

~~Ann~~ ~~Green~~
May 2001

The *LINK*



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Mountfitchet*

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Christian Aid

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CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 13 - 19 MAY



Four basic points about where the money goes:

- 1. How do I know the money gets there?**
 - Christian Aid is in frequent contact with the partner organisations and they are visited regularly by Christian Aid staff.
- 2. What do the partner organisations do with the money?**
 - They use the money to fund long-term projects that help the poorest and neediest groups of people to become self-sufficient.
- 3. How much of the money actually goes towards work overseas?**
 - 75p in every £ is spent on tackling poverty on behalf of the poorest people in the world.
 - 11p is spent on campaigning and education to change unfair economic structures that keep people poor
 - 12p is spent on fund-raising
 - 2p is spent on administration.
- 4. Does Christian Aid only help Christians?**
 - No, Christian Aid funds projects that help people regardless of their beliefs.

For everyone's good...

Support the house to house collection

What's more...

Besiege the Market Stalls!



Outside
Quaker Meeting House
Saturday May 19th
10 am

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Advertising enquiries (temporarily) Tel 01279 647213

All other enquiries to Janet Townsend Tel 01279 812593

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editor.thelink@stansted.net
by 10th May for publication on 26th May
by 14th June for publication on 30th June

ROMAN CATHOLIC

St Theresa's, Stansted with St Anthony's

Priest Father Joe White
The Presbytery
12 Millside
Stansted
Tel 01279 814349

Masses Saturday 6.00 pm
Sunday 9 am and 10.30 am

Holy Days of Obligation
8 am and 8 pm

Tuesday 9.30 am
- Saturday

Confessions

Saturday 10 am
and by appointment

Baptisms

By appointment

This period of Eastertide leading up to Pentecost Sunday is one of great rejoicing and celebration, mirroring events in the early Church immediately after the Resurrection. The disciples, in a state of great joy and elation, literally could not stop talking about what had happened.

A huge burst of energy, fuelled by the Holy Spirit led to the spread of Christianity, first to the Jews and then, to the rest of the Mediterranean world. This comes over very vividly in the first chapters of the Acts of the Apostles, which replace the Old Testament reading as the first reading at Mass during the six weeks of Eastertide.

St Luke graphically depicts the growth of the early Church as a result of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. This growth was underpinned by a coming together in communities which served and cared for all their members. These words, from a prayer by Rabbi Lionel Blue, emphasise the possibilities open to us when we act in community; guided by the Holy Spirit:

"Our God and God of our fathers we thank you for teaching us to give and to receive, and to support each other on life's journey. There is no limit to our ascent for there is no limit to the goodness we can do. There is no joy we cannot have, there is no end to giving. There is no height we cannot attain, for we were created to need each other's love and understanding. The doors to heaven are open to all mankind. So let us share our blessings and enter in. Blessed are you, Lord, who teaches us to serve each other. Amen."

Ruth Rawlinson

SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

Quaker Meeting House, Chapel Hill

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

Meeting 11 am

Should Christians be unworldly ?

This is a question posed in a book 'Christ on Trial' by Rowan Williams, The Archbishop of Wales. It is always difficult for Christians to get the balance right. Most of us hope that we stick to our Christian principles at least some of the time; but if we separate ourselves from worldly concerns we are avoiding reality and not engaging with the affairs of our community or our country. We shall soon be facing a General Election - a very worldly affair ! But for that reason alone we should be concerned and involved - whichever political party we choose to support. To cut ourselves off from decisions and policies that affect the lives of thousands would seem totally un-Christian. We have a conviction that the life of the world - or even our tiny corner of it - could be better; could, in fact, be transformed if the love of God (in whatever form we think of God) is realised and accepted. As the book that posed the above question says, "We maintain a stubborn trust that humanity could do its business in other ways". We have to try and stand back (rather than be unworldly) and view local, national and world affairs with a fresh eye. It is very easy to get swept along on a tide of public opinion; we need to stop and say "Wait a minute, I am not sure about that".

I always remember when, years ago, Terry Waite was asked how he could possibly engage in negotiations with someone as hated (in Western circles) as Colonel Gaddafi. His reply was that he tried to put everything he had heard about him out of his mind, and went to meet him as a fellow human being entitled to respect and the love of God. That seems to be a wonderful example to follow in all sorts of situations.

Katharine Hurford





**THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND**

The Parishes of
Stansted Mountfitchet
with Birchanger
and Farnham

All enquiries

are welcome at
The Church Office
located in the
Upper Room,
St. John's Church Hall,
Stansted CM24 8JP

Monday	Open from
Wednesday	9:00am- 12:00noon
Friday	

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<joy@stansted.net>

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Stansted Mountfitchet

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phone (01279) 817513

<curate@stansted.net>

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From the Registers

Burlal (St Mary's) - 1st March

Peter Douglas Patmore

Aged 70

St John's, Stansted



Uncharted territory

I don't think I have ever heard an Easter sermon which has really left me fired up. Worse, I don't think I have ever preached one which I felt did justice to resurrection.

In many churches up and down the land they cop out and resort to talking about Easter eggs, new life in spring, even Easter bunnies. In one church, known for taking its religion more seriously, I hear that they had a full exposition of the Christian doctrine of sin and salvation. I don't know about you, but the thought of Christian doctrine does not fire me to start dancing in celebration.

I'm sure a lot of the problem with resurrection is that we don't know what to make of it, we don't know what it means. Interestingly, the gospel writers simply relate events as they were handed down to them. They don't do anything fancy when it comes to the resurrection stories. Mark simply ends his gospel with women coming away from an empty tomb saying that they said nothing to anyone because they were afraid.

While Luke can embellish his Christmas stories with all sorts of Alleluias and heavenly beings, his resurrection stories are told unadorned. That's why Christmas can pack out churches in a way that Easter doesn't. We know that so much poetic licence has gone into Christmas stories that we can simply show up as spectators secure in the knowledge that nothing required of us.

Easter comes at the end of a tale of political intrigue, betrayal, power-play and cruelty. Some of its outer echoes we've experienced in our own lives; we can relate to Jesus' trial because it's real-life stuff. But the problem is that the gospel writers keep telling the story unflinchingly in the same voice, and it ends with an empty tomb and, for three of the gospel writers, with vivid encounters with someone who is recognisably the man who was dead a couple of days before.

Even the gospel writers are off their script. They don't know what kind of experience they are describing, they don't load it with any embellishments, metaphors or anything. All they can do is tell it like it is: ghosts and apparitions were known in their world, but this is something for which there is no established language, no precedent, all they are left to do is tell it like it is.

The church exists for no other purpose than to speak about resurrection, but we're terrified of it too. We can't wish it away, so we bury it in a ceaseless round of keeping buildings in good repair, or committee agendas and, if we stay busy enough, maybe we won't have to deal with it.

I think one way in to understanding why this is, is that resurrection happened to Jesus as God's response to evil. Jesus allowed the full force of the corrupt and unjust world to come out at him and do its worst. Jesus made evil show its hand. Evil only works if you cannot see it, if you name it, it has to break cover, it has to silence the whistleblower. Jesus' resurrection was God saying that evil does not have the last say, in anything.

We often avoid the thought of resurrection because it invites us to name evil, and stand against it. Resurrection says that new life is possible. But this is too fantastic for most of our minds. We want to cling to the life we have, the life we know, even if it means turning a blind eye to a world in which our sister or brother is downtrodden.

So, no more talk of resurrection, please, at least not at my dinner table. Be a good chap, don't rock the boat, and tell the kids a story about Easter eggs.

Andrew Spurr

St. John's Diary

Sundays	8:00am Holy Communion <i>said</i>
	9:30am Parish Communion
	6:30pm Evening Prayer <i>said</i>
	11:00am Open Door Service on the third Sunday of the month
Wednesdays	10:00am Holy Communion followed by coffee
	7:30pm Intercessions and Night Prayer

Tiny Tots is a mother and toddler group that meets on Tuesday afternoons once a fortnight in term-time. **Laser Group** is a 12-16 youth group which meets fortnightly on Sunday evenings at 8:00pm for activities in the church hall. The evening concludes with candlelit Night Prayer in the chapel in church. Contact Mrs Katy Dockerill 812997.

UNITED REFORMED

Chapel Hill

Ministers

Rev'd David Simpson
28 Linton Close
Saffron Walden
Tel 01799 526618

Contact

Mrs Janet Townsend
58 Chapel Hill
Tel 01279 812593

Preachers for May

6th	10.30 am	Mr Ian Roper
13th	10.30 am	Rev'd D Simpson - Communion
20th	10.30 am	Rev M Cressey
27th	10.30 am	Mr Andrew Berry

Other meetings for May

21st	2.30pm	Monday Club
24th	8.00pm	Social Evening
27th	11.15am	Pilots

The building work in the church seems to be going at quite a pace and so is our fund raising. We had a very successful Quiz Night on 31st March which was enjoyed by everyone. During the evening the winner of the "Sweet Things" quiz sheet was drawn. Over 100 sheets were sold but only 3 all correct entries were returned. The winner of the £25 prize was Joan Williams of Bishop's Stortford. We hope our sale on 28th April will be just as successful.

In the last edition of The LINK, 23rd June was given as the date for a Mystery Car Drive. It has now been decided to change this and become more environmentally friendly and not use Horse Power, just Foot Power. It will be therefore a mystery walk around Stansted with clues for you to solve followed by supper. Book the date: 23rd June. More details next month.



SHALOM

May Meetings

May 7th - we shall be having another of our popular playlet evenings. Be astonished at the thespian skills on display. At the home of Rita and David Morson, Chantry Hall, Henham.

May 31st - Father Michael Okeyefro from Ghana will talk to us at Jim's House, Bentfield Causeway.

All meetings are at 8p.m. All are welcome.

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 Recreation Ground
Stansted
Tel 01279 813579

Email Methodists@Stansted.net

Services and preachers for May

6th	Christine Heyhoe
13th	Rev. John Graham - Holy Communion
20th	Michael Render
27th	Jerry Heyhoe

Friday 11th May - Church business meeting
at 7 Blythwood Gardens.



CHURCHES TOGETHER in STANSTED

CHEVETOGNE EXCHANGE VISIT

A group of about 23 will be arriving from Belgium on Thursday evening 24th May and returning home on Sunday 26th May.

We have a full programme arranged for them, which we hope they will enjoy.

We rely on host families to offer hospitality and if anyone would like to be involved in the visit please ring **Eileen Quinn (Tel: 812109)**.

The Committee would also be very grateful for any offers of help on Saturday evening 25th May when we have our farewell dinner at the Day Centre.

Offers to help laying out the tables and serving up the meal/washing up, etc, would be extremely welcome.

We will be making a return visit to them next year, also staying with host families, and if anyone is interested in this ecumenical visit and would like more details please just give me a ring.

Eileen Quinn

Christian Aid

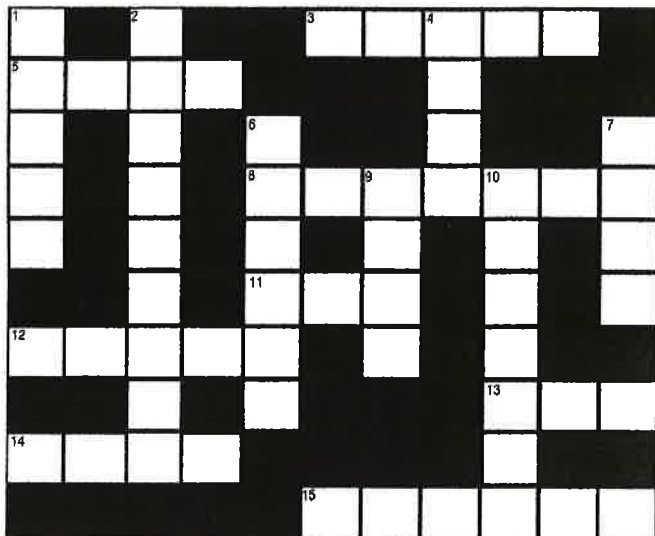
**We believe in life before death
You're making a difference!**

Christian Aid Week - 13th - 19th May.

Christian Aid Week this year is a celebration of **making a difference** and focuses on people in Uganda, Brazil and Bangladesh. Debt campaigning has made a real difference to people's lives.

Try Herbert's crossword below. You can find out more about the difference Christian Aid has made to the lives of Herbert and his family at the **Christian Aid Act of Worship** on Sunday 13 May at 6.30p.m. in the Friends Meeting House. This service launches Christian Aid Week and all volunteers are invited to attend.

Herbert's crossword



Hi, I'm Herbert and I'm ten. I live in Uganda with my Mum, Gran, Aunt and loads of cousins. I had a bit of help to make up this crossword.

Fill in the answers to Herbert's crossword to find out some of the things that you can do and Herbert does to make a difference to our world.

Across

- 3 Save the forests by using it again. (5)
- 5 The top of a house; Herbert's school has a new one of these. (4)
- 8 Another way of saying 'use it again'. (7)
- 11 Walk instead of going by --- (3)
- 12 Aluminium cans of this can be recycled. (5)
- 14 ---- a letter to Mr Blair telling him how pleased you are that Herbert can go to school and has water close to his home. Ask him to keep working to cancel the poor countries' debt. (4)
- 15 and 13 Remember to do this to lights that are not being used. (6, 3)

Down

- 1 The colour used to describe people who take care of the environment. (5)
- 2 A big word for a big problem; another word for 'dirty'. (9)
- 4 We can all do this - it is a way to talk to God. (4)
- 6 These are used to build houses. (6)
- 7 Digging this has meant that Herbert and his family don't have to walk miles to get water. (4)
- 9 Take ---- we all need to do this. (4)
- 10 Fruit and vegetable peelings can make this; it helps things to grow. (7)

If you bring the completed crossword along to the **Cafe' Ole at the Christian Aid Market on Saturday 19th May** between 10 am. and noon, you will be rewarded with a prize - everyone is a winner!

There will also be a bounty of books, a cornucopia of cakes, prize pickings of plants and barrow loads of bric a brac.

Walk the Heart of London

Sunday 20th May - this popular sponsored event is taking a different route, or indeed routes, this year, **taking in the historic heart of the capital.** It will start and end at Westminster Central Hall. There is a choice of three routes to suit all ages and abilities. Gloria Huniford will launch the walk at 2 pm and Rev'd Leslie Griffiths will be the guest speaker at the Service of Thanksgiving at 5.15 pm. If we get enough walkers from Stansted, we shall probably hire a coach to take us to London, so if you would like to join in the fun please let me know as soon as possible. Walkers are being asked to wear red, and T-shirts are available for a modest donation.



Get back the tax- last year Christian Aid Week raised a record £12 million of which £600,000 was **reclaimed tax from donations.** If you are a UK taxpayer, Christian Aid can reclaim an extra 28% over and above the **amount** you give. All you need to do is to fill in your name, address and (optionally) the amount you are giving on the Christian Aid Envelope.

Even though the amount you give, the campaigning action you take, the prayer you say may seem to be a drop in the ocean, together all these things really are making a difference.

Catherine Dean - 813579



CONFIDENTIAL MEMO
NOT FOR GENERAL CIRCULATION

To: Jesus, son of Joseph, Master Carpenter,
Carpenter's Shop, Nazareth

From: Jordan Management Consultants, Jerusalem

JORDAN MANAGEMENT
CONSULTANTS

*Leaked by a
reader, identity
withheld.
More please!*

Thank you for submitting the résumés of the twelve men you have picked for management positions in your new organisation. All of them have now taken our tests; we have not only run the results through our computer, but we have also arranged personal interviews for each of them with our psychologist and vocational aptitude consultant.

It is our considered opinion that most of your nominees are lacking in background, education and vocational aptitude for the type of enterprise you are undertaking. They do **not** have the team concept. We would recommend that you continue your search for persons of experience in managerial ability and proven capability.

Simon Peter is emotionally unstable and given to fits of temper, also impulsive. Highly unlikely to be dependable in a crisis.

Andrew has absolutely no qualities of leadership. The two brothers, **James** and **John**, the sons of Zebedee, place personal interest above company loyalty. **Phillip** is lacking in initiative.

Thomas demonstrates a questioning attitude that would tend to undermine morale. **Judas**, son of James, also resorts to questions rather than answers. We feel it our duty to tell you that **Matthew** has been blacklisted by the Greater Jerusalem Better Business Bureau.

James, son of Alphaeus, and **Bartholomew** have definitely radical leanings. Their companion, **Simon the Zealot**, has been reported by Mossad to the Sanhedrin as a security risk.

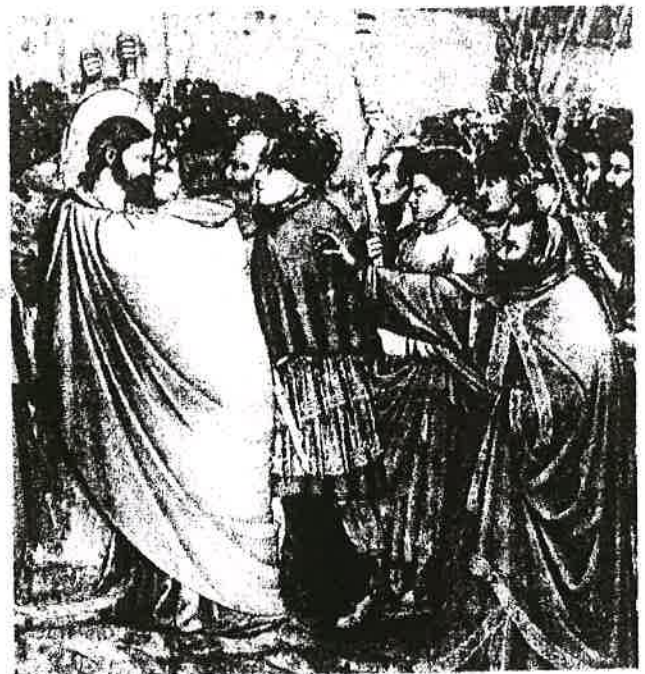
One of the candidates, however, shows great potential. He is a man of ability and resourcefulness, meets people well, has a keen business mind, and has contacts in high places. He is highly motivated, ambitious and responsible. He is of course **Judas Iscariot**, and we have no hesitation in recommending him as your financial controller and right-hand man.

All the other profiles are self-explanatory.

We wish you success in your new venture.

JMC

*Right:
a portion of Giotto's
striking fresco of the kiss of betrayal.
(One of 12 wall paintings
depicting the
Life and Passion of Our Lord.
Painted 1303-1305.
Arena Chapel, Padua.)*



*Article reproduced
by kind permission
from the
Linton (Cambs.)
Parish Magazine.*



Coach Outing to Winchester

Saturday 5th May
Depart - 8 am Sworders
Non members
(both sexes) welcome!
Cost approx £7

Tel Pearl Wellings 813614
Organised by Stansted Evening WI

Uttlesford Carers & Alzheimer's Disease Society

CARERS' SUPPORT GROUP

A talk on the work of the
Citizens' Advice Bureau

2 - 4 pm Thursday 10th May
Quaker Meeting House

Everyone welcome

Stansted Carnival Committee



QUIZ NIGHT

7 pm Sat 12th May
Mountfitchet High School
Bar ~ Ploughmans
Tickets £6

Tel 812692 or 815904

VILLAGE EVENTS

May

2	Wed	Mountfitchet Seniors Garden Club	Day Centre 2 - 4 pm Day Centre 8 pm
3	Thu	Local History Society	Day Centre 8 pm
5	Sat	WI Outing Scout Group Family Quiz	Sworders 8 am Scout HQ, Water Lane 6 pm
5 Sat - 9	Wed	Open Week	Arthur Findlay College 10 am - 5 pm
6 Sun & 7	Mon	Windmill Open	2 - 6 pm
7	Mon	Shalom Group	Chantry Hall, Henham 8 pm
10	Thu	Carers' Group CAB Talk WI	Quaker Meeting House 2 - 4 pm St John's Hall 7.45 pm
12	Sat	Lib Dem Ploughmans Jumble Sale Carnival Quiz	Day Centre noon - 2 pm Bowls Club 2.30 pm Mountfitchet School 7 pm
13	Sun	Windmill Open	2 - 6 pm
14 Mon - 18	Fri	Amenity Skip	Lower St Car Park 7.30 am - 3 pm
15	Tue	La Lèche Coffee Morning Fashion Show	B S Methodist Ch 10 am - 12.30 pm Mountfitchet School 7.30 pm
16	Wed	Mountfitchet Seniors	Day Centre 2 - 4 pm
19	Sat	Christian Aid Market Green Waste Skip May Fair Football Club Presentation	Quaker Meeting House 10 am Lower St Car Park 1 - 4 pm Bentfield School 2 - 5 pm Mountfitchet School 6 pm - midnight
20	Sun	Christian Aid Walk	Westminster 2 pm
21	Mon	Shalom Group	Jim's, Bentfield Causeway 8 pm
27 Sun & 28	Mon	Windmill Open	2 - 6 pm

June

3	Sun	Windmill Open St Mary's Church open	2 - 6 pm 2 - 5 pm
6	Wed	Mountfitchet Seniors Garden Club	Day Centre 2 - 4 pm Day Centre 8 pm
7	Thu	Local History Society	venue tbc 8 pm

LA LECHE LEAGUE

(Breastfeeding information
& support group)

COFFEE MORNING

10 am - 12.30 pm Tues 15th May
Methodist Church, B. Stortford
Raffle ~ Cakes ~ Stalls

ALL WELCOME - TEL 831771



Mountfitchet High School

Fashion Show

by Keefy International

7.30 pm Tues 15th May
50% off shop prices

Tickets £2.50 incl glass of wine
Tel Linda 814685 or Margaret 816718
Credit & Debit cards welcome



Stansted Windmill

Open Days
2 - 6 pm

Sunday 6th May
Monday 7th May
Sunday 13th May
Sunday 27th May
Monday 28th May



Uttlesford District Council 2001 Skip Dates

Mon - Thurs
7.30am - 3pm
Fri am only

Weekends
7.30am - 3pm
(also Green Waste)

Mon - Thurs
7.30am - 3pm
Fri am only

14 - 18 May
23 - 27 July
8 - 12 October

9 - 10 June
11 - 12 August
17 - 18 November

25 - 29 June
3 - 7 September
10 - 14 December



GREEN WASTE COLLECTION

(for composting)

Lower St Car Park 1 - 4 pm

Saturday 19th May
Sunday 17th June
Saturday 14th July
Sunday 12th August

AN APOLOGY

Copyzone wish to apologise for the omission of a page of adverts and the poor reproduction of some parts of last month's issue of LINK magazine.



The Village Music Club Summer Soiree will be held on Saturday, 30th June 2001 in St John's Church, Stansted commencing at 6pm with music provided by talented, local rising stars.

Supper will be provided in the church grounds and marquee with music from Hannah Horton's Jazz Band.

Tickets (including supper), £10 (adults), £7 (concessions), £3-50 (children).

There will be a cash bar.

Bring your friends!

Buy your tickets early from Sonia Levy, 31 Chapel Hill, Stansted, (01279 815282).



Royal British Legion

Women's Section

After business had been completed at our March meeting, we enjoyed a Bingo Session expertly presided over by Doris. The winners were Bertha, Gwen and Lily.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday, 17th May in the Day Centre when our speaker will be Mr Markham on "Bicycles for Two".

Our Coffee Morning on 4th April raised £264. Our thanks to all those who generously supported us.

Pat Clower



MOUNTFITCHET GARDEN CLUB

April was a busy month for the Garden Club. At our monthly meeting, members heard Mrs Price-Trasler talk and show slides on Herbaceous Borders. This was followed by the AGM when the officers for the coming year were appointed. They are:

President:	David Williams
Chairman:	Janet Townsend
Vice Chairman:	David Harrison
Treasurer:	Sheila Bowles
Speaker Secretary:	Evelyn Morgan
Committee:	Meg Monaghan, Monica Dedman, Gordon Fuller, Cyril Stoneham, Wilf Wood.

April 7th saw the Day Centre a blaze of colour for the Club Spring Show. Despite the weather Mr Glozier, the judge appointed by the Essex Guild of Judges, thought the standard of entries was very high. We were pleased to welcome Ray Clifford, Chairman of the Parish Council, to present the prizes this year.

The main award for daffodils was won by Brian Townsend, with David Harrison the winner of the Maud Banks Tankard for vegetables. The Humphrey Vase for the best entry in the Floral Art went to Sheila Bowles.

By the time you read this copy of The LINK, we will have celebrated our 20th anniversary with a dinner at which Ken Crowther of BBC Essex was the guest speaker; this was a very entertaining evening.

At our May meeting we welcome Mr Roger Lunn talking on the 'Cultivation of Herbs'. Come and join us.

Janet Townsend

Fear of Public Speaking?

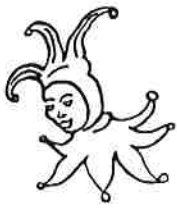
When you've tried everything else...

Denise Williams

Tel 07770 272130

Email:

williams.denise@btinternet.com



STANSTED CARNIVAL

Car Boot Sale

A huge thank you to everyone who came along to support the Car Boot Sale which was held on 8 April - we raised approx. £250 towards our funds and a good time was had by all - even the weather was kind to us. We are considering holding another Sale in June - watch noticeboards and The Link for details.

Quiz Night

The next event on our calendar is the ever popular Quiz Night to be held at the Mountfitchet High School on Saturday, 12th May, 7.30pm for a PROMPT 8pm start. Tickets are £6 per head and include a Ploughman's Supper. There will be a licensed bar, tea/coffee and a waitress service. Maximum team size is 8. There will be prizes and a raffle.

Contact Simon Clifford (815904) or Tony Mills (812692) for further details.



Huw Johnson Club

Easter Bonnets and an Easter Egg Hunt brought our term to an end. We meet again on April 26th and we have a full programme arranged including more line dancing, a pub visit and a barbecue and disco. We are still looking for more drivers to bring our members to Club at 7 pm and return them home again at 9 pm on a Thursday evening.

We were very pleased to have a table in St John's Spring Sale and made £45 towards Club funds. Watch the notice boards for our next coffee morning.

Marion Johnson



Nature Notes

Air Display by Ace Fliers

Swifts are a wonderful sight in May and June. They are fabulous birds, leaving the nest at just a few weeks old then spending a short period wheeling high over the nesting colony before heading south to Africa over the Sahara Desert. Not until they are three years old do they return to Britain at the beginning of May. Swifts can be recognised on the wing by their scythe shaped wings and forked tails. They have dark sooty brown plumage, except for dull whitish faces.

Apart from breeding, they spend all their time in the air. You never see them sitting still in lines on wire like swallows for they cannot perch except when nesting under roof eaves, where they make shallow nests from airborne material glued together with saliva.

Parties of fast flying swifts with their characteristic screaming cry while they swoop to catch insects are one of summer's most exciting sights. At just 16cm long, they are a fine example of God's creation. They fly thousands of miles to reach towns and villages where their ancestors have nested and bred for centuries.

If you wish to learn to recognise bird calls, a field trip has been arranged for Saturday, 5th May, 8.00 am - 12 noon, "Spring Birds and Bird Song" at Pelham Nature Reserve, but please book beforehand - phone/fax 01787 269766.

Maureen Davies



Ugley Village Hall

The Village Hall on Cambridge Road, Ugley is available for hire throughout the year, for children's parties, functions, clubs, classes and social meetings.

For bookings or further information please call Susan Bone on 01279 814052



The National Childbirth Trust
Education for Parenthood

With the coming of May we're hoping to get out and about a bit more with our offspring.

March and April were busy months what with our Nearly New Sale and Easter Party as well as all the usual events that we run, but we are now looking forward to some warmer weather and more outside activities. Maybe a few playground visits, the odd pub lunch at child friendly venues, trips to the playbarn or Rascals, the odd swim or two. Of course we shall still be catering for all that energy at half-term with a modelling morning one day and a baking session another - both in Stansted. May also sees us hosting our bi-monthly Open House drop in coffee morning at the Crafton Green Centre on Wednesday 16th May, 10am 'till 11.30am - all parents/carers welcome.

If you are interested in knowing more about the NCT, perhaps new to area or existing residents who have just become parents, then log on to our website at www.stansted-nct.at.freemove.co.uk. It gives a flavour of what we do and contact telephone numbers so you can get involved and come along to one of our events. It is also linked to the website for Stansted Mountfitchet. Give it a try or pass the address on to someone you know with babies or young children who might be interested - new faces are always made most welcome.

We also host regular coffee mornings as follows:-

Monday	1.30pm- 3pm	Tiddlers and Tums for expectant mums and under ones
Wednesday	10am- 11.30am	Toddlers
Friday	1.30-3pm	Pre-Schoolers

All parents/carers are most welcome, please come along and meet new people.

Of course we're not all about just doing lots of socialising (even though it might look that way!). The NCT offers information and support in pregnancy, childbirth and early parenthood and is run by parents for parents. So if you want to find out more about the NCT, our social life, ante-natal classes and/or are interested in joining please speak to Wendy on 813387.

Ladies Body Toning Classes
for over 50's

Tuesdays 2.30 - 3.30 pm
Youth & Adult Centre, Lower St

£12 approx for 6 sessions
with trained instructor

All abilities welcome

Tel Brenda Ryan on 812725
for more details

Stansted Mountfitchet Parish Council

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



Council Offices
Crafton Green
Tel 813214
Fax 813964

Hanging Baskets

A reminder that anyone wanting to purchase a hanging basket through our Stansted In Bloom scheme should contact the Clerk on 813214 at the earliest opportunity. New customers will be charged £21.20 per basket, but you will be responsible for your own watering!

Street Lighting

This is the time of year to look for lighting columns which may become obscured by overgrowth from trees and hedges. If you are aware of any such lights, please report them to us so that we can get the landowners to take the necessary action before the onset of the darker evenings!

Similarly, if you are aware of any columns which are not working, are on during the day, or are not working properly, please let the Clerk know on 813214.

Litter Collection

We are still on the lookout for a reliable person to undertake litter collections in the village during Peter Clauson's holiday (and any sick leave). If you are interested in further details, please contact the Clerk on 813214.

Ruth A Clifford
Clerk

Celebrations

Balloons for that Special Occasion ...

Weddings ~ Christenings ~ Anniversaries

Adults' & Children's Parties

Valentines Day ~ Mothers Day

and much more ...

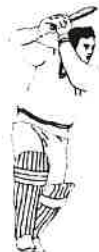
Surprise someone with a special delivery of the 'Celebration' In A Box

Call Carolyn on 01279 814815

Stansted Hall Cricket Club

The club, in its 55th year, plays at a delightful ground just off Elsenham Road. We urgently need junior players for the Under 11s, Under 13s and Under 15s squads. The Under 13s and Under 15s compete in the West Essex DCB Cup and League, the Under 11s play local friendlies. With professional coaching on Thursday evenings, the club aims to improve players and make it enjoyable.

Please contact either Dave Mickelborough on 01279 656745 or Allan Love 01279 817620 for details.



Stansted Tennis Club



Junior Coaching

Chris Hollis is now coaching juniors on Monday and Thursday afternoons and also Saturday mornings. There are still a few places available, so if you are interested or would like more information, please contact Chris on 01279 319155.

Junior Tournaments

Over the summer months there will be various doubles and singles tournaments arranged for the juniors as well as several matches against local clubs.

Used Tennis Balls

These are still available at the very reasonable price of £1 for a tube of 4 (very popular with dog owners)! Please contact Janet Hollis on 01279 812073 if you would like to buy some.

Tennis Club Garden

Attention All Garden Lovers - Please bring your own bags and help yourself to as much leaf mould (excellent quality) as you like from the huge pile in the corner outside the tennis courts (adjacent to the football pitch)

Wednesday Evening Club Session

Please note that from 5 pm every Wednesday adult members are welcome to come along and join in the club sessions. We would particularly like to encourage new members to come along!

Handy Person Required

The Club is currently looking for somebody to maintain the courts, which would involve light sweeping and use of the leaf collecting machine. If you are interested or would like to find out more, please contact Janet Hollis on 01279 812073.

If you would like to join Stansted Tennis Club, please contact the Membership Secretary, Kate Rutter on 01279 813053.

For any other enquiries, please contact either, Janet Hollis (Chairman) on 01279 812073 or Richard Mott (Secretary) on 01279 466348.



Recipe of the Month Seafood Casserole



1½ lbs / 675 gm mixed white & smoked fish
½ bag frozen mixed seafood
11 oz / 325 gm can sweetcorn
2 oz / 50 gm butter or margarine
2 oz / 50 gm flour
½ pt / 10 fl oz / 300 ml milk
1 teaspoon English mustard
1 tablespoon lemon juice
4 tablespoons soured cream
salt & ground pepper

For garnish (optional)

Cooked prawns & cooked peas

- (a) pre-heat oven to 180°C / 350°F / Gas Mark 4
- (b) cut fish into 1 inch cubes
- (c) place in casserole dish with mixed seafood & sweetcorn
- (d) melt butter in a saucepan
- (e) add flour & cook for 1 minute
- (f) gradually add milk & bring to boil
- (g) stir in lemon juice, mustard, soured cream & plenty of salt & pepper
- (h) pour into casserole
- (i) cook in oven for 40 - 45 mins until fish is cooked
- (j) stir gently
- (k) add garnish if desired

Serves 6

*Any variety of fish may be used.
Mustard can be substituted with anchovy essence.*



Stansted Evening Women's Institute

At our April meeting Mr W Tyler gave an amusing and interesting talk on the Meaning of Names. His own surname is an example of people being named after the job they did, Tyler is, of course, a Tiler. His grandmother was a Peckett; this is the name of a place in Yorkshire called Peckett Well. This is an example of people being named for their place of residence. He had been sent all our names and he went firstly through the surnames then the Christian names. Surnames like Rolfe originated in East Anglia; Fuller is connected with the weaving industry meaning the fulling of cloth; Parker, a park or gamekeeper; Pottinger, a maker of soup; Woor, a Suffolk name meaning suitor or a man who went wooing; Clark is a Clerk and Johnson means son of John. Christian names can tell you more or less which era you were born in. Cynthia is pre-war; Sheila is an early Irish 20th century name, which has occurred in the mid-20th century; Brenda is a viking name from the Shetland Islands and was popular in the 1940's and 50's; Anne is French, while Ann is English.

Our recent jumble sale raised approximately £140. The President read out an account of the County Annual General Meeting, and it was decided to donate the evening raffle to the Red Cross.

Some members had a table at the recent United Reform Quiz Night and came third. Marion Pretty reported on her attendance to the Parish Meeting in connection with the village signs and their refurbishment. She will continue to monitor this after Easter to see what is being done.

Our next meeting is on the 10th May at 7.45 pm in St. John's Hall when we have two resolutions to discuss which will be voted on at the National AGM.

Kath Johnson

WI "SUMMER" OUTING

We shall be going to Winchester for our next outing and this will be on Saturday, 5th May. The coach will leave from outside Sworders at 8 am and the journey will take a bit more than two and a half hours. There will be a "comfort" stop in each direction. Cost, probably in the region of £10, will be dependent upon how full the coach is.

Winchester is a really interesting city, with shops, museums, traditional and modern sculpture, restaurants, ancient buildings and one of the most attractive cathedrals in the country. As usual, we welcome non-members and gentlemen on the outing. If you are interested please phone Pearl Wellings on 813614.

MOBILE PHONE NUMBER CHANGES - A REMINDER

Earlier pagers and mobile phones with numbers not commencing 07... change this month to line up with the new numbering arrangements commencing 07....

In The LINK, there are two advertisers that are displaying their old pager/mobile numbers; the new numbers as follows:-

Aldwych Construction Ltd 07802 548 471
HELPLINE Pager Number 07641 104 093

Tony Butcher



THE OIL CARE CODE

We all know that it is illegal to dump waste oil into drains or on bare land - or do we? All local authorities have facilities for disposal or recycling of oil; in Essex some 400,000 litres are dealt with annually. Uttlesford has a recycling depot at Thaxted Road, Saffron Walden. Please use it.



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Chapel Hill*

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2½ to rising 5**

For further details please
contact **Ann Conroy**
on **07966 506997**
or **Gill Pursglove**
on **01279 814701**

Stansted Profile

No 34

Elizabeth Evans

Elizabeth is a fourth generation member of a well-known local family firm of Builders and Undertakers: her great-grandfather, Daniel Robinson, who was born in 1833 founded the business and it is still going strong. Elizabeth and her brother, Eric, were both born in Elsenham, moving to Stansted in 1923. When they became teenagers, Stansted then was full of activity - tennis, badminton, operatic society, dances etc. which the young Robinsons thoroughly enjoyed.

After her schooling in Stansted, she first worked at Joscelynes in Bishops Stortford (and still makes her own curtains !). Then she joined the Civil Service as a GPO telephonist. This was a reserved occupation during the second World War, and the Exchange dealt with a lot of wartime communications and were responsible for sending out Air Raid warnings. Her future husband, Joe Evans, who was in the RAF was in charge of the switchboard at RAF Dunmow - so they first met over the wires! They finally met in person in 1944 and were married the following year.

Joe is of Welsh descent, but spent his early years in Woodstock - where his father was a head gardener at Blenheim. After their marriage and his demobilisation, he first worked at the Oxford Telephone Exchange, and then was transferred to Bishops Stortford and the couple settled in Stansted at first in Elizabeth's parents' home in High Lane. Elizabeth then spent many years looking after her widowed mother, and it was not until 1962 that she applied to be one of the receptionists at the Surgery - the job for which she is so well-known in Stansted.

She worked at the Surgery for the next 34 years, seeing enormous changes in the workings of the NHS over the years. When she joined the Practice, Dr Platt, Dr Gabb and Dr Gregory were the GP's and the two receptionists did all the dispensing and record-keeping as well. She loved the work and over the years got to know and to care about so many local families: as she says "It did not feel like going to work at all". Her warmth of personality and her capability has, I am sure, endeared her to many, many patients. When she retired, the Practice Manager had a staff of 12, and there were 2 Nurses in addition to the 4 GP's - Dr Jones, Dr Hamilton, Dr Ilett and Dr Humphries - and 1 trainee doctor. The paperwork was largely computerised, and the dispensing was done at the Pharmacy. On his retirement, Dr Hazzard had said "I never needed a computer, I had Mrs Evans "!

Joe, in the meantime, remained at the Bishops Stortford Exchange, becoming Chief Supervisor and being responsible for a wide area. He took early retirement and worked part-time with an animal feed firm until 6 years ago when health problems meant full retirement. Their life has not

been without tragedies: Elizabeth's brother died in an accident when he was 35, and the Evans' only child, Robin, a computer systems analyst, died tragically in his early forties.

A great deal of activity still goes on in the Evans' home "Five Pennies" in High Lane - which they built next to her family home on part of the family land. They share at least three activities - gardening, cooking and painting. They have both taken great pleasure in creating their garden - one of the ones open to the public in aid of HEAL last year. The sundial, presented to Elizabeth on her retirement from the Surgery, takes pride of place. They are both talented amateur artists - Joe in pastels and Elizabeth in oils. She learnt to paint with the late Leslie Stew (a delight that I, too, experienced and appreciated). Recently she has started doing very effective wall stencils. Their creative gifts and Elizabeth's sense of colour are very apparent in their home.

In addition to her many hobbies Elizabeth belongs to the Theatre Club and the British Legion Women's Section. She is a sidesman at St John's Church and very involved in flower arranging; she helped to mastermind the beautiful Flower Festival in St Mary's Church two years ago.

All of which goes to show that you do not need to stop leading a very full life at 80! May they both long be members of the Stansted community.

Katharine Hurford





STANSTED
JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB
Founded 1986 Affiliation No. MY00969 Essex F.A.

Sponsors: Ampersand - D.C.Poulton & Sons - Leoni -
Urbanhurst - Prestige Cars - 'blue post' production

Welcome to another SJFC. page, albeit a rather short one.

We have, once again, been at the mercy of the weather and many of the matches have been postponed. As you may have read in the local papers, a number of leagues have had meetings to discuss whether or not to cancel the entire season due to the weather and foot and mouth. Thankfully we are still playing but our season is running late by some weeks.

Sadly Dave Godden, the Spitfires (Under 6's) manager, had to leave the club due to work commitments and now lives in Dorset. We would all like to thank Dave and wish him and his family all the very best in their new life in Dorset. The new Spitfires manager is Gary Pickering. Gary has two sons that play for the club and we welcome him to the club. It can be a difficult job taking over from a manager when the players are so use to seeing the same face every week, but I am sure Gary will do a great job with the Spitfires.

As we head towards our annual Presentation Night, the club is to introduce a new award to some of our longest serving players. Medals will be given to all the boys who have been with the club and have made over 100 appearances. As soon as managers have compiled their lists I will happily list all the boys on this page. The club hope that Presentation Night proves to be as popular as ever as it is the club's main fund-raising event of the year. We are currently trying to raise funds to purchase a set of portable goals for the 11-a-side teams so we can rotate the pitches when they have been affected by the weather.

Finally we hope to bring you news of the new under 6s team which will hopefully be starting in the next few weeks. The delay is down to all the backlog of games each team has suffered and therefore we have been unable to guarantee any dates. Also if anybody would be interested in starting a girls team then please do give me a call. I know we have had a number of girls at the club from time to time, but if there are enough girls interested in forming their own team then please do let us know. Women's football is proving to be one of the fastest growing sports in the country and I hope that our club will soon be very much part of it.

Until next time,
Good Health

Luke Pearman
Chairman
Tel 813769

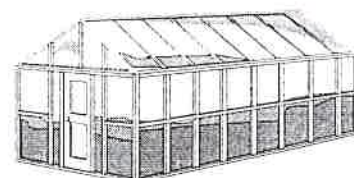
ROCHFORD'S NURSERIES

In 1992 Peter Brown wrote two columns for the Link on Rochford's Nurseries, commenting that it was an ideal time to look back in view of the proposed developments on the site. Nine years on and still no building has commenced although it surely cannot be another nine years away, so here is a further look back.

The Rochford family originated in Ireland and in 1840 Michael Rochford came to England to work as a gardener. From his marriage to Sarah there were 10 children, many of whom entered the horticultural business, some branches surviving to this day. Their third son, Edmund, founded the Rochford Tomato Gardens and what was then the largest house plant empire in the world, based at Turnford near Cheshunt. Two of Edmund Rochford's sisters married Cawkells, Elizabeth to William and Charlotte to John.

Eventually, the nursery at Stoney Common was set up and managed for many years by Edmund Cawkell, nephew of Edmund Rochford,. On reading Margaret Silvester's account of Rochford's Nurseries and her father's and grandfather's working days there, it is apparent that Edmund Cawkell had his employees' interests at heart. The 60 or so houses built for the workers had no bathrooms so a Bath House was provided and at one time there was also a swimming pool. The Recreation Room had facilities for billiards, table tennis and darts for the men and once a month Women's Nights were held when plays, concerts and games were organized. Wedding Receptions and parties were also held there. For a time Stansted Church School used the building as a schoolroom and in the 1960's it was dismantled and re-erected in Water Lane to become the Scout Headquarters. In the 1930's and 40's there was a bowling green at the top of Stoney Common for the use of those connected to the Nurseries and in 1947 "Rochford Sports" football team was formed although it only lasted about 5 years. Stoney Common had two shops and a Mission Hall where a variety of activities have taken place over the years and it was a bitter blow to the community there when economic factors forced the closure of Rochford's Nurseries in 1970.

Peggy Honour





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EDITORIAL JOTTINGS

The Link is delighted to report that the road which is to serve the new houses bordering the Recreation Ground is to be named Sanders Close in recognition of the late Irving Sanders. Irving was one of Stansted's leading citizens for many years. He was a talented artist, draughtsman and historian, giving invaluable service through the Parish Council, the celebrations for the 1977 Jubilee, the Windmill, the Carnival, and in so many other ways. We have not been able to replace him.

The Fun Run organizers have decided to give the event a rest this year and hopefully resume, maybe on a biennial basis, in 2002. The Run required a prodigious effort in sponsorship, publicity, route marking, marshalling, etc. etc. as well as sheer organizational effort. Inevitably these tasks have fallen largely on the few rather than the many. The stalwarts on the Committee, particularly the Dyer and Quinn families, deserve all our thanks for having made this, with the Carnival, a major village event. We now look to the revitalised Carnival Committee to bring a sparkle to the first weekend in July. By all accounts they are well on course to achieve this, the more so if their Quiz Night on May 12th becomes a sell-out.

The Link needs a successor to Angela Wall who handled our Advertising for two years. If you have a few hours in July we would be glad to hear from you. For the rest of the year there are only a few new entries or changes, so there are no hidden hazards and all our advertisers are nice people.



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BUS TIMETABLES

The information below is copied from the book of timetables held at the Parish Council Offices.

Timetables of the other buses serving Stansted will be published in future editions of the LINK when space permits.

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TAKELEY - STANSTED AIRPORT - HENHAM - SAFFRON WALDEN

Village Link 1

Schooldays only

From: 01/11/1999

Takeley, Four Ashes	0722
Stansted Airport, Coach Station	☞ 0728
Stansted Mountfitchet, Lower Street	0741
Elsenham, Crown	0746
Henham Green, Vernon Close	0749
Henham, Church	0751
Elsenham, Rail Station	☞ 0757
Ugley Green	0800
Ugley, Village Hall	0803
Quendon, Quendon Arms	0808
Newport, Cambridge Road, Grammar School	0813
Audley End, Rail Station	☞ 0818
Saffron Walden, Audley End Road, County High School	0825
Saffron Walden, High Street	0830
Saffron Walden, Church Street	0832

NOTES

☞ Bus stop near Rail Station

Saffron Walden, Church Street	1517
Saffron Walden, High Street	1520
Saffron Walden, Audley End Road, County High School	1523
Audley End, Rail Station	☞ 1530
Newport, Cambridge Road, Grammar School	1540
Quendon, Quendon Arms	1545
Ugley, Village Hall	1549
Ugley Green	1553
Elsenham, Rail Station	☞ 1556
Henham, Church	1602
Henham Green, Vernon Close	1604
Elsenham, Crown	1607
Stansted Mountfitchet, Lower Street	1612
Stansted Airport, Coach Station	☞ 1625
Takeley, Four Ashes	1631

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BISHOPS STORTFORD - TAKELEY - STANSTED AIRPORT - HENHAM - ELSENHAM - STANSTED - BENTFIELD GREEN

Village Link 7

Mondays to Saturdays

From: 25/10/1999

Bishops Stortford, Interchange	☞	0710	10	1910
Takeley Street, Green Man		0721	21	1921
Takeley, Four Ashes		0726	26	1926
Coopers End		0729	29	1929
Stansted Airport, Coach Station	☞	0732	32	1932
Molehill Green, Elsenham Road		0737	37	1937
Elsenham, Crown		0742	Then 42	1942
Henham Green, Vernon Close		0745	at 45	1945
Henham, Woodend Green		0747	these 47	1947
Henham, Church		0749	mins 49	Until 1949
Elsenham, Rail Station	☞	0753	past 53	1953
Elsenham, Memorial Hall		0754	each 54	1954
Stansted Mountfitchet, Lower Street		0800	hour 00	2000
Stansted Mountfitchet, Maitland Road		0802	02	2002
Stansted Mountfitchet, Chapel Hill		0805	05	2005
Bentfield Green, Bentfield Road		0806	06	2006
Stansted Mountfitchet, Croasdale Road		0808	08	2008
Stansted Mountfitchet, opp. Bell and Feathers		0810	10	2010

☞ Bus stop near Rail Station

Bentfield Green, Bentfield Road		0806	06	1806	
Stansted Mountfitchet, Croasdale Road		0808	08	1808	
Stansted Mountfitchet, opp. Bell and Feathers		0711	0811	11	1811
Stansted Mountfitchet, Chapel Hill		0712	0812	12	1812
Stansted Mountfitchet, Maitland Road		0715	0815	15	1815
Stansted Mountfitchet, Lower Street		0717	0817	17	1817
Elsenham, Memorial Hall		0723	0823	Then 23	1823
Elsenham, Rail Station	☞	0724	0824	at 24	1824
Henham, Church		0728	0828	these 28	1828
Henham, Woodend Green		0730	0830	mins 30	Until 1830
Henham Green, Vernon Close		0732	0832	past 32	1832
Elsenham, Crown		0735	0835	each 35	1835
Molehill Green, Elsenham Road		0740	0840	hour 40	1840
Stansted Airport, Coach Station	☞	0745	0845	45	1845
Coopers End		0748	0848	48	1848
Takeley, Four Ashes		0751	0851	51	1851
Takeley Street, Green Man		0755	0855	55	1855
Bishops Stortford, Rail Station	☞	0806	0906	06	1906
Bishops Stortford, Interchange	☞	0807	0907	07	1907



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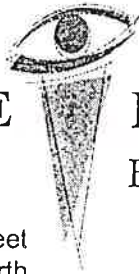
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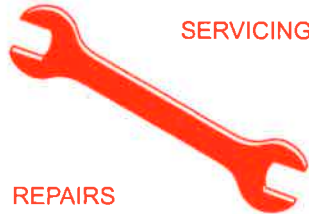
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