

Nov 2003

The *LINK*



*Stansted
Mountfitchet*

GET THE MOST OUT OF LIFE

Hypnotherapy

& other brief therapies

**One session
smoking therapy**

also

Confidence - Eating
Stress & Anxiety
Phobias
Gastro Intestinal
Study & Exams
and much more . . .

Please ring **GLYNIS CHEERS**
MA. BA. BSCH,
Dip. Clinical Hypnotherapy
01279 812165

SHADOWFAX

TECHNOLOGY

Your local IT supplier

- PCs, peripherals and software
- Broadband Internet from £24.99/month (less than BT)
- Complete networks for business and home
- Antivirus software
- Advice from qualified staff

Microsoft
CERTIFIED

Partner

14 Riverside Business Park
Stoney Common Road
Stansted CM24 8PL
Tel: 01279 813076
E-mail: info@sfax.co.uk

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 **MAR** is now practising from Fairy Fingers.

Silver St. Stansted every Thursday.
To book phone 01279 647646 or
07866 553524 to arrange a home visit.



D. BROWN

Interior / Exterior
Decorator

FREE ESTIMATES

Telephone 07973 777106

Fabrications

*is the local company for all soft furnishings,
made from our fabrics or your own.
Wallpapers, tracks and blinds also supplied.*

For free advice and measuring service call

Sue 01279 777465 or Carol 01279 777480

the MORTGAGE experts

special schemes on different terms

**First Time Buyers
Re-Mortgages
Right To Buy
Self Employed-No accounts
100% Service
Buy To Let Specialists**

**THE ONLY CALL
YOU NEED TO MAKE**

with access to EVERY lender in the country

**GENESIS FINANCIAL
SERVICES**

01279 815815

18-20 Silver Street, Stansted
Essex CM24 8HD
info@genesis.co.uk

YOUR HOME IS AT RISK IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON A MORTGAGE OR OTHER LOAN SECURED BY IT. WRITTEN DETAILS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST. A SUITABLE LIFE ASSURANCE POLICY MAY BE REQUIRED.
BUY TO LET There is no guarantee that it will be possible to arrange continuous letting of the

AUTOMOBILE ENGINEERS

*David
Nunn's
Garage*



SERVICING

REPAIRS

BENTFIELD ROAD
STANSTED

TEL: 01279 812686

A.BETTER.AERIAL



www.abetteraerial.co.uk

DIGITAL AERIALS
SKY TV

FM & DAB RADIO AERIALS
ANTI GHOSTING AERIALS
EXTRA TV POINTS
AMPLIFIERS

COMMUNAL SYSTEMS
FREE ESTIMATES & ADVICE
YOUR LOCAL AERIAL MAN

Bishop's Stortford

01279 815948

07980 817251

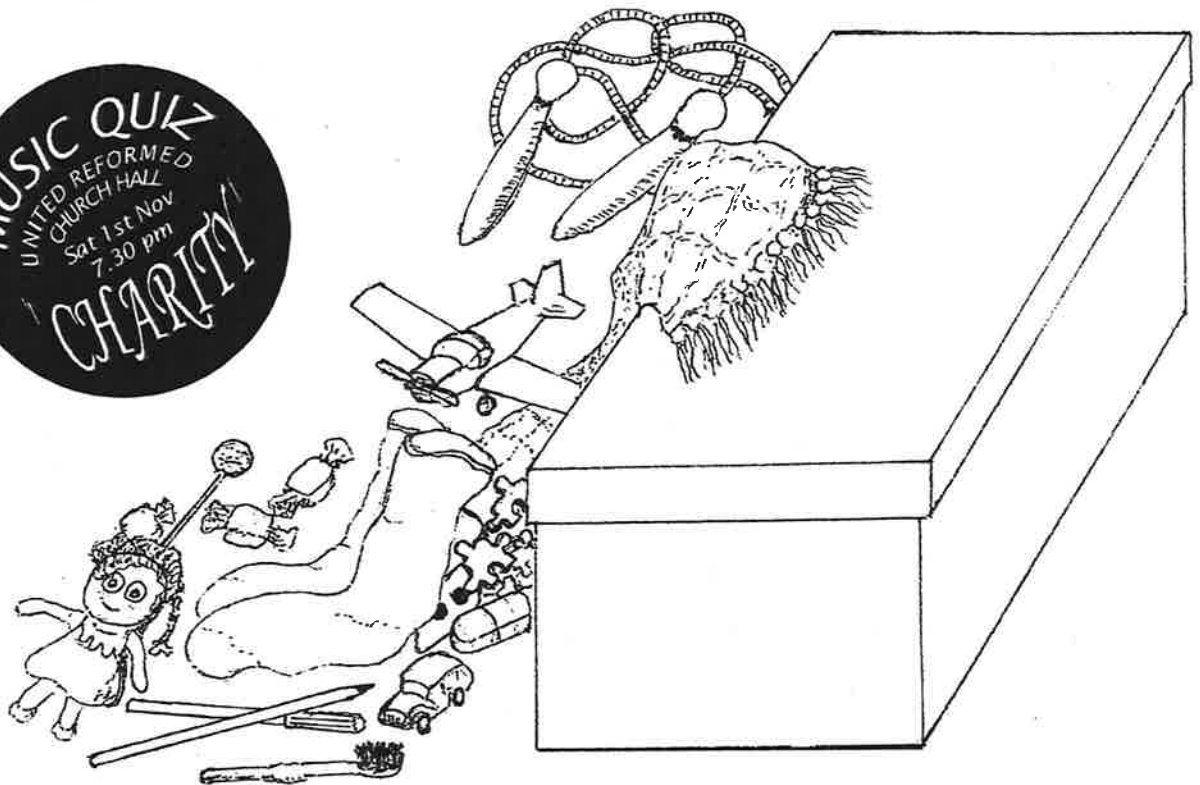
Carles Hill Maunden



Operation Christmas Child

A PROJECT OF SAMARITAN'S PURSE

THE CHRISTMAS SHOEBOX APPEAL



Help to provide a SHOEBOX of simple presents for a really needy child

Bring your presents to the United Reformed Church Hall at 7.30 pm on Tuesday Nov 4th for a grand box-filling evening

or → Make up a shoebox yourself

or → Make a cash donation (cheques to 'Operation Christmas Child')

EXPLANATORY LEAFLET, BOXES & DONATIONS: 58 CHAPEL HILL

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

Opinions expressed in this magazine are given freely and do not necessarily represent those of CTS, its member churches, village organisations or advertisers. Printed by Copyzone, Bishop's Stortford.

Copy to reach 58 Chapel Hill or email to stanstedlink@aol.com
by 13th November for publication on 29th November
by 11th December for publication on 3rd January



The Parishes of
Stansted Mountfitchet
with Birchanger
and Farnham

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

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

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

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>

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
Cams, CB3 7HH
phone/fax (01223) 263640
<church.music@stansted.net>

Children's Church
Mrs Sandra Wood
(01279) 647054
<sandra@skygod.demon.co.uk>

Being in the know

In the absence of any other inspiration this month, I thought I would give a shameless plug to the online calendar which is emerging on stansted.net.

<http://www.stansted.net/calendar>

From time to time we have all uttered cries of dismay as we discover that our beloved quiz night, or concert, is taking place on a night when four other events have emerged and will be competing for business.

After indignation comes a moment of contrition, which usually involves a resolution to go check the Village Diary in the library. All of this is forgotten the next time the committee meets to arrange the next season's programme. (I know there are some noble exceptions to this, please don't write in and tell me!)

An online diary was not feasible in years gone by. Even though a few people could access it, there were enough who would feel disenfranchised to make it divisive, if not impractical.

It was when I discovered that all of my Church Council were online that I thought the time might be right to give a Village Calendar a try, and see if it works. After all, Church Councils are not renowned for being technologically cutting edge, so when they all had email, I figured that the scales had tipped,

and the internet had become a more popular medium.

How it works is that each organisation in the village may nominate a person to post events on their behalf. Then, within the usual limits of being legal, decent, honest and truthful, events which would normally be publicised could be posted to the calendar, and be readily available to anyone with internet access.

The usual response to this is that not everybody is on the internet. This is true and I am aware that computers can be divisive in this regard. All I can say is that an online calendar will not reach less people than the diary in the library, but it will certainly be more widely consulted, and be easier to keep up to date.

Whilst I don't want to be prescriptive, it would not be difficult for anyone to look it up on one of the computers in the library, or print out the relevant dates while they are there.

In any event, it is now online, in embryonic form, and there for the community to use. Any organisations which want to nominate a calendar person, maybe they could send a cheque for £10 to help defray the costs of software we are using to re-write stansted.net, made payable to "stansted.net".

AS

Rites of Passage

October saw the passing of Wilfred Wood of Millfields. Wilf was an avid cyclist and fought chronic asthma all his life. In retirement he co-ordinated the drivers who transport clients of the Stansted Day Centre, a role which earned him a Community Service Award from Uttlesford District Council. Work colleagues will remember his humour and his love of dressing up. Pictured left is Wilf as Superman.



St. John's Diary

Sundays 8:00am Holy Communion *said*
9:30am Parish Communion *sung*
11:00am Open Door Service on
the 2nd and 16th of November

Advent Carol Service
6:30pm November 30th

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

Children's Church meets at 9:30am on Sundays in the Church Hall. **Laser Group** is a 12-16 youth group which meets weekly on Sunday evenings at 7:30pm for activities in the church hall. The evening concludes with candlelit Night Prayer in the chapel in church. A housegroup meets fortnightly.



The current housegroup is studying Jonah, details from the Church Office.



(continued)

From the Registers:

Baptisms

21st Harvey David Venables
Alice Elizabeth Shepherd

Weddings

5th Matthew Reardon Byrne and Sarah Elson-Rogers
27th Dean Kersey and Kirstin Morag Steenson

Funerals

1st Nancy Mary Camp age 68 years
15th Peter Camp age 72 years
16th June Montgomery age 65 years
26th Donna Lee Thornton age 29 years

Service of Remembrance for the Departed

6.30 pm 2nd November

You will see from the separate notice for All Souls that names of the departed whom St. John's congregation wish to be included in the service should be sent to the Church Office.

Coach Trip to Brentwood Cathedral

On Saturday, 15 November, St John's Church Choir will be joining other choirs in a Festival organised by the Royal School of Church Music, with a theme of Prayer and Praise. The service will be held in the Brentwood Roman Catholic Cathedral, which was dedicated only about 12 years ago. It is a beautiful building - and if you have not visited it before, this would be an ideal opportunity to see it and hear some wonderful singing.

The Choir will be leaving Stansted by coach at 12 noon, and welcome Link readers to join them. The Cathedral is walking distance from the shops, so why not do some Christmas shopping while the choirs rehearse? The service itself starts at 5 p.m., and we will leave Brentwood at about 6.30 pm.

The coach will also pick up at Takeley and Hatfield Broad Oak.

To book your seat on the coach, please phone Kathy West on 01279 816293. The cost will be £8.

Christmas Market

The Christmas Market will be held this year on 22 November 2003 at the new time of 1pm to 4pm in St John's Church Hall. As well as the normal fantastic array of prizes available to be won in the Grand Draw, there will be stalls weighed down with cakes, toys, gifts, books, bulbs, crafts and decorations, toiletries, candles, etc., not to mention tombolas and raffles to suit all ages.

We hope that, by holding the Market in the afternoon instead of our normal morning slot, it will prove more convenient for the younger families in the village to take advantage of the many stalls catering for children. So, please make a note of the date and time and drop in to pick up some early Christmas bargains and, perhaps, have a cup of tea and a cake from our well stocked refreshment bar or a glass of warm punch whilst you wait to see if you are a big winner in our Grand Draw!

Francine Cope

SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

Quaker Meeting House, Chapel Hill

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

I feel that this poem expresses an inspiring view of life's richness.

Graham Thwaites

Still Growing

What I am now includes
the shape of growing years
etched by voices that instruct,
demand, forbid.

What I am now includes
opportunities misused,
false starts, new promises,
old stupidities, fresh disguises.

What I am now includes
the storm that swept away dreams,
tossed and tipped my landscape over,
brought rain-washed air
to clear a widened view.

What I am now
is made from this rich compost
deep-stirred
with fellowship and love,
sunshine on green pastures,
may-trees in blossom,
and the heart singing.

Edna Eglinton

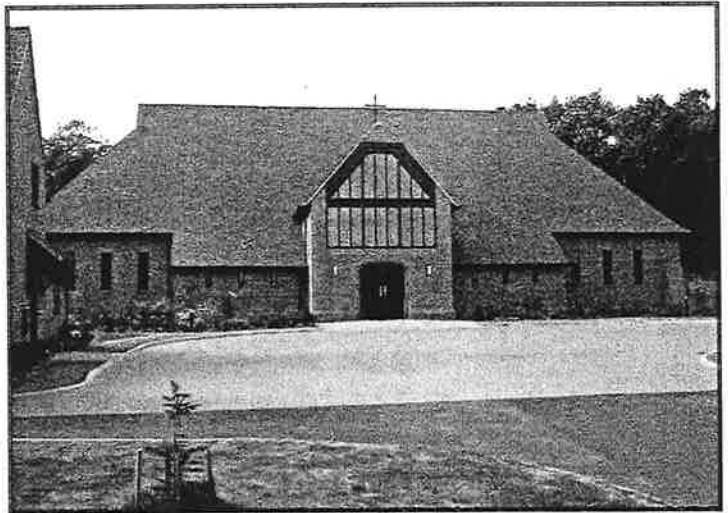
SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE FOR THE DEPARTED

All Souls is the season when everyone in Stansted is invited to include the names of any of their loved ones who have died, in the list, which is read at the service in St. John's Church at 6.30 pm on Sunday 2nd November. Whether or not you intend to come to the service, you may put a simple note including the name of the loved one, and your own, into the post box by the door in the Church Hall.

Dedication of the new

The 3rd October marked the culmination of many years of planning and prayers for the parish of St Therese of Lisieux with the dedication of the new Church at High Lane Stansted. More than 250 people, parishioners – old and new, together with many invited guests, joined with Bishop Thomas McMahon and the clergy of the diocese of Brentwood to celebrate this historic occasion.

Our celebrations however had started on the 1st October, on St Therese's feast day, with a sung Mass, at which we were joined by many visitors, who celebrated in the social centre afterwards. We felt it appropriate to have two celebrations, both to include as many people as possible, and to give thanks for all the blessings our parish has received whilst dedicated to the name of St Therese.



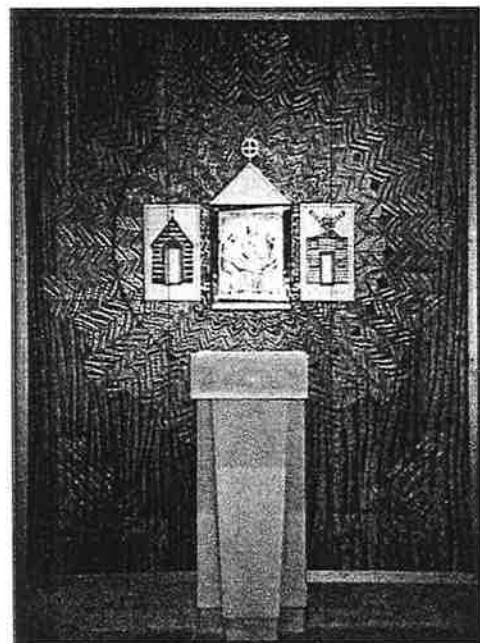
Our site is rural with beautiful views over rolling countryside. St Therese said she discovered a large part of the mystery of God in nature. For example, she was looking at the flowers in the garden one day and she realised that they were all beautiful but different. "If all the flowers wanted to be roses" she said, "nature would lose her springtime beauty and the fields would no longer be decked out with wild flowers". Hence the uniqueness of each individual person. She compared souls to a garden – "God willed to create great souls, comparable to lilies and roses, but he also created smaller ones (e.g. daisies and violets). All, however, are destined to give glory to their Creator and to all Creation, as long as they are happy to be themselves, and not try to be someone else!"

We are very fortunate here to have had the garden designed around the Church and to have John Latham, one of our Parishioners, take great care in choosing the planting and trees to complement the lovely site.



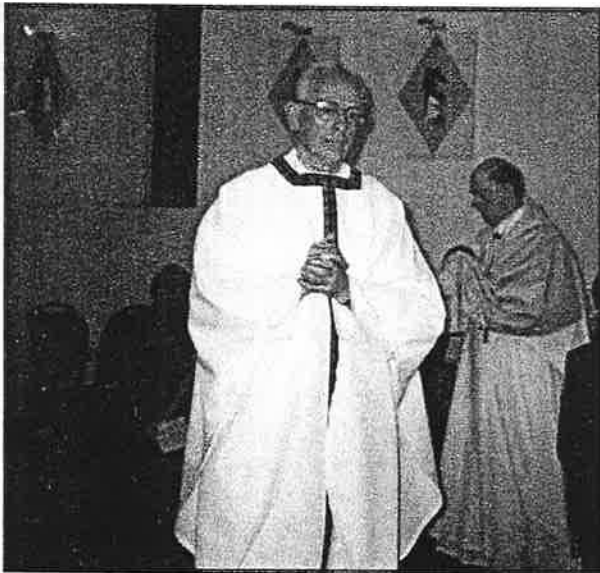
The roots of our Parish first started however in Henham, in 1933, when the land was donated by a Belgian family, and a little wooden hut was dedicated to St Anthony. It was 1958 before the building, which used to be the Miller's house by the Windmill in Stansted, was purchased and named in honour of St Therese. The two Churches ran as part of the same parish until the old wooden building, St Anthony's, had to be closed in 1999 because it had become unsafe. What a sad occasion this was, particularly for all those who had worshipped at the little Church in Henham for over 60 years; but it was the beginning of a new and greater convergence of the two communities for the future.

The Braeckman family (also from Belgium) had offered a piece of land in Stansted, and in April 2001 we gathered as a parish on the site for the first cutting of the sod by Paul Braeckman, who remarked at the time "We have sown and planted many crops in this field over the years, but this is the first time we have planted a church."



St Therese's Church

It was decided to build the Parish Centre first so that we would be able to move to the site quickly, while more time would be spent on building the Church. So, on 30 November 2001 we said a fond farewell to the church at Millside that had served the parish for over 40 years. For the next year our services would be held in the hall until our Church building was complete. We had moved into the hall at the beginning of Advent and so we moved to the new Church also at the beginning of another Advent. The Responsorial Psalm was appropriately: "I rejoiced when I heard them say let us go to God's house."



Over many years the Church Building Committee had worked very hard to get things started, to co-ordinate matters and to keep the project moving. In his address to the congregation during our dedication celebrations, Father Joe likened this committee to an orchestra, a large group of musicians playing different instruments, with different talents. But perhaps nearer to the mark as a village band, sometimes in tune – sometimes out of tune – and sometimes playing the wrong tune. But the band played on! What you see is the result of their co-ordination and efforts. The finished product, a Church in the style of an old Essex barn, and the rest of the complex, is something to be proud of.



The Bishop in his address likened it to a harvest, very appropriate to our farmland site. The very beautiful artwork inside the Church has been created by a local artist Stephen Foster. It combines the spiritual theme with our links to the old St Anthony's Church, and our previous home at Millside. Perhaps the whole project blends so beautifully with its surroundings because we have used local architects and artists in true sympathy with the site.

We are a growing young parish and so it was appropriate that we also had celebrations for our children who enjoyed an afternoon party with games on the following Saturday.



We would like our neighbours and the local community to come and join us in our celebrations.

Please come and look around our Church and gardens at High Lane.

We will be holding an open afternoon on Sunday 2nd November from 2 - 5 pm. There will also be refreshments in the Social Centre.

*Come and feel very welcome in
God's House*

ROMAN CATHOLIC

St Therese of Lisieux
High Lane



Shalom

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

METHODIST

Meets in Quaker Meeting House, Chapel Hill

Minister Rev'd John Graham
2 South Road
Bishop's Stortford
Tel 01279 654475

Secretary Mrs Catherine Dean
49 Recreation Ground
Stansted
Tel 01279 81357

Email methodists@stansted.net

All services start at 9.30am unless otherwise stated

Services and preachers for November

2nd Joan Kennett
9th Remembrance Day Service at St.John's Church
led by Rev.Keith Page
Meet at Memorial Gardens at 10.50 am
16th Margaret Richardson
23rd Joint Service with URC at 10.30 am
at United Reformed Church, led by Rev.
David Simpson. Holy Communion.
30th Rev. Jim Gill

Fellowship Meeting on Tuesday 11th November at 8 pm

3 November – Playlets at the Friends Meeting House

17 November – an evening with Rev. David Simpson at
7 Blythwood Gardens

1 December – an Advent Meditation at the Friends Meeting
House

Meetings start at 8 pm.

All are welcome. For more details please phone Edna or
Harry Goreing on 01279 503764.



St Clare Hospice

The Hospices in Harmony concert, one of 490 performances held worldwide on October 4th, was a great success. Glynis Morris worked extremely hard, along with the members of the choir, to produce a varied programme of close harmony arrangements of popular songs, folk songs, Spirituals and madrigals. Liz Jennings, also one of the choristers, read a poem written by a youngster from Minsk Hospice, this very moving piece was an integral part of every concert in each of the 40 countries taking part. Both Liz and Glynis also worked hard to publicise the event in the locality, their help was invaluable to the success of the evening. A special thanks goes to all the youngsters in the choir too; it was good to see their obvious enjoyment during the concert. I certainly heard some very complimentary comments about the evening expressed to me, both at the church and in work; well done all of you.

Over 150 people attended the concert and a fantastic total of £741.00 was raised through ticket sales alone, with a further £147.00 from a raffle, the sale of programmes raised £91.00 and finally donations for refreshments totalled £86.21. A grand and wonderful total of £1065.21 was raised by the concert. All those who contributed in any way can be assured that their practical help will directly benefit our patients.

On behalf of everyone at St Clare Hospice I would like to thank everyone for their generosity, commitment and practical support for the Hospice while, at the same time, enjoying a lovely social event in the local community.

I hope to be able to look forward to the next Voices for Hospices event in 2006!

Thank you everyone.

Caroline Bore

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 November

2nd	10.30	Mr M. Dyer	
9th	10.50	Village Remembrance Day Service at the Memorial Garden and St John's Church	
16th	10.30	Mr R. Friday	
23rd	10.30	Revd D. Simpson	Communion Joint Service with our Methodist friends
30th	10.30	Dr P. Cressey	

Shoe Boxes

It is not too late to support the shoe box charity "Operation Christmas Child" and make a boy or girl's Christmas happy. Details of how you can help can be obtained from Janet Townsend on 812593, or come to the URC hall on November 4th from 7.30pm and help prepare the boxes for dispatch. Empty shoe boxes or items to be included in them are very welcome.

The new music group "Charity" are arranging a music quiz and concert in the URC Hall on November 1st tickets £5 (to include a ploughman's supper) to help with the transportation costs of the shoe boxes.

Afternoon teas

On the first Sunday afternoon of each month this summer we have opened our Church and served teas and cakes to anyone out for a walk or just wanting somewhere to go. This has proved very successful and we are going to continue on November 2nd and December 7th. If the weather is bad we can provide transport; just ring 814850 or 812593.

Unexpectedly we have raised money from the teas and a donation has already been sent to "Water Aid"; since then another £60 has been collected. Following our Harvest Service, when we heard about "Elephant pumps" that can provide clean water for villages in Africa for as little as £200, we have decided to help our Junior Church Children raise this sum. See you on November 2nd ?

Lecture Hall

Fund raising has also started in earnest again for ourselves. At our Church meeting in October it was agreed to go ahead and modernize the Lecture Hall, including adding a toilet and facilities for the disabled, new windows and insulation and re-cladding to the external walls of the building. We have been awarded grants from Essex and Bretts Environmental trusts as well as from our own Synod. To help reach our target we are having a quiz night on November 29th at 7.00pm for 7.30pm start, tickets £5. To book your place individually or a table of 6/8 please ring Betty on 814850.

She also has a Bird quiz sheet price £1 with a 1st prize of £25 available. There are also 2004 Calendars illustrated with past scenes of Stansted, ready now at £4 each from Janet on 812593.

Janet Townsend

Stansted Mountfitchet Parish Council

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



Council Offices
Crafton Green
Tel 813214
Fax 813964

A reminder to everyone that the Remembrance Day Parade will take place on Sunday 9 November, gathering at Crafton Green at around 10.30am. The Parade will end at the War Memorial, where this year's service will be led by Revd Keith Page from the Methodist Church. Attendance is NOT confined to members of local organisations, and we would like to see as many of the general public as possible present to remember those who gave their lives for us.

Please also join the Royal British Legion for observance of the Two Minute Silence at 11am on 11 November at the War Memorial.

Fireworks

On a lighter note, it is our intention to hold the annual Bonfire and Firework Display at Elms Farm on Saturday 8 November. Gates will open at 6.30pm, fire to be lit at 7pm and the display will start at 7.30pm. Refreshments will be available for purchase at the event.

Football

Many of you may have been following an item which has been on the Council's agenda for some years now, namely the provision of football facilities for our junior footballers. At a meeting of the Council on 8 October, a resolution was passed not to pursue the possibility of siting the facility on land which had been offered adjacent to the children's play area. However, a further resolution was passed to establish a working group to liaise with relevant parties as a matter of urgency and to consider any other possible sites in the village.

A report is to be made to the Full Council in the New Year, so if any reader knows of land which could be available, or if any landowner elsewhere in the village is prepared to enter into discussion, then please contact the Clerk on 813214.

Parish Cemetery

At the meeting held on 8 October, members took a decision on making a financial contribution towards the costs of re-erecting the 10 headstones which were laid flat following the safety test in July. Following advice received from the National Association of Local Councils, and the Parish Council's own solicitor, it became clear that if the Council did pay, then it would have to do so for each and every stone which becomes loose, and it would become liable for consequential and following damage, injury and reparation.

It was therefore regrettably, but unanimously, resolved that the Parish Council should not pay towards the re-erection of the headstones.

UTTLESFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL

At Uttlesford's "state of the district" debate at Stansted's day centre in September, councillors were challenged by the audience to look to the future. What if the government insists on major change in our area? What does your District Council want Uttlesford to look like in 10-15 years' time? Since then a muddled report from consultants to the County Council has suggested an additional 7,340 homes here at Stansted Mountfitchet by 2036 on top of the plans for 700 at Rochford Nursery. We are described as a "dormitory for Stansted Airport", with no extra jobs coming to the "village". We have not had time yet to consider it at Uttlesford and amazingly and disgracefully the consultation period runs out on 30 October, too late for this edition of Link. However, if you have views please send them to me and I will forward them to the consultants. The report can be viewed on the regional assembly website at: www.eelgc.gov.uk under Regional Planning/Planning & Transport Studies.

Youth Club

The youth club and coffee bar in Lower Street reopened in September. More volunteers are needed to help operate the coffee bar. You can help our local young people grow up appreciating our community by calling Debbie Hubbard on 01279 813332. Just two hours of your time every month or two is all that is needed.

Rochfords

The latest speculation is that preparation work for the Rochford Nursery development will start around the end of the year. In the meantime, one of the developers is taking action to prevent car dumping there.

Leisure Centre

Have you visited the new leisure centre? It will be opened by the Duchess of Gloucester on 30th October.

Councillor Alan Dean

Email: cldrdean@uttlesford.gov.uk

Tel: 01279 813579

STANSTED LIBRARY

There has been a minor change to opening times, which are now:

Tuesday	9.00 am to 1.00 pm
Wednesday	2.00 pm to 5.00 pm
Thursday	2.00 pm to 6.00 pm
Saturday	9.30 am to 5.00 pm

Reading to Pre-School children now takes place on the first Wednesday of the month from 2.15 to 4.15 pm. This is a delightful way to introduce children to the treasury that is so readily available to them, and the librarians hope that parents will give it strong support. It has the apt title 'Bookstart'.



The National Childbirth Trust

Education for Parenthood

STANSTED AND DISTRICT NATIONAL CHILDBIRTH TRUST

Many thanks to everyone who came along to our Nearly New Sale last month. As usual it was a lot of hard work for those behind the scenes, but a great fundraiser for our organisation.

This month we would like to invite all of you with under 5s to join us at our Open House on Tuesday 11th November at 10am at Elsenham Memorial Hall. Other than a small charge for refreshments, it is free to come along. There are toys to occupy the children and the parents can stock up early for Christmas as we will have three local traders with us selling cards and gifts, appliqué blankets and bags and Usbourne books. So don't be shy, please do just drop in for a cuppa and a chat on the day.

As usual we have lots planned for our littlies this month. There are playground trips, our popular monthly Music Time, a forest walk and a chance for them to let off steam with Ride on Toys and also after school for the bigger ones at Little Legs. The mums will be having an exclusive shopping evening at a popular local toy shop (bliss, no cries of "can I have...?") and also an evening bowling, and the dads will get together at the end of the month to put the world to rights over a beer or two, or three.

In addition, our three coffee groups continue to meet every week – Mondays for toddlers, Wednesdays for tiddlers and tums and Fridays for pre-schoolers. See village noticeboards for details or call Sarah on 647022 for more information.

You do not have to be a member to come along to any of our events, so do feel free to come along and join in. You will find we are a friendly bunch of parents who enjoy a natter and having a wide variety of activities laid on to entertain our children, all local and all very cheap (coffee events are 50p per family and many other things £1 per child).

For a free listing of what's going on or if you want any further information about the NCT or our branch, do please get in touch by phoning Sarah on 01279 647022 or emailing Stansted-nct@lineone.net. To book for our popular antenatal classes, call Rachel (early in your pregnancy) on 841117.

Autumn is the ideal time of year to escape for a city break. To plan the

NOT MUCH SEX AND A LOT OF ANGST

The new season's shows are well under way and the

When the Link production team was grappling with this month's issue their eye lit on a headline in a national newspaper which had unaccountably appeared on the table. Could anything so apposite really be a coincidence? Or was it clairvoyance? Ed.



**FUN MUSIC QUIZ
&
LIVE MUSIC NIGHT**

with **'CHARITY'**

Saturday 1st November

7.30pm

United Reformed Church Hall

Tickets £5 inc. refreshments

☎ 815851 or 814059

All Proceeds to Operation Christmas Child



**COFFEE
MORNING**

Tuesday 4th November

10 am - noon

49 St John's Road

Cakes ~ Home-made jams ~ Raffle
Tombola ~ Bric à brac

Entry 50p including coffee & biscuits

All welcome



**COFFEE
MORNING**

Saturday 8th November

10 am - noon

Quaker Meeting House

BRING & BUY!

Proceeds to Methodist Homes Jubilee Appeal

VILLAGE EVENTS

November

1	Sat	Green Waste Skip 'Charity' music quiz / concert	Lower St Car Pk 1 - 4 pm UR Church Hall 7.30 pm
2	Sun	Open afternoon Afternoon Tea	St Therese's Church 2 - 5 pm United Reformed Church 3 - 5 pm Quaker Meeting House 8 pm
3	Mon	Shalom Group	49 St John's Road 10 am - noon
4	Tue	HEAL Coffee Morning Shoe Box Coffee Evening	United Reformed Church 7.30 pm
5	Wed	Mountfitchet Seniors Bookstart Sparkler Night Garden Club	Day Centre 2 - 4 pm Library 2.15 - 4.15 pm Bentfield School 6 - 7.30 pm Day Centre 8 pm
6	Thu	Local History Society	Day Centre 8 pm
8	Sat	Methodist Homes Coffee Morning Lib Dem AGM & Ploughman's Village Bonfire & Fireworks	Quaker Meeting Hse 10 am - noon Day Centre noon - 2 pm Elms Farm 6.30 pm
9	Sun	Laying of Wreaths	War Memorial 10.45 am
11	Tue	Act of Remembrance	War Memorial 11 am
13	Thu	St Mary's Christmas shopping WI	St Mary's School 7.30 - 9.30 pm St John's Hall 7.45 pm
15	Sat - 16	Sun Amenity Skip	Lower St Car Pk 7.30 am - 3 pm
15	Sat	Quiz for Zambia	St John's Hall 7.30 pm
16	Sun	Craft Fayre	M'fitchet High School 10 am - 4 pm
17	Mon	Shalom Group	7 Blythwood Gardens 8 pm
18	Tue	RBL AGM	Day Centre 7.30 pm
19	Wed	Mountfitchet Seniors	Day Centre 2 - 4 pm
20	Thu	RBL (Women) Social Evening	Day Centre 7.30 pm
22	Sat	St John's Christmas Market	St John's Hall 1 - 4 pm
29	Sat	Quiz Night BS RNA "The Entertainers"	United Reformed Church Hall 7 pm Ugley Village Hall 7.30 pm

December

1	Mon	Shalom Group	Quaker Meeting House 8 pm
3	Wed	Mountfitchet Seniors Bookstart Garden Club	Day Centre 2 - 4 pm Library 2.15 - 4.15 pm Day Centre 8 pm
4	Thu	Local History Society	Day Centre 8 pm
6	Sat	Christmas Fair	Bentfield School 2 - 5 pm
7	Sun	Village Music Club Afternoon Tea	St John's Church 3 pm United Reformed Church 3 - 5 pm
8	Mon - 12	Fri Amenity Skip	Lower St Car Pk 7.30 am - 3 pm



**Grand Fireworks
& Bonfire**

Elms Farm

(park in Lower Street car park)

Sat 8th November

• 6.30 pm - gates open

• 7 pm - bonfire lit

• 7.30 pm - fireworks

refreshments on sale



Mountfitchet High School

CRAFT FAYRE

10 am - 4 pm Sun 16th Nov

*Articles from
local craft workers*

Adults £1 Children 50p

*Hot Lunches
Free Car Parking*

**St John's Church
Christmas Market**

1pm - 4pm Sat 22 Nov

St John's Hall

**Gifts ~ Tombolas ~ Toiletries
Toys ~ Books ~ Cakes ~ Crafts
Decorations ~ Candles ~ Bulbs**

Grand Draw

Refreshments



**THE VILLAGE
MUSIC CLUB**

JACK LIEBECK Violin

KATYA APEKISHEVA Piano

3 pm Sun 7th December

St John's Church

Tickets from usual outlets

Sonia Levy 815282

or at the door

£9 adults, £7 conc, £3 or £1 children

**Bishop's Stortford
Royal Naval Association**

presents

THE ENTERTAINERS

7.30 pm Sat 29th November

Ugley Village Hall

Tickets £5.50 ☎ 01279 816219

refreshments included



Hall Renovation Fund

**QUIZ
NIGHT**

7 for 7.30 pm Sat 29th Nov

URC Lecture Hall

Tables of 6 to 8

£5 (incl ploughman's)

Please tel 814850

Bring your own drink and glass

ALDWYCH CONSTRUCTION

23/25 Lower Street, Stansted CM24 8LN

Building and Decorating Contractors
All needs provided throughout North West Essex,
East Herts & South Cambs

'PROPER WORK AT PROPER PRICES'
BOTH PERIOD AND MODERN

FOR ESTIMATES Tel 01279 816701
Mobile 0802 548471 Fax 01279 812656

The Mower Shop



Mower
Strimmers
Chain Saws
Garden Tractors
Tools & Accessories

Fieldings engineers

FULL REPAIR SERVICE

Tel 01279 813381



OPTOMETRISTS AND CONTACT
LENS PRACTITIONERS

THE PRACTICE

Eyecare for all the family

47 Knight Street
Sawbridgeworth
CM21 9AX
01279 725332

4 Chapel Hill
Stansted
CM24 8AG
01279 816198



24 Hour Luxury Travel

- All Fares Quoted Before Journey Commences
- All Vehicles Are Fully Air Conditioned
- Limousines / Chauffeur Service
- Corporate Account Facilities
- Wheelchair Access - Minibus On Site

For Bookings Call:

Tel: 01279 662444 Fax: 01279 680750

Passenger Terminal, Stansted Airport



www.airportcarz.com

YOU'RE..... FURNISHED
Famous Branded Furniture at
HALF PRICE

NEW STOCK IN EVERY WEEK

Rear of 14 Cambridge Road
Stansted 01279 815028

Mon - Sat
Sunday

10 am - 5 pm
11 am - 4 pm

Also new warehouse at Takeley

Ware Planters

The Tithe Barn, Parsonage Farm, Stansted,
Essex CM24 8TY

Tel: 01279 817641/2/3 Fax: 817644
www.wildroseuk.co.uk
email: sales@wareplanters.co.uk

WildRose
Handmade Pottery & Reliefs
Watertight, Frostproof
Interior & Exterior, Robust
NEW PRODUCT TO THE UK

GARDEN DESIGN

Liz Elfick-Wood (Dip GD)



Professional design service
from single consultations
to landscape design and
planting plans

Tel: 01279 815425

D. BROWN

House Clearance

- Houses
- Garages
- Sheds

Anything considered

07973 777106

Continental Cars



- Established in Stansted in 1972
- Situated next to Stansted Mountfitchet station
- Showroom open 7 days a week
- Access to around 2000 Saab Approved Used Cars
- All makes servicing & repairs at very competitive prices

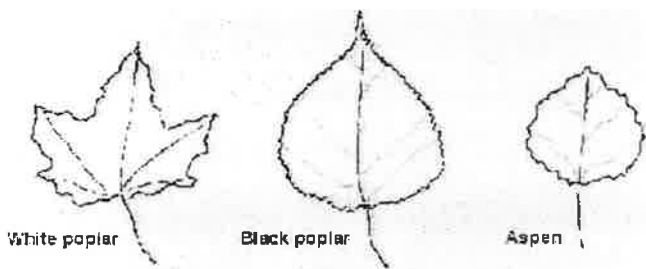
Station Road, Stansted CM24 8BE Tel 01279 812534
Fax 01279 815635 Internet: www.continentalcars.co.uk



Nature Notes

Poplars are all members of the willow family. Their name is derived from the Latin *populus* which is connected with the Greek *paipallo* meaning 'tremors'. The leaves of the white poplar and the aspen in particular, tremble in the slightest breeze. Poplars grow well in damp places and there are fine examples of white and black poplars and aspens in the Aubrey Buxton nature reserve.

The black poplar is probably a native British tree. It is fast growing with a rounded shape and ultimately reaches 100 ft. The leaves are a triangular shape and longer than they are wide (they do not tremble as much as the white poplar or aspen). In autumn they turn a lovely yellow colour. Separate trees produce red male catkins and green female catkins in March. Fluff attached to the seeds enables them to be carried by the wind in June. The wood of the black poplar is used for matches and fruit boxes, and in Holland clogs are made from it.



The white poplar, also known as 'abele', has greyish bark roughened by black scar-like pores. The leaves, similar in shape to a maple, have almost white undersides because they are densely covered with a silvery-white down. The leaves quivering in the wind, together with the pale twigs, give the tree a magical beauty and it is often grown in parks as an ornamental tree.

The smallest of the poplars, growing up to 65 ft, with an open shape, is the aspen (*populus tremulus*). It has a silver grey bark which becomes darker and furrowed as the tree gets older. The smallest breeze makes the rounded leaves with their long flattened stalks tremble. In Welsh it is known as 'the tree of the woman's tongue'. In May the female catkins produce seeds covered with cottonwool-like down which are easily dispersed by the wind and also collect in drifts below the trees. The aspen was one of the earliest trees to colonise the land after the retreat of the ice sheets. You can see some on the eastern edge of the Aubrey Buxton reserve.

One of the most familiar poplars, the Lombardy poplar, as the name implies, is not a native but was brought to Britain in the early 18th century. It reaches a height of 100 ft and is easily identified by its narrow feathery shape. Its roughly triangular leaves are broader than they are long. It is often planted in lines bordering a road or along a boundary. A row

of Lombardy poplars near the Chequers pub can be seen from the B1383. The wood from the tree is irregular and full of knots and therefore not useful for joinery purposes, but as Lombardy poplars are unaffected by soot or smoke they have often been planted to screen factories.

A cautionary note on identification should be made. There are several commonly planted poplars with a leaf similar to the Black Poplar (which is relatively uncommon) and which are frequently termed Hybrid Poplars. These have been bred and selected mainly for the chipboard market, but are found almost everywhere.

Rosina Kirkwood

BENTFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL PTA

October marked the start of our fundraising events with our annual Music Quiz on 4th October. Once again this event proved to be a huge success and I think it's safe to say that a good time was had by all. Our thanks go to Rebecca Carter who enthusiastically hosted the evening and put our musical knowledge to the test, not to mention our dancing prowess. The evening raised well over £400, which is fantastic, so thanks to all who supported and helped.

Just before half term, the children celebrated Halloween early with a disco on 24th October. The children really enjoyed dressing up in their spooky costumes and the school hall looked suitably horrific! Prizes were awarded for the best fancy dress and the children left for the half term holiday in marvellous spirits!



Remember, remember, the 5th of November. . . Yes, once again we're celebrating bonfire night with our annual Sparkler Party. Held at the school from 6 to 7.30pm, this event really is a favourite with the children. We have all sorts of activities such as apple bobbing, doughnut munching, face-painting, dare boxes and many other games. There are supervised sparklers for the children, and of course mulled-wine and refreshments to keep the adults warm! So please do come and join us.



Preparations are already underway for our Christmas Fair on 6th December, 2 - 5pm. This event is sure to get you in the festive mood, with Santa's grotto, raffle, tombolas, toys, crafts, plants, cakes, entertainment and games and activities galore. It promises to be a fantastic afternoon, so put the date in your diaries and come along and join in the fun. Let's get the Christmas season off to a jolly start! Ho, Ho, Ho!!

Marnie Tait



ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

As many now know, things have been happening in County Hall and also nationally in the past few weeks, therefore this report is written to highlight the main topics and comment as is appropriate. Readers should be aware that in most cases final decisions have not been taken, thus there is time for personal views and opinions to be forwarded so that they are taken into account.

The subject closest to decision is the proposal to ask parents to pay the transportation costs (or a proportion of them) for their children to attend a school of their choice, but outside the catchment area of the local school nearest to their home. In this case this refers to those parents whose children go to St Mary's School in Bishop's Stortford. Until now the County has accepted the charge, though not legally required to do so, for under the various Education Acts transport is provided on a non-religious basis. In future the County, as a cost saving measure, proposes to make a charge for the service. Whilst this is obviously not to the taste of those penalised by this proposal, it is nevertheless legally correct and in practice fair. Clearly the matter is emotive and has generated much complaint. This has been noted by the Portfolio Holder and will be taken into account when the time comes.

Another subject, disturbing for the Division, is the information outlined in the Draft Final Report on the Stansted/M11 Corridor Development Options Study that outlines the views of the consultants on the numbers and sites for new houses. Details of these possibilities are shown below.

PROPOSED DISTRIBUTION OF DWELLINGS AND JOBS 2021				
SETTLEMENT	1 RUNWAY [40mppa]		2 RUNWAYS	
	dwelling	jobs	dwelling	jobs
Harlow	11,800	14,200	11,800	14,200
Loughton	500	3,000	500	3,000
Waltham Abbey	500	3,000	500	3,000
Bishops Stortford	2,000	0	2,000	0
Braintree	500	5,000	500	5,000
Great Dunmow	800	0	800	0
Stansted Mountfitchet	4,000	0	5,500	0
New Settlements	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	20,100	25,200	21,600	25,200

These details are to be produced against the time scales shown and hence would not come all at once. Furthermore they are at this moment only proposals from a consultant. Whether they will ever come to reality will depend on many things and on how local opinion reacts. It is therefore for readers to take note and prepare, for there is no doubt more positive details will follow. As the writer has often predicted, the Airport development was a problem - the decision we await. These proposals would be a catastrophe, which all should resist.

PROPOSED DISTRIBUTION OF DWELLINGS AND JOBS 2036				
SETTLEMENT	1 RUNWAY		2 RUNWAYS	
	dwelling	jobs	dwelling	jobs
Harlow	14,600	14,200	14,600	14,200
Loughton	500	3,000	500	3,000
Waltham Abbey	500	3,000	500	3,000
Bishops Stortford	2,000	0	2,000	0
Braintree	1,000	6,500	2,900	8,200
Great Dunmow	4,300	500	5,800	3,000
Stansted Mountfitchet	7,300	0	7,300	3,800
New Settlements	13,700	3,500	14,100	8,000
TOTALS	43,900	30,700	47,700	43,200

Should any reader wish to discuss these subjects further they should contact the undersigned on 01279 812588.

Richard Wallace



Huw Johnson Club

In October we all went to Bishop's Stortford to try our hand at 10 pin bowling. What a good time everyone had, with loud cheers and clapping every time someone had a strike. Some of us had never bowled before and I must say some of my muscles were complaining next day. While there we had supper and celebrated Martin's birthday.

Our holiday in Weston-Super-Mare is now a fond memory. We were fortunate with mostly hot sunny weather and the food at the hotel was fabulous. We all enjoyed our steam train trip from Bishop's Lydeard to Minehead. We had our own reserved carriages, and the staff on the train and on the platforms were very helpful. Our two visits to the Winter Gardens were really good. The first concert was "Music from the Musicals" and the second concert was pop music from the 60's to the present day. Our members were soon waving their arms and singing away. The cast congratulated them afterwards on being such a good audience. Our final evening was party time. The disco was good, although not a patch on Garry King! Marion Johnson



SNIPPETS 1

Bentfield Green is now enhanced by a seat donated by family and friends in memory of Joan Cadwallader of Wetherfield. This is an excellent way in which to remember someone who was a highly regarded member of the local community.

September Sunshine for Art and Craft Market

The Art & Craft Market, held on 13th and 14th of September, was blessed with such glorious late summer sunshine and warmth that we could not have asked for better. It was all such a relief after our battles with the wild stormy weather, dark afternoons and power cuts of the traditional October/November Market time. The gamble of bringing the date forward by a few weeks seems to have paid off. Of course there were the usual behind-the-scenes panics but all in all it went off extremely well!

It is amazing what a difference sunshine makes: the whole atmosphere of the Market was much more relaxed this year and it was certainly a great deal easier for everyone to set up. We stayed open later into the evening and were even able to have stall holders outside on the grass between the church and hall which looked lovely.

Over the two days 700 visitors enjoyed the exhibition of local artists - 150 framed pictures and 100 unframed pictures were on display, all of which were on sale. There were many comments on the high standard of work this year and the simple spot-lit display boards allowed the art to interact with the architecture and atmosphere of the church to great effect.

Of the twenty-two craftspeople, fourteen were new to the Market and, as always, the stall holders commented on what a friendly village event it is. The crafts, all handmade by the stall holders, included felt-making, woodwork, ceramics, handmade cards, soft furnishings, needlework, jewellery, candles and clocks. There were demonstrations of spinning, quilting, wood-turning, pastel portraiture and machine embroidery. As usual the home-made refreshments were very popular and the flower arrangements were lovely: both added much to the atmosphere and enjoyment of the Market.

This year, for the first time, the raffle had more than one prize. We were very grateful to receive a stunning original picture from Stansted artist Michael Bonner as our art raffle prize, which was won by Mr & Mrs G. Snow. Hand-made craft items were kindly donated for other prizes by Carole Gray, Geoff Woollvin and Kath Warner. The generosity of these craftspeople has meant that the raffle was even more successful than in previous years and the sum raised will make a significant difference to the total amount available for distribution. We will publicise the amount raised and the groups to benefit as soon as possible.

Although the Market is as thriving and successful as in previous years, behind the scenes it gets harder each year for the voluntary committee, who already have other involvements in the village and beyond, in addition to their family commitments. With a good number of people involved, the task of putting on the Market would not be that onerous, but for the dwindling number of volunteers, each year is a little harder. Indeed, setting up and taking down the Market would be impossible were it not for the help of the local Venture Scouts. Without their assistance the Market would have folded by now for this reason alone.

After many years of dedicated service to the Market, Mrs Rachel Mortishire-Smith is retiring from her posts as Chair of the Committee and as the Craft Co-ordinator. This means that the Committee needs new members immediately if it is to be able to continue. The next few months will be decisive for the future of the Art & Craft Market. With two or three replacement committee members needed and much more 'new blood' required from the village in terms of a couple of hours of practical support during the weekend, or setting up/taking down, it is time for everyone in Stansted to consider how much community life matters. We all say we value being part of a village which has a strong sense of community, yet the committee cannot find enough people in a place the size of Stansted to help as a steward for just an hour and a half. So many people say how it enriches village life and has become a traditional part of the Stansted diary. Once lost, the contacts and resources of twenty-four years would be hard to rebuild.

So if you live in or near the village and have not yet been involved, please consider this event as a small but important way in which you could put something back into Stansted life next year. This applies even more if you or your children or any organisation to which you or they belong benefits directly from the funds distributed by the committee.

Please phone Mrs Rachel Mortishire-Smith on (01279) 816837 for more information on any aspect of the Market or to offer assistance in any area.

Sian Mackey
Secretary to the Committee

Meet The Ancestors...

A Unique Christmas Gift

For that unusual present this year, why not drag out your old, or not so old, family or special photographs and restore them to their former glory. No matter how torn or faded, they can be reproduced in the presentation condition they enjoyed before the "archaeologists" were called in.

B&W, Sepia or Colour Prints reproduced by Computer
Advice, quotation, pick-up & delivery - FREE - CALL

Celandine Design
E-mail: celandine.design@ntworld.com
Tel/Ans/Fax: 01279 817243



The start of a new school year was a time for new beginnings, new friendships, new teachers, and for St Mary's School, the chance to welcome our new Head Teacher, Mrs Wendy Wood. Already she is a familiar sight around the school and in the playground, and we are looking forward to working with her to raise funds for the benefit of all the children at St Mary's.

In September parents were welcomed into the school to discuss with the teachers the new term's work. This is always a great opportunity for us to find out what the children will be working on, ask any questions about homework and new routines, and to get to know our children's teachers. So now, when we ask 'What did you do today?' we can add a few prompts to jog their memories!

Year 4 have begun their weekly swimming lessons at Grange Paddocks and the children are thoroughly enjoying the opportunity to learn new skills and techniques, and develop existing water skills. With the school committed to having everyone swimming 25 metres before they leave St Mary's; this is an important part of the curriculum.

At the Junior end of the school, Year 6 spent an interesting and enjoyable afternoon with the 'Crucial Crew' in Thaxted. This workshop tackled a range of topics such as personal safety and drug awareness, and through discussion and role-plays, gave the children more confidence and knowledge to deal with these issues and make informed choices.

On the sports front, Mr Arbuckle organized a Saturday Soccer Skills coaching day for Year 5 and 6 football enthusiasts. Now that we are back into the football season, we wish the St Mary's team all the best in their forthcoming matches!

September was a busy month for Years 5 and 6. They organized a very popular cake stall after school one Friday to raise funds for their trip to Le Touquet in France. Year 6 also went to Mountfitchet High School on a taster day in preparation for their move to Secondary school. Without wanting to wish away your last year at St Mary's, we hope you had an enjoyable day! So, as ever, a busy start to the new school year. We hope your children have all settled in well and we wish them every success.

October too was a full month for the staff and pupils. I'm sure Mrs Wood must feel she's been thrown in at the deep end. It doesn't get any quieter in the run up to December!

The long awaited results of our Ofsted Inspection were recently made available to staff and parents. As with all reports, there are some issues on which we need to improve, but these are outweighed by the successes and achievements of the school. Some of the highlights the inspectors recorded are; good teaching, special needs pupils benefiting from good

support and achieving well, the school promotes pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development which is reflected in positive attitudes and good behaviour, the school has good links with its parents and the community it serves. The report also states that standards are improving – something that is supported by the 2003 SAT results for both Key Stages.

Year 6 proved the point of good community links by holding another cake stall on 3rd October to raise funds for the proposed skate park in Stansted. They raised nearly £50 that will go to the Parish Council to add to the pot. Every little helps! Also, a big thank you to the generous parent who donated a further £50 to the fund.

We all enjoyed the annual Harvest Festival in St John's Church on 8th October. Following an introduction from Father Andrew, children from each class presented the service. One has to admire their self-confidence; it takes considerable nerve to perform any kind of public speaking, especially at such a young age (the Ofsted Inspectors remarked that the school helps pupils to develop confidence and gain self-esteem). Items collected went to St Botolph's in Aldgate and donations were sent to Christian Aid for the 'Water for Life Campaign'.

Mr Fegan of Foyles Books visited the school on 13th October with his wonderful selection of books that went down a treat. There can be quite a scrum around some of the tables - perhaps we should have a St Mary's Top Ten Titles!

22nd October was an important date in the children's timetable, as Venture Productions visited the school and performed Fantasy Fair. PTFA funds contributed towards the event and the afternoon was enjoyed by all.

It's obviously a popular month for cakes as another stall was held on 23rd October to help with the Christmas Shoe Box Appeal. Well done to Mrs. Atkinson for her time and energy in co-ordinating the appeal on behalf of St Mary's. We're sure the children enjoyed helping mum and dad putting the boxes together and filling them with goodies. Last year a whopping 97 boxes were donated so we're hoping to beat our record!

Some sporting results now. The first match of the season got off to a good start for the netball team who beat Rodings 7-5. The football team who played extremely well lost 2-1 but it was close! More results next month.

At the PTFA AGM, the following were (heroically) elected:

Paula Wood	Chairperson
Sarah Carter	Vice-Chairperson
Clare Arnold	Treasurer
Sarah Kesingland	Secretary

Sincere thanks to all past and present Committee Members for giving up so much time and energy over the last year and raising more than £6,000; all of which directly benefits the pupils in a variety of ways whether it be educational, social or cultural. I think we can pat ourselves on the back!

After the success of last year's Xmas Shopping Evening, we're looking forward to hosting another on Thursday 13th November, 7.30pm - 9.00pm, in the school hall, entry free. You will find lots of stalls selling a wide range of gifts for Christmas (beauty products, toys, cards, books, clothes etc), so come along armed with your lists and do all your shopping in one hit – and help raise funds at the same time!

Last but by no means least; we say goodbye and good luck to Craig Arbuckle who is leaving us for a new teaching post in Scotland. A very popular teacher of Year 5, Mr Arbuckle made a huge impact at the school particularly in the IT and Sports Department where he showed terrific commitment and dedication – and improved our football scores! We wish him well.

Jane Granger and Claire Jonas
PTFA Committee Members



Royal British Legion

Women's Section

At our September meeting we welcomed several members from the Royal British Legion who had kindly come along to contribute to our Harvest Sale.

A good collection of fruit, vegetables and flowers, ably auctioned by Jean, resulted in a profit to our funds of £55. Our thanks to all those who gave and bought - especially to Gordon and Jean for the tasty vegetables, beautiful flowers, etc.

Donations totalling £600 have this year been given to several RBL charities including the Gurkhas, the Poppy Appeal and local village services. A card was signed by all those present and sent to Bessie who is in hospital.

Our next meeting will be our Social Evening on Thursday 20th November at 7.30 pm in the Day Centre.

Pat Clower



MOUNTFITCHET GARDEN CLUB

At the October meeting Mr. Brian Creasey gave an interesting and informative illustrated talk on "The Garden Restoration and History of Easton Lodge". The original estate was the site of a royal hunting lodge, which was presented by Elizabeth I in 1590 to Henry Maynard who built a mansion there in 1597. In 1847 fire gutted the main Elizabethan house and it was rebuilt in 1848 for the sum of £12,000.

Frances Evelyn Maynard (later to become Daisy, Countess of Warwick) inherited the estate in 1875 at the age of 3. The Countess was well known as a socialite and for her liaison with Edward, Prince of Wales. Later in life the Countess of Warwick became well known for her socialist beliefs.

In the 1880's and '90's Daisy laid out gardens at Stone Hall, however the most radical changes occurred in 1902/3 when Harold Peto was commissioned to redesign the gardens. These gardens provide the framework for the gardens today. In 1918, another fire, possibly started by the Countess's monkey, severely damaged the Jacobean wings. These were rebuilt and the Countess moved into the West Wing of the house where she continued to live until her death in 1938. After her death, the Countess's son Maynard Greville inherited the estate.

The estate was commandeered by the War Office in the second World War and it was handed back to its owner in 1950. Maynard Greville died in 1960 and most of the property was sold off. At this time, the gardens were completely abandoned and nature took its course. In 1971 the Creasey's purchased the semi-derelict house and 1.5 acres of land, which they set about reclaiming from the jungle. In 1993, a further 4.5 acres were acquired. This area had been neglected for nearly 50 years and was completely overgrown. However the Creaseys embarked upon their garden restoration project. In 1995 the remainder of the gardens were leased from the Countess's descendants. Clearance commenced immediately and after three years the whole area was cleared. Lawns were re-laid, flower beds created and the pavilion restored with its own newly constructed pool and surrounding garden. The 100 feet long oval pool in Peto's Italian Garden was cleared and resealed and the surrounding beds planted with bedding plants, perennials and shrubs. When the pool was cleared, many plant labels were found at the bottom allowing Brian to accurately replace the water-lily species that grew there originally.

Mr. Creasey ended by saying that much work still needs to be done and that it is to be hoped that the estate will not be threatened by the possible expansion of Stansted Airport. The next meeting, on Wednesday 5th November at the Day Centre at 8.00 pm will include a talk and demonstration "Fun with Flowers" by Mrs. Jean Crane. For non-members the admission fee is 75p – please join us - you will be most welcome.

David Loynds

Royal Tandoori

Exclusive Indian Cuisine

FREE Home Delivery
Take-away available
10% discount
on orders over £10
on collection

8 Chapel Hill
Stansted
Essex CM24 8AG

☎ 01279 815688
01279 812774



Shock new housing proposals for areas within 30 minutes drive of Stansted

A massive 47,700 new houses would be needed locally if an additional runway was approved for Stansted, according to a new report from Essex County Council. The study shows that expansion of Stansted Airport would compound existing pressures for more houses arising from anticipated local population growth.

The report 'A Study of the Possible Urbanisation Implications of the Potential Expansion Options for Stansted', prepared by consultants, Colin Buchanan and Partners, sets out a preferred strategy for future housing development within a 30 minute 'drive time' from Stansted Airport. The apocalyptic figures for Stansted and other communities are set out in "News from County Hall" on another page of this issue of The Link.

Respect the will of the people and our heritage, Terry Waite warns

Terry Waite CBE has made a plea for the government to show respect for heritage and the views of ordinary people in producing its Air Transport White Paper, due out in December. He has also warned that it would be unwise to ignore the collective will of the communities which would be so severely affected by making Stansted bigger than Heathrow and ultimately the world's largest airport with the addition of even one extra runway.

Terry Waite said:

"Our heritage is a priceless and dwindling asset and we all have a duty to protect it. Whenever our heritage is destroyed we all suffer whether we live near to an airport or not."



The lives of countless country dwellers living near to Stansted would, he said, be disrupted by noise and other forms of pollution that would come with an airport serving four times as many passengers than at present.

"I make a plea for sensible planning, proper respect for the views of ordinary people, a healthy respect for our heritage and a recognition from big business corporations that there is more to life than increasing profits," he said. "Life is for living and the people around Stansted have a right to enjoy their heritage rather than being made slaves to big business ambitions."

Said campaign Chairman Norman Mead: "All the feedback we are receiving from sources close to the Department for Transport indicates that the issues are very finely balanced. There is everything to play for in the remaining weeks before final decisions are taken and this is why we have intensified our lobbying efforts across the whole of government."

"We want as many people as possible in the local community to help with this final push before the White Paper is published and it could make all the difference to the outcome if our local MPs continue to receive a strong flow of letters to reinforce our continued opposition," he continued.

Saturday 8th November - Last Night at the Proms.

Tickets are now on sale for a fabulous evening of music and fun at Thaxted Church - flags and whistles on the door or bring your own! The event promises to be a night to remember with an entertaining programme featuring all the classic Last Night at the Proms favourites and starts at 7pm. More details and advance tickets are available from 01371 856504. Ticket prices: £10 adults, £6 senior citizens and children. All proceeds to Stop Stansted Expansion.

Carol Barbone

Stansted Hall Cricket Club Juniors

The cricket season may have ended, but Stansted Hall CC continues with a busy autumn programme. The Juniors have been practising indoors at the new Mountfitchet Romeera Leisure Centre, and sessions continue. Friday 24th October was for Years 7 to 10; Friday 14th November is for years 5 to 8, while Friday 5th December is for Years 9 and 10. Sessions run from 6pm to 6.55pm. Please contact David Sowter, Youth Development Officer, on 01371 856396 or e-mail at sowters@tiscali.co.uk to check if places remain. This training is open to junior members of SHCC and any other young players interested in perhaps joining for 2004.

Two senior players are taking ECB Level Coaching courses, which will add to the expertise already available in the club coaching team.

The Club Dinner and Dance takes place on Saturday 8th November at Great Hadham Golf and Country Club near Much Hadham - anyone wishing to confirm seats or a table kindly contact Nicola Witherden on 01279 838641.

David Sowter



Stansted Evening Women's Institute

At our October meeting we had two speakers. The first, Brian Whitelaw, who is Chairman of the Essex British Humanist Association, spoke about his work taking alternative ceremonies for births, marriages and funerals. He worked in Africa for many years as a teacher and became interested in the many different faiths. When he returned home he studied for the Humanists Society which goes back to the 19th Century, although the roots of the Humanists go back to 500 BC. He read from parts of his own granddaughter's welcoming ceremony and his daughter's wedding ceremony (she had married the previous day at a registry office). Mr Whitelaw was thanked by Sue Hitchmough and answered questions.

Our second speaker was Alan Stevens from Saffron Walden Library who explained the working of the service and the different projects that the Library service provides. At present they are doing a Local History Survey on the Migration Experience into Essex and how people came to live here. Members were asked to complete a survey sheet on why they had moved to the area. He said at Saffron Walden they have a special collection of Victorian books that the public can view. A number of the bigger libraries in Essex hold Art Exhibitions, have camera clubs and also keep play sets and musical scores. On the first Wednesday of each month Mr Stevens comes to Stansted Library to read to pre-school children, starting at 2.15 pm as listed in the Village Events page.

During the business members agreed to the money from the evening's raffle being donated to the British Legion for refurbishment of the Roll of Honour. £25 was eventually raised.

The Winged Fellowship Trust will benefit from the knitting of squares (30 stitches, 60 rows, No. 8 needles). These will be sewn into knee blankets by Judy Colliver and sent on to them to be used as they decide.

Members will be joining Ugley W.I. and a coach to Brentwood for our County's annual Christmas Concert. Pearl Wellings also reminded members that Christmas is coming and that we will be holding our annual dinner at The Cock Public House. Brenda Ryan thanked members who had helped her with refreshments and making cakes for the Art and Craft Market in September. A profit of £250 was made; this being £85 better than last year. She also asked if any member would consider helping on the Art and Craft Committee for the coming year as some of its members are retiring.

Our next meeting is November 13th which is our AGM. After the business we will be entertained with readings, poems, stories, etc. by our own members. Visitors are welcome at St John's Hall, 7.30 pm for 7.45 pm.

Brenda Ryan
812725



We have very much enjoyed the month of October. Children in every group have been out and about enjoying the autumn. Leaves, conkers and feathers have been collected and put on display and children have enjoyed observing the snails in our vivarium.

We held our annual harvest service on Friday 9th October at St John's Church. Children from the older group donated harvest gifts and joined in a rousing chorus of oats and beans and barley grow.

In addition to Harvest Gifts we have been helping others by participating in the Operation Christmas Child scheme that is being run by St Mary's school. Our children have put together shoe-boxes of small Christmas gifts that will be sent to children in war torn countries. It is great to feel that Rainbow pre-school will be bringing a smile to sad faces this Christmas.



Rainbow Child with Christmas Box

We held our annual AGM on 7th October. Rebecca Procter, our chairman reported on a successful year and we were very pleased to welcome several new parent volunteers to the committee.

Our fund raising last year was in aid of our outdoor shelter. We are delighted that the work is going ahead in the half term week. By the time the Link goes to print the building work should have been completed and our children should be able to play outside whatever the weather.

If you are interested in a place at the pre-school please contact Gill Pursglove on 814701 for information about our waiting list.

Stansted Tennis Club



Sunday morning open adult club morning

All current adult members are welcome to come along and join in this session, which starts at 9.30am.

Coaching

Martyn Taplin is currently holding an adult coaching session for club members who wish to improve their game. The class is from 2.30 - 3.30pm on Saturday afternoons. Please call Martyn on 816386 if you would like to find out more or would like to join in.

Chris Hollis has started his winter coaching sessions for juniors on Saturday mornings. If you would like to find out more and get your name on the waiting list, please call Chris on 319155.

19 juniors aged between 10 and 11 took part in a Junior Doubles tournament held at the club on Sunday 28th September. Playing conditions were not easy as we had to endure several heavy downpours, but eventually the final took place in ever-increasing gloom. The final was won by Charlie Kirby and Tim Berry, who beat Philip Bitten and Ben Taplin 4-1.

Used Tennis Balls

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

Club Tournament Results

Finals Day was held in glorious sunshine on Sunday 14th September. Trophies were presented by Club chairman Richard Shervington and a barbecue was enjoyed by players and spectators after the tennis had finished.

Ladies Singles

Sandra Ayres beat Frances Rafferty 6-1 6-2

Mens Singles

Martyn Taplin beat Chris Hollis 6-2 6-2

Ladies Doubles

Sandra Ayres and Joyce Barton beat Jenny Kirby and Fiona Pye 6-1 6-1

Mens Doubles

John Bitten and Martyn Taplin beat Richard Johnson and Matt Whitbread 2-6 6-3 7-5

Mixed Doubles

Tim Hollis and Sandra Ayres beat John Bitten and Daphne Carter 6-2 6-4

Hospital Cup Finals

The finals were held at the Grove Tennis Club in Saffron Walden on Saturday 20th September. Sandra Ayres was Stansted's sole representative. She lost a close match in the Ladies Singles final 4-6 4-6 to Monica Sutherland from Henham Tennis Club.

Pearce/Frodo Tournament

This annual mixed round-robin adult tournament was held on Sunday 5th October. 12 players competed in the first stage of the competition. There was then a break for a ploughman's lunch, followed swiftly by the semi finals and final. Richard Mott and John Inston came through victorious, beating Daphne Carter and new member Trevor Ford in the final.

Christmas Dinner

This will take place at The Mill House, Lower Street, Stansted on Saturday 6th December. If you would like to come along, please put your name up on the notice in the clubhouse.

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 &
DISTRICT LIBERAL
DEMOCRATS.**

The Branch AGM will be held at 11.30am on Saturday 8th November at the Stansted Day Centre, followed by the usual ploughman's lunch, 12 noon to 2pm.

The December ploughman's will be on Saturday 13th December, 12 noon to 2pm at the Stansted Day Centre. All are welcome.

Also on Saturday 8th November at 7pm for 7.30pm, we are holding a Quiz at the Stansted Day Centre, with a Bar and Raffle. The Quizmaster will be David Morson, and the cost of £6 includes light refreshments.

The Annual Constituency Dinner will be held on Friday 14th November, 7.30pm for 8pm, at Elsenham Village Hall. The speaker will be Lembit Opik MP. Tickets £20.

Please ring 814222 or 813432 for tickets and/or information on the above events.

Ruth Rawlinson

SNIPPETS 2

We welcome the Rector's intention to set up an On-Line Calendar. Stansted has of course had the benefit of a Village Events page in the Link for many years and this also provides the bonus of *free* display notices for those happenings which deserve popular support. We shall now include the On-Line source in our monthly trawl. The Link's calendar, although not perfect, is as comprehensive as we can presently make it and it is accessible to any home whilst remaining immune to electronic hiccups. We suggest that you keep it handy and of course let us know of any meeting or events you think we could miss.

We are glad to welcome Daphne Carter to the team as an experienced proof-reader. To keep even a 26 page magazine free from "typos", major errors of prose and incorrect statistics, particularly dates, is a task which calls for a trained eye. We hope that Daphne will find us not too demanding. Ed.



At the second concert of our Eighth Season on Sunday 7th December at 3pm we shall be welcoming Jack Liebeck (violin) and Katya Apekisheva (piano).

Jack was born in London in 1980. He attended the Purcell school and is currently a scholar at the Royal Academy of Music. He appeared on BBC television at the age of ten, when he played the role of young Mozart. Today, only thirteen years on, he is described by the world press as 'phenomenal', 'an artist of international calibre', 'consummately talented', 'inspired', 'a superlative musician', 'stunning'. He has appeared with numerous acclaimed orchestras, and his live performances have been broadcast on radio and TV in Norway, Holland, France, Yugoslavia and here on the BBC. Jack plays the 'Ex-Wilhelmj' Guadagnini dated 1785.

Katya was born in Moscow in 1975 into a family of musicians. She made her first public appearance in Moscow at the age of twelve and, since then, has played all over the world. In 1994 she moved to London to study at the Royal College of Music. She has won many major awards and has had a busy solo career working with such orchestras as the LPO, CBSO, Philharmonia, Hallé and Moscow Philharmonic. Her love of chamber music has resulted in collaborations with the Gabrieli and Belcea Quartets and she has made several recordings for BBC Radio 3 and her own CDs on the 'Master Musicians' label.

Recent performances by Jack and Katya together have taken place in the Wigmore Hall and the Queen Elizabeth Hall.

Their programme will be
Mozart Sonata in G major KV301 (293a)
Beethoven Sonata No 9 'Kreutzer' in A major Op. 47
Arvo Part – Fratres, and
Saint-Saens Sonata No 1 in D minor

The concert, in St John's Church, Stansted, will start at 3pm and tickets are £9, Concessions £7, 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)

or at the door.

Future concerts in our current season are:

Sunday 18th January at 3pm – Rodney Clarke (baritone) and Helen Clooyer (piano)

Saturday 20th March at 8pm – Damian Girvin (piano)

Alan Corbishley

Firstly I'd like to welcome all the new families to Birchanger Nursery, all the children have settled in to the new term, and seem to be enjoying the experience.

At the end of the summer term we said a very tearful goodbye to 20 children who left to go to big school; we had a leavers' party in the school grounds, with a bouncy castle and a sweet tombola where everyone was a winner! The leavers very kindly bought the Nursery some large carpet shapes for P.E., a Bob the Builder scooter and some reading books.

We would all like to welcome Ros Sykes as a new Nursery Assistant, because we also had to say goodbye to Molly Bishop, who decided to retire after nearly ten years with the nursery. All the staff, parents and children will miss Molly very much, but she's promised to come back to help us when the staff are on courses; which this year include - NVQ 1, maths, child protection, special needs and planning for the individual child.

This half of the term we have been concentrating on colours and shapes, having a different colour for each week (I cannot wait for "purple week"!). The children have been mixing colours for a new 'paint machine' display, learning the names of shapes, drawing pictures using shape stencils, made shape biscuits with melted sweets in the middle, and had a walk in the woods looking for Autumn colours.

After half term we will be near Christmas, which is always an exciting time at nursery, for staff and children alike! It's always very creative and we all look forward to putting on a performance for parents and relatives.

The things they say (which this time is quite clever as opposed to amusing!): When shown a picture of an oval, and asked what shape it was, the child said "It's a rectangle-circle".

We are open:

Mon Wed Fri from 9.15 - 12

Tues Thurs from 9.15 - 11.45 and 12.30 - 3pm

Telephone 07773 730754 (Nursery) or 01279 814037
(Admissions secretary) for more information.

Carol Bullock (Nursery Manager)





**STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET
LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY**

At our meeting on 2nd October our Chairman, Paul Embleton, introduced Carolyn Wingfield, Curator of Saffron Walden Museum, who told us of both its history and its current activities. Set up by prominent residents of the town and members of the local Natural History Society, the building was erected in 1835 and was unusual in being purpose built as a Museum at such an early date. It housed several collections, mainly of stuffed animals and birds, including a lion and an African elephant, the latter being borrowed to display an Indian howdah at the Great Exhibition on 1851. With the reorganisation of the exhibits in the 1960s, many of the stuffed creatures were disposed of to make way for more modern approaches to museum displays. It was, however, emphasised that some of these Victorian collections have great historical and scientific value. Examples of extinct species have been recognised at the Museum which have given the experts much useful information.

Other collections have been acquired including ceramics, geological and archaeological. Tools used in old country crafts and several horse-drawn vehicles have also been obtained, together with examples of clothes worn in earlier times. Among the latter are a 14th Century hat and a dress worn at the Duchess of Richmond's ball, held on the eve of the Battle of Waterloo. Carolyn showed us slides of many of the exhibits, including some Egyptian and Roman relics, together with finds discovered during the continuing development of Stansted Airport and the running of Transco gas mains across the fields between Newport and Widdington.

With around 170 thousand items in its care, the Museum aims to provide an information service to the public and is concentrating on the historical record of the Uttlesford district. Up to 17% has so far been recorded on computer and all will ultimately be available on the Internet. Funds are being gathered for the provision of an extended store and resource centre which will provide improved facilities for conservation and analysis of finds. A Conservator is available to advise on how best to keep old items. The Museum has funds available for the limited purchase of sought-after artefacts, but most come from donations from the public and from development projects, such as the airport. Some archives are held where they reflect the history of Uttlesford, but more general material is referred to the County Record Office.

For a Historical Society, Carolyn's talk was particularly interesting and it is obvious that the title she chose - A World of Discovery at your Doorstep - is very appropriate. We wish her and her colleagues every success with their plans for further development.

Our next meeting at the Day Centre will be at 8 pm on 6th November when Peter Pennington will tell us of William Wood's Diary and the Story of Emigration to Australia.

Ian Seavers

**STANSTED DAY AND COMMUNITY
CENTRE**

FOR ALL WHO ARE RETIRED

We are in need of some more help and would be very grateful if anyone felt they could give us two hours a fortnight. It entails making tea or coffee and serving lunches. No cooking is required and you are never alone.

If you think you could manage this, please phone 815091 between 10.00 am and 1.00 pm on Tuesday, Thursday or Friday, which are the days we are open, and speak to Vanessa.

Bridget is now doing delicious home cooked meals on a Thursday costing £3.50 for two courses. You would be very welcome, but would need to book the preceding Tuesday.

Vanessa Pedder
Organiser

REMEMBRANCE DAY

Sunday 9th November



**LAYING OF WREATHS
and
ACT of REMEMBRANCE**

Led by the Revd. Keith Page

**WAR MEMORIAL
CHAPEL HILL 10.45 AM**

Followed by service in St John's Church

**CHILDREN'S SWIMMING LESSONS
ONLY £37.50!**

- 12 week course and no waiting list!
- All ASA qualified teachers
- Small classes (12 max)
- No spectator fee and no membership fee
- Free assessments



**Grange Paddocks
Pool & Gym
Rye St, Bishop's Stortford**

For more information on lessons
Telephone our Lesson Co-ordinator Lynn Crick

Tel: 01279 652332

East Herts Council providing value for money



**GRAHAM SCHOOL
OF DANCE**

R.A.D. Ballet Classes held in Stansted

Also at Bishop's Stortford
Classes in Ballet, Tap & Modern Dance,
Drama & Singing

For details & prospectus please
tel 01371 878410 or visit us at
www.grahamschoolofdance.fsnet.co.uk

email: philip@grahamschoolofdance.fsnet.co.uk

**HEARING HELP
UTTLESFORD**

(Formerly CamTAD)

Free hearing help
sessions at
Stansted Day Centre
between
10 am and noon on the
last Tuesday
of each month

For information ring
HELPLINE 07659 550127
(9 am - 4 pm)

OR

01799 522915 or 01371 873310
Registered Charity No. 289280

**ARE YOU UNABLE TO
ATTEND TO A LOVED ONE'S
GRAVE OR MEMORIAL?**

**GRAVE
CONCERN**

OFFER family business
CARE,
MAINTENANCE
AND
UPKEEP OF
FAMILY
MEMORIALS
AND GRAVES



**BROCHURE WITHOUT OBLIGATION
01371 870 685**

J.D.W.

GAS HEATING SPECIALIST

Boiler Servicing
Fast response to breakdowns
of Central Heating
& all gas appliances

Carbon Monoxide Testing
Boiler Replacements
General Plumbing
Cooker Installations

24 Hour Call Out
CORGI Registered
Ex. British Gas

Contact Julian
25 Bentfield Causeway
Tel 01279 816083
or 07967 366585

**Painting & Decorating Service
Splash Of Colour**

Fully Insured
Clean & Reliable
All References

Mobile ☎ 07831 695879
Office ☎ 01277 899824

AUTOPOINT

11 - 13 Cambridge Rd
Stansted CM24 8BX
Tel/Fax 01279 813311

CAR SALES of STANSTED - QUALITY USED CARS

- 12 month RAC comprehensive warranty
- Pre-delivery and safety inspection
- 12 months MOT
- Part exchange welcome
- H.P.I. check
- Finance arranged



MullucksWells

FOR A PROFESSIONAL
APPROACH AND EXPERT ADVICE
ON ALL YOUR
PROPERTY MATTERS

Country Properties
Town Houses
Residential Lettings
Commercial Sales, Management and
Letting
Surveys and Valuations

6 GREEN BUILDINGS
CAMBRIDGE ROAD
STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET
TEL: 01279 816816

web: www.mullucks.co.uk
email: stansted@mullucks.co.uk

STANSTED CARPETS

42 CHAPEL HILL, STANSTED, ESSEX

CARPETS & VINYL

CARPET TILES - SAFETY FLOORING
DOMESTIC AND COMMERCIAL

CURTAINS

AND FABRICS - RAILS AND POLES
HAND MADE CURTAINS

FREE LOAN OF SAMPLES
HUGE SELECTION
FREE QUOTATIONS

WALLPAPER

BORROW THE BOOK - CHOOSE AT HOME

01279

812019



Registered charity number 10049801

St John's Road
Stansted

For children aged
2½ to rising 5

For details please contact

Ann Conroy on
07966 506997 or
Gill Pursglove on
01279 814701

Collectables, Teddy Bears,
Cards, Diecast Models
Traditional Toys & Games
Wood & Pottery Gifts
Dolls Houses & Miniatures
Jigsaws & more.....

LITTLE BEARS

Tel 01279 816022

www.littlebears.co.uk

email: little.bears@btinternet.com

EDDIE HO



Fish & Chips

BBQ Chicken

Southern Fried Chicken

Pukka Pies

Beef Burgers

Station Road, Stansted CM24 8BE

01279 817307

patrick
howard
design
associates



BRAEMAR HOUSE, WATER LANE,
STANSTED, ESSEX. CM24 8BJ.

Tel: (01279) 817342 Fax: (01279) 647086

E-mail: phdassoc@aol.com

PARKINS PLANTS

MILL POND GARDEN CENTRE, MILL ROAD,
HENHAM Tel: 851937

QUALITY PLANTS, HANGING BASKETS
AND GARDEN SUNDRIES
LARGE SELECTION OF TERRACOTTA POTS
AND GARDEN ORNAMENTS



FRESH FRUIT & VEGETABLES
AND SCOOP YOUR OWN FROZEN FRUIT & VEG



PET FOOD, LIVESTOCK FEEDS
& WILD BIRD FEEDS



BOTTLE GAS, COAL, LOGS
WATER SOFTENER SALT AND A LOT MORE

OPEN SIX DAYS A WEEK - CLOSED TUESDAYS



CHARACTER INTERIORS INCLUDE:

- Vaulted ceilings, galleried areas
- Solid oak kitchens
- Designer sanitaryware throughout
- Feature fireplaces
- Combination of flooring supplied, including oak, slate and carpeting
- 10 minutes walk to BR station

PRICES FROM £495,000
VIEWING BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

UNIQUE 3 & 4 BEDROOM GRADE II LISTED BARN CONVERSIONS



Bentfield Place, Bentfield Road,
Stansted, Essex CM24 8HL

AWARD WINNING DEVELOPER
Office hours: Mon-Fri/8.30am-6pm

To arrange a viewing please
call Residential Sales on
01279 817882 or
E: sales@cityandcountry.co.uk
www.cityandcountry.co.uk



CARERS UK

Uttlesford District Branch

"Caring about the Carer"

Carers are the biggest provider of health and social care in the UK.

We offer help, support and advice

If you would like to know more about us, call us now on:

01371 875810

Uttlesford Carers

12 Stortford Road, Great Dunmow CM6 1DA

Registered Charity No. 246329

tiddlywinks SOFT PLAY



for accompanied Under 4's
'No need to book'

Term time only

Newport Village Hall..Tues 9.30-11.30 am

Ickleton Village Hall..... Wed 10-12 noon

S/Walden Golden Acre ..Thurs 9.30-11 am

Stansted Quaker HallFri 9.30-11 am

£3 / child Special rates for siblings

Plus excellent baby area - Safe & Clean

Tel:01799 550830 Also Party hire!

ARE YOU RETIRED?



Then a warm welcome awaits you at the Stansted Day Centre.



♥ lunches ♠ snacks ♦ social activities



10.00 am

to

4.00 pm



Tuesday, Thursday and Friday



Come and enjoy the friendly atmosphere at -

Crafton Green,
top of Chapel Hill.

Tel. 815091



For

Printing, Copying
and Archiving

Please call:

Tel: 01279 657769

www.copyzone.co.uk

J DAY & SON

MONUMENTAL MASONS

Stone Works, Station Road,
Bishop's Stortford

Tel 01279 654555 or 653450

D HONOUR & SON (LANDSCAPE)

GARDEN DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION

- Ground Preparation · Paving · Planting
- Brickwork · Lawns · Fencing



PHONE OR FAX

01279 813160



59 Blythwood Gardens, Stansted

ANTIQUES RESTORATION

25 YEARS EXPERIENCE

Repairs ~ Polishing ~ Cabinet Making

Fully Insured ~ Free Estimates

PETER WORBY Tel 01920 821973

D. C. POULTON & SONS

Funeral Directors

A FAMILY RUN BUSINESS
PERSONAL ATTENTION
AND UNDERSTANDING

Established 1888



Day and 2 Chapel Hill

Night Stansted

Personal CM24 8AG

Service

01279

813219

Pre-

payment

Plans

Available

Also at

CLARKS LANE
EPPING CM16 4NJ

01992 572609



POTHECARY & BARRATT SOLICITORS

Providing Legal Services for
People & Businesses

For Professional Advice You Can Trust

Call Us

01279 506421

email: mail@pothecary.co.uk

or visit

www.pothecary.co.uk

White Horse Court, North Street
Bishop's Stortford, Hertfordshire CM23 2LD

Clients' parking and Disabled Access

Also in the City of London

Wills, Probate & Trusts - Commercial & Residential Conveyancing
Charities and Ecclesiastical Law - Corporate & Commercial Matters
Litigation & Matrimonial - Landlord & Tenant

Members of the Lawyers Christian Fellowship



Alzheimer's

Dementia care & research

*Help, support & advice
for people with
dementia and those
who care for them*

Uttlesford Branch
12 Stortford Road
Great Dunmow
CM6 1DA

Tel 01371 872519

Email:
alzheimers@uttlesford.freeserve.co

ada

Decorating

Reliable Painting and Decorating Services

Andrew Richardson
Tel: 01279 817282
Mob: 07980 439924

- 20 years experience
- References available
- Fully qualified
- Competitive rates

Customer satisfaction guaranteed

KINGS

FAMILY BUTCHERS

Lower Street, Stansted

PRIME SCOTCH BEEF
DAIRY FED PORK
ENGLISH & WELSH LAMB
HOME MADE SAUSAGES
HOME COOKED HAM
ADDITIVE-FREE COOKED MEATS
HORMONE-FREE FRESH MEATS
FRESH FRUIT & VEGETABLES

Tel 01279 812219

CORBETT ELECTRICAL

Electrical Contractor

Rewires ~ Extra Sockets & Lights
Inspection & Testing ~ Repairs

31 Rainsford Road, Stansted Tel: 01279 816577

INTERCOUNTY

The area's leading Independent Estate Agents
Tel 01279 814400

8 Cambridge Road, Stansted

also at Saffron Walden and Bishop's Stortford

www.intercounty.co.uk

Birchanger Nursery Unit

Ages 2½ - 5 years
morning & afternoon sessions

Own building in beautiful
village school grounds

Excellent facilities
& outdoor play areas

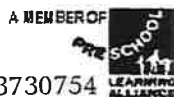
Well qualified staff

Outstanding OFSTED Report
(Nov 1999)

Come & visit - you will be
made very welcome

For further
information tel

814037 or 0777 3730754



FOSTER PLUMBING & HEATING

Mr I K Foster
Speckled Hen Cottage
27 Chapel Street
Stoke by Clare, Sudbury
Suffolk CO10 8HS

Tel 01787 279146
Mobile 07774 654378



VICKERS SOLICITORS

Friendly & personal service
Fixed fee Conveyancing
Litigation
Wills & Probate

Free initial consultation

Advice & assistance at
reasonable cost
Prompt attention

Please contact Julian Vickers
16 Lower Street,
Stansted CM24 8LP
Tel 817871 Fax 817877
Email: julianvickers@msn.com



9 Hole Golf Course
Pay and Play
Health & Fitness Suite
 Memberships Available
 Driving Range
 Open 7 Days a week

01279 812865



Our beauty therapy suite provides the ideal environment in which to experience some of the most deeply therapeutic treatments available
 Telephone **01279 817277** to book an appointment

Chartered Accountants Davidson Oakley & Co

We provide a friendly and efficient professional accountancy and taxation service for local businesses and individuals including:

Self Assessment Tax Returns

Accountancy and Audit

Management Accounts

Business Tax

Free Initial Consultation

Please tel 01279 813294
 Forge House, 39-41 Cambridge Rd,
 Stansted CM24 8BX

Ray Morton

**PAINTER & DECORATOR
GENERAL HANDYMAN**

**No Job Too Small!
Free Estimates**

Tel 01279 812792
 8 Mill Close, Elsenham

M COLLINS Family News

NEWSAGENT TOBACCONIST
 CONFECTIONERS
 AGENTS FOR DRY CLEANERS
 Chapel Hill
 Tel 01279 812049

J R JOHNSTON C&G RFS
 Qualified Tree Surgeon
 Fully Insured



Pruning

Dismantling

Hedge Trimming

Trees/Shrubs supplied & planted

Contract Maintenance

Tel 01920 821595

Celebrations

Balloons for that Special Occasion

Whether you need a single balloon or balloons for a large party, we can accommodate all your needs. We have a vast selection of balloons to cater for all occasions.

Have that special gift wrapped into a balloon.

Ideal for new baby, flowers, wedding gifts for bridesmaids etc

All orders can be placed by telephone so call us now on 01279 814815

All major credit cards accepted



COMPUTER

TRAINING

Working in partnership with Harlow College

- START IT for beginners
- SurfDirect
- CITY & GUILDS Level 1
- ECDL
- WEB DESIGN C & G Level 2
- E-Quals - Computer Maintenance
- A+ - Computer Maintenance
- C.E.S - Certificate in Employment Skills
- Essential Skills Training

Fancy getting into Technical Support?

01279 401540

www.itecharlow.co.uk
 office@itecharlow.co.uk

Harlow iTeC
 Latton Bush Centre
 Southern Way
 Harlow
 Essex. CM18 7BL



Getting on with IT

Harlow iTeC welcomes applications from all members of society

CARERS UK

Uttlesford District Branch

"Caring about the Carer"

Support group for carers held in

Stansted Quaker Meeting House, Chapel Hill
on 2nd Thursday in each month from 2 pm to 4 pm

For further information call us on

01371 875810

Registered Charity No. 246329

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

Chiropodist

Sue Leech MSSCh MBChA

Surgery / Home Visits

Routine Chiropody, Verrucae, Corns,
Nail Disorders

07626 414431

Kate Harrison

*Made to measure curtains, pelmets & blinds.
Loose covers, cushions & upholstery.*

*I can supply fabrics, trimmings, tracks etc.
Please call for free advice & measuring service*

Tel /fax 777452 Email: kateharrison_1@yahoo.co.uk

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.

Bookings or further information please call Susan Bone 01279 814052

Greenways Financial Planning

Independent Financial Advisers

- Free Consultations
- Confidential Home Visits
- No Fees Charged

Professional friendly advice on

Life Assurance • Pensions including Stakeholder
Mortgages • Investments including ISAs / PEPs
Critical Illness • Income Protection
Annuities • Long Term Care • Estate Planning

Greenways

Park Road, Elsenham CM22 6DF

Tel / Fax 01279 816622

A member of DBS Financial Management plc which is regulated by the Financial Services Authority. DBS is part of the MYSIS group of companies. The FSA does not regulate mortgages nor all forms of critical illness income protection & long term care

D BONNEY & SONS (Manuden)

MOT Testing - Diesel & Catalyst

Selection of New & Used Cars

Accident Recovery Work

Welding & Chassis Repairs

Borg & Beck Clutch Point Centre

Calor Gas Stockist

We help YOU the motorist by

- cheaper labour rate
- guaranteed workmanship
- free collection & delivery in local area

**Familiar with most makes of vehicles
including four wheel drives**

Please ring Malcolm or Neil on 01279 813315 or 815946

Lower Street Clinic

36 Lower Street, Stansted

**Homeopathy
Aromatherapy**

Safe and effective methods of healing which
look beyond the symptom or the disease and
treat the person as a whole

JAN RICKWOOD

MIGPP LCHE MIFA

Tel: 01279 850727

David Webb Travel

An Independent Travel Agency
You Can Depend On

CRUISES, INCLUSIVE TOURS, FLIGHTS

CAR RENTAL, COACH HOLIDAYS

UK BREAKS, HOTELS, FERRIES

INSURANCE, TAILOR-MADE ITINERARIES

3 The Greens Building
Cambridge Road
Stansted Essex CM24 8BZ
Tel. 01279 815507



Member of Travel Trust Association **R1170**

ONWARD DRIVER TRAINING

'Safe driving for life'

Driving Standards Agency Approved Instructor and Assessor

- **Learner Tuition:** Manual and Automatic dual-controlled Fiat Puntos - friendly non-smoking environment with in-car laptop & video for Theory & Hazard Perception Training.
- **'Pass Plus' Registered Instructor**
- **Advanced and Defensive Driver Training**
- **Company and Fleet Driver Training and Assessment** (for compliance with HSE requirements)
- **Motorway Tuition** and incident management
- **Refresher and Confidence-Building Courses** (Parking, Manoeuvring, Economy and Winter driving)
- **4x4 and 6x6 Off-Road Tuition** (client vehicle, including winching, self-recovery, commercial and leisure)
- **Personal and Vehicle Safety Training**

Philip Hastings, Dip.DI, ADI

19, Cawkell Close, Stansted Mountfitchet, CM24 8JF
01279 815571

email: DrivingOnward@aol.com



Buy quality by
KNIGHTS
WINDOWS

Protect and preserve with Knights Windows PVC-U replacement fascias, soffits, guttering, bargeboards and cladding

No more repairing or painting...

Knights Windows:

- ✓ Completely maintenance free
- ✓ Will not warp, crack, discolour or blister
- ✓ Resistant to weather and other pollutants
- ✓ Enduring quality
- ✓ Choice of finishes
- ✓ All work guaranteed

Call us now,
FREE, on
0800 294 0652
and make
painting a thing
of the past!

We'll be pleased to provide you with a professional, free quotation, no matter how large or small the job.

John Newman
Managing Director

The Courtyard
Forest Hall Road
Stansted Essex
CM24 8TS
01279 647999

BATHROOMS • TILES • ACCESSORIES

BUBBLES

27 - 29 High Street, Saffron Walden, Essex CB10 1AT
☎ 01799 522488 / www.bubbles-bathrooms.co.uk

Thinking of a New Bathroom?

Then why not visit us where we can offer the complete service, from design to completion, which includes a 6 year IBSA backed guarantee at no extra cost to yourself.

Terms and conditions apply on 6 year guarantee

Daniel Robinson & Sons

Independent Family Funeral Directors
& Monumental Masons

A personal caring service from a family business day or night

Our trained staff will be pleased to give free confidential advice on any matter

79/81 South Street
Bishop's Stortford
Tel. 01279 655477

3 Bullfields
Sawbridgeworth
Tel. 01279 722476

146 High Street
Epping
Tel. 01992 560890

Wych Elm
Harlow
Tel. 01279 426990

Haslers Lane
Great Dunmow
Tel. 01371 874518



24-hour family careline • Golden Charter Pre-Payment Plans

HIGH HOUSE

Montessori Day Nursery

(opposite Stansted Airport Terminal)

Accepts children from 3 months to 5 years

Excellent Ofsted Report

Nursery & Baby sections, small class ratio with qualified staff

Approved for Government funding for children 3+

Flexible hours and days according to needs of child and parent

Full day care available 8 am to 6 pm

Open 51 weeks a year

For further information please ring 01279 870898

MEADOW

Montessori Day Nursery

Saffron Walden

Accepts children from 2 to 5 years

Traditional values of Montessori teaching with structured reading, language and number. Children accepted full or part time, flexible hours, excellent ratio. Excellent Ofsted Report.

Open 51 weeks a year

For further information please ring 01799 513858



Quality traditional cuisine served with original flair, friendliness & finesse that will ignite your appetite.

Open Tuesday through to and including Sunday Lunch, 11 am - 3 pm & 7 pm - 11 pm



Bring this advert and get a free bottle of house wine when you spend over £25

Natasha Caton
30a Lower Street
Stansted Mountfitchet
Essex
01279 816994

HELPLINE

07659 550127

If you have a **PROBLEM** or are in need of **ASSISTANCE**
Monday - Friday
9.00 am - 4.00 pm

Stansted's voluntary community care service



COPYZONE LTD
WWW.COPYZONE.CO.UK

JAMES BARR NISSAN

13 NORTHGATE END,
BISHOPS STORTFORD.

TEL: 01279 653365

OPENING HOURS 8AM-6:30PM MONDAY TO FRIDAY
8:30AM-5PM SATURDAY AND 10AM-4PM SUNDAY
www.jamesbarrnissan.co.uk



SHIFT_expectations

HERBAL MEDICINE

This could be the answer to your problems if you have:-

Allergies, Arthritis, Blood Pressure, Constipation, Dietary problems, Gastric complaints, Menstrual or Menopausal symptoms, Skin complaints, or Stress



All of these and many other conditions can be helped with Herbal Medicine

For an appointment contact:-
Patricia Taylor BSc. MNIMH, MCPP
Medical Herbalist
Lower Street Clinic
36 Lower Street, Stansted CM24 8LP
Telephone 01279 810957

STANSTED ALL-STEEL

Custom Manufacture

Security Grills
Railings
Gates etc.



Residential
&
Commercial

All Styles

All Sizes

Tel: 01279 817801 Fax: 01279 817802 Mobile: 07785 772341
Corner Buildings, Parsonage Estate, Stansted, CM24 8TY

CHIMNEYS

Guest House



Iain & Selina Rankin

44 Lower Street
Stansted Mountfitchet
Essex CM24 8LR

Tel / Fax: 01279 813388

Email: info@chimneysguesthouse.co.uk
www.chimneysguesthouse.co.uk

LOWER STREET CLINIC 36 Lower Street, Stansted

REGISTERED OSTEOPATHS

Jacolin Sheaf DO & Associates

Specialists in treatment of spinal, joint & muscle pain, headaches, trapped nerves & sports injuries

Treatment suitable for all ages, including children

Tel: 01279 815907

STATE REGISTERED CHIROPODIST

Richard Handford BSc, SRCh, MChs

Specialising in routine chiropody, sports injuries, ultrasound, biomechanics, orthotics, nail surgery & verrucae

Tel: 01279 647337