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# JUBILEE IN STANSTED



# LONG MAY SHE REIGN





Photo: Andrew Spurr

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#### **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

The current situation in the Middle East is deeply distressing and it is difficult to see how we can help to transmute the forces of separateness, hatred and extremism, which seem to hold sway at the present time. Part of our responsibility must surely lie in keeping ourselves informed about what is really going on and in sharing positive and constructive thoughts with others in a spirit of goodwill.

Friends at Stansted Meeting have been receiving e-mail reports from Quakers working in one of the Quaker schools in Ramallah. These e-mails make very sad reading We have seen TV reports of the more sensational acts of violence committed in the area but the war of attrition against the Palestinian people that has steadily been wearing them down for the last 50 years, is not so well documented.

The latest report details a blockade of basic commodities; food, medical supplies, fuel, oxygen for hospital use; deliberate destruction of water pipes, telephone lines, electricity grids, and civil, religious and cultural institutions; the arrest and/or deportation of radio and TV journalists to prevent the rest of the world witnessing what is going on and the preventing of the work of human rights organisations, medical workers and the free movement of ambulances, which are shot at continually and often destroyed. People are unable to bury their dead because of road-blocks and the curfew; families can be confined for several days, in small places, with their dead under the eyes of their children.

One can well imagine the powerful negative emotions that stem from having to endure such pitiless oppression. We hear a great deal about the Palestinian suicide bombers but not all Palestinians are thirsting for vengeance. Many are simply hoping for common decency and fairness to hold sway; for wrongs to be admitted and righted. The latest e-mail from the Quaker representatives in Ramallah contains the following extract from a letter written to them by a Palestinian woman friend:

"You know, Colin, that it's the first time I have a confused feeling about revenge. All the time I was against revenge but now I have a confused feeling, which has frightened me. Although I am from a refugee family, I know what it means, the suffering of being in a camp (the destruction of my family) and how the education is the most important thing in our life, - to be something in this world - so we can stand up again with dignity. I know personally in the '67 war how my family struggled from war '48 to '67, only to end up with nothing. To try again and struggle for a better life - helping our sons and daughters to finish their studies. Until

now, our sons and daughters - the third generation have found no peace. Sometimes I ask myself what I want, Do I want revenge? No! So what? Then I tried to look for the anger inside me - what is it that makes me so angry? I discover that I need an apology from the Israelis for more than 50 years of my family's suffering and for them to stop saying that they came to a land with no people".

On the other side of the conflict, Captain Haim Weiss, who was once glad to serve in the Israeli army, has wrestled with his conscience and written to his defence secretary to explain why he is refusing the call for reserve duty in the occupied territôries. He writes-" When a soldier is issued with a command opposed to his moral values, he must refuse to obey it". For him, an illegal order includes any order that leads to humiliating other human beings and robbing them of self respect and basic human rights, which are protected under the UN Declaration of Human Rights (a document signed by Israel). He deplores the restriction of movement imposed by the Israelis on the Palestinian people and considers that it is caused by the need to provide illegal Israeli settlers with freedom of movement and not by the need to prevent Palestinian suicide bombers entering Israeli territory. He thinks that as long as Israel continues to hold the settlements, it will be forced to act illegally towards the Palestinian population. He reminds the defence secretary that Israeli society is based on moral precepts in Judaism, which states that "Loved is a person created in God's image".

We can only hope and pray that the voices of reason and moderation on both sides will eventually prevail.

Anthea Lee

### UNITED REFORMED

Chapel Hill

Minister

Rev'd David Simpson 28 Linton Close

Saffron Walden Tel 01799 526618

Contact

Mrs Janet Townsend 58 Chapel Hill

Tel 01279 812593

#### Preachers for July:

7th	10-30am	Mr Ralph Friday
14th	10-30am	Rev David Simpson.
		Communion
21st	10 <b>-</b> 30am	Mrs Sarah Deveraux
28th	10-30am	Mrs Heather Kent

#### July 13th

#### "Strawberry Tea"

in the garden of Janet & Brian Townsend, 58 Chapel Hill, Stansted.
All are welcome to this event from 3-30pm.



The Parishes of Stansted Mountfitchet with Birchanger

> All enquiries are welcome at The Church Office located in St. John's Church Hall St John's Road Stansted CM24 8JP

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Open from 9:00am-12:00noon

(01279) 815243 <church.office@stansted.net>

Friday

Administrator Mrs Elizabeth Jennings

Church Hall Bookings Secretary Mrs Joy Lambe (01279) 817937 <joy@stansted.net>

Rector Revd Andrew Spurr The Rectory 5 St. John's Road Stansted Mountfitchet Essex, CM24 8JP phone/fax (01279) 812203 <rector@stansted.net>

Assistant Curate **Revd Rhys Martin** 43 Gilbey Crescent Stansted Mountfitchet Essex, CM24 8DT phone (01279) 817513 <curate@stansted.net>

Honorary Assistant Priest Canon Derek Jackson 88 Stansted Road Bishop's Stortford Herts, CM23 2DZ phone (01279) 652664

Director of Music Mrs Glynis Morris Wakeley Leetes Lane Eversden Cambs, CB3 7HH phone/fax (01223) 263640 <church.music@stansted.net>

> Children's Church Mrs Marion Johnson (01279) 812284

Youth Group **Revd Rhys Martin** (01279) 817513

Mother & Toddler Group Mrs Tina South (01279) 814371

> Housegroup Mrs Joan Freeman (01279) 813186

# St John's, Stansted I



# Downwardly mobile

he success of the Queen's Golden Jubilee celebrations has given a muchneeded lift to national spirits, weighed down by Westminster trivia and a lingering unease about whether we need to follow American foreign policy quite so closely. One American observer summed up the Jubilee by saving, 'Well, I guess that means Charles keeps his day job'.

I lived in that republic for almost a decade, and I didn't ever get to the point where I believed in it, for all its high and noble ideals. Monarchy may be inherited, presidency is always bought.

It's not for me to pick over what we can take from the nation's celebrations. I do think it is time to face the question, which the Church of England has avoided for so long, of its relation to the state. Can a state have Anglican Christianity as its official religion when it has so few nominal members, and even fewer who publicly practice that faith? Can a faith, which was founded to challenge earthly powers, exist as a chaplain to earthly power without losing its original purpose?

At the Millennium, the state, when faced with celebrating two thousand years of Christianity did not, as the Russians did, build a cathedral, but erected a temporary Dome, in which Christianity was relegated to a part of the Spirit Zone. Government Ministers wrote letters assuring people that the Dome would contain no suggestion of Christian triumphalism, and bishops had to put up a massive fight to get a prayer said at the official midnight celebrations. When the churches themselves produced a Millennium Resolution, which we used here, I could not help but notice that it carefully omitted any reference to the One whose birthday was being marked.

Over the Millennium celebrations, representatives of other faiths thought we were quite mad: they understood why we wanted to invite everyone to the party but not why Christians wanted to deny ownership of the party in the first place.

The Church of England needs to begin to stand apart from a nation which is publicly uncomfortable with Christianity. We also should to take seriously the desirability (and inevitability) of reconciliation and unity with our fellow Christians. The Church of England currently explicitly acknowledges no higher authority within this kingdom than that of the Queen "over all persons in all causes, as well ecclesiastical as civil" (Canon A7). This not only ignores the institutions of the European Union, the European Court and the International Court of Justice, but it also means that the Church of England cannot become united to any other body of Christian Churches under an independent authoritative body, or any church outside of England.

Our Bishops, while they do a good job in the House of Lords, only represent one part of the United Kingdom—England, and I do not think it is edifying or prudent for the successors of the apostles to appear to be clinging on to what, in the eyes of most of our fellow citizens, looks like a position of arbitrary privilege. The founders of our faith were nobodies, and the church was built by nobodies. I suspect the only way the church will ever regain credibility if we are prepared to be nobodies again. This would certainly take us back to the spirit and purpose of our earliest tradition:

.... As poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

> St Paul's second letter to the Christians at Corinth 610

### St. John's Diary

Sundays

8:00am Holy Communion said 9:30am Parish Communion sung (with Baptism on 21st July) 11:00am Open Door Service with (with Baptism on 21st July)

6:30pm Evening Prayer said 10:00am Holy Communion said Wednesdays

followed by coffee 7:30pm Intercessions and

Night Prayer

Children's Church meets at 9:30am on Sundays in the Church Hall. Tiny Tots is a mother and toddler group that meets fortnightly on Tuesday afternoons 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 Revd Rhys Martin 817513. A housegroup meets fortnightly.

# St John's, Stansted

(continued)

From the Registers:

Baptism:

19th May

Aimee Yvette Fordham

Funerals:

17th May

Annie Duke

20th May Ena Hudgell

## THE RECTOR'S SUMMER BARBECUE

Sunday, 14th July 12.30 for 1pm Barbecue Lunch in the **Rectory Garden** (if wet in the Church Hall)

Tickets from the Church Office. Clergy and after Church Services £6 each, £4 concessions and children

Proceeds to Benefice Choir keyboard

Please support this event before going on to visit the "Open Gardens in the Village"

### **CHINESE AUCTION**

Saturday, 28th September 7.30pm in the Church Hall

Tickets from the Church Office, Clergy and after Church Services £6 each, concessions and children £4, including supper

Proceeds to our Harvest Mission

#### ROMAN CATHOLIC

St Therese of Lisieux, High Lane

Priest Father Joe White

The Presbytery St Therese of Lisieux High Lane, Stansted

Tel 01279 814349

Masses Saturday

6.00 pm

Sunday

9 am and 10.30 am

Holy Days of Obligation 8am and 8pm

Tuesday - Saturday

9.30am

Confessions

Saturday

10am

and by appointment

**Baptisms** 

By appointment

#### The Changing Face of Mission

Last month, St Theresa's Parish welcomed a priest from the St Patrick's Missions to talk about his work and those of his brothers in Africa. His style of presentation was very informal but the weight of his talk showed in the enthusiastic giving at the end of Mass as well as a number of parishioners subscribing to the monthly mission magazine, "Africa".

In the June edition of "Africa" there is an article detailing the different way that missionaries now work in the field. This came about with the advent of the Vatican Council in 1962 that was the start of momentous change in the life of the church and of the missionary movement. In highlighting some of these changes, the article followed the missionary life of the late Fr Julian Connolly, who practised, in an exceptional way, the change in missionary work. There was now a move away from the hard-driving missionary who was sure of the rights and wrongs of a situation, and a move towards one of presence - just being with the people, offering them time and sympathy and being available to their many demands. The concern was not so much about the number of converts and of presenting God as a just but stern judge, but emphasising His love and forgiveness.

In line with the new theology of Vatican II it was also a realisation that God's plan of salvation includes a positive role for other churches and other religions - including the traditional believers whom we had called pagans.

One aspect of this new direction is a greater respect for non-Western cultures which is shown in using drums and other local instruments in church music, and the predominance of young African men over white men in priestly positions within the church. The key aspects of the new approach to mission are that there are fewer certainties and much more questioning. Above all, there is awareness that the good news is a personal experience of God that can only be shared with others if time is taken to discover it for themselves.

Rita Morson

#### **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

Email: methodists@stansted.net

All services start at 9.30am unless otherwise stated

Services and preachers for July

7th Bernard Engel 14th Rev'd Harry Wood 21st Christine Heyhoe

28th 3.30 pm Church Anniversary

with Rev'd David Simpson

Fellowship meeting: Friday 12th July, 8 pm at Ugley Green



July Meetings

Monday, 8th July - Margaret Silvester will introduce a

tape for discussion at 4 Greenfields.

Monday, 22nd July - Prayer and praise and picnic at 7,

Blythwood Gardens.

Bring some food and share.

All meetings start at 8p.m. and everyone is welcome.

# **Christian** Aid

### We believe in life before death

Well done Stansted and Birchanger. Over £2,000 has been banked so far. This is the proceeds of the Market and the envelope collection. Final totals will be reported next month when all the money is in and counted.

Far more people filled in the envelope with their name and address this year. The message seems to be getting across that there is nothing sinister about this, simply a way to make donations worth more to Christian Aid, thanks to the tax man.

In addition £348 was raised in sponsorship money for the Walk in London.

Thank you to everybody who made Christian Aid Week such a success.

Catherine Dean



# Stansted - Chevetogne Visit 6th - 9th June 2002

There were 19 of us joining the coach at Crafton Green on this 16th year of the Exchange. We left Stansted under grey skies but by the time we crossed the Channel and made some headway into Belgium, the sun came out and stayed with us until our return 3 days later.

As usual we all stayed with different families, but met together the first day to go on our coach to visit the Val-Saint Lambert Glass Works in Liege; where they provide visitors with a very interesting way of showing the growth and importance of the glass industry through the centuries. We entered a simulated Hot Air-Balloon, which took us, shuddering and shaking, off on our visit through time.

Then on to a very leisurely lunch (punctuated by only two phone calls home to find out the score of the England v Argentina game!) and a tour of Liege City, we set off for the lovely rural parish of St Severin with its beautiful 12C Roman Church. They are twinned with the Anglican parish in Cherry Hinton, Cambridge. The congregation had prepared a very beautiful evensong especially for our visit and prayers were read from the Bible presented to them by their twinned parish. Their Cantor and Choir in good voice were truly uplifting. Following the service, we were provided with refreshments, which gave us time to talk with the parishioners and the priest and to make a great fuss of the youngest member of the choir - a four week old baby!

Our second day was spent with our various host families and so each of our experiences of this day is very different. Brian and I were taken to Boullion, a village on the borders of Luxembourg. We sped there through beautiful scenery, taking in the stunning view at Rochehaut called the 'Giant's Tomb', where hang-gliders swooped down through the valley and over the woods and rivers far below.

We were visiting a friend of our host, a Professor of Music, who after showing us into her 'salon' proceeded to give us a wonderful concert on her Bechstein grand piano. Afterwards we were introduced to her parrot Coco who also sang a song to us and copied our laughter with great gusts of chortling and squawking. Who could have predicted something like this as part of our visit! The village of Boullion itself is beautiful. Set in a valley surrounded by forest, many of the houses have high timbered cabins for drying tobacco leaves, which again was a great surprise to me, as I thought you only found those in Havanna or somewhere else exotic!

(continued overleaf)

Returning to Chevetogne in the late afternoon we walked with our coach driver Tom up through the woods to the Monastery. It is a beautiful peaceful setting where the Benedec tine monks from various origins are consecrated to Christian Unity. They are a community devoted to hospitality, encounter and fellowship. In service to all Christians by way of praise and liturgy, icons and artwork, study and research.

The founder of the monastery, Dom Lambert Beaudin was a pioneer of Ecumenism in the Catholic Church. The building comprises an Oriental Church and a Latin Church. In its prayer life the community celebrates the liturgies of the West and the Orthodox East; seeking to penetrate beyond confessional barriers into the depths of the Christian spirit in both.

Many of the group attended a service at the Abbey of St Remy in Rochefort and then in the evening we all met together at a venue in the grounds of the Monastery for our farewell meal.

During the afternoon our hosts had prepared a superb buffet for us and the Baroness had decorated the tables with displays of rhododendron flowers from the Chateau at Reux. Our menu cards were imaginatively decorated with a view of the town crier in Thaxted, a village that holds many happy memories for us all.

Having eaten and sang for most of the night, not a drop of drink having passed our lips, we presented our gift, which was a lovely water colour of the new Church of St Therese of Lisieux in Stansted, painted by Katherine Hurford.



Brian enjoying his rack of lamb in Rocourt

Following Mass on Sunday morning we all met again in the Monastery Woods car park, in bright sunlight, to say goodbye and take the final photos before setting off on our journey home.

On the way back we made a 'slight' detour, led by Dave Morson, to visit the Canadian National Vimy Memorial which stands on Hill 145 near Arras. This highest point of the 14 km long Vimy ridge, which during the First World War was so well fortified that all attempts to take it from the Germans during the first 3 years of the War had failed. But on 9th April, 1917, all four divisions of the Canadian Corps fighting together for the first time, stormed the Ridge. Hill 145 was then taken three days later, but over 3000 Canadians lost their lives. However this victory was a turning point for the Allied Forces. Today the Memorial is a monument to all Canadians who died or risked their lives in the First World War. The Monument itself took eleven years to build and is very impressive. Carved on the walls are the names of 11,285 Canadians killed in France whose final resting place is unknown. Altogether, 66,655 Canadians died in the First World War.

Thoughtfully then, we then made our way to the French National War Cemetery at Notre Dame de Lorette. Here, the fields of simple crosses, stretching out of view, made us very grateful that their sacrifice had made it possible for us to pass from Belgium, through France and onward home so peacefully and joyously.

And so back home to Stansted, arriving under grey skies more reminiscent of November than glorious June, and yet how lucky we feel to be part of such a community. Now starts the planning for their visit to us in 2003!!

#### Eileen Quinn

#### Jubilee Songs of Praise

Over 250 people made their way to the Recreation Ground on Sunday, 2nd June for the Jubilee Songs of Praise, all carrying chairs, rugs and *umbrella's*, but these were not needed as the rain kept off just long enough. Everyone seemed to enjoy it. Thank you to everyone who took part, Bands, Singers, sound operators and removal men. The magnificent sum of just over £325-00 was raised by the collection for the Carnival trust fund.

We all owe a debt of gratitude to Janet Townsend for organising the event. A great deal of preparation, including contingency planning, goes into these occasions and it is quite a triumph when everything, including the weather, falls into place.

#### Derek Honour

#### RAP (Regular Aid for the Poor)

I am pleased to report through Link that we have been able to make a further donation to our three Charities of £242.00 each in May.

We received two additional donations which helped us to do this.

I would like to thank you for your continuing generosity in supporting RAP, the three Charities always acknowledge our donations to them.

Dave Morson Chairman, RAP



## Essex County Fire & Rescue Service Stansted Fire Station Open Day

10 am - 4 pm Saturday 13th July

- · Bring the family & see what your Fire Station has to offer
- RTA demonstrations

10 Sat - 11 Sun Amenity Skip

Static displays

Free entry - everyone welcome

#### VILLAGE EVENTS July Wed Mountfitchet Seniors Day Centre 2 - 4 pm Garden Club Day Centre 8 pm Sun Car Treasure Hunt Mountfitchet School 10 am St Mary's Church open 2 - 5 pm Windmill open 2 - 6 pm 8 Mon Shalom Group 4 Greenfields 8 pm 9 Tue Conservative Branch Mtg Parish Council Offices 8 pm 10 Wed Jubilee Tea Party Day Centre Thu WI 11 St John's Hall 7.45 pm 12 Fri Conservatives Pub Night Rose & Crown 8 pm 13 Sat Fire Station Open Day 10 am - 4 pm Lib Dem Ploughman's Day Centre noon - 2 pm Green Waste Skip Lower St Car Park 1 - 4 pm Music in the Park Bentfield School 3 pm URC Cream Tea 58 Chapel Hill 3.30 pm 14 Sun Car Boot Sale Mountfitchet School 8 am - noon Barbecue Lunch The Rectory 12.30 pm **HEAL Gardens Open** 15 Mon - 19 Fri Amenity Skip Lower St Car Pk 7.30 am - 3 pm 16 Tue Conservatives Pub Night Rose & Crown 8 pm 17 Wed NCT Open House Day Centre 10 am Mountfitchet Seniors Day Centre 2 - 4 pm 18 Thu RBL (Women) Day Centre 7.30 pm 21 Sun Lib Dem Garden Party Churchmead, Widdington 2.30 pm 22 Mon Shalom Picnic & Praise 7 Blythwood Gardens 8 pm -24 Wed Coffee Morning 47 Bentfield Gardens 10 am 29 Mon Playscheme begins Yth Cntre 10 - 12.30, 1.30 - 3.30 pm August Lib Dem Salmon & Wine 7 Blythwood Gardens 12.30 pm St Mary's Church open 2 - 5 pm Windmill open 2 - 6 pm Wed Mountfitchet Seniors Day Centre 2 - 4 pm 10 Sat Lib Dem Ploughmans Day Centre noon - 2 pm

# Bentfield C Primary School Music in the Park

Time to dust off those dancing shoes

Gates open 2.30 pm Music kick off at 3 pm Saturday 13th July

Four live bands to suit all tastes

Jazz - Rock 'n' Roll ~ Pop

Rhythm & Blues

PLUS

Real Ale Bar ~ Bouncy Castle BBQ ~ Children's Entertainer

Tickets from the School 813626 or from PTA members

Adults £7.50, accompanied children under 16 *free* 



1 - 6 pm Sunday 14th July Beautiful gardens in Stansted for you to enjoy! For further details see article

Entry £3. Tel 814265

## Coffee Morning

In aid of

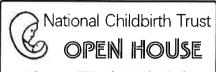
Grove Cottage Speech Therapy Unit

10 am - noon Wednesday 24th July 47 Bentfield Gardens

Raffle ~ Bring & Buy Bric-à-Brac

REMEMBER The **next** edition of **Village Events** covers **August and September** - be sure your event is included!

**Uttlesford District Council Green Waste** Skip Dates 1 - 4 pm Mon - Thurs 7.30am - 3pm Weekends Fri am only Sat 13 July 7.30am - 3pm 15 - 19 July (also Green Waste) Sun 11 August 2 - 6 September 10 - 11 August Sat 7 Sept 7 - 11 October 16 - 17 November Sun 6th Oct



10 am Wed 17th July
Day Centre
Entry Free

Anyone with a baby or young children welcome

Lower St Car Pk 7.30 am - 3 pm



#### THE JUBILEE



This issue has the Queen's Golden Jubilee as its central theme. The Link has attempted to include reports, comments or photographs of the principal events so far held but if any particular occasion does not appear it is due to either lack of copy or our investigative reporting (for which resources are limited). If there are any items which have missed our trawl, please let the Editor have it/them by the normal channels and we should be able to include them in the August publication. We would encourage everyone to read the account of Queen Victoria's Golden Jubilee in 1887 which follows, and for which we thank Rene Sanders. Much has changed since those relatively uncomplicated times but Stansted has gone a long way to keeping the spirit of the final sentence alive.

The Editor

# THE CELEBRATION AT STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET OF QUEEN VICTORIA'S JUBILEE IN 1887

The principal event of the day was a "Fete Champetre" held in Stansted Park.

The inhabitants assembled 'en masse' at the Fountain at 12.30 pm. A procession was formed, and headed by a brass band from Stratford marched to the Parish Church. First of all came the Standard Bearer with the Royal Standard and then the various Ministers of Religion (4 in all), followed by the Parish Officers - Churchwardens, Overseers etc. Then came the inhabitants of the village marshalled by Mr Charles Hicks, Mr Freelove and Mr Harford Green, followed by all the children.

Upon arriving at the wicket gate opposite the Vicarage (now the Manor House), the whole of the children marched into the Park, the rest of the procession proceeding to the Parish Church where a United Thanksgiving Service was held.

After a "bright and hearty" service, dinner was served to the adults in a spacious marquee accommodating about 250 at a time. The assembly numbered about 1000 and the bill of fare consisted of two bullocks roasted and boiled, 150 plum puddings averaging between 5 and 6 pounds each, two pints of beer to every man, one pint of beer to every woman and ginger beer for abstainers.

During this time the children were supplied with sandwiches. Ample justice was done to the fare provided but when all had had their fill a lot remained, and this was distributed amongst the poor with large families the following day.

There followed Races and Sports and Amusements in variety for the young and old of both sexes which continued until dusk, the band playing throughout. In the Tug-of-War, Bentfield End defeated Burton End but the team from the 'Street' were the final victors and it was said that Messrs Heddington, Pole and Middleditch pulled together with a will as 'though to the manner born'.

At the end of the afternoon tea and cake *ad lib* was provided for all and new sixpences were distributed to all the Children.

Mr. Fuller Maitland MP entertained to tea the Committee, their friends, the Tradesmen and all who had 'borne the heat and burden of the day'.

In addition to the Sports there were Punch and Judy Shows, cocoanut throwing, a greasy pole and dancing, the festivities terminating with a display of fireworks.

Close on £300 was subscribed to the Celebration Fund, the surplus being devoted to the permanent improvement of the footpaths.

The village was profusely decorated, prominent amongst the decorations being the Windmill which was ornamented with flags and bunting from top to bottom.

Nothing occurred to mar the harmony of the day and it was hoped that generation after generation would hand down the tradition:

"How well was kept Victoria's Jubilee, in the brave days of old".

(extracted from several newspaper cuttings dealing with the event.)

#### **JUBILEE FUN DAY**

Well done, Stansted! A well-organised Fun Day on the Recreation Ground as part of the Jubilee Celebrations proved to be popular with young and old on Bank Holiday Monday - 3rd June.

It was good to see so many people enjoying themselves in fine weather - another bonus!

The Fun Day Committee - Catherine Dean, Claire Jonas, Garry King and Sonia Levy worked hard to put together a programme mainly for the young folk but with plenty of entertainment for the oldies.

The afternoon started with the Pied Pipers (Sonia, Fran Richards and Karen Gooding) leading the children round the village and onto the Recreation Ground. Then our very own venerable Court Jester, Mr. Richard Pollard organised the children's races followed by hilarious mayhem with an all-in all-age Tug-of-War (mile-long rope kindly supplied by Ashley Daly).

The highlight of the day's events was provided by Garry, Stansted's answer to Fat Boy Slim, who presided over the energetic disco. Houdini would have been impressed by the amazing contortions and gyrations of the teenies (and crusties!)

Finally, a word of thanks to Charlie Jonas who checked the electrical connections.

Peter Baker



As part of Stansted's Jubilee Celebrations, the Club held its Jubilee Summer Soiree on Saturday, 1st June. This proved to be a 'sell-out'. After introductory words from Cllr Ray Clifford, Chairman of the Parish Council's Jubilee Committee, the audience sat back and enjoyed a concert of music given by a number of talented young soloists featuring flute, clarinet, trumpet, 'cello, guitar and piano.

In the interval, a buffet supper was provided by the Parish Council and as everyone relaxed outside in the grounds of St John's Church, they were entertained to live jazz music

A dissertation at the start of the second half of the concert by Daren Miller, a Canadian resident in Stansted, emphasised the high esteem and affection held for the Queen within the Commonwealth.

The finale of the concert was the singing of 'Jerusalem', which certainly lifted everyone's spirits as they went home.

Thanks are due, in no short measure, to Sonia Levy for organising the music side of the event, to the Parish Council for the catering and to the committee members for the bar and general organisation.

#### Tony Butcher

Looking forward, we have a wonderful series of concerts already planned for our Seventh Season 2002-2003.

Saturday 19th October 8pm: Coull Quartet - Roger Coull & Philip Gallaway (violins) David Curtis (viola) and Nicholas Roberts (cello)

Sunday 8th December 3pm: Min Park (flute) and Zoe Mather (piano)

Sunday 19th January 3pm: Gary Ryan (guitar)

Saturday 8th March 8pm : Collegium Regale (Choral Scholars of the Choir of King's College, Cambridge)

All concerts are held in St John's Church, Stansted.

The continuing success of the Club will depend on our maintaining a strong membership. That enables us to plan ahead with confidence. Membership for the whole season costs £24 for individuals, £46 for couples and £18 for concessions, while tickets for each individual concert are £8 for adults and £6 for concessions. Membership therefore effectively means that one concert each season is free! Please apply for membership and send cheques payable to "The Village Music Club" to Fairfield, Silver Street, Stansted, Essex CM24 8HE.

Alan Corbishley

#### **BLYTHWOOD GARDENS STREET PARTY**

The sun shone on Blythwood Gardens on Sunday, 2nd June as 170 people responded to the Queen's call to bring communities together, by attending the Golden Jubilee street party.

The event was open to all ages and was well attended by the residents - thirty houses took part plus a number of friends from each property.

What made the event more remarkable was that it was actually organised by 4 chaps from the road, Mark Williams, Steve Brown, George Georgiou and myself (with occasional input from the wives of course!). The day evolved out of a number of committee meetings at the Old Bell Hotel, from where we gained considerable inspiration for the list of varied events.

The day began at 2.30pm with a fancy dress competition won by the dragon from No 35 (no offence Wendy). Then followed a succession of children's races including the toddlers buggy grand prix, egg and spoon and sack races. The children were then spellbound for 45 minutes by the magic of children's entertainer Andy Clockwise, before tucking into sandwiches, cakes and drinks provided by the parents in the road. Then followed more racing for the children, which included the adult sack races won by Laura Hobday and Steve Brown, who crossed the line like a salmon jumping out of the water! The childen's activities were rounded off with musical chairs and the prize giving ceremony.

In the evening, the adults were provided with a barbecue and entertained by DJ Tony "wheels of steel" Hobday, who kindly offered his services free of charge. A live guitarist/vocalist also attended the evening session. The expected rain and thunderstorm finally arrived at 1am, curtailing the event and sending many sore heads and sore feet home for an early bath.

I would like to thank, firstly, all the residents for their enthusiasm and support, including those who did not attend but made a donation, and secondly, Simon and Ruth Clifford for providing the barbecue and awning. Finally, I must thank Mark, Steve and George for their huge efforts in turning the concept into reality.

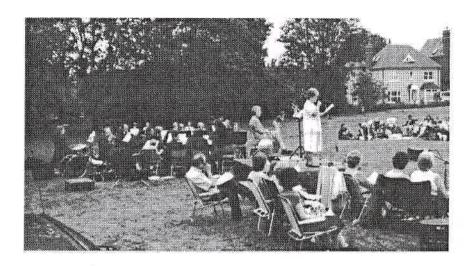
Trevor Ford

# Sue Leech Chiropodist MSSCH MBCHA Surgery or Home Visits

Routine Chiropody, Verrucae, Corns and Nail Disorders

07626 414431

# **STANSTED JUBILEE JUNE 2002**



Songs of Praise on the Recreation Ground. Bishop's Stortford Town Band, the lead singers and some of the 'congregation'. The singer is Sheila Harrington with MC Janet Townsend (seated).



A house bedecked for the occasion.

Many households made a colourful contribution



Mountfitchet Seniors Jubilee Tea in the Day Centre.



Huw Johnson Club supper in St. John's Hall attended by some 80 members and helpers.

# **STANSTED JUBILEE JUNE 2002**

Children's fancy Dress which followed the Pied Piper's processions to the Recreation Ground.

Photos by
Ted Pretty and David Harrison.
courtesy of
Stansted Mountfitchet Parish Council.
Unless otherwise stated.





The Blythwood Gardens Street party.
Games, races and refreshments
for all ages.
Photo by Mandy Honour



Interval Jazz at the Village Music Club's well-attended Soiree at St. John's Church.



The Windmill Ploughman's Lunch attended by over 70 people.

#### CLARENCE ROAD STREET PARTY 3RD JUNE 2002

They came in their ones and their twos;
they came in their fours and their fives;
Children and Uncles and Aunts;
Grandmas and Husbands and Wives.
The new road was shining and cleaned,
the weather was cloudy – but fine –
As neighbours from every age-group
joined in with their food and their wine.

The old Duke of Clarence looked down on the road which still bears his name

And he said "I am glad that the potholes no longer cause trouble or blame.

The new road's a worthy achievement in this, the Queen's Jubilee Year;

And to all those who travel along it, may they walk, ride or drive without fear."

The householders, both young and old,
laughed and joked as they honoured our Queen
For devotion throughout 50 years,
to duty and country and creed.
Her health was toasted by all,
as they chatted and laughed and agreed
That the "Jubilee Year" and "The Road"
were fitting 'memorials' indeed.

After midnight the music was hushed,
when the guests at that happy feast
Made their way to their own homes at last,
leaving road and wildlife in peace.
And all who had been there that night,
without fail, as they spoke the next day,
Said "Street parties are 'our cup of tea' and
we'll have them again – come what may!"

A. Resident



# HuwJohnson Club

Our Jubilee party went with a swing, with enthusiastic singing of songs from the 50's, bunting everywhere, a memorabilia table and of course plenty of food. The table looked wonderful with everything - including the cakes - red, white, blue or gold. Hannah had made a Jubilee cake complete with the union flag and a miniature gold Coronation coach. Our President, Derek, proposed a loyal toast to the Queen. We were pleased that the new Parish Chairperson, Catherine Dean, was able to join in the fun. A great time was had by all.

We would like to express our thanks to the Stansted Lodge of Instruction for once again making a donation to our funds.

Marion Johnson



#### **OPEN GARDENS**

Our Third Open Gardens will be on Sunday, 14th July 1pm - 6pm, £3 entrance. It will follow last year's format - but hopefully with more sunshine! We have a wonderful spread from 1 Mountfitchet Road through to Bentfield Green. There will be refreshments at some of them, strawberries and cream at another, while plants and raffles will also be available.

Tickets will be on sale before the day at 'Auto & Miniature' (opposite Barclays Bank) and at the Mill House Tea Rooms, Lower Street. On the day they will be available at Crafton Green and the participating gardens.

Come and enjoy a lovely afternoon.

Quote:

Flowers always make people better, happier and more helpful; they are sunshine, food and medicine to the soul.

(Luther Burbank)

Any enquiries ring Sue Hitchmough, (814265).



Branch Meeting:

9th July

8pm

Parish Council Offices

Pub Night:

12th July

8pm

Rose & Crown,

Bentfield Green

Pub Night

16th August

8pm

Rose & Crown.

Bentfield Green

Salad Lunch

15th September

ber 12-2.30pm The Ash, Burton End

Sian Lloyd

#### STANSTED RED CROSS WEEK, MAY 2002

May I take this opportunity of thanking everyone in the village who gave so generously to the British Red Cross collection, when we raised a grand total of £1211.54. I would also like to thank all those people who so kindly gave their time once again to collect for this very worthwhile cause.

Diana Pelly

# Stansted Profile No. 47 Francis and Joan Mercer

No community can thrive without a sprinkling of people who provide a quiet self-effacing service in the back ground. Francis and Joan belong in this society and have become widely respected as a result.

Francis hails from Faversham, a Man of Kent, and proudly claims to have spent his early years in a house adjacent to the malthouse of the famous Shepherd and Neame brewery. After a conventional schooling his first job was that of trainee chef in London's Hans Crescent Hotel. Unfortunately this occupation revealed an allergy to sugar and flour which compelled him to leave and take up an engineering career back in Faversham. This was prematurely terminated by the war, when he entered the RAF for training as a fitter at Halton. His first unit was a high-flying Spitfire squadron based at North Weald, and his initiation to Essex. 6 months later he went to Training Command at Moreton Valence in Gloucestershire where he serviced the more gentle Anson navigational trainer. Coincidentally with D-Day he was moved to No. 229 Squadron equipped with Mitchell bombers at Blackbushe in Surrey, where the ground crews lived under canvas. The transition from the 7 cylinder Cheetah engines to the 12 cylinder Pratt and Whitney Wasp was a challenge but the Mitchell was such a well-behaved aeroplane that he came to appreciate it as much as the crews who flew them. As the war moved to France and Holland the squadron followed and No. 229 was the only squadron that was not fog-bound when the Ardenne offensive broke in December 1944. When the war ended Francis moved to Buckeberg in Germany where he renewed his acquaintance with the Ansons, then used for conveying VIP's to and from the UK. After demob in 1946 he was variously a Post Office clerk and an engineer - with Lucas in Birmingham, Rotax at Acton followed by Standard Telephones at Borehamwood and Harlow.

Joan comes from Southfields near Wimbledon. She attended the local C. of E. primary school then the Elliott Central School and after matriculation moved to Regent Street Polytechnic to study economics. After achieving Intermediate B.Sc (with some difficulty) she continued studying five nights a week on top of a working day as a typist with the Consolidated Pneumatic Tool Co. Shortly after the war started she moved to the Instrument Section of the Meteorological Branch in the Air Ministry. For most of this time she was at Stonehouse in Gloucestershire, where one evening she met Francis at a dance which the nearby RAF boys attended. It is part of family folklore that Francis and his rigger (servicing crews tended to keep together) tossed a coin as to who should have one of two unaccompanied girls and Francis lost the toss. Such are the vagaries of fate with Stansted as one of the winners! Francis and Joan were married in 1947 and in 1950 moved near Francis' workplace at Lucas's. The Birmingham days with a very young baby, were not the happiest and in 1952 Joan went back to her parents who had retired to a large 17C former ropewalk house at Newnham-on-Severn, where Vincent was born, while Francis went to work in London.

In 1954 the family were reunited in Harlow. Francis remained with STC. until 1969 when a group of technicians moved to Cossors, and finally he joined Harlow District Council, where he rose to become deputy head of the Works Department.

Their eldest daughter, Elizabeth, was born in 1950 and has been both a Careers Adviser and teacher. She, Tony and her two children live at Gt. Chishill.

Vincent followed in 1952 and has a career as a solicitor and compiler of financial contracts. He and Sheelagh have four children of whom two, Ben and Tom, are members of the Cantate Choir. Julia, the youngest, and Bob have two children and live at Woodbridge. One of Francis and Joan's worst experiences was the motor accident, which Elizabeth suffered in 2000 necessitating a long period in Addenbrookes Hospital and for them days of great anxiety. Thankfully she is now largely recovered and readers may recall an air ambulance article appearing in the Herts and Essex Observer in April/May in which she was depicted.

Whilst in Harlow Joan became PCC Treasurer in our well-remembered Revd. Barry Rose's parish of Latton, while Francis was instrumental in raising the money for building Our Lady of Fatima church and became the first Roman Catholic on the Harlow Council of Churches. Now he is probably the most ecumenical person in Stansted!



Since arriving in Stansted in 1984 they have both worked tirelessly, not only for St. John's and St. Theresa's Churches, but within and in the background to many village occasions. Well deserved recognition came recently when they were awarded a Long Service Medal by Save the Children Fund. They frequently visit their family and have short holidays at destinations throughout the country - a good testimonial to lively minds. In the 18 years that Francis and Joan have been in Stansted they have become well known and loved and we hope they are as well pleased with their chosen place of active retirement.

Derek Honour



#### **Nature Notes**

Just after sunset, particularly on warm summer evenings, one can expect to catch sight of bats fluttering over gardens and hedgerows with rapid twists and turns. They are likely to be pipistrelles, the smallest of the fourteen British species of bat. They are only one and a half inches long, although their wingspan is about nine inches. They have spent the daylight hours at a roost site, probably in a building behind hanging tiles, soffits or barge boards. (The brown long-eared bat, the second commonest British bat, tends to roost in attics and tree holes.) At dusk they emerge to drink and to feed on insects, mainly small moths and gnats, returning to their roost after an hour or two and then feeding again. As bats lose body heat very quickly, they have to consume huge amounts of insects during one feeding session; this could be 3000 midges for the pipistrelle!

Bats are the only vertebrates that fly at night and feed on insects on the wing. They have existed for over 50 million years and probably first appeared after the era of the dinosaurs. Fossil evidence indicates that they have changed very little over the millennia. With a short neck and streamlined body and with a wing shape that can be altered, they are perfectly adapted to manoeuvre expertly and feed in mid-air. They can fly in total darkness and find tiny moving insects by means of echolocation or sonar (a discovery made by two American scientists in 1938). Bats produce very high frequency sounds, which are reflected back from objects as echoes. The time taken for the return echo to reach the bat, and the pitch and tone of the echo, are all translated into a sound picture of the bat's surroundings. The ultra sounds are produced through the open mouth of most bats, but horseshoe bats (which are now rare in Britain) produce sounds through their noses. Certain moths can detect attacking bats and take evasive action by retreating rapidly, and lacewings will take a nose-dive. Some moths can even jam the bats' echolocation by producing their own ultrasound.



As autumn approaches and insects become scarce, bats move from their roosting sites to search for winter quarters for hibernation. They do not build nests but cling to wall surfaces. Pipistrelles use churches and cellars and particularly wall cracks as they prefer to be in contact with a wall on all sides. The site must be humid to prevent dehydration, and cool but frost free. As the temperature drops, their heartbeat and breathing slow down until the creatures are in a state of suspended animation. The fat deposits they have built up provide energy when they need to become active during winter (to change hibernation site, to drink and to excrete).

Hibernation ends in March or April and the bats then return to roosting sites where the females form large colonies and rear their single offspring. Although born blind, these develop very quickly and are ready to fly at three weeks. They can communicate with their mother with audible low frequency sounds, but they have to learn how to echolocate,

Rosina Kirkwood

#### Stansted Mountfitchet Parish Council

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



Council Offices Crafton Green Tel 813214 Fax 813964

#### Summer Play Scheme

We are pleased to report that the Playscheme will run for 3 weeks this summer, commencing on Monday 29 July. The venue is the Youth Centre in Lower Street. Sessions run from 10am-12noon, and from 1.30-3.30pm. Each session costs £1.50 per child and trips cost extra. Again we are indebted to Terri Stockwell and her willing band of assistants for making this possible.

Please note that due to Social Services legislation, under 8's are only eligible to attend one session per day. For ease of planning our timetable, this will be the morning session. The younger children are able to go on the trips, but only if accompanied by an adult. Watch noticeboards for full programme of events, but the usual items will be included: arts and crafts, sports, outings. For further information, please contact Ruth Clifford on 813214.

#### Golden Jubilee

Our thanks to all those involved in staging the variety of events which took place over the period 1-4 June. We have received many favourable comments, but without the voluntary support and time donated, none of it would have been possible. Grateful thanks too to those who contributed to the Village Jubilee Appeal which raised just over £2,000, meeting all expenses incurred.

#### Best Kept Village

Once again we have entered this Essex-wide competition where we have enjoyed great success in the past two years. The judges may have been by the time this goes to print - we are never told when they are coming - but let's hope we can maintain our position in the top 3 in Essex!!

Ruth Clifford Clerk

#### STANSTED FIRE STATION

This year's Plant Sale was, as usual, a great success.

Many thanks to everybody who supported us.











We have a busy schedule planned for July and are hoping for some sun to make the outdoor activities a success.

Our bi-monthly Open House takes place on Wednesday, 17th July at 10am at the Crafton Green Day Centre, Stansted. Everyone with babies and small children is welcome to drop by and have a cup of tea while the children play. You can see what we do and also what our local book and craft traders have on sale. It's free, you don't need to let us know you're coming, so don't be shy – just pop in.

Our bumps and young babies group will be getting together this month too, so if you have either (or both!) and would like an invitation, do call Wendy on 01279 813387. This is a unique way to meet other local new mums and mums-to-be in a friendly environment – lots of people come for the first time not knowing anyone, so you won't be alone. It costs 50p and refreshments, which include homemade cakes, are provided.

We are hoping for good weather for our family BBQ as well as for a teddy bears' picnic at the Audley End miniature railway and for the kids' paddling pool party (although for some strange reason, they seem to enjoy this event come rain or shine!).

In addition to our regular coffee events three times a week, and the popular once-a-month Saturday Tea & Toast and Music Time session, we also have several playground visits planned, a visit to the Aubrey Buxton Reserve and a child-friendly pub lunch on the agenda.

All parents or carers with babies, toddlers or pre-school children are most welcome at all of our activities, coffees or events. Call Wendy on 01279813387 to get a free diary sheet listing of events or see village noticeboards for details.

We also offer antenatal classes to all local parents whether this is your first or subsequent baby. Book early for classes by calling Rachel on 01279718632. For breastfeeding support from a qualified counsellor, 8am to 10pm, 365 days per year, call 08704448708.

The NCT is a national charity offering information and support in pregnancy, childbirth and early parenthood and the

local branch is run by local parents for local parents. You do not have to be a member to come along to any of our activities, although joining helps to fund our core work.

Tracy Todman



# Royal British Legion Women's Section

After sorting out the business at our branch meeting we heard a fascinating talk by Colin Horner. Colin told us that he "got into roses" through his grandmother who lived in Stansted and "had a garden full of them". His interest was later increased when he bought a book from Eric Poole's shop on Chapel Hill. In 1967 he began breeding roses properly. His aims are Healthy Roses, Novelty Roses and Fragrant Roses. All his roses have been bred in Stansted from seed and are named "Horner Roses" with the prefix "HOR".

It was most interesting to hear how he strips off the stamens and cross-pollinates to produce new varieties of seedlings which he grafts on to wild rose stock. Thereafter there are three-year trials and judgings, and of the varieties that get to the National Rose Society only 10% get awards.

We saw shots of some favourites he has produced - single roses and pink roses - together with shots of Chelsea Flower Show showing Colin and Heather with Thora Hird, Judi Dench, Penelope Keith, Susan Hampshire etc etc.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday 18th July in the Day Centre at 7.30pm, when our speaker will be Dr Bland talking about the Gurkha Regiment. Visitors are very welcome - especially members of the Royal British Legion.

<u>ADVANCE NOTICE</u> Our Coffee Morning will be on Wednesday 14th August in the Day Centre from 10.30am.

Pat Clower



Our next Ploughman's Lunches are on Saturday 13 July and Saturday 10 August at the Stansted Day Centre, noon to 2pm. All are welcome.

The next social events are a Garden Party at Churchmead Widdington on Sunday 21 July at 2.30pm, and a Salmon and Sparkling Wine Lunch on Sunday 4 August at 7 Blythwood Gardens at 12.30pm. Please ring 813432 or 814222 for details.

Ruth Rawlinson

# Ugley Village Hall

With two halls, ample parking, facilities for the disabled and competitive rates, the refurbished Ugley Village Hall on Cambridge Road is ideal for clubs, classes, functions, children's parties and social meetings.

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

#### **Uttlesford District Council**

#### The New Civic Year

The annual meeting in May marked the start of the new civic year. The new chairman (Cllr Jim Ketteridge from Saffron Walden) and Vice Chairman (Cllr Rod Stone who represents Wimbish & Debden) were elected. The leadership of the Council and chairmanships of the policy committees remain in the hands of the Conservative/Independent coalition. All councillors serve on one of four policy committees. These are Community and Leisure, Environment and Transport, Health and Housing and Resources. Additionally, fourteen members serve on the Development Control and Licensing Committee. I am the Shadow Chair of the Community & Leisure Committee. Most councillors also serve on one of two scrutiny committees, which scrutinise the work of the policy committees. Opposition members chair these committees. Additionally, I am a member of the Stansted Airport Advisory Panel. This meets with senior management of BAA on a regular basis. The Council has been trying to encourage the Airport to get more of their passengers using public transport. Sadly, too often recently passengers have been let down by an ,nreliable train service. I have personal experience of this, being a regular commuter to London. There have been numerous points failures, overhead power-lines down - and a train derailment to contend with. Decades of under-investment on the railways seem to be coming home to roost.

#### Community Safety Strategy 2002-2005

The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 places a statutory duty on the Council, together with Essex County Council and the Chief Superintendent - Commander Braintree division - Essex Police and other agencies to agree a community strategy and implement it. The Strategy's aims are formed from a review of the levels and trends of crime and disorder in Uttlesford and an analysis of the results of the review.

A consultation exercise was undertaken last year and 3000 homes across the district were surveyed. Analysis of the data showed that Uttlesford is a safe place to live, work and visit. The Index of Multiple Deprivation shows that Uttlesford is amongst the least deprived districts in England, ranked at 347 out of 354 districts. The audit findings show that 94% of the population feel very or fairly safe during the day and that 86% feel safe or fairly safe at night. There is a perception that juvenile anti-social behaviour has increased, but fear of crime has remained constant. Uttlesford does have a low incidence of reported crime.

2,655 offences were reported for the 12 months ending April 2001

A rate of 38 crimes per 1000 population.

360 offences of violence were committed across Uttlesford during the 12 months prior to April 2001.

This relates to 5.1 crimes per thousand.

21% of all reported crime related to criminal damage.

Consequently, reduction of this offence is seen as a priority.

There were 404 road accidents in 2000/01.

You are twice as likely to be a victim of a road accident than to have your home burgled.

Therefore, reduction of road accidents and casualties are a priority for the district.

There are laudable aims in the strategy document. Nevertheless, I had some concerns, the emphasis of reducing crime in Saffron Walden has to be matched across the district. One of the targets for 2003 is to increase detections for Burglary Dwelling to 15%. This very low figure shows how much has to be done in this area, and that we all have a role to play in crime prevention.

Councillor Geoffrey Sell Tel: 01279 815925 Email:cllrsell@uttlesford.gov.uk

# Stansted Tennis Club



#### **Court Painting**

This has been delayed several times during the last month due to wet weather. We are hoping for a dry spell just as soon as possible so that the work can be completed..

#### Club Tournament

The draw is now up on the club noticeboard. Finals Day will be on Sunday, 8th September.

#### Boyd/Jubilee Tournament

This tournament took place at the start of the Golden Jubilee celebrations. The courts were decorated with union jacks and bunting, providing a colourful backdrop for some competitive tennis. 14 players battled for points in the round-robin stage. The final was won by Richard Mott and Sandra Ayres who beat Matt Whitbread and Pam Fearn 6-2. Ray Clifford presented the winners with the trophy.

#### Coaching

All places are now full for Chris Hollis's junior coaching sessions on Mondays, Thursdays and Saturdays. If you would like to be added to the waiting list, please call Chris on 01279 319155. Several junior singles and doubles tournaments will be taking place over the summer months.

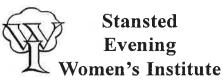
#### Sweat-shirts/T-shirts

These are still available in varying shades and sizes, sporting the Stansted Tennis Club logo. If you would like to see samples and are interested in purchasing these, please see either Kate Rutter (senior sizes) or Chris Hollis (junior sizes)

#### Used tennis balls

Tubes of 4 used tennis balls are available from Janet Hollis.

If you would like to join Stansted Tennis Club, please contact Kate Rutter (Membership secretary) on 01279 813053. For other enquiries, please contact either Richard Mott (Secretary) on 01279 466348 or Janet Hollis (Chairman) on 01279 812073.



At our May meeting we discussed the two resolutions that were to be voted on at our IGM at Brighton. Our members agreed to vote for the support of local abattoirs, urging HM Government to support existing small local abattoirs and to promote their establishment so minimising the stress to animals, reduce the risk and spread of disease, and encourage the availability of locally produced meat. The second resolution urged the Government to impose stricter controls on the importation of foodstuffs in the interest of the health of both people and animals. Brenda Ryan attended together with Jean Fuller as observer. Brenda also represented three other WI's. The resolutions were carried by a 97% vote. Also at our meeting, on a little lighter side, the social time consisted of the committee entertaining the members with poetry, prose and amusing stories, some brought back from our visits to our Denman College.

In June we were entertained with the story of Hatfield Forest through the ages by one of the wardens, Henry Bexley. He showed us slides of the Forest throughout the year and the different events that are now staged there. He also said that firewood can be bought through the National Trust who own the Forest. We were also shown pictures of the plane crash that had caused so much damage to parts of the area near to where it had come down.

Ann Wilkinson then told of her wonderful visit to the classical concert in the grounds of Buckingham Palace, one of the celebrations for the Queen's Jubilee, and she showed the cool bag everyone was given. Alas no good food was left inside or any of the half bottle of champagne for us to try! Kathy Poole, who along with eleven other members, had been to Drury Lane Theatre the day before our meeting, told members about the tour they had. They followed this by attending a performance of "My Fair Lady". The meeting finished with Brenda Ryan telling members about the course she and Sally Smith had attended at Denman College. The course "Watercolours for Beginners" had proved most enjoyable and they brought along the pictures they had painted.

Our July meeting in St. John's Hall on the 11th, is a talk by Mr. Oliver Symons entitled "In and Around the Royal Ballet". Visitors are welcome and we start at 7.45 pm.

Brenda Ryan 812725

#### **CARNIVAL TRUST FUND**

#### Songs of Praise

What a wonderful evening on the Recreation Ground on Sunday 30th May. I'm sure everybody thoroughly enjoyed the singing and we are very grateful to everyone who organised this event. The Carnival Trust Fund Committee would like to thank the organisers of Songs of Praise for nominating the Trust to be the recipient of the collection. £326.23 has now been added to the Trust Fund and we thank everyone who contributed for their generosity.

Marion Johnson

#### St Mary's Primary School Parents, Teachers and Friends Association



It's been another busy month for the children of St Mary's the highlight being the fantastic Golden Jubilee Celebrations on 31st May. We held our very own traditional street party never has a concrete car park looked so colourful! It looked terrific - festooned with bunting (thank you to the Parish Council), streamers, balloons, Union flags and masses of children - wearing red, white and blue of course! Residents from the neighbouring roads were invited to join in the festivities and they plus the children, staff and Governors tucked into a super lunch (thank you to Michelle in the kitchen, the PTFA and parents). After a week of rain, the sun paid us a visit and the homemade Jubilee hats looked even better in the sunshine - congratulations to the winners although they were all pretty spectacular. The children were entertained by Calamity the Clown, who did a marvellous job of looking after 180 children - no mean feat! The party then transferred to the playing fields where everyone enjoyed the bouncy castle and games. We're sure the children will remember the day for a long time to come and as a special keepsake the PTFA presented each child with a commemorative Jubilee medal issued by the Birmingham

Plans are in full swing for the forthcoming *Transport* Summer Fayre on 29th June. Full details in the panel below. Please note that we have changed the times slightly to accommodate the World Cup (imagine). The summer Fayre will now be from 11am - 2pm and the playoffs scheduled for the 29th June may be viewed on-site - you can come along safe in the knowledge that you won't miss a single minute of the footie! And if all the cheering (or jeering) should make you thirsty, there's always the beer tent .....

Claire Jonas
PTFA Committee Member

#### St Mary's CE Primary School

#### SUMMER FAYRE

With a theme of TRANSPORT

Saturday 29th June 2002, 11am - 2pm

Lots of stalls, games, Prize Raffle, Lucky Programme, Balloon fun, BBQ, Refreshments, Cakes, Beer Tent, etc

Fantastic transport display including:
Military vehicles & personnel from Carver Barracks,
Amazing Steam Engine, Tractor, WW II hardware
Fire Engines old & new, Parachute display
and much, much more - some of it very wacky

Come and find us in the playground and on the school field, St John's Road Stansted

#### STANSTED BOWLING CLUB

Hello again.

Having invited potential bowlers from our community to attend our beginners evenings at the end of April what a disappointment it was for us to only have a few turn up on the first evening and then none on the second, due I might add, to the appalling weather conditions.

All is not lost however, because the outdoor season lasts until the end of September: there is plenty of time for you to come along and learn the basics of the game and have a chance to play – we may even consider a reduction in this year's membership for those of you who would like to join.

Our club Coach is only too pleased to give tuition and will try to be flexible on the times you can get to the club. Please ring him if you would like to know more 01279 813584.

Our season has started well with some members already winning first rounds of County competitions and the EBA national competitions so even though we are a small club we have the competitive spirit!

I am assured that we will have a summer, followed I suppose by the normal drought so there is a good chance that you will be able to enjoy the true enjoyment of lawn bowls.

Can I take this opportunity to thank Mike and Tasha of the Mill House restaurant for their kind donation of the patio furniture – the parasols do keep the rain off the beer!!!

Don't forget we are open most evenings so feel free to call in and find out more.

Kind regards

Rex Turner Club Captain



# IN-STEP REFLEXOLOGY

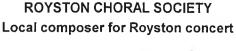
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The work of a world-renowned composer and Royston resident will be the centrepiece of a concert by the Royston Choral Society on Saturday 13 July.

A fine setting of "Love's Redeeming Work Is Done" by Malcolm Williamson, a former Master of the Queen's Musick, features in a rich and varied programme of music for a summer's evening at Royston Parish Church, starting at 7.30pm.

The concert is also a special occasion as it sees the Royston Choral Society singing alongside the Royston Town Band for an evening with something for every musical taste.

Tickets - £7.50 (£5 for retired, unemployed, and students) - are on sale in advance from Royston Library or at the door on the night. Travel can be arranged on request.

Further information about the concert and choir is available from Chris Lee (01763 245413) or Caroline Franks (01920 822723).



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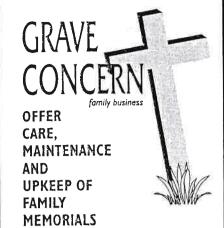
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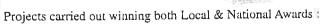
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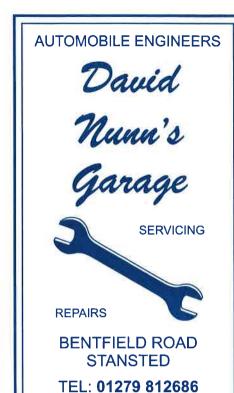
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