st October 2000. We hope that something of a millennium theme may be incorporated in the finished work. On Sunday 12th some of our parishioners visited the ancient Carmelite Friary near Aylesford in Kent which was restored this century. St Theresa was, of course, a Carmelite Nun so our visit had a personal element to it. The Carmelite Order has its origins in the twelfth century when a group of hermits settled on Mount Carmel (hence the name Carmelite). The sacred scriptures speak of the beauty of Mount Carmel where the prophet Elijah defended the Faith of the people of Israel in the Living God. The Carmelite Order leads a contemplative life-style under the patronage of the Mother of God.

As we end one millennium and look forward to a new one I am reminded of a few words of St Augustine about God: "Oh Beauty, so ancient and so new".

Fr Joe White

United Reformed

Chapel Hill

Ministers

Rev'd David Simpson

Rev'd Lydia Rapkin 23a St John's Close Saffron Walden Tel 01799 523296

Contact Mrs Janet Townsend 58 Chapel Hill Tel 01279 812593

Preachers for October

3rd 11 am Mr M Dyer 6.30 pm C,T.S. Harvest in St John's followed by Supper 11 am 10th Rev D Simpson 17th 11 am Rev D Simpson Communion 24th 11 am Rev L Rapkin 6.30 pm One World Week Service in Quaker Meeting House 31st 11 am Mr J Thorne

Marriage

11th September Christine Potter to Stephen Winter

A packed church on 3rd September helped to make the Induction of Rev David Simpson to the Pastorate of the Stansted Group and Abbey Lane, Saffron Walden, a memorable occasion. Among the 200 people were a coach party from Amersham Free Church where David had been a non-stipendiary minister for three years before completing his M.A. at Westminster College, Cambridge. Local clergy and members of other denominations in the village gave him the Right Hand of Fellowship during the service. After the service a reception was held in the Lecture Hall to meet David and his wife, Sylvia, informally.

The November cake stall will be in the Lecture Hall as part of our Annual Bazaar on November 6th, beginning at 10 am. There will be other stalls including plants, fancy gifts, household and books. See you there.





Church of England

St John the Evangelist, St John's Road

Rector Rev'd Andrew Spurr

The Rectory, St John's Road

Stansted

Tel: 01279 812203

Email:

Benefice Office

Tel: 01279 815243

Email:

Services for October

Sundays

8 am Holy Communion

9.30 am Parish Communion

11 am Family Service (17th October only)

6.30 pm Evening Service (Harvest Festival on 3rd October)

Wednesdays

10 am Holy Communion

7.30 pm CTS Prayers

From the Registers and other sources

Baptisms

18th July

Phil Webb

at Bishop's Stortford Baptist Church

25th July

Nicholas James Hodges

son of Keith and Jessica Hodges

Weddings

13th August

Michael Geoffrey Alner and

Kizzy Samantha Jayne Doherty

11th September

Mark John Mannering and

LucyHarriet Williams

11th September

Richard Victor Nealms Berks and

Catharine Frances Essery

Funerals

Dr Peter C Richardson, aged 67 years,

at St Theresa's Catholic Church, Stansted

Basil John Childs, aged 67 years

Cyril H Moore, aged 71 years

Florence L Watson, aged 86 years

Annie May Rose, aged 92 years

At Stansted United Reformed Church

Arthur J Sapsford, aged 57 years

Angela M Dodwell, aged 69 years

CHANGE EVERYWHERE BUT AT HOME

Wherever you turn it is difficult to avoid hearing about change and challenges. Although for the most part people claim how well they cope with this fast changing environment or even seek and enjoy new, heartstopping experiences such as bungee jumping or white water rafting, it never ceases to surprise at the fear which change or challenge causes when it relates to our experience in Church. Almost without exception, any move from that which is familiar provokes angry reactions. Why, when we handle change in virtually every other sphere of life, and indeed often welcome it, are we so afraid of it in the expression of our faith?

Indeed why are we so reluctant to challenge our faith and the way in which we share this faith? Is it because it represents a safe haven in a world of change or is it because we fear what we may learn if we question our corporate worship and indeed our own deepest beliefs?

Each week, and year by year, we hear the familiar stories and teachings from the Gospels but what conclusions do we draw from the life of Our Saviour and the experiences of the young Church? It cannot be the sense of the passive or the unchanging. Whilst recognising the history and the traditions of the Jewish people, Jesus, his disciples and their followers were revolutionaries in terms of their faith and the way it was expressed in their daily lives. The establishment of the age was right to see a threat to their way of thinking and living because the mission of Christ demands our commitment to change within ourselves, in our behaviour towards one another and in our relationship with God.

The Church, therefore, has to be dynamic, to respond to the continuous changes in society whilst standing firm and unchanging on the foundations of our faith in God, in the life, death and resurrection of Our Lord and in the gift of the Holy Spirit. His followers should bubble with the excitement and joy in this message with music, forms of words, buildings and church bureaucracy only important inasmuch as they further the mission. So if we relish, or at least cope with, change and challenges in every other area of our lives, let us do likewise in the Church which may then become surprisingly relevant to many more people.

Peter Jones

HARVEST CELEBRATIONS

This years Harvest Celebrations are on Sunday, 3rd October. There is a Harvest Evening Service in St John's at 6.30 pm. This will be followed by a Harvest Celebration with bring and share finger buffet in the Friend's Meeting House, Chapel Hill at 7.15 pm.



Methodist

Meets in Quaker Meeting House, Chapel Hill

Minister

Rev'd John Graham

2 South Road Bishop's Stortford Tel 01279 654475

Secretary

Mrs Catherine Dean

49 Receation Ground

Stansted

Tel 01279 813579

Services and Preachers for October

3rd Michael Valentine 10th Christine Heyhoe 17th Rev James Gill 24th Don McGregor

31st Rev John Graham - Holy Communion

We shall also be sharing in the joint worship for Harvest on 3rd October at St John's Church starting at 6.30 pm and in the service for One World Week on 24th October at 6.30 pm at the Friends Meeting House.

Church Council AGM - Friday 8th October at 8 pm





October 4th

Venue 4 Greenfields

Tony Miller of White Chapel mission

A talk on their work and needs

October 18th

Venue Quaker/Friends Meeting House

Chapel Hill Bible Study

November 1st

Venue Quaker/Friends Meeting House

Chapel Hill

Group Discussion

Genetically Modified Foods

All very welcome at these ecumenical meetings.

Society of Friends

Quaker Meeting House, Chapel Hill

Clerk

Mrs Anthea Lee 24 Lea Close Bishop's Stortford Tel 01279 656707

Meeting:

Sunday 11 am

Some people may have heard of the 'Quaker Tapestry'. This is not something ancient but a modern attempt to portray the Quaker story and experience in the form of 77 panels of tapestry, in a similar style and stitch to the Bayeux Tapestry. The first panel was produced in 1982 and the rest added over the next twelve yeas or so. It eventually involved 4000 people in 15 countries, with some panels being sewn by individuals and some the work of a whole Quaker meeting, with everyone doing a part. The entire tapestry is now housed in the Meeting House at Kendal in the Lake District, but excellent reproductions are used for exhibitions and posters are available.

We have just bought six posters for the Meeting House in Stansted and have had them framed. Three will always be displayed in the main meeting room. They cover a variety of topics from the tapestry, including the title page, the Prism, showing George Fox's vision of the 'Divine Light', the intricate flowers to illustrate the work of Quaker botanists and the panel depicting the worldwide 'Family of Friends' today. On the historical side, there are panels which include one of George Fox, founder of Quakerism, preaching to a large gathering on Firbank Fell, another showing the ironworks at Coalbrookdale, where the Quaker family, the Darby's, pioneered the use of iron, and a third with details of the life and work of Elizabeth Fry, another famous Quaker.

We plan to add a written description for each picture and hope that, at some time, people in Stansted will be able to see them.





The AGM will be on Tuesday 19th October 1999 in the URC Lecture Hall. There will be refreshments served from 7.30 pm. At 8 pm Sr. Mairead Butterly of the Refugee Development Project will be the speaker. After this the business meeting will take place.

One World Week - a United Service will be held on Sunday 24th October at 6.30 pm at the Friends Meeting House.

Harvest - There will be a Harvest Celebration at the Friends Meeting House on 3rd October starting between 7 and 7.15 pm and following the Harvest Festival service at St John's Church (6.30 pm). There is a bring and share finger food supper.



We believe in life before death

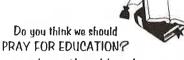
Update on the debt relief campaign - the 1999 G8 Summit made considerable progress towards relieving the debt of poor countries. The summit agreed to cancel a further \$16 billion worth of debts and to finally honour the \$84 billion of debt relief promised - but never actually released - during the past 21 years. In addition to this a reduction in the wait for cancellation from six years to three was announced.

There is still a long way to go and Christian Aid is now looking to the G8 Summit in the year 2000 for a definitive solution to the debt crisis. Many of the world's poorest countries still have to pay more on debts than on health care or education. Also the IMF reform packages have harmed some countries and in Christian Aid's view are an unnecessary obstacle to the debts being written off. I still have some debt lapel chains for sale at £1 each if anybody would like one.

Make giving go further with Millennium Gift Aid. If you are a taxpayer you have a special opportunity to make a gift of £100 or more before 31st December 2000 and the Inland Revenue will give Christian Aid the basic rate tax paid on that amount. You can give the gift in instalments if you wish and it will be worth nearly one third more. Gordon Brown has said "I want the Millennium to be remembered not just nationally but internationally for the redemption of debt and the reduction of world poverty".

I have details of this scheme for anyone who is interested.

Catherine Dean



If the answer is yes, please join us for a

PRAYER MEETING

on Wednesday 6th October

In Ugley Village Hall

at 7.45pm

Tea, coffee, a chance to share & pray for all aspects of education & school life.

We'd love to see you there. For more information please contact
Vicki Sweeney on 01279 461367



THE EFFECTIVE CHRISTIAN GOVERNOR'

Are you a school governor, or interested in becoming one? If so please read on......

CARE will lead a session on 'The effective Christian governor' on Monday 22nd November, in

St Mary's Church Hall, Saffron Walden at 7.30pm CARE are a large organisation with extensive knowledge of education.

There will be a charge for the session but it will provide practical help, encouragement and ideas for Christian governors in our schools.

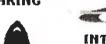
If you are interested please contact Vickl Sweeney 01279 461367 or Laurle Bond 01799 521004

STORT VALLEY SCHOOLS TRUST



GOOD FRIDAY PROJECT

SOARING







FUTURE

Marion Johnson would like to take the children into the next millennium with a one-off "Good Friday Project". The day will involve a journey into space with all the excitement of preparation and participation. Helpers are needed so that the children who take part will know that the Millennium is all about the Life of Jesus.

If you have helped in the past, if you took part as a child many years ago, if you have no idea what a project involves, you are the person we need. Please contact Marion on 01279 812284 if you would like to help or want to know more. Good Friday in the year 2000 is on April 21st.

Marion G Johnson

Essex County Council Report

Unlike Parish and District Councils, County Councils sit by day and, as a result, Councillors spend much time at County hall by day and thereafter many evenings meeting the Electorate. As can be imagined, it is time-consuming work which, although rewarding, requires commitment and dedication.

Having made this point, I think it is sensible now to turn to an issue which might concern many amongst the Electorate and which has been the subject of much discussion in the Press. This is the question of Old People's Homes, their closure or disposal. This has become a political issue mainly because all parties have a differing view of how this matter should be managed. No Party believes that old people in residential homes should be thrown out and onto the street. No Party believes that old people should suffer in any way whilst changes are made.

The issue is whether the County Council should manage and staff Homes itself with all the associated management costs and overheads, or whether the task should be put out to competitive contract overseen by the County Council staff. When the new Council sessions begin the battle will be joined to resolve this issue. No doubt the result will be published in due course in the Press. Meanwhile, should any reader wish to comment, views will be welcomed either in writing or by telephone (01279 812471) to the undersigned.

Your County councillor Richard Wallace Stansted Division

Uttlesford District Council Report

Councils are seen by some as irrelevant, ineffective and unaccountable, but it is local government that provides the services that most affect our everyday lives. Uttlesford District Council represents Stansted's second tier of local government. The other tiers are the Parish Council and the County Council. Uttlesford provides services such as Town and country Planning, Environmental health, Housing and Leisure Services. The council grant aids a large number of voluntary organisations in the district. Recent examples include £2625 for Stansted Bowling Club and £500 for the Stansted Village Music Club. It also awarded the Parish Council £1306 for new play equipment.

The Leisure Centre

Uttlesford recently received the good news that its Private Finance Initiative (PFI) Scheme for Stansted Leisure Centre has got the go ahead from the Government. The project involves building a £2 million Leisure Centre situated at the Mountfitchet High School. The facilities will include a sports hall, fitness suite and dance studio. Building work is expected to start next spring with a view to opening before the end of 2001. How does PFI work? Instead of paying companies directly to build public sector projects, the Government signs a sort of hire purchase agreement with them. The companies foot the bill for the investment and the Government pays them back over a 25 to 35 year period. The big attraction for the Government is that, at a time when it has been tightening its belt, PFI is a way of getting new projects witthout having to pay the upfront costs.

The Airport

Stansted Airport is the major employer in the district and many residents find it convenient to have an international airport on their doorstep. However, as the fastest growing airport in the country, it does bring in its wake environmental problems such as noise, pollution and traffic congestion. These are some of the reasons why Uttlesford, together with other local authorities, asked the Government to limit aircraft movements to 150,000 a year. Cargo aircraft movements are not included and are unrestricted. The Government have, however, rejected Uttlesford's request and have given the go-ahead for a 50% increase in the number of flights from its present annual limit of 120,000 to 185,000. This will take effect from March 2000, 185,000 aircraft movements have been based on aircraft having an average of 81 passengers on board. However, the important point that appears to have been totally overlooked is that the small aircraft used at Stansted are being phased out over the next two years by the airlines and being replaced by larger and more fuel efficient types. Also, all new airlines starting up and those increasing their fleets, i.e. Go and Ryanair, are using aircraft up to 50% larger, i.e. approximately 170 seats,

Uttlesford on the Internet

As more and more people are signing up to the internet, readers may like to know that Uttlesford has its own site at www.uttlesford.gov.uk. Its Email address where both councillors and officers can be contacted is postroom@uttlesford.gov.uk.

Geoffrey Sell

Immediate Issues

This year's "summer recess" usually means no council meetings in August. Unfortunately this year the break from meetings all but disappeared. The start of August saw discussions about bold plans to ramp up the amount of household waste we all recycle. In the middle of the month there was a meting with Stansted's young people about problems at the railway station and plans to improve village activities for the young. Before the normally quiet month was out there were meetings on leisure, recruiting a new chief executive for the council and how Uttlesford is to respond to the Government's call to "modernise" the way it makes decisions. In theory, this past point could mean that by next year there would be fewer committee meetings (especially in August?). The reality may be very different!

Good news did come out of the summer "break". The Government has approved a funding scheme for the long awaited fitness and leisure centre at the Mountfitchet High School. It should be open within two years. Stansted residents have a good record on recycling waste and around the end of the year will be given a green recycling box for other dry materials. This will be collected on the alternate week to the present paper collection. The other good news, hot off the press, is that Railtrack have removed their previous objections to siting a skateboard ramp at the far end of the car park on the former sidings. And for those who have 20p to spend, the public conveniences at the car park are at last in service. The missing water supply is connected!

Alan Dean



has resumed Tuesdays 2.30 - 3.30 pm Youth & Adult Centre

Everyone Welcome

For more information please tel 812725 OR 813080



Stansted Parish Council

AUTUMN VILLAGE CLEAN UP

2 - 4 pm Sun 10th October

Lend a hand and have a laugh whilst cleaning up a few of our local eyesores. Old clothes. Free tea & buns afterwards!

Meet at Crafton Green

Stansted & District **Liberal Democrats**

QUIZ EVENING

7 for 7.30 pm Sat 16th Oct Day Centre

Refreshments ~ Bar Tickets £5 Please tel 813432 or 813080

VILLAGE EVENTS

October

4

2 Sat Cake Stall

Cricket Club Jumble M'fitchet Seniors Sale

3 Sun Windmill open

Mon Shalom Group 4-7 Mon-Thu Skip at Railway Sidings

5 Tue RBL Talk & Supper

6 Wed Mountfitchet Seniors Garden Club

7 Thu Local History Society

9 Rainbow Pre-School Jumble Sat

10 Sun Green Waste Skip Village Clean Up

14 Thu WI

16 Sat Bentfield PTA Race Night

18 Mon Shalom Group

20 Wed Mountfitchet Seniors

21 Thu RBL (Women) AGM

> Sat Art & Craft Market Village Music Club

31 Sun Art & Craft Market Piano Masterclass

November

30

1 Mon Shalom Group

3 Wed Mountfitchet Seniors Garden Club

4 Thu Local History Society

5 Fri Sparkler Party

6 Sat Bazaar & Cake Stall Green Waste Skip

Village Bonfire & Fireworks

11 Thu WI

13 Sat Shopping Trip to Norwich

Skip at Railway Sidings

14 Sun M'fitchet Seniors Craft Fair Skip at Railway Sidings

4 Greenfields 8 pm 7.30 am - 3 pm Day Centre 7.30 pm

Outside URC 10 am

2 - 6 pm

Hargrave Ground 2 pm

Day Centre 10 am - noon

Day Centre 2 - 4 pm

Day Centre 8 pm Day Centre 8 pm

St John's Hall Railway Sidings 1 - 4 pm meet Crafton Green 2 pm

St John's Hall 7.30 pm

Bentfield School

Quaker Meeting House 8 pm

Day Centre 2 - 4 pm Day Centre 7.30 pm

Youth Centre 10.30 - 4.30 pm

St John's Church 8 pm Youth Centre 10.30 - 4.30 pm St John's Church 2 pm

Quaker Meeting House 8 pm

Day Centre 2 - 4 pm Day Centre 8 pm Day Centre 8 pm

Bentfield School

URC Hall 10 am

Railway Sidings 1 - 4 pm Mountfitchet School 6.30 pm

St John's Hall 7.30 pm meet Sworders 8 am

7.30 am - 3 pm

Day Centre 10 am - 4 pm

7.30 am - 3 pm

Stansted Parish Council Skip Dates

Mon - Thurs

7.30 am - 3 pm 4 - 7 October

6 - 9 December

Weekends

7.30 am - 3 pm

13 - 14 November

Green Waste

1 - 4 pmSun 10 October

Sat 6 November



THE VILLAGE MUSIC CLUB

BERNARD ROBERTS Piano

Beethoven, Haydn, Debussy & Brahms

8 pm Sat 30th October St John's Church

PIANO MASTERCLASS

2 pm Sun 31st Oct St John's Church

Tickets from

Stansted Carpets Chapel Hill 812019 Nockolds Bishop's Stortford Sonia Levy 815282 and at the door £7 adults £5 concessions £3 children Masterclass £4 adults £3 concessions



ANNUAL BAZAAR

10 am Sat 6th Nov URC Hall

Plants ~ Books ~ Cakes Household Goods Refreshments



Christmas Shopping in Norwich

Saturday 13th 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



Peter is pictured above practising his calling - and in full uniform: white coat and stethoscope in evidence. His commitment to the ideals of the NHS, founded just three years before he became a medical student, was life-long; his commitment to NHS spectacle frames, also depicted, evaporated at some point during his fifties.

Peter Richardson was born in Clynderwen, Pembrokeshire in 1932. His mother. Eira (a resident of Stansted since 1983) was Welsh, his father, Leslie, was English and worked for the Great Western Railway. The family moved to Didcot, mg near Oxford, in 1939 Peter attended the nearby Abingdon School, leaving after Higher School Certificate in 1950. His father's health had slowly worsened through most of this period and Les had died in 1949.

Peter went up to London University and studied Medicine at and practised principally at The London until appointed Consultant Physician in General Medicine at the Harlow MB 01 group of hospitals in 1972. He and Judith a paediatrician. married in the same year. The third major life-enhancing change of that year was their buying a house in Brewery Lane, and moving to Stansted. Twin sons, John and David, were born in 1973, ad 1 abluorla) Green Waste

100 + 100

Sun 10 October

sat 6 November

A great day out - All Welcome Tel Pearl Welfings 813614

Organised by Stansted Evening W I

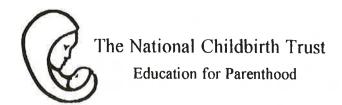
Peter's main hospital was initially the Herts & Essex in Bishop's Stortford, latterly Princess Alexandra, Harlow, He therefore treated a great many Stansted residents over almost a quarter of a century. He relished the breadth of general hospital medicine, and also enjoyed developing his interest in gastroenterology as constant progress in medical science and procedure demanded increasing specialisation. Patients with chronic conditions needing painstaking diagnosis and on-going management particularly engaged both his intellectual and human interest and allowed the development of long-term doctor-patient relationships. The collegiality of medicine and the help and support he received from the many people and jobs that make up a good hospital was the other main aspect that sustained and motivated him throughout his working life.

In all this he fulfilled an ambition he had held since the age of seven. That this was formed without family precedent of university education demonstrates considerable independence: that he remained constant to it throughout sixty years, great determination and sense of purpose.

Music, particularly Mozart and opera, ideally combined, was his main relaxation: gardening his main recreation. Retirement in 1995 briefly allowed him more time to enjoy these but he was already ill. His last eight months saw him effectively chair-bound, but he was sustained by Judith; also by a faith which was as retiring and as understated as his nature, but as long-standing and as determined as the pursuit of his profession.

Gentle and modest sometimes to a fault, and sometimes more conscious of his limitations than his abilities, Peter never quite seemed to trust - even in the face of private reassurance - that he was valued and loved by patients, colleagues and friends in Stansted and elsewhere - not least for his sense of humour. This ranged from the erudite to the risqué depending on his audience. An anecdote he would occasionally tell, always with a wry smile and characteristic touch of self-deprecation, reveals much about Peter: in a London bye-election during the sixties, he once voted for the Communist candidate, for no other reason than a fear "the poor chap would lose his deposit". Precisely nothing can be deduced from this about his politics, but a great deal about how he instinctively reacted to people as individuals especially those who found themselves in the role of underdog. In fact he disliked ideology and had none beyond fair play, human sympathy and the idealism of the golden age of the NHS, as he and many of his contemporaries regarded its first twenty-five years. Confronted by humanity en-masse, as dealt with by politics; as reported by the media. The London Hospital in Whitechapel. He qualified in 1957 his element: it afforded him no opportunity to play to his strengths. Medicine with its daily opportunities to meet individual misfortune with individual kindness and practical help emphatically did. This he always counted, along with marriage and children, his greatest blessing.

2916 Gill Asimo Daire Dohn Richardson



Stansted and District

September passed us quickly by with lots of activities for our energetic children - a ride-on toys session in Henham, a few end of season picnics and pub lunches for us 'grown ups'.

We had our now traditional Teddy Bears' Picnic and Train Ride at Audley End Miniature Railway. We also picnic'd at Stansted Rec', Stortford paddling pool playground and at the end of the month we visited the gardens at Great Easton Lodge.

The middle of the month saw a successful Nearly New Sale in Stansted and also an Open house Coffee Morning which we hold every other month at the Crafton Green Day Centre in Stansted.

This month continues with lots of play, sessions at Rascals and the Adventure Island Playbarn, a messy play morning in Henham, a creepy crawly stories and songs session in Stansted, a visit to Great Dunmow playground, a walk in Hatfield Forest and not forgetting a visit to the 'Sandpit' pub in Spellbrook!

We also have a baby massage demonstration at one of our 'under one' coffee mornings and a family photographs session for all those 'just before Christmas' photo presents!

We host weekly coffee mornings open to all parents/carers and their under five's. Details are on all Parish noticeboards for venues.

Monday morning 10.00-11,30 am Expectant Mums and Under Ones

Wednesday Morning 10,00-11,30 am Toddlers Friday Afternoon 1,30-3,00 pm Pre-school children.

So if you want an opportunity to meet other families in the area please come along and see what we get up to. If you are interested in joining the NCT or would like more information about the branch/charity and what it does please phone Wendy, our membership secretary, on 01279 813387.

LOCAL BUSES UPDATE

Good news for many! The No.7 bus will be calling at Maitland Road from Monday, 25th October.

Audrey Rodgers



Our summer Tour in Dorset

We were most fortunate to choose a week in which the weather was glorious. The boys played five matches, winning the majority, with one of the most keenly fought being between the boys versus the fathers.

In between the cricket matches the boys enjoyed trips to the beach, the bowling alley and the flume complex in nearby Poole.

After arriving home late on Friday evening the boys said the tour had been most enjoyable. Plans are afoot for next year. Australia was mentioned as the next venue, although coach Keith Ayres didn't take this too seriously.

Once again thanks to our sponsors D.C. Poulton & Sons and Uttlesford District council. Also to the seven fathers who accompanied the young cricketers, so making the tour possible.

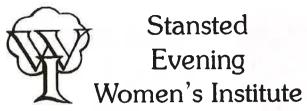


Holiday 99. Burgh Castle. Great Yarmouth.

The weather could have been kinder but everyone agreed that the holiday was great. Inspite of having to cancel our visit to "Pleasure Wood Hills" (which was to be the highlight of the week) because of rain, everyone was delighted with the Yarmouth Sealife Centre and it was certainly a good place to dry out after a torrential downpour. Judging by the number of holiday snaps on show at our first Club meeting the photographic industry certainly benefited from our holiday. Many thanks to so many benefactors for making the holiday possible. Stansted people are very generous.

We now look forward to our 25th Birthday and Millennium Party on December 3rd. We would still like people to volunteer as drivers as our numbers are rising continuously. Contact Marion on 01279 812284.

Marion G Johnson



The August meeting's talk with slides was given by Mr Brian Creasey and was about Easton Lodge. In 1971 he and his wife bought Warwick House with its 1½ acres and created a garden over the old stable and kitchen foundations. They uncovered a mosaic walk and restored a courtyard. They were fortunate enough to purchase in 1993 a further 4½ acres which included the foundations of the main house which had been untouched since 1938 when the Countess of Warwick died.

This house had been demolished in 1950 and the gardens abandoned. In 1847 most of an Elizabethan house was destroyed by fire but it was replaced by a Victorian building in which the Countess then lived until another major fire in 1918. The Countess then retreated to a separate west wing which is now Warwick House. Much of the gardens, including old ponds, have been restored and are now open to the public but further restoration continues. Mr Creasey, accompanied by his wife Diana, were thanked for a most enjoyable and informative talk.

Our next meeting is on Thursday October 14th, 7.30 for 7.45 pm in St John's Hall. Our speaker is Roy Tricker, his talk "Churches Conservation Trust". Visitors are welcome to attend.

Brenda Ryan

Music and the theatre were the themes for the September meeting of Stansted Evening W.I. when a members' committee was in charge. This occurs once a year and enables our hard-working committee to take the evening off and just sit back to enjoy whatever has been arranged.

The President for the evening was Linda Gurr who, ably assisted by Secretary Sheila Rolfe, took us briskly through the small amount of business.

Our speaker was Hamish Walker of the Saffron Walden Operatic Society, who led us through the choosing, casting and production of a typical show. He gave members an entertaining and informative insight into all that goes before the finished performance which the audience enjoys.

The costs relating to putting on such a production are extremely high and made us realise that the tickets are very good value. Mr Walker's wife, Susan, who is also a V.C.O. in the W.L., was the wardrobe mistress for the Society for several years and made over 60 costumes herself for one of the shows! The vast array of costumes used to take up a whole room at their house but have now found a home next to the scenery store.

The Society's next show will be in March and rehearsals begin this month with learning the music. No doubt we shall have some of our members in the audience now that we know a bit more about the effort that goes into it all.

After a tasty selection of savoury refreshments prepared by the members' committee, Margaret Chastney organised a musical word search game.

The competition for a theatre programme was judged by Mr Walker and the winners were Rosemary Minshull, Pearl Wellings and Vera Ansell.

The raffle was drawn and it was generally agreed that the evening had been very enjoyable with time to circulate and catch up with news from all our friends.

Pearl Wellings



STANSTED FUN RUN

The amount of money raised from this year's Fun Run has exceeded our greatest expectations - an amazing £3627 which will be shared equally between our three charities for this year - Water Aid, the national Alzheimer's Disease Society, and the local HEAL Cancer charity. This amount is an increase of over a thousand pounds on last year, representing a 40% increase. The total includes the magnificent sum of £841.50 which was contributed by those entrants who raised individual sponsorship money, and our special thanks go to them, viz: Under 16's: Holly & Kate Elson, Katie & Sophie Fry, Shelley Clark, and Rebecca Wood (who raised £156 between them); over 16's: Lorraine Evans, Terry Bacon, Carol Elson, Millicent & Ken Harding, Howard & Sue Mason, Helen Meadows, and David Ruff (who raised over £365 between them), and John Clarke and Gerry Caplis who raised a staggering £115 and £205 respectively.

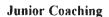
Our *Toner Recycling Project* has again been very successful, raising over £140, from which a donation of £28 has been given to *The Link* in recognition of the advertising that is afforded throughout the year for the *project*, and also for the *Fun Run* itself.

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 01279 814059

Stansted Tennis Club



From October junior coaching with Chris Hollis will continue on Saturday mornings. There will be 3 half-hour lessons starting from 8.45 am. If you would like to join in or require further information please call Chris on 01279 466973.

Used Tennis Balls

These are still available at the knock-down price of £1 for a tube of 4. Please contact Janet Hollis on 01279 812073 if you would like to buy some.

Hospital Cup Results

The finals took place at the end of July at Henham Tennis Club. Stansted had two players in the finals but unfortunately neither came away with a trophy. Last year's winner Sandra Ayres was beaten in the final of the Ladies singles by Monica Sutherland (Henham). the score was 2-6, 6-4, 6-4. In the Mens Singles Chris Hollis lost another 3-setter to Hussain Shaida (Elsenham) 2-6, 6-2, 6-1. All the doubles events were won by pairs from Henham.

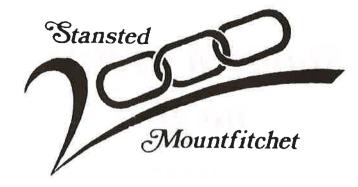
STC Tournament Results

Ladies Singles - Sandra Ayres beat Gill Robinson 7-5, 6-2. Mens Singles - Chris Hollis beat John Crosby 6-3, 6-1. Ladies Doubles - Sandra Ayres and Joyce Barton beat Corinne Gladwin and Sue Sebley 1-6, 6-0, 7-5. Mens Doubles - Richard Eyre and Richard Johnson beat Chris Hollis and Tim Hollis 6-4, 3-6, 6-4. Mixed Doubles - Tim Hollis and Sandra Ayres beat Richard Mott and Corinne Gladwin 3-6, 6-4, 6-3.

National Publishers Tennis Tournament

This took place at the end of August at Campden Hill Tennis Club, Notting Hill. 40 entrants participated to raise money for The Cancer Resource Centre - £600 was raised in entry fees as well as money raised in sponsorship by the competitors. Stansted Tennis Club coach, Chris Hollis, representing his company, Whitakers, and partnered by Rosie Glazebrook from The Times, ended the day as winners of two silver trophies as well as hardback books donated by publishers Harper Collins.

If you would like to join the tennis club please contact Kate Rutter (Membership Secretary) on 01279 813053. If you have any other queries please contact either Janet Hollis (Chairman) on 01279 812073 or Richard Mott (Secretary) on 01279 466348.



Plans are well underway for the village 2000 Millennium events on New Years Eve

Follow the Pied Piper!

Kids of all ages welcome. Bring a recorder (or any instrument) to follow the Piper. Refreshments at St John's Church Hall. Prizes given for colourful fancy dress.

Pipers starting at 1.00 pm from the Greens at: Bentfield Mountfitchet Recreation Ground

Early Evening Fireworks Display

Fireworks from 6.00 pm - 6.30 pm in the village (exact venue to be confirmed).

Prayers for the New Millennium

In St John's Church 8.00 pm followed by 11.30 pm tolling of the bell inviting you to join hands with your neighbours around the village to celebrate the New Millennium together.

All donations welcome. Payable to The Treasurer, Stansted 2000, c/o Sonia Levy, 31 Chapel Hill, Stansted.

Stansted Art & Craft Market

October 30/31 1999

Preparations are now well underway for the annual Market which will be held on the last weekend of October at the usual venue, the Centre for Community Education, Lower Street.

The committee organising this year's event aim to attract more visitors again this year building on the record attendance of last year's event.

Do try to attend this unusual and interesting Art and Craft Market which raises cash purely for local good causes and village organisations.

Philip Duly 01279 816053

Stansted Profile no 16

Ann Conroy

For the past nine years Stansted mothers have been able to take advantage of the Play Scheme that Ann Conroy has run in the summer holidays - a very popular and worthwhile activity, which Ann has enjoyed as much as the children. 'Hello, Auntie Ann' is a familiar greeting when Ann is in the village.

Ann is from Enfield and her husband, Gerry, comes from Chingford. They first met at work and after their marriage Gerry was moved to a branch of their firm, A.E.I. Lamp & Lighting Ltd., in High Lane. They started their married life in Manuden and after spells in Elsenham and Bishop's Stortford they settled in Stansted, first in Rainsford Road and, for the last ten years, in Park Road.

Ann is well known to two generations of children in Stansted as she started up and has run the Rainbow Pre-School in Lower Street for 25 years - and she is still running it with the help of colleagues and the Parents' Committee. Then about nine years ago she was asked by the Parish Council to start up a Play Scheme in the summer holidays. This operates for four weeks, with morning and afternoon sessions, and once a week an outing - Walton is a favourite destination for all the ages from 5 to 12 years (plenty of helpers are required for this!). Ann retired from running the Scheme last year but still helps out on occasions.

Ann's work with children continued on Sundays. She was asked to take over the St John's Sunday School for three months and ended doing it for fifteen years! She is now involved in other activities at St John's having been a member of the choir for five years and she attends prayer and discussion groups.

Ann and Gerry have two children - lan who lives and works in Harlow, and Lorna who lives in Stansted and has a four year old daughter, Sophie - pictured here with her grandma on her first birthday.

Ann has many creative gifts - her dressmaking includes Lorna's wedding dress and those of her four adult bridesmaids; no mean feat, and they looked lovely. Sophie's teddy-bear birthday cake (in the photograph) looks good too!

Both Ann and Gerry play bowls in the Stansted Club and Ann plays in inter-club matches, and sometimes wins. Retiring from the Play Scheme was a wrench but it means that Ann and Gerry have more time for outings now that he has retired. When I met them they had just returned from a

holiday in the Scottish Highlands: this included a visit to Iona where, despite pouring rain, they felt its very special atmosphere of peace and inspiration.

Ann's gift with children has made her a valuable and lively part of Stansted village life.

Katharine Hurford



INDIA 1999

On the 16th July I set off from Heathrow with seventeen companions from The Bishop's Stortford High School for two and a half weeks in the south of India. Our base was Chennai (formally known as Madras) where we stayed in the local YWCA. We were there as the High School's Interact Club's international project. (Interact being the youth division of the Rotary Club). Our main aim out there was to run weekend workshops at St. George's School/Orphanage in Chennai for the boarders. The school, formally known as the Civil Orphans Asylum, is a Christian establishment run as both a day school and a boarding school for orphans and those children whose parents cannot afford to keep them at home.

On our first visit to the school, the day after we arrived in India, we were all amazed at the size of it. I certainly had imagined a cramped school consisting of just one building but was surprised to find that it was in fact spread over a large area and consisted of many buildings. However, I soon discovered the state of the buildings, the main school building having a large hole in the roof.

I loved India from the moment I arrived finding it a very beautiful country despite the dirt, smells and abstract poverty. It was, however, absolutely heart breaking to see little children begging on the streets and the state of the shanty houses alongside the river, which their occupants slept outside at night as it was cooler. However, despite this nearly all the Indians we saw had huge smiles on their faces, They were extremely friendly towards us, partly due to fascination as we were probably the first white people many of them had seen. We could not walk down a street without being swamped by children and adults alike who just wanted to say hello to us or shake our hands. We even had people wanting to take photos of us, with their cameras. We were at the beach, an amazing experience, on our second night and I, and the two people I was with at the time, were stopped at least five times by people who wanted a photograph of us and them. One such incident involved an entire family with a small boy who the father thrust at me to hold, I'm not sure who was more shocked - me or the small boy who looked like he might cry any minute, and I don't blame him!

We spent our weekends at the school and the weekdays travelling around. Our first port of call after Chennai was Mamallapuram, a town about two hours north of Chennai. Mamas (as it is known for short) was much, much quieter than Chennai and gave us a chance to fully adjust to being in India. In Mamas we visited fascinating carvings dedicated to either Shiva or Krishnu. The carvings were spectacular and even more so when we realised that many, like the Five Rathas, were monolithic carvings. We cycled around Mamas visiting the temples and carvings, something which at first I thought madness as I have an aversion to cycling at the best of times but then discovered that once you pick up speed you create a breeze and it's actually more cooling than walking.

From Mamas we took a day trip to Kanchipuram, one of the sacred cities of India. We visited the many temples here and some of us were blessed by the temple elephant. On the journey back to Chennai I discovered that when travelling on Indian roads it is best to face the way you have just come, if at all possible. That way you avoid seeing yourself hurtling along at breakneck speed on the wrong side of the road towards a lorry. It is far better just to watch the expressions of the people in front of you to gauge what's going on!

Once back in Chennai we then spent our first full weekend at the school. We had organised various workshops (drama, music, art, French, geography etc.) for the children but found that these had to be adapted slightly as we were holding them outside with groups of varying size as the children tended to wander about between groups. However, the girl who I was running the music workshop with and I acquired a small group of little boys who were ever so sweet and liked nothing better for that weekend and the next than playing games such as 'It' with us. However, they were also happy to carry out the workshop we had prepared and we spent much of the first afternoon sitting on the grass singing songs such as "Shine, Jesus, Shine". We all felt incredibly guilty when it came to lunchtime as the school put on a huge spread for us each time. The children ate chicken biryani and a banana everytime we were there while for us they added to that eggs,

fresh mango and papaya, popaddoms and omelettes. We could never eat anyway near all of it despite all the boys having enormous appetites.

After our second weekend at the school we travelled, by train, to Kerala. The train was great fun and took around fourteen hours. The compartments were all open and so people would walk back and forth along the train, often stopping to talk to us. I found it almost impossible to sleep as every time we stopped at a station men would get on the train to sell food and drink. I was woken up every half hour or so by someone shouting "Coffee, coffee, coffee" repeatedly and very loudly. Not being a coffee drinker, I wasn't very impressed by this in the early hours of the morning!

Kerala is absolutely beautiful and very green, something which I hadn't expected India to be. We were staying in Fort Cochin, a short ferry ride away form the port of Ernakulum. There we visited the Dutch Palace, a synagogue and the oldest European church in India. We also saw a kathakali performance, which contained amazing make-up and facial expressions. It was still the monsoon season in Kerala and one day cycling (again!) back to our hotels we got caught in it and got absolutely drenched. When you're wet and cold the thing you want most is a nice, long hot shower. It's not quite the same when the water's cold, and very cold at that! Perhaps the best day in Kerala was a boat trip along the rivers and canals. Everywhere was so green and the view over the paddy fields was spectacular.

The return train journey to Chennai was even more fun than getting there. The train doors are often left open as the train hurtles along and so a few of us braved sitting in the open doorway as the train went along. It was brilliant to see the countryside speed by and wave at people in the villages as we passed. We were very upset to be told later by the conductor that it was dangerous and that we had to shut the door.

Workshops had all but been abandoned by our third weekend at the school and most of us just played games with the children. On the Saturday we had an India versus England rounders match, or as one of the girls at the school suggested, "boarders versus foreigners". Needless to say this match, like the previous and subsequent football and cricket matches, was played in the midday sun - mad dogs and Englishmen! One thing the children loved was cameras. They all begged to be allowed to take photos with our cameras and loved posing for the photos, repeatedly making us promise to send them the photos. The children were very appreciative of our efforts and were happy a lot of the time to just sit and talk.

Visiting India was an amazing experience and having been well and truly bitten by the travelling bug, I am travelling out to Nepal next month for a four month placement in a village school. I cannot wait to go and I'm sure the experience will be every bit as rewarding as India.

Ellen Brooks

Ellen Brooks is a helper at the Huw Johnson Club and a server at St John's Church.



Autumn Show

Despite difficult growing conditions this year we were pleased to be able to maintain a high level of entries for our autumn show. We were also delighted to welcome entries from some members who have not exhibited before. Well done, I hope this will encourage more members to follow suit in the future. As they say, you cannot win if you're not in. Another welcome sign is a new name on one of our trophies.

Award Winners

Mumford Cup Most points in show Mr Gordon Fuller Hoffman Vase Best in show (excluding Domestic) Mr Brian Townsend

Pimblett Tankard Highest points in veg. Mr Gordon Fuller Pimblett Tankard Best tray of veg. Mr Brian Townsend Hart Rose Bowl Highest points in flower section Mr Cyril Stoneham

Ernie Morton Cup Best rose exhibit Mrs Doris Thistle Belcher Cup Best Fuschia Mr Brian Townsend Sam Moule Trophy Best flora/veg. Mr Brian Townsend Fruit Cup Highest points in fruit section Mr Brian Townsend

Jean Wilson Cup Best exhibit (domestic) Mrs Jean Fuller Mitchell Cup Highest points domestic section Mr & Mrs Morton

Betty Stoneham Cup Best Dahlia exhibit Mr Gordon Fuller R.H.S. Banksian Medal Highest points by an exhibitor in both our shows Mr Brian Townsend

On a very warm afternoon it was nice to welcome a very good attendance of members and friends from the village, some even from Bishop's Stortford. Look out for our shows in 2000. There is no charge for admission.

September Meeting

Members were treated to something rather different at September's meeting. We welcomed Mr Michael Pender, formerly from Buckinghamshire College and an expert on all aspects of Forestry, management, development, restoration and preservation. His talk was supported by some expertly produced slides.

The members' competition "Collection of Grasses" was won by Mrs Dorothy Harrison - congratulations.

October Meeting

Our monthly meeting is on Wednesday 6th October as usual at the Day Centre at 8 pm. The speaker will be Mr P Cross and his subject is Hampton court Flower Show. This is one of the leading shows in the UK and I am sure we are in for an interesting evening. We always welcome guests to our monthly meetings. Why not give us a try?

Members' competition - "End of Summer Flower".

Derek Francis



Chairman: Frances Spalding, 01279 813432 Secretary: Robin Scarr, 01279 813080

Forthcoming Events:

On every second Saturday in the month we have a ploughman's lunch at Stansted Day Centre, 12.00 noon to 2.00 pm. All are welcome.

On Saturday 16th October, 7.00 for 7.30, we are having a Quiz Evening at Stansted Day Centre with refreshments included in the entry price of £5.00. There will be a bar and you may come on your own to join a team on the night or form your own team of six. Please ring 813432 or 813080 if you wish to come. You would be most welcome.

CONTACTING THE LINK

For the convenience of contributors to The Link who have computers with email capabilities, you may now send your contributions direct to Editor.TheLink@Stansted.net

Please continue to submit your contributions by the due date as published in The Link.

If you are sending an attached file with your email, please use either MS word processing software or convert your file to RTF format prior to sending. Photographs, either black & white or colour, should not be scanned into text files but should be provided as hard glossy prints as previously since our printer requires good prints to convert into photo printing blocks.



STANSTED GROUP

As almost everybody in the country who watches TV or reads the papers must be aware, our patron, Helen Rollason died a few weeks ago. Despite the sadness which we all feel at the loss, she has left behind a legacy to us all in the form of the appeal to build a new Cancer Care centre at the North Middlesex hospital in Edmonton to be named after her. Public contributions have flooded in since then giving the fund an excellent start, but there is still far to go to reach the target of £5M! I am glad to report that Helen's daughter, Nikki, has expressed the wish to continue her mother's work in relation to the appeal.

We in the Stansted group are continuing with fund raising in our more modest way - the money raised going into the H.E.A.L. general fund to finance the CT scanner, the holistic centres and research. The research department is growing, now with seven research nurses, a research data coordinator, and several other administrative staff. We now have holistic facilities open at three hospitals and the scanner fund is sufficiently large that obtaining a machine on a lease-hire basis is real possibility in the not too distant future.

In July we had a very successful event when Mr. Cyril Stoneham kindly opened his garden to the public. We hope to repeat the event next year, and to include some more open gardens on the same day. We already have had several offers, but more would be very welcome. If you would like to have your garden open for us next year, please contact Sue Hitchmough on 01279 814265

Our next event will be a Millennium Dance on Saturday 4th December at Mountfitchet High School, to the music of the 'Jim Freeman Sound'. Tickets are £12 and can be obtained from Joy Thomas on 01279 813871. Please come and support us.



STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Thurs 7th October - The Civil War in this area by Christopher Thompson

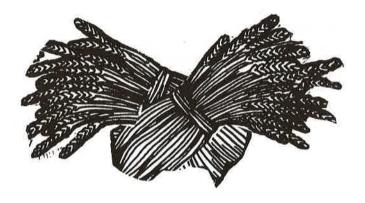
Thurs 4th November - Village Signs by Keith Lovell

Both in the Day Centre at 8 pm.

Recipe of the Month Carrot & Orange Soup

12oz / 350gm carrots
6oz / 175gm onions
1 leek (white part only)
2 oranges (juice of 2, rind of 1)
2pts / 1.2litres chicken stock
pinch curry powder, salt & pepper
1 teaspoon brown sugar or honey
2oz / 50gm butter
paprika to taste (optional)

- (a) coarsely chop vegetables
- (b) fry gently in butter for 10 mins in covered pan
- (c) add all other ingredients except paprika
- (d) cook gently until carrots are tender
- (e) liquidise or put through a sieve
- (f) reheat and add sweetener to taste
- (g) serve hot, sprinkled with paprika if liked



Vacancy - Assistant Play Leader

Elsenham Pre-school Group requires an Assistant to replace a staff member who is moving away. Duties involve working with the supervisor & deputy, caring for up to 26 children aged 2%-5

Hours: (Term time only) Mon, Tue, Thu 8.45 to 12.15, plus 12.30 - 2.45

Salary: £3.60 per hr, 4 weeks holiday (pro rata) Minimum Qualification: Learning Through Play certificate

Start Date: January 2000

Please telephone Liz Stewart on 816703 for a job description & application form. *Closing Date:* 13th Oct

Elsenham Pre-school Group is a member of the Pre-School Learning Alliance. Registered Charity no. 1061016



Hello and welcome to the new S.J.F.C. season. Training started again in mid August and the boys enjoyed their pre-season games with some great results. By the time you will have read this all our teams will have played around five league matches as well as competing in the East Anglian Cup. We have had a good start to the season and I am sure by the end of the month our teams will have settled nicely and begun to show the league just how good they are. You can find all our results in both the Stansted Reporter and Herts & Essex Observer. We would especially like to thank Paul Dietrich of the H&E Observer who put together an excellent page on the club and, most importantly, the boys who represent it.

During the summer the club was pleased to see five members of coaching staff achieve their 'Team Leaders' certificates. They were: Andrew Eardley (Santos). Peter Hawkins (Santos). Mark Gobell (Scorpions), Tony Matthews (Scorpions) and Ken Makepeace (Spartans & Sharks). This is a course recommended by County FA which also includes an emergency first aid course. This will prove to be an enormous asset to both players and managers as you can never know too much about the beautiful game! The club was also pleased with the coaching days, run by Tony Matthews, through the summer break. Not only were they

well attended but the weather held out and there was a modest profit for the club too. Finally on club news we would like to congratulate Rachel & Glyn who got married on September 11th. We wish them all the happiness for the future.

Thanks go to our sponsors: Ampersand Associates, D.C. Poulton & Sons, Leonische, Urbanhurst.

This month the club would like to welcome another new sponsor 'blue post production'. They have kindly sponsored the entire squad of the Under 8's, so both Spartans Blacks and Spartans Blues are proud to wear a new kit in their first season in the Harlow Rec League. It can be a tough time for the boys as they face their first league matches but with coaching from Glyn Warwick and Ken Makepeace the boys couldn't ask for a better start. They have already enjoyed some pre-season games and have shown what they are capable of doing with some cracking results. So good luck and enjoy your football. All the best.

Luke Pearman

For details about joining the club or sponsorship please call: Tony Matthews (Chairman)01279 814668, Mike Moralee (Club Secretary) 01279 814603, Luke Pearman (Social Secretary and Fanzine) 01279 813769.

Reports by Glyn Warwick.

A COLLECTION OF SPARTANS AT THE WATFORD TRAINING.





Poppy Appeal

 This year the House to House collections may start on Saturday 30th October, thus we have three weekends for daylight collecting - a great bonus.

We are in need of more helpers and anyone over 16 may do so BUT we would insist on two persons in the younger age group collecting together and not in the dark.

If you can help please contact Bob Stoddart (tel. 01279 814015) or John Segar (01279 813289).

We again thank all who have donated so generously in the past. Please support us wholeheartedly this year.

On Tuesday 5th October at 7.30 pm in the Day Centre there will be a Fish and Chip Supper which will follow our speaker, Mrs Jean McBride, who will entertain us with her talk "Stansted R.B.L....The Early Days". Jean is always very informative and we are sure she will relate at least a few humorous anecdotes. Profits to the Poppy Appeal. Please contact either of the above prior to noon on the 5th to reserve your supper.

Annual General Meeting

The A₂G.M. of the Branch will be held on Tuesday 7th December, 8 pm, at the Day Centre, Stansted. New and non-members would be most welcome. We are still looking for a standard bearer. If you may be interested please contact Bob Stoddart (tel. 01279 814015).

This advance notice of the A.G.M. is given because it is a month later than usual. If you are ex-service or interested in the Legion please consider becoming a member by ringing Bob Stoddart or John Segar (01279 813289).



The club's fourth season commences on Saturday, 30th October at 8pm with a recital by Bernard Roberts (piano) playing music by Beethoven, Haydn, Debussy and Brahms. This will be followed by a piano masterclass on the afternoon of Sunday, 31st October at 2 pm.

Both events take place in St John's Church, Stansted.

Ticket prices for the concert (for those who are not members of the club) 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 at the door.

Tickets £4 adults, £3 students & concessions, for the Masterclass may be purchased in advance from Sonia Levy or at the door.

Further concerts in the 1999-2000 season are 'Menagerie' with Ann Mackay (soprano), Julius Drake (piano) and Nicholas Daniel (oboe) at 3 pm on Sunday, 5th December, Jamie Walton ('cello) and Daniel Grimwood (piano) at 3 pm on Sunday; 23rd January, and the Millenium Concert (as part of the Stansted Millennium celebrations) at 8 pm on Saturday, 11th March featuring the world renowned Alberni Quartet (led by Howard Davis) with a reception provided by Stansted Parish Council. All concerts are held in St John's Church, Stansted.

If you would like to be on the mailing list for The Village Music Club or wish become a member and subscribe to the 1999-2000 season of concerts, please contact Elizabeth Wagener at 'Fairfield', Silver Street, Stansted (01279 813182) or at the season's first concert.



As is our normal practice we had no meeting in August. Our July meeting provided us with a fascinating talk by Miss Jean Reay, who gave us an insight into the life of a cookery demonstrator. Thirty six years ago she worked for Stork Margarine and with 15 other demonstrators travelled the country doing cookery demonstrations.

Our coffee morning on 11th August was a great success and raised £270 for our funds. Our thanks to those who so generously supported us.

On Thursday 21st October at 7.30 pm we shall hold our A.G.M. in the Day Centre.

Pat Clower

LINK PERSONALIA

Recently our production team has been strenghened by the inclusion of Tony Butcher, who brings computer expertise in large measure, and Angela Wall, who ably replaces Sheila Parry as advertising manager. They are most welcome.



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