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WHAT'S ON IN JULY

1,15, 29 Sun	Garden Waste Skips	Lower St Car Park 12.30 - 4.30 pm
1 Sun	Windmill Open	1.30 - 5.30 pm
	St Mary's Church Open	2 - 5 pm
3 Tue	Stansted is Well Read	Dog and Duck 8 pm
6 Fri	Business Forum Breakfast	Linden House 7 for 7.30 am
7 Sat	Music in the Park	Hargrave Park 2 - 8.30 pm
8 Sun	Stansted Family Café	Day Centre 10 - 11.30 am
	Grove Cottage Food Festival	Sworders' Field, B S 11 am - 5 pm
9 Mon	Link copy due in today	before 12 noon
	Ladies' Night	Tennis Club 7 pm
10 Tue	Manuden Guides Taster	Manuden Comm Centre 7.30 - 9 pm
12 Thu	Stansted W I	Day Centre 7.30 pm
14 Sat	St Clare Go Bright walk	Water Gardens, Harlow 11 am
	Harmonaires Concert	St Andrews Ch, Much Hadham 7 pm
17 Tue	CAMEO	Day Centre 7 pm
18 Wed	Ugley W I	Ugley Village Hall 2.15 pm
19 Thu	Stansted U3A	St John's Hall 1.30 for 2 pm
21 Sat	U3A Seminar	Free Church 9.30 am - 12.30 pm
	Famers' Market	Ugley Village Hall 10 am - noon
	Afternoon Tea	Windmill 2.30 - 5 pm
	Lib Dem Garden Party	7 Blythwood Gardens 3 - 5 pm
22 Sun	Open Day	Easton Lodge 11.30 am - 5 pm
24 Tue	Hearing Help	Day Centre 2 - 4 pm
	Inner Wheel	Day Centre 7.30 pm



*Festival of
Flavour*

Sun 8th July 11 am - 5 pm
Sworders' Field, B Stortford

Food & Drink Stalls ~ Bar

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Entry Adults £4, children free

In aid of Grove Cottage ~ All Welcome



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To advertise **your event** here tel 814059 email: events@stanstedlink.org.uk
Inclusion is subject to editorial decision & availability of space



**Stansted
Windmill**

AFTERNOON TEA

2.30 - 5 pm Sat 21st July
at the Mill

Cream Teas ~ Homemade Cakes
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All proceeds to the Mill upkeep



**Stansted & District
Liberal Democrats**

GARDEN PARTY

3 - 5 pm Saturday 21st July
7 Blythwood Gardens

Tickets £7 to include cakes, scones,
strawberries, tea and Prosecco
tel Catherine on 813579

Do join us - the sun will shine!



Go Bright 5k Walk!

11 am Sat 14th July
Water Gardens, Harlow

Advance entry: Adults £12,
Children 4-15 £5, Children 3 and
under Free, Family £30
Entry on the Day: Adults £15,
Children £7, Family £40

Also Family Friendly Festival 10 am - 4 pm
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UGLEY FARMERS' MARKET

10 am - noon

Saturday 21st July

Ugley Village Hall

Meat ~ Poultry ~ Fish ~ Eggs
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9.30 am - 12.30 pm Sat 21st July
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7 pm Sat 14th July

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Stansted Mountfitchet Village Magazine

The Link

www.stanstedlink.org.uk

Editor:
Ken Whyne
01279 816084
editor@stanstedlink.org.uk

Advertising:
Mike and Marion Dyer
01279 814059
adverts@stanstedlink.org.uk

Distribution Queries:
David Horton
01279 813680
distribution@stanstedlink.org.uk

Treasurer:
Alan Wheeler
01279 813745
accounts@stanstedlink.org.uk

Directors:
Mike Dyer (Chairman)
Yvonne Ayres
Susan Bone
Catherine Dean
Marion Dyer
Sarah Ludlow-Elston
Elizabeth Oakley
Dick Pollard

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EDITORIAL



This month's cover remembers a true champion of our community, **Derek Honour**; a founder member of *The Link*, he was also an enthusiastic volunteer for many charitable causes in Stansted. Please spare a few minutes to read the tribute to this wonderful man on page 7.

From *The Wind Beneath My Wings* to *You'll never Walk Alone*; if ever you need a reminder about the uplifting power of song and music, then I would encourage you to attend the next live performance given by the Stansted U3A Singers. Superbly supported by the Mad Hatters Ukulele Group and Instrumental Guitarist Hugh Unwin, this trio provided a wonderfully uplifting evening of song and music at a fundraising concert for the East Anglian Air Ambulance; find out more on page 11. Since NHS England's refusal to grant the application for a second dispensing pharmacy for Stansted, you may have thought the matter closed. Well you would be mistaken! Get the latest update on page 33. Finally, by the time you read this, Stansted Mountfitchet will be Twinned with Rungis, a town located near Paris with probably the world's largest indoor food market, read more on page 41.

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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 9th July** for the August issue or by hand/post by **noon on 7th July** to 7 Blythwood Gardens, Stansted CM24 8HG.

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THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

What words mean and how they are used can be the source of endless argument. One word in particular made the headlines in the run-up to the recent annual meeting of Quakers in Britain. That word was God. Apparently, Quakers were thinking of 'dropping God' from a new version of our book of insights, *Quaker Faith & Practice*. Quakers have, historically, had a low profile in the national news media so it was disappointing that when we did hit the headlines it was over an inaccurate and misleading suggestion.

Quakers are deeply committed to building a community which allows diversity to flourish. This includes beliefs and language. Some Quakers do struggle with the word God while others are comfortable with explicit religious references, reflecting our Christian heritage. Speaking on behalf of Quakers, Paul Parker told the BBC Radio 4 *Today* programme that we are not about to do away with God at all, but Quakers had been asking "What is the right language to talk about religious experience today?".

Quakers at their annual meeting were united in deciding that it was time to revise our book of insights to reflect how the world has changed since it was last revised. Terrorism, mass migration, same-sex marriage, gender identity and technological revolution are just some of the issues that need to have a place.

A letter to Quakers around the world from the annual meeting reflected on language. "We each choose our own words and together our stories make a whole ... We want the language of our book to be accessible, and also reflect the wealth of our tradition, and of our experiences today".

The letter closed with the words of the 17th century Quaker Isaac Penington: "And the end of words is to bring men to the knowledge of things beyond what words can utter".



Jonathan Morrell
Stansted Quaker Meeting

THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS)

Quaker Meeting House, 71 Chapel Hill
Stansted CM24 8AE
www.saffronquakers.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 14th July. The
'Experiment with Light' is a process that
helps people deepen their spiritual lives
by discovering what it means to 'wait in
the Light' as early Quakers did.



The *Big Brekkie* event raised £198, and with further donations of £70 from the churches, a total of £327.50 (including gift aid) has been sent to Christian Aid. Thanks to all who contributed.



Catherine Dean
Tel: 813579



CAMEO

(Come and Meet Each Other)

The Salvation Army CAMEO group meets at 7.00pm on the third Tuesday of the month at Stansted Day and Community Centre, Chapel Hill. The cost is £1 per session and includes an evening topic, and fellowship over tea/coffee and biscuits to finish. In May the CAMEO group enjoyed a games evening. There were three groups playing a variety of games including quiz games, Uno, dominoes and others. It was a good opportunity for fellowship, laughter and keeping the grey matter working.

Our next meeting on 19th July is entitled 'The great CAMEO Bake-Off', and will no doubt be a tasty evening for all those present, as people bring an arrangement of treats which they have baked to share. 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 after the meeting and a Sunday school runs from 12 noon 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

From St John's Registers

May

Funeral
11th

Derek Honour, age 91 - thanksgiving
service in St John's



ST MARY'S CHURCH

On the evening of Friday 1st June, St Mary's church hosted a performance of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* by *thisismytheatre*, a group of six actors under the direction of Sarah Slater. Each actor played two roles in Shakespeare's comedy, thus ensuring some rapid costume changes! The performance was energetic and engaging with plenty of wit. Audience involvement was the order of the evening as the actors extended the 'stage' down the aisle the whole length of the church. The penultimate act, a play within the play staged by amateur actors with a penchant for 'winging it', was uproarious. Music played a large part of the production with unaccompanied vocals as well as a selection of jigs and reels before the performance, played on fiddle, whistle and ukulele.

thisismytheatre will be returning to St Mary's on **Thursday 16th August** to perform Oscar Wilde's *The Importance Of Being Earnest*, which promises to be a show not to be missed. Other events at St Mary's are the *Open Sunday* on 1st July, where refreshments and tours of the church will be available, and the *Tea Party weekend* on 18th and 19th August. *The Stansted Strummers* will be providing music for the occasion during the afternoon of the 19th.

Tony Graver

Tel: 07871 320783

E-mail: anthony.graver53@gmail.com



**STANSTED & DISTRICT
LIBERAL DEMOCRATS**

As in previous years, we are holding a Garden Party on Saturday 21st July from 3.00pm-5.00pm, at 7 Blythwood Gardens; our thanks to Mike and Marion Dyer for allowing us to use their lovely gardens again. Tickets are £7, available from me, and will include a strawberry afternoon tea with cake and scones, plus a glass of prosecco. Please could you let me know if you are coming, to ensure that we have a rough idea of numbers for catering purposes.



Catherine Dean
Tel: 813579

THANK YOU

Tony and Linda Gurr would like to thank everyone who sent cards and condolences to them following the recent sudden death of their son, Christopher. All the support they have been given has been a great comfort.

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

Church Hall Bookings: Barbora Dragoskova
Tel (with answerphone): 815243
Email: st.johns.church@btinternet.com

St John's Diary

Sunday

8.00am Said Holy Communion
9.30am Choral Eucharist (2nd, 3rd and 4th Sundays)
9.30am Family Communion (1st Sunday)

Tuesday

9.15am St John's Tots

A monthly service of Holy Communion is held for residents in two Stansted care homes: on the first Wednesday (Hargrave House) and the second Tuesday (Mountfitchet House).

Wednesday

9.00am Morning Prayer
10.00am Holy Communion

Thursday

10.30am-noon The Coffee Pot

Monday-Thursday and Saturday

5.00pm Evening Prayer

Service Change on 8th July

In a change to our normal pattern of services there will be Mattins instead of Communion at 9.30am on Sunday 8th July. It will be Morning Prayer with the sung canticles of the Venite, Te Deum and Benedictus with readings, hymns and a short sermon. John Rutter's anthem 'For the Beauty of the Earth' will be sung by the choir. Please join us! All are welcome and coffee is served after the service.

ST JOHN'S 300 CLUB

Congratulations to the winners of the May draw:

£100	No 133	Laura Higley
£50	No 9	Samantha Longbottom
£25	No 192	Darren Salisbury

The draw for July will be held on Sunday 29th July in St John's Church following the 9.30am service when there will be an additional prize of £200. There are still numbers available for anyone who may wish to join and be in with a chance to win one of the 38 prizes totalling £2,500 given away each year. In addition, the Club raises vital money to help cover the heavy maintenance costs and work of St John's Church. Numbers cost £2 each per month with a maximum of five numbers per household. Please contact either myself or Katy Dockerill on 812997 for an application form. Thank you.



Ann Lee
Tel: 813310



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

Minister Rev'd Roy Fowler
Tel: 814809
Email: minister@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk

Lettings Marion and Mike Dyer
Tel 814059
Email: lettings@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk

Preachers for July

1st 10.30am Stort Valley Schools Trust - New Directions
8th 10.30am Rev'd Stuart Veitch
15th 10.30am Rev'd Claire Heald
22nd 10.30 am Rev'd Gill Hulme
29th 10.30am Rev'd Roy Fowler - Communion

We are very pleased to welcome back Rev'd Claire Heald, who is the daughter of Phyllis Harrison.

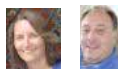


Contact: Howard and Ros Page
Tel: 810813

Email: contactstanfam@yahoo.com

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

Our @27 meetings are normally held on alternate Tuesdays, 7.30pm coffee for 7.45pm start. This month we will be meeting on Tuesdays 3rd and 24th July. @27 is a house-church or home-group-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.



Ros and Howard Page



BENTFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL MUSIC IN THE PARK

Saturday 7th July 2.00pm- 8.30pm. Entry by ticket only, £15 advance, £18 on the day. Children under 16 free with a paying adult. Tickets may be purchased from Bentfield Primary School office tel 813626, Russell Property in Castle Maltings, and Intercounty on Cambridge Road.

John Black
Organising Committee
Email: mitp.bentfield@btinternet.com

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Priest Father John Garrett

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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



RHODES ARTS COMPLEX

Listings for July

At thescreen Stortford

Wednesday 18th 7.00pm *RSC Live, Romeo and Juliet (12A)*

Friday 20th 7.30pm, Saturday 21st July 2.00pm, Tuesday 24th 7.30pm *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society (12A)*

Saturday 21st 11.00am *Lego Ninjago (U) Kids for a Quid*

Saturday 28th 7.30pm Sunday 29th 3.00pm

Andre Rieu, 2018 Maastricht Concert



At themuseum Stortford

Saturday 14th 11.00am *Entertaining Stortford Walk*

Thursday 19th 7.00pm *Quiz Night*

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IN MEMORIAM

DEREK ROY HONOUR

16th April 1927-11th May 2018

Derek was born in North London and spent most of his formative years in East Barnet, where he became involved in his local church and was a keen Rover Scout, eventually becoming one of the leaders.

He was in the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve immediately after the war as part of the ground crew for Seafires and Harvards, nurturing a great interest in such aircraft. On leaving the Royal Navy, Derek worked at Perry's Nursery in Enfield and the London County Council Kenwood Nursery, studying at the Hertfordshire Institute of Horticulture and gaining qualifications in both horticulture and



arboriculture. It was in the early 1950s that he met Peggy during a Scout fund-raising dance in East Barnet and they married in St Mary's Church, East Barnet in 1956. They moved to Stansted in 1958, the year their son Keith was born; their son Malcolm was born three years later. Derek continued to work in London for several years after moving to Stansted, before taking the plunge and setting up his own landscape contracting business, D Honour & Son (Landscape) Ltd in 1978, now run by Keith. Derek retained a keen interest in the development and running of the business until the last.

A lifelong love and extensive knowledge of trees led to Derek being a founder member of the Arboricultural Association. He was the Honorary Secretary for many years and was eventually made a life member and fellow of the Association. He was also involved in preparing British Standards relating to trees and construction, and was an advisor on the beautiful Beale Arboretum created in the grounds of the West Lodge Park Hotel in Enfield, where there is a plaque bearing Derek's name.

As well as making his mark in the horticultural world, Derek also made quite an impression on the Stansted community in his own quiet way. He donated a stained glass window to the Stansted Day Centre; the window was created by Mary Hayman (in consultation with Derek) depicting Richard de Montfichet at the signing of the Magna Carta. Continuing his interest in Scouting he helped start the Tortoises, a Scout group for children with special needs, receiving the Chief Scout's 30 Years' Service Award in 2008. He joined St John's Church where he was an active member of the congregation and a churchwarden for a number

of years; he was very ecumenically minded and was an active member of the Shalom Group for many years from its beginnings in 1985. Somehow, he even found time to be a Samaritan volunteer for a while.

As can be seen from the many tributes paid to Derek in last month's issue of this magazine and elsewhere, he was involved in many aspects of Stansted life including The Link where he served as its Editor for 14 years and Chairman for 17 years. It was mainly due to Derek's drive and determination that the magazine has become the high quality publication it is today. I had the daunting task of taking over the Editorship of The Link from Derek, which was made somewhat easier by his unfailing support and wise advice. Derek had a very dry sense of humour and our Committee meetings have never been quite the same since he stepped down.

Although concerned about the scale and nature of its development, Derek never lost his affection for Stansted and its community. He knew that he had a good group of friends in the village and in his latter years was happy to tell them so whenever he was given an opportunity to stand up and speak. When he finally retired, Derek and Peggy enjoyed several happy cruises to Scandinavia, the Canaries and the Caribbean. Derek was a modest, gentle man who led a very productive, active life and will be remembered with affection by the many in Stansted and beyond who had the privilege of knowing him. He will be missed by Peggy, Keith, Malcolm, his five grandchildren and by us all – but never forgotten.



Yvonne Ayres



STANSTED MOUNTFICHET WINDMILL

At the end of May we had a visit from The Bishop's Stortford Beavers, a lovely well-behaved group who enjoyed their tour of the mill, conducted by our Chairman, Tudor Owen and ably assisted by Barbara Twigg. All our weekend openings this season have, so far, been well supported. Our thanks go to John Salmon for the plants which he provides to us annually. We have received generous visitor donations for these plants, which are both at the mill and at the front of my house, Carte Blanche, Millside – just up from the mill.

Dates for your diary

The Committee members have now arranged a date for our pre-Fête meeting which will be in the Mill on Tuesday 17th July at 7.30pm. Our **Afternoon Tea** at the Mill will be on Saturday 21st July 2.30pm-5.00pm. For £3 you can have a cream tea, coffee, tea, or squash, and there will be a selection of cakes. All proceeds go for the upkeep of the Mill. Please come along and support us. The mill is open on **Sunday 1st July 1.30pm-5.30pm.**



Molly Clark
Co-Trustee
Tel: 816768

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FRED ADOPTS BABY DUCKLINGS

Fred, the resident dog at Mountfitchet Castle, stepped up to the challenge when nine little ducklings became orphaned in May. The ducklings' mum had disappeared and a member of staff found them waddling around the castle grounds alone. The team were very worried about the ducklings but Fred, a 10-year-old Labrador, immediately took to them and has been babysitting ever since.

The ducklings absolutely adore him and he has now resigned himself to being a stay at home dad looking after the nine baby ducklings. They are getting very mischievous, even hitching a ride on his back and following him into the water for a swim in the castle moat. Fred's kind deed has since projected him to national and global fame, including making a TV appearance on the BBC's *The One Show*.



Juliet Milton
Mountfitchet Castle
Tel: 813237



WHAT'S ON AT SAFFRON HALL

JULY HIGHLIGHTS

www.saffronhall.com

Maxim Vengerov

Wednesday 4th 7.30pm

Superstar violinist Maxim Vengerov returns to Saffron Hall. Don't miss this rare opportunity to hear one of the great artists of our time in both recital and chamber settings, performing works by Brahms, Borodin and Mendelssohn.

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An Evening of Opera with WNO Orchestra

Saturday 14th 7.00pm

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Triorca Orchestra

Saturday 28th 7.30pm

Nicolas Daniel conducts this international youth orchestra made up of musicians from Norfolk, Vojvodina, Serbia and Rheinland-Pfalz, Germany.

Tom Dickinson
Email: tom.dickinson@saffronhall.com

SPEEDING ON CHURCH ROAD

Did you know Stansted Mountfitchet has an active volunteer Speed Watch team, who are on duty most weeks throughout the year? We are trained by the police and only use approved equipment to operate at Police stipulated locations. We are also only allowed to 'book' vehicles travelling over 36mph.

On 25th May we were on Speed Watch duty on Church Road between 3.00pm and 5.00pm, when we booked 36 vehicles travelling over 36mph. The average speed of these vehicles was 38.3mph. Six were travelling at over 40mph, two of which were travelling at over 50mph; the fastest was travelling at 57mph! The legal speed limit on Church Road is 30mph, and with its narrow footpath carries many children to and from Forest Hall School, also parents with small children and many commuters.

Information from Essex Highways dating back to 2012 showed that over 6,000 vehicles were using Church Road during a normal weekday. Since that report six years ago, the volume of traffic on the road has most likely increased; however, at present there is no available data to confirm this assumption. When Essex Highways is invited to comment on a planning application or request to introduce traffic calming measures, it normally refers to the average speed of vehicles using that road. They have in fact recently refused to install further traffic calming measures along Church Road because "The average speed is not high enough". I believe they should be brought to publicly account for this comment. Evidence of vehicles speeding along Church Road has been clearly captured and documented by the Speed Watch team. I would urge the Parish Council to assist us and the Police to get Essex Highways to explain in a public meeting why they have refused to approve additional traffic calming measures needed between the railway bridge and Churchfields.

Ray Woodcock
Tel: 816468

INAUGURAL STANSTED REAL ALE AND CRAFT GIN WEEKEND

Brought to you by Round Table

The Bishop's Stortford and Stansted Round Table are delighted to announce the running of the first ever Stansted Real Ale & Craft Gin weekend on 1st and 2nd September in St John's Hall, St John's Road. We will be showcasing the very best of Essex and Hertfordshire local brewing and distilling. Early bird tickets are available for £10 which covers entry on both days, a free festival cup and three drinks tokens. All money raised will be given to local charitable causes, so we invite you to come along, sample some world class beer and gin, and help give back to your local community. Event Information including ticket purchases or enquiries can be made through our Facebook event page www.facebook.com/events/189336768362913/. We look forward to welcoming you.

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New Controversy as Airport re-writes Council Planning Policy

Stop Stansted Expansion (SSE) has slammed Uttlesford District Council (UDC) for proposing fundamental changes to the Council's airports policy based on wording provided by the owners of Stansted Airport, the Manchester Airports Group (MAG). The sweeping changes are included in the latest version of the UDC Draft Local Plan, published recently. As it presently stands, UDC policy only supports the expansion of Stansted Airport up to its current permitted limit of 35 million passengers per annum (mppa) compared to 26mppa today. However, the new policy - if endorsed at a meeting of all UDC councillors on 19th June - would remove many of the existing local controls over expansion beyond the current permitted limit of 35mppa (see page 23). Instead, there would be no upper limit on the expansion of Stansted Airport, not even in relation to another runway.

It is no coincidence that the proposed changes have suddenly emerged at a time when MAG is seeking to increase the permitted limit at Stansted Airport from 35mppa to 43mppa. SSE views this as an attempt to shift the goal posts in order to manipulate a favourable outcome to the current airport planning application. SSE has established that the revised wording of the UDC airports policy, known as Policy SP11, was largely written by MAG in September last year and has resulted in the deletion of the previous requirement for airport development proposals to be "in accordance with the latest permission" as well as the requirement that there should be no significant increase in the number of flights.

SSE believes that the wording of the new policy was probably finalised at a meeting held behind closed doors between MAG and UDC planning officers in late 2017. Using Freedom of Information requests, SSE has established that no fewer than 35 meetings took place between UDC planning officers and MAG representatives in the course of 2016 and 2017, including a specific meeting to discuss changes to the UDC Local Plan held on 11th December 2017. UDC has refused to provide formal minutes for any of these 35 meetings. This most recent example of worryingly-close liaison between UDC and MAG is the latest in a long line of similar issues where it appears that UDC planning officers have been all too keen to accommodate the owners of Stansted Airport:

- The manipulation of the current planning application to try to leave UDC to determine the outcome and avoid the detailed national scrutiny that would result if the application were 'called in' by the Secretary of State. SSE continues to be prepared to take legal action on this issue.
- The 'Cash for Favours' agreement between UDC and MAG whereby the Council agreed to 'fast track' the current airport planning application in return for staged payments from MAG.

- The discovery – buried in an appendix deep within the 2,930-page planning application – that MAG wants to remove the present restriction which prevents it lobbying Government for more night flights at Stansted. Until SSE's disclosure of this issue, neither UDC nor MAG had made any mention of this hidden proposal aimed ultimately at increasing night flights.
- UDC's clear bias in requiring those submitting objections to the planning application to provide their address whereas those supporting the planning application need not provide their address.

This is yet another attempt by MAG to manipulate the planning system to achieve its own objectives. The most worrying aspect is that UDC planning officers seem to be bending over backwards to accommodate MAG, regardless of the impact on the local community whose interests they are supposed to serve. The growing catalogue of concerns about UDC's handling of this airport planning application and the lack of transparency in the council's dealings with MAG make it all the more important for this application to be taken out of UDC's hands and dealt with by the Secretary of State.

Brian Ross

Tel: 814540

Email: brian.ross@lineone.net



SUMMER CONCERT

Very many thanks to everyone who helped to make the concert by the U3A Singers, Mad Hatters Ukulele Group and Hugh Unwin at St. Theresa's on 2nd June such a success.



We raised £734.55 for East Anglian Air Ambulance and it was a most enjoyable evening.



Photos by Tony Aldridge

Many thanks to the extended Warnett family and Mike Dyer for setting up the hall ready for the concert.

Mary Warnett

Tel: 814190

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We have had an eventful and action-packed summer term here at Bentfield. It started with a two-day Ofsted inspection and I am delighted to announce that we have once again been graded as a **Good school**. The inspectors highlighted many of the wonderful aspects of our school: its inclusivity, excellent behaviour and enjoyment for learning, high quality teaching, the progress made by our pupils, our meticulous approach to safeguarding and pupil welfare, thorough assessment systems, and the broad and balanced curriculum. One of the things I am most proud of is the recognition of our dedicated and hardworking staff team, and the relationships between all members of the school community. Our pupils are an enormous credit to our school and I was pleased to see comments about them "genuinely caring for each other", being "welcoming and polite", and having positive attitudes to learning. Thank you to all who have supported us to achieve this.

There have been a multitude of trips and visitors this term: Reception Class visited St John's Church, Year 1 had a visit from a theatre company about a



Magical Toy Museum, Year 3 took a trip to Waitrose to learn about food production and healthy eating, Year 4 have been to Lullingstone Roman Villa and Year 5 experienced an Ancient Greece workshop (which included dressing up in togas for the day)! At the time of writing, Year 2 are leaving for Walton-on-the-Naze, and Year 5 are heading off on their three-day residential to Lee Valley Park where they will experience dragon boating, kayaking and a visit to the Gunpowder Mills for rocket making. We also have our annual Music in the Park event on **Saturday 7th July**, 2.30pm-8.30pm. Details are available on our school website and on page 4 of this issue of The Link.

David Rogers
Headteacher
Tel: 813626

494 SQUADRON – SELF-IMPROVEMENT



One of the many opportunities we have at Air Cadets is to develop ourselves and our personal skills in a variety of areas and disciplines. We can learn about skills directly related to being part of the Air Cadet squadron such as radio transmission, aircraft recognition, shooting, flying and gliding. We also have the opportunity to develop ourselves in other more personal ways: pushing out of our comfort

zones, developing our social skills, learning how to teach others a new skill, communicating, volunteering and planning.

494 Squadron has opportunities for self-improvement and we support cadets in all sorts of personal development areas. The sense of satisfaction and achievement through mastering something we couldn't do before is fantastic! Fancy joining us? 494

Squadron now has some vacancies due to cadets moving on to university and work; we welcome both boys and girls aged from 12 years (in Year 8) to age 17. The Squadron meets on Monday and Thursday evenings and is based at the airport. Contact us by email to find out more or see our Facebook page (search 494 Squadron Stansted).



Rachel Alexander

Email: oc.494@aircadets.org



The Place is open throughout the school holidays and all ages are welcome, so come along for free refreshments and a chat, and log on to our free wifi. We are open every Monday, Wednesday and Friday (except bank holidays) from 9.30am-12.30pm. Good company, computers, space for the children to play with toys and run around, plus a quiet area with comfy seating; and if you fancy keeping your mind active, we have a jigsaw 'on the go' which anyone is welcome to add pieces to! We are in the foyer of Stansted Free Church at the bottom of Chapel Hill (near Millway). Everyone welcome.



Marion and Mike Dyer
Tel: 814059



MANUDEN GUIDES TASTER NIGHT



We invite all girls aged nearly 10-13 to our taster night on **Tuesday 10th July** 7.30pm-9.00pm in Manuden Community Centre. We are a small group who enjoy a wide range of activities including cooking, craft, badminton, table tennis, hiking, canoeing, theatre and concert visits, sleepovers, and outings: all chosen and often planned by the girls. You can just turn up on the night, but it would be helpful if you could let me know beforehand if possible.



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



FOREST HALL SCHOOL

The Student Executive Team at Forest Hall School has been selected from students in Year 7 to 11 who will take on responsibilities around the school. Benedek Balogh has been appointed as Head Boy with Amarni-Jai Newman as Head Girl. The duo, along with the rest of the Student Executive Team, have taken on roles as Eco, Charity and Safeguarding Ambassadors and on the Student Voice and newly formed Press Team. For the first time, the Student Executive Team has been formed with students from all year groups to share the responsibility.



Ross Becko, Assistant Head, said: "Members of the Student Executive Team take on extra responsibility and get extra rewards in return. They are getting an insight into micro-managing the school as they each take on a specific area of responsibility. They have an opportunity to make a difference. They are increasing in confidence as they have to speak in assemblies and are becoming more well-rounded. It's a great experience with much to gain for them. This is the first time we have put these roles and responsibilities into place. We have previously had a student team made up of Year 10 and 11 students, but as the school is expanding, so we are giving more opportunities to students of all ages."

An eager 80 students applied for the nine positions available. Year 9 Taya Cordell, a member of the Press Team, said: "We had to put together a CV and fill in an application form for the role before undergoing a full application process and interview. I want to encourage other people to come to Forest Hall as it's a really good school. I also want to make sure the new Year 7 students know this is a safe place to be."

Kelly Clark
Tel: 01245 237751
Email: words@kellylouiseclark.co.uk



www.musicatstansted.co.uk

We have arranged an exciting season of concerts for our 23rd season with a varied programme, starting with a first appearance in Stansted for the acclaimed *Bishop's Stortford Sinfonia* and closing with an always popular *string quartet*.

We have been very excited to watch the creation and successful growth of the *Bishop's Stortford Sinfonia*, and we are delighted to announce that they will be opening the season on Sunday 14th October at 6.00pm in St John's Church. On Sunday 25th November at 3.00pm we feature the baritone *Nicholas Mogg* and pianist *Jáms Coleman* who come to Stansted with the generous support of the Countess of Munster Trust Recital Scheme. This successful duo have performed recitals in the Wigmore Hall as well as at various festivals in the UK and abroad. By request of our members, we have an afternoon of artistry in percussion, when we bring back *O Duo* who were here in 2006. We can expect a programme of original pieces and transcriptions which we are confident will get the same enthusiastic reception when they come to us on Sunday 27th January at 3.00pm.

The season closes on Saturday 16th March at 7.30pm with the Benyounes String Quartet, who have forged a reputation for fresh, vivid performances and interpretations of refinement and integrity over the last ten years. We always welcome new members and now, before the start of a new season, there is a discount, so it is the ideal time to join. Tickets for each concert: adults £15, concessions £12; however, season tickets offer a considerable discount: adults £40, Concessions £35, if purchased before 31st July. After this date season tickets cost £45 (concessions £40). We are continuing our policy of encouraging younger people from the village to come by offering free entry to under 18s. In addition, we still have the special offer for members and supporters, whereby each member subscribing for the season can bring a friend free of charge to one of the four concerts mentioned above.

To join or renew, please send a cheque payable to Music at Stansted, together with a note of your name(s), address, telephone number and email address (in order to keep you informed throughout the season) to: The Membership Secretary, c/o 25 Chantry Road, Bishop's Stortford CM23 2SD. Check out our website for general information, or if you have a specific enquiry please send us an email.

Alan Corbishley
Email: contactus@musicatstansted.co.uk

RSPB STORT VALLEY LOCAL GROUP



www.rspb.org.uk/groups/stortvalley/events/

We have a summer break during July and August, but we look forward to returning in September with a new programme of events.

Advance notice: our annual quiz will be held on **Saturday 13th October**. Do save the date if you would like to enter a team. If you cannot get a team together and would like to join in we always have a table for individuals to come and join together as a team.

Sheila Bowles
Tel: 814973

Stansted Family Café

TRANSFERRED TO StanstedCAN

www.stanstedfamilycafe.org

Even regulars at the Café will have noticed little difference, but since 1st January the Café has been run by StanstedCAN (Stansted Community Action Network), a local charity formed in 2016 with aims to promote social inclusion, relieve the effects of financial hardship, and provide opportunities for children and young people. The Café was started by Stansted Family Church in 2011 and continues to be popular with families who have children under 12, but we also still see some young teenagers who have been coming with their families since they were only six or seven years old! We have a particularly family-friendly atmosphere, serving all kinds of coffee, tea, cakes and sweet treats, just like a high street coffee shop, but with the added benefit of a craft table (new projects for children aged 3 to 11+ each session) and a selection of toys and games for children of different ages. Some children come with grandparents or other carers, and everyone is welcome. We do not charge for anything, although you can make a small donation if you wish. Spend time, not money, at the Family Café. Stansted Family Church still helps to support the Café financially, through donating to StanstedCAN, but it makes more sense for the Café to be grouped with other similar projects, so that all projects will benefit from shared resources and economies of scale.

Stansted Family Café ran the *Bouncy Picnic* on the Recreation Ground in June (with help from Stansted Family Church, Messy Church and Stansted Parish Council), providing inflatables, squash and hundreds of hotdogs. Our last Café before the school holidays is on Sunday 8th July 10.00am-11.30am at the Day Centre. All welcome!



Ros Page
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Do you have any used original ink cartridges or mobile phones which you do not know how to dispose of? Then we would be pleased to have them! There is a collecting box in the Free Church Foyer (which is open every Monday, Wednesday and Friday 9.30am-12.30pm), and also one in the Free Church Hall. We receive £1 for each cartridge and variable amounts for mobile phones, and the money raised will go towards Messy Church which is funded by all the Stansted churches. We can take most cartridges except Epson, but they must be **originals** (not remanufactured or own branding such as Tesco, Millway etc). Mobile phones do not need to be working but preferably should have their charger. If you cannot take items to the church, you can bring them to 7 Blythwood Gardens (leave in the porch if we are out) or we can collect from you. Thank you.



Marion and Mike Dyer
Tel: 814059
Email: recycle@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk



www.rainbowpreschool-stansted.co.uk

All the children celebrated the Royal Wedding by making crowns and dressing up as princes and princesses. On the Friday they enjoyed a 'wedding cake' topped by a picture of Meghan and Prince Harry.

The school has applied for an allotment plot up at the Elms Farm site; we are hopeful that from September the children will be taking part in digging and growing activities and learning more about where our food comes from.



Ann Conroy will be giving us guidance on this activity. Last December, an initiative was set up with Mountfitchet House Care Home, enabling a small group of children and staff members to visit and take part in activities with the residents every two weeks. This has included games, art activities and planting pots for the garden area; we are now having a sunflower seed growing competition. Every session finishes with rhyme time, with the residents joining in with the more traditional ones. The children have also shared the story of 'The Gruffalo' using puppets to re-enact it. This initiative has proved to be very beneficial to both the children and to the care home residents. We therefore plan to continue with the visits as a regular feature of the Rainbow experience.

We would like to wish all the children moving onto Primary School good luck and hope they enjoy their new schools. 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: 814 242
Email: admin@rainbowpreschool.net

STANSTED IS WELL READ

The next meeting of our book club will be on **Tuesday 3rd July** at 8.00pm in the Dog and Duck in Lower Street, where we will be discussing *Black Widow* by Chris Brookmyre which is the Winner of the *Bloody Scotland* Prize for Crime Novel of the Year. This book is said to be the 'Celtic Gone Girl', so it should keep us all guessing! Please do join us; we meet on the first Tuesday of every month and a warm welcome will await.



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Nature Notes

Two great walks or cycle trips

For my Notes this month I thought that I would pass on two of my favourite walks or cycle routes which are quite local to us. If you have already walked or cycled along these routes you would know exactly how special they are, and how lucky we are to have them on our doorstep.



The first route is the River Stort, going from Bishop's Stortford town centre to the Antiques Centre in Sawbridgeworth. On a sunny day it is truly a beautiful route to walk or cycle. It is approximately 4½ miles long and in places breathtaking. On this trip you would encounter not only spectacular views, but lots of different species of animal, bird and plant life, as well as the narrow boats cruising along the river. The second route is from Great Hallingbury to Takeley, walking or cycling along the Flitch Way (a disused railway line). If you can get there early, you will see quite a number of deer along the trail, as well as all the birds that flit from Hatfield Forest to the local gardens along the way. It may be difficult to park at Hallingbury or Takeley, but this three-mile route is worth it. Also, you can drop into the forest from a number of gates and walk around the forest at no cost. So next time you are thinking about what to do on a lovely day, instead of battling with the traffic ending up at a resort that is already packed out with tourists, give a thought to two local places that are quite stunning, quiet and great for the kids.



Steve Leaney
Tel: 647177

EXPECT TO GET BITTEN!

If I had a pound every time I hear the following phrases in my veterinary life, I would be a millionaire by now: The first is: "But he doesn't eat very much", usually uttered by the owners of rather portly Labradors, and the other is: "He's never done that before", after a snarling bundle of fur has tried to eat my fingers! I usually politely ask the owners if they could give us a bit of a 'heads up' next time so we remember to get out the muzzles, gauntlets or full body

armour depending on the pet. However, I encountered an interesting riposte this week. An owner replied: "But that's your job, you must expect to get bitten".

I have pondered on that comment for several days now and find myself in a dilemma: should we as vets just expect to be bitten on a daily basis? Should owners take more responsibility for their pet's behaviour? Is it a reflection of society in general? Should ambulance drivers expect to be abused or assaulted by people they try to help or nurses and doctors expect insulting behaviour from their patients? We all know the unexpected may happen and we try our best to avoid difficult situations as much as possible and behave in a professional manner but *expect* to be injured. Hmmm, I am not so sure. So there we go, this month's veterinary comment is in fact an edition of The Moral Maze. If any of you have any views on the subject I would love to hear them; just drop me a line at the surgery or you are always welcome to pop in for a chat, you will find me in the consulting room trying on different suits of armour!



Ilse Pedler
Mercer and Hughes



STANSTED SCOUTS

District Camp

Every May Bank Holiday we have a weekend District Camp in Hatfield Forest where we join other Scouts from our District. This year seven of our Scouts decided to take part. On a pleasant Friday evening, our site began to take shape as we pitched our weekend home, and by 9.00pm the sleeping tents, loo tent and dining shelter were up. Activities started at 9.30pm just to keep the Scouts out of mischief! The next three days' action took place in sunny weather, although we had a rather good thunderstorm on Saturday night. Always good to check how waterproof the tents are! The activities included an aerial runway, archery, air rifles, go-karts, volleyball, lacrosse, pioneering and, in the sun, anything that involves water such as the water rockets and water relay races.

A demonstration on preparing animals to eat this year featured rabbits and pigeons with many Scouts having a go. The Scouts also had to cook all their own meals and take part in the cooking competition. Our tired but happy Scouts left the forest having gained their Outdoor Challenge award, Chef badge and more nights away. Some of the skills learnt will be used at our backwoods camp, which is in September.



Mike Byrne
Scout Leader
Tel: 812780

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Stansted Network

NEWS FROM YOUR LOCAL COUNCILS

HIGHWAYS - A FEW MORE QUESTIONS

The Neighbourhood Plan Group and the Parish Council would still like to hear from more residents. Your experience and thoughts are invaluable. A few questions are listed below for your consideration.

- 1 Church Road - if the choice is between the existing traffic calming measures or no calming measures, which would you choose?
- 2 Walson Way - should double yellow lines be implemented at both ends of this road (remembering it is a bus route)?
- 3 Commuter/airport parking - if you are seriously affected by such parking would you support a one hour a day no parking scheme - always remembering that this would apply to residents as well?
- 4 Grove Hill - if off-street parking could be guaranteed to residents within walking distance would you support the removal of on-street parking?
- 5 Cambridge Road - if more short-term off-street parking could be provided would you support the reduction in the number of spaces for on-street parking?
- 6 Cycling - if encouraging safe cycling is important, where can safe cycle paths be created and where would you want to cycle?
- 7 Walking - what changes would make it more likely that you would walk with n the village rather than making that additional car journey?

Finally, if the above questions are too easy, is there any merit in considering a one-way system? If you think you have a viable way of doing this please share it with us.

By the time you read this, High Lane should be re-opening and the temporary traffic lights on Cambridge Road should no longer be operating. The Parish Council has had a number of calls from despairing residents who are understandably very frustrated by the number of road closures in the village, as well as road works in neighbouring communities, making routine journeys a bit of a nightmare. Councillors have been trying to get

the various agencies involved to co-ordinate road closures and to improve communications in order to minimise the pain they inflict on all of us. We live in hope.

CRAFTON GREEN PROJECT

Construction work on the new library and community building is progressing to plan. The photograph below shows how the site looked at the end of May.



By the time you read this, all the ground work and re-location of cables should be completed and the building will be starting to take shape. We will keep you updated on how the construction work is progressing in future editions of The Link. We expect building work to be completed by October and that the building will be open to the public early in November.

VOLUNTEERING

The "Big Society" agenda that David Cameron advocated when Prime Minister saw "volunteerism" as a key part of how our society should function. Opponents saw this as a way of off-setting cuts in public spending and were unhappy with the idea of our libraries, and other public services, being run by volunteers rather than qualified staff being paid an appropriate rate for the job. The role of the voluntary sector is a potentially contentious issue, but the reality is that, without their contribution, some really important services, targeted at some of our most vulnerable citizens, wouldn't happen and lots of activities that help to improve the quality of life in our village wouldn't be on offer.

There is a saying that suggests "If you want something done, ask a busy person" (attributed to Benjamin Franklin). A few of our residents who take on multiple voluntary roles might think that "flogging a dead horse" might be more appropriate as they juggle all their commitments to a variety of charity and not-for-profit organisations!

Many of the most active volunteers we have in our community are at the more senior end of the age spectrum, and it seems to get harder and harder to involve younger residents and train them to take over the more demanding roles when the time comes. People, often perfectly justifiably, don't want to commit to voluntary work because they have demanding jobs and want to devote any spare time they might have to their family. The increasingly complicated health and safety, child and data protection and other legal issues also tend to put people off getting involved, which is regrettable because there are lots of positive aspects of volunteering and it can be very rewarding.

Most volunteers are fairly modest about their contributions and don't expect anything in return, which is probably just as well as your chances of being recognised in the next Honours List, or receiving an invite to a Buckingham Palace Garden Party, are pretty remote!



At the local level, an invite to the Parish Reception (see photo above taken at this year's reception) is one way the Parish Council says thank you to our own voluntary organisations and, if you stay involved for long enough, you might get your long service recognised with an Uttlesford Community Achievement Award.

It's not really about getting recognition, or even a simple thank you (although that's always appreciated), the

most important element is the satisfaction of knowing you are making a difference.

There is a long list of local clubs and organisations on page 42, all of which depend on volunteer involvement. If you are interested in finding out more about this they would be delighted to hear from you. Alternatively, you could log on to the Volunteer Uttlesford website www.volunteeruttlesford.org.uk which has lots of information and advice. If you don't really want to commit to being a regular volunteer there are still possibilities on an ad-hoc basis, such as turning out for the village litter pick.

There is a quote which sums it up nicely "Volunteers don't get paid, not because they're worthless but because what they do is priceless" (Sherry Anderson).

WAR MEMORIAL

Conservation work on the War Memorial was carried out in May and we hope you will agree that the memorial now looks really impressive. With the enhancement work that was done in the Memorial Gardens last year, we now have a fitting tribute to all those who made the ultimate sacrifice for their country.

The photograph below shows the stonemason, Stan Reynolds, working on the inscriptions of the names of service men and one civilian lady, who lost their lives in WWI and WWII.



LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Trying to make sense of how local government in the UK is organised, and establishing who is responsible for what, can be very frustrating. Part of the problem is that there are a number of different structures in place across the UK, so how it works in our area is different to how it works in larger cities and other urban areas. This confusion was highlighted locally recently when a number of residents, who had been following the coverage of local government elections in the media, turned up at Bentfield School expecting to find a polling station, only to discover that we don't have an election until 2019. At that point you will get the opportunity to vote, or even stand for election yourself (providing you satisfy all the eligibility criteria), in District and Parish Council elections (but not County Council elections which take place in 2020!)

The other thing that residents don't always understand is the distinction between councillors and officers. What you should appreciate is that councillors are elected (although not all elections are contested), they don't get paid but they attend meetings and get to make decisions on the important issues. Officers have a contract of employment and are paid. They implement policies and decisions of the Council, and senior officers often advise Councillors on legal and technical issues in areas where they have qualifications and experience. Officers often have some decision-making powers delegated to them, but they are accountable to councillors for their actions.

If you phone one of the Council Offices (ie parish or district) you will speak to an officer who will try to deal with your query, but you may want to speak to a councillor if you have an issue on policy. All contact details are on page 24.

As this is such a complex topic we can't really do it justice in one article so over the next couple of months we will be trying to explain different aspects of local government to you. Next month we will be testing you with a "Who Does What?" quiz.

NEWS FROM UTTLESFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL

Cllr Thom Goddard writes

I am writing this article for The Link at the end of May, for publication in the July edition. If that makes perfect sense to you, then you too should consider becoming a local councillor. After all, the District Council elections are only 9 short months away.

The Local Plan

On 19th June, the District Council votes on 'Regulation 19, Consultation on the Local Plan'. If approved, the Local Plan for Uttlesford will move into its final, pre-submission phase. There will be a consultation with the public over the summer so please send your views to your local District Councillors and also to planningpolicy@uttlesford.gov.uk.

More information on how you can engage with the Local Plan will be published soon and I hope we will see even more than the 6,000 people who joined in the last consultation. The Local Plan for Uttlesford must find locations to meet housing and employment needs, whilst ensuring the special character of the area is safeguarded. Please note, however, this will be the last chance to express yourself over the Local Plan before it is finalised. National Government may mandate how many houses have to be built in our area, but we should decide where.

Stansted Airport Planning Application

The planning application to raise the existing cap on passenger movements through Stansted Airport from 35 million to 43 million passengers per annum will be determined by the Planning Committee on 18th July. Stansted Airport is the largest employer in the East of England and so has many economic benefits for our area. The airport is also the single largest source of noise and air pollution, and any increase in passenger numbers will lead to an increase in congestion.

I am sure you have a view on Stansted Airport applying to increase passenger numbers. If you are reading this before 18th July you still have time to express your view, supporting the application or objecting, by contacting planning@uttlesford.gov.uk with planning reference: UTT/18/0460/FUL. Please include your name and address for your views to be registered.

Local Heritage List

Uttlesford has created a list of structures and other local assets considered to have significant character. The list includes ancient houses, pubs and churches to telephone boxes, signposts and even water pumps. The list is available in the library, by calling Conservation Officer, Angharad Hart on 01799 510531 or you can email conservation@uttlesford.gov.uk for more information. The consultation closes on 4th July so I hope you can give your opinion or even contribute some new nominations before then.

DATES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

All meetings start at 7.45pm unless otherwise stated

July

- | | |
|----|------------------------------------|
| 4 | Full Council |
| 18 | Highways (7.00pm) followed by F&GP |
| 25 | Full Council |

August

NO MEETINGS

CONTACT DETAILS

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Assistant to the Parish Clerk - Trevor Lloyd

Administration Assistant - Emma Philbrick

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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
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Jo Kavanagh	815157
	jo.kavanagh.248@gmail.com
John O'Brien	816772
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Rachel Rands	817413
	rachelrands@btinternet.com
Frances Richards	812748
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John Salmon	814789
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	sellgeoffrey@yahoo.co.uk
Valerie Trundle	813433
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Daphne Wallace-Jarvis	812259
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There is one vacancy on the Parish Council

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Alan Dean	813579
	cllrdean@uttlesford.gov.uk
Terry Farthing	661555
	cllrfarthing@uttlesford.gov.uk
Thom Goddard	01371 879122
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Investigators is a group for children aged approximately 6-11 years on **Fridays from 6.15pm-7.45pm** in the Free Church Hall. We meet for a mixture of games, Bible stories, challenges, creative activities and other items suggested by the children's interests. Recent creative activities have involved making and using puppets, including glove puppets (pictured) and shadow-puppets.



There is a lovely friendly and fun atmosphere, with boys and girls of all ages integrating well together and encouraging one another in really positive ways.

As usual we say goodbye to our Year 6 children this term and we will have space for a few new children from September. Places will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. Although most children attending are 7+ we do accept confident 6-year-olds, as we know many do not want to wait until their 7th birthday to join in (especially siblings)! Some children at Investigators attend a church, or a church school, but most do not, and everyone is welcome; we make no assumptions about what children believe or do not believe and all children's views are respected. All leaders are DBS checked and have appropriate safeguarding training, etc. If your child would like to try out Investigators during July or you would like more information, please contact me as soon as possible.



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www.theharmonaireschoir.com

On **Saturday 14th July** at 7.00pm in the beautiful St Andrew's Church, Much Hadham, you are invited to spend a summer evening with one of the region's most engaging choirs led by Musical Director, Josie Cowley. Following the success of *Voices for Hospices*, fundraising for Isabel Hospice, the Harmonaires Choir is delighted to continue its partnership with the hospice for this unmissable choral concert celebrating the Great American Songbook. Enjoy Rat Pack standards, country/folk classics, musical theatre anthems, glorious gospel and uplifting works by living American composers. Tickets: adults £10, students £6, available from 07916 153 898 or from the website.

The Harmonaires Choir was formed less than four years ago and is building a reputation as one of the leading choirs in

the area, singing an eclectic mix of music from Tallis to Coldplay. Having had a successful appearance in May at the *International Sangerstevne Choir Festival* in London, the choir was invited back to Ely Cathedral to perform on Saturday 23rd June during the Cathedral's much acclaimed three-day Flower Festival. There will be local concerts in October and December 2018; the choir will also be at Bury St Edmunds Cathedral in March next year.

Liz Jennings
Tel: 813270

SOCIAL CLUB'S BUILDING PUT ON HERITAGE SHORTLIST

www.smsc.uk.com

We have been trying to get the Club's building listed for some time now. After a recent site visit by the Heritage & Conservation team at Uttlesford District Council, we have at last been included on the draft Local Heritage List! This is encouraging as we would like the Club (built in 1885) to be around for the enjoyment of future generations. Inclusion in the list may also open doors for grants to help carry out repairs that are needed to the building's structure. Further details can be found on the Council's website www.uttlesford.gov.uk/executivedecisions. You then need to view the document 'Decisions taken 11-24 January 2018.' Further information about the heritage list can also be found by visiting www.uttlesford.gov.uk/heritagelist.

Entertainment highlights

July has a packed entertainment programme, kicking-off with coverage of the World Cup. Check out our Facebook page and website for details of the games that we will be showing. Come on down and follow your team! We will also have a fantastic beer on sale for the World Cup – *Bo66y*, which was launched by Greene King in 2016 to commemorate England's victory in 1966. Live music entertainment will be led by *Sean* on Sunday 1st July. This will be followed by a bumper weekend starting on Friday 13th with *Complete Madness*. Saturday 14th sees both *Robbie Williams* and *Freddie Mercury* tribute acts, and the weekend finishes with an *Elton John* tribute act on Sunday 15th. Entry for non-members will be ticket only and must be purchased in advance from the bar. At just £5 for each evening, why not come and check us out? The following weekend sees *The 4 Blokes*, with *The Souled Organisation* performing on Saturday 28th. The month is rounded-off with our Sunday Karaoke on 29th. Don't forget that we have Prize Bingo every Tuesday, eyes down at 8.00pm.

Andrew Sharpe
Email: stanstedclub@gmail.com





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DOG AGILITY TRAINING

www.agilitynet.co.uk

Agility is a competitive sport for dogs. If you have a fit and active dog, he or she will almost certainly love to have a go at agility training. You may have seen on television some of the competitions that are held at the Crufts Dog Show each year, and these are the very top dogs in the field. However, all over the country there are dogs taking part in agility competitions every weekend throughout the summer and many people travel miles to take part.



There are usually some 20 or more obstacles set out on the course involving jumps, tunnels and 'contact' items, including a see-saw. The dog runs to complete the course against the clock. Any jumps knocked over or contacts missed on the way round count as faults. The height of the jumps depends on the size of the dog. There is also a grading system, so that if you have clear rounds in the lower grades you automatically move up to a higher grade and a more difficult course. To help the poor handler remember which way to go, the obstacles are all numbered. For larger breeds, Border Collies are usually the stars of the show, but smaller poodles and terriers are very fast and do well. If you have a big excitable cross-breed like mine the chances are that he will charge around the course at top speed knocking things over left, right and centre, but the main thing is that he thoroughly enjoys himself and, thankfully, I have never had delusions of reaching the big time! If you are interested in finding out more, go to the AgilityNet website where you will find details of clubs and training.

Sarah Ludlow-Elston



U3A SATURDAY SEMINARS

The next Saturday Seminar is on **21st July** 9.30am-12.30pm in Stansted Free Church and is entitled 'Is that a Crumhorn?' We have not yet had a musical seminar so it will be fascinating to see the group *Hexchordia* presenting musical instruments of the Medieval and Renaissance eras, featuring live music richly-illustrated with paintings of the time. Tickets: members £4, non-members £5, available from me.

Then we break until 20th October when we shall be taking a close look at the *Dark Continent* with historian David Morson: not about Africa, as you might think, but rather Europe under the dark cloud of the various dictators who arose during the inter-war years. In the pipeline are semi-

nars on *Gilbert and Sullivan*, *The birth of railways in Britain*, and *The power of water*. We hope some or all of these will appeal to you and look forward to welcoming you in the near future.

Alan Wheeler

Tel: 07817 275563

Email: stanstedseminars@gmail.com



GROVE COTTAGE'S FESTIVAL OF FLAVOUR

The ultimate day out for food lovers is coming to Bishop's Stortford this month in the form of 'The Festival of Flavour', a food and drink festival organised by Grove Cottage which is the home of Bishop's Stortford Mencap. The event is now in its second year following the success of last September's event, which saw over 1,000 members of the public enjoy food from a wide variety of local artisan traders.



The event will be held on **Sunday 8th July** at Sworders Field, Bishop's Stortford and will feature a range of tasty food and drink stalls: a prosecco bar and inflatable pub as well as gift stalls, live music from local bands and children's entertainment including Princess Story-Telling. The event is open to the public from 11.00am to 5.00pm and entry is only £4 for adults and free for children, with all proceeds going to Grove Cottage, a small local charity which provides social and educational activities for people of all ages with a learning disability. Rosie Wren, Fundraising Manager at Grove Cottage said: "We are very excited to be organising our second Food and Drink Festival in Bishop's Stortford. This year will be bigger and better with over 70 different stalls offering a wide range of food and drink for people to eat on the day or take home, including many with an international theme as well as vegetarian and vegan stalls. We encourage everyone to bring a picnic blanket and make a day of it!" We are very grateful to our Main Sponsor, Tees Law and to our other sponsors: One Time Gin, Gates of Stortford and Gu, as well as to East Herts Council for all their help and support. We hope that it will be a great event and will raise lots of money to help us support more local people with learning disabilities.

Alison Cameron

Fundraising Assistant

Tel: 651908

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GARDENING TIPS

Rain is less frequent during July, so conservation of soil moisture is essential; mulch borders with organic matter, farmyard manure, homemade compost, or even old newspapers and grass clippings if you do not mind the appearance.

In the ground, you only need to water recently planted or shrubs and perennials which have been moved. An efficient system for watering plants in a border is to use a leaky pipe or seep hose, as all the water goes straight where it is required around the base of the plants. If you are going away for a couple of weeks, all but the most recently planted specimens will normally cope while you are away if they are in the ground. However, pots will require assistance so that they are still alive when you come back. A friend or family member who can give them a soak daily would be ideal. Ask them to soak the soil and not to just stand with the spray going over the leaves, as hardly any water reaches the soil where it is needed. Alternatively, if no assistance is available, move pots into a permanently shaded position where possible, and set up some kind of reservoir of water. Empty soft drink bottles filled with water and placed in the ground neck first will help, as will a pot tray for the pot to sit in filled with water.



A last minute thorough soak will help. Smaller pots will dry out in a fraction of the time of larger pots; pay particular attention to these if your resources are limited. If, when you arrive home, a pot has totally dried and become hydrophobic (water runs off), immerse the pot in water or apply a slow drip of water until the soil becomes absorbent again; plants recover as long as their cells have not completely desiccated.

Paul the Gardener

BARBECUE WINES

At this time of year, I drink mainly chilled rosé or white wines, but it's not time to forget the reds. Some cooler climate reds from the Loire or Beaujolais can take a little cooling but of course for fans of barbecue ribs, steaks, burgers or sausages then stronger red wines or beers are the order of the day.

Grapes grown in hot countries ripen more easily leading to fuller, riper and even sweeter flavours. Often there is higher alcohol and more residual sugar than in cooler climates. These characteristics help match balance the flavours of smoke, heat and spice found in barbecued food. For steak or sausages, I would go for a Malbec from Argentina or Chile. The Chilean Bio Bio Valley 2016 Malbec from the Co-op at £6.99 is good value. For spicier sausages or burgers, I would go for a Syrah from the southern Rhône. If barbecue ribs are your thing then a powerful Zinfandel from California or Primitivo from Italy (the same grape) would be a good match. Try the rustic, ripe, blackberry, spicy 2015 Definition Lodi Zinfandel at £8.99 or the Surani Costarossa Primitivo di Manduria 2015 at £9.99 with its deep prune and fig flavours, both from Majestic as part of a mixed six bottle case.

For lamb, a Californian Cabernet Sauvignon or Australian Grenache blend, such as the spicy and red fruit 2015 Bethany 6 Gen Old Vine Grenache from the Barossa Valley at £9.99 from the Co-op, would be just the thing. Don't forget the whites though. For chicken a Californian or Australian Chardonnay would work well. For shellfish or scallops a Chablis works wonders, or for something to go with oily fish such as sardines or mackerel, try an Albarino from Spain such as the Tres Mares 2016 from Waitrose at £9.99 with its fresh fragrant and slightly saline tangy finish. A great match. Get those fires lit!



Paul Wilkinson
Corkscrew_456@hotmail.co.uk

HUW JOHNSON CLUB



The Huw Johnson Club is a social group for adults with learning disabilities, which runs on a Thursday evening at St John's Church Hall. Over the last few weeks we have had an activity and games evening and a bingo night. We also had great fun at a disco, with everyone up dancing, members and helpers alike, thanks to Jezzo's Events. We also had a fabulous time when the Bishop's Stortford Gospel Choir visited us one evening. About 20 of their members came along and sang a wide range of songs, with us all joining in with singing, dancing and even conducting! It was a lot of fun.

We are delighted to have been chosen again by the Stansted 10k Fun Run Committee as one of their supported charities; thank you to organisers, runners and sponsors, it makes a big difference to us. We are now heading towards the end of our term, but before we break up, we will be celebrating the 90th birthday of one of our founders, Tom Johnson; we will be having our summer BBQ and holding a Sports Evening and Pub Dinner, so we are not slowing down! At the present time we are desperately looking for a new minibuss driver and some car drivers and bus escorts; please contact me if you would like to come along and join us as a volunteer or as a member.



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www.birchangerwoodtrust.org

Birchanger Wood Trust 2018 has arrived! It is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation with a new Charity number. It will be managed by Trustees, who will have the protection of limited liability. Our original (The Birchanger Wood Trust) will be retained to comply with Charity law of ownership of land. The woodland will remain 'Vested' with the Charity Commission, in trust, as per the original trust Deed. Birchanger Wood Trust 2018 is now looking for local people to become Trustees. Are you interested in steering our lovely wood into the future, conserving and maintaining its assets for the benefit of local residents? Contact me, or Pat Forrest or Roger Wilmot, who are usually available in the Compound most Saturday mornings. After all, it is our local woodland; let this wonderful green lung be a benefit to all, whatever age and ability.

We had a very interesting visitor in May; Jono Forgham came and spent some time in Birchanger Wood. Many of you will have read his super article in the *Stortford Independent* on 16th May. He is brilliant and very knowledgeable about nature and the environment. Did you know we have *chiffchaff* nesting and also *blackcaps* and at least one *nuthatch* in Birchanger Wood? One of our super woodland guys pointed out the fungi, *King Alfred cakes*, used by travellers in the past as fuel for their campfires, some *herb robert* which can be used in herbal medicines and of course our golden *saxifrage*. Even Terry, our three-legged hedgehog, was coaxed out to meet and greet Jono. Finally a message to some inconsiderate people; please take your dog-poo home, it does not belong on a tree or bush. It is unhygienic and not right that volunteers have to go and remove it.



Daphne Wallace-Jarvis

Email: secretary@birchangerwoodtrust.org



www.mountfitchetgardenclub.co.uk

Members were introduced to 'Keeping Chickens' by Claudia Audley of Bury Green Poultry (BGP). Claudia started keeping chickens when she was six and over the years has turned her hobby into a successful poultry breeding business. The presentation covered the equipment needed, type of food: from 'just hatched' to 'layers', pellets to treats, medical issues fowl might encounter, types of hen houses and equipment available, the Law (noise, avian flu etc) and the various breeds and their egg-laying capability. BGP have a mixture of pure breed and cross-breed chickens and they produce 'rainbow' coloured eggs – pink, olive, blue, dark brown, beige and white - which are sold at the Little Hadham Farmers' Market.

At the moment there is a two/three month waiting list if you wish to purchase bantams to raise in your garden. As well as really fresh eggs another added advantage is chickens love slugs which are the gardeners' nemesis and they eat most kitchen scraps. Their manure is good for the garden too!



However, the feathered Star of the Evening was Freddie, a Pekin Gold Laced Frizzel Bantam who sat in Claudia's hands all evening and was quite content to be used as a model. (Frizzel's feathers grow the opposite way so they always look as though they are having 'a bad hair day'). A lively question and answer session followed. Produce was for sale too.

Rose Bowl Competition

Congratulations to Ewelina May who won the competition.

Next Meetings

To take advantage of the longer evenings the next two meetings will be visits to two local gardens: 4th July in Little Hadham (SG11-2NB) and 1st August in Chrishall (SG8-8QY). Full directions are on the website. Meet at the gardens by 7.15pm. Remember to allow a little extra time because of the roadworks en route to both gardens.

Membership

Subscriptions are now due and the cost is £15; cheques payable to The Mountfitchet Garden Club.

Maralyn Harris
Chairman
Tel: 07919 478144



INNER WHEEL CLUB OF BISHOP'S STORTFORD

Our May meeting was an open evening with William French, who told us how he joined the Navy at the age of 15, and about his training and incredible journey through various aspects of his service. He was involved in the Falklands War and thankfully came home unscathed physically. He became Butler to the Queen on the Royal Yacht Britannia, travelling the world and serving many members of the Royal Family. William has also worked with aristocrats and many celebrities. He was a wonderful speaker who kept us enthralled. Refreshments were followed by a raffle. All proceeds will go to President Jenny's chosen charities which are Holy Trinity Winter Shelter and The Portland Child Contact Centre.

The first meeting of our new year will be on **Tuesday 24th July 7.30pm** at Stansted Day Centre. For more information please contact me.

June Milne
Club Correspondent
Tel: 01371 875370

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UPDATE – ANOTHER DISPENSING PHARMACY IN STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET

Many of you will be aware that the application for a second dispensing pharmacy in our village was refused by NHS England. Our subsequent appeal to NHS Resolution was also refused, after they held a private meeting without any form of public representation. The community are now saying to me, "This decision is wrong, we need a dispensing pharmacy at the bottom of Chapel Hill."

Latest update

Since the beginning of the year we have met with local MP, Kemi Badenoch and Parish Council Chairman, Maureen Caton; Maureen fully supports our need. I have also met with the NHS West Essex CCG Chief Pharmacist, who advised me that the CCG cannot directly get involved, but she suggested a number of actions. We have written to the Chairman of Essex Health and Wellbeing Board asking for a meeting. On 7th June Maureen Caton, Ruth Clifford, Terry Farthing and I met Ash Soni and John Zucker. We all reconfirmed the need for another pharmacy and agreed on a new action plan, which we have started to implement.

Residents' survey

The *Essex Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment Report* April 2018-March 2021 (published in January) states that there was a "Residents' Survey from 27th April to 16th June 2017". It reports that "West Essex is often under-represented". I have been campaigning for the additional pharmacy since early 2017 and was not aware of this residents' survey! Were you aware of it? If you contributed to this survey, would you please contact me by email. Also, if you have any suggestions which will help progress our need, please let me or our Parish Council know.

Ray Woodcock
Tel: 816468

Email: Raymond.woodcock@btinternet.com

STANSTED DAY CENTRE

Our courtyard garden is now looking lovely. The pots are filling out and the border geraniums are flowering beautifully. Our maintenance man, Lee has prepared the vegetable patch and volunteer gardener, David has kindly planted runner beans which we look forward to having on a future lunchtime menu. News from the kitchen: welcome back Julie Beck, previous manager, to produce her delicious and much-loved dishes whenever Jo and Steph are off on their well-earned holidays. At the end of May, and to everyone's delight, Julie was back to cook steak pie and rhubarb fool. On 31st May, Val Trundle and Jonathan Fox came into our Thursday session to give us a very interesting talk on Neighbourhood Watch and keeping safe within the community. Two police officers were also present to give support and advice. A superb scheme run by Uttlesford District Council enables the elderly to retain a yellow fob on their key ring with an emergency contact number. If you or someone you know may benefit from the *Keep Safe Scheme*, please contact The Day Centre.

Our AGM was held on 5th June. We extend a very warm wish to Nigel, our Treasurer, who, after many years of dedication, has decided to pass on his duties to enjoy travelling the world. Thank you on behalf of all your friends at The Day Centre for your hard work. *'Whatever happens in your life, the stars will always shine for you.'*

The Day Centre is open Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 10.00am–2.00pm. Lunch is served at 12.30pm. Booking required before 11.00am on the day.

Angela Hall
Tel: 815091

Email: stansteddaycentre@gmail.com



SIGN THE FAMILY UP FOR ST CLARE'S 'GO BRIGHT' WALK!

www.stclarehospice.org.uk

This summer our local St Clare Hospice is holding its first-ever family-friendly 5k fundraising event: the Go Bright Walk. The inaugural event will take place in the Water Gardens, Harlow, on **Saturday 14th July** and features a 5k fun run or walk around the town, plus a festival of stalls, games and treats. Organisers aim to raise more than £15,000 to fund the charity's vital care and hope to recruit more than 500 walkers.



The walk will set off at 11.00am; the free festival takes place between 10.00am and 3.00pm. The route is both wheelchair and pushchair friendly, and all children under 16 years must be accompanied by a responsible adult. Advance entry: over 16s £12, children aged 4-15 £5, family (two adults, two children) £30. Entry on the day: over 16s £15, children £7, family £40. Children under four go free! Entry includes a pair of rainbow sweatbands and a Go Bright medal. You can register online at: www.stclarehospice.org.uk/event/go-bright-walk or by calling the St Clare Events Team, on 773754. Registration forms are also available from the Hospice reception or any of the St Clare shops.

Rebecca Hedges
Tel: 773752

Email: Rebecca.Hedges@stclarehospice.org.uk

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DON'T REPLACE IT - REPAIR IT

In July we always use the Open Day as a time to remember the Gardens as a haven and place of respite for the airmen operating from the neighbouring Dunmow airfield in World War II. This year we will also share with visitors the World War I history of the Easton Lodge estate and its people. The Open Day is on **Sunday 22nd July**, with gates open 11.30am-5.00pm, last admission 4.00pm. Entry £4.50 and under 16s are free. We will have our own history stalls, as well as military vehicles and classic cars. We will be joined by the duo called *Perfect Vintage* singing wartime songs, and there will be themed children's activities. Dogs on leads are welcome to explore the Gardens too so there will be lots of interest for every member of the family.



The Gardens are looking fabulous this year already. We have done a lot of planting. The Italian Garden is looking very colourful. The stumpery and rill area in the Glade are maturing. The walled kitchen garden will have a magnificent dahlia border and is well stocked. By July we hope there will be lots of our produce for sale. Of course, our band of happy volunteers in *Daisy's* will also be providing locally sourced bacon and cheese rolls, hot and cold drinks and our usual wide selection of homemade cakes. For more information and news, see our website or find us on Facebook.

Jill Goldsmith
Treasurer and Publicity
Tel: 07947 183439



UGLEY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Our monthly meeting in May was replaced by our AGM at which the members of the Committee for the following year were introduced and the resolutions voted on. We then enjoyed a garden-related quiz followed by the judging of our competition for a single flower. Having no speaker to report on this month, we felt it would be a good opportunity to preview the programme for both July and August. Janet Brewer, BEM will be the speaker at our meeting on Wednesday 18th July. Her subject is *The Queens of Egypt*. Our meeting on Wednesday 15th August will see the welcome return of Gordon Bailey. His subject this time being *Jewellery through the Ages*. Why not come along and

meet them? You would be most welcome. We meet in Ugley Village Hall at 2.15pm on the third Wednesday of the month.

Andrea Fitt
Tel: 815922



www.walksaroundstortford.org.uk

Sunday Walks: all Leaving at 10.00am 5-6 miles
There are no walks in July and August, as we take a Summer Break. We resume on:
2nd September Newport, Station Car Park TL522335
P/Code: CB11 3PL

I think the weather hasn't been looking at the correct month of the calendar much this year. Both temperature and rain/sun have been capricious; however, our Sunday walks have, so far, been held in excellent weather. Swallows in Stansted fledged on 6th June and all four plus their parents had a wonderful day testing their skills outside my front window overlooking the Ugley Brook valley, now they have disappeared much further afield.

Our walk in May was great. Our leader took us all around and through Hatfield Forest, and we saw masses of buttercups, birds, and the occasional deer contrasting with the bright yellow carpet of buttercups in all directions. Did you all see the really great photograph of Dave Webber, David Glass, Colin Woodward and Alan Dean in the *Independent* the other week? The group is trying to bring to the attention of the authorities the need for footpath link(s) between Bishop's Stortford and Stansted. Another issue is improving the access from Hazelend Road to Hazelend Wood (Footpath 64). The start of this footpath from the new housing estate would necessitate walking along the busy road as the wide verge is overgrown and offers no footway. David and Dave have also been contacting the Project Manager and Consortium Interface Manager at Stortford Fields to discuss concerns about the Wickham Hall Drive (Bridleway 008) and also the future of other existing rights of way across the development site.

Meanwhile, the local Parish Council is planning to set up a PPP (Parish Paths Partnership) with Essex County Council whereby a group of local volunteers will, in conjunction with Essex CC, help in controlled management to maintain Stansted's many Public Rights of Way. Elsenham Parish Council has had a similar arrangement with Essex for some years.



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

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

ACROSS

9. A Christmas Carol 10. Invader 12. Oneself 14. ESP
15. Norfolk 16. Hogarth 17. ELO 18. Trieste 21. Ninepin
24. Ebenezer Scrooge

DOWN

1. Marionettes 2. Chav 3. Wild 4. Storekeeper
5. Saxophonist 6. Oche 7. Brie 8. Cliffhanger 11. Alfie
13. Spade 18. Item 19. Suez 21. Norm 22. Plot

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We are pleased to announce that sessions offered from September will be: 9.00am-noon, noon-3.00pm or 9.00am-3.00pm, which will allow us to offer up to 30 hours. We will also be taking children from two years old. These changes have proved very popular and spaces are filling up fast. Our very popular *Forest School* session has recently focused on our changing environment, where we have looked at the buds, blossom and leaves appearing around us in the woods. The children have also enjoyed being creative, making pictures from the natural things they collect from around the Forest. They made clay animals such as hedgehogs or snails, some children also chose to press blossoms or leaves into the clay, which was very effective.



In July we will sadly be saying goodbye to all our children moving on to school. With this in mind, during the last half term we have focused on preparing children for their transition, by encouraging increased independence and working closely with all the local primary schools. If you are interested in a place at our pre-school, please contact us via our website or give us a call. There are limited spaces available now for children over two years.

Karen Reilly
Pre-school Manager
Tel: 810800

WATCH OUT FOR COUNTERFEIT MONEY!

Can you spot the difference, particularly when you are shopping and in a hurry? Counterfeit £10 notes are in circulation; this one came to the notice of the YZ Minimart in Chapel Hill.



The counterfeit note is at the top. It's plastic and looks much better than the image shown. Note the orange crown to the right of the £10 and at the bottom to the right of Britannia.

Ray Woodcock

STANSTED EVENING WOMEN'S INSTITUTE



Our Annual meeting was well attended and we looked back over a busy and successful year. We have invested in a new projector for use at WI meetings and Anne Watson gave it its first outing with a PowerPoint presentation of the Resolution which will be discussed at this year's National AGM in Cardiff. The Resolution is asking all WI members to recognise the importance of parity between mental health and physical health; take action to talk about mental health issues as much as physical health issues and to lobby the Government for better support for mental illness. This gave rise to some interesting discussion and whilst agreeing that mental health issues are not as hidden as before, there is still room for improvement and understanding. I am attending the National AGM in Cardiff as a delegate, along with three other WI members from our Institute and look forward to the discussions.

Brenda Ryan, our retiring President, thanked all the Committee members for their hard work during the year and our



Treasurer, Linda Gurr, gave a full report of finances, which appear to be in a very good place! Anne Watson was elected as our new President and we all look forward to the coming year under her guidance. As well as a tour of Colchester and a trip to the Houses of Parliament planned, we have a coach party going to London to see *Mamma Mia* in September.

We welcome any new members who would like to join us. We meet in the Day Centre at 7.30pm on the second Thursday of each month; someone asked me recently if we closed for a summer break. We don't, especially as people seem to go away any month of the year these days. The next meeting is on **12th July**, when we will be commemorating 100 years since women's suffrage. Our Speaker is Frances Boardman and the title of her talk is *Suffragettes - a Postcard War*. Members are being asked to wear green and purple; it should be a really interesting evening.



Judy Colliver
Tel: 812470

Craft Group Knit and Natter

We meet on the second and last Fridays of the month from 2.30pm-4.30pm. We welcome anyone; you don't have to be a WI member. We share our expertise, or even our lack of expertise, of all kinds of crafts. We knit, crochet, do embroidery, make cards and jewellery; for any of these there is help and encouragement for anyone wanting to have a go. We have done some projects together: making poppies for Remembrance Day, knitted small dogs for the Hearing Dogs Charity and of course the ongoing knitted squares for blankets, which are sent out to developing countries. If you like doing craft work in the company of others, with a cup of tea and chocolate biscuits thrown in, come along and amaze yourself with what you too can do!

Ann Thompson
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SWANNING ABOUT ON THE RIVER

It is all happening on the River Thames this month. During the first week in July the Henley Royal Regatta takes place; which when first held in 1839 was completed in one afternoon. Now it takes five days and has become a very popular event on the social calendar in certain circles.

Swan Upping

The British Crown has ownership of all unmarked mute swans in open water, but up to the 16th century land-owners were granted ownership of swans in a given body of water. Each owner marked their swans in a particular way by making nicks in their beaks with a sharp knife and paying a fine into the Royal Exchequer for the privilege. New cygnets were marked in the same way as their parents; the Dyers' Company used a single nick made on the side of the beak, the Vintners' Company a nick on both sides – thought to be the origin of pub sign 'The Swan with Two Necks' (or nicks). This process, known as swan upping, had to be completed in one day by the various gamekeepers along the Thames in the days of Elizabeth I. The only bodies still exercising such rights are two livery companies of the City of London (Vintners and Dyers) who share equal ownership of the swans with the Crown, and during the third week in July the annual ceremony of swan upping still takes place. It's carried out by *Swan Uppers*, under the supervision of *Swan Markers*, rowing up the river from Sunbury-on-Thames to mid-Oxfordshire: a five day journey of around 70 miles. The mute swans are rounded up, caught, now ringed rather than marked with nicks on their beaks and then released by the officials representing the Crown, the Vintners' Company and the Dyers' Company. The ceremony is now mainly used to conduct a census of the swans and check their health.



In 2009 our present Queen, Seigneur of the Swans, attended the swan upping ceremony for the first time in her reign and it was also the first time the monarch had personally watched the procedure in centuries. In its 900-year history there has only been one known cancellation of the ceremony: in 2012 when exceptionally high river flows halted proceedings – a sign of global warming perhaps?



Yvonne Ayres



MAGNA CARTA PRIMARY ACADEMY

Magna Carta Primary Academy is only in its second year and so the culture and traditions are being developed each day. With the arrival of new headteacher Marios Solomonides this term, there is a renewed push on healthy living. The brand-new building for Magna Carta, next to the existing temporary site, is due to be finished in July. Developers are including a one-mile track around the site which will enable pupils to take part in The Daily Mile project, where they are challenged to walk or run one mile every day to keep active. The school is also looking at the food its children are eating and educating them on healthy eating choices.



Marios has joined the Stansted Business Forum and is discussing opportunities with local contacts for parents to use parking spaces in the village. He said: "We are keen to take cars away from St John's Road as there is no pavement and it is not safe for dropping children off at school. Plus, it is a private road and so parking for parents is not permitted. We appreciate the disruption parents and residents have been through while building work takes place on our new school and are trying to find solutions. I am looking at green travel options and the idea of setting up a walking bus to be co-ordinated by volunteer parents. Discussions are taking place to establish somewhere that is safe for parents to drop their children off, so they can walk together (away from the busy roads) to school. This will be a long-term project. Not only do we want to ease the parking situation, it is also about healthy lifestyles and encouraging children to walk. We want them to walk to school and to be moving during the day, for physical activity to be a part of their routine".

Kelly Clark

Tel: 01245 237751

Email: words@kellylouiseclark.co.uk

THEFTS FROM ST MARY'S CHURCH

Sadly, we have to report that some time between the end of May and the first few days of June, we have had two incidents of theft from St Mary's. Firstly, a book 'They Sleep in Hero's Graves' was taken from inside the church. If you have 'borrowed' the book, then please return it for others to read whilst in church. Secondly, ten newly planted begonia plants have been taken from a grave. This is outrageous and disrespectful. The family involved are upset and distressed at finding their loved one's grave with no plants.

This behaviour is totally unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Please can you keep a lookout for suspicious activity when tending graves in the churchyard or cemetery.



Lynda Dale
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Our business directory will be distributed around the Village very soon. The directory provides useful information about a wide choice of local businesses and trade services. We had a good meeting on 1st June, when Howard Rolfe, leader of Uttlesford District Council, gave us some insight on the challenges facing the Council. This often means making difficult decisions, but the Council has always been supportive of our local businesses. James Garratt, our social secretary, also gave us a short talk on the advantages of using videos to promote our businesses.



Twinning with Rungis

Stansted Business Forum has been actively involved on the twinning committee with the Parish Council. On 8th June four members from the Forum and the Clerk of the Parish Council travelled to Paris for the formal twinning ceremony in Rungis. The trip provided a good opportunity to promote our local businesses, schools and cultural activities. Our big event this month will see the French delegation of six from Rungis coming over to Stansted on 6th July to sign our local twinning documentation. They will attend our business breakfast at Linden House in the morning with our speaker Chris Wiggins from Stansted Airport. This will be followed by a visit to Forest Hall School and the official signing ceremony at St John's Church at 12 noon. Our MP, Kemi Badenoch will be there on this important occasion for Stansted and our businesses.



Iris Evans
Treasurer



THE HUNDRED PARISHES SOCIETY

www.hundredparishes.org.uk

Insect-pollinated plants produce a variety of volatile chemicals which attract passing bees, wasps or flies. Gardeners select scented flowers such as roses, lavender, sweet peas, stocks and honeysuckle so we can enjoy their fragrances too. But have you noticed that in built up areas you need to get really close to smell such perfumes? If we can't smell the flowers, then what is the impact on insects? An article published in the *New Scientist* in February this year described how recent research had found that the various chemicals present in traffic fumes quickly disrupt the chemi-

cal signatures of these plant fragrances, making them unreadable by insects. Thus, if the vital pollinating insects cannot sense the flowers they need for their essential supplies of nectar and pollen, pollination may not occur, and seed production could be compromised.

Much of the area within the Hundred Parishes is largely rural with low levels of traffic pollution, but there are higher levels of traffic fumes close to major roads, motorways or larger towns, especially those with narrow streets. On sunny days the pollutants in these fumes will be interacting destructively with the volatile chemicals from the flowers, leaving the insects confused and hungry. The Essex Air Quality Consortium was formed in 1995 and now oversees the monitoring of air quality across the county as this has implications for human health. It is more important than ever to have an abundance of flowers in every garden, high street, side road, lane and verge to combat this pollution. Many local gardens welcome visitors during the summer. These are included in the *What's On* page of our website. If you need ideas for an interesting outing, perhaps with visitors, do please check the website for Attractions and What's On.

Tricia Moxey
Trustee
Tel: 01277 364522



Stansted Cricket Club

www.stanstedcc.secure-club.com

The 1st XI finally got off the mark at the fourth attempt with a win over Woodford Wells IV, with Chris Allen taking 4-14. The 2nd XI has yet to win in CCA after four rounds of enjoyable and competitive matches. Unfortunately, Weston Colville II has folded, so the CCA Junior League 5 South and East now consists of seven clubs. In the HECL Cup we lost in the first round to Thaxted and in the Davies Cup we lost in the first round to Matching. Notable recent individual performances include Ben Baker (83 no), Matt Cope (56) and Blair Gardiner (53).

Junior coaching sessions continue: on Mondays 6.30pm-8.00pm there is hardball coaching for Years 5 and 6 to Year 10, and on Fridays 4.00pm-5.15pm there is softball coaching for Years 2 and 3 to Year 5. If your child has not attended before, the initial session is free of charge and the coaches will advise on the most suitable session for your child. All fixtures can be found on our website. Home senior fixtures for July are:

Sun 1 st	SCC Fun Day	(TBC)	14:00
Sat 7 th	1 st XI v Theydon Bois I		13:30 HECL
Mon 9 th	Davies Cup SF (hosts)		18:00
Sun 15 th	Sun XI v North Weald		14:00
Sat 21 st	1 st XI v Hatfield Heath		13:30 HECL
Sat 28 th	2 nd XI v Abington III		13:30 CCA

The Club would like to invite anyone interested in scoring on a regular basis 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

DIRECTORY OF LOCAL CLUBS AND ORGANISATIONS

Alzheimers Society	Tel: 01371 872519	Rainbow Pre-School	Gill Pursglove (Administrator) Tel: 814242/07966 506997 Email: admin@rainbowpreschool.net
Air Training Corps 494 Squadron	Tel: 681559/661929 Email: 494@aircadets.org	Rainbows	Sue Pollard Tel: 813734
Beaver Scouts Age 6-8	Wayne Browning Tel: 079764 41468 Email: mrwbrowning@googlemail.com	Rotary Club	Martin Budzinski Tel: 07803 878961 Email: martin@voucherpacks.com
Bowls Club	Peter Beattie, Hon Secretary Tel: 07850 329192 Email: peterdavidbeattie@gmail.com	St John's Road and Area Association	Secretary: Leila Riddell Tel: 07770 955830
Brownies (Tuesday)	Kathy Shearman Tel: 07724 355533	Scouts (age 10½ -14)	Mike Byrne Tel: 812780
Brownies (Wednesday)	Susan Scott Tel: 810955	Shotokan Karate Ryu	Donna Ring Tel: 731752 Email: skr@skr.org.uk
CAB	Tel: 08444 775986	Spangles Children's Centre	Sarah Mason Tel: 812348 Email: smason2@spurgeons.org
Corkers Netball	Lisa Menzella Tel: 07827 988732	Stansted Badminton Club	Vince Tel: 07793 000107 Raj Tel: 07775 915418
Cricket Club (adults) (juniors)	David Hedge Tel: 812509 Keith Ayres Tel: 814471	Stansted Business Forum	Iris Evans Email: iris.evans9@gmail.com
Cub Scouts Age 8-10½	Steve Turrell Tel: 07519 572642	Stansted Family Café	Ros Page Tel: 810813 Email: contactstanfam@yahoo.com
Day Centre	Tel: 815091	Stansted Football Club	Tom Williams Tel: 07921 403842
Explorer Scouts	Vic Clarke Tel: 07903 413217	Stansted Hall and Elsenham Cricket Club	David Brown Tel: 831011/07788 999663 Email: david1.r.brown@gmail.com
Friends of St Mary's Church	Lynda Dale Tel: 07716 099474 Email: lynnydale@hotmail.com	Stansted Sparks Netball	Gemma Snelling Tel: 07894 944242 Email: gemmasnelling@me.com
Garden Club	Maralyn Harris, Chairman Tel: 07919 478144	Stansted Speed Watch	Warren Vickers Tel: 813996 Email: vickersw@aol.com
Grove Cottage	Andrea Charity Tel: 656085/ 07795 483674	Stansted Supers Handball Club	Olly Pocknell Tel: 07875 391701
Guides	Jennifer Jarvis, District Commissioner Tel: 814434	Tennis Club	Fiona Kelly, Publicity Officer STC Tel: 07949 623484 Email: fiona1.kelly@btinternet.com
Helpline	Tel: 07704 553727	U3A	Ray Smith, Chair Tel: 813270
History Society	Peter Brown, Chairman Tel: 812816	Women's Institute (Stansted)	Brenda Ryan, President Tel: 812725
Huw Johnson Club	Katharine Collis Tel: 461270 Email: kat_collis@hotmail.com	Women's Institute (Ugley)	Dorothy Wallace, President Tel: 850215
Inner Wheel Club	Jenny Savage, President Tel: 656065	Whoosh Explore Canoe Club	Helen and Peter Nash Tel: 817453
Investigators	Ros Page Tel: 810813 Email: contactstanfam@yahoo.com	Youth Centre	Linda Barnes Tel: 07947 548051
Little Scrumpers	Andrew Poyser Tel: 07738 591232		
Millers (Windmill)	Molly Clark Tel: 816768		
music@stansted - classical concerts	Sonia Levy Tel: 815282 Email: contactus@musicatstansted.co.uk		
Neighbourhood Watch	Valerie Trundle Tel: 813433		
Parkinson's UK	Vivian Falk, Chairman Tel: 01799 513128 Email: vivian@brackendalehouse.co.uk		
Uttlesford Support Group			

Note: This list will be updated as and when we learn of any changes. If you would like the details of your organisation to be added please let us know. (Contact details on page 1.)

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.



STANSTED BOWLING CLUB

After a rather wet April, the weather turned out to be quite good in May. The green continues to improve week by week due to the work being carried out by the green keepers. I visited Royal Leamington Spa Bowls Club recently and can honestly say that the Stansted surface is a match for any of their six rinks, and that is no over-estimation.

Results

Our four Bowls teams, consisting of the Ladies, Seniors, Stansted 'A' and Stansted 'B', were all in action during May. The highlight of the games saw our 'A' and 'B' teams play against each other in a North West Essex League match. The rivalry was set and the 'A's' narrowly beat the 'B's' in a closely fought contest. There is a chance for revenge when the two teams meet again in early July.

Home fixtures for July

Stansted 'A'

Wednesdays 4th and 11th July at 6.15pm

Stansted 'B'

Wednesday 25th July at 6.15pm

Seniors

Tuesdays 3rd and 17th July at 2.30pm

Ladies

Thursdays 12th and 26th July at 2.30pm

Friendlies

Saturdays 14th, 22nd and 29th July at 2.30pm

We look forward to welcoming you all to our Clubhouse on any of the above game dates, or any Friday evening when the Clubhouse bar will be open and the members will be happy to explain the way the game is played or just have a chat and put the world to rights.

Peter Beattie
Hon Secretary
Tel: 07850 329192

Email: peterdavidbeattie@gmail.com



Stansted Tennis Club

Founded 1889

www.stanstedtennisclub.co.uk

Firstly, a massive thank you to Jan and Chris Hollis who, after many years of hard work and dedication to the Club, have stepped down from the Committee. A new Committee has now been formed and we shall endeavour to carry on their good work.

Ladies' night

The next ladies' night (members only) will be on Monday 9th July, from 7.00pm.

Used tennis balls

Used tennis balls can be purchased for £1 for a tube of four from Jan Hollis at 105 Cambridge Road. Please visit our website for further information about the Club.

Fiona Kelly
Publicity Officer
Tel: 07949 623484
Email: fiona1.kelly@btinternet.com

STANSTED HALL & ELSENHAM CRICKET CLUB



www.shcc.hitscricket.com

The 1st XI has made a good start to the season, winning four of their first five league matches. The 2nd XI has struggled with availability and has won one league match thus far. However, the team are giving some younger players the opportunity and, in particular, Archie Racey is bowling very well. The junior section continues to thrive with some 32 youngsters between the ages of five to eight now participating in 'All Stars' cricket. The U11s under the guidance of Andrew Mackinlay continue to improve as do the U15s with Jon Robinson.

Fundraising for our new pavilion will continue all summer. If you would like to donate, please go to the website: JustGiving.com/stanstedhallandelsenhamcricketclub. Any contribution would be greatly appreciated. If you would like to join our Club or have a general enquiry please contact me.



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



MANUDEN UNITED FC

This season has seen some mixed results. Firstly, I have to report that our Reserve Team had to fold due to a lack of players; unfortunately this has been a common problem in the North West Essex League, with three other clubs also folding. The first team has struggled to get enough players together on a few Sundays, but we have muddled through. We did not win any silverware this season, but we did manage to finish runner-up in the Premier League. We will regroup and hopefully come back stronger next season. Thank you to all the team, our Captain James Blackaby, Mark Roache and last, but by no means least, our Head Coach, Chris Rowe. The year 2019 will mark the 100th anniversary of football in Manuden and the clubs hope to hold an event to celebrate this occasion – more details to follow.

Manuden Juniors FC

Our minis, the five to eight-year-olds, are still enjoying their football every Sunday morning on the Manuden astro turf. The Under 9s have had a 10-game winning streak and are being placed in the top division as one of the strongest teams in the county. The Under 10s have had a fantastic season playing in the top division of their age group. After a slow start the second half of the season saw them embark on a great cup run; losing in the quarter finals on penalties, after a thrilling 3-3 draw at normal time and then 5-5 after extra time! Despite losing the game, our players were applauded off the pitch as heroes. I am immensely proud of what these two age groups have achieved this last season. My thanks go to all our coaches for their sterling hard work and to the committee for their dedication.

Vaughan Atkinson
Chairman
Tel: 07711 496374

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