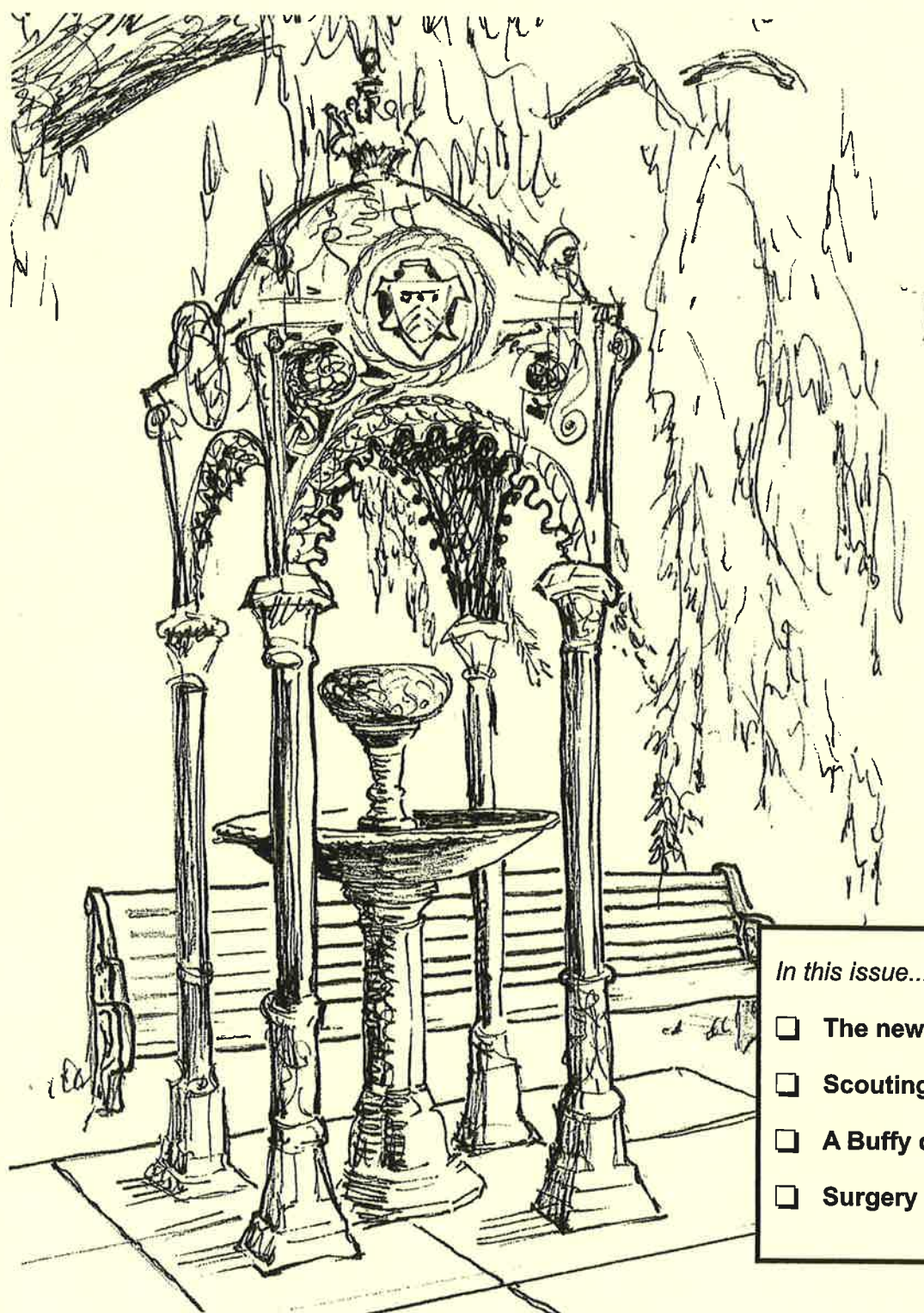


Stansted Mountfitchet

# The Link



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# A message from our new Rector

Hello everyone. My name is Paul Wilkin and on 30th July I will be inducted as Rector of Stansted Mountfitchet, Birchanger and Farnham. I've been asked to tell you a little about myself, so here we go!

I was born in Luton in Bedfordshire, and many of my earliest memories centre on the Methodist Chapel where my family were staunch members. After leaving school I went to work for Electrolux Ltd, at first in their wages department but later in the Computer Department. This was in the days when computers were huge machines that filled entire rooms! When I was just 22 years old I married Janet, who I had first met through the church youth club. After I got married we began worshipping at our local Church of England Church. Janet and I went on to have three children – Andrew, Peter and Sarah. Janet and I celebrated our 25<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary a couple of years ago and the children are all grown up now. Andrew is a computer scientist, Peter works for Sainsbury's and Sarah is studying Psychology at the University of Essex.

Ever since I was quite young I had a feeling that I was being called to ordained ministry. For many years I did very little about it but when my thirtieth birthday came around I felt a real sense that now it was time to get a move on. After a while I went and had a chat with our vicar and began the long selection process which led to me leaving my job and going to study at Lincoln Theological College. After two years there I was ordained as a Deacon in 1990 and a Priest in 1991.

I served two curacies. The first was in Watford where a particular highlight was that I became involved in ministry in a large residential hospital for people with severe learning difficulties. In many ways the hospital was a horrible place (its buildings were those of a huge Victorian 'Asylum' – now



thankfully closed) but I learned so much and gained so much from being with people there that for me it will always be a special place. One summer I went with a group of the residents and their carers to Lourdes in France. We didn't go looking for any miracles but during the trip we did experience a real sense of community which transcended the divisions between those considered 'disabled' and those considered 'able'.

My second curacy was very different. I worked in a Local Ecumenical Project in Jersey (in the Channel Islands). I had care of a small Anglican congregation in a village called St. Aubin and a joint Anglican/Methodist congregation at a centre called Communicare (near Jersey airport!). Being a small island there were tremendous opportunities and I did quite a number of radio broadcasts and some TV work. When the Archbishop of Canterbury (George Carey) visited the island I was asked to organise an island-wide televised service at which he preached.

## contact us

*all enquiries*

### The Church Office

St John's Hall

St John's Road

Stansted CM24 8JP

(01279) 815243

church.office@stansted.net

### Office hours

9:00am-12:00noon

Monday, Wednesday, Friday

### Adminstrator

Mrs Elizabeth Jennings

### Church Hall Bookings

Mrs Joy Lambe

(01279) 817937

joy@stansted.net

### Rector

*Currently vacant*

(01279) 812203

rector@stansted.net

### Assistant Curate

Revd Dr Caroline Currer

(01279) 815243

curate@stansted.net

### Director of Music

Lorraine Everett

church.music@stansted.net

website

www.stansted.net/stjohns

## St John's Diary

### Sunday

9:30am Choral

Eucharist

11:00am Open Door

Service

*(all age worship)* 3rd Sunday

9:45pm Night Prayer

### Wednesday

10:00am said Holy

Communion

7:30pm Ecumenical

Prayer Group

There are services of Holy Communion on the first Tuesdays and Wednesdays of the month in Norman Court, Hargrave House and Broome End Nursing Homes. Junior Church meets each Sunday at 9:30am. *(Children return to church halfway through the service.)*

The Lazer youth group meets on Sunday evenings at 7:30pm

## From the Registers

### March

#### Funeral

16th Ronald Brickell, age 84  
at St Mary's

In 1997 I became Vicar of All Saints Squirrels Heath in the London Borough of Havering. All Saints has been a busy church with particularly strong ministry amongst younger children. Our links with our local school have grown during my time here and I have been a school governor for quite some time now. I have also been an Assistant Area Dean for several years and have had pastoral care of the Readers (lay ministers) in the deanery. For the last four years I have also been a teacher on the Diocesan Course in Christian Studies which is a foundation course for people seeking to explore ways forward in their faith and possible future ministry.

I am very much looking forward to the new challenges that Stansted Mountfitchet, Birchanger and Farnham will bring and Janet, the children, our two dogs, and I are looking forward to being with you. (The dogs just don't know it yet!)

### GOOD FRIDAY PROJECT

As you know by now, the Good Friday Project was a great success and we were so proud of the children who worked hard throughout the day. I have many happy memories of the day, including the unforgettable picture of Bishop Christopher enjoying his packed lunch in the sunshine in the school playground! Thank you to everyone who helped make this such a special occasion - including those who gave their time and talents, donated materials and gave money for the hot cross buns. As some of you know, Marion Johnson started this tradition 33 years ago - let's see what we can all do to keep it going for at least another 33 years.

Margaret Hill

**Christian Aid**  
We believe in life before death

#### An Eventful Week - 13th to 19th May

The week starts on Sunday 13th May at 6.30pm with Worship for Christian Aid at the Friends Meeting House. The Act of Worship booklet is written this year by John Bell of the Iona Community and draws inspiration from El Salvador and Archbishop Oscar Romero.

We continue with a **Coffee Morning** on Wednesday 16th May 10.00am till noon at Stansted Free Church, Chapel Hill. There will be stalls including Traidcraft, cakes and plants. Donations of cakes will be most welcome.

All week volunteers will be doing a **House-to-house envelope collection** in Stansted. People are always very generous, but please don't forget that by signing the envelope as a taxpayer, Christian Aid can claim almost 30% more from the Government.

To end the week, why not take part in a 10km sponsored **Circle the City** walk on Sunday 20th May (or take a short cut to do 6km)? You will see the sights of the City of London and raise money for Christian Aid's water projects. Please contact me for details and sponsorship forms.

Catherine Dean  
Tel: 813579

## “ROMAN CATHOLIC

St Therese of Lisieux  
High Lane

**Priest** Father Joe White  
The Presbytery  
St Therese of Lisieux  
High Lane  
Stansted  
Tel: 01279 814349

**Masses** Saturday 6.00pm  
Sunday 9.00am and 10.30am  
Holy Days of Obligation 8.00am and 8.00pm  
Tuesday-Saturday 9.30am

**Confessions**  
Saturday 10.00am  
and by appointment

**Baptisms** By appointment

### The Virgin Mary - The Month of May

Within the Roman Catholic church, the month of May has long been associated with Mary the Mother of Jesus. Mary was born to St Joachim and St Anne and was chosen by God to bear his son Jesus on earth. She is considered by Catholics to be the most important woman in Christendom.

She is known as The Virgin Mary, as she conceived Jesus by the power of the Holy Spirit, and has been venerated by Christians since apostolic times. Islam also venerates her as the sinless virgin Maryan. It is therefore somewhat strange to us that she merits so few mentions in the Bible. It could be construed that women were of little importance in those times, although Jesus taught differently.

During the late Middle Ages in the 13th-15th centuries, devotion to Mary grew vigorously. One of the principal reasons for this was the image of Christ that developed in the missionary efforts of the early Middle Ages. As Christ became an awe-inspiring judgmental figure, Mary came to be depicted as the one who interceded for sinners. She was a mediator for the mercy of Christ, especially during the Black Plague in the 14th century. Among the popular devotions at that time were the rosary, the angelus and litanies to Mary, using biblical titles such as Mystical Rose, Refuge of Sinners, Queen of Angels etc. All are still used in the church today.

The principal development concerning Mary in the Middle Ages was the doctrine of the Immaculate Conception, which maintains that Mary was conceived without original sin. This was decreed by Pope Sixtus IV in 1477 and that Mass be celebrated to that effect on 8th December each year, which it is to this day.

There are many shrines and places of pilgrimage to Mary throughout the world and it is fascinating to note that although so little mention of her is made after the birth of Jesus, she has become such a beloved figure of the Roman Catholic church. Love for her has been kept alive since the 2nd century, and will no doubt continue for evermore.

Mary Warnett



**STANSTED FREE CHURCH**  
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**Chapel Hill, Stansted**  
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| 2 South Road       | 58 Chapel Hill  |
| Bishop's Stortford | Stansted        |
| CM23 3JH           | CM24 8AQ        |
| Tel: 654475        | Tel: 812593     |

**Where next?**

When the constitution for Stansted Free Church was drawn up, it was agreed that we would have two ministers – one Methodist and one United Reformed (URC). The appointment processes for ministers within these two traditions are different. Methodist ministers are appointed to a church for a fixed term, which can be extended, whereas URC ministers are appointed for an indefinite term. Following the retirement of David Simpson, we are now beginning the process of seeking a new URC minister. This involves drawing up a 'profile' which tells a prospective minister where the church is on its 'spiritual journey', what our hopes and aspirations are for the future, and any particular qualities we would prefer a minister to have. In our case, the minister is shared with Bishop's Stortford URC, so we have to ensure that our two profiles are not wildly different; fortunately, they are not!

Once our two profiles have been approved by the 'higher authorities', they are sent to all URC ministers, who are then entitled to express an interest. At this point, their current congregations are usually unaware that their minister is thinking of moving; so we have appointed a vacancy committee to ensure that everything is kept confidential. It can be anything from six months to two years before a new minister is appointed, because all parties want to ensure that the 'right person' is appointed.

During the interregnum, we have an interim moderator – a URC minister who 'moderates' our church meetings, and leads some services. In addition, Keith Page will be assisted by Rev'd Stuart Veitch, a supernumerary Methodist minister, who is a member of our congregation.

Marion Dyer,  
Deacon

**Preachers for May**

|      |         |                    |
|------|---------|--------------------|
| 6th  | 10.30am | All Age Worship    |
|      | 2.30pm  | Rev'd Trevor Sands |
| 13th | 10.30am | Maureen Kendall    |
| 20th | 10.30am | Holy Communion     |
|      |         | Rev'd Keith Page   |

**Other Activities**

|          |        |                                 |
|----------|--------|---------------------------------|
| Sun 6th  | 3.30pm | Outreach tea in the Foyer       |
| Mon 14th | 6.00pm | Pilots in the Hall              |
|          | 8.00pm | Shalom in the Hall              |
|          |        | Talk and slides of South Africa |
| Mon 21st | 2.30pm | Monday Club                     |

**SOCIETY OF FRIENDS**

Quaker Meeting House, Chapel Hill

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

**Meeting** Sunday, 10.30am

Now that Easter for this year has passed, I realise again how the famous prayer of St Francis reflects the Easter story. Every line of the prayer expresses aspects of Christ's experiences and attitude.

"Where there is hatred let me sow love": He was surrounded by whipped-up hatred and yet His love was all encompassing.

"Where there is injury, pardon": His words were telling us to forgive because they did not understand what they were doing.

"Where there is doubt, faith": The finding of the empty tomb and the gardener's words must have reflected both doubt and faith.

"Where there is despair, hope": Although they experienced terrible despair on Good Friday the realisation that there was a possibility that He was still with them brought hope.

The last line - "Where there is darkness, light": Rings out as Christ's message after the Resurrection; not only as a reassurance to His disciples and followers, but as a command to us all for the future – that we have to follow these precepts, that we have to sow love in all the many situations of doubt, injury, hatred and sadness that are part of our present world.

St Francis prays to be made an instrument of Christ's peace. One of the lines of the Quaker Peace Testimony is 'Search out whatever in your own way of life may contain the seeds of war' – an intriguing but very down to earth advice and showing us exactly where to start.

Katharine Hurford



**St Mary's  
Church Open**

2- 5 pm  
**Sunday 7th May**  
 (and every 1st Sunday  
 until September)  
**Everyone Welcome**



**Afternoon  
Tea**

Sun 6th May in the  
 Free Church (formerly URC) foyer  
 3.30 - 5 pm  
**Come along for tea, cakes & a chat**  
**You will find a very warm welcome**  
 All proceeds go towards water  
 pumps for the Third World



**Stansted Windmill**  
**Open Days**  
 2 - 6 pm

Sun 6th & Mon 7th May  
 Sun 13th May (Mills Day)  
 Sun 27th & Mon 28th May  
 Sun 3rd June

**VILLAGE EVENTS**

**May**

|    |          |   |  |
|----|----------|---|--|
| 2  | Wed      | Mountfitchet Seniors<br>Mountfitchet Garden Club          | Day Centre 2 - 4 pm<br>Day Centre 8 pm               |
| 3  | Thu      | Buffy Bus restarts<br>Local History Society               | Rainsford Road 2 - 3 pm<br>Day Centre 8 pm           |
| 4  | Fri      | Conservatives Social Evening                              | Rose & Crown 8 pm                                    |
| 6  | Sun      | St Mary's Church open<br>Afternoon Tea (after service)    | 2 - 5 pm<br>Free Church 3.30 pm                      |
| 6  | Sun / 7  | Mon Windmill open   | 2 - 6 pm   |
| 9  | Wed      | Airport/Highways Exhibition                               | Free Church Hall 11 am - 9 pm                        |
| 10 | Thu      | WI  | St John's Hall 7.45 pm                               |
| 12 | Sat      | Lib Dem Thank You Party<br>May Fair                       | Day Centre noon - 2 pm<br>Bentfield School 2 - 5 pm  |
| 12 | Sat / 13 | Sun Skips   | Lower St Car Park 9 am - 3 pm                        |
| 13 | Sun      | Windmill open (Mills Day)<br>Christian Aid United Service | 2 - 6 pm<br>Quaker Meeting House 6.30 pm             |
| 14 | Mon      | Shalom Group  | Free Church Hall 8 pm                                |
| 16 | Wed      | Christian Aid Coffee Morning<br>Mountfitchet Seniors      | Free Church Hall 10 am - noon<br>Day Centre 2 - 4 pm |
| 26 | Sat / 27 | Sun Skips   | Lower St Car Park 9 am - 3 pm                        |
| 27 | Sun / 28 | Mon Windmill open   | 2 - 6 pm   |

**June**

|    |          |   |   |
|----|----------|---|---|
| 3  | Sun      | St Mary's Church open<br>Windmill open<br>Afternoon Tea (after service) | 2 - 5 pm<br>2 - 6 pm<br>Free Church 3.30 pm |
| 6  | Wed      | Mountfitchet Garden Club  | Day Centre 8 pm                             |
| 7  | Thu      | Local History Society   | Day Centre 8 pm                             |
| 9  | Sat / 10 | Sun Skips   | Lower St Car Park 9 am - 3 pm               |
| 14 | Thu      | WI  | St John's Hall 7.45 pm                      |

**Christian Aid**  
 We believe in life before death

**UNITED SERVICE**

to mark the start of  
**Christian Aid Week**  
**6.30 pm Sun 13th May**  
**Quaker Meeting House**

**HOUSE TO HOUSE  
COLLECTIONS**



**COFFEE MORNING**

10 am - noon Wed 16th May  
**Free Church Hall**  
**Traidcraft ~ Fairtrade ~ Plants**  
**Cakes ~ and other stalls**  
**All welcome**

**St John's, Stansted**

**Family Barbecue  
and Mini Fête**

12.30 for 1pm  
**Sun 24th June**

**St John's Churchyard**

Adult £7 Child £3 Family £18  
 Tickets from  
 Church Office 815243  
 or Rosemary 815551

**All proceeds to  
local and parish needs**

**ELSENHAM VILLAGE FETE**



1 - 4 pm Sun 10th June  
 Village Playing Field

Punch & Judy Show  
 Dawn's Animal Encounters  
 Newport School Band  
 Children's Rides & Sideshows  
 Bouncy Castle - Face Painting  
 Steam Railway Ride - Tombolas  
 Handicrafts - Plants - Hog Roast  
 Coconut Shy - Pony Rides  
 Licensed Bar - Teas & Cakes  
 Adults 50p  
 OAPs & Unaccompanied Children 30p  
 Car Parking **Free!!**

**Bentfield School PTA**  
**Beside the Seaside**



**MAY FAIR**  
**Sat 12th May**  
 2 - 5 pm

**Magic Shows!!!**  
**BBQ - bar - raffle - cakes**  
**tombolas & games galore!!**

Admission: 25p or £1/family

## HIGH HOUSE Montessori Day Nursery

(opposite Stansted Airport Terminal)

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  - Small class ratios, with qualified staff  
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  - Traditional values and structure
  - Flexible hours according to needs of child and parent
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www.HighHouseNursery.co.uk

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SHALOM

On 14th May, Stuart and Brenda Veitch will be talking about their time in South Africa last Christmas. This promises to be a fascinating evening, and will be held in the hall at Stansted Free Church. The meeting starts at 8.00pm and everyone is most welcome – please join us.

Catherine Dean  
Tel: 813579



The children's study of development and growing has continued this month as they have been looking at frogs. Thanks to a kind donation of frogspawn the children have been very excited watching the tadpoles slowly develop legs and eventually lose their tails.

The older children at Rainbow have been out and about again, this time hopping on the bus to Saffron Walden to see the ducks at the Meadows duck ponds where they greatly enjoyed feeding them and having a look at their habitat.

Our quiz night on 24th February was a great success so thank you to all those who attended. The money raised from the event will be used in part to buy a water cascade kit to encourage the children's scientific awareness. The Rainbow Committee would also like to thank all local businesses who donated prizes for our Golden Ticket event which we held at the quiz night: Empire Cinema, Kings Butchers, Kudos, Little Legs, Mountfitchet Romeera Leisure Centre, Willow Farm Village, Paradise Wildlife Park, Colchester Zoo, Radisson SAS Hotel, Co-op, Pizza Express, Coconuts, Farm House Deli, Hilton Hotel, Bombay Butler, Harris Tobias, Fancy Fingers, 2Dive4, Tesco, Laura Ashley, S Golding Greengrocers, Mole Hall.

If you are interested in a place at Rainbow Tots (age 18 months to two and a half years) please contact Tina South on 814371. If you are interested in a place at the pre-school please contact Gill Pursglove on 814701 for further information. Please note that we do not have any places to offer at the pre-school at the moment but we are taking names for September.

Isabelle Page  
Rainbow Committee

### ELECTIONS MAY 2007

This month is a 'no go' period for contributions from local authority members. The newly elected ones will doubtless resume the updating of council news in June.



STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET  
LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

There was a large audience attending the April meeting as Peter Lawrence, our speaker, was making his third appearance by popular request. Fifteen years ago, Peter retired after many years with the Metropolitan Police's Royalty Protection Unit and in the course of his service, he gathered together a mass of little-known facts about London and a unique collection of slides to illustrate them. On this occasion, he told us of some of the fascinating things below London's streets.

Knowing what is underneath the route of something like Charles and Diana's wedding or the site of the coming Olympics is vital to security and it is amazing what exists below ground. Take rivers - the area of Hampstead is rich in artesian wells and is the source of several of London's waterways, now out of sight. The River Westbourne runs from Hampstead, is piped across Sloane Square Station's platforms to feed the Serpentine and goes into the Thames near Chelsea Bridge. The Fleet River, however, goes from Jack Straw's Castle, via King's Cross, Coram Fields and Farringdon Street to enter the Thames near Ludgate Circus. It was navigable beyond where the Holborn Viaduct now stands and that, itself, cost £2 million to build because it had to span the whole river valley. Now the river runs 35 feet below Ludgate Circus. Actually, the people of Hampstead made quite a profit selling their bottled water from the artesian wells to their London neighbours 400 years ago!

The River Tyburn is, however, even more significant. From Hampstead, it flows beneath Regent's Park and Hyde Park Corner to Buckingham Palace, where it divides into three streams. One goes through St James's Park, another through Pimlico to the Thames but the third goes to Thorney Island - the centre of government of this country for over a thousand years. The island was drained of its marshes by Henry VIII and we now know it as Whitehall. The Island holds the Houses of Parliament, Westminster Abbey as well as the old Whitehall Palace. Here Peter told us of the maze of tunnels connecting all the Government buildings in the area - on one occasion, he went by bicycle below ground to keep an appointment and eventually came up in Bethnal Green Road!

Peter went on to tell us of tunnels built in the 18th century from the Admiralty to the Thames (now part of London's storm drain system), the sewage system built in seven years when pollution of the Thames had brought the City to a standstill through smell and disease and the building of the Underground. In fact, London must have been a perpetual building site during the 19th century - even worse than today! We were held fascinated by the many tales Peter had to tell us, all beautifully illustrated by his slides, and I believe he has still more stories to tell us. We were most grateful to him for an enthralling evening.

Next meeting is the last one in the programme before the summer recess and after a brief - very brief - Annual General Meeting, will be a Members' Evening, always an interesting occasion. See you then.

Ian Seavers

## GRAHAM SCHOOL OF DANCE

A number of pupils have been successful in their ballet examinations this year and many are working hard towards their next examinations at the end of this month and May 2007. The children will then be progressing onto new work and after the summer break they will be very excited as they prepare for their Bi-annual Dancing Display which will be in October.



Congratulations go to Clare Agnew, a ballet pupil at the Wendy Mitchell School of Dance. Clare has been awarded Runner-Up in the UK Mabel Ryan Vacani Award. This was held in London at the Robin Howard Theatre, The Place, London. These awards take place annually to commemorate Mabel Ryan, a Cecchetti Ballet teacher who was herself a pupil of Maestro Cecchetti. The Vacani award was presented to the Society by Betty Vacani, a notable Cecchetti teacher who also taught children of the Royal family. Classwork and a solo dance were performed and adjudicated during the competition which meant many hours of extra practice for Clare.

### Successful Examination pupils:

#### Primary

Abigail Earnshaw, Nancy Saunders

#### Standard Two

Chloe Elms, Abigail King, Mia Dutch

Zoey Williams, Mary-Kate Shea

#### Bronze Performance Award

Hannah Coop, Olivia Tait, Georgina Hogg

#### Grade Five

Clare Agnew, Eleanor Treadwell

#### Grade Six

Jessica McDowall, Georgina McDowall

Kirstie Boyce, Emma Boyce



## MOUNTFITCHET GARDEN CLUB

The Gardening Club welcomed local flower arranger, Jean Crane, to its April meeting and was shown how to 'Take your Garden Indoors' – flower arrangements using the produce of the garden, be it flowers, shrubs or bare twigs to make spring flower arrangements. Jean has visited the Club on several occasions and as well as looking forward to her talk which is full of useful hints and 'tricks of the trade', members enjoy catching up on 'life in the Crane household' – anecdotes which normally have the members 'laughing in the aisles'. All the arrangements were raffled and taken away by happy members and visitors.

### The Spring Show

On 31st March the Club held its spring show at the Free Church Hall. As visitors entered the hall their sense of smell was treated to an unbelievable perfume followed by their eyes being treated to a spring flower display. The hall was a blaze of colours with daffodils, tulips, flowering shrubs of all kinds being displayed along with vegetables and floral arrangements.

As well as individual certificates, the following awards were presented:

|                          |                |
|--------------------------|----------------|
| Most points in the show: | Brian Townsend |
| Best Bloom:              | Cyril Stoneham |
| Floral Art:              | Maralyn Harris |
| Most Points Vegetables:  | David Harrison |

### New Season

The Club's new season starts with the May meeting and a very varied programme has been organised, covering subjects such as: growing clematis, container gardening, and garden design. With many people living busy lives, not everyone owns a garden but you don't have to have a garden to enjoy gardening!!! So whatever your interest in gardening is why not come along, listen to the talks, watch the slides, visit gardens etc ... you will be very welcome.

### Membership Fees

Annual membership fees are as follows:

Single - £11.00

Double (two from the same household) - £18.00

Visitors - £1.50 per meeting.

Our meetings are the first Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm for 8.00pm at the Day Centre.

### Some Future Activities

Wednesday May 2nd

Daffodils - growing and showing

Wednesday June 6th

Garden Club's evening visit to

Dr Weller's Butterfly Garden

Saturday June 23rd

Outing to Glen Chantry and the

RHS garden at Hyde Hall

Saturday September 8th

Autumn Show

Saturday October 27th

Quiz night

Maralyn Harris,  
Chairman



## BENTFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL

At Bentfield we welcome visits from parents and children who might be thinking of coming to the school. If you are interested in either a Reception or Nursery place, and would like to visit the school, please give us a ring and we would be very pleased to arrange one for you.

For younger children we run our very successful Messy Play. This is great fun, and runs in the Nursery on Mondays from 1.45pm to 3.00pm. It is open to children 18 months upwards. If you would like to come, contact the school or just turn up! Sessions cost £1.00 and children should be accompanied!

### PTA News

Fundraising activities last term were great fun and enabled us to make a lot of money for the school, all of which will directly benefit the children. We have also been taking orders from parents and staff for summer plants, which will be supplied directly to us by a nursery in Norfolk. The commission paid to the PTA on these orders will also benefit the children.

We are, as always, very grateful to everyone who has contributed in any way to our fundraising efforts. We would achieve nothing without the continuing support of Bentfield staff, families and friends

### MAY FAIR – SATURDAY 12TH MAY 2.00pm-5.00pm

The theme of this year's May Fair on Saturday 12th May is "Beside the Seaside", There will be the usual great mix of stalls, activities and refreshments. You will find many of the

old favourites such as the raffle, tombolas, plant and cake stalls, BBQ, bar, tea room and games galore for the children! This year, in keeping with our seaside theme, we have added several new special attractions. Roll up, roll up for a spot of wet sponge throwing, sand castle hoopla, a traditional stick of rock, *Magic Shows* on the pier and a lovely miniature train giving rides around the school grounds!

### MUSIC IN THE PARK – SATURDAY 14TH JULY

Looking ahead towards the end of term, Bentfield's sixth *Music in the Park* will take place on Saturday 14th July. Gates will open at 1.30pm with your live entertainment starting at 2.00pm and continuing through to 8.00pm. We have booked a fabulous line-up of bands for you and there will be something to suit all musical tastes. Plus of course, bar, barbecue, popcorn, sweets and soft drinks, ice creams, bouncy castles and a variety of other activities to keep the children entertained!



### PLEASE PUT THESE DATES IN YOUR DIARY!

If you would like to know more about any of our events, please look out for publicity on the village notice boards or contact me on 01279 816188.

Alison Thompson,  
Co-Chairman,  
Bentfield School PTA



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## NEWS FROM THE DAY CENTRE.

We said a tearful goodbye to Veronica, our cook, who has had to leave for domestic reasons. A collection was made and we were able to give her a bouquet plus one for her daughter and a cheque.

On Tuesday 3rd April we welcomed James Ramselle as the Manager. Having a manager is a new venture for Uttlesford Day Centres and we wish him well.

We would like to open on Wednesdays just for lunch and would be pleased if anyone could spare two hours to help serve (no cooking!). We would also welcome helpers on the other days when we are open. If two hours a fortnight is too much we would be pleased to put you on the relief list when you can work when it is convenient. There is also a shortage of drivers to take members to and from the Day Centre.

We are still looking for a cook for three days a week. Bridget has been a stalwart in filling in but normally works only one day per week. If you are interested in any of the above please ring James on a Tuesday, Thursday or Friday on 01279 815091.

Brenda Scarr



## WINDMILL FUNDRAISING.

Last summer the Stansted Millers ran a fundraising project whereby people were asked to donate unwanted items to be sold on Ebay, the internet auction site. This was very successful in raising over £1400 towards the Stansted Windmill repairs and maintenance, and also helped several local residents to dispose of bulky and surplus items. One might say that it was a form of recycling because homes were found for some goods, which might have been consigned to the skips. Any unsold items ended up on the bric-a-brac stall at the Windmill Fete in August.

The Stansted Millers are repeating the exercise again this summer so if anyone is having a clear-out of household bits and pieces, unwanted gifts, furniture, almost anything you care to mention, then call us on 01279 814614 and we will do the rest.

Tony Wellings

### AIRPORT ACCESS

Do not miss the BAA/Highways Agency exhibition on the joint proposals to meet their growth aspirations which will be held at the Free Church Hall from 11.00am to 9.00pm on Wednesday 9th May. They don't do any favours for Burton End.

Comments to BAA please.

Editor

## PESTERFORD BRIDGE

Frustrated motorists may feel that the "addendum" notice is no exaggeration.



*Stop Press. Just arranged!*

Quiz in aid of Let's Trek For Children  
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## Stansted Evening Women's Institute

The April meeting brought members out in full force - a combination of the fine spring weather and the desire to catch up with friends. Four members returned safely from trips to the other side of the world: two to New Zealand and two to Australia, so there were tales to tell of families reunited and sadness in having to leave them again; but how lucky we are these days that it is possible to go thousands of miles in a relatively short time. I looked at the replica of the boat in Sydney Harbour that Captain Cook had used and wondered how anyone had survived at all to start that brave new world in Australia.

We were able to welcome two new members to our WI and several visitors, and arrangements were made for cars going to the Group Meeting held in Berden this year. This is a good opportunity to meet up with our local fellow WI members in this immediate area. Berden is a fairly new Institute and this is the first time they have hosted this event; it will be our turn again next year.

A trip to 'Ladies Day' at Newmarket racecourse is being organised for 12th July. Unfortunately this clashes with our meeting night so some of us won't be able to go; but we look forward to hearing all about it and maybe admiring the hats when they return and hopefully join us in the hall if they have the energy at the end of the day.

Several members went to see a performance of 'Guys & Dolls' at the end of March. These trips are at a very reduced price and are very popular, but it is necessary to have at least a party of ten. It is hoped to organise some more in the future.

The Resolution that will be discussed at this year's AGM at the Albert Hall is to urge the Government to stop the closure of community hospitals. This is the one that we, as a WI, selected from the short list sent to us a few months ago, so we were pleased that it is to be given an airing. We wanted to choose something that we thought was very relevant and that we could perhaps do something about. This year we are represented at the AGM by Manuden WI so none of us will be there. The speakers are Baroness Hayman, Stuart Rose from Marks & Spencer (who are sponsoring the meeting) and Alan Cook from the Post Office, so it sounds as though it will be a varied and interesting one.

Our April meeting speaker for the evening, Pam Whitfield, was introduced, the title of her talk being 'Tales of an Antique Dealer'. Pam was trained and worked as an infant teacher and first got interested in antiques when she organised a 'car boot sale' about 30 years ago before they became trendy. It was there that she made her first find, a cranberry glass jug, which she subsequently sold for far too little, but only realised this as she came to know more. She emphasised to us that things are only worth what they fetch on the day and that fashions change and anyway it's all only second, third or fourth hand after all! She brought along some of her finds that are virtually worthless but mean something to her,

as well as a Sylvac clock and two vases belonging to her husband, which she loathes, and so did most of us. They are in fact quite rare as only 12 of them were ever made; but nobody else seems to want them either. If we go to antique fairs it is advisable to appear uninterested in anything and to look beyond the item you have spotted, she did this with one of her prized possessions - a milk-ware pot with lid - only to find later when she examined it carefully that it was made by Avon! Our President and long-time Avon rep spotted this straight away - she should have been with her on the day! Pam was thanked for her entertaining talk by Sue Hitchmough.

The Day Centre has been booked for Wednesday 6th June for a coffee morning in aid of the Meningitis Trust and WI funds. We will advertise with posters at a later date but hope the village will support us and come and meet friends and enjoy coffee and a chat with us all.

Come along to one of our meetings as well; next month our former Essex Chairman, Barbara Ball, will be with us and will be talking about the Resolution and there will also be some provision of social time.

Judy Colliver  
Tel: 812470

## St Mary's C E Foundation Primary School



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### School News

The children have all arrived back from their Easter holiday looking well rested and ready for the summer term. There are challenges to be faced, especially for the Year 6 pupils who will be taking their SATs tests and preparing to leave St Mary's and move on to secondary school. But also this is a lovely term when we hope to enjoy good weather, make more use of the school grounds and the field, and plenty of different activities to enrich the children's learning.

Over the Easter holiday we have completed the programme of window replacement; all the school windows and doors have all now been renewed and the building looks very smart indeed. We have also re-vamped the entrance hall by installing new display boards, a fresh coat of paint and a very handsome pair of sofas. Thank you to the PTFA who bought those for us.

On Good Friday a large number of our pupils took part in the Good Friday Project. For further details see page 3.

### Theatre Visits

Each term Lyn, our school secretary, organises a trip to a West End theatre. This term we are off to see 'Billy Elliott' at the Victoria Palace theatre on 19th June. She still has a few tickets available at £50 each including transport. The coach will be leaving from the school at 5.00pm. If you are interested, call Lyn at school on 812212.

Christine Tonkins,



# CENTENARY OF THE

In Stansted the Movement continues to flourish

Stansted Scouts were established in 1911 and have met in many locations around the village across the years, including the Windmill (see if you can still see the patrol logos in the ground floor next time you visit!).

This year sees the 100th anniversary of the Scouting Movement and as such many events have been set up, the biggest probably being the World Scouting Jamboree, a huge gathering of Scouts and Guides from around the world, at Hyland's Park in Chelmsford.

For the Scouts there will be two major events, a County Camp and a local Sunrise Camp on 31st July/1st August which is timed to coincide with the first camp held by Baden Powell on Brownsea Island, this effectively being the birth of the movement.

These camps will be held alongside events in the District Calendar which includes go kart and raft races, fishing, camping and orienteering competitions, survival weekends and overnight hikes.

The 1st Stansted Group, together with Mark from the Tortoise Leaders, have just undertaken a major refurbishment of the Water Lane HQ. This ambitious project will be described in a later issue of 'Link'. Our thanks go to St John's Hall for allowing us to use their facilities whilst ours was 'out of commission'.

Scouting continues to be strong within the community. Many local people have been in the movement over the years and all look back with 'fond' memories to those times. (3 o'clock in the morning on a wet night after four hours walking seems a lot better ten or 15 years later!).

With an established base, Beaver Scouts, Cub Scouts and Scouts in the village we expect that this tradition will continue for many more years.

Doug Wilson,  
Scout Leader



As can be seen by the 'then and now' photos above, the uniforms have changed a bit!



## THE TORTOISE SCOUT TROOP

Stansted is fortunate to house a Scout Troop specifically for boys and girls who have learning difficulties. Many 'special needs' youngsters are catered for in the larger scout troops but since 1976 we have maintained our own 'Tortoise' Troop. In the 80s there was a handicapped children's home at Hargrave House, but since that moved to Baddow we have had sufficient members from our own Scout District (and Bishop's Stortford). Numbers go up and down but the Tortoises seem to keep the flag flying for this important group of young people. The Tortoise Troop can also appeal to those boys and girls who want a quieter form of fellowship and respond to a one-to-one approach.

The Tortoises have a similar range of activities to other troops but the pace is more gentle. We have camps, including an annual week, usually with a Westgate Troop, and the usual Scout activities aimed at self-reliance such as cooking, first aid, simple field craft, badge work and games, all in an atmosphere of fun and friendship.

Tortoises meet on alternate Tuesdays in Stansted Scout HQ from 7.15pm to 9.00pm. If you are interested just ring Judith on 01799 550540 or Mark on 07715 628201.



# SCOUT MOVEMENT 1907-2007



as shown by these week-by-week happenings

## cubs

What do exploding volcanoes, rockets and giant catapults have in common? They're all things that 1st Stansted Cubs have made over the last year! Every Thursday over 25 Cubs aged 8-10 meet and try activities from star gazing to different crafts. The pack has not only grown in numbers, but we've also grown pumpkins, daffodils, potatoes and even crystals!

We're also kept busy working towards badges like Camper and Adventure and at the moment we're attempting 100 challenges in 100 days to celebrate 100 years of Scouting! (Could you collect 40 different things that fit at the same time into a small matchbox or find a completely round stone?!) Finally activities like pond dipping, football and canoeing really do ensure 1st Stansted Cubs put the OUT in Cub ScOUTing!

For further information about 1st Stansted Cubs please contact Akela (Roger Musgrove) at: [addicted\\_to\\_cubs99@hotmail.com](mailto:addicted_to_cubs99@hotmail.com)

Hannah Watson



The Beaver Scouts in Stansted are going strong. We are currently running at full capacity. If anyone wishes to contact us to go on the waiting list please contact Howard Toynton on 01799 542324 or email [howardtoynton@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:howardtoynton@yahoo.co.uk).

We take both boys and girls between the ages of 6 and 8, although currently we have no girls. We would ideally like a female leader to come forward, so if this opportunity appeals please contact David South on 01279 814371 who will advise you of the details.

Scouting is a voluntary organisation. Stansted Beaver Scouts meet Saturday morning from 9.15am to 10.15am. This section is now over 20 years old and is very much about the children having fun and meeting people, learning to act together and show good behaviour and sportsmanship.

The Beaver Scout Promise is:

I promise to do my best  
To be kind and helpful  
And to love God.

To learn more about Scouting please visit: [www.scoutbase.org.uk](http://www.scoutbase.org.uk).

Howard Toynton,  
Beaver Scout Leader

## AN EXTRACT FROM BP'S LAST MESSAGE TO SCOUTS ... EVEN MORE APPROPRIATE TODAY

*... Nature study will show you how full of beautiful and wonderful things God has made for the world for you to enjoy. Be contented with what you have got and make the best of it. Look on the bright side of things instead of the gloomy ones.*

*But the real way to get happiness is by giving out happiness to other people. Try to leave this world a little better than you found it and when your turn comes to die, you can die happy in feeling that at any rate you have not wasted your time but have **done your best**. 'Be Prepared' in this way, to live happy and to die happy - stick to your Scout Promise always - even after you have ceased to be a boy - and God help you to do it.*

*Your friend,  
Baden-Powell of Gilwell.  
(1857-1941)*

For news of Guides, Brownies and Rainbows, please see over the page.



## GUIDES, BROWNIES AND RAINBOWS

Guiding in Stansted is thriving. Over the last thirty years the uniform has changed a few times to keep up to date with fashion, which will appeal to the girls.

### Brownies

The Brownies meet on Wednesday and Friday evenings. They have fun both indoors and outside and work towards badges.

They have different events every year. Thinking Day when they remember Guides, Brownies, Rainbows, Scouts, Cubs and Beavers from this and other countries.

Brownie Revels, when they have an inter-district Sports Day.

They attend the Remembrance Day Parade. They have a Christmas Carol Service, which all the girls take part in. The Brownies go on a Pack Holiday every year, usually for a long weekend, where they do all types of activities.

The Brownies can go on to Guides, who meet in Manuden Village Hall and are included in our district.

### Rainbows

The Rainbows meet on Friday evenings at Bentfield School. They also have fun making craft items or cooking and playing games.

If you would like your daughter to join Rainbows (5-7 years old) please contact Sue Pollard 813734 or for Brownies (7-10 years old) contact Rachel Warwick 8158511.

For any enquiries about new Guiders contact Ann Howarth on 813563.

## GOODBYE - AND WELCOME

The departure of Bert, Pam, Jayne and Garry from their butcher's shop in Lower Street was a surprise to many and a sad occasion for many more. We wish Bert and Pam a happy retirement, Garry a successful new beginning in Norfolk, and Jayne all happiness in whatever she decides to do. Their tenure in the shop was a happy one for Stansted as they rapidly became part of village life and contributed in many ways.

To the Jennings family we extend a welcome as they continue with the business under its old name.

Editor

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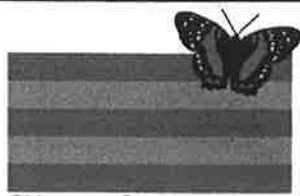
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## YES, WE ARE SAFE !

I was waiting for the next client during evening surgery the other day when the consulting room door opened about 5cm and a lady with rather a worried expression on her face peered in. She glanced around worriedly and said in a whisper, "Is it safe?" My immediate reaction was to look round for Alec Guinness brandishing a dentist's drill and a frightened looking Dustin Hoffman. However once I'd managed to shake them from my head I pulled myself together enough to say "Is what safe?" "The room" the worried looking lady replied. My thoughts raced; I'd treated a Jack Russell whose main interest in life seemed to be biting vets, but I was pretty sure he'd left the building. We'd had our electrical safety tests done only two weeks before and as far as I could remember we'd stopped keeping man-eating crocodiles in the sink the previous year. "Yes," I replied with a fair degree of certainty now, "It's definitely safe." "Is the table safe?" the lady then asked. I stifled a groan wondering whether we were now going to have to discuss the safety features of every piece of equipment in the consulting room.

"What is it exactly that you are worried about?" I asked "Would you like to come all the way into the consulting room? I find it usually works better if the owner is in the same room as the vet." She came hesitantly through the door carrying a particularly sweet Border Terrier puppy. "Bugs. On the table." She nodded towards the table with an expression alternating between revulsion and terror. "Ah, you're worried about your puppy picking something up from the table" I said. It felt like several light bulbs coming on at once.

Well, of course I went on to explain that our consulting room tables were sprayed with a disinfectant that kills bacteria and viruses then wiped thoroughly in between every patient. In fact so ingrained is this procedure into the vets, nurses and evening helpers, that it's not unusual for one of us to clean the table when the client goes out of the door, even though we've just seen a large dog and examined it on the floor! We also Hoover and mop our floors twice a day with the same disinfectant, clean walls and shelves weekly and treat the whole building for fleas once a year. And as for the kennels, prep rooms and operating theatres, you really could eat your meals off the floor! Instruments are sterilised after every use; we have sterile gowns and gloves; scrub tops and consulting tops are washed after each use; blankets and towels used for bedding for animals in kennels are washed daily or every time they are soiled with a special detergent. Hygiene is of the utmost importance in a veterinary surgery. We have daily cleaning tasks, as well as weekly and monthly ones. There are protocols for kennel hygiene, theatre hygiene, sterilisation of kits, you name it, we clean it.

Lisa our head nurse, is a great one for tick lists. They make sure that no task is overlooked and every task is done regularly. It struck me that there is a whole lot that goes on behind the scenes that many people don't know about. Not only cleaning but health and safety legislation to be observed as well ... best not get me started on that one though or I might have to tell you how many people it takes to change a light bulb and what paperwork you have to fill out before and after doing it! So in conclusion, the lady went away much

happier and looking very relieved and yes, it's definitely safe!

Ilse Pedler,  
Partner,  
Mercer and Hughes,  
Veterinary Surgeons

## THE FINAL BUS STOP FOR BUFFY BUS?

Those of you that have visited or supported Buffy Play Bus over the years will be sad to learn that unless Buffy Bus can raise a substantial amount of money immediately then the service will need to close in May.

This news will come as a devastating blow to the children who clamber aboard so eagerly to paint, play and socialise in this safe and unique setting, guided by qualified play leaders. As many as 120 under-fives and their parents or carers visit Buffy each week at 13 different stops in the district. The stop at Stansted, at either Rainsford Road or Stoneyfield Common, is particularly popular.

Since the service started in 1996 Buffy Bus has become a well-loved and familiar sight in Uttlesford and known to everyone. In 2003 the Big Lottery Fund awarded us £199,000, which enabled us to buy and equip a replacement bus. The new bus was launched in July 2004, and we have run a five day a week service ever since. Lottery funding ceased in January 2007 and Essex County Council, who has also supported us over the years, withdrew their funding at the same time.

The loyal and active members of the charity are unable to keep pace with the level of funding required. Despite our own best efforts and small grants from parish councils and some local organisations, we need to be enhanced by larger statutory or corporate funders or charitable foundations. It costs over £900 per week to keep Buffy Bus on the road. We are initially trying to raise enough money to keep going until the summer. Buffy Bus is a registered charity. If you think you could help us please contact Rosie Juhl on 01799 522130, email: [info@buffybus.co.uk](mailto:info@buffybus.co.uk) or visit our website: [www.buffybus.co.uk](http://www.buffybus.co.uk)



Margaret Shaw  
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### **SSE condemns BAA's eleventh hour attempt to prevent proper examination of its Stansted Expansion Plans**

BAA has made an eleventh hour attempt to limit the scope of the Public Inquiry due to start in May to consider its expansion plans for the existing Stansted runway. The airport operator is backtracking on its application for unlimited passenger use and trying to secure Uttlesford District Council's (UDC) support in restricting discussion at the Inquiry to a throughput of 35 million passengers per annum (mppa).

A letter from the airport operator's lawyers to the Inquiry Inspector sets out concerns that examination of higher passenger throughput levels would complicate the Inquiry. This is because of the need to consider the more serious impacts this would have in such areas as road traffic congestion, rail services, aircraft noise, landscape, carbon emissions, air quality and health impacts. However, BAA has carefully qualified its offer by insisting that this does not represent its final position on expansion on the existing Stansted runway and is reserving the right to put in a future planning application for more than 35 mppa.

Both Stop Stansted Expansion (SSE) and the Stansted Airlines Consultative Committee have made it clear that they regard the potential capacity of the single runway to be closer to 50 mppa than the 35 mppa figure repeatedly quoted by BAA and are intending to bring forward evidence on this through expert witness appearances at the Inquiry.

To Inquiry Parties including SSE, the move is a thinly veiled, eleventh hour ploy on BAA's part to attempt to salvage and expedite its appeal against UDC whose Development Control Committee – comprising Liberal Democrat, Conservative and independent councillors – unanimously refused the application last November. For a behind-the-scenes deal to be struck now on a temporary 35 mppa limit without reference to the elected members would make a mockery of the process. To those who have followed the airport expansion debate over more than four decades it is clear that BAA would be back within just a few years to overturn a 35 mppa condition – potentially even earlier if this is brought into the second runway application which is due to be made later this year.

A key issue, as SSE has repeatedly made clear, is that BAA's air traffic projections impact directly upon almost all of the environmental impacts. BAA does not want to be exposed in these areas for having not carried out an environmental impact assessment for higher air traffic throughputs. BAA's sudden change of heart signals a preference for the old piecemeal approach to furthering its expansion plans. It is trying to cross the river in two jumps to minimise the incremental impact at each stage. However, this makes a mockery of any sensible approach to planning – and local democracy. We call on UDC councillors to ensure that those they represent are not sold short on this Inquiry and to vigorously oppose

BAA's attempts to prevent this Inquiry from examining the true scale of its expansion plans for the existing runway.

Carol Barbone

Tel: 0777 552 3091

Email: cbarbone@mxco.co.uk

Brian Ross

Tel: 01279 814961, 07850 937143

Email: brian.ross@lineone.net

www.stopstanstedexpansion.com



### **FROM THE STANSTED SURGERY**

We recently conducted our patient survey and held an all-party meeting to discuss the findings and to plan any viable changes. Doctors, nurses, clerical and secretarial staff were involved in the discussions and we would like to take the opportunity to inform our patients, through this article, of the changes we are proposing to make.

The subject of availability of appointments is always a difficult one to address, and we are more than aware, that because of the Government policy of keeping the majority of doctor appointments free to be booked up on the day of phoning, many patients have become very frustrated with our service. To try to improve this situation, we are now allocating more pre-bookable appointments, whilst still keeping a proportion clear for urgent cases each day.

Another subject we have been able to address with a positive move is the need for longer surgery hours. Two doctors are now willing to run a surgery from 7.00am, which we hope will help our commuting patients wanting to be seen before travelling to work.

The music played in the waiting room has been mentioned by a number of patients and I would like to explain that this is not a form of entertainment to help pass the time, but a means of maintaining confidentiality between the consulting rooms and the waiting rooms. The surgery, as it stands, is an extended family house and, as such, was not designed with sound proofing. As a surgery, we are aware that conversations could be overheard, and the music helps to prevent this happening. Music choice is, of course, a very personal thing and we will never be able to please everyone.

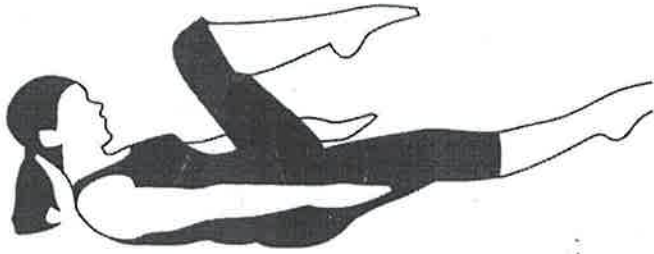
The matter that remains outside our control is the building itself. We are all too aware of the lack of space, the absence of a lift and limited car parking facilities. In the course of time, the West Essex Primary Care Trust will be providing a purpose built health centre and all of these problems will, no doubt, be addressed. Until then we can only ask our patients to continue to be tolerant. We know only too well that these issues can be annoying - we have to live with them too!

Finally, we would like to thank you all most sincerely, for the many compliments we received in the survey. I can assure you that we do try our best to achieve the highest standards possible in giving care and are always pleased to receive your comments.

Carole Dedman  
Practice Nurse

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## Nature Notes

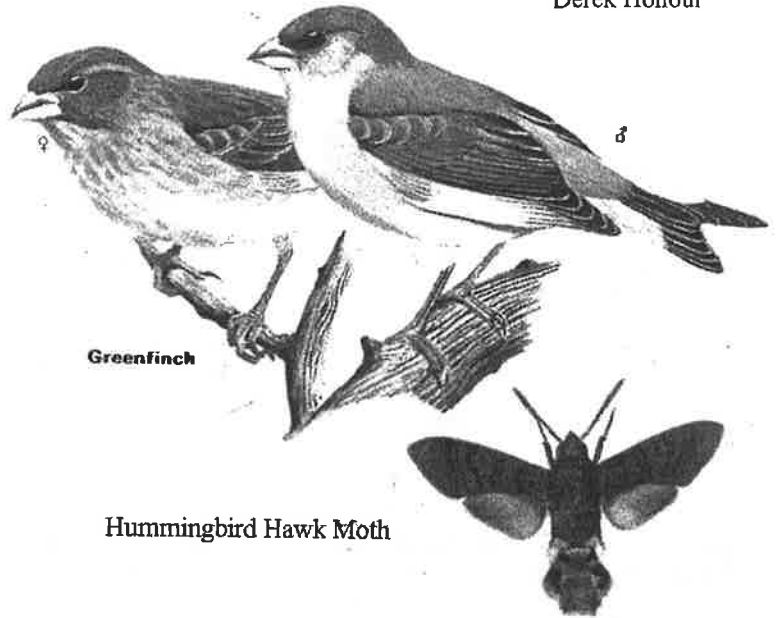
This spring has been notable for an increased number of greenfinches in the local gardens, although we must accept that 'local' can be a very small area - maybe only an acre or so. Recently a pair of long-tailed tits was seen removing old spiders' webs from a guttering, which is a means used by this species to bind its nesting materials together. In nature nothing is wasted and thereby provides a lesson for us all.

The long-suffering frog has had a frustrating spring. The earlier batches of spawn were caught by the cold spell in March, whilst those provident animals that left their mating until April had to contend with temperatures in the lower 20's, which in shallow water was similarly fatal. The seemingly harmless newt also preys on the spawn which it regards as a delicacy. How such a vulnerable creature survives its many predators and killers, of which we must include man and his car, is an evolutionary mystery.

An insect which we now see more frequently is the impressive long-proboscis hover fly. Another 'hoverer' is the humming bird hawk moth which we may expect from this month onwards. Previously only associated with the south-western counties this day-flying moth is another subject of climate change.

Observing the natural world is an inexpensive and immensely rewarding experience. Whether you are a new or experienced wild life watcher, please let 'Link' know if you see anything which may be unusual.

Derek Honour



Greenfinch

Hummingbird Hawk Moth

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The Domesday Survey was commissioned by King William I, the Conqueror, in 1085 and by 1086 was well under way.

The "Great" Domesday Book contains most of the English counties but the "Little" Domesday Book contains more detail and covers Essex, Norfolk and Suffolk.

Stansted's entry:

*Hund de Wdelesforda. Stanstedam tenet Rob in dñio. qđ  
 tenuit lib hō . i . r . e . p . Man . 7 p . vi . hid . Tē . iiii . car . in dñio . Post . ii .  
 m . iii . Sēp . x . car hom . 7 . xi . uiff . 7 . i . pbr . Tē . 7 p . iiii . bord . m  
 . xviii . tē . viii . ser . Post . iiii . m . iii . Silu . cō . porc . xx . ac . pti .  
 Sēp . i . mol . Tē . viii . an . m . xvi . Tē . cxl . ou . m . cxx . Tē . xx . porc .  
 m . lx . xl . cap . tē . m . xxiii . m . ii . runc . 7 . v . afini . Huic man .  
 adjac . i . bereuuita quæ uocat mægghedana . de . i . hid . Sēp . i . car .  
 in dñio . 7 . ii . bord . Silu . x . porc . Tē 7 p uat . viii . lib . m . xi .*

"Hundred of Uttlesford.

Robert holds Stansted in lordship which a freeman held before 1066 as a manor of 6 hides.

Then 4 ploughs in lordship, later 2, now 3.

Always 10 men's ploughs; 11 villagers and 1 priest.

Then and later 4 smallholders, now 18.

Then 8 slaves, later 4, now 3.

Woodland for 1,000 pigs, meadow, 20 acres.

Always 1 mill.

Then 8 cattle now 16, then 140 sheep now 120, then 20 pigs now 60, then 40 goats now 24, now 2 cobs and 5 asses.

Attached to this manor is 1 outlier called Manuden with 1 hide.

Always 1 plough in lordship, 2 smallholders, woodland, 10 pigs.

Value then and later £8 now 11."

"Always 1 mill" I am pleased to see.

Woodland for 1,000 pigs but nowhere as many as it could support. Would we complain of the smell now if there were?

"8 slaves" - are we slaves to technology today?

If the survey was carried out now how many farm animals would be recorded - very few and certainly not enough woodland to support a thousand pigs!

Peggy Honour



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# Peru Inca Trail Challenge

Mandy Honour is taking part in a tough challenge in Peru to raise funds to help disadvantaged, distressed and sick children.

Mandy will join the second trek along the Inca Trail to Machu Picchu for Let's Trek for children to support the work of four children's charities; Barnardo's, Kith & Kids, Dreams Come True and MedEquip4Kids.

The Let's Trek For Children Peru Inca Trail Challenge takes place from 6<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> September 2007. The route includes different terrains from high desert plateau to tropical Andean rainforest with the ultimate destination being Machu Picchu- the "Lost City" of the Incas and one of the world's most fascinating and important archaeological finds. It will be an opportunity to experience Peru's fascinating mix of beauty, culture, people and history in a very special way.

Mandy needs to train hard to ensure she is fit enough to complete the trek and to raise a minimum of £2,800 in sponsorship funds and donations for the Let's Trek for Children charities.

To pledge your support for Mandy either post your donation, made payable to Let's Trek For Children to her at 60, Blythwood Gardens Stansted Essex or telephone her on 01279 816895.

Mandy is organising a quiz at St. John's Hall on Friday May 18<sup>th</sup> to raise some of the funds needed. If you are interested in attending the quiz, please phone Mandy on 01279 816895 or Peggy Honour on 01279 647213 for tickets. (See notice on p.11)



Another piece of Stansted history is this photograph taken during the 1890's or early 1900's. Walter Whall was the village boot and shoe maker and as was customary he and his wife lived over the shop. Presumably "H Whall" was Walter's predecessor in the business. The premises, still recognisable today, later became Buntings greengrocers shop. In later years a Mr. Albert Whall ran a taxi business in Stansted.

### Skateboard Park

Congratulations to the committee for raising sufficient money to fund the second phase. We now look forward to seeing it take shape.

### Did you notice?

As in previous years the sails on the Windmill were moved to make an upright cross for Good Friday, then returned to the St. Andrews Cross position after Easter.

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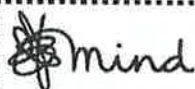
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