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#### **EDITORIAL**

Remembrance Day is a time to reflect and remember those who have died in war; a time to consider the value of every life, when everyone should look forward with a determination to shape the future for the good of all - *Thought for the Month* on page 2 reflects this. *My Memory Walk for Mum* on page 9 shares the personal story of local resident Jonathan Sell and his outstanding fundraising achievement for his dear mother and the Alzheimer's Society. Christmas is a time of giving, your help is needed for *Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Packing* on page 11. Construction of the new Magna Carta Primary School is underway following a 'ground-breaking' ceremony on page 15. Did you know that you can now avoid the heartbreak of a flood damaging your home? Find out more on page 20. If you are partial to the odd glass of wine to accompany your evening meal, local wine connoisseur Paul Wilkinson offers some great ideas on page 25. Finally how would you like to enjoy a happier, healthier lifestyle? Mountfitchet Romeera has some top tips for you on page 31.

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CONTRIBUTIONS Up to 300 words in Word format. Photographs to be sent separately (jpeg).

By email (preferred) to editor@stanstedlink.org.uk by noon on 11th November for the December/January issue or by hand/post by noon on 8th November to 7 Blythwood Gardens, Stansted CM24 8HG.

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#### THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

The two minutes' silence is the most poignant part of the Remembrance Day service for me. Heads are bowed and everyone is left to their own thoughts. Some will be quietly remembering a family member killed in war. Others will be thinking of those with whom they served in time of conflict. The enormity and horror of war will be on others' minds. The hope of peace will be another's prayer. It is a solemn moment to consider grave and far-reaching things in our own way. We are free to remember as we desire. The two minutes' silence belongs to everyone.

Remembrance Day is also an opportunity to show respect to those who died, who were wounded in body or mind, or who were bereaved during the many conflicts of the last hundred years or so. I am mindful that this is the hundredth anniversary of the battles of Ypres, Arras, Vimy Ridge and Passchendaele during the

Great War. There were estimated to be around half a million casualties in the fighting that took place between July and November 1917. There is much to be pondered, lest we forget.

As we show respect to those who died, and we ponder our freedom to remember in whatever way we wish, are we not led to consider the value of every life? Remembrance Day is surely an opportunity to affirm the dignity of all. Some of us will want to renew our conviction that we are all children of God. Others will want to think on our common humanity. Because Remembrance Day isn't only for looking back. In not forgetting, we also look forward with the determination to shape the future for good.



Roy Fowler Minister, Stansted Free Church



#### STANSTED FREE CHURCH Methodist / URC Chapel Hill, Stansted CM24 8AG www.stanstedfreechurch.org.uk

Minister Rev'd Roy rowiei Tel: 814809

Email: minister@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk

**Lettings** Marion and Mike Dyer

Tel: 814059

Email: lettings@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk

#### **Preachers for November**

5<sup>th</sup> 10.30am The Worship team – New Directions
 12<sup>th</sup> 10.50am at War Memorial (no service in our church)

19<sup>th</sup> 10.30am Maureen Kendall

26<sup>th</sup> 10.30am Rev'd Roy Fowler – Communion

We were very saddened to learn of the recent death of Ted Pretty, husband of Marion, one of our members. Ted often helped around the church and was a familiar face at *The Place on the Hill*.

# THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS)

Quaker Meeting House, 71 Chapel Hill Stansted CM24 8AE www.saffronguakers.org.uk/stanstedhtml

Clerk Jane Mitchell

Tel: 503024

Email: sjane.mitchell@ntlworld.com

Lettings Richenda Whitehead

Tel: 07773 603618

Email: richendajw@live.com

Meeting for

Worship Sunday, 10.30am every week

**Light Group** (Guided Meditation)

10.30am-12 noon 11<sup>th</sup> November. The 'Experiment with Light' is a process that helps people deepen their spiritual lives by discovering what it means to

lives by discovering what it means to 'wait in the Light' as early Quakers did.



Our next meeting is on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November at 7 Blythwood Gardens when Des Connors from St Theresa's Church will be leading a bible study and discussion on *The Beatitudes*. Our informal coffee and chat *At Home* is on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November at 49 Recreation Ground. Both meetings start at 8.00pm. All welcome.



Marion Dyer Tel: 814059

#### ST JOHN'S CHRISTMAS MARKET

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> November noon-3.00pm in St John's Church. We would really appreciate your support. Christmas Stalls; Gifts; Books; Toiletries; Tombola; Grand Raffle; Hot and Cold Refreshments; Home Made Cakes and Preserves; Mulled Wine. Free entrance. New Stallholders welcome so please contact Richard Lenton 813208 or Ray Smith 813270 if you are interested.

**Richard Lenton** 





S T A N S T

Our Christian beliefs are conventional, we are just doing church differently.

Our @27 meetings are held on alternate Tuesdays - 7.30pm coffee for 7.45pm start. This month we will be meeting on Tuesdays 7<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> November. @27 is a house-church or homegroup-style meeting with modern worship music, a Bible-based 'thought for the day', discussion, prayer and more. If you are looking for Christians with a contemporary outlook, a desire to grow in our faith and a vision to benefit our community, why not get in touch? All welcome - you do not have to be a member of Family Church, or any church, to attend. If you would like to join a prayer walk, or have a prayer-request, please contact us.

#### Thought for the Month reprint

The first half of the article below was previously published as a Thought for the Month, but as the second half was inadvertently omitted, the two paragraphs which were published communicated a Thought which was quite the opposite of the one intended. The full article is therefore printed below.

Jesus said "It is more blessed to give than receive" – but most small children would disagree! As children we are just excited to open our presents at Christmas and on birthdays, but as adults we often get the most pleasure from seeing children or others unwrapping the gifts we have carefully chosen for them – even if they didn't cost a lot to provide.

J K Rowling, Bill Gates, Warren Buffet and a number of other millionaire/billionaires seem to agree with the principle too. Some of them have pledged to give away 50% of their wealth over their lifetime, to help others in need, while J K Rowling famously took herself off the Forbes Billionaires list by giving away a large proportion of her wealth to charity. Biographies of famous entrepreneurs such as Jim Collins or Timothy Ferris (and others, of *Dragon's Den* fame) reveal that many wealthy people have concluded that the most enjoyable and worthwhile thing they can do with their money ... is to give it away!

But what about the rest of us? What if we feel we have little or nothing spare to give? Sometimes when we are prepared to give what we do have, like our time or encouragement, we gain other things we don't have – like new social contacts, a sense of satisfaction, or good references for the future.

Whatever we might think, ALL of us have something to give to our community – it may be money to a local charity, or items for the Foodbank, or volunteering time (eg driving someone to an appointment for Stansted Helpline), or just giving encouragement, attention or a helping hand to a neighbour who needs it. One of the amazing things about being human is that we always have something to give – even if it's just a listening ear, or an encouraging smile or word.



Howard and Ros Page Tel: 810813 Email: contactsanfam@yahoo.com **All enquiries:** The Church Office, St John's Hall,

St John's Road, Stansted CM24 8JP

Tel: 815243

Office hours: 9.00am-12 noon Mon,

Wed, Fri

Email: st.johns.church@btinternet.com Website: www.stanstedstjohns.btik.com

**Rector**: Rev'd Paul Wilkin

Tel: 812203

Email: stansted.rector@gmail.com

**Director of** Anne Brooks

Music: Email: anne.brooks22@yahoo.co.uk

Church Hall Simon Wilson

**Bookings:** Tel or text: 07582 856689

Email: stjohns.hallbookings@gmail.com

#### St John's Diary

#### Sunday

8.00am Said Holy Communion

9.30am Choral Eucharist (2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays)

9.30am Family Communion (1st Sunday)

Tuesday

9.15am St John's Tots

Wednesday

9.00am Morning Prayer10.00am Holy Communion

Thursday

10.30am-noon The Coffee Pot Monday-Thursday and Saturday

5.00pm Evening Prayer

There are services of Holy Communion on the first Tuesdays and

the first Tuesdays and Wednesdays of the month in Norman Court, Hargrave House and Broome

End Nursing Homes.

## From the Registers

#### September

#### Wedding

9<sup>th</sup> Andrew Rand and Sharon Jane Waterman

#### **Funeral**

21st

Hilda May Hitchings, age 92 - funeral at St Mary's followed by burial in Stansted

Parish Cemetery.

#### All Souls Service of Remembrance in St John's

November is a month which has many associations of remembering. One Christian tradition is to hold a special service at which the names of those who have died are read out in remembrance of them, and in prayer for them.

Such a service will take place at St John's Church on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> November at 5.00pm. If you will be attending that service and would like a name included, please let the Church Office know on 815243 or by email at st.johns.church@btinternet.com.

Paul Wilkin Rector



#### FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S CHURCH

Special places ... and St Mary's is certainly one of those! We had three different classes from St Mary's School come and visit to fill in worksheets as part of their curriculum subject 'special places'. They all had a lovely time and drew their favourite thing in church. On 6<sup>th</sup> October the whole school came to share their Harvest Festival with us. The church was full with all the children and lots of parents too. They sang so sweetly and the readers did a simply superb job delivering every word clearly! Well done to all at the school.

#### December dates for your diary:

**Friday 8**<sup>th</sup> 7.00pm 'A Christmas Carol'. **Thisismytheatre** are back again to perform right here in church. I urge you to go to the website to get tickets early. Tickets: £12.50 adults, £10 for friends of St Mary's and £5 children.

Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> 11.00am-5.00pm Christmas festival with our carol service at 3.00pm on the 9<sup>th</sup> and the Stansted Strummers Ukulele band at 3.00pm on the 10<sup>th</sup>. Come and see the church transformed into a winter wonderland! Mulled wine and mince pies, raffles and much more.

Lynda Dale Chairman Tel: 07716 099474



# C.A.M.E.O (Come and Meet Each Other)

We meet at 7.00pm on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month at Stansted Day and Community Centre, Chapel Hill. The cost is £1 per session and includes an evening speaker, and fellowship over tea/coffee and biscuits to finish. In September the CAMEO group enjoyed a talk by the Rev'd Mandy Brown of Holy Trinity Church about the winter night shelter. It was lovely to welcome new friends and the evening was both engaging and informative. The talk spoke about the wider issue of homelessness, the local need and the ways in which the shelter seeks to address these issues.

The final meeting of this year in Stansted is on Tuesday 21st November: Bring and share 'granny knows best' evening. The Salvation Army also meets each Sunday morning at 10.30am (Markwell Pavillion, Castle Gardens, Bishop's Stortford) and you would be welcome to join us for our Sunday service. We stay for tea and coffee fellowship after the meeting and a Sunday school runs from 12.00pm for our younger members. We have several other groups and events which we would be happy to tell you about.

We hope to see you soon.



Lieutenant Megan Lowe Tel: 507464 Email: megan.lowe@salvationarmy.org.uk

#### ST JOHN'S 300 CLUB

Many congratulations to the winners of the September draw:

£100 No 119 Brenda Siracusa£50 No 10 Alan Helbert£25 No 179 Paul Salmon

The draw for November will be held on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> November in St John's Church following the 9.30am service.

Numbers are still available for anyone who may wish to join at a cost of £2 per month per number. Please contact me for an application form if you would like to be in with a chance of winning whilst helping to support the work of St John's Church.

Ann Lee Tel: 813310

#### ROMAN CATHOLIC St Therese of Lisieux

High Lane, Stansted CM24 8LQ www.sttheresastansted.org

Priest Father John Garrett

**Office** Tel: 816889

Email: stansted@dioceseofbrentwood.org

Masses Saturday 6.00pm Sunday 10.00am

Holy Days of Obligation 8.00am and 7.30pm

Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri 9.30am

Confessions

Saturday 10.00am

and by appointment

Baptisms By appointment



Celebration of Christmas Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> December 3.00pm This annual event will return to St John's Church after two years at St Theresa's. As usual, we are hoping singers from our village community will join the specially formed CTS Celebration choir. Rehearsals will be from 7.15pm-8.15pm on Thursdays 30<sup>th</sup> November, 7<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> December. Please contact me for further details, or just come along to the first rehearsal.

Kathy West Tel: 816293

Email: kewest@btinternet.com

#### **Village Carol Singing**

We will be taking to the streets of Stansted on the evenings of Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> and Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> December. Each night the singing is followed by refreshments. We welcome more singers - there is no rehearsing, just come along. We also need collectors. More details of start time and where we are singing will be in the December Link.

Mike Dyer Tel: 814059

#### St James' Church, Thorley

11 am - 3.30 pm Sat 4th Nov

#### **Autumn Craft Fair**

A wide variety of crafts Come and buy your Christmas Presents!

All welcome ~ Refreshments

#### Shoe Box Packing for Operation Christmas Child

6 - 8 pm onwards Wed 8th Nov St Theresa's Parish Centre

Also at The Place on the Hill Free Church 10 - noon Mon 30th Oct Wed 1st & Fri 3rd Nov



Tel 813579, 814865, 812109 or see Link article

# Amici

Concert of Remembrance

7 pm Sat 11th Nov All Saints Church, Bishop's Stortford Karl Jenkins: The Armed Man

Adults £12, Under 16s £6, Family £25 Tel 506773 www.ticketsource.co.uk/amicicantate

Proceeds to Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

#### WHAT'S ON IN NOVEMBER





with Harlow Chorus

7.30 pm Sat 11th Nov Saffron Hall, Saffron Walden

Britten: War Requiem

Tickets: Adults £15 - £35
Under 18s and Students Half Price
S W Tourist 01799 524002
www.saffronhall.com or on the door



# Astronomy Seminar

The Beauty and Science of Nebulae by Dr Carolin Crawford

7 - 9 pm Mon 13th Nov Day Centre

#### Tickets £4 members, £5 non-members

from Alan tel 0781 727 5563 Email: stanstedseminars@gmail.com Limited places - advance booking only

# St Mary's School PTFA Christmas Shopping Evening

6.30 - 8.30 pm Fri 24th Nov

Games ~ Refreshments Stalls ~ Santa's Grotto

Entry £1 includes drink Children free



## Stansted Messy Church

3.30 - 5 pm Sun 26th November St Mary's School, Hampton Rd

Activities ~ Celebration ~ Food

An exciting and informal style of church for all ages but particularly for families with children under 12

www.stanstedchurches.com/messychurch

#### Henham Christmas Market

1 - 8 pm Fri 17th Nov Henham Village Hall & OSCA

Over 30 stalls
Handmade Artisan Gifts
Gift I deas ~ Jams & Chutneys
Refreshments all Day

In aid of Great Ormond St and COSM/C Children's Charity

Entry £1 ~ All Welcome



## Stansted Millers

Coffee Morning

10 am - noon Wed 22nd Nov Day Centre

Mill Goods ~ Bric-à-Brac Cake Stall ~ Mince Pies Entry £2.50

incl refreshments

#### St John's Charch Christmas Market

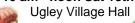
12 - 3 pm Sat 18th November

Gifts ~ Grand Raffle Christmas Stalls ~ Mulled Wine Homemade Cakes & Preserves

Admission Free ~ Refreshments

#### **UGLEY FARMERS' MARKET**

10 am - noon Sat 18th Nov



Meat ~ Poultry ~ Fish ~ Eggs Honey ~ Preserves ~ Chocolates Fruit & Veg ~ Bread ~ Cakes Plants ~ Cards ~ Ceramics Skincare ~ Knitting & Needlework Refreshments with cake and bacon rolls

Free Parking ~ All Welcome



#### George Cooper

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1279 815907



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## 01279 813371

61 Blythwood Gardens, Stansted, Essex. osteopathy@hazel-williams.co.uk www.hazel-williams.co.uk

\*Hazel Williams reserves the right to remove or change this offer at any time without prior notification.

# Health How are YOU feeling today? Healt



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Chiropractic, Acupuncture, Massage and Rehabilitation Exercise for the treatment of: Back Pain, Neck Pain, Minor Sports Injuries, Migraine and other Joint and Muscle Problems

We are offering an initial consultation with a Chiropractor or Physiotherapist, which includes a thorough physical & spinal examination for £25 (normal fee £50) on production of this advert.

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Registered Chiropractors & Physiotherapists

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Shockwave now available

#### STANSTED PHARMACY UPDATE

Stansted Pharmacy has been open four months and is already benefiting many. It is a considerable disappointment that NHS England refused Professor Soni's application for a dispensing licence. This is surprising because he has a licence to dispense NHS prescriptions from his other Pharmacy. The NHS's response to the application implies that they have taken no notice of the representations made to them by the community; they have ignored the need of those living south of the railway line and others.

The issues reported to the NHS were: major housing developments within the next few years; 3000 dwellings in Bishops Stortford north, many of its residents are expected to use the facilities in Stansted Mountfitchet; developments at Elms Farm and Walpole Farm will add 200 dwellings and increase the village's population by about 650; people living south of the railway line face challenges to get their medicines; it is difficult to park in Cambridge Road and those without a car have to walk up steep Chapel Hill when ill.

Over 500 people signed my petition supporting the need for another dispensing pharmacy next to the surgery; many more have signed the Stansted Pharmacy petition. Isn't it obvious to have a dispensing pharmacy next to the surgery? Competition strengthens businesses resulting in improvements, another need. Our Parish Council and District Councillors fully support the need for this dispensing pharmacy. I have tested my thinking with NHS Care Commissioning Group (CCG) members, the Surgery Patient Participation Group, and many others, all agree this additional facility is a need. So what next? Prof Soni has appealed. I am planning a public meeting on Thursday 23rd November 7.00pm-9.00pm in the Day Centre, Crafton Green. The following have been invited: Prof Soni, Stansted Surgery, Boots, Parish and District Councillors, our MP Kemi Badenoch, West Essex CCG Board members, and NHS Primary Care Support England. If you have suggestions or would like to help please contact me.

> Ray Woodcock Tel: 816468 Email: raymond.woodcock@btinternet.com



#### MACMILLAN CANCER CARE

The recent Coffee Morning held at Old Lane House, Church Road raised a grand total of £625. Thank you to everyone who supported this event.

Christine and Bill Stiles

#### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

**Dear Editor** 

I was frankly appalled by Councillor Farthing's description of opponents of Stansted Airport's proposals to increase passenger numbers in September's edition of The Link. I found his references to "NIMBYs and conspiracy theorists" both disparaging and condescending. Residents are understandably concerned by the Airport's proposals which, if accepted, would result in an extra 104,000 flights and an extra 20 million passengers annually, based on 2016 statistics. It would also result in people living under the flight path being overflown every 85 seconds! Another consequence of these proposals would be to see a significant increase in Airport-related road traffic. These are hardly conspiracy theories, but based on sound statistical analysis.

Airport expansion destroys people's lives and trashes the environment. Stansted Airport's view that their proposals wouldn't have any significant environmental effects simply doesn't stand up to any serious scrutiny. The Government's own Committee on Climate Change (CCC) has, for a long time now, stated that emissions from aviation shouldn't be any higher in 2050 than they were in 2005. CCC had already stated that another runway at Heathrow would breach this threshold by 15%! Stansted's proposals would only increase aviation's carbon footprint further still and would do nothing to square the circle between aviation expansion and its increasing impact on climate change. So instead of making these derogatory comments, Mr Farthing should consider the impact these proposals would have both on local communities and the environment.

Jonathan Fox Tel: 07702 606137

#### STANSTED TRAFFIC 'HURDLES'

Those of us who need to make a car journey from the Bentfield Green area to Forest Hall face four significant road traffic 'hurdles'. First you have to cross Cambridge Road, which if you get there at the wrong time can be a real test of your patience. You are then faced with Chapel Hill which can be a bit of a nightmare, particularly if there is a bus or HGV trying to squeeze through or, God forbid, it's bin day! Next up is the



challenge of the new Castle
Maltings roundabout, after which you can look forward to the lottery of the traffic calming, one-way system on Church Road.

To avoid any possibility of road rage perhaps we should adapt the Skatepark Code of Conduct as shown on the left!

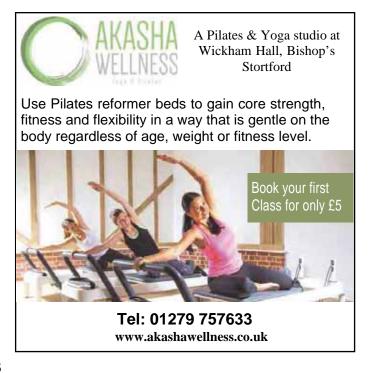
Trevor Lloyd













#### MY MEMORY WALK FOR MUM

# 225,000 people will develop dementia this year, that's one person every three minutes!

My mum was diagnosed with dementia in 2013, so our journey in learning how to support and deal with this horrible condition began without a choice. In April 2016, after a three-month ordeal in hospital, she was no longer able to look after herself and my brothers and I could no longer provide the care she needed; mum was subsequently admitted to a care home. I am fortunate that she still knows who I am, but can no longer remember the wonderful life she has lived, the love she had for my dad, or being a great mum to me and my brothers. However she is happy, safe and secure. There will come a time when mum will not know who I am and so, every time I see her, I make her laugh and I cherish the present with her. My mum was 86 this August, I am fortunate to share my birthday on the same day, what a gift!

I have never undertaken any charity work before so this Memory Walk was my first time. I am pleased to say that on 17<sup>th</sup> September I completed the longest route for the walk (over 6km) at Hylands Park Chelmsford, raising a fantastic £1,220! Care UK not only contributed £220, they kindly arranged for my mum to meet me at the finish line – a truly wonderful moment!

I understand from Just Giving that I was in the top 5% of fund raisers, which consisted of 68,000 people for the month of September. If you are able to make a donation it would mean a great deal to me, and lots of people that have had their lives impacted by dementia, please visit:

www.justgiving.com/fundraising/jonathan-self4?utm\_id=25



Jonathan Self Email: Highmead10@aol.com

#### STANSTED IS WELL READ

The next meeting of our book club will be on **Tuesday** 7<sup>th</sup> **November at 8.00pm** at the Dog and Duck in Lower Street, where we will be discussing *Part of the Spell* by Rachel Heath; a novel which suggests that a place can in some sense manipulate its residents. The book is set in Saffron Walden so should be an interesting read. We are hoping to be joined by local author Stephen Davis who will introduce us to his book *Rebecca and the Spiral Staircase*. Please do join us, a warm welcome awaits.

Anne Watson Tel: 898693



We had three interesting speakers at our business breakfast on 6<sup>th</sup> October at the Ash pub in Burton End. Firstly, we welcomed ClIr Geoffrey Sell who has supported the Stansted

Business Forum from the beginning. He told us about his role as Chairman of Uttlesford District Council which is for one year only. In fact, the role is quite an honour as



he is the first councillor from Stansted to be chosen as Chairman.

Did you realise that Uttlesford was formed in 1974 by the merger of the borough of Saffron Walden, Dunmow Rural District and Saffron Walden Rural District? The name comes from the ancient 'Hundred' or 'Udel's ford'. It now has 39 councillors representing 22 wards. Chairman Cllr Sell also nominates two local charities to support for the year and these are Essex Wildlife Trust and Support 4 Sight in Saffron Walden. He is organising a carol service at 7.00pm on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December at St John's Church in Stansted where his charities will be represented.

Maureen Caton, Chair of Stansted Parish Council, confirmed that the Council had given the go-ahead for Stansted to be twinned in Rungis, France. Rungis is a short distance from Orly Airport which is South of Paris. It is similar to Stansted in size. Maureen talked about opportunities for cultural and school exchanges and for local businesses. Our last speaker was Bob Lee from Kinetics who told us about exhibitor opportunities for local businesses at Bishop's Stortford and Stansted Airport.

Our next meeting is at Linden House, Stansted on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> November at 7.00am for 7.30am start, when our speaker will be Chris Wiggan from Stansted Airport. Contact Peter James from Murdochs Estate Agents on 815848 to book your place.

Iris Evans Treasurer

#### THE LINK AGM

The AGM of Stansted Link Magazine CIC is at 8.00pm on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> November in the Parish Council Office. All parishioners are welcome, so come along if you have any matter to raise, or have an interest in our operation.

Malcolm Lloyd Chairman Tel: 812235

#### LINK ADVERTISING

November sees the start of our new advertising year. We thank our renewing advertisers for their support and welcome a number of new ones - see index on page 40

## **FAMILY NEWS (LONDIS)**

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# SHOEBOX PACKING - CAN YOU HELP?

On Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October, Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> November and Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> November

10.00am-noon we shall be packing shoeboxes in the Free Church, and all are welcome to help. Boxes and items will be supplied or you can bring your own. Boxes are made for either a boy or a girl and there are three age groups: 2-4 years, 5-9 years or 10-14 years. Suitable items for the boxes include: small toys, pens, paper, crayons, small picture books, toothbrush and toothpaste, combs, soap, hats, scarves, gloves, jewellery and sweets (with a 'best before' date of no earlier than March 2018). Chocolate should not be included.

The Place on the Hill is a free drop-in held at and organised by Stansted Free Church, Chapel Hill, which is open every Monday, Wednesday and Friday 9.30am-12.30pm. Do come and join us - all ages are welcome. There is WiFi and use of computers, plus free refreshments and comfortable seating. For more information please contact us.





Marion and Mike Dyer Tel: 814059

Email: the place@stansted free church.org.uk



#### **OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD**

Thank you to those who supported the recent quiz which raised £1080 towards transportation costs (each box costs £3). A reminder of the **Shoe Box packing** on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> November 6.00pm-8.00pm in St Theresa's Parish Hall; items for inclusion and/or completed boxes can be brought then.



Catherine Dean Tel: 813579



STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET WINDMILL

On Sunday 1st October we saw a pleasing number of visitors enjoying the last of this year's tours of the Mill and adults and children alike leaving with souvenirs. On Friday 6th October we had a delightful group of year one children from Magna Carta School visit us and our Chairman, Tudor Owen, gave them an entertaining talk and tour of the Mill. The children were very well behaved and on leaving they all signed our visitors' book.

Our big Christmas event has now been organised for Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 12 noon until 5.00pm - please note change of date. Do bring the children to see Father Christmas. The balloon artist/magician, who was so popular at the fête, will also be with us. We will have a fancy dress competition for children and there will be a prize for the best fancy dressed boy and girl. We plan to have refreshments/mulled wine/mince pies, etc so look out for the posters around the village which will be advertised soon. We look forward to seeing you all.



Molly Clark Co-Trustee Tel: 816768

#### **HUW JOHNSON CLUB**

The Club is in full swing for its Autumn Term timetable. We finished our summer break with a Saturday bowling trip to Freeport in Braintree – two games of highly competitive bowling followed by dinner and birthday cake. It was lots of fun – thanks to all our funders, whose generosity meant that we could provide the trip entirely for free.

We have been back for a number of weeks now. We have had a games evening, a curling competition and a bingo night. We enjoyed having the Bishop's Stortford Woodwind Band come along one evening to entertain us - we loved joining in singing, dancing and adding our own unique percussion! We have a pub trip, a fireworks party and a trip to the theatre to look forward to over the coming weeks. It's not long until December now, so we aim to start the Christmas season off with a bang, by holding our now traditional Carol Concert on Friday 8th December 7.00pm for 7.30pm at St John's Church. There will be mince pies, refreshments and a raffle, and all members and helpers would love to see you there and to have a full church. Do come along – we promise it will get you in the Christmassy mood! If you would like to learn more about the Club or are interested in coming along or helping out (as a helper, a car/ bus driver or as a bus escort) please do get in touch with either Sandra (812627) or me – we would love to hear from

> Katharine Collis Tel: 461270

#### STANSTED SOCIAL CLUB

October was quite a busy month for the Committee including holding our AGM on the 8th. It was a lively meeting and we now have a revised rule book and accounts to date. We also have two new Committee members and now feel that we have a very strong team moving forward. As well as new Committee members we have also seen a dramatic upturn in membership applications, with around 50 new members over the last couple of months. We will be working hard to get the necessary funds together to continue with essential repairs and refurbishment. We are also reviewing the entertainment that we provide and are looking to mix things up a bit and try some new ideas, so keep checking our Facebook page or website. In October we saw Popgun make a welcome return with their fantastic 80s set. Jack also performed again and we look forward to seeing both bands again in 2018! 28th October saw our Halloween party where one lucky winner went home £500 richer thanks to the prize draw! We will be running a similar draw for Christmas so there is no better time to join. Coming up in November we have Goat Patrol appearing on Saturday 4th, making a first appearance at the Club on Saturday 11th will be local band Arch Rivals and Retro will be performing on Saturday 25th. We also have our usual karaoke on Sunday 26th from 3.00pm. It was great to see the snooker team return after the refurbishment of one of the match tables. We also have thriving darts and pool teams so why not pop down and give it a go? And don't forget, we have prize bingo every Tuesday from 8.00pm.

Andrew Sharpe Email: eatmorestilton@gmail.com

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#### MANUDEN GUIDES IN LONDON

A group of Guides from Manuden recently spent 24 hours in London. We travelled up on Friday evening and stayed overnight at ICANDO in the Guide Headquarters on Buckingham Palace Road. We set up our beds and watched 'Pitch Perfect' snuggled up in sleeping bags, gradually giving in to sleep. After breakfast at the Centre, we set off to the Sea Life Aquarium, a first visit for us all, and it was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone. The particular favourites were the penguins, the Gentoo species from the Antarctic. We timed it to be there at feeding time which was an interesting, amusing experience. The sharks were spectacular, and the range of sea creatures we saw was incredible, from sea-horses to sting rays, and everything in between. We then went on a sightseeing walk, trying to fit in as many landmarks as possible to achieve the London Challenge Badge; these included Buckingham Palace, Downing Street, the Palace of Westminster, Covent Garden, and Trafalgar Square. We walked through St James' Park, admiring all the wildlife in the lake. Everyone had a good time.

We have spaces for girls aged 10 to 14. We meet at Manuden Community Centre on Tuesdays 7.30pm-9.00pm during term time. Contact me for more information about visiting, or ask any of the Guides.



Glynis Prothero Tel: 814145 Mob: 07835 717942 Email: glynisprothero@aol.com

#### STANSTED MESSY CHURCH

www.stanstedchurches.com/messychurch



At our October event, everyone enjoyed a variety of crafts which related to our theme of *Precious*. There was



also a celebration time on the same theme, followed by tea. Our next event is on **Sunday 26**<sup>th</sup> **November 3.30pm-5.00pm** at St Mary's School. This relaxed and lively style of church for all ages has activities, celebration and food, and plenty of **fun!** Everyone is welcome, particularly families with children aged under 12, and there is no charge. See our website for more details.



Marion Dyer Tel: 814059



#### www.rainbowpreschool-stansted.co.uk

All the children are now well settled at pre-school and are busy making new friends, plus the Adventurers have been out and

about on Autumn walks, visiting the library. We hope all the residents of Norman Court have enjoyed their goodies from the harvest baskets that the children delivered to them after their Harvest service with Rev'd Paul. The children, and I am



sure their parents too, have been very busy over half term doing a sponsored letter search. Well done to everyone who took part.

Rainbow Pre-School takes children from 2½ years to rising 5. If you are interested in applying for a place for your child, please visit our website for details. You need to put your child's name down now, however young, to ensure a place.

Gill Pursglove Administrator Tel: 814242

Email: admin@rainbowpreschool.net



#### **BIRCHANGER PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Well it has been a fun and busy start in Badger Class! The children have been throwing themselves into their learning based around the topic of 'Food Glorious Food'. They have been studying poems by Michael Rosen and had fun adapting his poem 'Where Broccoli Comes From'. We had a myriad of ideas ranging from chillies growing in dragons' ears to tomatoes growing on the legs of red bulls! In Maths the class have been working hard on learning about three and four-digit numbers, and learning how to compare them and round them to the nearest ten, hundred or thousand. The children have also produced some beautiful still-life artwork, using harvest as a focus, and proudly showed these to parents during the Harvest Assembly at Birchanger Church in October. The children have also been learning about where food comes from, in terms of the source of the food, and also about which food is grown and produced in the United Kingdom. We have been thinking about seasonality and why it is good to buy food which is produced locally rather than food which has been imported. As part of Religious Education we have been studying Islam and learnt the importance of the Prophet Muhammad to the Muslim people. The children have roleplayed the revelation of the Qur'an to Muhammad and sourced some quotes from the Qur'an to write on prefabricated palm leaves. Finally we have had some noisy and fun-filled sessions learning how to play the glockenspiel – the children have learnt how to perform a song together and, most importantly, how to stop when our ears have had enough!

> Claire Berry Headteacher Tel: 812362

#### **COME FLY WITH ME!**

Forest Hall students visit Stansted Airport



Year 9 students from Forest Hall School took to the skies during a visit to Stansted Airport. Engineers from airline Ryanair handed over the controls of a flight simulator, used to train pilots, to students before demonstrating a night flight and fog conditions. Students also took part in an engineering workshop on the workings of a plane, as well as looking at the construction and repair of an aircraft before taking part in a Q and A session.

Jonathan Moran, technology teacher, said: "Students were able to climb inside and explore an aircraft and talk to ground staff to get experience of life behind the scenes. They really enjoyed the experience, especially the flight simulator. They loved going down the inflatable



slide and taking part in evacuation procedures during imitation emergency conditions, including inflating life jackets." The trip was part of the school's PSHE programme, focusing on careers, with the aim of widening students' horizons and exposing them to a range of career paths within engineering.

Kelly Clark Tel: 01245 237751 or 07979 811580

#### **494 SQUADRON**



#### DID SOMEBODY MENTION FLYING?

The chances are ... if you are interested in Air Cadets then you are probably interested in flying too. Well – we fly! Really fly! A big proportion of our young cadets have taken the controls of a plane in the last 12 months and all have had an amazing time. Not only taking the controls of an aircraft 'just flying', they also have the opportunity

to loop the loop, do stall turns and barrel rolls. We have used powered aircraft called a 'Tutor', powered gliders called a 'Vigilant' and gliders



called a 'Viking'. There will be more opportunities to go flying. Do you fancy joining in? We welcome both boys and girls from age 12 (and in year 8) to age 17. Please email: oc.494@aircadets.org to find out more or see our Facebook page (search 494 Squadron Stansted).

Rachel Alexander Email: rachel alexander@btinternet.com



www.bentfield.essex.sch.uk

I'd like to begin this Link contribution from our school by sharing a fantastic project which has recently been completed. Some time ago our current Years 2 to 6 took part in art workshops to develop a whole school mural for our dinner hall. The



finished article is now on display and looks incredible. It features art work from all the pupils in the year groups mentioned above and is based on a forest theme in keeping with our school grounds. It was collated by two of our parents, Mrs Laura Higley and Mrs Aine Allanson, who are also experienced art teachers, and was sponsored by both our PTA and ECorr. I'd like to say a huge thanks to them for making this happen.

In other news we had a wonderful turn out at our Harvest Festival and I was very impressed with the performances from each of the classes. Thank you for the quantity of donations we received, which are going to Braintree Food Bank to make essential food parcels for those in need of support. Please note that we have added an additional sign-up date to view the school on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> November. This morning offers the opportunity to have a tour of the school from some of our Year 6 pupils followed by an opportunity to ask me any questions.

David Rogers Headteacher Tel: 813626

# ARMISTICE DAY, REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY & WAR MEMORIAL FLOWERS

I would like to thank the very large number of volunteers who, each week, from Easter to Remembrance Sunday, arrange flowers in the two vases on the War Memorial, in the beautiful Memorial Gardens. The people who do the flowers make a huge effort in tribute to the sacrifice that was made by all the men from Stansted, who lost their lives in two World Wars. The flowers have looked particularly lovely this year and the feedback I get shows that people notice and greatly appreciate this tribute.

On Armistice Day, Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> November at 11.00am there is an informal gathering of people to observe two minutes silence. All are very welcome. Remembrance Sunday is the next day on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November when the gathering of people gets larger every year. New volunteers to do the flowers are always very welcome.



Janet Hollis Tel: 812073

Email: janhollis@btinternet.com

# ST MARY'S C E (FOUNDATION) PRIMARY SCHOOL



St Mary's is a church school and as such we held two events in October which reaffirm our commitment to this status. Firstly Rev'd Paul led our whole school 'Education Sunday' assembly, a St Mary's tradition whereupon our Year 3 pupils are presented with their own copy of the Bible. To celebrate Harvest Festival this year we had an exciting change of venue - the whole school, and parents who wished to attend, squished and squeezed into our village's beautiful St Mary's Church. Our Worship Crew led an entertaining and informative service and we collected a substantial donation of foodstuffs for the Stansted Food Bank.



Educational visits this term have included an Upper Key Stage 2 visit to the Lee Valley Park in Waltham Abbey to participate in a Stone Age discovery day to support their history learning. The children had an excellent day taking part in a huge range of activities using artefacts from the era. Of course, the children were a credit to us. Lastly, you-knowwhat is just around the corner!

Our popular PTFA **Christmas Shopping Evening** is on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November 6.30pm-8.30pm. Fundraising aims this academic year include a Garden of Mindfulness plus proper goals for our astro pitch. Please do come along to make a start on your Christmas shopping – a warm welcome awaits! There will also be games, stalls and Santa's grotto. Entry adults £1 to include a drink, children free. If you need to contact the school please call 812212 or email: admin@stmarys-stansted.essex.sch.uk.

Christine Tonkins Headteacher



### MAGNA CARTA GROUND-BREAKING

A ground-breaking ceremony has heralded the start of the building of a brand new primary school for Stansted Mountfitchet village in St John's Road. Pupils, parents, staff and dignitaries gathered at the site of the new Magna Carta Primary Academy to celebrate the start of construction. Fran Richards, Stansted Parish Council Vice-Chairman, and Councillor John Aldridge and Councillor Ray Gooding from Essex County Council were on hand to break the first ground for the new school.

The doors of the school opened a year ago and welcomed just one class of reception children. Those numbers doubled in September,



when a second class of pupils joined. Work is now under way on a purpose-built school building which is due to open in September 2018, initially as an infant school with three year groups. Amy Dias, Head of School, and her team have spent the first year getting the school established and building relationships with families and the community. She said: "It's a really exciting time for the children, who are getting to watch their new school take shape before their eyes." The school was opened last year by the Burnt Mill Academy Trust (BMAT) and operates in close partnership with Forest Hall School, with PE, music and languages from the secondary school teaching reception and Year 1 children.

Kelly Clark Tel: 01245 237751 or 07979 811580

#### THE RACE ACROSS EUROPE

The Dad's Army Ultra-Cycling team consisting of local Stansted Dads, has started training for The Race across Europe 2018. They are aiming to raise money for Grove Cottage, Bishop's Stortford and Orchid Male Cancer Charity. The Race, which starts on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> June, is a non-stop ultra-cycling event covering seven countries and totaling just under 3000 miles with an elevation of 47,000 meters. It is regarded as the toughest cycling event in Continental Europe, starting in Calais and finishing in Southern Spain. This event brings together human endeavor, physical endurance, mental strength, teamwork, problem solving, strategy, people and crisis management, creativity and the desire to take on possibly the hardest bike event in the world!

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**Mick Walker** His sports include football, long distance triathlon, marathon/ultra-running and cycling. He was looking for a challenge to test himself to the limit and something not many other people have done.

Richard Purvis A keen cyclist who also enjoys photography. When the opportunity came along to do the Race across Europe he just had to get involved; not only was it an opportunity to undertake a once in a lifetime experience it was also a chance to support charities close to his heart.

Doug Slater He played a bit of football and rugby through

his teens and early twenties. An experienced endurance athlete now with his half century fast approaching he is re-joining the 'MAMILs' and donning the lycra. They are looking for corporate and individual sponsors to help fund the team and get them to the start line. If you would like to get involved, please contact me.

Philip Elms Tel: 07920 232430 Email: dadsarmy2018@gmail.com

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At Forest School the children have been learning about the 'Fire Circle' rules. They were given the opportunity to use flint to make sparks to light a fire. This gave them an understanding of fire and fire safety.

They also looked at the ploughed fields and talked about harvesting. The children also talked about opposites and they landed up hugging the big trees! A big hit and a favourite of the children is to tie a rope on a log and drag the log along the floor to col-



lect leaves, great fun had by all. We also celebrated Diwali; making 'Rangoli' patterns from coloured rice and looking at the story with Rama and Sita.

This coming December we would like to invite and welcome all local families to our Christmas Fair at the nursery on Friday 1st December 3.30pm-5.30pm organised by Birchanger Nursery Committee. We will have cakes, games and a fantastic raffle. All of the money raised will go towards much needed items for the children at the nursery. If you are interested in a place at our setting please contact us via our website or give us a call. Limited spaces available now for children from 2½ years.

Clair Rava Tel: 810800

Email: admin@birchangernursery.org

#### **BUYING A PUPPY?**

The talking point at the practice this month has been the recent Kennel Club survey that showed people were more likely to buy a puppy on impulse than a pair of shoes! Almost a quarter of respondents spent five minutes or fewer on where to buy a puppy, yet 22% said they spent half an hour or more choosing a new pair of shoes! The survey goes on to reveal that the puppies chosen in 20 minutes or fewer were three times more likely to suffer illness, ongoing veterinary treatment or death within six months than puppies chosen in an hour or more. As a vet this is a depressing survey particularly when there is so much advice freely available to prospective pet owners. At the surgery we are always happy to talk through purchasing any new pet; other sources are the Kennel Club and local or national animal welfare agencies. One of the problems with dogs has been the huge surge in popularity of some breeds, for example French bulldogs, which has led to demand outstripping supply and the gap being filled by irresponsible breeders who churn out puppies with no thought to health or welfare. Only last week I saw a couple who had travelled over a hundred miles and were sold a puppy from a man in a van at a motorway services. They said it was fine because the puppy had its 'papers'. When I looked at these 'papers', it was a photocopied sheet where a piece of torn paper had

been stuck over the puppy's registered name with a name handwritten on it! Needless to say the puppy had several health concerns. So please, follow the fashion with shoes if you like but not with animals, whatever they are. Choose a responsible breeder, do your research, ask advice from people who know and whatever you do, don't buy a puppy from the back of a van in a motorway service station!



Ilse Pedler Mercer and Hughes Veterinary Surgeons



#### ST CLARE CELEBRATES THE DEDICATION OF STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS IN HOSPICE CARE WEEK

www.stclarehospice.org.uk

Hospice Care Week held in early October gave St Clare the opportunity to highlight the diverse range of services available to all local people and their families. The hospice based at Hastingwood, near Harlow, which supports patients and their families in the Stansted area as well as West Essex and East Herts, marked Hospice UK's national week of campaigning with the theme 'We are hospice care'. The dedication and expertise of its team of more than 135 skilled staff and 500 committed volunteers was celebrated. Chief executive, Sarah Thompson, said: "Everything we do at St Clare is only possible because of the dedication and expertise of our hundreds of staff and volunteers. This year's Hospice Care Week theme, 'We are hospice care', gave us a chance to showcase the huge array of services that we provide at St Clare – and to show local people that hospice care is about much more than just care in a bed, on a ward. So many people are surprised that we provide care in people's own homes, and that we support people from diagnosis, not just in the last few days and weeks. Many health and social care staff, as well as local residents, are not aware that we give such varied care. From providing physiotherapy and complementary therapy, to creative art and social groups, we offer support for the whole person, not just help with their medical needs. We are there for the patient and their circle of family and friends too. It is so important that we use this national awareness week to let local people know that we are here for them." For information about how you, your workplace, community group or school can support St Clare see our website.

> Chris Carter Communications Volunteer Tel: 773752

Email: communications@stclarehospice.org.uk

#### FRIENDS OF ST JAMES CHURCH

#### **Autumn Craft Fair**

Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> November 11.00am-3.30pm At St Barnabas Centre, Thorley, Bishops's Stortford Wide variety of crafts, Free entry – all welcome



Sandra Ayres Tel: 814471

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# Stansted Network

#### **NEWS FROM YOUR LOCAL COUNCILS**

#### VISIT BY KEMI BADENOCH MP

Kemi Badenoch, our Member of Parliament, met with Parish Council Chairman, Maureen Caton, District Cllr Geoffrey Sell, Parish Councillors John O'Brien, Fran Richards and Daphne Wallace-Jarvis and Ruth Clifford, our Parish Clerk, to discuss our local issues. She then met some of our parishioners over lunch at the Day Centre.



Maureen raised the point that some parishes in Uttlesford perceive a "Saffron Walden-centric" approach to issues that were generally highlighted and acted upon. Kemi responded that she was very aware of this perception and was seeking to realign the approach to issues in her constituency. The issues raised with, and lack of timely response from, the Environment Agency with regard to our local flooding were also discussed; Kemi agreed to support us in taking forward any agreed action to alleviate flooding and to gain funding to put such plans into action.

The discussion turned to how Manchester Airport Group could support community projects and create a closer community relationship with the parish from which the airport takes its name. We suggested the following ideas that Kemi could promote with them on our behalf:

- To sponsor the work we fund with the Youth Centre
- A contribution to offset part of the capital costs of our new community/library building
- A contribution to the joint funding of a dedicated PCSO for our village

A lengthy discussion ensued around policing following the Parish Council's meeting with Roger Hirst, Police and Crime Commissioner, the previous evening. Maureen outlined an initiative from UDC to joint fund PCSO's within parishes – which we, in principle, are pursuing subject to receiving further information from UDC. Kemi stated very clearly that she would be supporting Roger Hirst in his attempts to gain more funding from the Government for the Police service in Essex.

#### REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

The traditional Remembrance Day parade and service will be held on Sunday 12th November. We hope as many of you as possible will join us at the War Memorial to honour those who gave their lives for us. We shall follow the same format as last year with all the commemoration taking place in the Memorial Garden. The Parade will



leave Crafton Green car park just after 10.40 am. Cllr Geoffrey Sell, Chairman of UDC accompanied by CEO, Dawn French will lay a wreath on behalf of The District Council.

Copies of Glyn Warwick's book "They Sleep In Heroes' Graves" which remembers all those named on the War Memorial are available from the Parish Council Office at a reduced price of £10.00. We are still waiting for formal permission to carry out restoration work on the War Memorial but we hope to be able to accept a quote from a stone mason in the near future and get the work done in the Spring of 2018 in time for the centenary of the end of WWI.

#### **TWINNING WITH RUNGIS**

Following a limited response from the community to our consultation on the proposed twinning initiative, the Full Council unanimously agreed to set up a project group, working with representatives from the Municipal Council of Rungis and our local Business Forum who also gave their overwhelming support to the project.

We are now looking at the formal processes required to support the venture, the setting of a budget and ideas to keep our links alive and beneficial to both communities. Our friends in Rungis are very keen to work with all our schools and to promote a cultural and linguistic exchange programme – not just with exchange visits but by using social media such as Skype and Facetime – and teacher exchanges have

also been mooted. Your ideas will be very welcome especially in this early stage of setting up the vision for twinning. We would also welcome any interest from families who could offer to accommodate any visitors or enter into family exchanges. We will keep you posted on our ideas and progress, but please send any of your own ideas to the office at parishcouncil@stansted.net.

#### FLOOD DAMAGE PREVENTION GRANTS

Essex residents who have suffered the heartbreak of a flooded home can now apply for extra funding to help prevent it happening again.

This scheme offers a £5,000 grant to homeowners whose homes have flooded previously, with the money tailored to individual homes to make them more resilient to flooding.

Successful applicants have their properties surveyed and receive a consultation with the flood product suppliers.



Details of how to apply can be found at:

flood.essex.gov.uk/get-a-flood-grant/property-level-protection-grant-for-homes/apply-for-a-plp-grant/ or call 0844 798 1261 to find out more about grants available.

This flood-resistant door fitted at a house in Lower Street is an example of the kind of protection that can be funded from a grant.

#### **NEWS FROM THE DISTRICT**

Cllr Thom Goddard writes

#### LOCAL PLAN

The Local Plan consultation has now closed and Uttlesford District Council are taking on board residents' opinions and feelings. More housing will impact the gorgeous green fields of Uttlesford but it is mandated by central Government and so we need to build without creating additional pressure on our infrastructure and community.

The draft Local Plan includes proposals for three new garden settlements at Great Chesterford; Easton Park near Great Dunmow; and Stebbing, west of Braintree. These three settlements will accommodate the majority of the new homes national Government insists Uttlesford builds by 2033. Stansted Mountfitchet is listed

as a "Key Village". This does mean it is not a focus for new development as Stansted has 62 dwellings allocated under the draft Local Plan out of the 5,900 that need to be built by 2033.

#### **HIGHWAYS**

The Birchanger Welcome Break services on the junction with the M11 has applied for planning permission for a new exit onto the A1250, Bishop's Stortford road. This would come out between Bishop's Stortford Golf Club and the Birchanger roundabout. More details and opportunities to voice your opinions are available on the Uttlesford District Council planning website for Application UTT/17/2352/FUL. This application has been called in to review by Cllr Terry Farthing and myself so please let us know your thoughts as well as Uttlesford District Council.

#### **COUNCILLOR GRANTS**

Christmas is just around the corner and in the spirit of giving I would like to remind residents that each of your four District Councillors has money for local projects. Please email any inquiries to us and we will look to fund initiatives that benefit our community.

#### **DATES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS**

#### November

1 Windmill & Full Council

8 Open Spaces

15 Finances and General Purposes

22 Full Council

#### December

6 Finances and General Purposes

15 Full Council

#### **CONTACT DETAILS**

Clerk - Ruth Clifford.

Assistant to the Parish Clerk-Trevor Lloyd Administration Assistant-Emma Philbrick

Email: parishcouncil@stansted.net

Phone/fax: 01279 813214 10.00 am - 1.00 pm

www.stansted.net

#### **PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Maureen Caton 813914

(Chairman) m.caton@hotmail.co.uk

Catherine Dean 813579

catherinemarydean@btinternet.com

Samantha Dunn 810859

cllrsamanthadunn@stansted.net

John Hudson 814489

johnedhudson@gmail.com

Matthew Jessup 816591

matthew@in2it.biz

Peter Jones

813252

peter@lowerstreet.com

Jo Kavanagh

815157

jo.kavanagh.248@gmail.com

John O'Brien

816772

johnedobrien@gmail.com

Rachel Rands

817413

rachelrands@btinternet.com

Frances Richards

812748

(Vice Chairman)

frannie.richards@gmail.com

John Salmon

814789

dandjsalmon@gmail.com

Geoffrey Sell

815925

sellgeoffrey@yahoo.co.uk

Valerie Trundle

813433

Prtvrt@btinternet.com

Daphne Wallace-Jarvis 812259

dwjjwj.444@gmail.com

As we go to press there is one vacancy on the Parish

Council

#### **UTTLESFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Alan Dean

813579

cllrdean@uttlesford.gov.uk

**Terry Farthing** 

661555

cllrfarthing@uttlesford.gov.uk

Thom Goddard

01371 879122

cllrgoddard@uttlesford.gov.uk

Geoffrey Sell

815925

cllrsell@uttlesford.gov.uk

#### **ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL MEMBER**

Ray Gooding

813103

cllr.ray.gooding@essex.gov.uk

#### MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT

Kemi Badenoch MP contact details:

By post at House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA

By telephone on 0207 219 1943 (House of Commons)

or 01799 506349 (Constituency Office)

By email at kemi.badenoch.mp@parliament.uk

#### **MP Surgery Dates**

Friday 27th October Thaxted Guildhall, Town Street,

Thaxted (11 am - 1 pm)

Friday 27th October Old Armoury, 3 Museum Street,

Saffron Walden (3 pm - 6 pm)

**Friday 3rd November** Town Council, Foakes House, 47

Stortford Road, Great Dunmow, Essex (3 pm – 5 pm)

Friday 17th November Old Armoury, 3 Museum

Street, Saffron Walden (3 pm – 6 pm)

Friday 8th December Parish Council Office, Crafton

Green, 72 Chapel Hill, Stansted (3 pm – 6 pm)

For an appointment at any of the above please send

an email with your name and address to:

kemi.badenoch.mp@parliament.uk. Alternatively,

phone the Old Armoury on 01799 506349.

**Street Surgeries** (no appointment necessary)

Friday 3rd November Town Square, Dunmow (11 am -

1 pm)

Saturday 4th November Saffron Walden Market

Square (9.30 am – Noon)

#### **POLICE**

Non-emergency 101

James.graham@essex.pnn.police.uk

#### **NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH**

www.stanstednhw.org.uk

#### PARISH PUBLIC TRANSPORT REPRESENTATIVES

Valerie Trundle - 813433 Joy Thomas - 813871

#### STANSTED LIBRARY OPENING HOURS

Stansted Library operates from a temporary home in the car park at Crafton Green. The mobile vehicle is here on the same days and at the same time each

week:

Monday 10.00 am - 4.00 pm Mobile Library

Wednesday 1.00 pm - 6.00 pm Day Centre - Click and

**Collect Service** 

Saturday 10.00 am - 4.00 pm Mobile Library

For more information email Jenny.Salisbury@essex.gov.uk

#### **CLARIFICATION**

In the September issue of The Link we referred to a bench donated by Richard Shervington in memory of his wife. Richard has asked us to acknowledge a contribution from the Hollis family as well, which we are happy to do.

# VILLAGE FIREWORK DISPLAY

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DIRECTORY OF LOCAL CLUBS AND ORGANISATIONS

Tel: 01371 872519 **Alzheimers Society** Parkinson's UK Vivian Falk, Chairman Uttlesford Support Group Tel: 01799 513128 Air Training Corps Tel: 681559/661929

Email: vivian@brackendalehouse.co.uk Email: 494@aircadets.org 494 Squadron

Rainbow Pre-School Gill Pursglove (Administrator) Michelle Wray Tel: 07528 317907 Arts Club

Tel: 814242/07966 506997 Email: michelle.wrayj@gmail.com Email: admin@rainbowpreschool.net

Wayne Browning **Beaver Scouts** Rainbows Sue Pollard Tel: 813734 Tel: 07976 441468 Age 6-8

Email: mrwbrowning@googlemail.com Rotary Club Martin Budzinski Tel: 07803 878961 **Bowls Club** Doreen Scraggs, Hon Secretary

Email: martin@voucherpacks.com Tel: 815036

Email: doreenscraggs@talktalk.net Scouts Mike Byrne

(age 10½ -14) Tel: 812780 Brownies (Tuesday) Kathy Shearman Tel: 07724 355533

Shotokan Karate Ryu Donna Ring Tel: 731752 Brownies (Wednesday) Susan Scott Tel: 810955

Email: skr@skr.org.uk CAB Tel: 08444 775986 Sarah Mason Tel: 812348

**Spangles** Corkers Netball Lisa Menzella Children's Centre Email: smason2@spurgeons,org Tel: 07827 988732

Craft Club Sam Debbah Tel: 07866 185704 Stansted Badminton Club Vince Tel: 07793 000107

Raj Tel: 07775 915418 Email: tuftydawn@googlemail.com

Cricket Club (adults) David Hedge Tel: 812509 Stansted Business Forum Iris Evans

Keith Ayres Tel: 814471 Email: iris.evans9@gmail.com (juniors)

Stansted Family Café Ros Page Tel: 810813 **Cub Scouts** Steve Turrell

Email: contactstanfam@yahoo.com Age 8-10½ Tel: 07519 572642

Stansted Football Club Tom Williams Tel: 07921 403842 Day Centre Tel: 815091

**Explorer Scouts** Vic Clarke Stansted Hall and David Brown

Tel: 07903 413217 Elsenham Cricket Club Tel: 831011/07788 999663

Email: david1.r.brown@gmail.com Friends of St Mary's Lynda Dale Tel: 07716 099474

Gemma Snelling Tel: 07894 944242 Stansted Sparks Netball Church Email: lynnydale@hotmail.com Email: gemmasnelling@me.com Garden Club Maralyn Harris, Chairman

Warren Vickers Tel: 813996 Tel: 07919 478144 Stansted Speed Watch

Email: vickersw@aol.com **Grove Cottage** Andrea Charity Tel: 656085/

Stansted Supers Olly Pocknell 07795 483674 Tel: 07875 391701

Handball Club Jennifer Jarvis, District Commissioner Guides

Tennis Club Chris Hollis Tel: 319155 Tel: 814434 Email: chris.hollis2@btinternet.com

Tel: 07704 553727 Helpline U3A Helen, Chair **History Society** Peter Brown, Chairman

Tel: 812945

Tel: 812816

Women's Institute Brenda Ryan, President Huw Johnson Club Katharine Collis Tel: 461270 Tel: 812725 (Stansted) Email: kat collis@hotmail.com

Dorothy Wallace, President Women's Institute Inner Wheel Club Jenny Savage, President

(Ugley) Tel: 850215 Tel: 656065

Whoosh Explore Helen and Peter Nash Investigators Ros Page Tel 810813 Canoe Club Tel: 817453

Email: contactstanfam@yahoo.com Youth Centre Linda Barnes Andrew Poyser Tel: 07738 591232

Little Scrummers Tel: 07947 548051 Millers (Windmill) Molly Clark Tel: 816768

Note: This list will be updated as and when we learn of any Sonia Levy Tel: 815282 music@stansted changes. If you would like the details of your organisation to classical concerts Email: contactus@musicatstansted.co.uk be added please let us know. (Contact details on page 1.)

Neighbourhood Watch Valerie Trundle Tel: 813433

#### 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 details to 7 Blythwood Gardens, Stansted CM24 8HG. Details must be submitted by the 8th of the month for publication the following month.

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#### WINE TIPS FOR AUTUMN

As nights draw in and temperatures drop, wine choices turn from light reds, rosés and steely white wines of summer to fruity, spicy medium bodied red and white wines to suit autumnal dishes.

With mushrooms or light game dishes I tend to reach for a bottle of NZ Pinot Noir. The Exquisite Collection NZ Pinot Noir 2016 from Aldi £6.99, with a depth of red fruits and silky smooth taste is an amazingly low price for a wine of this quality. For richer meat and game dishes a spicy Shiraz or Grenache works well. Try Crozes Hermitage from the northern Rhone, a GSM (Grenache Shiraz Mouvedre) blend from Australia or, if you want to push the boat out, an Amarone from Italy (typically £20-£50!). Alternatively try Masi Campofiorin Rosso del Veronese 2013 from Waitrose £12.79 (at the time of writing reduced to £9.45). It's made from the same Corvino Rondinella grapes with the addition of partially dried grapes (the secret of the rich flavours of Amarone), has a deep red colour, gorgeous aromas and has a soft and velvety taste. Quite delicious.

For white wines with more body and a touch of spice try some aromatic grape varieties such as a Pinot Gris or Viognier but from warmer new world countries such as New Zealand, Australia, USA or Chile. For example the 2016 Cono Sur Bicicleta Viognier from Chile available from Tesco at £7.50 with lovely peach and apricot flavours that works well with spicy Asian dishes.

Current favourite full bodied reds, both from Majestic, are Porta 6 Lisboa 2015 £7.99 made from the same grapes used in port and Vox Populi Bobal 2014 from Spain £10.99 using the Bobal grape, the second most widely planted red grape from Spain after Tempranillo. Both worth seeking out and will go well on Bonfire Night with those spicy sausages. Enjoy!

Paul Wilkinson Dip WSET Corkscrew\_456@hotmail.co.uk



www.uttlesfordcab.org.uk

#### **Volunteers Needed**

We are currently looking for new volunteers to join our team. Full details and role/job specs together with application forms can be downloaded from our website.

#### Volunteer Advisers

We are recruiting volunteers to join our next adviser training course, which will start this autumn. Initial training over six months will involve a commitment of nine hours a week plus homework; thereafter we ask volunteers to commit to a day a week for a further 18 months. We are particularly keen to encourage applications from people who are able to work at our office in Great Dunmow. Our volunteers come from a variety of backgrounds and have many reasons for volunteering. Some are looking for something interesting to do with their spare time, others are keen to develop new skills. They are all bound by a common desire to support others and make a difference in our community.

#### Trustee

We are looking for a volunteer Trustee to join our Board and eventually to chair our Community Engagement

Committee. Main duties and responsibilities will include:

- leading and co-ordinating a team of volunteers to conduct activities and events organised by the Committee
- working closely with the Chief Executive Officer and other Bureau staff to raise the public profile of the Bureau
- identifying possible new sources of funding in the community
- organising the preparation of publicity materials for events and campaigns.
- providing written reports to each Board meeting on the Committee's activities and plans

The main Trustee Board holds six evening meetings each year at UCA's office in Saffron Walden, and in addition the Board has two strategy meetings, normally held off-site and during the working day. Please note my working days are Tuesday and Wednesday.

Jo Hancock Office Administrator Tel: 01799 618846



#### Nature Notes

#### The Ash Tree

As winter approaches one thinks of cosy homes, and for many this may require logs. Honor Goodhart published 'Logs to Burn' in the Punch magazine, and during the miners' strike of 1926 advised housewives thus: "Ash logs all smooth and grey, burn them green or old, buy up all that come your way, they're worth their weight in gold". It

is a tree that man has depended on over the centuries. The quality and texture of the wood makes it useful for tools, furniture, and was used in the early manufacture of aircraft. From the black buds of spring, to the tiny purple flowers; the coming out of leaf and finally the bunches of keys, it is a tree that beautifies our countryside. Traditional folk lore tells us that 'Oak before ash, in for a splash,



ash before oak, in for a soak'. Many healing claims are made for this ancient tree, and a number of treatments are now scientifically proven. In early times the ash seemed to have magical restorative powers. It symbolises rebirth and new life, and was deemed particularly helpful to infants. To cure a child of rickets, ruptures and hernias, a young ash tree, whilst still growing, was split wide enough to pass the suffering child through. This was accompanied by ritual and prayers. The tree was then bound together again, and if the tree survived then so should the child. Writing in 1788 the Rev'd Gilbert White of Selborne, Hampshire tells of seeing rows of pollarded ashes with seams down the sides, which showed evidence of this practice! Ash die-back is affecting and killing this handsome tree. Remember the irreplaceable elms, now no longer in the meadow? A thing of beauty, now gone forever; let's hope history doesn't repeat itself.

Bee's daughter



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#### RSPB STORT VALLEY LOCAL GROUP

www.rspb.org.uk/groups/stortvalley

Our next monthly meeting on Tuesday 14th November at 7.30pm will be a talk titled 'A Birds-eye View of the RSPB in the Thames Estuary' by Rolf Williams at Bishop's Park Community Centre, Lancaster Way, Bishop's Stortford (next to Tesco). Rolf introduces the wildlife, management and surprising history of the North Kent Marshes. For five years, Rolf took a microlight flight over the marshes, recording the landscape for the RSPB. Stretching from Gravesend to Whitstable, the marshes were created by the Romans, farmed by the Saxons, written about by Dickens and echoed to the voice of Roosevelt! Today the marshes and other parts of the estuaries accommodate 300,000 wintering wildfowl and waders, breeding marsh harriers etc - but change is afoot and what does the future hold? Entry is £3.00 for Stort Valley Members, £5.00 for visitors.

Our next walk on Sunday 19th November is at Heybridge

Basin. Location: Meet at Heybridge Basin Car Park at 10.00am. Heybridge Basin is located at the end of the 13 mile Chelmer & Blackwater Navigation and contains the sea lock which



joins the canal to the Blackwater estuary. From the sea walls at Heybridge Basin you can take in the splendid views of the Blackwater estuary and Osea Island, and you may even see a historic Thames Barge on a cruise out from Maldon. We last visited here three years ago and enjoyed a rewarding walk along the basin and sea, taking in many waders, wintering birds and lovely flocks of avocets.

For more information contact Lee Jaques on 07454 801894.

Sheila Bowles Tel: 814973



# INNER WHEEL CLUB OF BISHOP'S STORTFORD

September started with a super event which the Club has been hosting for a number of years - the *Contact the Elderly Tea*. It is one of the highlights of our year. This year on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> September we hosted friends from Bishop's Stortford, Epping, Redbridge and Dagenham. Inner Wheel members provided and served a delicious tea at Stansted Day Centre with entertainment led by member Margaret Webb. At our September meeting on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> we welcomed Angela Weeks from The Portland Child Contact Centre in Bishop's Stortford to tell us about the wonderful work which is carried out there. President Jenny has chosen the Centre as one of her charities for the year.

The Club meets at Stansted Day Centre, Crafton Green, Chapel Hill on the fourth Tuesday of every month at 7.30pm except August and December. New members are always welcome. Please ring me or Barbara Morrison 814152 for more information.

June Milne Tel: 01371 875370



#### STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET U3A

www.stanstedu3a.org

At the meeting on 21st September, Steve Lester talked about Sales and Auctions. He had tips for those visiting an auction room, and spoke of various forgotten objects, found in unlikely places, that ended up going for considerable sums of money. It was a very amusing and interesting talk. On 30th September at the Saturday Seminar, Kimberley Wilson talked about the connection between nutrition and mental health. Nutrition is as important to psychiatry as it is to cardiology, so food has an essential effect on brain function. Kimberley stressed the importance of diet, exercise and good sleep. Exercise strengthens the brain; a colourful plant-rich diet feeds the brain and good quality sleep keeps the brain active. The Stansted U3A

Singers gave their annual concert at St John's Church on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> October. The audience were treated to songs on the theme of *What a Wonderful World*. Isobel Bradshaw, the musical director, summarised it as "life-affirming", and with music from Handel, Mendelssohn, Barlow and Rutter, it was a superb selection.



The Special Astronomy Seminar to be presented by Dr Carolin Crawford will be on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November 7.00pm- 9.00pm in the Day Centre. Tickets are £4 members, £5 non-members from Alan on 07817 275563 or email: stanstedseminars @gmail.com. At the meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> November at 1.30pm in St John's Hall, Patricia Cooper and Christine Holroyd will present a 'Tale of Two Skippers', an illustrated account of 40 years sailing in their own boats. The Stansted Strummers will entertain the residents of Mountfitchet House on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> November at 3.00pm. A Reminder that the Christmas Lunch is on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December. U3A contact details: Email: stanstedu3a@live.co.uk. Telephone: Helen (Chair) 812945, Liz (Secretary) 813270.

Suzanne Parra



# UGLEY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Michelle Turner of Craftyheffalump was the speaker at our last meeting – a very entertaining, enthusiastic speaker. Her subject was natural dyeing and in the space of just 45 minutes she gave us a very informative overview of the history of dyeing. A very ancient craft, it was being practised in Turkey as long ago as 8000BC. She illustrated her talk with examples of items that she had dyed and items that she had printed using leaves. She gave us a demonstration of natural dyeing using onion skins; some wool went into the 'slow cooker' in its natural colour and by the end of her talk came out a lovely Autumnal colour! She brought a very entertaining afternoon to a close by judging our competition for a scarf. The speaker at our November meeting to be held on Wednesday 15th November in Ugley Village Hall at 2.15pm will be Christine Wood whose talk entitled 'Gone but not forgotten' will be very appropriate for 'remembrance month'. Why not come along and meet her? You would be most welcome!

> Andrea Fitt Tel: 815922

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#### **NOVEMBER – THE MONTH TO REMEMBER**

Birthstone: Topaz symbolizing friendship, Flower: Chrysanthemum

Originally the ninth month of the Roman calendar November comes from novem, the Latin word for nine. The Anglo Saxons called it blod monath (blood month) as cattle were slaughtered for winter food at this time. Since 2004 Movember, an event organised by the Movember Founda-

tion Charity involving the growing of moustaches during November, has been held. Originating in Australia and New Zealand to raise awareness and funds for men's health issues, it now takes place internationally. All Souls Day, when we remember the dead is on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of this month, as is National Love Your Red Hair Day in Ireland, and National Men Make Dinner Day in the USA. The 5th is, of course when we remember Guy Fawkes and the failed gunpowder plot of 1605 celebrated on Bonfire Night with firework displays and by burning effigies (Guys). The 11th is the day of The Lord Mayor's Show held in London, to mark the start of the new Lord Mayor's year in office; also Armistice Day which is followed by Remembrance Sunday on the 12th, when poppies are worn and services are held to remember the millions of soldiers who died in the two World Wars and other conflicts.

Stir Up Sunday on the Sunday before Advent (26<sup>th</sup>) is traditionally the day for families to mix together the ingredients

of the Christmas pudding with everyone taking a turn at stirring the mixture and making a wish for the year ahead. Sadly not many Christmas puddings

are homemade these days and the custom is dying out. Finally St Andrew's Day is on the 30<sup>th</sup>. November can be a depressing time with shorter days, gloomy weather and sad remembrances - but there are always the Christmas celebrations to look forward to.



Yvonne Ayres

## BEEKEEPING

It will soon be Christmas, and I am writing about an ideal present for your loved ones – a 'Beginners Course in Beekeeping' run by Bishop's Stortford Beekeepers Association. At the end of the course the student will be capable of becoming a 'hobby beekeeper', knowing how to source bees, maintain a colony in a hive and extract their honey for sale, through the gaining of the following skills and knowledge:

- Understanding the life cycle and role of each type of hee
- Being able to complete hive inspections
- Understanding the reasons for swarming and carry out preventative measures
- Understanding the advantages and disadvantages of different types of hive
- Being able to build a hive and frames
- Being able to identify, prevent and cure common diseases
- Being capable of extracting honey hygienically
- Being able to source a nucleus
- Knowing how to use the basic equipment.

The course will be held on five two-hour evening sessions at Hopley's Garden Centre, High St, Much Hadham: 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>,

25<sup>th</sup> April and 16<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> May, plus at least one weekend practical live session at the Association apiary. The cost is £60, which includes a course text book, refreshments and protective clothing, plus £5 to become an Associate member of Bishop's Stortford Beekeepers Association which entitles you to attend all the Association's events and meetings. Even if you don't intend to keep bees, you will have fun and enjoy learning about them. Why not come as a husband and wife team and revive the fun of doing things together? Or bring your children who will only cost half the adult price. If you send an email to the address below, I will put you on the list to receive details in the New Year (without obligation). But hurry, places go very quickly and if you want to book now, just let me know.



John Dockerill Chairman Bishop's Stortford Beekeepers Association Email: training@stortfordbees.org.uk

#### STANSTED EVENING WI



I think we were all surprised to learn how fast the hedgehog population is dwindling, when Lynne Gardner came to talk about the charity, Herts Hogline, which she set up 26 years ago. The population has gone down from 35 million in the 50s to only one million. We are losing them faster than losing tigers - a hedgehog and a tiger conjures up a rather nice picture! Lynne cares for injured and sick hedgehogs in a shed in her garden, where she can house ten at a time. They have two litters a year and often the babies are not strong enough to last the winter. They are lactose intolerant so milk is not a good thing to put out. They need water in hot weather and non-fishy cat food or dog food. She has friends who help her to get them better and she releases them if they want to go; girls tend to stay! Local vets are helpful and they do have to take them there sometimes. We are asked to check bonfires this time of year before we light them.

Our WI was out in force at the Windmill Fête serving teas in their nice new WI aprons, where we raised about £300.

Some of us attended the WI College in Oxford for an Essex Weekend. There were several courses on offer and all the places were filled by Essex members. We had a choice of flower arranging, cheese making, singing, rambling, crochet, and



painting. The weather was wonderful, we were transported by coach from Birchanger and we all had a great time. We were encouraged to buy drinks at the bar as the profit is used to clean the carpets - not just the ones in the bar of course! The photograph shows Brenda Ryan, our President.

The speaker on Thursday, 9<sup>th</sup> November 7.45pm in the Day Centre is John Watkins 'What a Wonderful World'. All welcome.

**Judy Colliver** 

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#### HEALTH AND WELLBEING

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Have you begun to notice changes to your mood swings, your energy levels are at an all-time low or maybe you are struggling to concentrate? This could all be due to an imbal-

ance between your diet and your exercise routine. National guidelines recommend at least 150 minutes of exercise and two full body strength training sessions per week – couple this with a healthy diet plan and



you could notice massive improvements to your overall health and wellbeing - it could even extend your lifespan!

# Five benefits to adopting a healthy diet and regular exercise:

#### 1. Improve your energy

Replace the crisps with healthy small snacks throughout the day to help your blood sugar levels from crashing. This in turn helps to keep your energy levels up, plus if you throw in a session at the gym or a nice brisk walk this will naturally help to lift your mood.

#### 2. Be more healthy

We have heard it all before, but combining healthy eating with a good exercise routine can prevent all sorts of conditions including heart disease, stroke, hypertension, Type 2 diabetes, arthritis, osteoporosis and depression. Before taking on any new diet plan and/or exercise routine consult your doctor for advice first.

#### 3. Get control of your weight

Eating fewer calories and burning off more energy may sound simple, but losing weight and keeping it off is challenging for the majority of people. Eating fruits, vegetables, lean meats and other proteins will help fill you up and prevent the unnecessary snacking. Additionally, top up the exercise and calorie burning activities by taking a walk or cycle to work, take the stairs not the lift.

#### 4. Get more zzz's

It is a proven fact that regular exercise makes us sleep better and a better night's sleep helps our mood, our memory and gives us more energy to take on the following day.

#### 5. Improve self esteem

All of the above amount to making us feel good about ourselves and when we start to get compliments about how well we look it naturally lifts our mood.

For more information or to book a free trial contact Stansted Mountfitchet Leisure Centre.

Beckie Reynolds General Manager Tel: 648580

# FINGER WAVES – Good for grip strength and arthritis

Use it or lose it; move it or lose it. Whilst osteo-arthritis is very painful, keeping the joints fully mobile is an essential part of keeping the worst effects of arthritis at bay – along with improving strength. Here is a very simple exercise to help keep the hands supple and strong:

#### Really stretch out the fingers and thumbs.

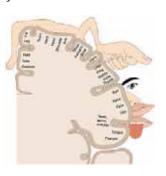
Keeping the thumbs still, slowly roll the fingers up into as tight a fist as you can manage, then, straightening them up, wave them back out to the start.

Now fold the fingers across the palm, keeping the top knuckle joint reasonably straight and then curl them into that tight fist again and slowly roll them back to fully straight.

#### Repeat the same exercise but with the thumbs.

Make a fist with the fingers three times, and curl up those thumbs three times. Repeat daily.

Take up rock climbing to improve the strength of your grip! Neurologically, the brain places differing emphasis on the different body parts. The accompanying diagram of the sensory homunculus illustrates this very clearly. We can see how huge the hands, the lips, tongue, teeth, and the eyes



are. These areas send many more signals to the brain than do the limbs or torso. Which means anything we do to improve the function of the hands, tongue and so on has a big positive impact on the brain. And it also means that the areas with less representation, for example the back, are far more prone to pain.

Clare Harding Z-Health Master Trainer Tel: 07802 872919 www.clareharding.com

#### HENHAM CHRISTMAS MARKET

This year the Henham Village Christmas Market is taking place on Friday November 17<sup>th</sup> 1.00pm-8.00pm at both the OSCA Hall and Henham Village Hall for twice the shopping experience! Last year the event raised over £4,000 for our chosen charity Great Ormond Street. We are hoping for similar success at this year's event, where we will split the money raised between Great Ormond Street and COSMIC, both children's medical charities. Entrance is £1 which will get you into both halls. There will be over 30 stalls selling a wide range of Christmas presents, foods, chutneys and handmade artisan gifts. Refreshments are available throughout the day including home cooked cakes.



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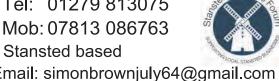
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# A Meeting of Minds, in Birchanger Wood - 'where trees cross counties'

On 30<sup>th</sup> September, the Chairman of Uttlesford DC, Essex, Geoffrey Sell, and the Mayor of Bishop's Stortford Town Council, Hertfordshire, Colin Woodward, met together in the compound of Birchanger Wood to understand the development, and progress of this local public asset which comprises 69 acres of ancient woodland, with 75% in Essex and 25% in Hertfordshire. Birchanger Wood is a 'grown-up' local community asset, maintained, and managed by local volunteers under the leadership of our super voluntary warden. It is open 365 days of the year. It has almost six km of two metre wide, all-weather winding woodland paths which are suitable for all ages and abilities, including wheelchairs.



The main entrance leads directly up to the compound and can be found via a wide track from Heath Row, Bishop's Stortford, except for wheelchair users who should use the less challenging entrance at Woodlands, off Parsonage Lane. Access to the Birchanger side of the Wood is via the public footpath through Harrisons, or the public bridleway off Birchanger Lane. The Wood is owned by the Birchanger Wood Trust, a charity, and the cost of upkeep is financed from gifts, donations, grants and sale of firewood. The trees comprise deciduous ancient woodland with masses of under-growing English bluebells and wood anemones flowering in the spring. The compound, open on most Saturdays for a few hours for the sale of wood, is the work-hub where we bring on young trees, have a small pond and, in a quiet corner, look after recuperating rescue hedgehogs from Herts Hogline. It is woodland in which to walk, run, contemplate, take the family, photograph, and enjoy solace - a green lung in a busy world.



Daphne Wallace-Jarvis Email: secretary@birchangerwoodtrust.org

#### ST ELIZABETH'S CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Come and join us this year on **Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> November** for our fabulous Christmas Bazaar, from 12 noon-4.00pm. Father Christmas and his reindeer will be visiting, plus there will be Christmas craft stalls, a BBQ, afternoon tea and live music. Venue: St Elizabeth's Centre, Much Hadham, Herts SG10 6EW. Email: fundraising@stelizabeths.org.uk for further information.

Nichola Warner



Sunday Walks 5-6 miles all leaving at 10.00am except\* 5<sup>th</sup> November Thremhall Park, Bury Lodge Lane Turn at Traffic Lights GridRef: TL532214. Post code CM22 7WE 19<sup>th</sup> November Bishop's Stortford, Pig Lane Car Park Grid-Ref: TL494193. Post code CM22 7PA

3<sup>rd</sup> December Refer to our website

17<sup>th</sup> December Little Canfield, All Saints Church GridRef: TL587209. Post code CM6 1SU

\*26<sup>th</sup> December Boxing Day Start 10.30am Stansted, Castle Car Park GridRef: TL515248. Post code CM24 8LY (nearest) The new season's walks have opened with some mixed weather, but have been mostly fine.

#### Issues

Eastwick: The proposed development of North Harlow will annihilate the area and lose the ambiance forever. Bishop's Stortford North: currently underway but affects fewer public paths. However, the gateway to Stortford will be transformed. The awful loss of both these huge open areas of farmland is forever, and the extra strain on our local infrastructure very sad. On a more light-hearted note, it is interesting to observe small differences between public paths in Essex and those in Hertfordshire. Most of the many

small wooden bridges over water and streams in Hertfordshire have their wooden planks covered with wire netting which is excellent for preventing slippage when the planks are wet. Again in Hertfordshire, many of the stiles have



been replaced by kissing gates - a great improvement which removes all those wobbly balancing risks incurred in climbing over so many sad, unsafe, inadequate stiles. Well done, Herts.

Our 1st October walk commenced in Braughing, a charming 'olde worlde' village in 'hidden Hertfordshire'. Diverse very old cottages, houses, a green square, village pump, church with wonderful bells, two pubs, and a horse, but possibly no super-fast broadband!



Daphne Wallace-Jarvis Publicity Officer Email: dwjjwj.444@gmail.com

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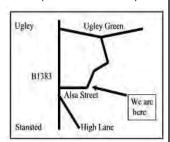
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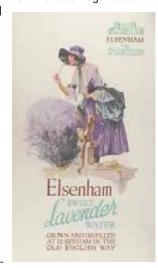
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Our meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> October was well attended with many newcomers which was great to see. We were given a presentation by Ray Franklin on the **Elsenham jam factory** and its history, with many photographs to support this informative talk. Ray started with Walter Gilbey, a man who made the most of his life, becoming one of the most successful and influential men ever to emerge from Bishop's Stortford. In 1889 Walter with his head gardener and chef, combined their skills using sugar from Felsted sugar beet

factory and fruit from his walled gardens at Elsenham Hall to make a jam which Sir Walter declared "A most excellent preserve", giving away excess jars to many visitors including royalty. This inspired him to go into production and start the Jam factory at Elsenham in 1893. By 1907 his estate at Elsenham had expanded and was producing all kinds of fruit, although the fruit and jam business was not profitable at that time. He later experimented with the growing of lavender and Ray showed us many photo-



graphs detailing the production of jams and preserves and the lavender stills.

In 1933 the Elsenham Jam business was sold to Commander Carr, and in 1969 a devastating fire occurred, which burnt the factory and store houses to the ground. After the fire the Management decided to rebuild and modernise the whole business and renamed it Elsenham Quality Products. One of its biggest sales was Patum Peperium, a gentleman's relish. In 1987 it was sold to Whitbreads, who sold it in 1988 to Smuckers from Orrville, Ohio, who produced many different types of jams and preserves that were mainly made for export only.

Our next meeting on **Thursday 2**nd **November** will be a talk on **Watermill farm**, **the watercress beds and wild flower meadow**, by Peter Sanders, Toby Lyons and Elizabeth Ashton. All welcome. Doors open at 7.45pm at the Crafton Green Centre, Chapel Hill.

Steve Leaney Tel: 647177

#### **MANUDEN SINGERS**

**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December** 7.30pm in Manuden Church The programme includes Haydn's *Mass for St Nicholas*, Handel's Chandos Anthem *O Praise the Lord with One Consent*, and Haydn's *Te Deum – we praise thee O Lord*. Tickets £10 (children £5) from 812157 or on the door. All proceeds to Manuden church roof fund.



Ian Priest



www.musicatstansted.co.uk

Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 3.00pm St John's Church Daniel Shao (flute) with Daniel King Smith (piano). Daniel Shao is studying for an MA at the Royal Academy of Music (RAM) and has played in numerous orchestras as well as performing as soloist at the Wigmore Hall, the Cadogan Hall and on BBC4. Daniel King Smith is a graduate of the RAM specialising in accompaniment and chamber performance. Their programme includes sonatas by Poulenc and Prokofiev as well as gems by Bach, Tchaikovsky and Gluck. Tickets: adults £15, over 60s and students £12, under 18s free are available from Absolute Travel, Nockolds Bishop's Stortford, Sonia tel 815282, or on the door.

Richard Allaway



#### AMICI CANTATE PRESENTS

www.ticketsource.co.uk/amicicantate

A Concert of Remembrance in support of The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal featuring 'The Armed Man' by Karl Jenkins Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> November at 7.00pm at All Saints' Church, Hockerill, Bishop's Stortford.

Amici Cantate will be joined for this concert by fabulous professional soloist, Olivia Barry, young singers from the local area including Summercroft Primary School and Dunmow St Mary's Primary School as well as the amazing Amici Cantate Chamber Orchestra! This is the fifth time Amici has performed with local young singers for charity, over the last five years, and the choir has raised over £10,000 in that time.

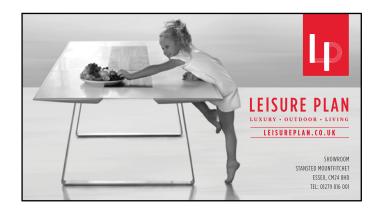
'The Armed Man', Karl Jenkin's 'Mass for Peace', was given its premiere in the autumn of 2000, and has become one of the most popular and moving pieces of choral music in the

contemporary musical canon. The 'Mass' combines elements of a variety of Abrahamic prayer, including elements of Christian and Muslim worship together with a



strong message about the tragedies of war and the importance of peace. This is going to be a very special evening indeed so please come along and help us to raise the roof of All Saints' Church and raise as much as possible for **The Poppy Appeal!** Tickets: adults £12, under-16s £6, family £25, purchased in advance from 506773 or our website.

Alison Thompson Publicity Officer Tel: 816188 or 07866 580110 Email: tickets@amicicantate.org.uk



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# THE HUNDRED PARISHES SOCIETY

www.hundredparishes.org.uk



The Society held its AGM in September, kindly hosted by Duxford Parish Council, one of 18 parish councils who are members of the Society. Before the meeting, we were guided by local historian Jim Longstaff on a short walk

around the centre of Duxford, with visits to its two interesting Grade I churches.

If you would like to explore this attractive village, please consider following Hundred Parishes Walk number 14 which can be downloaded from



the Walks section of our website. The five mile route starts at Great Chesterford Station and passes through lckleton, Hinxton and Duxford before finishing at Whittlesford Station. Until last month, I was under the impression that Whittlesford Station was in the parish of Duxford, but our guide informed us that the parish boundary was changed in 2010. Whittlesford parish, which lies outside the Hundred Parishes, also acquired the ancient Duxford Chapel. Duxford parish has retained most of its treasures including Imperial War Museum Duxford.

We have started to update the walk descriptions on the website by adding a map to each. So far, two have been completed. We hope the additional feature will encourage more folk to try either the three miles of Walk number 3 around Stansted Mountfitchet or even the ten miles of Walk number 11 which starts at Newport Station and finishes at Audley End Station, after passing through Wicken Bonhunt, Clavering, Arkesden and Wendens Ambo. I guarantee that you will find either route full of interest.

On Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November, there will be a screening of *Littlebury* at Saffron Screen in Saffron Walden. This is a compilation by Lizzie Sanders who was a major player in the publication of the excellent Littlebury parish history. There is more information at http://saffronscreen.com/littlebury/.

Ken McDonald Secretary Tel: 813226



www.saffronhall.com

Britten: War Requiem Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> November 7.30pm Saffron Hall, Saffron Walden

SWCS will unite with Harlow Chorus for an Armistice Day performance of Britten's powerful and moving War Requiem. The concert, which will feature over 300 performers, is supported by a bequest from the late Roger Williamson, who sang with both choirs and by a grant from Essex County Council Small Grants Scheme. Tickets £15 - £35 from the website above and Saffron Walden TIC.



www.mountfitchetgardenclub.co.uk

Dr Ian Bedford – Head of Entomology at the John Innes Centre in Norfolk - was the Club's Guest Speaker for October. Ironically his planned computerised talk 'got a bug' so 'Plan B' was put into operation and members were told about 'Garden Bugs - Good and Bad'! After explaining his job and showing how the facilities have changed from a 'large tin shed' to modern, up-to-date laboratory facilities, members were shown the life cycle, habits both good and bad, and told what could be done to either encourage or discourage them from our gardens. At the moment a great deal of work is being undertaken to understand and control many 'foreign invaders' which have been brought into the country on imported plants, or have moved here with the warmer climate. Ian ended his talk telling members about 'The Invasion of Spanish Slugs'! The sight of vast numbers of these huge slugs left everyone squirming in their seats. Dr Bedford explained that the normal animal control (hedgehogs, frogs, etc) do not find them a delicacy and it can take up to 20 conventional slug pellets to kill one of them and, with chemicals being discouraged, he explained that the JIC is looking into other ways to control them. He puts the slugs into a bucket of soapy water to remove their slime, then overnight he pours a little bleach into the bucket and the next day he buries them at least 18 ins deep. Photographs of fields of crops decimated in days by these slugs were shown; a deterrent clearly must be found.

Our next Meeting is on Wednesday, 1st November: 'Rethinking your Garden' by Mr Andrew Sankey. Meetings are held at The Day Centre adjacent to the car park at the top of Chapel Hill. Doors open 7.30pm for an 8.00pm start with refreshments available prior to the meeting. Visitors are always welcome to our meetings.

Maralyn Harris Chairman Tel: 07919 478144



## STANSTED BOWLING CLUB

Many thanks to all those who helped to put the 'Green' to bed.

We were very sad to hear of the loss of Jim Stockley, ex-bowler and Green Keeper for many years; he will always be fondly remembered – a true gentleman. Club Dinner and Presentation Night – Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> November, 7.00pm for 7.30pm.

**Club AGM** – Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November at 7.45pm (Minutes of 2016 AGM are on the notice board).

Carpet Bowls has re-started on Tuesday afternoons from 2.00pm and Friday evenings from 7.30pm.

Doreen Scraggs Hon Secretary Tel: 815036 or 07812 483178 Email: doreenscraggs@talktalk.net





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#### STANSTED FOOTBALL CLUB

www.pitchero.com/clubs/stanstedfc2011

We enter the month of November with fewer fixtures than of late but within these games we host three very important league and cup matches. The first one is on Tuesday 7th when we entertain Bostick North League Team Grays Athletic in the 3<sup>rd</sup> round of the BBC Essex Sponsored Senior County Cup. This fixture is particularly attractive as our opposition play at a higher level; however they are not in the best form and currently languish near the bottom of their league. It's a tie which must be decided on the night, so if level after 90 minutes, it's straight to a penalty shootout. We expect Grays to bring plenty of support, therefore our lads are also hoping to get plenty of local support on the night. In League action we have two top games against Great Wakering Rovers and FC Romania; both teams are currently regarded as one of the favourites to win our league and gain promotion.

Once again thanks to our neighbours for returning stray footballs especially matchballs which can be extremely expensive to the Club to replace as we are required to play with a certain standard of ball, marked with 'FIFA Match Approved' stamped across it. If anyone has difficulty in returning matchballs please contact me and we will get them picked up. Finally, on behalf of the Committee and players past and present, the Club is once again proud and honoured to take part in this year's 'Poppy Wreath Laying Ceremony' at the village memorial on Remembrance Sunday. We will also be conducting our own tribute at the home league fixture on the 11<sup>th</sup>.

#### **November Fixtures:**

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> Grays Athletic Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> FC Romania Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> Great Wakering Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> Burnham Ramblers Senior Cup KO 7.45pm League KO 3.00pm League KO 7.45pm League KO 3.00pm



Tom Williams Secretary Tel: 07921 403842

# STANSTED HALL & ELSENHAM CRICKET CLUB

The Club is now busy fundraising for a new pavilion at our Elsenham ground. Our most imminent project is the Aviva Community Fund 2017. You could really help the Club by voting for it online, it will only take five minutes; register or login to your 'My Aviva' account. Once registered you have ten votes which you will hopefully give to Stansted Hall & Elsenham Cricket Club. You have up until 21st November to vote - please help. The Club will be continuing with *All Stars* cricket next year; great news for five to eight year olds (and their parents).



David Brown Tel: 831011 Mob: 07788 999663 Email: david1.r.brown@gmail.com



#### Stansted Cricket Club

The Club is sad to announce the recent passing of two former players: Jim Stockley and Reg Farmer, who were active when I joined the Club in 1975. Our congratulations go to Ben Baker, who has won the NatWest OSCA Groundsman of the Year award. The OSCA scheme is run in our area by Essex County Cricket Club and recognises outstanding contributions from volunteers. The Club's annual tour to La Manga in early October was enjoyed by all and saw the Club play the following 20 over matches:

SCC 123-6	Westcroft CC	124-4
SCC 109-9	Pinatar Pirates	110-5
SCC 127-6	La Manga	133-2
SCC 131-6	Spanish Academy	137-1
SCC 196-5	Westcroft CC (again)	120-8

Josh Monk was the most successful batsman with scores of 109 no, 83, 53 and 33. Ben Baker took the most wickets with

five. It was another great tour with great nights out and good cricket. Many new friends were made and the Club will be going back there next year. The Club would like to invite anyone interested in scoring on a regular basis next season to contact



me. Adults wishing to join the Club should contact me; juniors should contact Head Coach Keith Ayres on 814471.



David Hedge Hon. Secretary Tel: 812509



www.stanstedtennisclub.co.uk

#### **Hospital Cup**:

Congratulations to Ross Armorgie who won this year's Men's Singles, representing Stansted Tennis Club. Finals' Day was held at Henham Tennis Club and was well supported by spectators from Stansted.

#### **Cayless Tournament:**

The rearranged date for this year's tournament will be on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> November starting at 9.00am.

#### Ladies' Night:

The next Ladies' Night will be from 7.00pm on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November. All lady members are welcome to come along and play.

#### Used tennis balls:

These can be purchased for £1 for a tube of four from Jan Hollis at 105 Cambridge Road.

#### Contacts:

Jon Budd (Secretary) 647020; Chris Hollis (Chairman) 319155. If you would like to find out more about Stansted Tennis Club, please visit the website.

Chris Hollis

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