

Oct 2002

The *LINK*



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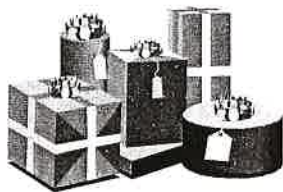
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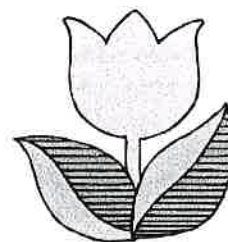
STANSTED ART & CRAFT MARKET



Saturday 26th & Sunday 27th October
St John's Church & Hall
11 am to 4.30 pm



Pictures by local artists • Flower Displays
Ceramics • Wooden Gifts • Jewellery
Textiles • Silk Painting • Spinning
Designer Knitwear • Stained Glass



See craft in action

Hands-on Ceramics
Raffle of a painting by Clifford Brown

Refreshments

Admission: £1 adult
50p accompanied child



The Link (price £3.50 per year) is published monthly by Churches Together in Stansted
Advertising enquiries Tel 01279 812797
All other enquiries to Janet Townsend Tel 01279 812593

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**Copy to reach 58 Chapel Hill or email to
stanstedlink@aol.com**
by 10th October for publication on 26th October
by 14th November for publication on 30th November

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 8 am and 8 pm
Tuesday 9.30 am
- Saturday

Confessions Saturday 10 am
and by appointment

Baptisms By appointment

"The Kingdom of God is Within"

We have always wanted a personal God to whom we can turn in times of distress for comfort and encouragement - a hotline to God. It may be that we can look for comfort and encouragement within our own souls, as I believe that God dwells in all of us. That does not mean we worship ourselves. We must be careful to recognise that God has chosen to dwell in us but we still have to practise our faith in order to recognise him and what he requires of us.

Jesus said "The Kingdom of God is within". It is the kind of person we are, the amount of Jesus within us that determines our relationship with God. It is no good blindly following traditions if we have no compassion for others, if we judge them, if we are envious, if in fact we do not try to follow the **real** teachings of Jesus.

In everything we do we must seek His approval and not be hypocritical; doing the right thing because it makes us feel good when inside we do not really care. We must remember that although we hoodwink everyone else, we cannot hoodwink Him - he knows exactly the person we are and we must be thankful for that; for with Jesus we can relax, be ourselves and therefore allow Him to lead us to the Kingdom.

Mary Warnett

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

UNITED REFORMED

Chapel Hill

Minister

Rev'd David Simpson
32 Loompits Way
Saffron Walden
CB11 4BZ
Tel 01799 526618

Contact

Mrs Janet Townsend
58 Chapel Hill
Tel 01279 812593

Preachers for October

6th	10-30am	Mr Ralph Friday
13th	10-30am	Rev'd David Simpson. Communion
20th	10-30am	Rev'd Martin Cressey
20th	2-00pm	Service for visit of friends from the Cherubim and Seraphim Church.
27th	10-30am	Rev'd David Simpson

Christmas *Shoe Boxes*

Now the holidays are over and the Children are back to school its time to begin thinking of Christmas and Shoe boxes. "Samaritons Purse" is the charity who organise the project operation Christmas Child and are dedicated to relieving the suffering of Children abroad who are homeless, live in orphanages or are without family support, or whose lives have been affected by poverty, ill health, natural disaster, conflict or war, regardless of Nationality, Political or Religious background.

Last year over half of the boxes were distributed in Afganistan. Our contribution was 75 boxes of different sizes all beautifully wrapped (but not sealed for customs purposes) and every one counts. So please start collecting items now, if you are unable to fill a whole box (cost £7 to £10) all individual items are welcome and we will make the boxes up at a social evening at the beginning of November, as all boxes have to be ready for collection by the 6th November.

Don't forget!

No biscuits or crisps
(wrapped sweets are OK)
No aerosols
No glass containers or mirrors
No perfume, bubble bath or
shampoo

More details and exact dates next month.



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	

(01279) 815243
church.office@stansted.net

Administrator
Mrs Elizabeth Jennings

Diary

Sundays

8:00am Holy Communion
9:30am Parish Communion
11:00am Open Door Service
(1st & 3rd Sunday of the month)
6:30pm Evening Prayer *said*

Wednesdays

10:00am Holy Communion followed by coffee
7:30pm Intercessions and Night Prayer

Groups

Tiny Tots

is a mother and toddler group that meets on the second and fourth Tuesday in the month during term-time.

Lazer Group

is a 12-16 youth group which meets fortnightly on Sunday evenings at 7:30pm for activities in the church hall. The evening concludes with candlelit Night Prayer in the chapel in church.

Housegroups

Meet fortnightly on Tuesday evening. Currently we are reading Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians.

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

Open Door Service
(Ecumenical All-Age worship)
Mrs Frances Richards
phone
(01279) 812748
richkidz@waitrose.com

Director of Music
Mrs Glynis Morris
phone/fax
(01223) 263640
church.music@stansted.net

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

Honorary Assistant Priest
Canon Derek Jackson
phone
(01279) 652664

Youth Group
The Rector
phone
(01279) 812203

Mother & Toddler Group
Mrs Tina South
phone
(01279) 814371
tinytots@stansted.net

Housegroup
Mrs Joan Freeman
phone
(01279) 813186
joanfreeman@zetnet.co.uk

An Autumnal Roundup

With October we see the last vestiges of harvest in field and garden. To give thanks at this time is right but I wonder whether we should carry our praises and thanks for Divine Bounty into a much longer season. Climate change has not prevented seed-time and harvest but it has shown up our vulnerability.

Work on the Church Hall continues. The improvements to the loos are complete and the main hall curtains should now be back in place. This time next year at the latest we should have the extension and a hall fit, if not for our King, at least for a lively parish. On the down side, we have had a number of window panes in the Church broken by stone-throwing. Our insurers will not be pleased to receive more claims, especially after those for roof tiles broken by unwelcome Spidermen. Apart from vigilance there may be little we can do but at worst we could be faced with the cost (and aesthetic damage) of metal grills.

October is the month to seriously prepare for the Christmas Market, taking place on Saturday, 23rd November in the Hall from 10am until 1pm. Please support Francine Cope with your contributions and offers of help on the day.

This month Anthea and Clive Bareham leave for Devonshire. They have regularly attended the 8 am Holy Communion for many years. Anthea served as PCC Secretary in the past and Clive has made his expertise in planning and construction available in generous measure. Thank you Anthea and Clive, you will be greatly missed.

Derek Honour

From the Registers

Baptisms

July 21st

Oliver & Lucy Curtis
Miranda Jeanne Markham
Annie Louise Judith Doyle
James Philip Allen

August 18th

Matthew Edward Peter North
Samuel George & William George Roberts

Weddings

July

20th Ken Jeff and Carole Morley
20th David Doherty and Justine White

August

10th Matthew Williams and Rebecca Nunn
31st Blue Smith and Samantha Blake

Funerals

July

9th Percy Alan George Wedlock age 82
16th Florence Violet Boyce age 85
22nd Caroline Titmus age 81
23rd Mavis Irene Hall age 79

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 Reccation Ground
Stansted
Tel 01279 813579

Email methodists@stansted.net

All services start at 9.30am unless otherwise stated

Services and preachers for October

6th Rev'd Jim Gill
13th Rev'd John Graham
20th John Banks
27th Rev'd Harry Wood – Holy Communion

Church business meeting – Friday, 11th October at 8pm.



Regular Aid for the Poor (RAP)

The well supported Quiz in aid of Malawi famine relief has already been reported in the August issue. The following letter not only gives the final sum raised but assures us that the monies are where we intend them to be.

Save the Children

From Kay Curtis,
Baltana,
London Road,
Barkway,
Royston Herts
SG8 8EY
01763 848228

3rd August 2002

Thank you all so very much for the £1,744 which Stansted RAP has raised for Malawi.

This is a wonderful start to our raising cash to help with the large amount of work to be done to help Malawi; it is always difficult to get people to understand the hardships these people face - Stansted RAP has achieved this.

Again very many thanks for helping with the work of Save the Children.

Yours sincerely, Kay Curtis

David Morson, Chairman RAP

The CTS AGM will take place on Tuesday 15th October in the Lecture Hall of the United Reformed Church, 7pm for 7.30pm Our guest speaker will be Stansted resident, Ian Jonas, who will talk about his recent visits to Afghanistan. All are invited to attend. Refreshments will be served from 7pm.

Members of The Cherubim and Seraphim Church in Birmingham will be visiting Stansted on Sunday, 20th October. A service, which will incorporate the celebration of **One World Week** and to which all are welcome, will take place at 2pm in the United Reform Church, followed by a shared meal in the URC Hall

Ruth Rawlinson
Catherine Dean



SHALOM

On **Monday, 14th October** there will be an evening with Catherine Dean at the Friends Meeting House

On **Monday, 28th October** there will be a talk by the Rev. Andrew Spurr at 7 Blythwood Gardens.

All meetings start at 8p.m. and all are welcome.

Saturday, 5th October – there will be a **Day Retreat** at St. Mark's College, Audley End. Details from Edna Goreing, 503764.

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR IN RESPONSE TO REV'D ANDREW SPURR'S ARTICLE IN AUGUST/SEPTEMBER LINK

Dear Sir,

Many years ago I attended a Christmas day service at St. Mary's church. The only word that I can think of to describe it is "dreary". I have not been to an Anglican Christmas Day service since. For several years I have attended the "Celebration of Christmas" at St. Mary's and have found it to be "joyful". I agree with Andrew Spurr that enticing people into a church building does not guarantee a convert. However, most of the people who pack the pews at the Christmas celebration already have an affiliation with one of the five churches in Stansted. And there is some anecdotal evidence of people entering a church for the "wrong reason" and subsequently becoming a committed Christian.

The Christmas season in Stansted without the St. Mary's celebration would be poorer. There are more ways to worship Christ and rejoice in his birth than in a traditional church service. Let's not do away with something that brings people together in a spirit of love at Christmas, just because it does not encompass the liturgy.

Yours sincerely,

Catherine Dean

Hearing Help Uttlesford

Coffee Morning

10 am - noon
Wednesday 9th October
Day Centre
Coffee & biscuits
Cake Stall & Raffle
Admission 50p
Pay & Display Car Park



Uttlesford District Council

Skip Dates

Mon - Fri 7 - 11 Oct
9 - 13 Dec
Sat - Sun 16 - 17 Nov
Green Waste Sun 6 Oct
Sat 2 Nov

St Mary's C of E School Christmas Shopping Evening

7.30 - 9.30 pm Thur 17th October
Gift ideas for all the family
including
Beauty Products, Books, Crafts,
Chocolates, Toys & many others
Get your Christmas presents early
and all under one roof!
Refreshments available

VILLAGE EVENTS

October

2 Wed	Mountfitchet Seniors Garden Club	Day Centre 2 - 4 pm Day Centre 8 pm
3 Thu	Huw Johnson Store opening Local History Society	St John's Churchyard 7.30 pm Day Centre 8 pm
5 Sat	Shalom Day Retreat	St Mark's College, Audley End
6 Sun	Green Waste Skip St Mary's Church open Windmill open	Lower St Car Park 1 - 4 pm 2 - 5 pm 2 - 6 pm
7 Mon - 11 Fri	Amenity Skip	Lower St Car Pk 7.30 am - 3 pm
9 Wed	Hearing Help Coffee Morning	Day Centre 10 am - noon
10 Thu	WI	St John's Hall 7.45 pm
14 Mon	Shalom Group	Quaker Meeting House 8 pm
15 Tue	CTS AGM	URC Lecture Hall 7 for 7.30 pm
16 Wed	Mountfitchet Seniors	Day Centre 2 - 4 pm
17 Thu	RBL (Women) AGM PTFA Christmas Sale	Day Centre 7.30 pm St Mary's School 7.30 - 9.30 pm
18 Fri	HEAL Public Meeting	Day Centre 8 pm
19 Sat	Mountfitchet Seniors Sale Village Music Club Concert	Day Centre 11 am St John's Church 8 pm
25 Fri	Conservative Dinner Dance	Foakes Hall, Dunmow
26 Sat	Lib Dem Quiz	Day Centre 7 for 7.30 pm
26 Sat / 27 Sun	Art & Craft Market	St John's Church & Hall
28 Mon	Shalom Group	7 Blythwood Gardens 8 pm
30 Wed	RBL & Women Tea Party	Day Centre 3 for 3.30 pm

November

5 Tue	Conservative Branch Meeting	Council Offices 8 pm
6 Wed	Mountfitchet Seniors Garden Club	Day Centre 2 - 4 pm Day Centre 8 pm
7 Thu	Local History Society	Day Centre 8 pm
9 Sat	Lib Dem Ploughmans	Day Centre noon - 2 pm
14 Thu	WI	St John's Hall 7.45 pm
17 Sun	Craft Fair	Mountfitchet School 10 am - 4 pm



A PUBLIC MEETING

on the
Helen Rollason Cancer Care
Centre Appeal
8 pm Friday 18th Oct
Day Centre
Free Admission ~ Cheese & Wine

Mountfitchet Seniors Autumn Sale 11 am Sat 19th Oct Day Centre

Raffle, Plants, Tombola,
Handicraft, Bric-à-brac, Books,
Cakes & various other stalls
Everyone welcome
Admission 50p incl tea
Come and look for the bargains!



THE VILLAGE MUSIC CLUB

"THREE LAST WORDS"
Concert by the Coull Quartet
Mozart Quartet in F K590
Britten Quartet No 3
Dvorák Quartet in G Op 106

8 pm
Saturday 19th October
St John's Church

Tickets from:
Stansted Carpets;
Nockolds, Bishop's Stortford;
or 31, Chapel Hill
£8 adults, £6 concessions

Take care of all your Christmas
shopping in one place!

Art & Craft Market

Sat 26th & Sun 27th Oct
11 am to 4.30 pm
St John's Church & Hall
Adults £1 Accompanied Children 50p
Refreshments
Craft Stalls - Demonstrations



Stansted & District Liberal Democrats

QUIZ EVENING

7 for 7.30 pm
Saturday 26th October
Day Centre

Tickets £6 incl refreshments
Please tel 814222 or 813432

Stansted Art & Craft Market

**Saturday 26th & Sunday 27th October, 2002
11am – 4.30pm**

It's that time of year again! ... and by the time you read this article, the Market will be fast approaching and the committee beaver away in anticipation!

We are looking forward to our third year as the guests of St John's Church and hall which has become a very successful venue indeed for the event.

Visitors will be able to enjoy the usual high standard of several hundred pieces of original artwork exhibited by local artists and all for sale, along with displays of flowers in the church.

Also in the church, and filling the hall, will be twenty varied craft stalls where the exhibitors are selling their own handcrafted work. We welcome three new exhibitors and some returning after a few years' break, as well as many familiar faces. The crafts will include various styles of ceramics, wooden gifts and jewellery; textiles and needlework ranging from silk painting, hand-spinning, machine embroidery, designer knitwear and patchwork; stained & painted glass and dried & pressed flowers. We hope that visitors will be able to watch in action the woodturner, spinner, potter, machine embroiderer, and that children will be able to take part in ceramics activities. Some of the items can be personalised and almost all, being handmade, are unique.

Again this year, we have a beautiful calligraphy and watercolour picture by village artist, Clifford Brown, to raffle. Delicious home-made cakes and refreshments are available in the hall throughout the Market.

The Art & Craft Market has been able to donate an average of £1500 to village causes and charities in each year since it first started. It is run voluntarily and many Stansted people give freely of their time and energy each year to support the committee. As usual, we can never have enough help, and this year we especially need:

- Stewards for the paintings exhibition, raffle and entrance desks; for a two hour duty on either Saturday or Sunday.
- People to make and donate cakes or to help serve refreshments for a two hour slot on either day.
- People to help distribute posters and leaflets or to display a poster in their garden, car, window or workplace

- Anyone available on the afternoon of Friday, 25th October to help hang the pictures.
- Most of all, as many hands as possible to help set the event up and take it down at various times on the Thursday and Sunday evening.

Please consider helping us this year! And do come along and enjoy the event, bringing your Christmas shopping list, and tell all your friends about it!

For further information, contact Rachel Mortishire-Smith, (01279) 816837.



MOUNTFITCHET GARDEN CLUB

Holidays and good gardening weather did not keep the members of the Mountfitchet Garden Club from their monthly meetings. In August, Mrs Day talked about ground cover plants including some for winter interest. She brought many cuttings with her for members to share. In September, Mr Mackay explained the do's and don'ts of pruning fruit trees and roses, and answered many questions from members on other shrubs as well.

We had a very successful Autumn show on 7th September at which Mrs Catherine Dean, Chairman of the Stansted Parish Council, presented the prizes to the cup winners as follows.

Brian Townsend won the Mumford cup for the most points in the show, and the Hoffman vase for the best exhibit in the show, as well as the Royal Horticultural Society's Banksian medal.

Cyril Stoneham won the best dahlia bloom certificate, and the Hart rose bowl for the most points in the flower section along with the cup for the best fuchsia pot plant.

Highest points in the floral art was won by Margaret Loynds.

Fruit cup for most points in the fruit section was won by David Harrison.

The highest points in the domestic section was won by Melvin Morton, whose loaf of bread also won him the Jean Wilson cup for the best domestic exhibit.

Winner of the Green Bowl for the conservation class of runner beans was won by Meg Monaghan.

On the 2nd October, Mr Jim Pearce is coming to talk to us about plants for wall and fences, at which everyone is welcome. Please come along, see you there.

Janet Townsend

Uttlesford District Council

Planning in Uttlesford

Uttlesford acts as the planning authority for the district. As such it performs a very important function, although residents may only come into contact with it occasionally when either they are submitting a planning application or one affects them.

The Council's planning department is currently based in Great Dunmow but it has been agreed that it will be relocated to Saffron Walden. A team of planning officers, headed by John Mitchell, advises the Council. The Department can be contacted on 01799 510510. There is a national shortage of qualified planning officers, which, combined with the long term illness of a key officer in the department, has meant it has been under a lot of pressure this year. The following figures give some idea of the volume of work it deals with. During 2001/02 the Council:

Considered over 1,800 planning applications
Considered almost 300 enforcement referrals
Handled 67 planning appeals
Helped over 6,300 visitors at the planning information desk

Once planning applications are submitted, a planning officer will make a site inspection and there will be a consultation process. Amongst those consulted will be the relevant town/parish council. Following this about 75% of decisions are made by the Head of Planning under powers delegated to him by the Council.

Major developments or applications with significant objections from the public or parish/town council have to go before the Development Control Committee. Its Chairman is Cllr Barry Tyler. Stansted is fortunate in having Ray Clifford, Catherine Dean and Janice Loughlin serving as members of this important committee. The average time taken to determine all planning applications is 12 weeks.

One of the Council's objectives is to safeguard the environment and enhance it for future generations. Our rich heritage can be seen from the following:

There are 35 conservation areas in the district
There are about 3500 listed buildings - this represents about one quarter of the Essex total
30 schedule ancient monuments.

Valid Planning Objections

It may be helpful to readers to outline the main issues that are regarded as proper planning matters:

Amenity - impact on neighbours - overlooking, loss of daylight, overbearing impact, noise and disturbance, pollution, etc.

Design - impact on building, site, street scene, etc - visual impact - is it in keeping with the surrounding area.

Highways - suitability of access, parking, manoeuvring space, effect of traffic generation.

Policies - are there any government policies or policies in the structure plan or local plan which are relevant.

History - any previous permissions on the site or nearby.

We are fortunate in Stansted to live in an attractive environment. It is the responsibility of planners together with elected politicians both at central and local government level to ensure that this is not eroded.

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



Huw Johnson Club

By the time you read this our holiday at Eastbourne will be just a memory and we will already be well into our Autumn programme.

This year we stayed in a hotel for our holiday. We usually use caravans or chalets, so for many of our members this was quite an adventure. We arrived in Eastbourne in time to see the "Red Arrows" fly over much to Andrew's delight. The firework display over the sea on Sunday night raised many "oohs" and "aahs". On Tuesday a visit to an ice cream parlour meant sampling Lady Godivas, Mintnight Express, Strawberry Pavlovas and Banana Splits. Some members were worried that they would have to strip off to tackle a Lady Godiva.

The hotelier who greeted us with great trepidation when we arrived soon realised how great our members are and will now advertise that groups with disabilities are welcome.

On the 3rd October we will be opening our new storeroom in St John's Churchyard at 7.30pm. If you would like to join us you will be most welcome to join in the celebration.

Marion Johnson

LINDEN HOUSE ANTIQUES (Est 1969)

Do call and view our good selection of Antique English Furniture in Mahogany, Oak & Walnut

Open Weekdays 10 am - 5 pm, Sundays 1 - 4 pm

3 Silver Street, Stansted Tel: 01279 812372

Stansted Profile No. 49

Helena Dziedzic

Helena Dziedzic, who has lived near the Old Bell for the past 50 years, has had an extraordinary life. Few people who have bought their Christmas trees from her plantation would have realised just what momentous events she had lived through before she settled in Stansted.

She was born in Byelorussia, part of the USSR, in 1919 and, although her family was Polish, spent her first five years speaking Russian. Her father managed to escape to Poland and arranged for his wife and children to come and join him in Vilnius (now capital of Lithuania). He was an engineer working for the Polish State Railways; the family was entitled to twelve free tickets a year and travelled extensively on the railway system.

In 1937 she went further afield on a trip to the World Trade Fair in Paris (also visiting Prague, Brussels and Berlin). Already her leadership qualities were apparent as she was put in charge of 50 girls representing Poland at the pavilion near the Eiffel Tower. The following year she matriculated and took up her studies in economics at the University of Lvov, now in Ukraine. Then in 1939 Germany invaded Poland and Russia moved in from the east. Helena came back to her home in Brest-Litovsk at Christmas to find that her father had been arrested and her mother and brothers had been evicted from the house. To this day she has no idea what happened to her father. They never heard from him again.

By February 1940 deportations of policemen and forestry workers to the far eastern parts of the USSR had begun. For three months Helena's family lived in cramped conditions in a small summer holiday house. At two in the morning on April 13th came the dreaded knock on the door. They were going to be transported to an unknown destination. Each person could take only 20lbs of belongings with them. Helena took a portable tin bath and her bicycle; her mother took her dismantled sewing machine hidden amongst her clothing, a bucket of honey, bread and a saw. In the darkness three horse-drawn carts carried them to the station where the train with its cattle wagons was waiting. Forty people to a truck, they travelled eastwards, stopping only once a day for food to be handed in while the wagon doors were guarded. Only once during the ten days' journey were they allowed out.

The train finally arrived at a large village in the vast steppes of Kazakhstan. They were herded into a cowshed. "You are free" they were told. "Find accommodation, find a job and report weekly to the office. Do not think of escaping". They found a room in a Ukrainian carpenter's house. Helena's mother's sewing machine came into its own and she was able to sew for people. Helena herself went to the coal-mine office where the only job available was underground, so she worked in the mine. One brother worked on the local collective farm, another became a shepherd once his health had improved and the youngest, aged 13, went to school.

The family was issued with a daily ration of two pounds of heavy black bread.

The following year, in June 1941, Germany attacked Russia. Helena came home one evening in the winter, climbing through the roof as the house was surrounded by high banks of snow. Her mother excitedly told her she had heard General Sikorski's broadcast in which he outlined the agreement between Stalin and Churchill allowing the Polish prisoners to be released. They would make up an army to fight the Germans (supplied with tanks and equipment by the British). So Helena set off for Uzbekistan where the Polish units were stationed, hoping to join the Polish ATS. Unfortunately, all her documents had been stolen on the train and it wasn't until a Polish colonel vouched for her that she was able to acquire a uniform. She then travelled to a British-run camp in Teheran (after a disinfecting session on the shores of the Caspian Sea) and by spring 1942 was working as a secretary to a Polish major.

When given an opportunity to continue her studies in England in early 1943, Helena seized the chance and sailed down the coast of East Africa in the "New Amsterdam" as far as Durban. She stayed there for six weeks and remembers seeing the film "Dangerous Moonlight" with its famous "Warsaw Concerto". She then embarked for Liverpool on the "Empress of Canada", a Canadian Pacific liner carrying about 200 Polish, French and Greek men and women and 500 Italian POWs. There was no naval escort. Just before midnight on March 14th, off the coast of Sierra Leone, there was a shattering explosion, a torpedo (fired ironically by an Italian submarine) having struck the liner amidships. Following a hit by a second torpedo, the order was given to abandon ship. For three days the survivors floated in their boats in the burning equatorial sun. Then they were sighted by an AF Catalina flying boat and picked up by a Canadian destroyer which took them to Freetown. A fortnight later they set sail on the "Mauretania" at a speed of 30 knots bound for Liverpool. Helena's first sight of England was of a weathercock on a church spire seen through the porthole - and it was raining.



She was sent to Falkirk and then trained as a Training Officer in the Polish WAAF at Wilmslow in Cheshire. She completed her training at Lake Windermere where she was commissioned as an Assistant Section Officer in October 1943. She eventually found herself at the end of the war at RAF Chedburgh in Suffolk. It was here that she met Jan Dzedzic, a Polish officer who had flown bombers during the war and had worked for SOE, dropping supplies and agents to help resistance fighters in occupied Europe. He also flew on special missions to Poland during the Warsaw uprising in 1944.

They married in August 1946 in Bury St Edmunds and their daughter Zosia was born there. In 1948 they moved to Wimbish with Jan stationed at nearby RAF Debden. Their son George was born in 1951 and the following year they bought a large plot of land near the Old Bell in Stansted and had two houses built, the second one being let to Americans working at Stansted Airport. Helena's mother was finally allowed to join them in 1955. A second daughter, Teresa, was born in 1961 and five years later they moved into 'Ostra Brama', their newly-built house on the same land. There followed years of entrepreneurial activity; Helena kept six sows whose piglets she sold to Mr Norman (after whom Norman Court is named). They also had a mushroom farm and planted Christmas trees. Jan meanwhile stayed in the RAF, working for the Imperial Radio School of Instrument Flying. He left the RAF in 1969. Sadly, he died in 1994 in Poland while attending the consecration of his old primary school which had just been rebuilt.

You can't fail to be aware of Helena's deep Catholic faith and her love of Poland. She remembers the early days of the Catholic church in Stansted, from the time Mass was said above a shop in Lower Street to the dedication of the miller's house as St Theresa's Church in 1958. She is a wonderful raconteur and has a lively interest in history and current events. She keeps up to date with Polish affairs by reading the Polish press and attending Polish air force functions in London. Her genuine interest in people, sense of humour and warm hospitality bring many visitors to her house, quite apart from her children and grandchildren. She believes that her life has been under the protection of Our Lady of Ostra Brama (depicted in the much revered painting that stands above one of the gateways in the walled city of Vilnius). "I follow Barbara Cartland's advice" she tells me. "Believe in God, have faith in yourself, use your brain, read and keep going".

Rosina Kirkwood



Stansted Evening Women's Institute

Our August speaker Bob Jones filled in at the last moment with an amusing talk entitled "Humour of Farm, Field and Suburban Pavement". It covered his life's experiences of family, work and leisure with original poems he had written.

Members were pleased to hear that a group of boys from the village's Youth 2000 had won their race in the Tall Ships race, as they had donated the proceeds of a raffle towards their expenses.

The committee had a rest in September when members organised the meeting. Peggy Honour chaired the meeting saying it was thirty years since she had last done this job. Wilma Martin acted as secretary for the evening.

The theme for the meeting was travel, with our speaker Phillipa Croft taking us through Rumania with slides. She told us some of the history of the country she had been visiting for over 30 years. It has wonderful scenery with a coast on the Black Sea, is about the size of the UK but has only about one third of our population. In the Middle Ages the country was divided into three principalities. The Romans were there first for nearly 200 years but eventually lost it to the Vandals. Vlad the Impaler had a good way of dealing with any captured Turks as his name implies. He is possibly the model for Dracula as his surname was similar. There are between 2½-3 million gypsies in the country with very colourful costumes as we saw in the slides. Mrs Honour thanked Mrs Croft for a really informative talk. The evening continued with a travel quiz, coffee and biscuits from different countries and a raffle of items also from various countries.

Mrs Pretty our President thanked Mrs Honour and her committee for an excellent evening. She reminded us that our October meeting is a talk by Mike Thurlow from Audley End who is speaking on Apple Orchards. As October 10th when we hold our meeting is "Apple Day" the competition is an apple pie, hopefully to be eaten as refreshments. Husbands, friends or partners will be welcome at this meeting.

Members along with a few husbands will be visiting the Palace of Westminster at the end of October when they will be taken on a tour by Sir Alan Haselhurst.

Another course of water colour painting has been arranged for next spring as our last one had proved a great success.

Brenda Ryan

HIRE THE NEWLY REFURBISHED

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



The National Childbirth Trust

Education for Parenthood

The new school year certainly started in true party style with our 21st birthday celebrations at The Ash at Burton End on September 7th. A fabulous day was had by all as both children and adults entered into the party spirit with races, party games and a disco. The bouncy castle proved a huge hit with the children, while the BBQ and bar kept the adults entertained! Apart from an opportunity to eat, drink and be merry, the day provided both current and ex-members a chance to meet, catch up and generally celebrate 21 years of the NCT in Stansted.

This month we are back to work with a vengeance with our Autumn Nearly New Sale on Saturday, 5th October (3pm – 4.30pm) at St John’s Hall. This event just keeps getting bigger and better, so if you’re looking for good quality baby, children’s and maternity clothes, baby equipment, toys or books, then this event is a must. There is still time if you would like to sell anything on the day. To register call Sheena on 01279 812437.

We have a busy month ahead with lots of events planned for every age group, including the grown-ups! We have our popular family photo session on Saturday, 12th October, at the Quaker Hall. We have booked our excellent local photographer again to take photos of the children (with or without their parents!) and the packs, very conveniently, will be back well in time for Christmas. Other events for October include some regular favorites such as music time, swimming, forest walks and indoor playground trips, plus both girls and boys nights out. Alongside these we have some seasonal additions including an Autumn collage and craft event, a Halloween pumpkin carving and baking session and a shopping evening (to get us in the mood for our Christmas shopping!!!).

A reminder that our regular weekly coffee events have had a slight re-shuffle:

- Monday 10.00 – 11.30am Toddlers
- Wednesday 10.00 – 11.30am Tiddlers and Tums
(expectant mothers and under ones)
- Friday 1.30 – 3.00pm Pre-School

These are held in members’ homes and cost just 50p towards refreshments. All parents/carers are most welcome. Please come along and meet new people, or catch up with those you already know. For full details of venues, and other events organized by the NCT, please see the village noticeboards.

If you think you’d like to join in with what we’re up to, please don’t be shy. You don’t have to be a member to come along and you can be sure of a warm welcome. Call Wendy on 01279 813387 to get your free information pack which includes a free diary sheet of events.

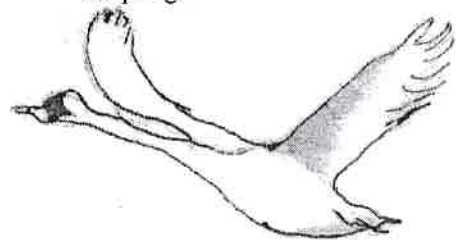
We also offer antenatal classes to all local parents whether this is your first or subsequent baby – book early for classes by calling Rachel on 01279 718632. Breastfeeding support from a qualified counsellor, is available by telephone from 8am to 10pm, 365 days per year, by calling 0870 444 8708.

Marnie Tait



Nature Notes

Mute swans, the only resident British swan, with their graceful curved necks and orange bills, are a familiar sight on lakes and rivers. They can be seen near the railway to the east of Stansted and also upon the River Stort. Their nest is an enormous mound of vegetation near the water margin. Incubation of the 4-8 greeny-white eggs is shared by the parent birds which mate for life. The young brownish-grey cygnets stay with their parents until the following breeding season. It takes them several months to fly. The adults moult their wing feathers in the autumn, one of the pair at a time. It is only when the first bird is able to fly again that its mate starts moulting so there is always one flying parent to chase after errant offspring.



Mute swans live on fresh and salt water plants which they can reach below the water surface with their long necks. In winter they leave their nesting sites and gather in large flocks at feeding grounds which they share with Bewick’s and whooper swans which fly in from the Arctic. These winter visitors are rarely seen locally.

Historically, swans were kept semi-domesticated as a source of food. From the 13th to 18th centuries they were regarded as the property of the Crown. The swans on the Thames still belong either to the Crown or to the Vintners’ or Dyers’ Companies. Every July the ceremony of “swan-upping” takes place when cygnets are rounded up by the two Companies to have their bills notched. Those cygnets left unmarked belong to the Crown.

Mute swans, as their name implies, are generally silent, although they can hiss when angry. But the wings of the birds as they fly produce a wonderful throbbing musical sound.

Rosina Kirkwood

tiddlywinks

**Playtime for
accompanied 0-1-2-3 yrs
‘No need to book’ (£3 per child)**

Newport Village Hall.....**Tues** 1-2.30

Walden Golden Acre Centre....**Thurs** 10-11.30

Stansted Quaker Hall.....**Fri** 10-11.30

Or why not hire our equipment for a party?
Telephone for further details
01799 550830 / 550525

STANSTED BOWLING CLUB



It seems such a short time ago that we asked, through these pages, for new members to join the club but in fact it was in April. The out-door bowling season has now ended and other than our usual social get together on Friday evenings we will not be bowling as a club until April 2003.

This year has been very enjoyable: we have won most of our weekend friendly games and managed to win back all 5 of our inter club competition cups, the main one being the Daniel Robinson Cup, which we play for against Elsenham. This Cup game is sponsored by Daniel Robinson and supported by Golden Charter for which both Clubs are most grateful.

The ladies have done the Club proud again this year by winning the Monday Evening Ladies League for the second year running – well done ladies.

The men have not achieved good results in the North West Essex League but remain in Divisions A & B. One of our younger members, Russell Meller, did exceptionally well this year by representing Essex in the under 25s Fours final at Worthing. This is the first time a member of our Club has played at Worthing – well done Russell.

We held our Club competitions finals day on Sunday, 1st September; not only was it a sunny day but there was some good bowling, the results were as follows:

	Winner	Finalist
Fletcher Cup (mens)	Derek Giffin	Rex Turner
Alcock Cup (mens)	John Scraggs	Derek Giffin
Brett Cup (mens)	Simon Ingold	Stuart Meller
Buck Cup (mens pairs)	Roy Barnes/ Reg Butcher	Mike Gates/ Paul Barnes
Newman Rose		
Bowl (mixed)	Rex Turner	Ann Conroy
Novices (mixed)	John Scraggs	Doreen Scraggs
Eleanor Irwin Cup		
(ladies)	Ro Turner	Ann Perry
Ladies Challenge	Christine Bushnell	Janet Petchey
Dolly Thompson		
(ladies pairs)	Ann Conroy/ Doreen Scraggs	Janet Petchey/ Ann Perry

A special well done to Ro Turner for winning the ladies championship competition three years running.

Next season there will be new Captains and Vice Captains, Roy Prentice will be the Men's Captain with Derek Petchey being his Vice Captain and the Ladies Captain will be Janet Petchey with Pat Ainsworth as her Vice Captain. We wish them every success.

There will be notices around the village, etc. about learning to bowl next year, so if you feel you would like to try (maybe you are retiring and want something to do) do come along. It is likely that we will hold an open weekend for people to come along at their leisure and find out what is on offer.

I would like to thank everyone who has supported the Club throughout the year especially those who have given donations and raffle prizes and for the Link for allowing us to speak to the village through their pages.

Rex Turner (Captain)

Standed Hall Cricket Club - Juniors

The Junior Club's annual 6-a-side and BBQ went very well on Wednesday 28th August, being blessed by some welcome sunshine.

28 players, Under 11s, Under/13s and Under/15s, were put into 5 even teams each captained by an Under/15. Play started at 10.20am and continued throughout the day.

The eventual winners were Jonni Ash's Jaguars (Jonni Ash, Neil Bishop, Brett Rogers, Nicholas Kessingland, Toby Dale-Cook and sub) whilst CP's Phantom's (Chris Peters, James Warner, James Berry, Ed Dale-Cook, Rebecca Witherden and Rhys Giles) just beat Tom's Tornados (Tom Mansfield, David Buck, Tom Wasley, Emile Pronk, Jack Lenton and Alexander Hearne) to the runners-up spot.

The prizes and annual awards were presented by Roger Brown of the Rotary Club of Standed Stort Valley, our regular sponsors, David Brown SHCC Club Chairman and Team Managers, Nigel Witherden and Dave Mickelborough.

This was followed by the BBQ, thanks being expressed to Frank Bishop and Peter MacConachy our cooks, and to Judith Davies and her ladies who supplied the food. The day ended with a raffle and with almost 80 parents, children and guests, was thought to be our most successful so far.

David Mickelborough,
SHCC Youth Development Officer.



GRAHAM SCHOOL OF DANCE

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Also at Bishop's Stortford
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www.grahamschoolofdance.fsnet.co.uk
email: philip@grahamschoolofdance.fsnet.co.uk

Stansted Tennis Club



Annual Club Tournament

Finals Day was held on Sunday 8th September. The sunny weather helped to attract one of the largest crowd of supporters we have had in many years. The five finals were competitively fought, even though none went to three sets. This year's results were:-

Ladies Singles: Sandra Ayres bt. Daphne Carter 6-1 6-3
Mens Singles: Martyn Taplin bt. Chris Hollis 6-2 7-5
Ladies Doubles: Jenny Appleby & Corinne Gladwin bt. Sandra Ayres & Joyce Barton 6-3 7-6
Mens Doubles: Richard Johnson & Matt Whitbread bt. John Bitten & Martyn Taplin 7-5 6-3
Mixed Doubles: John Bitten & Daphne Carter bt. Richard Mott & Corinne Gladwin 6-3 6-4

The matches were umpired by Gill Robinson, Ken Kemp, Richard Mott, Martin Sebley and Keith Johnson. Richard Shervington (President) and Janet Hollis (Chairman) presented the trophies and thanked tournament organisers Fran Cayless and Chris Hollis.

Wilby Tournament

20 competitors took part in this doubles tournament in July. There was a wide age spectrum, ranging from George Luther (11) to John Eyre (79). The final was won by Richard Mott and Sue Sebley, who defeated Roger Loveday and Sandra Ayres 6-2.

Pearce/Frodo Tournament

The date for this popular round robin tournament will be Sunday 6th October, starting at 10am. If you would like to play, please add your name to the list in the clubhouse

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).

Coaching

Mid-week junior coaching will cease in October, leaving classes available on Saturday mornings only. There is now a waiting list for juniors aged between 7 and 15, so if you would like to find out more and get your name on the list, please call Chris Hollis on 01279 319155.

Used Tennis Balls

A tube of 4 used tennis balls for £1 - who can resist this offer!. Please contact Janet Hollis on 01279 812073 if you would like to purchase a tube.

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

Stansted Junior Cricket Club

Once again the season comes to an end. The boys are now keen to expend their energy on a football, not that they ever really stop. Even during the summer at cricket matches most spare minutes are spent kicking a football around.

The club has had a successful year.

The under 12's now play in the U12's section of the Bardfield Cup. They had some very exciting games and I'm sure next year will see some good results.

Once again the annual July tour to Dorset took place. The club played against two new clubs, Martinstown (just outside Dorchester) and Milton Abbas, both of which provided really good matches. However, Stansted managed to run out winners against them both. Not so lucky against Bridport who once again managed to beat us without breaking sweat.



Again this year we stayed at the Leander Hotel much loved by the boys for its basic facilities and homely comforts. The boys are already planning next year's tour.

This year we joined the Uttlesford scheme that allows the use of their bus. This was a great success with the kids. In the past we have used cars but this did not generate the same degree of camaraderie

In the Bardfield Cup, the U15 side managed to make it to the final. However they came up against a very strong Bardfield side who were convincing winners.

It is very encouraging for those of us who coach to be so well supported on the regular family day event. This year was no exception with the mothers coming very close to beating the under 12's team.

Indoor nets will be starting in Jan 2003.

Keith Ayres



The Stansted Group of HEAL Cancer Charity has had an active summer. The Barn Dance on 29th June held at Tye Green Farm was a roaring success. The venue, band and food were all excellent and thanks are due to all who supported us in every way. In response to huge demand we are intending to run another one next year - same place, same band and we hope same support.

July 14th was an absolutely wonderful day weather-wise - right at the time when we were all thinking the summer was going to continue as a wash-out - and just what we needed for our third annual Open Gardens day. Several new gardens were open to view and visitors came, as usual, from far and wide. We are very grateful to the garden owners for all their hard work in preparation and allowing hundreds of people to trample their lawns! It was notable that the centre of the village was rather sparsely represented with 'open gardens' and for next year we would welcome a few new gardens - particularly if centrally located. If anybody would like to be included in next year's event please contact Sue Hitchmough.

This year our annual coffee morning fell on the 11th September and was successful as usual. Through these events, and lots of support from the local community in other ways, we have been able to make a sizeable contribution to funds.

On 18th October at 8 pm in the Day Centre we are holding a public meeting about the Helen Rollason Cancer Care Centre appeal. Grainne James, the general manager of the appeal, will be telling us all about the work of the first centre in Chelmsford and how anyone who is affected by cancer (not only patients) can take advantage of the facilities and services we offer there. She will also tell us about future plans for the other centres - very likely much nearer Stansted. Please come along and hear or ask questions - entrance is free and we are offering 'Cheese and Wine' refreshments.

In November we will be holding an 'Antiques Evening' - watch this space for details nearer the time.

As ever, thank you all for your continued support.

Richard Thomas

**Sue Leech Chiropodist MSSCh MBChA
Surgery or Home Visits**

Routine Chiropody, Verrucae, Corns
and Nail Disorders

07626 414431



Hello again.

Here we are at the start of the Autumn Term and lots of smiley faces are missing; these are children who have started BIG SCHOOL with much confidence I am told. We await the arrival of the new little ones.

The topic for this term is all about animals, from dinosaurs to kittens, which gives us plenty of scope for collages, painting, drawing and dressing up!. We will also visit Mole Hall to see the animals before the start of winter weather.

Due to family commitments a member of staff has moved from the area so we will soon be advertising this position. A qualified person is needed for 2-3 mornings a week. For more details call in any morning to speak to a committee member or a teacher.

Sideways Pre-School is a very friendly place in a large spacious hall with lots of room for creative play and a quiet, small room for story time, rhymes and quiet discussions. We have qualified staff and, also, friendly parents and helpers, who are encouraged to participate in all activities. It is regularly inspected by Social Services and had an excellent Ofsted Report.

Sideways is open five mornings a week from 9 am - 12.15pm and the staff encourage people to call in any time to look around. You can also phone 816600 for more details during nursery hours or 813828 at other times. Hope to see you soon.

Auntie Helen



**STANSTED &
DISTRICT LIBERAL
DEMOCRATS.**

On Saturday, 26th October, at 7pm for 7.30pm, we are holding a Quiz at Stansted Day Centre. The Quizmaster will be David Morson, and the cost of £6 includes refreshments. Please ring 814222 or 813432 for further information.

The Ploughman's Lunch on Saturday, 12th October has been cancelled, as it clashes with the East of England Conference in Bishop's Stortford. Our next Ploughman's will be on Saturday, 9th November at the Stansted Day Centre, 12 noon to 2pm. All are welcome.

Ruth Rawlinson

**St Mary's School
Parents, Teachers and
Friends Association**



It hardly seems any time at all since we were wishing everyone a good summer but the new term is upon us already - hope all parents survived the holidays - thank goodness for the Stansted Playscheme!

The PTFA would like to welcome all the parents and children of Reception and Rainbow, everyone has settled in beautifully. And congratulations to all children who took their SATs last term, the results are outstanding, well done!

Year 6 have entered the Autumn Term with great gusto; they enjoyed a trip to Thaxted to participate in Crucial Crew where they joined in activities designed to teach them how to keep themselves safe. The emergency services were on hand to show how to behave in a variety of situations - we hope the date chosen, Friday 13th, was just a coincidence.

Then it was off to the Isle of Wight for a week of projects and fun. On the way, the children stopped off in Portsmouth where they visited the Mary Rose and HMS Victory. During the following week, the children had a wonderful time enjoying trips to Alum Bay Glass, the Needles, Blackgang Chine, Shanklin Chine and the Smuggling Museum. Along with beach studies, beach exploration, and a Fossil Hunt, we hope the children had enough energy for the last night disco.

The next event on the PTFA calendar is a Christmas Shopping Evening on Thursday, 17th October from 7.30pm - 9.30pm in the School Hall. There will be lots of stalls selling a variety of gifts for all the family such as beauty products (Body Shop, Virgin Vie), toys, books, cards, chocolates and crafts plus many other original gift ideas. Come and get all your Christmas presents early, under one roof and help us to raise money at the same time! You don't have to have children at St Mary's to enjoy this event - and won't you feel organised afterwards?! Refreshments also available.

Hope to see you on the 17th.

Claire Jonas,
PTFA Committee Member

STANSTED DISTRICT BROWNIES AND GUIDES

The 4th Stansted Brownies need another adult helper for their meetings on Monday evenings from 6pm to 7.30pm. If you are interested please contact Sue Pollard on 813734.

Unfortunately the Guide unit had to close because of a lack of leaders. There are girls who would like to become Guides but have nowhere to go; the nearby village units at Manuden and Elsenham are full.

If you are interested, or know someone who might be, please contact either Sonia Girling, 813571 or Glynis Prothero, 814145, who would be delighted to give you further information.

Guiding provides so many different experiences and opportunities for both girls and adults, so give it a go!

SEIZE YOUR CHANCES

Have you ever looked at the advertisements for the Stansted WEA classes and decided not to go as the subject might not be of interest to you? Well, think again - I did. The lectures were on Iceland. I found the sagas too complicated with difficult names and the language sounded too hard to learn but the geology was fascinating and I thought I would like to see the country one day.

The opportunity to go came at short notice and only for a couple of days but it was well worth the journey. Here was the scenery I had seen on the slides but the geysers were spouting and wisps of steam drifted up from moss speckled lava fields. I could feel the spray from the waterfalls and hear the noise of the rushing water. Glaciers miles away showed up clearly in the unpolluted air. The sun at midnight hardly dipped below the horizon, turned the snow on the volcanic mountain tops deep glowing pink and reflected from the rocks making them look as though they were about to burst into flames.

Oh, by the way, if you go to Iceland take your woollies - the cold wind didn't show up on the slides!

Peggy Honour

P.S. This autumn's series of lectures has already started but perhaps "The English Social Cartoon in the Nineteenth Century" will inspire some of us to do other research. For information on this and other WEA matters ring 813250.

STANSTED CONSERVATIVES



Sunday, 15th September 2002, Salad Lunch at The Ash, 12.15pm. Lord Hanningfield will be the Guest Speaker. Tickets £15.

Friday, 25th October, Constituency Dinner/ Dance at Foakes Hall, Dunmow. Guest Speaker will be Michael Howard; Sir Alan Haselhurst will be in attendance. Tickets £40.

Tuesday, 5th November, General Branch Meeting, 8pm at the Council Offices.

Friday, 15th November, Pub evening at the Rose & Crown, Bentfield Green.

15th February 2003, Valentines Dance at Bishop's Stortford Golf Club.

Contacts: Cllr Richard Wallace 01279 812588: Secretary,
Sian Lloyd 01279 817876

Essex County Council

As many readers will know, the SERAS Report affects many directly and has caused much dissent and debate. Members, therefore, have had to devote time to study the issues in detail. The consultative period ends in November, so let your views be known.

In the case of the long term financial review, the Spending Review of 2002 provides cash increases in total Standard Spending Assessments (SSAs - the benchmark spending levels for revenue spending which the Government uses to distribute grant) of 6.7% in 2003/4, 5.3% in 2004/5 and 6.7% in 2005/6. This is supported by net Aggregate External Finance (AEF - made up of revenue support and grant and non-domestic rates) of 7.7%, 4.9% and 6.9% respectively. It is estimated that this implies an average increase in locally financed spending of around 6.1- 6.2% each year over the three years.

These increases compare with a numeric average increase in non-adjusted SSA, at national level, of 3.6% in the three years to 2002/3, and an average AEF increase of 6.2%.

Over the three years of the Spending Review (i.e. comparing 2002/3 with 2005/6) the total increase in SSAs is likely to be as follows:

Education	19.22%,
Personal Social Services	28.44%,
Highway Maintenance	7.67%,
Environmental, Protective and Cultural Services	11.86%,
Capital Financing	49.2 %.

Crucially, the impact on Essex will depend on the Government's proposals for changes to the grant distribution system. Most of the options would appear to disadvantage Essex. In 2002/3 terms, the loss could be up to £94 million a year and the most favourable outcome shows a rise of only £3 million.

Highlights for individual services are:

For Education

Schools are likely to benefit directly from an increase in the School Standards Fund, which will give a typical Primary Headteacher an additional £10,000 per annum and a Secondary Headteacher £50,000 per annum to spend on delivering education. A Leadership Incentive Grant is to be introduced in at least 1,400 secondary schools and education maintenance allowances are to be increased by £1,500 per annum from September 2004. The impact of these changes on the County Council is not yet known but an announcement is expected shortly.

The Sure Start programme will create at least 250,000 childcare places with free nursery places for all three-year-olds from September 2004.

Should anyone wish to discuss these matters further, please contact me on 01279 812588.

Richard Wallace
County Councillor
Stansted Division



STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Members and guests were welcomed to the Society's new season which opened on September 5th when our speaker, Mr Allen presented a most interesting, fascinating talk wonderfully illustrated by slides on "Hatfield Regis - The Lost Town" (later as we know today Hatfield Broad Oak). We were taken back to the very early days of this very important large town with many points, dates and facts of its history and families, their houses and, of course, the famous oak trees associated within the area. An incredible amount of research must have been required to present such an enjoyable evening and the meeting's thanks were duly expressed.

The Society's next meeting will be on October 3rd, the evening's subject being "East London".

P J Brown

IN-STEP REFLEXOLOGY

Feel generally out of step with life?
Get-up-and-go, got up and gone?

REFLEXOLOGY could be the answer

An holistic therapy designed to aid deep relaxation, reflexology promotes the body's own powers of healing and gives an enhanced sense of well-being.

Beverley Davies Assoc. AOR is now practising from Fanny Fingers, Silver St, Stansted every Thursday. To book phone 01279 647646 or 07866 553524 to arrange a home visit.



Royal British Legion Stansted & District Branch

Tea Party in Aid of Poppy Appeal

The RBL and the Women's Section are organising a Tea Party to be held in the Day Centre on the 30th October at 3pm for 3.30pm. ALL ARE WELCOME!

Details and tickets (price £3) can be obtained from the following members of the Committee:

Cath Whall, 813880; Bob Stoddart, 814015; Harold Thistle, 813250, Eddie Laird, 813458.

Please do give your support. Transport available if required.

Poppy Appeal 2002

Time flies - again I am organising the House to House Collection in the District from Saturday 26th October to Sunday 9th November. Any additional helpers would be greatly appreciated. Please phone me on 813289 if you can assist.

Last year we had another record collection of over £9,800 (£9,470 in 2000). Thanks to all who gave so generously and please do so again.

Poppies will also be available in many commercial establishments if you miss the home visit.

Please help us to achieve a further record in 2002.

John L Segar
Hon. Poppy Appeal Organiser
Stansted & District



Royal British Legion Women's Section

We had no speaker for our July meeting so Bessie produced an interesting Quiz enjoyed by all. Janet, Vera, Cath and Barbara were at the winning table.

Our Coffee Morning on 14th August was well supported by members and friends and raised £265 for our funds. Our thanks to all those who gave so generously.

The meeting on Thursday 17th October at 7.30 pm in the Day Centre will be our AGM. Do please try to come along.

Pat Clower

Tortoise Scout Troop

Earlier this year the Troop was facing the probability of financial deficit but thanks to an unexpected legacy the gap was much reduced. It was closed altogether on 14th September when a highly successful Barn Dance was held in Elsenham Village Hall which raised upwards of £500. Credit goes to Karen Gooding and her musical team, the Scout Fellowship for the excellent barbecue, two talented young performers, one on the piano and an Irish dancer, and above all to Mark Gerber for initiating it and doing much of the preparation. It all came together like a well oiled machine.

The Troop now has 7 boys but no girls (plus 2 boys for Summer Camp) which this year was successfully held in Kent. There are 3-4 regular leaders plus 2 or 3 more available for special events. Consistent effort over recent years is showing them an encouraging return.

Derek Honour,
Chairman

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Our new season gets off to a flying start on 19th October with a visit to Stansted by the Coull Quartet. Acclaimed in New York as giving “a knock-out performance” and by The Guardian as “an amazing phenomenon”, the Coull Quartet is one of Britain’s foremost string quartets. They perform regularly in the USA and Western Europe and have also toured India, the Far East, the Middle East, South America and Australia.

Their programme is entitled:

‘Three Last Words’

Mozart Quartet in F K590
Britten Quartet No 3
Dvorak Quartet in G Op 106

and is a wonderful programme of these three composers’ final statements in that most personal of mediums, the string quartet. The centrepiece for the programme is Britten’s third quartet in which he quotes from his opera ‘Death in Venice’

The Coull Quartet comprises Roger Coull and Philip Gallaway (violins), David Curtis (viola), and Nicholas Roberts (cello).

The concert is at St John’s Church, Stansted on Saturday 19th October and will start at 8pm.

Tickets are £8, Concessions £6, Children £3, and children of members £1. Available from:
Stansted Carpets, Chapel Hill, Stansted
Nockolds Solicitors, Market Sq., Bishop’s Stortford
Options Hairdressers, Elsenham
Sonia Levy, 31 Chapel Hill, Stansted. (01279 815282)

Future concerts this season are on 8th December at 3pm, 19th January at 3pm and 8th March at 8pm.

Memberships for the whole season, the cost of which represent a significant saving on the individual ticket prices, are still available from Mrs Elizabeth Wagener, Fairfield, Silver Street, Stansted CM24 8HE, telephone 01279 813182.

Alan Corbishley



X40 BUS TIMETABLE REVISION

The timetable for the X40 bus service operating between Bury St Edmunds and Stansted (via Saffron Walden) has recently been revised to include an additional stop at Radwinter Road in Saffron Walden for the Saffron Walden Community Hospital. As before, the service runs on weekdays, Saturdays & Sundays and Bank Holidays (except for 25th & 26th December and 1st January). Reduced fares for senior citizens are available in accordance with the relevant local authority concessionary fare scheme and the BAA Airport's Travelcard is accepted.

Please note that this is a limited stop service, picking-up and setting-down only at the points shown in the revised timetable below. In addition to the new Radwinter Road stop, there are further changes; at Horringer, the stop will now be at Meadow Drive instead of Sharpes Lane; there is a new stop at Stradishall Crossroads; and a new stop at Stansted Airport for Endeavour House.

Also, please note, fares are not interchangeable with the Bus 301 Saffron Walden service.

Leaflets on the revised X40 service are available from the Parish Council Office.

Bury St. Edmunds - Haverhill - Saffron Walden - Stansted Airport Stansted Connection X40

Daily

Bury St. Edmunds, Bus Station	0305	0405	0605	0805	1005	1205	1405	1605	1805	2005
Horringer, Meadow Drive	0315	0415	0615	0815	1015	1215	1415	1615	1815	2015
Chedburgh, Marquis	0320	0420	0620	0820	1020	1220	1420	1620	1820	2020
Denston, Plumbers Arms	0325	0425	0625	0825	1025	1225	1425	1625	1825	2025
Stradishall, Crossroads	0327	0427	0627	0827	1027	1227	1427	1627	1827	2027
Stradishall, Highpoint, Bus Shelter	0330	0430	0630	0830	1030	1230	1430	1630	1830	2030
Little Wrattling, Rising Sun	0335	0435	0635	0835	1035	1235	1435	1635	1835	2035
Haverhill, Bus Station	0340	0440	0640	0840	1040	1240	1440	1640	1840	2040
Steeple Bumpstead, North Street	0348	0448	0648	0848	1048	1248	1448	1648	1848	2048
Hempstead, Bluebell Inn	0355	0455	0655	0855	1055	1255	1455	1655	1855	2055
Radwinter, Church	0400	0500	0700	0900	1100	1300	1500	1700	1900	2100
Sewards End, St. James Church	0405	0505	0705	0905	1105	1305	1505	1705	1905	2105
Saffron Walden, Radwinter Road (for Hospital)	0408	0508	0708	0908	1108	1308	1508	1708	1908	2108
Saffron Walden, High Street	0412	0512	0712	0912	1112	1312	1512	1712	1912	2112
Newport, High Street, Station Road	0420	0520	0720	0920	1120	1320	1520	1720	1920	2120
Quendon, Pottery	0425	0525	0725	0925	1125	1325	1525	1725	1925	2125
Ugley, The Chequers	0427	0527	0727	0927	1127	1327	1527	1727	1927	2127
Stansted Mountfitchet, The Feathers	0433	0533	0733	0933	1133	1333	1533	1733	1933	2133
Stansted Airport, Coach Station	0445	0545	0745	0945	1145	1345	1545	1745	1945	2145

Stansted Express trains

Tottenham Hale and Liverpool Street train arrival times shown apply on Mondays to Fridays. Arrival times at weekends may vary by up to five minutes.

Stansted Airport depart	0600	0800	1000	1200	1400	1600	1800	2000	2200
Tottenham Hale arrive	0634	0831	1030	1230	1430	1630	1827	2029	2229
London Liverpool Street	0648	0845	1044	1244	1444	1645	1841	2042	2246

Stansted Airport - Saffron Walden - Haverhill - Bury St. Edmunds Stansted Connection X40

Daily

Stansted Express trains

Stansted Airport train arrival times shown apply on Mondays to Fridays. Arrival times at weekends may vary by up to five minutes.

London Liverpool Street depart	0500	0700	0900	1100	1300	1500	1700	1900	2100
Tottenham Hale depart	0511	0711	0911	1111	1311	1511	1711	1911	2111
Stansted Airport arrive	0542	0746	0945	1144	1344	1544	1744	1945	2145
Stansted Airport, Coach Station, Bay 26	0605	0805	1005	1205	1405	1605	1805	2005	2205
Stansted Mountfitchet, The Feathers	0617	0817	1017	1217	1417	1617	1817	2017	2217
Ugley, The Chequers	0623	0823	1023	1223	1423	1623	1823	2023	2223
Quendon, Pottery	0625	0825	1025	1225	1425	1625	1825	2025	2225
Newport, High Street, Station Road	0630	0830	1030	1230	1430	1630	1830	2030	2230
Saffron Walden, High Street	0638	0838	1038	1238	1438	1638	1838	2038	2238
Saffron Walden, Radwinter Road (for Hospital)	0641	0841	1041	1241	1441	1641	1841	2041	2241
Sewards End, Lords Close	0645	0845	1045	1245	1445	1645	1845	2045	2245
Radwinter, Church	0651	0851	1051	1251	1451	1651	1851	2051	2251
Hempstead, Bluebell Inn	0655	0855	1055	1255	1455	1655	1855	2055	2255
Steeple Bumpstead, North Street	0702	0902	1102	1302	1502	1702	1902	2102	2302
Haverhill, Bus Station	0710	0910	1110	1310	1510	1710	1910	2110	2310
Little Wrattling, Rising Sun	0715	0915	1115	1315	1515	1715	1915	2115	2315
Stradishall, Highpoint, Cafe	0720	0920	1120	1320	1520	1720	1920	2120	2320
Stradishall, Crossroads	0723	0923	1123	1323	1523	1723	1923	2123	2323
Denston, Plumbers Arms	0725	0925	1125	1325	1525	1725	1925	2125	2325
Chedburgh, Marquis	0730	0930	1130	1330	1530	1730	1930	2130	2330
Horringer, Meadow Drive	0735	0935	1135	1335	1535	1735	1935	2135	2335
Bury St. Edmunds, Bus Station	0745	0945	1145	1345	1545	1745	1945	2145	2345

Stansted Connection X40 is a limited stop service and stops only at points shown in the timetable, plus all stops at Stansted Airport

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