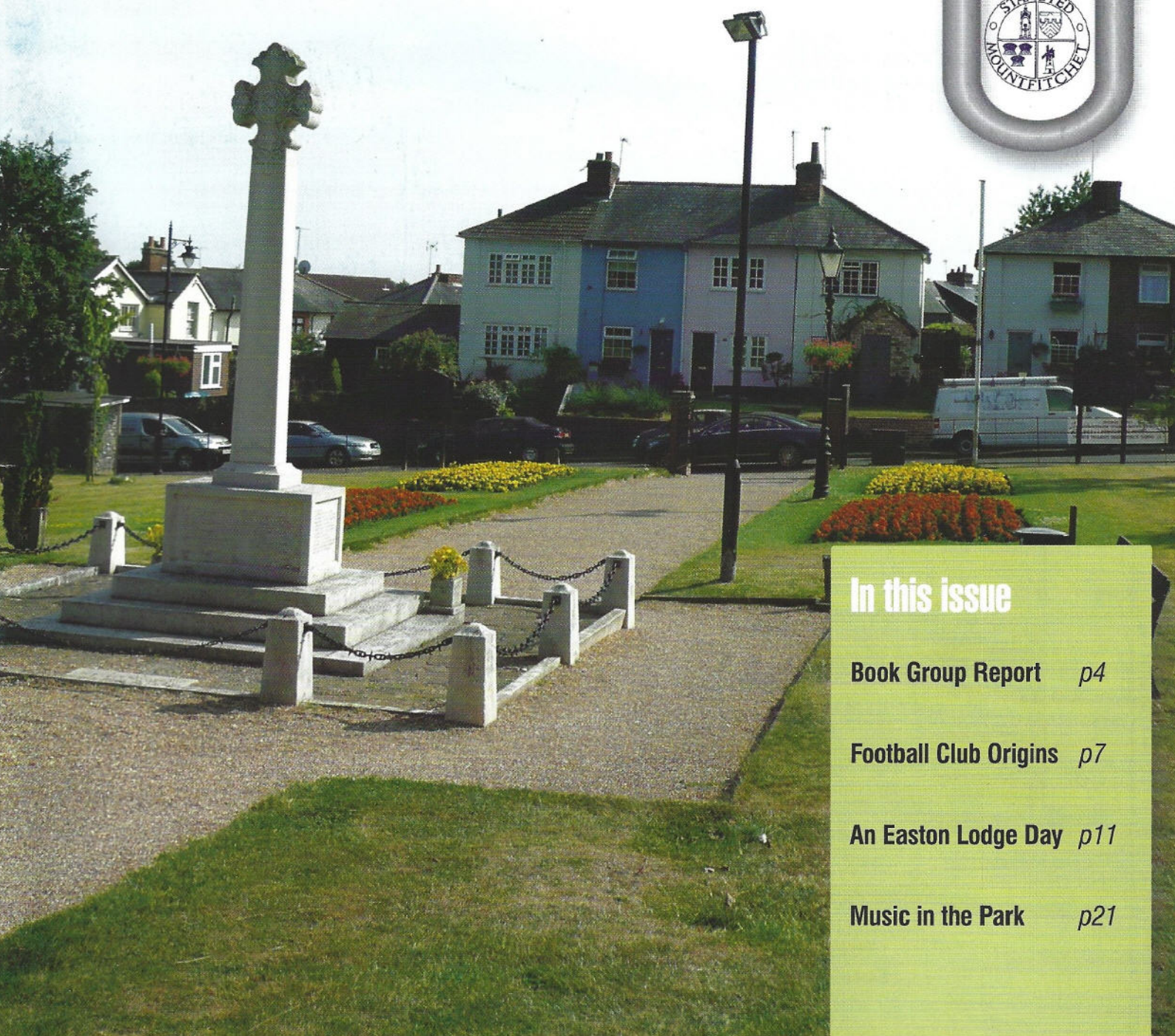


Stansted Mountfitchet

The Link



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Editorial



Schools and pubs are two important elements in the life of any village so the 'Link' is always pleased to receive their news. We hear that Bentfield School has just had its old hall refurbished and a new hall and IT department completed, complemented by its Special Needs department. MMCC too is reaching into the community and is a rising star among local secondary schools and colleges.

Since mediaeval times pubs have been a focal point but at a time when many are closing we should be grateful that there are eight in Stansted which still open their doors, providing floral colour without and good cheer within. The Dog and Duck, for one, recently received a Head Brewers Award for its food and ambience. We would be the poorer without them, especially when they have special 'nites' and hold events for charities. We are still a place of small shops where service and loyalty count so before we look beyond the parish boundaries there is every reason to support our own hostellers and traders.

We see that the Foresthall development now has 130 occupancies. Its various sites straddle two parishes and the 'Link', which harbours no territorial hang-ups, is distributed throughout. A 'Welcome Pack' from the churches and Parish Council goes to all the newcomers. We invite them as well as new arrivals at Limes Stables and Stoner House to take their place in a lively community and contribute to our pages.

CIRCULATION:

The Link is delivered free to 2700 homes and businesses in Stansted Mountfitchet. Further copies may be purchased for 50p each or £5.00 for the year.

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7 Blythwood Gardens,
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by **noon** on 11th August
for the September issue

by **noon** on 11th September
for the October issue

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DISCLAIMER

Opinions expressed in this magazine are given freely and do not necessarily represent those of the editorial committee

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

Is it 'the end of men'?

Over coffee in a local restaurant I read the free copy of a quality newspaper about how scientists have, for the first time, created human sperm in a laboratory. Scientists at Newcastle University wondered aloud whether their discovery means 'the end of men' in the reproductive process. It is suggested some women might welcome this, but that is too sensitive a discussion to pursue here! The research outcome is one attempt at resolving male infertility, a factor in any meaningful partnership causing as much anguish and frustration as does female infertility. I do not subscribe to the Luddite mentality, some of it theological and religious, maintaining such research is against nature, or God. Human well-being is a holy as well as human pursuit; is there not a right to be happy? Yet the idea that in seeking to start a family we can somehow 'do without men' speculates beyond the remit of scientific enquiry. Science is right to find out the technology of reproduction: there remains though a couple's proper desire for fulfilment through being able to have children of their own. Humans of either gender are not made redundant through scientific discoveries, but economic and social applications of the scientific rightly prompt us to more truly define 'what are humans for?' More than the sum of what we can generate; understanding ourselves and our place in the world is a spiritual matter. An old fashioned way of putting this is humankind's chief reason for being here is to know and enjoy God for ever, and, dare I say it, through our bodily life. Matter matters to God; stories of Jesus' healings remind us of the divine vision for human well-being and wholeness, to God's and our mutual joy. Good science serves this end.



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Preachers for August

2nd	10.30am	New Directions – The Worship Team
9th	10.30am	Janet Bottoms
16th	10.30am	Rev'd Allen Morton Holy Communion
23rd	10.30am	Denis Walker
30th	10.30am	Maureen Kendall

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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
-----------------	----------------

SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

Quaker Meeting House, Chapel Hill

Clerk Mrs Anthea Lee
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Meeting	Sunday, 10.30am
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Assistant Curate: Rev'd Giles Tulk
Tel: 815243
Email: through the Church Office

Director of Music: Lorraine Everett
Email: church.music@stansted.net

St John's Diary

Sunday
8.00am Said Holy Communion Junior Church meets in
9.30am Worship 4 All (1st Sunday) church at 9.30am.
9.30am Choral Eucharist (2nd - The Lazer youth group
4th Sundays) meets on Sunday eve-
nings at 7.30pm.

Monday-Wednesday
8.30am Morning Prayer There are services of
Holy Communion on the first
5.00pm Evening Prayer Tuesdays and Wednes-
days

Tuesday of the month in
Norman
9.00am St John's Tots Court, Hargrave House
and Broome End Nursing
Homes.

Wednesday
10.30am Holy Communion

Thursday
8.30am Morning Prayer

Saturday
9.00am Morning Prayer

From the Registers

June

Baptism

7th Thomas David Michael Solley

Wedding

27th Gemma Martelle Franklin to Philip Davies

Funerals

1st Daphne Esther Allard, age 83 - burial in
St Mary's Churchyard following funeral in
Norfolk
10th Susan Ann Hand, age 53 - at Parndon Wood
17th Jessie Duberry, age 82 - at Parndon Wood
17th Charles Patrick Botwright, age 83 - at Parndon
Wood

18th John Stuart Pape, age 75 - at Parndon Wood

19th Peter Andrew Thomson, age 74 - at
Parndon Wood

24th Nancy Fitt, age 82 - at Parndon Wood

Farnham Festival 2009

To celebrate the Sesquicentennial of St Mary's Church, Farnham, a festival is being held with events across two week-ends. The morning service on 27th September will be conducted by the Bishop of Colchester. See 'Village Events' page. More details next month.

VOLUNTARY AND RECREATIVE PROFILES



NO 3 STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Most people have an interest in the place where they live - either they were born in its vicinity or they moved into the neighbourhood, and at some time they begin to wonder what happened to make it as it is. When they start to think like this, it is no wonder that they turn to their local history society. Here like-minded persons meet to hear about things which occurred in their village, particularly in the recent past, and sometimes on matters which, although happening elsewhere, could have affected the local history.

The Stansted Mountfitchet Local History Society has been in existence since 1986 and contains a large number of members who have known the village for many years, as well as those who have recently come to live here. I can do no better than to quote the Society's Constitution where it states that its aims and objectives are 'to bring together persons interested in the history of Stansted Mountfitchet, to encourage public interest in local history, to encourage study in local history by sponsoring lectures and arranging investigations, to encourage preservation of local records and objects of historical interest, to take any steps which may be desirable in achieving the aforesaid objects and to co-operate with other bodies having similar interests'. The Constitution doesn't, however, refer to the fact that members will enjoy the meetings and I can assure you that they do. These meetings are held in the Crafton Green Day Centre on the first Thursday in the month at 8.00pm between September and May, when speakers on a variety of subjects are arranged. This means that our next meeting will be on 3rd September, when Georgina Green will tell us about 'The Buxton Family'. There is a break during the business when tea or coffee and biscuits are served, the cost being included in the £8 annual membership fee or for day members, in the £2 charged each visit.

Many of our speakers are from other local history societies and we have contacts with many of the neighbouring ones, among them the Recorders of Uttlesford History. During the summer, an outing is usually arranged and this year, members enjoyed a visit to Burghley House, while among other tasks we undertook was to make a photograph record of the Village at the Millennium, which the local Parish Council will hand down to its successors. In all, we are an active Society and we shall be delighted to meet new residents to the village - just turn up at one of our meetings and



IN MEMORIAM

JOHN STEWART PAPE

1934 – 2009

John Pape was born in Stansted and lived next to the Recreation Ground. He began scoring for Stansted Cricket Club when he was a youth and 2009 would have been his 62nd year as the club's official scorer. John had a near photographic memory for sports trivia and could recall matches from 40 and 50 years ago. One of his favourite stories was a Stansted win in the 1960s against Southgate defending a total barely over 100.

John worked for Spicers Office Supplies in Sawston for many years and he and his mother Rose moved to Sawston to be nearer his work. For a few years John scored for Sawston and also for Elmdon. He then passed his driving test and resumed scoring for Stansted, driving to both home and away matches. He liked to know who was playing on the Sunday, hence his frequent enquiry of "You playing t'morrow?" to the Saturday team. John was devoted to his mother, who lived with him and came to matches with him up until the 1990s. On retirement John moved back to Stansted, initially to a house in The Mews off High Lane and later into warden-supervised accommodation in Cannons Mead. Over the years he divided his time – always drinking his favourite bitter – between the cricket club, the Dog & Duck, Sunday lunch at The Cock, snooker at the Stansted Social Club, and jazz evenings at The King's Arms.



John was keen on many facets of sport. He supported Tottenham Hotspur, and saw Stansted FC win the FA Vase at Wembley in 1984; he went to county matches at Chelmsford, test matches at Edgbaston and annually to the Scarborough Cricket Festival; he went on cricket tours with Stansted CC and with Stansted Hall CC; and to mark his 50th year of scoring he was invited to a commemorative celebration at Essex County Cricket Club (where he was a member for many years). John would strike up a conversation with anyone, and rarely said an unkind word. He was always pleased to see old friends at the start of each new cricket season and loved telling jokes, albeit mostly of a dubious nature. Over the years he got to know the scorers and players of our visiting teams, and many of them used to greet him warmly each year. John was never able-bodied enough to play cricket himself, although he did guest for Stansted on

a couple of occasions when the team was short of players, particularly on tour. He once claimed to have got 11 not out – that was his personal best!

John's last match scoring for Stansted turned out to be on Saturday 23rd May at Harlow. A week later he was taken into hospital after collapsing and died on Monday 1st June. To score for a club for over 60 years is a fantastic achievement and John must have come to know and entertain hundreds of players during his time at Stansted. He will be sorely missed and impossible to replace; a permanent tribute to him at the ground is already under discussion.

David Hedge
Hon. Secretary
Stansted Cricket Club

ST TERESA'S BOOK GROUP

We have recently read and discussed 'Three Cups of Tea' by Greg Mortenson. It is the true story of 'one man's mission to promote peace and fight terror'. In 1993 Mortenson attempted and failed to climb K2, the world's second highest mountain. After more than 70 days on the mountain and finding he was totally lost - emaciated and broken, he wandered by chance into Korphe, an impoverished village high up in the Himalayas. The people there took him in and nursed his body and spirit back to health. In grateful thanks, Mortenson made an impulsive promise: he would return one day and build them a school. The people of the village had heard many such promises, mainly from their own government, but all had come to nothing.

Although he was homeless, living out of his aging Buick in Berkeley, California, Mortenson sold what few possessions he had to launch one of the most remarkable humanitarian campaigns of our time. 'Three Cups of Tea' details Greg Mortenson's ten long years of campaigning and hard work to build schools, especially for girls, throughout a region that gave birth to the Taliban and sanctuary to Al Qaeda. He waged war with the root causes of terrorism, namely poverty and ignorance, by providing both girls and boys with a balanced, non-extremist education. In doing so he survived a kidnapping, fatwas (death threats) issued by enraged mullahs, death threats from Americans, who considered him a traitor, and long separations from his wife and daughter.

Today, as the director of the Central Asia Institute, Mortenson has built 55 schools serving Pakistan and Afghanistan's poorest communities. And as this real-life Indiana Jones from Montana criss-crosses the Himalayas and the Hindu Kush, fighting to keep these schools functioning, he provides not only hope to tens of thousands of children, but living proof that one passionately dedicated person truly can change the world. The title 'Three Cups Of Tea' is taken from the Balti proverb - the first cup of green tea is for a guest or stranger, the second for a friend and the third for family. As a group we agreed that this was a truly inspirational book.

Mary Warnett



Stansted Windmill

Open Days

1.30 - 5.30 pm

Sun 2nd August

Sun 30th August

Mon 31st August
(with Fête)



St Mary's Church Open

2- 5 pm

Sunday 2nd August

Sunday 6th September
(last opening this year)

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VILLAGE EVENTS

August

2	Sun	Windmill Open	1.30 - 5.30 pm
		St Mary's Church open	2 - 5 pm
5	Wed	Mountfitchet Club	Day Centre 2 - 4 pm
		Mountfitchet Garden Club	Day Centre 8 pm
8 Sat & 9	Sun	Skips	Lower St Car Park 9 am - 3 pm
9 Sun		Gardens Open	Easton Lodge noon - 6 pm
13	Thu	WI	St John's Hall 7.45 pm
15	Sat	Fête	Hargrave House 2 - 4 pm
22 Sat & 23	Sun	Skips	Lower St Car Park 9 am - 3 pm
30	Sun	Windmill Open	1.30 - 5.30 pm
31	Mon	Fête	Windmill 2 - 5 pm

September

2	Wed	Mountfitchet Club	Day Centre 2 - 4 pm
		Mountfitchet Garden Club	Day Centre 8 pm
3	Wed	Local History Society	Day Centre 8 pm
5 Sat & 6	Sun	Skips	Lower St Car Park 9 am - 3 pm
6	Sun	St Mary's Church open	2 - 5 pm
10	Thu	WI	St John's Hall 7.45 pm
12	Sat	Churches' Ride and Stride	10 am - 6 pm
17	Thu	U3A	St John's Hall 2.30 - 4.30 pm
19 Sat - 27	Sun	Farnham Festival	
20 Sun		Heritage Hike	Molehill Green 2 pm



Stansted Windmill

ANNUAL FÊTE

2 - 5 pm 31st August
(Bank Holiday Monday)

Teas ~ Shooting
Bric-à-Brac ~ Cakes
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Parachuting ~ Books
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22nd & 23rd August
5th & 6th September
19th & 20th September



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Farnham Festival

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Sat 26th & Sun 27th ~
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STANSTED FOOTBALL CLUB

As this is our first appearance in the 'Link' we thought that a potted history of the Club might be of interest to the readers. There are references to Stansted FC playing football behind Blythwood Gardens in 1892 but more recent entries point to the Club establishing itself on green meadow until moving to its present home at Hargrave Sports ground for the 1937/38 season. Following the war, after periods in the Spartan London and Herts County League, Stansted became a founder member of the Essex Senior League in 1971 and is now the only club which has played in this league every year since its formation. The early '80s saw the most successful period in the Club's existence – the building of a new club-room was followed by the team finishing runners up in the League and winning the Harry Fisher Memorial Cup. Floodlights were introduced in 1983 and the 1983/84 season saw Stansted winning the FA Vase at Wembley beating Stamford 3-2 in a memorable final. In addition the Club also won the East Anglian Cup, the Essex League Challenge Cup and the Courage Eastern Floodlight Competition and, just for good measure, achieving the Essex Senior League record score by beating Coggeshall Town 15-1. But after winning the Harry Fisher Memorial Cup for a second time in the following season the Vase winning team dispersed.

Since then the Club's fortunes have been mixed with disappointing results in the 1989/90 season and into the '90s. The team was re-built with improving results and awards under Tony Mercer and Steve Embleton. Since 2003/04 season results have been inconsistent with 2006/07 being the worst season since 1972. March 2007 saw the team taken on by Terry Spillane and Larry Woods who had the onerous task of improving results - the team has been improving at a steady rate since then.

Keep the airportmen flying

Stansted FC is in need of support on and off the terraces because without your support we are in danger of losing over 100 years of football in Stansted. Support of any kind is always appreciated but the Club needs financial help and the sooner the better. The Club is run with the unfailing support of its members, friends and families and everybody involved gives what they give for free but with low gate attendances and all of the associated costs of running a football team making ends meet each season is becoming increasingly difficult. Apart from the obvious ways to help such as attending and supporting the team on match days there are other opportunities to help – local businesses can now take advantage of the new advertising hoardings positioned around the pitch which get your company name out into the community; these are in full colour, look great and are extremely good value. The clubhouse with its licensed bar is also available to hire for functions. Hopefully we will be publishing the fixtures listings in the next issue of the 'Link'. For information on any of the issues raised here then please contact me.

Larry Woods
Vice Chairman
Tel: 07866 765176

70th Wedding Anniversary



Eric and Louise Hopkins celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary on 30th May. It was in 1933 that Eric aged 16 met Louise aged 14, and they married six years later. He never courted any other girl, and is proud to say "I have loved only Louise all my life." He proved this in recent years when Louise needed care in a home. He said "Where she goes, I go". He has never left her. Eric arranged champagne and musical entertainment for us, so we all had an enjoyable afternoon.



Mary Wigley
Resident of Hargrave House



Stansted Cricket Club

<http://stanstedcc.hitscricket.com/home/default.aspx>

The club was well represented at the funeral of John Pape, Stansted CC's official scorer, on 18th June. Discussions continue on a fitting memorial to John at the ground. On the field the 1st XI have won eight of their first ten matches and are now 3rd in Div 4. The 2nd XI have had lesser success, winning four matches and are 7th in Div 6. The Sunday XI has had three wins from six matches to date. Recent top individual batting performances have been D.Sammons (89), K.Ayres (83 no), F.Kirby (71 and 60 no), C.Kirby (57), D.Ayres (51 no) and M.Noori (51). More details can be found on the club's website as above. Home matches for August are:

Sat 1st	2nd XI v Little Munden	1330	Div 6
Sat 8th	2nd XI v Birchanger I	1330	Div 6
Sat 15th	1st XI v Cloghams	1330	Div 4
Sun 16th	Sun XI v Stansted Hall	1400	Friendly
Sat 22nd	2nd XI v Thundridge	1330	Div 6
Sun 23rd	Sun XI v Hockerill II	1400	Friendly
Sat 29th	1st XI v Aspenden S&P	1330	Div 4
Sun 30th	Sun XI v Chrishall	1400	Friendly

We also play Stansted Hall (A) in a friendly on Sun 2nd August at 1400. If anyone from the village wishes to join the club, please contact David Hedge 812509 (Adults) or Keith Ayres 814471 (Juniors).

David Hedge
Secretary

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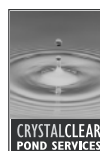
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494 (Stansted Airport) Squadron Air Training Corps

*This month's article was written by
Cadet Corporal Sophie Stacey, aged 15*

In the past two and a half years I have been powered flying several times gaining my first flight certificate. Last October I had my first gliding experience. On 9th July, 494 gained an extra gliding slot and I was fortunate to gain a place along with Cadet Corporal Matthew Barton and Cadets Sara Robson and Lewis Edgeworth. After arriving at MDPGS Weatherfield, home of 614 VGS (Volunteer Gliding Squadron) we had a briefing and were taken out to the airfield where the two seater winch-launched Viking gliders were waiting for us. Lewis and I were shown how to attach the launch cable while Matt and Sara were shown how to hold the wings and do the signalling. At the point of launch, a glider needs its wings to be level and a signal must be relayed from the pilot to the launch controller after the cadet has confirmed that it is all clear above and behind. Sara and Lewis were the first to go up whilst Matt and I helped. After having two flights each it was mine and Matt's turn. We put on our parachutes and then were taken by our instructors to the gliders. We were shown the instruments inside the glider before being strapped in. My instructor, Chris, then went through what we would be doing for the first flight; part one of the gliding induction course.



Part one involves pitch. You are shown how pitch is changed and then you are given the opportunity to have a go. Pitch is simple; the elevator is used to pitch the aircraft by moving the control column. All this does is move the nose of the aircraft higher or lower in the air depending which way you moved the control column. As I had completed Part one before it was a quick session of getting used to the controls. I then started Part two. Part two involves rolling. You are shown how to change the rolling plane. This is, again, using the control column. Rolling has the same principle of pitch but it affects the wings instead. The afternoon went quickly and it was soon time to return home. We had a great time and I am looking forward to completing my Part three next time - then when I am 16 I will be able to do my Gliding Scholarship where I can learn to fly solo! If you are interested in joining the fun call us on 01279 681559.

Cadet Corporal Sophie Stacey

Stansted Tennis Club



Clower Boys' Tournament

On 14th June, 17 boys aged between 9 and 15 competed in the annual Clower Boys' Singles Tournament at Stansted Tennis Club. This was a record entry and because of so many matches, the tournament did not finish until 8.15pm, having started at 1.00pm. For the round-robin stage the boys were divided into four groups, dependant on age, where they played everybody else in that group. At the end of this stage scores were added up and then players slotted in to the seeded part of the knockout draw. The oldest age group was won by Joe Hollis (14) with 13 points out of a possible 15. The second age group was won by Richard Berry (13) who amassed 17 out of 20 points. Matt Hollis (10) won Group 3, with 100% record, 15 out of a possible 15 games. The youngest group saw the closest finish with Sam Watts (9) clinching it by one point from Felix Rutherford (10). He won 10 out of 15 games. The boys then competed in the knockout stage, each match being the first to reach six games.

Dates for your Diary

Saturday 1st August (4.30pm onwards) - Working Party
Sunday 9th August (12.30pm) - Cayless Chilli Tournament.

Coaching

The popular lunch-time adult coaching session continues throughout the year on a Friday between 2.00 and 2.45pm. If you would like to come along and join in, please call Chris Hollis on 319155. You don't have to be a member of the club. Junior coaching with Chris Hollis continues as usual for all junior age groups. If you would like to find out more and get your name on the waiting list, please call Chris on the above number. Martyn Taplin 816386 continues to coach adults on Saturday afternoons at the club.

Used Tennis Balls

Priced at a reasonable £1 per tin of four balls, please contact Jan Hollis on 812073 or call at 105 Cambridge Road.

Club Playing Sessions

Members are encouraged to attend these open sessions at the following times:

Wednesdays at 10.00am and 6.00pm
Fridays at 9.30am. Sundays at 10.00am

Contacts

For further information, please contact Richard Mott (Secretary) on 466348, Janet Hollis (Chairman) on 812073 or Daphne Lunnon (Membership Secretary) on 817574.

Chris Hollis

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IN MEMORIAM

FRANCES MARY SPALDING

30th October 1921–2nd June 2009

Anyone who knew Frances Spalding soon became aware of her boundless energy and independence of mind, even right up to her death on 2nd June at the age of 87. Frances had many interests and was involved in many Stansted organisations. At the time of her sudden death she was in full stride finalising the delivery of literature for the elections two days later. Frances was so dedicated to organising Focus delivery for the Lib Dems across a large area around Stansted that it was only because of a planned period of hospitalisation for a heart operation at the end of last year that anyone else got a look in! If there was one characteristic that defined Frances Spalding it was a dogged determination never to give in and never to be reliant on anyone else for things she could do herself. Of course, that can have its downside and with Frances that would mean that many people she knew 'enjoyed' a good argument with her from time to time!

Frances Mary Spalding was born on October 30th 1921 in Southgate, North London. She came to Stansted in 1966 and had lived since then in Rainsford Road apart from a year's teaching in Canada in the early 1970s. Her first links with this area were through her teaching career, for which she trained during the early years of WWII, and which brought her to Hadham Hall School, Bishop's Stortford in 1955 and where she remained until her retirement from heading up the mathematics department in the early 1980s.



Frances had a long portfolio of voluntary organisations: the Girl Guides and Trefoil Guild, the WI, Stansted Day Centre and the Local History Society. She was a long-standing member of the Liberal Party and then the Liberal Democrats, for which she had been our order-insistent branch chair for several years until the day she died. Frances had been a steward at national party conferences for many years including Harrogate in March this year. She will be sorely missed by those of us who relied on Frances to keep us on our toes.

Frances loved meeting people and getting into conversations with perfect strangers. She loved to be busy and it was important to her to know that what she was doing had a worthwhile end result – making a difference to others' lives.

Alan Dean

THE GARDENS OF EASTON LODGE

SPECIAL SUMMER OPENING

Sunday 9th August 12 noon to 6.00pm

Lovers of garden design and cultural history will have a rare opportunity to experience the enchanting atmosphere of one of the jewels of North West Essex on 9th August when the Gardens of Easton Lodge throw open their gates for a special summer open day, with free admission. The gardens were one of the most important creations of the Edwardian designer Harold Peto. His commission in 1902 came from 'Darling Daisy', the Countess of Warwick, who regularly entertained society guests there including the Prince of Wales before he acceded to the throne as Edward VII. Visitors to the one-off summer opening will be able to enjoy the tranquil atmosphere of the gardens whose restoration to their full glory is the long term objective of the Gardens of Easton Lodge Preservation Trust. The Trust has taken on this mantle from Brian and Diana Creasey who, while they retired last year, nevertheless continue to maintain an active role in taking care of the Gardens, alongside Land Securities who own much of the land.

Sadly, the gardens have been closed to the public for much of this year because of financial constraints but the Trustees are determined to share their vision of what restoration could achieve as they work towards a more regular re-opening pattern and securing major funding to complete the dream. The open day will serve to remind garden lovers and the community of what will be possible with the right level of support. Despite the scale of work still to be undertaken, the loveliness of the Gardens continues to shine through. From its origins in 1302 as part of a vast deer park, the 23-acre haven is notable for its natural beauty and ever-changing landscape.

Designed in Italianate style around Warwick House, which is set in its grounds, the gardens were maintained until 1950, after which time nature took over. Tantalising glimpses of those designs have been resurfacing since 1993, when the restoration project began. Today's visitors can see Peto's Italian Sunken Garden and the herringbone and cobble courtyard, plus other examples of his work. Additional creations by the Creaseys include the Living Sundial, Dark Pool and Shakespeare Border. Entry is free and visitors are encouraged to bring a picnic but tea and cakes will also be on sale. Children's activities are being organised for the afternoon. The Gardens are in Little Easton, just off the B184 between Great Dunmow and Thaxted. Further information is available online at www.eastonlodge.co.uk, from 01371 876979 or enquiries@eastonlodge.co.uk.

Carol Barbone



We will be holding a German themed event at Chantry Hall, Crow Street, Henham on Sunday 6th September, from 1.00pm onwards. This will consist of a buffet lunch and entertainment. There will also be a bar and a raffle, and the cost will be £8. All are welcome. Further information from 814222.

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MOUNTFITCHET GARDEN CLUB

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Our June speaker was Mr Bill Bossom – rose breeder and judge – who spoke about the gardens at Capel Manor in Enfield. The gardens and estate cover 30 acres and surround a Georgian manor house and Victorian stables. The manor house's last owner, Lt Col Sydney Medcalf, specialised in breeding Clydesdale Heavy Horses and this breed are still stabled there. Capel Manor is now a Further Education Centre, established 40 years ago, which specialises in horticulture, landscaping, arboriculture, animal care, floristry and, believe it or not, balloon floristry!

Using a series of slides, Mr Bossom took members on a tour of the gardens. Many of the areas are sponsored by companies, and the students plan, plant out and tend these gardens as part of their course. One model garden is Sunflower Street, which was relocated from The Chelsea Flower Show. It is a block of terraced house fronts (no backs) and each frontage and garden is different in age/style. Other gardens include the Japanese Garden, the Italianate Garden, the Queen Mother's Garden and the Princess of Wales' Garden, as well as various trial gardens and hidden gardens not on the official map! The original Rose Garden had been designed, built and planted by Mr Bossom. However, much to his dismay, the college decided to move it and at the same time downsize it and build in its place an open-air amphitheatre. One of its notable alumni is Kim Wilde, and she was invited to design one of the gardens. However, members found her design of planted, painted exhaust pipes a little hard to appreciate - preferring the more traditional gardens with flowers!!! Throughout the year festivals and shows are held in the grounds which are open to the public.

Rose Cup Competition

Our first in-house Rose Cup competition was won by Jean Anderson, with Ian and Pam Seavers in 2nd and 3rd place.

Our next meeting is on Wednesday 5th August at the Day Centre, 7.30pm for an 8.00pm start. The speaker will be Hilary Thomas, and her subject is 'Planting Design: Form, Foliage and Colour in the Garden'. Our flower arranging cup competition will be held during the evening. Members are asked to bring in a display of garden flowers in a small container. (Please note garden flowers not bought flowers).

Advance notice of our Quiz Evening - Saturday 10th October in Stansted Free Church Hall. More details later.

Please remember you are always welcome at our monthly meetings. Membership is available or come as a visitor for £2. If you wish to see our future programme along with photos of past events and trips please visit our website (details above).

Maralyn Harris
Chairman



Our Rainbow Summer Fete was a great success, raising £380 in total and perhaps more importantly, giving the children and their parents a chance to get together and enjoy the day. Many thanks to Mr Jolley for his great show and to all those who helped out on the day. We would also like to thank David Charles for sponsoring the event and Colchester Zoo, Willow Farm Village, Nuffield Health, Romeera Leisure Centre, Stansted Back Pain and Chiropractic Clinic, Paradise Wildlife Park, Harpers Hair, Hadham Golf and Country Club and Tumbledowns for donating prizes. The highlight of the month for all the children was the annual trip to Harlow Park where they all enjoyed the adventure playground and having fun on the hill. Luckily, the weather held off and there was plenty to keep them occupied so that the journey home was a quiet one with half the children fast asleep on the train! Other trips included a morning at Bentfield Park where the older children burned off a lot of energy on the swings and slides.



We have been taking part in the 'Stansted in Bloom' event by submitting pictures from the older group which are on display in the main school hall and we look forward to finding out the competition results soon. The older Rainbow children have been building up to their new start at primary school in September. This involved several taster sessions at St Mary's which they all enjoyed. We would like to wish them all well in their move up to 'big school'.

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. We do still have a few places available for September.



Isabelle Page
Rainbow Committee

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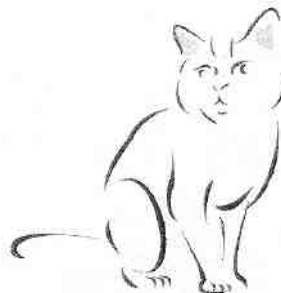
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HATFIELD FOREST HIGHLIGHTS

Hello everyone. I hope you are all enjoying the summer holidays and have been joining us here at the Forest. The 250th birthday year of the Shell House is in full swing and everyone is invited to The Shell House Birthday Party on Saturday 8th August. Bring your own picnic and find out how Jacob and Letitia Houblon would have picnicked in the 18th century. Also you can come and meet our Shell Artist, Anne, who will be working on two shell pictures that have been designed and started by Takeley Primary School and Peterswood School. Over two days in June both schools came along and took part in a variety of activities that included creating their own shell pictures to take home, and helping us to design and make two pictures that will eventually be hung up in the Shell House to replace those pictures that have gone missing.



There are two further free events this summer: St Joseph's Company are setting up camp for the weekend of 1st August; and Wood Fest, our annual intimate festival, on the 12th and 13th September. St Joseph's Company, a medieval re-enactment group, will be demonstrating what life in the Forest might have been like, including archery and man-at-arms. The annual Wood Fest is a

fantastic celebration of wood and traditional craft with demonstrations, live music and timber and craft products for sale and should not be missed.

This year has been a fantastic year for butterflies and the Forest has been teeming with them. In particular we have had several sightings of silver-washed fritillary for the first time on record here and also ringlets are being spotted at a potential record high. For more information of any of our events please ring the Estate Office on 01279 870678. As always I look forward to seeing people enjoying the forest and welcome any questions or comments if you see me around.

Laura Slater
Community Warden
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Nature Notes

Readers may have noticed that flies and other winged insects have in the past two decades become far less numerous. Mature motorists will know that the quantity of flies removed from their windscreens is much less than of yore. Those even older will recall that in high summer a hedgerow was heard almost as soon as seen, such was the loud buzz of insects. The last aural hedge experience which I had was at the Arne reserve in Dorset some six years ago, which at least proved that the phenomenon has lasted into this century in places where the human presence is minimal. The influences which affect bird populations are complex but for the insect-eaters the decline in bugs is dire and must account in part for the rarity of many species. This also applies to bees about which there is now much concern. What can we do about it? Unfortunately very little. We can establish a hedge in place of a fence and allow, nay encourage, an area of wilderness to develop in the less visible parts of our gardens. Insects, being so numerous in species terms, are a large component in the ecological chain and their reduction could have disastrous potential. Just don't swat them unless you really have to.

Derek Honour



The National Childbirth Trust
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We are continuing to focus on increasing our visibility within the local area. You may have noticed posters appearing; the NCT offers many services from pre-natal to post-natal and beyond. We are still working away at the experience register. This is a confidential list of experiences that people have gone through during and after childbirth, and it is designed so that if anyone can talk through an issue they may have with someone who has had direct experience. This should be up and running by the autumn. The month of June saw the NCT annual conference held in Swansea. It was a fantastic event with workshops ranging from Mothering the Mother, Domestic Abuse, Pain Relief, Men and Fathers to Working with Young Parents. The conference draws together lots of the NCT volunteers from all over the country and provides exceptional training, great networking, idea exchange on how to help all parents and, of course, socialising. Next year has already been booked for Telford and plans are in full swing for another fantastic event.

Our active committee have been busy over the last few months putting together the latest issue of our NCT newsletter. Within the newsletter you can find out about social activities and great ideas and offers to do with your little ones.

What's on in the next few months:

August: Paddling Pool Party and Teddy Bears Picnic

October: Family Photo Day with Yvonne Lorraine

17th October is our next Nearly New Sale so if you wish to sell please contact Jane on 08442 436281 Option 2.

If you would like to contact us please phone 08442 436281 or visit www.nct.org.uk.

Kim Taylor
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NEWS FROM YOUR LOCAL COUNCILS

NOT TOO LATE TO RETURN YOUR PARISH PLAN QUESTIONNAIRE

Although the return date of 20 July will have passed, the Council is still keen to receive as many replies as possible. So if you have forgotten or put it in your 'to do later' file, please dig it out, complete as much as you wish and post it back (or deliver it in person) within the next few days.

Your knowledge, your views and your ideas are important in helping to develop and sustain a thriving community here. The information you provide will help in determining priorities and will provide ammunition with which to argue our case for resources with other authorities and agencies. If you did not receive a questionnaire or would like additional copies, please telephone 813214 or email parishcouncil@stansted.net.

We are particularly keen for our local youngsters (11-18 year-olds) to give us their views. They should have been told about the Youth Questionnaire through their schools, but it is available online at www.surveymk.com/stanstedyouthsurvey2009. Please encourage them to spend about ten minutes filling it in – they are our future and their opinions are important.

PLEASE RETURN YOUR QUESTIONNAIRES NOW

We would like to express our thanks to the Youth Centre, who stuffed a very large number of envelopes, and to the Scouts who helped to deliver the questionnaires. In addition, some parishioners volunteered to help with delivery and this was very much appreciated – you know who you are!

ACTION ON THE WILLOW TREE AT THE FOUNTAIN

The Parish Council has been advised by a professional tree surgeon that the willow tree at the fountain is in need of action sooner rather than later. At the least one of the limbs needs to be removed

and this will require a road closure whilst the work is undertaken.

It has also been made clear to us that the tree is nearing the end of its life. Before taking any decision it is intended to obtain further advice from the specialists at Essex County Council. In addition County Highways is being pressed to indicate whether there are any plans which may have an impact on this junction and thus on the fountain.

As information is received you will be kept informed but first and foremost safety for pedestrians and drivers will determine any decisions.

DESIGNING A NEW PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE

Under the chairmanship of Cllr Tudor Owen, a small working group has been set up to consider what needs to be covered on the Parish Council website. John Papazoglou, Head of IT at the Mountfitchet Mathematics & Computing College, is helping to build the website and the Council is very appreciative of the time being given.

If you have ideas on what should be included on the website or what you would like to see, please email Tudor on tudor@tudorowen.com.

NEWS FROM THE YOUTH CENTRE

The 6-week school holidays are nearly here and the good news is that thanks to Stansted Parish Council supporting us with part funding we are going to be able to offer youth provision during the summer break! We are taking 20 12-14 year olds on an activity holiday to South Wales for a week and the older members are participating in the first leg of an exchange project to Belfast, Northern Ireland for another week with the Belfast young people returning to Stansted in April 2010. The youth centre will then be open as usual for the remaining 3 weeks, starting from Wednesday 19th August.

The Duke of Edinburgh project which operates on a Tuesday evening from 6-8pm at the centre is developing well in partnership with the Mountfitchet Maths and Computing College. Membership now stands at 35 and expedition training is due to begin in September after the summer break. We are concentrating on the Bronze Award at present and wish to encourage any young person aged 14+ who is interested to get in touch with either myself, Linda Barnes on 07920466923 or Matt Papa the DofE leader on 07920286294. Financial help is available to assist any young person who wishes to participate in the DofE scheme.

The "Garden Project" is again blooming nicely with the young people purchasing more plants for their garden with money that they have raised. Over the winter they worked on producing 2 beautiful pieces of mosaic art work which will be put into the garden to add even more colour. A new barbecue is about to be purchased so the young people can make the most of the summer weather and enjoy the outdoors and some healthy food!

Linda Barnes – Youth Worker/Manager
Stansted and Dunmow Youth Centres

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH UPDATE

Neighbourhood Watch in Stansted is continuing to grow and we now have 90 co-ordinators who will eventually be able to keep information flowing around the village, keeping us alert to any problems in Stansted and the surrounding area. Within this larger group of co-ordinators we are forming a smaller steering group consisting of one main person who will receive and then feed information to 6/7 other co-ordinators, who will in turn contact the people within their group. In this way we hope to keep every one informed of any problems.

We are also looking into the possibility of obtaining notice boards specifically for Neighbourhood Watch, where we can place any relevant information and in so doing reach more residents, not only those on email.

All of this work is very new and we know it will take time to come to fruition, but if you want to help and know more about Neighbourhood Watch, come to our next meeting which will be held on Wednesday 30th September 2009 at 7.30 pm in Stansted Free Church Hall which is

located behind Stansted Free Church. Limited parking is available at the rear of the Church.

Our two meetings following September 30th 2009 will be Wednesday 27th January, 2010 and Wednesday 26th May 2010. Please put these dates in your diary. Contact numbers: Cllr. Valerie Trundle (01279) 813433 and Diane Roberts (01279) 813089

CHANGING THE MIX OF PROPERTIES AT FOREST HALL PARK

We are pleased to see that development of the Foresthall Park site continues and there are now over 120 houses and flats occupied.

Croudace, the developers of the western end of the site, have been to talk to Stansted and Birchanger Parish Councils about altering the size of the houses they wish to build in their third phase. The basic layout of their site will remain unchanged in terms of open space and roads, but they would like to replace some of the four and five bedroomed houses with two and threes. They believe this is the type of property most in demand – and selling!

The overall result would be an increase of around 80-85 homes, of which 40% would be affordable housing. This Council raised concerns about increased number of vehicles, pressure on school places etc, but it must be remembered that the whole site can, under Government density rules, accommodate over 700 homes – currently planning has been granted for 600. Croudace intend to submit a full application to Uttlesford District Council in the Autumn.

WAITING RESTRICTIONS

We are currently awaiting details of a trial scheme for Lower Street/Grove Hill from County Highways. In the meantime, the working group has asked for two additional restrictions in the village. Firstly in Spencer Close on the left-hand side as you enter, we have requested an extension of the double yellow lines as refuse vehicles do encounter difficulties from parked cars. Secondly at Bentfield Causeway – on the right-hand side as you turn the corner from Bentfield Road, near the letter box – extension of the double yellow lines up to, but not including, the driveway to house number 2. Cars parking at that point cause a danger to those coming around the corner as the traffic coming down the Causeway has to pass on the wrong side of the road.

GARDENING AROUND THE VILLAGE

We have been very pleased with the Summer planting of the flower beds, troughs and tubs and hope you have all noticed the marigold "Stansted" at the Fountain! Despite the mini heatwave, we have had to turn our thoughts to the winter planting. There is little that gives a good strong colour, but we have decided on F1 pansies in the tubs – yellow with a black eye. For the flower beds, a cordyline in the centre, with red heathers and underplanted with yellow violas. The troughs will have similar with trailing ivy and cineraria. We are also looking at the possibility of changing the hanging baskets next year and three of us have been given different baskets to trial this year.

PCSO UPDATE

You are probably all aware by now that the Parish Council part-funds the cost of employing one of the Community Support Officers – Stuart Stranger. The report below will give you an idea of how Stuart spent his time over the course of a month:

- Attended a wide range of incidents ranging from nuisance vehicles at the Mountfitchet Green and concern for welfare to anti-social behaviour incidents at the Recreation Ground.
- Hi-visibility patrols, both on foot and cycle (Stuart's preferred means of transport!) to engage with the local community.
- Calls on local residents and businesses who have reported incidents in the past to check that all is now well.
- Speed checks in the local area – 60 since the start of the year.
- Beat surgeries at the Police Station on some Saturdays.
- Regular visits to the skatepark
- Removal of alcohol from youths on the Recreation Ground.

PARISH COUNCIL MEMBER CONTACT INFORMATION

Catherine Dean	813579
Gaye Ellington	
813933	
Jo Freeman	812524
Bridget Gott	814440
John Hudson	814489
Peter Jones	813252
Janice Loughlin	812346
Tudor Owen	812825
Ruth Rawlinson**	814222
Jonathan Rich	813112

John Salmon	814789
Dan Scott	815098
Geoffrey Sell *	815925
Bill Stiles	813172
Valerie Trundle	813433
* Chairman	
** Vice Chairman	

DATES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS

August - No Meetings

Members of the public are welcome to attend all Parish Council meetings, and may address the Council on any relevant issue at the start of Full Council meetings. These comments are noted but no discussion is entered into. Meetings are held in Crafton Green House at 7.45pm unless otherwise stated on the agenda. Agendas are posted on the Parish Council's website www.stansted.net under Publications.

NEWS FROM UTTLESFORD D.C.

From Cllr Alan Dean

By the time this Link drops through letter boxes reports should have been published about suitable locations for future housing in the district. They are expected to show that there are sufficient development sites on offer in larger towns and villages adequately to accommodate planned housing growth to at least 2021 without the need to start a new town at Elsenham or anywhere else. Even if Uttlesford Council wanted to continue to promote a new town, it is likely that studies will show that Elsenham is not the best available location. Once this information is made public there will be a further round of public consultation.

A footpath was opened up to Church Road from Foresthall Park as promised by the developer. However, it comes straight out onto the road at a point where there is no pavement or dropped kerb. I have asked for this issue and plans for a new bridleway that would run along pavements in the Walson Way residential area to be reviewed as they don't seem satisfactory.

The multi-use games area on the green at Mountfitchet Estate is now in use and will have been formally opened in the middle of July. It looks a very good and valuable facility for the young people of Stansted. Stansted Youth 2000 worked with parish, district and county councils to get the court built. £1,000 was raised at the Kings Arms pub, making it a real community facility.

Plans on how to deal with traffic congestion at the Grove Hill traffic lights were due from the county council in July so I hope to be able to write more about that bottleneck in the next Link.

Tel: 01279 813579/ 07710 105824
Email: cllrdean@uttlesford.gov.uk

From Cllr Geoffrey Sell

Long Term Empty Homes

There are a small number of 'problematic' long-term empty residential properties around the District. In some cases they have been empty for many years and are a blight on surrounding properties. I have been particularly concerned about this issue because I have one such property in my ward. Over several years repeated approaches by the Council to the owners of these properties to bring them back into use have been made. They have been unsuccessful.

Clearly the voluntary approach was not working, so I was pleased with the decision of the Community and Housing Committee to seek Empty Dwelling Management Orders. The powers given by these orders, would allow the Council if successfully approved by the Residential Property Tribunal to take over the management of the property for a period of up to 7 years and rent the property to a family on the housing waiting list and recover our cost from the rental income. A proposal will be made to the next meeting of the Finance and Administration Committee to set up a pump priming capital fund of £50,000 to enable the renovation of long-term empty dwellings following the service of Empty Dwelling Management Orders. Arguably this will not be enough but at least it is a start. The fact that the Council is applying for possession of these orders may make the owners of these long term empty properties take action and end the blight they cause upon their neighbours.

Uttlesford Health Profile 2009

Councillors were recently sent the health profile of the district. This is produced annually by the Association of Public Health Observatories and funded by the Department of Health. These are some of their findings.

- The health of people in Uttlesford is generally better than the England average. For example, hospital stays for alcohol related harm and drug mis-use are all better than the national average.
- Road injuries and deaths are worse than the England average.

- Over the past ten years rates of deaths from all causes, early deaths from cancer and early deaths from heart disease and stroke have improved for men and women, and are significantly better than the England average.
- Children in Uttlesford are more active at school than the England average, and 1 in 15 children in Reception is obese. Low teenage pregnancy and high GCSE achievement are also better than the England average.

Generally good news, our new Health Centre when it comes, we hope in the not too distant future, will make a significant contribution to raising health standards. In recognition of the importance of the health service the Council is exploring along with Epping Forest and Harlow Councils the possibility of setting up a joint West Essex Primary Trust scrutiny committee

CONTACT US!

Clerk – Ruth Clifford
Admin Assistant – Anne Court
Phone/Fax: 01279 813214 – 10am – 1pm
E-mail: parishcouncil@stansted.net

OTHER CONTACTS

Uttlesford District Council Members

<i>Alan Dean</i>	Tel: 01279 813579
Email: cllrdean@uttlesford.gov.uk	
<i>John Hudson</i>	Tel: 01279 814489
Email: cllrhudson@uttlesford.gov.uk	
<i>John Salmon</i>	Tel: 01279 814789
Email: cllrsalmon@uttlesford.gov.uk	
<i>Geoffrey Sell</i>	Tel: 01279 815925
Email: cllrsell@uttlesford.gov.uk	

Essex County Council Member

Ray Gooding Tel: 01279 813103
Email: cllrgooding@essex.gov.uk

Member of Parliament

The Rt Hon Sir Alan Haselhurst MP
House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA
Tel: 020 7219 5214 Fax: 020 7219 5600
Email: haselhursta@parliament.uk

Police

PC Tom Bastendorff, Stansted Police Station,
Hargrave Close Tel: 812211
Essex Police non-emergency number
0300 333 4444
Mobile phone carried by PCSO 07801 461666

11th July 2009



The weather forecast was not good, but, apart from showers when the event was being set up, the rain held off. A large crowd was entertained by Dewdrop, The Bentfield Choir, Electric Chess (accompanied by a couple of dads), The Croft, Repertoire Dogs and the final band Hybrid 7. The children enjoyed face painting and a bouncy castle, with their own play area. The BBQ by resident chef Olly Pocknell, went down a storm and the beer tent did a brisk trade.



Dancing commenced early in the afternoon and the event finally finished around 8 o'clock, by which time the large grey clouds were looming overhead. There are so many people to thank - our sponsors, the bands, those who helped run stalls, those who set up and cleared away the event, and those loyal supporters who turned up even though the forecast wasn't good. The list goes on and on - thank you one and all. A great day was had by all !

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Royal British Legion Stansted & District Branch

At 11.00am on 6th June several members of the branch, together with relatives of one Stansted resident who was part of the Allied Landing Force, met at the War Memorial for a wreath laying ceremony in memory of those that were killed during the D-Day Landings. It was pointed out that when they arrived at the memorial the flowers had been arranged in red, white and blue in honour of the day; all agreed this was a nice gesture by those who arranged the flowers. All agreed it was a touching service.

The Branch held their usual bi-monthly meeting on 15th June at the home of the Vice Chairman which was attended by seven members. Among items discussed was the memorial tree for the late Mrs Kath Stevens, who was a leading light within the Branch holding the position of Branch President at the time of her death. The planting of the tree had been approved by the Parish Council and also the PCC and could now go ahead. However, under advice, it was decided that now was not the time to plant a tree and it should be left until later in the year. A small party of members including the Standard Bearer attended the funeral of Mrs Violet Perring on 11th June at Harlow Crematorium.

The secretary now has an address which can be used to send 'Comfort Parcels' to servicemen serving in Afghanistan. These should be no bigger than shoebox size and contain items such as soap, toothpaste, sweets etc (no alcohol, cigarettes or risqué reading materials). The parcel should include the sender's name and address so that a letter of thanks can be returned. Please contact me if you would like to send a parcel. The next meeting will be held on 11th August.

Tom Chadwick
Branch Secretary
Tel: 647617



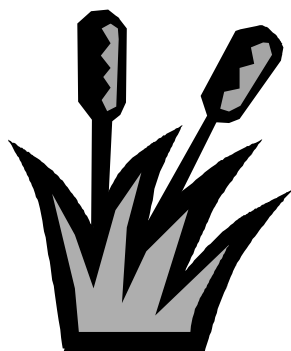
1st Stansted Scouts

We recently returned from our four day May bank holiday weekend camp in Hatfield Forest, but there was no time to store the tents, as it was time to go camping again. Fourteen Scouts and four leaders joined 2,000 Scouts and Guides from around Essex over the weekend of 3rd-5th July at the Essex County Giga Camp held at Skreens Park near Chelmsford. A wide variety of activities were laid on for us including abseiling, climbing, canoeing, rafting, archery, air rifles, pioneering, inflatables, bouldering, robot wars challenge, fun fair and disco or karaoke in the evenings - all in the brilliant sunshine. Lovely! Sandwiched between the two camps was an excellent day on the lake at Stanborough Park. Here we were able to do rafting (after building it), kayaking and sailing. Wind surfing was not really an option as unfortunately the wind dropped just at the wrong time.

Our District fishing competition was this year in Little Dunmow; a new location for us, which proved to be a good lake as we caught some fish!

On our Monday meetings we've been shelter building ready for our survival weekend in September, and practising our air rifle shooting ready for the annual shooting competition. We have been orienteering in Hatfield Forest, and held several wide games in the woods. There is a sports competition taking place in September, which we've also been practising for. You may see some Dutch Scouts in the village over the school holidays; say hello if you dare as they are very friendly and love to talk.

Mike Byrne
Scout Leader



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Local Scout achieves highest accolade

Student Lee Snelling has just been awarded the Chief Scout's Gold Award, equivalent to the old Queen's Scout Award, which is the highest award available in the Scout section. The last such award presented to a Stansted Scout is believed to be 25 years ago. Lee, age 14, was presented with his award by Bob Russell (MP for Colchester) at Colchester Castle on 10th May. The award requires completion of eight challenges selected from: Promise; Community; Fitness; Creative; Global; Outdoor; Outdoor Plus; Adventure; Expedition. Lee started as a Cub and joined Scouts in September 2005, aged 10. Under the guidance of Scout Leaders Mike Byrne and Fintan Lambe, it has taken just under four years for Lee, one of 28 Stansted Scouts, to achieve this accolade. Lee finishes Scouts in July this year and is keen to become a young leader within the Scouting movement. He is looking to join a local Explorer unit to continue towards this aim.



Lee said of his achievement *"I am very proud of what I have done to get this award and I hope other people will see that anyone can achieve their goals if they focus themselves and they really want to. My ultimate goal is the new Queen's Scout Award which I shall be working towards in the future. I really enjoy Scouts and everything that the Scouting movement stands for. It is such a fun thing to do but it has also taught me so many skills to help prepare me for the future. I am one of the older Scouts in our troop and a patrol leader, so I now take on the role of helping and teaching the younger Scouts everything I have learnt. With the Hatfield Forest District Camp coming up, I will be leading one of the Stansted teams, hopefully to victory! I would like to thank Mike and Fin for helping me achieve this and also the other people involved in Stansted Scouts. Also, a big thank you to my mum, dad and brothers who have always been there to help and support me. Scouts is great fun and a perfect structure for preparing young people to become responsible adults and to help them achieve goals for the future."*

(In association with 1st Stansted Scout Group)

Year 7 Activity Day

On Friday 22nd May Year 7 spent the day at the Harlow Outdoors Activity Centre. The day was designed to allow students to use and develop their personal skills such as agility, balance and co-ordination as well as enhancing team working and communication skills. Students worked in groups of 10 to take part in three different activities sessions ranging from climbing wall, kayak, canoeing, problem solving, to high ropes, mountain boards, archery, mountain bikes

and raft building. The day was very enjoyable and saw many students achieving success and overcoming fears.

Katrina Carpenter
Student Learning Manager for Year 7

Music for a Summer's Evening

This year the summer concert was held in St Mary's Church, across the road from the College. It was a wonderful evening. The audience enjoyed a real mixture of music – classical, contemporary, Indian, African, samba. There were group performances from different year groups, and even some of our feeder primary school pupils. These had participated in the Creative Arts Day we recently organised for gifted and talented Year 5 pupils, and came along to our concert to perform with our students. Soloists performed beautiful pieces on the flute, 'cello, guitar and piano, and even staff got to show off their talent with their choral quintet. St Mary's was a lovely venue, not least because it was a cool haven after a day of temperatures in the 30s. The acoustics were far superior to those of our hall, and the music and voices resonated through the church. We are grateful to the Churches Conservation Trust and Rev'd Paul Wilkin for allowing us to hold the concert in such a delightful setting. We look forward to holding our Christmas concert at St Mary's in December.

Miss J Mullis
Headteacher

The Jack Petchey Awards Presentation

On Tuesday 30th June, ten MMCC students and five members of staff attended the Rhodes Centre in Bishop's Stortford for the annual presentation of Jack Petchey Awards. The students received gold medallions from the Chairperson of Uttlesford District Council in recognition of the tremendous contribution that they have all made to the College community this year. Mrs Pacey also accepted a Leader Award on behalf of Jill McMahon's family. Jill was voted an outstanding leader by the students and staff of MMCC in 2008. The College is very grateful to the Jack Petchey organisation which makes an annual donation of around £3,500 to improve College facilities. The students who received awards were: Harry Bullot, Zoe Higgins, Ioannis Bandunas, Sophie Stacey, Christopher Hill, Alex Cole, Robyn Green, Michael Jarvis, Stuart Grainger and Katie Law.



Ruth Martin

MMCC Prizegiving

The annual Prizegiving which took place on 25th June was the best attended in the College's short history, with standing room only. It was evident from Miss Mullis, the Headteacher's, address that the year had been an encouraging one. She thanked her loyal staff and the buoyant spirit of the students for continuing to build on the tradition of the College. However, a tinge of sadness was the untimely death in February of Jill McMahon, an outstanding teacher; and the impending retirement of the Deputy Headteacher, Mr Davies, who had given of his best for many years. She was, however, pleased to welcome Mr Smith as his successor. Miss Mullis stressed the large number of candidates for the post which the College had attracted and the exacting process of selection that preceded his appointment.



There were 96 awards in academic subjects, 19 in sport, and 30 for attendance and merits. The Stansted Stort Valley Rotary Club's awards for Essays were a notable local feature which drew six prizewinners. Another district accolade for 11 students was the Jack Petchey Award for Student Achievement. Finally, 15 talented individuals also received prizes for subjects ranging through Science, Technology, Music and the Visual Arts. It would be impractical for the 'Link' to list all the names but the breadth of accomplishment for a relatively small college was remarkable. It may be a reflection of its size that the whole evening took place in such a well-ordered but friendly atmosphere, a balance not always achievable in larger gatherings.

The prizes were presented by Jo Ellis, the captain of the British Hockey Team in the Beijing Olympics. Jo, who had her own physical problems to overcome, emphasised that achievement began with a dream and that with perseverance the dream, however unlikely it seemed at the beginning, could become a reality. She urged all the students to have a dream and do all they can to make it happen. The evening concluded with a short presentation by the Head Girl and Head Boy. A point which they clearly made was that MMCC had brought out the best in them. Well done, Mountfitchet, you have much of which to be proud.

Derek Honour
Dick Pollard

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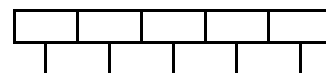
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STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET U3A

"Through sharing our knowledge, skills and experience, we aim to offer a combination of opportunities to study, create, socialise and in general develop a fitter mind and body"

It has now been over three months since the Stansted branch of the U3A was set up. We now have 125 members and we are getting new members and enquiries every week. We publish a monthly newsletter which includes information on forthcoming meeting dates and any theatre trips and outings we are organising. This newsletter is displayed in Stansted and Bishop's Stortford libraries and also on various notice boards in Bentfield Green and around Stansted village.

Forthcoming Events

15th September 'Jersey Boys' matinee performance - contact Jean on 657807.

Sept/Oct (TBA) ITV Studios for lunchtime recording of 'Loose Women' - contact Cherry on 817140.

24th November 'An Evening with Pam Ayres' - Chelmsford - contact Cherry on 817140.

As there is no August meeting, our next meeting will be on Thursday 17th September at 2.30pm in St John's Hall. If you would like more information about your local U3A group please contact any of the above. New members always welcome so why not come along to the September meeting?

Cherry Venn
Chairperson



It's been an action-packed summer at Beavers! As well as putting up tents, planting seeds and making bread (just a few of the things we've been up to!), we even held our own mini-Olympics on the 'Rec'. We've also been learning about Fairtrade, and exploring how things work for the Experiment badge. Most of the Beavers have now managed to complete the Outdoor Challenge and Promise Challenge badges too. But the highlight has to be the fantastic Medieval Fun Day at Cressing Temple, which was attended by Beaver Scouts from all over Essex. After completing some adventurous challenges including an assault course and a climbing wall, there were lots of games and crafts with a Medieval theme, and even a falconry display. Some of our Beavers have moved on to Cubs this term, and we wish them all well; and of course we look forward to welcoming some new faces. If your child would like to become a Beaver, please get in touch to join the waiting list.

David South
Tel: 814371

The Hospice continues to grow and evolve, thanks to all those in the community who continue to support it in one way or another. New volunteering roles are being undertaken as well as new salaried posts in both Day Therapy and the In-Patient Unit and the Psycho-Social Support Manager is continually looking for bereavement volunteers. Please do not hesitate to contact the Hospice or go onto our website for further details if there is anything of interest to you. Of course, because all of our services are free of charge to patients and their families, we are grateful to the many people who are busying themselves to fundraise for St Clare. The Kings Arms in Stansted has kindly agreed to help towards raising its much needed running costs of £2.5 million. They are holding an all day event on 20th October with a tombola going on throughout the day and in the evening there will be a meal and an auction included in the ticket price of £10. Please support this date in aid of St Clare Hospice for those at the public house by giving small items for the tombola or larger prizes for the auction and by attending the auction evening.

The Stansted Friends of St Clare Hospice are holding a Fashion Show on Tuesday 22nd September at 7.00pm at the Mountfitchet Computing and Mathematics College - their very first event, so all ladies in the locality are invited to the show to pick up a bargain from a high street shop but at a discounted price. Please contact me for tickets price £6 including a complimentary glass of wine. The next meeting of the Stansted Friends is on Saturday 25th July and anyone who would like to be involved would be most welcome. If you would like to know more about St Clare Hospice please do not hesitate to contact me.



Caroline Bore
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caroline.bore@stclarehospice.org.uk



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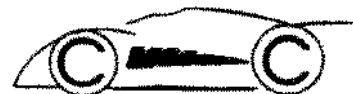
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Stansted Evening Women's Institute

Mike Rowley came to our June meeting to tell us of his work with the Essex Wildlife Trust, which is one of 47 Trusts in the country, who this year are celebrating their 50th Anniversary. Mike, who with his wife Christine, used to live on Chapel Hill in Stansted, has been with the Essex Trust for the last 30 years. He is currently Warden of Westwood near Thaxted, which is an ancient woodland and has four ponds. He gave us a wonderful talk accompanied by slides, to show all the aspects of the work that is done including coppicing, pollarding, protection of insects (by leaving some fallen trees for their habitat) and pond management. He impressed on us the importance of our roadside verges, of churchyards and wildlife reserves as well as our own gardens, which all go to help maintain our wild flowers. Our area is very good for bluebells, oxlips and the great-crested newt. Muntjac deer, which are quite prolific, are not welcomed by the wardens of the Trust as they are very destructive. Some Trusts now have visitor centres and work closely with schools as part of their National Curriculum in many places. All his slides have been taken by him over the last 30 years and make a great record of what is obviously a most rewarding job.



Our picture shows members of the committee wearing their hats for our July garden party meeting. Despite the not quite balmy summer evening, the sun did shine and it was dry and we had a great time playing games inside and outside. These included darts (outside!), bowls, quoits and boules. Members were given a glass of Pimms on entering and strawberries, cream and scones were served later. After this most of us took part in country dancing led by Chris Hope. I think she probably found the children at school easier to teach than us; but it was a really good evening designed to give members a chance to talk and mix with one another and achieved its aim.

Our County Show is being held at Towerlands, Braintree on the 7th/8th August and five of our members are entering in the co-operative class the theme of which is 'The Orient'. Five items have to be made including a flower arrangement, handcraft and cookery. The standard of these shows is always very high, but we are hoping for success.

Next month we are having a talk and demonstration of basket making. If you wish to come as a visitor look in the library

for a free entry voucher - we always welcome visitors and new members; 7.45pm, Thursday 13th August!



Judy Colliver, Secretary
812470

Brenda Ryan, President
812725



STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET WINDMILL

We are delighted that we now have confirmation that English Heritage are granting £112,000 towards a refurbishment, which includes millwrights work to enable the cap to turn. There is still uncertainty as to when the work will begin, but the Millers have decided to hold the Bank Holiday Fête on Windmill Field, together with the Mill itself if the contractor has not moved in. So the Fête will be largely 'business as usual' but with greater incentive for it to be a joyous event culminating many years of waiting and saving. There are likely to be further costs when the full extent of the job becomes apparent, so there is no less need for local cash to be raised.

Do come along in force on 31st August when, notwithstanding possible space restriction, there will be at least two new features and a great atmosphere in our best tradition. We take encouragement that more young folk are joining in. Nowadays the Fête has a name for home made cakes and a splendid selection of bric-à-brac treasures for the cognoscenti. We are, of course, looking for gifts of foodstuffs and other items to boost the popular tombola, which can be left at 52 Gilbey Crescent; also with other offerings at Pond Cottage Bentfield Green, 'Carte Blanche', Millside or 59 Blythwood Gardens. Please telephone 813124 or 647213 to arrange collections. There will be various sideshows and an appearance by singers, so it's all just too good an afternoon to miss.

Derek Honour
Co-Chairman

BIG TODDLE UPDATE

With 83 children (all under the age of five) attending the June Big Toddle on the Recreation Ground, the event was declared a great success. The weather was lovely, and the children had a really happy time. Together, we raised more than £450 for Barnardo's - well done to you all! All children needed to complete a circuit of the Recreation Ground, spotting five animals along the way. They were then all delighted to receive a Big Toddle medal. Further activities such as an obstacle course, funny running with feet in tin boxes, throwing bean bags, and a baby play area were added to by fantastic face-painting from the Spangles team.

Many people have asked that we repeat the event next year. Some have suggested that we expand the event to include a cake stall, with the potential to add other activities too. If you have any suggestions of the type of things you would like to see added next year, please email me at the address shown below. Many thanks, once again, for your support of this lovely community fund-raising event.

Rachel Pocknell



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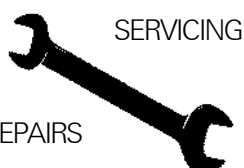
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OPEN DAY SUCCESS, OVER-ENTHUSIASTIC DOGS AND NASTY HABITS

Well what a busy month we've had! The Practice held an Open Day at Saffron Walden at the end of June; the weather was glorious and we had lots of visitors. There were talks on all aspects of caring for your pet and demonstrations of ultrasound scanning, acupuncture and chiropractic. We had quizzes, competitions, face painting and a lucky dip. So thank you to all the staff who worked so hard to make it a successful day and thank you to all our visitors for the lovely comments. We enjoyed it so much we're going to make it a regular event. For those of you who didn't manage to get to it, we are going to have a stall at the Hatfield Forest dog fun day on 21st August; also Jo and Angela will be at the Windmill Fete on August Bank Holiday. We will have all our displays about pet health care and lots of leaflets and information for you to take home and we would love to talk to you and answer any queries you may have. There will also be fun things for the children to do, so come and meet us!

Getting back to the glorious weather, it does of course bring its down side for pets. We've had our first rabbits with fly strike and our first dogs with heat stroke. One of the dogs was a Staffordshire Bull Terrier who had just been taken for an eight mile run at 1.00pm on one of the hottest days last week. When the owner was asked why he took the dog, he replied "because he wanted to go". I do need to let you in on some dog psychology here; Staffordshire Bull Terriers are wonderful dogs, but unfortunately their enthusiasm sometimes outweighs their commonsense. I can imagine the conversation went something like this "Do you want to go for a walk?" "Walk, walk, yeah I love walk me, when can we go, can we go now, I'm at the door, where's my lead, don't need a lead, hang on while I just chase my tail, does it help if I jump at you and knock you over, come on hurry up, walk, walk....." (Why do I always imagine Staffies talk in an Essex accent?) Anyway, the main point is if you ask a dog if it wants to go for a walk, it's unlikely to look at the weather forecast, change into something cool and liberally apply sun cream, it'll just head for the door! So the owner has to be the brains of the outfit on these occasions and put off the walk until later in the evening or go first thing in the morning.

If you do suspect your dog has overheated, put it in a cool (not cold) bath, or put cold wet towels over it and if it looks serious take it to the vet. Heat stroke can kill. Even experienced dog handlers can make mistakes, as tragically happened with the two police dogs that died recently. You'll be pleased to know that the Staffie recovered well and is back to chasing its tail and knocking the owner over ...

As a last point, several people have commented to me after last month's article about the phenomenon of leaving dog poo in bags on bushes on walks and indeed on our doorstep at Stansted! It seems to be widespread from your comments. So once again, please take your dog poo home with you, or put it in one of the many dog poo bins that are around and please also use biodegradable dog poo bags. Jo our nurse has decided she's going to do a stakeout at the weekend and ambush the person who leaves it at the surgery. You have been warned, she looks sweet, but don't get her mad!

Ilse Pedler
Partner
Mercer and Hughes, Veterinary Surgeons



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

Welcome to Stansted Junior Football Club's first regular contribution to the 'Link' magazine. We intend to inform you on how your local village junior football club is performing in achieving its aim of providing the children and youths of Stansted opportunity to play football.

The club was formed in 1986. Its ethos is built around that regardless of ability all children are welcome to join and play in organised training and football matches.

Within our current set up our Managers and Coaches have all attended various FA workshops which are set up to ensure that the players all receive quality coaching thus helping them to develop their skills and understanding of the game. All the Officers of the club have also been CRB checked, completed basic first aid courses and, of course, working with children have attended Child Protection Workshops before they are allowed to coach within the club. The club has signed up and committed to the 'FA Respect Programme' which means that players and officials at games involving the teams are not subject to any verbal abuse from spectators.

Our teams play on Sundays competing in local leagues. Home games are played at either Mountfitchet Mathematics and Computing College or Bentfield End. We also train at these facilities except for winter months when training moves to Newport astro turf under floodlights.

We are a non profit organisation. The annual registration payment covers the cost of providing kit, footballs, pitches, training and match officials, added to the donations we receive from local businesses means that we avoid the need for any other contributions.

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Office of Fair Trading asked to investigate alleged unfair trading practices at Stansted

On 16th June SSE wrote to the Office of Fair Trading (OFT) asking it to investigate allegations of unfair trading practices operating at Stansted Airport in relation to its treatment of local taxi firms and small accommodation establishments such as local B&Bs and guest houses. Over the years SSE has received a number of reports alleging anti-competitive and/or unfair behaviour by BAA Stansted towards these types of small local businesses and, with a view to obtaining a better understanding of the position, SSE carried out a questionnaire survey of local taxi firms and B&B/guest houses within a 15 mile radius of the airport. A total of 28 replies were received to the questionnaire survey and, in writing to the OFT, SSE acknowledges that "Clearly there is a need for caution when considering the results from a sample of just 28 responses. However, the consistency of the matters complained about suggests that some credence should be attached to the complaints."

The complaints from local taxi firms were mostly about BAA's exclusive agreement with 'Chequer Cars' which provides this one taxi firm with a dedicated pick-up area directly outside the terminal building while all other taxi operators are subject to restrictions and are forced to pick up passengers from the short-stay car park and pay car parking charges. The main complaints from local B&Bs and guest houses were against the accommodation booking desk at Stansted which (like Chequer Cars) apparently pays BAA for an exclusive franchise. The main complaints were:

- charging local B&Bs and guest houses excessive rates of commission
- giving preferential treatment to airport hotels because a more expensive room rate provides a higher commission fee
- wrongly advising people looking for low-cost accommodation that the local B&Bs were fully booked and that only expensive hotel rooms were available.

There are clearly some issues here which deserve to be investigated. Local taxi firms and family-run B&Bs obviously do not feel they are getting a fair crack of the whip from BAA at Stansted and hopefully this is something which the Office of Fair Trading will pursue on their behalf.

Heritage Hike Highlights Runway Threat

SSE is holding a Heritage Hike on the afternoon of Sunday 20th September to highlight the threat to historic homes, countryside and the community from BAA's second runway plans. The four-mile circular walk, which includes a small section of the long distance footpath known as the Harcamlow Way, has been organised by SSE's footpaths expert Stuart Walker in conjunction with Douglas Kent, tech-

nical adviser to the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings. The idea is to show people many of the 35 historic properties which would be sacrificed if BAA's plans for a second runway were allowed. After a commemorative photo, hikers will set off at 2pm from Molehill Green – though the start time is flexible for those who want to begin later in the afternoon. Route maps and descriptions will be provided to those taking part. A sizzling barbecue will be held from 1pm to 5pm for departing and returning ramblers. The event is free but those who want to seek sponsorship for their efforts or make donations at the event are welcome to do so. More information from the Coming Events section of the SSE website at www.stopstanstedexpansion.com or by calling 01279 870558.

Comment on Government decision to delay announcement of start date for second runway inquiry

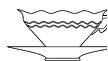
Communities Secretary John Denham has said in a letter (accessible online at <http://www.planning-inspectorate.gov.uk/stanstedg2inquiry/index.htm>) that he will not be announcing the start date of the Stansted second runway Public Inquiry until the outcome of BAA's appeal against the sale of Stansted is known. This planning application isn't going anywhere. The Government and BAA need to face up to that reality and end the blight and uncertainty which has dogged this community for so long.

Carol Barbone,
Campaign Director
Tel: 07775 523091
Email: cbarbone@mx.co.uk



UGLEY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

The June gathering received the very sad news of the death of two of our much-loved and valued members – Frances Spalding and Nancy Fitt. Owing to the nature of the meeting – almost a summer fete, with visitors from many other villages and townships, the tributes which would have normally come so spontaneously were postponed until our next meeting.



As it was, a crowd of around 45 met in the lovely wooded garden where Dorothy Wallace had prepared a set-out tea (with waiter-service!) and many other outdoor pursuits, which had to be by-passed due to the weather. A good summer wind blew across the tables, clouds gathered, but rain held off as conversation pitch rose to defeat the sounds of nature. The visitors especially seemed to enjoy this party which included a gift stall and the presentation of a super cake and basket of flowers to Phyllis Harrison for her 90th birthday. An auction conducted by our 'waiter' added to the fun and concluded the meeting. Our united thanks to Dorothy for all her forethought and work – a great task cheerfully undertaken (with a little help from her friendly committee).



Phyllis Harrison

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SKYWATCH

A monthly look at an aspect
of the night sky



Humans going to the planets is a long way off, even to Mars. So we have two ways of observing and learning about our neighbours in space: telescopes and unmanned spacecraft. The creation of highly accurate lenses has really taken off in the last 30 years. Not only are they ground to a new level of precision, the quality of the coatings that nearly all optics use have almost cancelled out every internal reflection there is. Just look at the quality of a mobile phone's camera, let alone a top of the range Leica. Yet wonderful as today's telescopes are, over the last 50 years we have been able to send unmanned spacecraft to send information back to us.

This started in the early '60s with sending something to the Moon. Small satellites, whose primary purpose was simply to see if we actually could get there, were the first. Readers of my age may remember the grainy black and white television images of the Moon as the craft approached and then suddenly everything went black as the craft crash landed on the Moon at about 5000 mph. A blunt end to a journey that, in its time, was regarded a great success. Since then, advances in satellite technology have been phenomenal. Ten years after we discovered we could crash in to the Moon, we were getting close up fly-by pictures from Jupiter and Saturn and today, we are getting continuous new information about Saturn, its rings and its moons. But how do you get a spacecraft to the distant planets? To get to the Moon, just point in the right direction and you will get there. In essence, that applies to going anywhere in the Universe. The problem with going straight there is the huge amount of fuel required. The more the fuel, the more the weight. The more the weight, the ... well, you get the picture. It was Arthur C Clarke that suggested a 'sling shot' approach, using the gravity of other planets. Planets can be used to change a spacecraft's direction by pointing itself at a particular angle in the knowledge that it will pass by and come away in a new direction. The difficulty is that the journeys take years, not months, so you have to hope that all the equipment on board will still work when it gets there. One trip to Jupiter went: Earth, Venus, Earth, Venus, Mars, Jupiter. It took four and a half years.

Martin West,
Mooncraft Productions

STANSTED HALL AND ELSENHAM CRICKET CLUBS

Stansted Hall and Elsenham Cricket Clubs have merged. They run three teams on a Saturday and one on a Sunday. The Junior Section play at U10 - U11 - U12 - U13 - and U15. The club has some 80 junior members. A Summer Cricket Camp for both clubs is to be held from 10.00am to 3.00pm on Thursday 13th and Friday 14th August. Please bring a hat, drink, and food. The cost is £30. Please contact David Brown on 01279 831011 or david.r.brown1@btinternet.com for more details and to book a place. Stansted Hall (inc Elsenham) Cricket Club has Clubmark accreditation and is the local Focus Club.

David Brown



Huw Johnson Club

We finished our summer session with a flourish. With a disco and four birthdays to celebrate everyone had a good evening. Hannah and Jean provided us with a finger buffet which everyone enjoyed. Last month I wrote about our teenage helpers who do so much to help our disabled members. However, we have three other young adults who also are a tower of strength, especially now so many of our original helpers, including myself, are not quite so agile. Katharine, Ellen and Yvonne always raise a cheer when they arrive at the club. They have provided us with many fun evenings involving art games and dancing. We say a big thank you to them all.

We do need another driver to bring our members to club. You would only have to drive one way once a month. Please contact me if you think you could help. Thank you to all who helped us raise £147 at our coffee morning.

Marion Johnson
812284

MYTHS, LEGENDS, CUSTOMS

ASH TREES *Fraxinus* sp.

In Norse mythology the ash is a sacred World Tree known as Yggdrasil. Its branches reach up to the heavens and boughs spread out all over the world. The first man was believed to have been made from the ash. The gods Odin and Thor possessed magical spears made of it. The Norse word for 'ash' was 'ask' both of which variations appear in many place names and were presumably where ash trees grew. The Gaels thought the ash was protective and is the second most popular tree to grow beside Irish holy wells. On the Isle of Man ash trees were said to protect the purity of springs. Ash was popularly used as a Yule log, or sometimes a tightly bound bundle of ash sticks from coppiced trees was used instead. One coppiced ash in Suffolk is said to be over 1,000 years old.

Peggy Honour

UGLEY FARMERS' MARKET

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10.00am-12 noon

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BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES or SPECIAL OCCASIONS

If you would like to mark any occasion that is special to you or someone you know, by announcing it in the Link, please email a short message together with your name address and telephone number to: announcements@stanstedlink.org.uk or send the form below to 7 Blythwood Gardens, Stansted CM24 8HG. Details must be submitted by the 11th of the month for publication the following month.

Message _____

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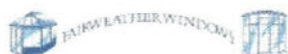


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