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Front cover
Photo of poppies near the
allotments by Elizabeth Oakley,
enhanced by Paul Burt
Photography.

Stansted Mountfitchet Village Magazine

The Link

www.stanstedlink.org.uk

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If you do not receive your copy please email: distribution@stanstedlink.org.uk or telephone 813680

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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 November** for the combined December/January issue or by hand/post by noon on **7th November** to 7 Blythwood Gardens, Stansted CM24 8HG.

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EDITORIAL



I hope that the front cover, with bright red flowers and lovely sunshine, has cheered you up on these dull November days. The poppies remind us of that all-important 11th November when we reflect on the wars, past and present, which have blighted humanity for millennia. We absolutely fail to learn from history; even today, Kurds are fleeing their homes before the might of Turkey - those Kurds who captured so many ISIS terrorists. I have been enjoying searching my books and the web for war poems, coming across powerful works from the likes of Siegfried Sassoon, Rupert Brooke and Wilfred Owen, as well as glorious hand-written poems by children and highly emotional poems by heart-broken lovers and spouses who have lost their darlings. Here is a short ditty by Steve Schlafman which is more light-hearted than most war poetry:

*I will not play at tug o'war, I'd rather play at hug o'war
Where everyone hugs instead of tugs
Where everyone giggles and rolls on the rug,
Where everyone kisses and everyone grins,
And everyone cuddles and everyone wins.*

For details of our local Remembrance Day Event on Sunday 10th November, please see page 19. A fascinating war-related fundraising talk by David Morson on the subject of WWI is described on page 29; more details of this talk were given in the October issue of The Link.



STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET U3A

www.u3asites.org.uk stansted

Our members have certainly been very busy over the last month. The Stansted U3A Singers annual concert at St John's Church played to a packed house and was enjoyed by all, audience and Singers alike.



The U3A Singers

The seminar *An Introduction to the Milky Way* saw a repeat visit by Dr Carolin Crawford of Cambridge University. The images and information were amazing. The Bus Pass Group had a visit to Welwyn Garden City for some shopping and to visit the Roman Baths. The Art Appreciation Group visited Hatfield Forest for inspiration and a large group went to Brick Lane Music Hall for lunch followed by an old-fashioned music hall show.

Don't miss out on our next *Seminar on British and European Butterflies* which will take place on **Saturday 2nd November** with butterfly specialist Richard Gibbons. Some of the Poetry Group will be visiting Saffron Hall to see Benjamin ephaniah on **Saturday 9th November** and will be reading and discussing the poetry of black poets. See our website for details and tickets. Don't forget to book for our mas lunch at Bury Lodge on **Thursday 19th December**. The Bus Pass Group will be having an early lunch at the Cross Keys

Pub, Saffron Walden in November. If you missed coming along to our 10th Anniversary Showcase in October, you are welcome to visit us at a General Meeting on the third Thursday of each month at 1.30pm in St John's Church Hall to meet friends old and new and see if you like what we offer. Or you can contact us by phone or via our website. At our meeting on **Thursday 21st November** a very popular speaker returns: Charlie Haycock will be taking an *Eccentric Look at the Countryside*. Parking restrictions in St John's Road are lifted 1.00pm-4.00pm for our monthly meetings.

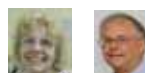
Eileen uinn and Sally Rich
Tel: 07874 385541



THE PLACE ON THE HILL

A reminder of our **Harvest Specials** on **Monday 28th October, Wednesday 30th October and Friday 1st November** 10.00am-noon. *The Place* will be open as usual from 9.30am, with planned activities between 10.00am and 11.30am. There will an opportunity to be creative connected to the theme of Harvest, and for the older children and adults there will be an opportunity to pack some of the shoeboxes mentioned on page 4. Some of the craftwork made will be the focus for a short time of reflection about creation and why we celebrate Harvest. On **Wednesday 27th November** 10.00am-noon we are hosting *Coffee with Cops* (see separate article) but we will still be open for our usual visitors.

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



Marion and Mike Dyer
Tel: 814059

Email: theplace@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk



STORT VALLEY ROTARY

www.stortvalleyrotary.com

There has been much comment in the media recently about risks to the environment and the sustainability of our food chain. This concerns our members, and during our summer break we visited a large dairy farm, and more recently were addressed by a past chairman of the National Farmers' Union. Many of us recalled a time when there might be about 40 cows on a mixed farm. The cows were often covered in muck and the sheds where they were milked were filthy and smelly and there were regular outbreaks of disease. It was tough for the animals but, then we thought, 'that was farming'.



Visiting a modern farm was a revelation. The cows were housed in enormous sheds constructed to make the atmosphere fresh and airy, they were clean, resting on soft sand (not straw which is less comfortable and can harbour parasites), were fed a carefully formulated diet and waste was frequently swept away. They were free to wander round the large shed and visited the milking parlour three times a day. The cows are constantly monitored to ensure good health; today disease is unknown on the farm. It would require an extreme cynic to think these cows were not pampered. Science and high-tech is everywhere and efficiency measures are constantly reducing the farm footprint on the planet. Many hard decisions need to be made about how we feed our growing populations and to protect the planet. Those managing large farms such as the one we visited appear to be making a brave attempt. Visit our website where you will find details of our programme. If you wish to join us contact Gwenda Deal, email: gwendadeal@outlook.com.



Peter Latham
Tel: 507294

STANSTED SOCIAL CLUB

www.smsc.uk.com

We would like to start by saying a huge thank you to The Link for featuring us on the front cover last month. The more exposure the better! The same also goes for the Bishop's Stortford Independent for their article about the tower. There have been so many frustrating hold-ups with the repairs, but we are now a whisker away from starting. A couple of dates for your diaries: the children's Christmas party is on **Saturday 14th December** and is open to all members' wee ones so get your children's names down quickly as places will be limited; the senior citizens lunch will be on **Wednesday 18th December**. Further details will be published in the December issue of The Link as well as on Facebook, the website and Club noticeboards.

November sees another busy month and kicks off with FUBAR on **Saturday 2nd**. They will be doing a different show this time so well worth heading down. The fabulous *Souled Organisation* are back on **Saturday 9th** and they will be banging out some of your favourite soul numbers. **Saturday 16th** sees the return of the mighty *SCAM 69* who have built up a great local following and will be playing punk classics loud 'n' proud! The entertainment diary for next year is already filling up and we have some excellent new acts as well as some old favourites returning. *Complete Madness* will be back as well as other tributes including Elvis, Neil Diamond, Robbie Williams and a whole lot more. We have our usual Karaoke session on **Sunday 24th** at 3.00pm, plus pool, snooker and darts teams as well as a golf society and Prize Bingo every Tuesday with eyes down at 8.00pm.



Andrew Sharpe

Tel: 8122992

Email: eatmorestilton@gmail.com

DAISY MAY'S FARM

www.daisymaysfarm.org



Frightening Friday at the Farm!!

Friday 1st November 10.00am-noon and 4.30pm-6.30pm.

A reminder that you need to book for our exciting half term event; tickets are only £10. Refreshments will be available, but hot dogs must also be pre-booked.

Sleigh Ride to Santa Fun Days (ages 18 months and above)

Saturday 30th November 2.00pm-5.00pm and Sunday 1st December 11.00am-3.00pm and it will be brilliant festive fun all the way! Tickets must be booked in advance and are only £10 for children (the lucky adults go free!) to include:

- Pony sleigh ride to Santa's Grotto to receive a present
- Unlimited entrance to our farm Annual Nativity
- Christmas arts and crafts in our Christmas barn
- Magical Christmas Gnome woodland walk

How can you resist? Hot and cold food will be served, and of course our lovely farm animals always enjoy your attention! Events like these are vital to the survival of our farm, so please do support us. Despite the closure of Hall Road, we are open and it is business as usual. For more information please call 07747 787973 or visit our website.

Elaine Terry

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FOREST HALL SCHOOL GARDENING PROJECT



Year 8 students are taking part in the Royal Horticultural Society's Campaign for School Gardening project, *The Green Plan It Challenge*. Darcy Ayliffe, Emma Erasmus, Courtney Joynson, Jack Clarke, Eden Armstrong and Ollie Law, have taken on the challenge to plan and build a model of a garden they would like to see in their school or community. The team has been working with mentor Anthea Harrison, a local award-winning garden designer, who has been offering guidance on designing a garden from scratch and practical plant knowledge about what will work in the space used. The students spent a day at RHS Hyde Hall, near Chelmsford, to learn more about the project. Daniel Ricketts, gardening club leader said. It was a brilliant day with the RHS team. It was really exciting to see hidden skills and knowledge being displayed by our students. All six have shown great commitment to working on the garden in the past year and this is the perfect way for them to show an even wider array of talent and really get the space used to its full potential.



The 10-week project involves the team using skills such as maths, computing and English as they will prepare a report and a presentation on the garden which they have designed to be judged by a panel of horticulture experts in November at RHS Hyde Hall. Follow the team's progress on Twitter @fhs_garden.

Kelly Clark

FRIENDS OF ST JAMES THE GREAT CHURCH THORLEY AUTUMN CRAFT FAIR

This year's Craft Fair is on **Saturday 9th November** 11.00am-3.30pm in St Barnabas Centre, Church Lane, Thorley CM23 4BE and will provide an opportunity to do some early Christmas shopping! Interesting and unusual items for sale including Christmas cards, art work, knitted and stitched goods, wooden crafts, food and produce, a second-hand book stall and Fairtrade goods. Refreshments will be available and lunches from noon. No entrance fee and a large car park; see you there. All proceeds to church funds.



Sandra Ayres
Tel: 814471

FOREST HALL SCHOOL PTA Christmas Fayre and Table Top Sale

Our Christmas Fayre and table top sale is on **Thursday 21st November** 4.30pm -7.00pm. The Fayre is always a highlight in the PTA's calendar and is an important fundraiser for the school. There will be a fantastic selection of stalls: Christmas crafts, home accessories, Christmas sweets, candy floss, popcorn, scented candles, tombola, fun games, pot of gold, wine or water, raffle and refreshments. This year we will also be hosting a table top sale for second hand items. One of the highlights of the day will be the School choir singing Christmas Carols throughout the event. We are always delighted to receive donations for raffle prizes if any local companies or individuals would like to support us.



If you are interested in having a trade stall (£15) or taking a table at the table top sale (£10) it is not too late. If you would like to donate items for the table top sale, we would be very grateful for any good quality items such as bric- -brac, unwanted gifts and Christmas-themed items. Items can be dropped off at Chimneys, 44 Lower Street at any time before 21st November. For further details please contact me. Everyone is welcome; we look forward to seeing you there. Thank you for your support. All proceeds from the event will be used by the Forest Hall School PTA to fund projects for much needed equipment and resources.

Selina Rankin
Tel: 813388

SHOE BOX PACKING



Shoebox packing will be on **Thursday 7th November** at 7.00pm in St Theresa's Parish Centre. Any items for the boxes, completed boxes, empty boxes and wrapping paper can be brought along that evening, or can be taken to the Free Church (the Place on the Hill) prior to 7th November any Monday, Wednesday or Friday 9.30am-12.30pm. Suitable items for the boxes were listed in the October Link, and there are leaflets in churches and around the village. Everyone is welcome to join us to pack the boxes, which bring such joy to the children who receive them. Once again, we are sending the boxes through Teams4u.

Helen Baker Tel: 814865
Catherine Dean Tel: 813579
Eileen uinn Tel: 812109

QUIZ FOR CHRISTMAS SHOEBOXES

A reminder to join us at St Theresa's Parish Centre on **Saturday 2nd November** 7.00pm for 7.30pm, to raise money towards transporting Christmas Shoeboxes to children in need. Entry is £5 payable on the night; bring your own food, drink and glass. There will be a raffle.

Helen Baker and Eileen uinn
Tel: 814865 and 812109





Frightening Friday
10 am & 4.30 pm 1st Nov

Sleigh Ride to Santa
2 pm Sat 30th Nov & 11 am Sun 1st Dec

Tickets £10 for each event
Advance Booking Required

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FUNDRAISING TALK

by David Morson (former history teacher)

10.30 am - 3.30 pm Sat 2nd Nov
St Mary's Church Henham

Remembering the Henham residents
who served in WWI

Raising funds to restore the
memorial boards and erect them on
the walls of St Mary's Church

Entry Free ~ Suggested Donation £5

T4U Christmas Shoeboxes Quiz

Raising funds towards transportation costs

7 for 7.30 pm Sat 2nd Nov
St Theresa's Parish Centre

Come on your own or as part of a team

Tickets £5 payable on the night
Bring your own food, drink and glass

* * *

Shoebox Packing Evening

7 - 9 pm Thu 7th Nov
St Theresa's Parish Centre

All welcome - come & join the fun!

WHAT'S ON IN NOVEMBER

- | | | | |
|--------|-----|---|---|
| 1 | Fri | Business Forum Breakfast
The Place Harvest Special
Frightening Friday | Linden House 7 - 9 am
Free Church 10 am - noon
Daisy May's Farm 10 am & 4.30 pm |
| 2 | Sat | Word War I Talk
Village Firework Display
Shoebox Quiz | St Mary's Henham 10.30 am - 3.30 pm
Forest Hall School 6.30 pm
St Theresa's Parish Centre 7 for 7.30 pm |
| 3 / 17 | Sun | Garden Waste Skips | Lower St Car Park 12.30 - 4.30 pm |
| 5 | Tue | Stansted is Well Read | Dog and Duck 8 pm |
| 6 | Wed | Mountfitchet Garden Club | Day Centre 7.30 for 8 pm |
| 7 | Thu | Shoe Box Packing
Local History Society | St Theresa's Parish Centre 7 pm
Day Centre 8 pm |
| 9 | Sat | Link copy due in today
Craft Fair
Harmonaires Concert | before 12 noon
St James' Thorley 11 am - 3.30 pm
B Stortford URC 7 pm |
| 12 | Tue | RSPB | Bishop's Park Comm Centre 7.30 pm |
| 13 | Wed | Windmill Coffee Morning | Day Centre 10 am - noon |
| 14 | Thu | Stansted W I | Day Centre 7.30 pm |
| 16 | Sat | Christmas Market | St John's Hall noon - 3 pm |
| 17 | Sun | Family Café | Day Centre 10 - 11.30 am |
| 19 | Tue | CAMEO | Day Centre 7 pm |
| 20 | Wed | Ugley WI | Ugley Village Hall 2.15 pm |
| 21 | Thu | Stansted U3A
Christmas Fayre & Table Top | St John's Church 1.30 - 4 pm
Forest Hall School 4.30 - 7 pm |
| 24 | Sun | Music@stansted | St John's Church 3 pm |
| 26 | Tue | Hearing Help | Day Centre 2 - 4 pm |
| 27 | Wed | Coffee with Cops | Free Church Foyer 10 am - noon |
| 30 | Sat | Enchanted Christmas Fair
Sleigh Ride to Santa | Bentfield School 2 - 5 pm
Daisy May's Farm 2 - 5 pm |

St James' Church, Thorley

11 am - 3.30 pm
Sat 9th Nov

Autumn Craft Fair

A wide variety of crafts

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7 pm Sat 9th Nov

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3 pm Sun 24th Nov
St John's Church

Louise Thomson Harp

Scarlatti ~ Fauré ~ Debussy

Tickets: adults £15, conc £12

under 18s free, from:

*Absolute Travel, Stansted
Nockolds B S*

Sonia Levy 815282 or on the door



Bentfield School
PTA

Enchanted Christmas Fair

2 - 5 pm Sat 30th Nov

Father Christmas ~ Games

Stalls ~ Mulled Wine ~ Crafts

Festive Fun for all the Family

Entry Adults 50p Proceeds to PTA



Stansted Millers
Coffee Morning

10 am - noon Wed 13th Nov
Day Centre

Entry £2.50 incl refreshments

*Browse the stalls and check out
our Windmill Souvenirs for
Christmas Presents!*

See you there!

Forest Hall School PTA



CHRISTMAS FAYRE
AND TABLE TOP SALE

4.30 - 7 pm Thu 21st Nov

Raising Funds for School Projects

Christmas Sweets, Crafts & Gifts

Candles • Tombola • Wine or Water

Fun Games • Refreshments

Carols by the School Choir

St John's Church Christmas Market

12 - 3 pm Sat 16th Nov
in St John's Church Hall

Gifts ~ Father Christmas
Face Painting ~ Grand Draw
Homemade Cakes & Preserves

Admission Free ~ Refreshments

UGLEY FARMERS' MARKET

10 am - noon
Sat 16th Nov

Ugley Village Hall



Meat ~ Fish ~ Eggs ~ Honey
Preserves ~ Cheese ~ Cakes
Fresh Pasta ~ Bread

Cards ~ Ceramics ~ Fruit & Veg
Skincare ~ Knitting & Needlework
Refreshments with cake and bacon rolls

Free Parking ~ All Welcome

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Hazel Williams Registered Osteopath

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9-10am every Saturday

8-9pm every Monday



At the Quaker Hall, Chapel Hill, Stansted Mountfitchet.

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Please wear loose clothing and bring an exercise mat.

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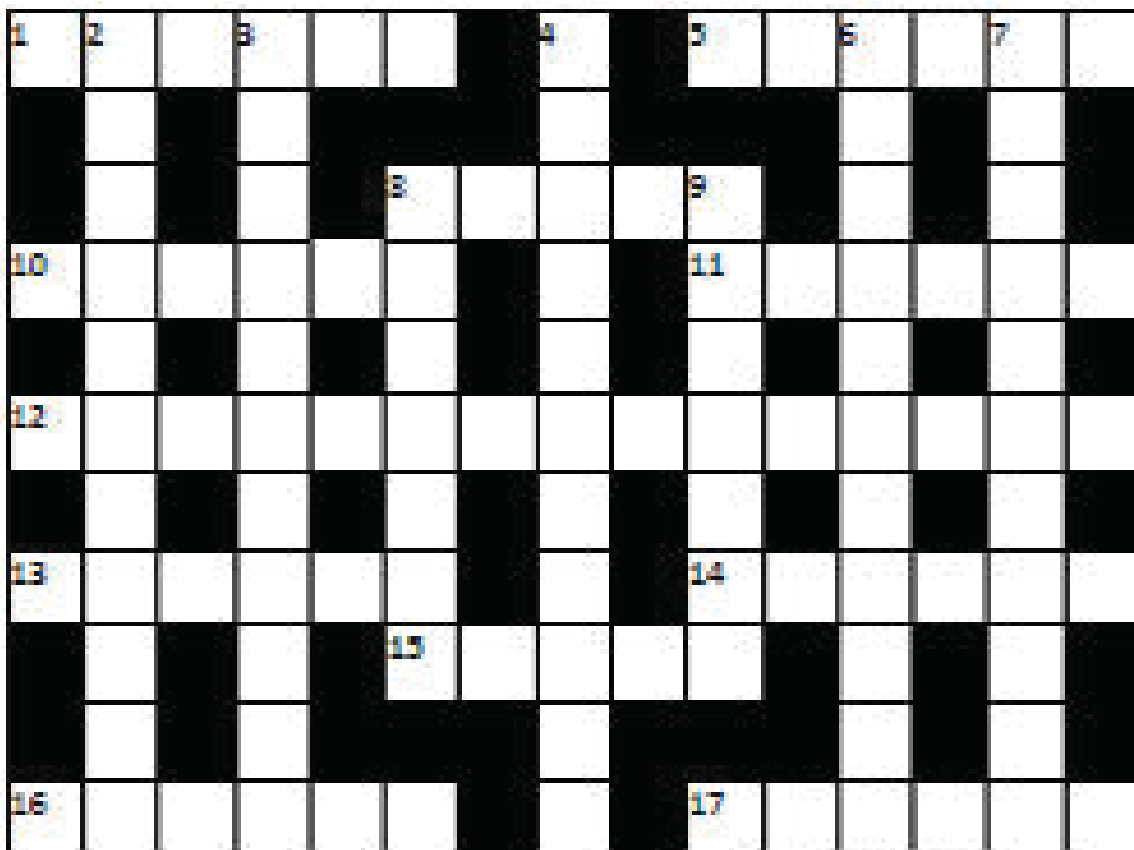
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FUN AND GAMES PUZZLE TIME



Compiled by Roger Wardle. Answers on page 35

ACROSS

1. Line of pressure (6)
5. Front of Ms Sitwell's poem (6)
8. & 15. A late 007 (5,5)
10. Wages, salary (6)
11. Greek mathematician (6)
12. 007 film, sole viewer! (3,4,4,4)
13. Request to repeat (6)
14. Last a long time, put up with (6)
15. See 8 across
16. Island in the Med (6)
17. Untroubled, gently, mild, kindly (6)

DOWN

2. The original 007 (4,7)
3. London's infamous building of gore (6,5)
4. Ships' powerhouses (6,5)
6. Daybreak for Ms French! (5,2,4)
7. More recent 007 (6,5)
8. Funeral mass (7)
9. Umpire, arbitrator (7)

INITIALS QUIZZLE

Many famous people are known by a name of two initials and a surname. You are asked to fit the correct forenames from the list to each person (one has three). Some names appear more than once as indicated by a number in brackets.

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Auden - poet | 2. Barnum - showman |
| 3. Barrie - playwright | 4. Chesterton - writer |
| 5. Eliot - poet | 6. Forster - novelist |
| 7. Housman - poet | 8. James - novelist |
| 9. Johnson - US president | 10. Lawrence - novelist |
| 11. Lawrence - archeologist | 12. Lowry - artist |
| 13. Milne - novelist | 14. Rowling - novelist |
| 15. Salinger - novelist | 16. Travers - novelist |
| 17. Turner - artist | 18. Wells - writer |
| 19. Wodehouse - novelist | 20. Yeats - poet |

- | | | | |
|------------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| Alan | Alexander | Alfred | Baines |
| Butler | David(2) | Dorothy | Edward(3) |
| George | Gilbert | Grenville | Herbert(2) |
| Hugh | James | Jerome | Joanna |
| Joseph | Kathleen | Keith | Laurence |
| Lyndon(2) | Matthew | Mallord | Morgan |
| Pamela | Pelham | Phineas | Phyllis |
| Stearns | Stephen | Taylor | Thomas(2) |
| William(2) | Wystan | | |

Compiled by Cliff Gilbert. Answers on page 33



What's a typical day at Mountfitchet House? Sprucing up the garden

At Care UK, we understand that choosing a care home can be stressful for everyone involved. It's why we offer all-round support to make the transition easier. At Mountfitchet House care home we get to know residents, their life story and interests, so that we understand how best to care for them. You'll find residents keeping busy with a variety of daily activities – from the typical to the not-so-typical.

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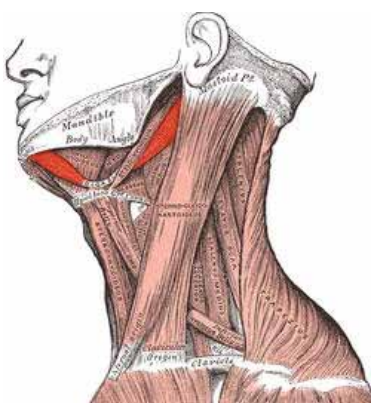
BRAIN TRAINING

www.clareharding.com

Tighten the Saggy Jawline and Improve Posture.

A simple exercise with profound benefits:

1. Push the tip of the tongue firmly into the roof of the mouth, just behind the front teeth.
2. Push your fingers into the flesh of your bottom jaw.
3. Open your mouth, keeping the tongue pushed up, and you should feel muscles tightening up to pull the jaw open.
4. Make sure both right and left sides are working equally hard.
5. Remove your fingers once you are sure you can feel the muscles working, and continue with the exercise, opening your mouth wide. Do this 3-5 times.



This exercise works a muscle called the digastric, as pictured. You can see that as it gets stronger, it will tone up the jowls. As well as having an aesthetically pleasing effect, and saving money on a face lift, the nerves that innervate the digastric and the tongue live in the brainstem. To effectively improve posture, we have to look at brain-

stem function. To put it simply, there are two sections of the brainstem involved in this exercise: the pons and the medulla. The pons straightens the upper back and the medulla lengthens the lower back. Whilst doing this exercise, drop your tailbone and stretch up through your upper back, pushing an imaginary ball into the ceiling with your head. This will improve your posture. Typically, when we try to stand up straight, we throw our shoulders back and jut out our lower ribs. This tactic doesn't work for more than five minutes. Try this exercise instead. Improving the function of the brainstem takes more practice and knowledge but the benefits in terms of posture and ageing are enormous!

Clare Harding
-Health Master Trainer
Tel: 816430

STANSTED SURGERY

Dr Leeman's Walk-In Dermatology Clinics

Dr Leeman ran 10 walk-in clinics over August and September. He saw 300 patients this summer (making 440 in total this year) with several requiring onward referrals, cryotherapy, minor surgery, prescriptions, advice and guidance. We will host more clinics after the winter. If you have a concern over a lump, bump or mole, please make an appointment to see Dr Leeman.

Doctorlink

We are one of a small group of Practices in West Essex who have agreed to trial Doctorlink, and we would be grateful if our patients could use this service so we can assess its use within the wider NHS. Doctorlink is aimed at patients who are ill on the day, and not for the management of on-going medical conditions. Please give it a try. Doctorlink is a free online triage and advice tool which helps our patients see the right member of the practice team in an appropriate time-frame based on your clinical need. At the end of the symptom assessment, you can directly book an appointment to suit your needs and or receive advice relating to what you should do next. Once we have tested this service for a few weeks, we will add video consultations. To use Doctorlink, you will first need to register online either via <https://app.doctorlink.com> register or by downloading the app on your mobile device via Google Play or the App Store. Registration is simple and takes around 2-3 minutes. You must be 16 years to register but there is a facility to use the symptom checker on behalf of your child or for people within your care who are registered at the same practice. The usual methods of contacting the practice are still in place for those patients who may not be able to use a computer or do not have access to one.

Teresa Buglass
Practice Manager
Tel: 813200

GIVING VOICE

Some exciting news this month; as some of you may know I am a poet as well as a veterinary surgeon and I have just finished editing a collection of poetry celebrating the human-animal bond and complementary therapies and the place they have in the treatment of animals. The relationship between man and animals dates back to ancient times and they hold a unique place in our lives. It includes farmed animals on whom people depend for their livelihoods, working relationships such as rescue or assistance animals, wild animals with which we interact, or individual animals with whom we share our lives and love and who become part of our families. Health practitioners are increasingly aware of the bond between humans and animals and the benefits they bring to our lives. Animals bring an uncomplicated and unconditional love which enriches our lives in so many ways.

The poems have been collected from veterinary surgeons, doctors, supporters of complementary and alternative therapies, and poets and include poems about dogs, cats, horses, cows, a falcon and even a tortoise. There are also poems about some of the complementary therapies and a section of poems about the grief felt on losing an animal with whom we have been sharing our life, which is most moving. There are poems from established poets but also from people who have never written a poem before. All profits from the sale of the book will go to CAM4Animals (www.CAM4Animals.co.uk) who have campaigned tirelessly in support of the veterinary surgeons who practice complementary therapies. The book is called *Giving Voice* and is available on line from www.bahvs.com and at all our surgeries.



Ilse Pedler
Mercer and Hughes Veterinary Surgeons

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MANUDEN PRIMARY SCHOOL

www.manudenprimary.co.uk

It has been very busy at the school with children fully immersed in their learning through our creative, skills-based curriculum. In Snowy Owl class, our reception children have been finding out about farming and held a barn dance, where they showed off their traditional country dancing steps. Elsewhere in the school, Eagle Owl class, our Year five and six children, showcased their historical learning by running a World War II café at which they served soup, scones and biscuits made to war-time recipes.



Our school council representatives have also had a busy start to their year in office, raising funds and awareness within the local community. In September, they hosted a Macmillan coffee morning, which raised £247 for this vital charity and provided an opportunity for members of our school and wider community to get together over some delicious cake. They also took part in an open afternoon at the Bishop's Stortford Food Bank to find out about the valuable service they provide for people living in crisis. They found out about the practicalities of running the Food Bank and about the wider work of the Food Bank in signposting guests to other organisations for help.

If you are interested in joining our very special village school, please come to one of our open morning sessions to see our children in action. Our Headteacher, Tracey Bratley, will be giving small groups talks and tours of the school. Please contact the school to book a session at 10.00 am on 18th or 25th November or 2nd or 9th December. We look forward to sharing our vision with you: nurturing life skills and inspiring achievement for today and tomorrow.

Marnie Tait
Tel: 813370

Email: admin@manuden.essex.sch.uk

ST JOHN'S CHRISTMAS MARKET

Saturday 16th November noon-3.00pm St John's Church Hall. Come and buy your Christmas presents from our festive stalls. There will be face painting for the children, and a visit from Father Christmas. Plus a grand draw and raffle, cake stalls and preserves. Enjoy mulled wine and hot and cold refreshments. Free entrance. All proceeds to church funds.



Kathy West
Tel: 816293

Email: kewest@btinternet.com

ST MARY'S C of E FOUNDATION PRIMARY SCHOOL



www.stmarysstansted.co.uk

It has been a very busy half term at the school. Our two reception classes, Willow and Lilac, have settled in exceptionally well and our three new members of teaching staff - Georgia Grover in Apple, Natalie Day in Whitebeam and Fenella Thomson in Ash - are now very much regarded as part of the family.

One of our first whole school events was celebrating Roald Dahl Day. The children and adults all dressed up as characters from the varied world of Dahl. We had an extended assembly which included a Catwalk to judge the best costumes, a special menu (spaghetti worms anyone?) and many other Dahl inspired activities. The winners of the dress up competition were Riley Smith from Chestnut class who came as the peach from James and the Giant Peach, and Mrs Thomson who wowed as Mrs Wormwood from Matilda. Our lucky Year 5s have spent the night at Dinosnores at the Natural History Museum. As usual, a brilliant time was had by all. A massive thank you to all the staff and parents who gave their weekend to accompany the children. We are now collecting crisp packets as part of the TerraCycle UK programme; please encourage your children to bring them in and put them in the collection box. Lastly, we say a sad goodbye to a much-loved Teaching Assistant, Kerrie Dunkley, who is moving to working with adults with special needs. We will miss you!

Matthew Curzon
Deputy Headteacher
Tel: 812212



RAINBOW PRE-SCHOOL

www.rainbowpreschool-stansted.co.uk

All the children are now well settled and busy making new friends, plus the Adventurers have been out and about on autumn walks. They have enjoyed sorting and counting the conkers, leaves and acorns collected on their outings. The pupils have been experimenting with mixing colours and making patterns and some of their artwork is now on display within the classroom. We held our Harvest service with Rev'd Paul, in St John's Church, on the Wednesday before half term. Then on the Friday, the children delivered their harvest baskets to the residents who live at Norman Court. We hope they all enjoyed their treats. Rainbow Pre-School takes children from 2 years to rising 5. If you are interested in applying for a place for your child, please visit our website for details. You need to put your child's name down now, however young, to ensure a place.

Gill Pursglove
Administrator
Tel: 814242

Email: admin@rainbowpreschool.net



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THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

I would like to take this opportunity of introducing myself: I am Fr Lee Bennett, the new Catholic Parish Priest. I replace the previous Parish Priest, Fr John Garrett, who has retired from active ministry. I am a Priest of the Personal Ordinariate of Our Lady of Walsingham, a structure set up by Pope Benedict to welcome groups of Anglicans and other denominations into full communion with the Catholic Church. I came into full communion with the Catholic Church in 2011. Unusually for a Catholic Priest I am married, and I have two grown up children. I have been a Parish Priest in the diocese of Brentwood since 2011; before that I was an Anglican Vicar in the diocese of Chelmsford and before that in the Diocese of Wakefield (now the Anglican Diocese of Leeds).

I come to Stansted at an exciting time; we have recently enjoyed the ordination of our Parish Deacon Des Connors, and together with the people of the parish we are very much looking forward to sharing the Gospel of Jesus with the people of the Parish of Stansted which covers Stansted, Birchanger, Burton End, Farnham, Manuden, Elsenham, Broxton, Henham, Ugley, Berden, Clavering, uendon, and Widdington. We are committed to serving the needs of the people of the parish, and would like to assure you of our prayers at St Theresa's. We have a daily Mass, and daily confessions to which everyone is very welcome to attend. We will be running plenty of events should you want to know more about the Catholic Church and the Catholic faith, and these will be advertised on our parish website. With every prayer and blessing.



Fr Lee Bennett
St Theresa's Catholic Church

ROMAN CATHOLIC

St Therese of Lisieux

High Lane, Stansted CM24 8L
www.sttheresasstansted.org

Priest Father Lee Bennett
Tek: 814349

Parish Rev'd Des Connors
Deacon Tel: 07748 464101
Email: desconnors@dioceseofbrentwood.org

Office Tel: 814349
Email: stansted@dioceseofbrentwood.org

Masses

Saturday	6.00pm
Sunday	10.00am
Monday	9.30am
Tuesday	9.30am
Wednesday	12.30pm
Thursday	7.30pm
Friday	9.30am

Confessions
Every day for half an hour before each Mass

Baptisms By appointment

ST THERESA'S TALK SERIES

www.sttheresasstansted.org events

How to Defend our Faith without Raising your Voice

Most of us have been challenged at some point to speak about or defend our faith. This could have been whilst in the pub, on a chat with our friends or even with other Christians. At times, it can be difficult to find the correct words or courage to speak out. To help with this, we will be hosting a series of talks presented by *Catholic Voices*.

At the heart of the talks is a method called *Reframe*, which aims at avoiding the defensiveness and self-defeating responses which many of us instinctively deploy in the face of hostility. The talks are in the Parish Centre on Wednesdays during the Advent season. Light refreshments at 7.00pm; talks start at 7.30pm. Entry is free and everyone is welcome. For catering purposes, it would be helpful, but not essential, if you could register in advance via our website.

20th November How to defend our faith without raising your voice

27th November Amoris Laetitia: a vision for marriage and the family

4th December Mercy and the migrant crisis

11th December What's wrong with assisted suicide?

18th December Top ten principles for civil communication when defending the faith.

Anel uniga-Daly



STANSTED FREE CHURCH

Methodist / URC

Chapel Hill

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 November

3rd	10.30am	Richard Lewney – New Directions
10 th	10.50am	Remembrance Service at St John's
17 th	10.30am	Karen uelch

THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS)

Quaker Meeting House, 71 Chapel Hill
Stansted CM24 8AE

www.saffronquakers.org.uk (follow link to Stansted Meeting)

Clerk and Lettings Jane Mitchell
Tel: 503024
Email: sjane.mitchell@ntlworld.com

Meeting Sundays 10.30am

Light Group 2nd Saturday of each month 10.30am-noon
(Guided Meditation) 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.



All enquiries: The Church Office, St John's Hall,
St John's Road, Stansted CM24 8JP
Tel: 815243
Office hours: 9.00am-noon Mon, Wed, Fri
Email: st.johns.church@btinternet.com
Website: www.stanstedstjohns.btck.co.uk

Rector: Rev'd Paul Wilkin
Tel: 812203
Email: stansted.rector@gmail.com

Assistant Curate: Rev'd Helen Flack
Email: revhelenstn@gmail.com

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

Church Hall Bookings: Barbora Dragoskova
Tel: (with answerphone): 81524
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

Wednesday

9.00am Morning Prayer for residents in two Stansted care homes: on the first Wednesday

Thursday

10.00am Holy Communion (Hargrave House) and the second Tuesday (Mountfitchet House).
10.30am-noon The Coffee Pot
Monday-Thursday and Saturday
5.00pm Evening Prayer

ST JOHN'S 300 CLUB

Many congratulations to the winners of the September draw:

£100 No242 Edmund Wilkinson
£50 No 251 C Henderson
£25 No 76 Margaret Hill

The draw for November will be held on 24th November in St John's Church following the 9.30am service. Numbers at £2 each per month are still available for anyone who may wish to join the Club and be in with a chance of winning one of the 38 prizes totalling £2,500 given away each year. The Club raises vital money to help cover the heavy maintenance costs and work of St John's Church.

Jean Newson
Tel: 819062

From St John's Registers August

Baptism
18th Mia Jayne Pereira Alves

September

Baptism
8th Nora Grace Wright

Funerals
4th Jeanie Anne Whitehead - funeral at St Mary's followed by burial at cemetery
18th Gordon Thomas Harrington - funeral at St John's followed by cremation at Parndon Wood



Contact: Howard and Ros Page
Tel: 810813
Email: contactstanfam@yahoo.com

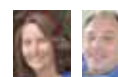
Our Christian beliefs are conventional, we are just doing church differently.

We have two different formats on Mondays at 7.30pm in the Day Centre. **Crossroads** involves opportunities for questions and discussion on a topic of interest to anyone (whether they would describe themselves as a Christian or not), sometimes based on a film or a magazine article, for example. **The Vine** is a meeting most likely to be of interest to Christians, based around Bible-study, modern worship music and prayer.

Crossroads Monday 11th *Astronomy and God*
Monday 25th *Freedom through Forgiveness*
The Vine Monday 4th *Proverbs Ch14-18*
Monday 18th *Proverbs Ch19-23*

Visitors are welcome; you do not have to be a member of Family Church, or any church, to attend. Venues may vary in November so please contact us if you are planning to come for the first time or would like more information. If you would like to join a prayer walk, or have a prayer-request, please contact us. 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?

Investigators is our Children's Group which meets on Fridays 6.15pm-7.45pm at the Free Church Hall. Games, Bible stories and fun activities suitable for children with or without a church connection.





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 Centre. The cost is £1 per session and includes an evening topic, and fellowship over tea coffee and biscuits to finish. On Tuesday 17th September great fun was had by the three teams of four who gathered to take part in a beetle drive. One table won consistently but friendly banter assured everyone that they were adhering to the rules! The group will meet on 19th November for the last of this year's meetings. The evening will be a bring and share evening of readings, music, objects and food – all themed around Christmas and brought in by the members to share around the group. Have you got something you would like to bring and share? Why not come along? Bishop's Stortford 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 hope to see you soon.



Captain Megan Kervin
Tel: 01279 507464

Email: megan.kervin@salvationarmy.org.uk



HUMAN ROOTS COMMUNITY GARDEN

www.humanrootscommunity.org.uk

Human Roots is a non-profit community allotment project which aims to educate, enrich and empower Stansted Mountfitchet by bringing community groups together in a tranquil environment. We have two primary purposes: to educate the local community about gardening and growing fresh produce; and to bring the local community together, forge new and lasting friendships and help community members overcome social isolation and loneliness. Our core objective is to promote social inclusion, a healthy lifestyle and general well-being through outdoor sensory experiences and to provide accessible grounds to facilitate a platform for learning.



Recently, the local Beavers Group built an epic bug hotel. They had a great time and we loved how excited they were to get stuck in and make way for new crawly critters to move in. September has seen us celebrating many highs; we have hit a target of £10,000 in raised funds and grants. I am overwhelmed by the support from local business people, volunteers and various donations made by the local community. Please accept this as a heartfelt thank you for all

your support! We have now launched our first Allotment Club attended by a group of home-schooled children and their families. So far, we have 30 children participating in this programme. We are also proud to be collaborating with Bev Weemes who will provide us with meaningful meditations to help keep us grounded in the moment and fully appreciate the time we share together. At the end of September, we were on the allotment with We Are Thrive and Bear and Eden. We had a morning of getting mucky and mindful which was guided by Nikki Phillips from Youth Mindfulness. You can find us on our website, Facebook and Instagram. Like, share and get involved today!

Kieran Leigh Olivier
Email: keiran@humanrootscommunity.org.uk

RANDOM JOTTINGS

The Butterfly Effect

This story begins at the big house to which I was evacuated in 1939. There were eight children being cared for by the professor, his wife and daughter. It must have been very difficult to keep eight kids, separated from their families, amused. Winter evenings were often spent drawing at the kitchen table. In the summer we were given small jobs in the garden. We played on the green patch at the bottom of the garden, and one day we got out the hockey sticks stored away in the large shed. Here was a group of 7 to 10-year olds trying to wield these heavy sticks as big as they were. The inevitable happened, somebody was hurt. A big swing at the ball and his follow-through hit me right between the eyes. I was rushed back to the house where madam dressed the wound to the bridge of my nose and decided no stitch was needed.

I was treated with great care while the wound healed and, with a saltire of plaster in place, was allowed to join the family in their lounge, normally out of bounds, during the evenings. Here, I had my introduction to music on the gramophone. I was enthralled by Elgar's cello concerto, having no idea what I was listening to. A few months later I took this new-found love with me to my secondary school. Although we all loved the big bands of the day, the special friends I made had similar tastes to me in the classics. On returning to London following the war, this group of friends turned their attention more to girls of like minds and similar tastes. Several marriages resulted, including my own, which lasted for 63 years. As I approach the end of it, I remember how my life was influenced by a blow between the eyes.



Cliff Gilbert

CHRISTMAS ON THE GREEN

Saturday 21st December 4.00pm Mountfitchet Green

Come and join our family event singing Christmas songs and telling the Christmas Story in drama and art. We invite you to dress as Christmas characters and bring lanterns. More details will be in the December Link.



David Morson
Tel: 850209



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www.ugleyvillage.org.uk

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Tel: 01279 814052 Email: ugleyvillagehall@gmail.com



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www.musicatstansted.co.uk

We invite you to come and enjoy a concert by harpist Louise Thomson on **Sunday 24th November** at 3.00pm in the warmth and comfort of St John's Church. Louise is a former pupil of Manchester's famous Chetham's Music School and won a scholarship to the Royal Northern College of Music. After graduating, she was immediately invited onto the *Live Music Now Scheme* (founded by Yehudi Menuhin) which involved extensive touring around the country. Versatile and experienced, Louise's playing has taken her to many of the UK's prestigious concert venues including the Royal Albert Hall, St David's Hall in Cardiff and the Bridgewater Hall in Manchester where she performed with the Hallé Orchestra.

She has planned a fascinating and widely varied programme for us, including pieces by well-known composers such as Scarlatti, Debussy and Fauré as well as famous harp virtuosos of the past. These include the well-known *Fantasy* on Tchaikovsky's Eugene Onegin by the harpist Walter-Kühne which we heard in a flute-and-harp version from the Elvira Ensemble a few years ago. Several other pieces will be



familiar to those who remember the hugely popular recitals given here by Catrin Finch and Claire Jones. Some hints of jazz, and pieces based on Welsh and Gaelic folk music, will add even more variety. Tickets: adults £15, concessions £12, under-18s free, available from Sonia on 815282; Absolute Travel; Nockolds, Bishop's Stortford or on the door. Check our website for general information or if you have a specific enquiry please email: contactus@musicatstansted.co.uk.

Alan Corbishley



LIFT YOUR SPIRIT

www.theharmonaireschoir.com

Come and join **The Harmonaires**, one of the region's most engaging choirs, for a recital concert filled with beautiful, uplifting, soul-enriching music. The performance will be on **Saturday 9th November** at 7.00pm in The United Reformed Church, Water Lane, Bishop's Stortford. It will feature choral classics by Rutter, Chilcott and Gjeilo, music from gospel and folk traditions and spirit-raising arrangements of con-

temporary popular music. This is sure to be a stunning evening; a straight-through programme of just over an hour in support of the Catenian Bursary Fund for young people. Tickets: adults £12, students £6, available from 07912 025777 or from our website. The highly-acclaimed choir was formed five years ago by Josie Cowley and is going from strength to strength, singing in cathedrals as well as performing fundraising concerts locally. Josie also organised the first Bishop's Stortford Choral Festival in October this year. With five choirs taking part (The Harmonaires, The Bishop's Stortford Choral Society, Amici Cantate, The Gospel Choir and The U3A Choir) it is hoped this will become an annual event with more choirs taking part. The next Harmonaires Choir event will be carols and other Christmas music at St Joseph's Church, Bishop's Stortford on 14th December. More details on our website.

Liz Jennings
Press and Publicity Officer



RHODES ARTS COMPLEX NOVEMBER LISTINGS

www.rhodesartscomplex.co.uk

At thestage Stortford

Friday 1st 7.30pm Crooners

Saturday 2nd 7.30pm Ruby Wax: how to be Human

Wednesday 6th 8.00pm Enter the Dragons

Friday 8th 7.30pm The Elvis Years

Monday 11th Saturday 16th 7.30pm and Saturday matinee 2.30pm Jekyll & Hyde

Wednesday 20th 7.30pm Free Live Midweek Music: Rocco Lane Trio

Saturday 23rd 2.00pm and 6.00pm Pop Divas Live!

At thescreen Stortford

Tuesday 5th 7.15pm ROH Live: Concerto/Enigma Variations/Raymonda Act III

Tuesday 19th 2.00pm It's A Wonderful Life (dementia friendly screening)

Tuesday 19th 7.30pm Judy

Thursday 21st 7.30pm NT Live Encore: Fleabag

At themuseum Stortford

Monday 28th October – Saturday 2nd November Halloween Trail

Tuesday 29th October – Thursday 31st October 11.00am Half Term Children's Crafts

Saturday 2nd 11.00am Free Museum Tours

Tuesday 5th 12.30pm Take Me Back Tuesdays

Wednesday 13th 12.30pm Lunchtime Lectures

Wednesday 13th 1.30pm Story Time at the Museum

Saturday 30th November – Saturday 4th January Christmas Panto Trail

Saturday 30th 11.00am Make your own Christmas Decoration

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Stansted Network

NEWS FROM OUR LOCAL COUNCILS

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

Our Remembrance Sunday event on 10th November will start with a parade from Crafton Green, down Chapel Hill to the Memorial Gardens. All the organisations that have traditionally joined the parade have been contacted. We hope that as many residents as possible will gather in the Memorial Gardens for the act of remembrance. Please aim to arrive by 10.45 am.

Next year there will be an additional remembrance event on Friday 8 May to mark the 75th Anniversary of VE Day. VE Day, or Victory in Europe Day, marks the day towards the end of World War II when fighting against Nazi Germany came to an end in Europe. We would like to hear from any surviving veterans or people who have a close connection to a veteran so that we can involve them in the ceremony.

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN CONSULTATION

The Neighbourhood Development Plan consultation period will be from 1 November until 13 December, hopefully taking place in the new Mountfitchet Exchange. The following dates have been set aside for consultation events when members of the Neighbourhood Plan team will be available to explain the Plan and answer any questions. Where timings are still to be confirmed they will be publicised via the Parish Council website nearer the time and if, for any reason, we need to change the venue we will also publicise this on the Parish Council website.

Consultation Events

Monday 4th November – timings to be confirmed

Tuesday 12th November (technical meeting for planning officers etc.) – 4pm to 6pm

Saturday 16th November – 9am to 1pm

Thursday 21st November – timings to be confirmed

Wednesday 27th November – timings to be confirmed

Saturday 30th November – 9am to 1pm

Friday 6th December – timings to be confirmed

We look forward to engaging with as many members of our local community as possible through these consultation events.

VILLAGE POND

Senior residents in the village are telling us they can't remember the pond drying out as completely as it has this year. Hopefully it will start to replenish itself naturally once we get a bit of wet weather but it does raise concerns about how our changing weather patterns are going to impact on our natural environment. The dried out pond bed gives us an opportunity to assess how effective the spraying we did to try and eradicate invasive weeds has been, and the good news is that there is no sign of the weed that was causing us problems. The experts tell us that the weed roots could still be capable of spreading the problem again, so we are not being complacent and claiming victory just yet.



Affinity Water are already flagging up the prospect of hosepipe bans next year and urging all of us to be as economical as possible in our use of water.

7A SHUTTLE BUS SERVICE

The temporary 7A shuttle service between Cambridge Road Hargrave Estate Bentfield Road and the Mountfitchet Estate ceased operation on 27 September. Until Abbotsford Bridge in Elsenham re-opens (likely to be late November at the earliest), it has been replaced by an 'on demand' minibus service operated by 24 x 7 Ltd.

The minibus runs on the same route as the 7A shuttle and to the same timetable BUT ONLY WHEN BOOKED TO RUN. Passengers wishing to use it must telephone '24 x 7' on 07534 586785 and give them at least **two hours'** notice and then wait at the time you have asked them to run at one of the bus stops on the 7A route. Please note, the driver is not required to stop anywhere except at designated bus stops. This service is only available MONDAY to FRIDAY. If you are making a return journey, bookings must be made for **both** the outward and return journeys. No fares will be charged on this shuttle bus. Wheelchairs and children's buggies (folded) can be carried.

It is to be hoped that this will be a more reliable service than the 7A shuttle previously operated by Trustybus. When Abbotsford Bridge re-opens the whole of the 7 service route structure will be reviewed and further changes are likely.

FLORAL DISPLAYS AND GRASS CUTTING

Despite the dry summer, our gardening contractors, GWB Horticulture, have received plaudits from villagers for the quality of the floral displays in the flower beds and hanging baskets. The owner of GWB, Gareth Broad, gets up very early to water the hanging baskets before traffic starts to build up.

M D Landscapes have also done a great job in keeping the grassed areas that the Parish Council are responsible for looking neat and tidy. Sadly the same cannot be said for some of the roadside verges, which Essex Highways are responsible for, which in some areas of the village are a real eyesore.



Our picture shows The Memorial Gardens still looking good with a real splash of colour in late September.

DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT

Cllr Melvin Caton writes:

Stansted Airport

Stansted residents may recall that before the elections last May, Uttlesford councillors decided to delay the issuing of the Section 106 agreement associated with the grant of planning permission last November to expand the capacity of Stansted Airport to 44 million passengers per annum, in order to review its content and effectiveness. At a Special Council meeting in July the council asked the Planning Committee to review the decision including the Section 106 agreement.

The Planning Committee, with 50 of the members newly elected, is now holding a series of special meetings to learn the background to and the issues surrounding the airport application. Unfortunately, as I spoke against Airport expansion at the Planning Committee last November, I have had to step down from the Committee for this decision because I may be perceived as being biased. Geoffrey Sell is taking my place. It is hoped that the Committee will be able to make a decision by the end of November. It was recently revealed that Uttlesford has spent £90k on legal advice on this review to date.

Airport fly parking

I have persuaded the Scrutiny Committee at Uttlesford to launch an investigation into fly parking by airport users and staff on local residential roads in Stansted and other villages around the airport.

This was an issue that cropped up on the doorstep frequently during the local election campaign. The airport runs a hotline number 0800 731 2385 for residents to report suspected on-street airport-related parking. However, many people complained that no action is taken even after they report vehicles to the hotline.

In order to get more proof of the problem locally, and if you experience fly parking in your street, I would be grateful if you could please email a photo of the vehicle concerned, along with a note of the date, time and duration of the parking, to cllrcaton@uttlesford.gov.uk as well as reporting it to the hotline.

Climate Emergency

Both Uttlesford District and Stansted Mountfitchet Parish Councils have set up working groups to take action following their declarations of a Climate Emergency. I am a member of both groups which are seeking ideas and help from interested individuals and community organisations about what early wins and longer term goals they should be tackling. More tree planting and a refill initiative to reduce the use of throw away plastic bottles are already on the to do list at both parish and district levels.

District Council Commercial Investments

Finally, Stansted District Councillors have always argued that there needs to be a better framework for decisions about the district council's investment in commercial property (which is needed to generate income to replace funds lost in cuts to our central government grant). Unfortunately, that didn't happen before Uttlesford considered a £2m investment in student accommodation in Cambridge. We will continue to call for a more considered approach that seeks to reduce the cumulative financial risks to Uttlesford's Council Tax payers of any future investments.



See page 35 of this issue of the Link for more details.

POLICE MATTERS

Roger Hirst, the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner for Essex would like as many people as possible to take part in a survey they are carrying out with residents and communities of Essex to give people a voice in terms of policing, fire and other community safety issues. The feedback they get will help them to shape the next Police and Crime Plan. They are asking the public for their views at an early stage to help formulate thinking prior to developing the next Police and Crime Plan after May 2020.

They would welcome your contribution now and will also be providing more structured opportunities after May 2020. To take part in the survey you need to go to www.essex.pfcc.police.uk make-a-difference or hard copies are available on request and in local libraries and other public buildings.

OUR LIBRARY

Our Library working group is keen to learn how people use the current library and how services might be improved once it is relocated in the Mountfitchet Exchange. We would ask you to complete our short survey on www.stansted.net by clicking on NEWS and following the instructions on the Library Survey post.

DATES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

All meetings start at 7.45pm unless otherwise stated

November

13 Windmill

20 Full Council

27 Open Spaces

December

4 Finance and General Purposes

11 Full Council

CONTACT DETAILS

Clerk - Ruth Clifford

Assistant to the Parish Clerk - Trevor Lloyd

Administration Assistant - Emma Philbrick

Email: parishcouncil@stansted.net

Phone fax: 01279 813214 10.00am - 1.00pm

Website: www.stansted.net

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Kemi Badenoch MP, House of Commons, London SW1A
0AA Tel 0207 219 1943 (House of Commons) or 01799
506349 (Constituency Office).
Email kemi.badenoch.mp@parliament.uk

POLICE

Non-emergency 101 The Community Policing Team has
its own email address which is monitored daily:
braintreeanduttlesfordcpt@essex.pnn.police.uk

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

www.stanstednhw.org.uk

PARISH PUBLIC TRANSPORT REPRESENTATIVES

Valerie Trundle 813433 Joy Thomas 813871

STANSTED LIBRARY

Check the Parish Council website for our move
into The Mountfitchet Exchange building

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



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www.birchangerwoodtrust.org

Autumn brings a new season of activity when our volunteers begin coppicing trees. Coppice rotation is a sustainable method of woodland management. Jono Forgham, a science educator and conservationist, staged several lively, hands-on activities during the summer. Bug hunts and moth nights involving people of all ages have helped us assess what is living in the wood and the diversity of our insect life.



Insects are crucial to the food chain and maintaining the woodland ecosystem, but are a threat in high numbers. Many of our trees were blighted last spring by the November moth caterpillar, which munched through the canopy. Where trees had been coppiced, the level of bird predation of the caterpillar increased and there was less tree damage. This underlines the importance of our work in managing the balance of woodland flora and fauna.

The long-term challenge is dealing with climate change and disease. Last year's drought put enormous stress on trees, leading to significant losses across our countryside and encouraging disease. Ash trees are succumbing to chalarash dieback, a fungal disease which may cost the UK £15bn. The Birchanger Wood Trust has set aside a considerable contingency to manage the disease, which means we are always looking for funds. Chalarash is not the only disease. The oak processionary moth, whose caterpillars strip oaks of their leaves, was identified close by this summer and is bound to come here very soon. We are always on the lookout for volunteers; we meet every Saturday morning at the compound next to the water tower on Heath Row, Bishop's Stortford. You can also support us by buying our firewood. Look for future events on our website.



Daniel Brett
Secretary

Email: danielbrettdotcom@gmail.com

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WAS THAT A BUS?

www.uttlesfordfrontline.org.uk

How to find out about Transport Options in our Area

Living in this part of the UK has many advantages. We are surrounded by beautiful countryside and picturesque villages, have London and Cambridge within easy reach, and stately homes and interesting places to visit. However, rural living comes with its own set of issues, one of which is transport. Cuts to local bus services mean that for most of us a car is essential, but what happens when driving is no longer an option? Fortunately, there are alternatives, though tracking them down can be time-consuming and frustrating and what is available depends on where you live. For the over 60s who find public transport too difficult, Uttlesford Community Travel can be a godsend, as can the social car schemes like *Helpline* which ferry residents to medical appointments. For those who have been assessed as in medical need, there is the non-emergency hospital transport service. For a comprehensive overview of all local transport options offered by Uttlesford Frontline, a free fact sheet *Getting Places* is on our website. This includes: social car schemes; bus routes and timetables; DaRT (on demand) services with information as to which villages are covered, booking details and how to check which buses are disabled-friendly. There is also information about assistance if travelling by Greater Anglia rail, as well as at Stansted Airport. Details about concessionary bus passes, the Blue Badge Scheme and help with travel costs for medical appointments are included together with all contact details.

Janet Elsey
Administrator

Tel: 01799 618842

Email: admin@frontlineuk.org.uk



STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET WINDMILL

www.stanstedwindmill.co.uk

On our last Sunday opening the weather was poor, so consequently we did not have many visitors, but those who came were very interested in our mill and some bought souvenirs. If anyone would like to purchase any of our windmill goods when the Mill is not open just give me a ring and I will be happy to deliver them to you; Christmas is fast approaching and you may need some stocking fillers!

Our next fundraising event is a coffee morning on **Wednesday 13th November** 10.00am-noon in the Day Centre. Entry is £2.50 to include tea, coffee, squash and mince pies, and there will be the usual stalls and a raffle. There will also be a Windmill opening on **Saturday 14th December** noon-4.00pm when Santa will be visiting his grotto with Christmas presents for the children. More details about that next month; look out for our Father Christmas posters around the village.



Molly Clark
Co-trustee
Tel: 816768

THE CRAFTON ROOM

Stansted Day and Community Centre

Over 30 young-at-heart Stansted residents enjoyed entertainment from duo Lou and Mike, otherwise known as *Somethin' Else*, and a sumptuous afternoon tea at our Silver Sunday celebration of older people. We will not forget Jean and Edna, 97 and 96 and proud of it, twirling their feather boas as they danced along to raunchy music.



Our photos show Pam and Doug Alcock wearing fetching head gear and Jo and Julie with a display of delicious cakes.



We were pleased to host a wake following the funeral of one of our long-term members, Dennis Miller. Diana put on a wonderful spread and memories of Dennis were read out. Some long-standing Stansted residents will remember Dennis when he worked at the Co-op on Cambridge Road. We will miss him at the Day Centre.



Catherine Dean
Tel: 813579



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PARISHES SOCIETY**
www.hundredparishes.org.uk

This year our farmers celebrated the season of mellow fruitfulness with good crops of wheat, while the hedgerows have been well-stocked with crab apples, sloes, rose hips and hawthorn berries. Folklore hints that masses of fruits foretell a harsh winter to come; in reality the favourable conditions last spring enabled the flower buds formed the previous summer to blossom. Each year has its own unique pattern of weather with records of notable events. The spire of Finchingfield Church blew down during the great storm of February 1661. The inhabitants of Finchingfield suffered again as 16 barns were destroyed in the great storm of November 1703. The freezing conditions of the very cold winter of 1895 allowed the people of Saffron Walden to enjoy tobogganing by moonlight while folk in Dunmow held an ice carnival. There are many accounts of hot summers when wells ran dry or hail ruined crops.

Those who study long-term trends are concerned about the warming of the atmosphere, hotter summers and an increase in the frequency of storms which can cause serious flooding, damage to trees and property and loss of power. In May the UK Government declared a Climate Emergency with ambitious plans to plant 50 million trees per year across the country to help soak up carbon. Current tree cover in the Hundred Parishes is about 6% and any new trees will bring significant visual changes to its landscape. Trees produce timber, habitats for wildlife and reduce flooding risk. Groups of trees can modify the local climate by providing shade, cooling the air and making urban areas more attractive. To ensure that this project is successful, consideration must be given to the location of plantings and the most appropriate species, with maintenance plans so that these new trees thrive.

Tricia Moxey
Trustee
Tel: 01277 364522

STORING WINE – DOs AND DON'Ts



Ideally both red and white wines should be stored on their side, in the dark, away from vibration, and at a consistent temperature of about 12 C (not above 18 C or below 7 C). A cellar is ideal or an under-stairs cupboard or an unheated room would do fine. Some merchants provide good advice on how long to store wines along with tasting notes. Some will even store wines for you for a small charge. Perhaps you put away some red Bordeaux which you have been told will improve in 5-10 years. Because your storage temperature is not ideal your wine might mature more quickly so you decide to try after five years and find it has still not lost that mouth-puckering tannic clout. Fear not, you may be able to improve things by decanting or using a hand held aerator to aerate a single glass. Both options work well and can transform an immature wine. However, if your red wine has been left for years you are likely to find it has developed a sediment and thus needs decanting. Hopefully you will find it has developed lots of secondary flavours and be more interesting. However, if it is too old, over-oxidized and unpleasant it could still be used in sauces or frozen in ice cube containers to add to stocks later. Trying wines at regular intervals and keeping notes on their progress should avoid that happening.

Here are a few suggestions of wines to store away for a few years:

Brokenwood Semillon 2018, Hunter Valley, Waitrose £10; drink 2019 to 2030
Clos de Los Siete, Malbec 2016 Mendoza Argentina, Sainsburys and Costco £13-£17; drink 2019 to 2023
Ch Lalande D'Auvion, Medoc 2016, Waitrose £16; drink 2021 to 2030

Happy exploring.



Paul Wilkinson
Email: corkscrew_456@hotmail.co.uk



We would like to shine the spotlight on one of our long-standing members, Sue Richardson who has been a faithful member of the SBF since the beginning and has always supported what we do. Sue worked for Millway for many years and is now at Murdochs Estate Agents. She is also a volunteer with St Clare Hospice and is changing her career by retraining as a natural therapist.



We had an interesting and busy breakfast meeting at Linden House on 4th October and we welcomed Roy Mason who gave us an update on the current mortgage market, and Helen Froggett from the Accountancy Practice. Helen reminded us of the need to be bold in business and to think about what we want more or less of in our lives. She also reminded us how important it is to recharge our batteries and get the balance right. We are in the process of completing our directory which will soon be printed and distributed throughout the village and surrounding areas. Please make sure that you take a look at what all the SBF businesses can offer you. Why don't you make it your resolution to use a local business first of all? In the Business Forum we all make a point of using each other's businesses as it makes complete sense to think and buy local.

If you are a local business come along to our next meeting on **Friday 1st November** at Linden House. Contact Peter James on 813318 to book your place. We will have our Christmas lunch on **Friday 6th December** at Linden House.



Iris Evans



Come and meet your local Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) on **Wednesdays 27th November and 4th December 10.00am-noon** at *The Place on the Hill*, which is held in the foyer of Stansted Free Church at the bottom of Chapel Hill (near Chogou). This is your opportunity to feed back any concerns you have about living in the village. If the PCSO cannot help you directly he/she will be able to point you to other agencies who can help. If you are not able to come in November or December, there will be other opportunities in subsequent months. Everyone welcome.

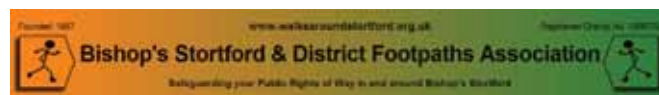
Simon Horne
Saffron Walden Policing Hub



MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

This is to say a big Thank You to everyone who supported the Macmillan Coffee Morning held at Old Lane House, Church Road on 27th September. We can hardly believe it but you raised a total of £800! This will be even more once the gift aid declarations are counted. We are also most grateful to the loyal band of helpers who worked so hard to make it a success. Thank you everyone.

Christine and Bill Stiles
Tel: 813172



www.walksaroundstortford.org.uk

Sunday Walks: Departing at 10.00am 5/6 miles
3rd November Hatfield Heath Car Park, behind the Fish and Chip shop TL 524151 Postcode: CM22 7EB
17th November Gt Dunmow Short Stay Car Park, Chequers Lane TL 626219 Postcode: CM6 1E
1st December Manuden Community Centre, David Collins Rd TL 486273 Postcode: CM23 1EH
15th December Debden Village Shop, Mill Road TL555335 Postcode: CB11 3LB
26th December Departing **10.30am** Stansted Castle Car Park TL 515248 Postcode: CM24 8LY

The weather is getting wet; however, the forecast winds and rain for Sunday 29th September did not match the expected woe and doom and we have enjoyed a most generously dry summer. I went out with Tony Wellings the other day and we found a very rare nettle-leaved blue bell flower. Incidentally, I now know what badger poo looks like! Their latrines are at some distance from their setts and their poo is rather like human dumps - and yes, a fairly large dollop. It was not particularly windy but there was very little wildlife or birds about, so I think they may have been listening to the poor weather forecast. The leaves were still hanging onto the trees and bushes and there was a very abundant supply of irresistibly large and very sweet blackberries, a variety of hips, apples and the bright red berries of the high climbing white Bryony (not edible and highly poisonous). There were also cobnuts and some sloe berries.



Photograph of the nettle leafed blue bell flower, is courtesy of Tony Wellings



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

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By the time you read this we will have closed up the gardens for the winter and tidied away the tables and chairs, to protect them from whatever the winter throws at us. What a season it has been! It started with record numbers to see the snowdrops during that amazing warm spell in February. The gardens and our vegetables have been much appreciated through the spring and summer. Most recently, the Apples and Bees day was our second busiest September Open Day, despite the horrible weather forecast; visitors drove through pouring rain and arrived with us in sunshine and had a lovely day, before our luck ran out around 2.30pm. By the end of the day our visitor total to date had already exceeded our best ever year and we hoped for a busy October day with the Ukes of Hazard rounding off the season.



We have cleaned the lily pond; the stone steps have been restored; the mosaic tables look as good as new after cleaning and restoration; the far end of the walled kitchen garden is back in productive use and we have returned Japanese features to the Gardens. The winter gives us time to recover and start new projects. We also offer talks about the Gardens through the closed season. For more information or to keep up with our news go to our website or Facebook.

Jill Goldsmith
Treasurer and Publicity
Tel: 07919 478144



Festive Gift Fair

This will take place on **Wednesday 20th November** 10.00am-3.00pm at Manor of Groves Golf and Country Club, High Wych, Sawbridgeworth CM21 0JU. Come and browse at over 40 exciting stalls and purchase unique gifts not available on the high street. Entry is £5.00 including coffee and a homemade biscuit; book in advance at www.redcross.org.uk manorofgroves or pay on the door. Lunch is available at La Brasserie in the hotel.

Christine Stiles
Tel: 813172

STANSTED IS WELL READ

The next meeting of our book club will be on **Tuesday 5th November** at 8.00pm in the Dog and Duck, Lower Street, where we will be discussing *The Cut Out Girl* by Bart Van Es. This award-winning book (winner of the Costa Book of the Year 2018) is the insightful and personal true story of a young Jewish girl and the network of Dutch families who risked their lives to hide her during the Second World War. Please do join us - we meet on the first Tuesday of every month and a warm welcome will await.



Anne Watson

Tel: 898693

Email: stanstediswellread@gmail.com



RSPB STORT VALLEY LOCAL GROUP

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

Our next talk is on **Tuesday 12th November** at 7.30pm in Bishops Park Community Centre, Lancaster Way, Bishop's Stortford (next to Tesco). Dr Andre Farrar presents *The wild sea is my home* - a very current topic. He has worked for the RSPB since 1982 and is a seasoned presenter. We host a rich world of seabirds and marine life in our nation of islands and overseas territories. From Bempton's gannets to Gough Island's Tristan albatrosses, the challenges are the same: keeping nesting areas safe and ensuring there is abundant food which they can catch without getting caught themselves. Add to this the impact of climate change, planning developments at sea and the increasingly visible tide of plastic waste and it is clear that saving our seabirds will be a measure of how we treat our planet. Entry is £3 members, £5 visitors.



Our next walk is on **Saturday 16th November** at Marsh Farm Country Park, near South Woodham Ferrers: a new one for us. Surrounded on three sides by the River Crouch, Clements Green and Fenn Creeks, this is a great place for coastal walks and superb river views. Its 300 acres of grazing marsh offers ideal wildlife-spotting opportunities, as well as a chance to explore many scenic riverside paths. The Country Park is recognised as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) because of its importance for overwintering dark-bellied Brent geese. Meet at Marsh Farm Country Park, postcode CM3 5YT at 10.00am and bring a packed lunch. Contact Lee Jaques on 07454 801894 for more information. There is no admission charge and parking is free. Donations are always welcome to our local group.

Sheila Bowles

Tel: 814973

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HATFIELD FOREST

www.nationaltrust.org.uk/hatfield-forest

As autumn turns to winter, nature focuses on hibernation and resting through the colder months. It is also a crucial time to continue our conservation work. Our major project this year is to rediscover the forest views which the Houlton family cherished in Georgian times. Work has started to clear hawthorn scrubland on the western side of the lake which has taken hold since the 1940s, blocking views towards the north of the Forest. Landscape historian Dr Sarah Rutherford's research has revealed the extent of Capability Brown's design for the lake area, showing open parkland, peppered with magnificent specimen trees.



Henry Bexley, the Forest's Operations Manager, said, 'We have an early 1800s map, which shows every tree in its correct location. Once the scrub hawthorn is removed, we can replant young trees to restock it. We cannot wait to reveal some really special views of the lake and its surroundings, unseen for the last 70 years. All the new trees will come from the Forest's own nursery, grown from seeds gathered on site. For details visit: <http://bit.ly/HatfieldLakesideRestoration>.

The rest of the Forest also needs our care; please keep to hard-standing paths to allow the woodland to regenerate, or save your visits for the drier summer months. Our winter events are designed to have minimal impact on the most sensitive areas of the Forest. These include opportunities to make a Christmas wreath and reindeer food for Rudolph and friends. Father Christmas will also be visiting several times.

Helen Hooker and Elizabeth Reeve
Visitor Welcome Team
Tel: 870678

STANSTED EVENING WI



We had a very busy September meeting – no 'end of summer blues' as our speaker Lynn Croot transported us to the fabulous tropical island of Tobago. Lynn, a master scuba diver, has visited the island more than 40 times; she first stopped off there to dive whilst on a cruise and fell in love with the island and its people. She has made many friends on her visits and has been invited to weddings, funerals and carnivals which she talked about with enthusiasm and illustrated with colourful photos. Tobago is 21 miles by 6 miles and is surrounded by the Atlantic Ocean and the Caribbean Sea. It is also home to coral reefs and one of the oldest protected rainforests. After the talk we indulged in some retail therapy as Lynn had brought along jewellery and hand-crafted items made on the island which she was selling to raise funds for a charity in Tobago.

We also had a presentation by Louise Davey, from England Netball, about how to set up a walking netball group. The WI has formed a partnership with England Netball to help empower women through physical activity. Louise's presentation was met with enthusiasm and we hope to set up our very own walking netball group soon. Watch this space! Our next meeting will be on **Thursday 14th November** at 7.30pm in the Day Centre when Kevin Hancock will be giving a talk called *Gardeners' Beehive: A More Genteel Way to Keep Bees*. As the WI has been campaigning about the decline in honey bees for 10 years, this talk will be of particular interest. Visitors are always welcome at our meetings – why not come along and try us out?

Anne Watson
Tel: 89869



www.mountfitchetgardenclub.co.uk

The speaker for our October meeting was Michael Abel, a former commercial fruit grower and lecturer at Writtle College. The size of a fruit tree depends on the rootstock on which it is grafted; fruit trees on their own roots will grow too large for most gardens. Dwarf or semi-dwarf rootstock will produce trees varying from a height of 2m up to 6m. *Family trees*, where different varieties are grafted onto the rootstock, are becoming popular as patio container plants. Pruning reduces tree size and promotes vigour for fruit production. Vigorous vertical growth and downward growth should be pruned out as horizontal growth is the most productive. Use winter pruning to promote vigour, and prune in summer to reduce it. Pruning also controls diseases by cutting out dead wood and fungal infections. It lets in air and light which reduces scab and promotes bud formation and good fruit colour. It is essential to understand the difference between fruit buds which are fat, and vegetative buds which are more pointed. Fruit size can be improved by generous thinning of fruit in the early stages of growth. Pest control using grease bands, barrier glue, and pheromone traps was discussed and the promotion of beneficial insects such as ladybirds, earwigs, hoverflies and lacewings was recommended. Birds devour vast numbers of caterpillars and should be encouraged. A lively discussion followed.

Our next meeting is on **Wednesday 6th November** 7.30pm for 8.00pm at the Day Centre, when Chris Day will talk about *Taming the Indoor Jungle - Houseplants made Easy*. Refreshments are available prior to the meeting. Visitors are always welcome.

Maralyn Harris
Chairman
Tel: 07919 478144

ST MARY'S HENHAM FUNDRAISING TALK

World War I Study Day

Join us at St Mary's Church, Henham on **Saturday 2nd November** 10.30am-3.30pm for our study day. This is a free event, but there is a suggested donation of £5 which will go towards restoring the boards in the church which list the names of the Henham residents who served in WWI.

David Morson
Tel: 850209

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Nature Notes

The Beautiful Woodcock

With another beast from the east threatening to cause a mighty cold winter ahead, our thoughts go out to the wild-life that will have to endure another severe season with little break from the elements. However, there are a few creatures which will thrive. One species which migrates to our shores and can be found locally is woodcock; this is quite remarkable as they do not seem adapted for snow and ice. It is a pigeon-sized wading bird with short legs and a long straight tapering bill. It is largely nocturnal, spending most of the day in dense cover in woods. Most of the birds in the UK are residents, but in the autumn birds migrate from Finland and Russia



to winter here. They are often seen when flushed out of a bramble patch or a pile of rotten logs in woodland; they fly low and fast, flicking from left to right, keeping below the tree canopy. Whilst on the ground they have amazing camouflage and are quite brave; you can stand right next to one and not notice it.



Can you spot the baby woodcock?

Unfortunately, they are still prized in the shooting world even though their numbers are declining. There is a well-established club: 'The Shooting Times Woodcock Club'; membership is obtained by shooting a right-and-left flying woodcock. This year's black-tie event was held at the Saville Club in London with speaker Sir Nicholas Soames. Amazing to think a club still exists that celebrates killing a rare bird! Members wear a lapel badge that shows four pin feathers, as the woodcock has one tiny pin feather on each wing; these are considered to be one of the finest artists' brushes available and are used by Rolls Royce for pin stripe detailing.



Steve Leaney
Tel: 647177

We were sad to learn that Steve is moving away from the area and would like to thank him for his interesting and informative Nature Notes and History Society articles over the past few years.

Ed



UGLEY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Our September meeting saw the welcome return of stunt woman Lucy Allen who spoke about the Suffragettes. She worked on the film *Suffragette* in 2015 and did a lot of research into the subject, the fruits of which she shared with us. She appeared in costume and decorated our stage with reproduction posters, one of which advertised a procession to promote the Votes for Women campaign and another highlighted the torture of women in prison showing a suffragette being force fed after going on hunger strike. She started her talk by handing out song sheets for *The March of the Women*, the anthem of the Women's Social and Political Union and leading us in the spirited singing of a verse from it. She gave us an interesting account of working on the film and then told the history of the Suffragettes quoting Mrs Pankhurst's words when on trial. Lucy visited Mrs Pankhurst's house in Nelson Street, Manchester – a moving occasion for her. She explained that Suffragists acted within the law whilst Suffragettes acted outside the law; it was the Daily Mail that dubbed them suffragettes. Lucy ended her thought-provoking, moving and informative talk with another verse of the anthem *The March of the Women* and left us reflecting on how much we owed those brave women who were prepared to march and suffer to gain the right to vote: something we take for granted today. Our next meeting, to be held on **Wednesday 20th November** at 2.15pm in Ugley Village Hall, will see the return of popular speaker Brian Carline who will be taking us back to the days of *Dolly Blue and Izal*. Why not come along and meet him? You would be most welcome!

Andrea Fitt
Tel: 815922



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Postage Stamps

The money raised from these goes to The Leprosy Mission.

Dental Products

We are collecting used toothbrushes, electric toothbrush heads, toothpaste tubes; money raised goes to Essex Air Ambulance.

There is a collecting box for all of the above in the Free Church Foyer (which is open every Monday, Wednesday and Friday 9.30am-12.30-pm), and also one in the Free Church Hall. 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

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ST CLARE HOSPICE

www.stclarehospice.org.uk

Resilient Communities in West Essex and East Herts

The hospice has received £45,491 in charitable grants to deliver and develop two key community projects: the hospice's Bereavement Café service has received £10,000 and we have received £35,491 to create a new community space, known as a Community Shed, where people can create new social networks with others who may have similar experiences. This will provide a space for our patients and their relatives to undertake craft and DIY activities, talk, play music and relax away from the clinical environment. There will also be a timetable of programmed activities, which will help to open up the Hospice as a community space. The inspiration behind the shed is Stephen Barclay, who died in the Hospice's care on New Year's Day 2016 and whose family have pledged to help fund the shed in his memory; it is set to open this autumn.



Locals needed to support Hospice Bereavement Café

After the successful launch of the café in February, we are expanding the service to continue meeting the needs of local people who are facing the loss of a loved one. The Café is open every Friday 1.30pm-3.30pm at the hospice. Running a Bereavement Café requires support from an amazing team of facilitators, who are all local people dedicated to volunteering with St Clare and making a difference in their community. Bereavement Café events are completely free to attend and local people are welcome to drop in at any time. For more information, please contact Community Engagement Manager Sally Muylders on 773709, email: sally.muylders@stclarehospice.org.uk or see our website.

Chris Carter
Communications Volunteer

INITIALS QUIZZLE ANSWERS

1. Wystan Hugh Auden
2. Phineas Taylor Barnum
3. James Matthew Barrie
4. Gilbert Keith Chesterton
5. Thomas Stearns Eliot
6. Edward Morgan Forster

7. Alfred Edward Housman
8. Phyllis Dorothy James
9. Lyndon Baines Johnson
10. David Herbert Lawrence
11. Thomas Edward Lawrence
12. Laurence Stephen Lowry
13. Alan Alexander Milne
14. Joanna Kathleen Rowling
15. Jerome David Salinger
16. Pamela Lyndon Travers
17. Joseph Mallord William Turner
18. Herbert George Wells
19. Pelham Grenville Wodehouse
20. William Butler Yeats



BENTFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL PTA ENCHANTED CHRISTMAS FAIR

You are invited to the *magical Bentfield Enchanted Christmas Fair* on **Saturday 30th November** 2.00pm-5.00pm. You can visit Santa in his grotto, purchase beautiful gifts from our Christmas market stalls, and enjoy mulled wine and mince pies. There will be Christmas themed games, Christmas crafts and a secret shopping room for the children as well as a fabulous voucher and hamper raffle. Festive fun for all the family. Entry: Adults 50p (not £5 as stated in the printed copy of this issue). All proceeds to PTA funds to help enhance learning opportunities for the children.



Sarah Billett
PTA
Tel: 07816 865333



HUW JOHNSON CLUB

The autumn term is in full swing at the Club. We started with a games' night, catching up on everyone's holiday news, and have had both curling and bingo competition evenings. We also enjoyed a delicious sausage and mash dinner at the Chequers Pub in Ugley one evening which was a lot of fun. We have a busy few weeks to look forward to; as well as our annual firework and Halloween parties, we are also going bowling and have both the Bishop's Stortford Woodwind Band and Gospel Choir coming along to entertain us, then it will soon be Christmas! Please don't forget our Carol Concert on **Friday 13th December** at 7.30pm in St John's Church. We would love to see you all there.

The Club runs on Thursday evenings, and is a social group for adults aged 18+ with learning disabilities. If you would like to become a member or a volunteer, please do get in touch; we are currently looking for bus drivers, car drivers, bus-escorts and helpers to run the evenings. We are a very friendly group and always have a great time, so do come along and see for yourselves.



Katharine Collis



STANSTED FOOTBALL CLUB

The month gone has been the most challenging the team has faced in well over a year, with many key players suffering injuries. So we have suffered a number of defeats which have left us, unusually, languishing in the bottom half of the league. Team managers and our physio are working on managing those players back to full fitness. We have fixtures this month which will test the replacements brought in, as we play both league and cup matches. We are seeing some good news coming from our Over 45s Veterans' Team who have started their season with some impressive results and should qualify for the next stage of their League Cup. Although going out of the County Cup at the first round, they were only beaten 0-2 by an Over 35s team who praised our team as they did not expect such a tough encounter. Manager Gary Cook has welcomed new additions to his squad and it was pleasing to see that a number of local players are keen to be involved.



Confirmed fixtures at Hargrave Park in November are as follows but please see our social media sites as other dates have yet to be confirmed for the remainder of the month.

Tue 5 th	ESL League	Clapton	7.45pm
Sat 9 th	ESL League	Hoddesdon Town	3.00pm
Tue 12 th	Brasted Memorial Trophy	Redbridge	7.45pm
Sat 16 th	ESL League	Redbridge	3.00pm



Tom Williams
Secretary
Tel: 0792140384

LINK ADVERTISING

We still have a few spaces available for new advertisers

Part colour ads on the inside pages start from £200 for ten issues Various sizes available

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We look forward to hearing from you!



STANSTED HALL AND ELSENHAM CRICKET CLUB

The season finished with the 1st I ending up 6th in Division 1 and the 2nd I winning Division 5. The U13's lost their Cup Final to Harlow but did very well to get to the final. The season finished with the Chairman's match which was blessed with fine weather, good food, much drink and a lovely atmosphere. End of season work on the wicket has been completed by Phil Maule: extending the wicket and overhauling the whole square. The square at Molehill Green has been koroed (a term used for re-laying cricket squares) in anticipation of cricket starting in the village next season. Winter activity has been arranged: a golf day, an entertainment quiz, a presentation evening, and in the new year, the usual general knowledge quiz. If you are interested in attending any of these please contact me.

The Club will continue 'All Star' cricket next season for five to eight-year olds. We hope to field junior teams for as many age groups as possible depending on how many parents volunteer to help run the teams and organise the day. The Club will also have the Parents v Club match. This year the result was a tie; what about next year?



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



Stansted Tennis Club
Founded 1889

www.stanstedtennisclub.co.uk

Membership

New members are always welcome; if you would like to join please download a membership form from our website. There are four Club sessions a week and there are many Club tournaments held throughout the year. We also have several teams in the Essex Small Club's League. Non-members are welcome to come up to three times a year as a visitor (£2 per visit) to try us out first.

Junior coaching

The junior coaching programme with Ollie Toms, open to members and non-members continues this term. Please email: juniordoaching@stanstedtennisclub.co.uk or call 07818 093992 or for more information.

Ladies' night: Monday 11th November from 6.30pm.

Used tennis balls £1 for a tube of four from Jan Hollis, tel 812073 or email: janhollis@btinternet.com.

Please visit our website for further information.

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



STANSTED BOWLS CLUB

This season's competitions winners are as follows; well done to all those who took part and congratulations to the winners and finalists.

Perrin Rose Bowl	Peter Short
Emerson Cup	Doreen Scraggs
Memorial Cup	Mike Shewry
Last Bowl	Mike Shewry
Newman Rose Bowl	John Scraggs
Finalist	Graham Ingold
Dolly Thompson Cup	Liz Hazell, Colleen Beattie
Finalists	Nalan Ingold, Jeanette Davies
Buck Cup	Graham Mansel,
	Martin Wells
Finalists	John Scraggs,
	Alan Whitehead
Brett Cup	Peter Beattie
Finalist	Graham Mansell
Ladies challenge Shield	Doreen Scraggs
Finalist	Ann Conroy
Novices Cup	Graham Ingold
Finalist	Colleen Beattie
Alcock Cup	John Scraggs
Finalist	Graham Mansell
Eleanor Irvin Cup	Doreen Scraggs
Finalist	Ann Conroy
Fletcher Cup	John Scraggs
Finalist	Peter Beattie

The next fundraising event at the Club will be our first Bingo Night on **Saturday 7th December** at 7.00pm. Entry is £2.00 and game cards are £1.00 (play as many cards as you wish) There will be a raffle plus a bonus prize with your entry fee. We have a licensed bar. Tickets can be purchased in advance from me, or pop along on a Friday evening and pick it up from the clubhouse. Watch this space and the village notice boards, Facebook (Stansted Matters) etc for new events coming soon, or just come along on a Friday evening and meet the members and have a chat. We are still running our offer of one year's full membership for £10.00, which allows you to take part in Club matches and competitions and full use of our discounted licensed bar. Get in quick as this opportunity may not be repeated! Happy Bowling.

Peter Beattie
Hon Secretary
Tel: 07850 329192
Email: peterdavidbeattie@gmail.com

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

Across

1. Isobar 5. Facade 8. Roger 10. Income 11. Euclid
12. For your eyes only 13. Encore 14. Endure
15. Moore 16. Cyprus 17. Benign

Down

2. Sean Connery 3. Bloody tower 4. Engine rooms
6. Crack of dawn 7. Daniel Craig 8. Requiem 9. Referee



Stansted Cricket Club

www.stanstedcc.hitscricket.com

Proposals have now been received from the HECL Committee on possible regionalisation for 2020. HECL called an Extraordinary General Meeting for 14th October to discuss these and other alternatives. Work is underway on scarifying and re-seeding the square. The Pub Charity Day on 26th August raised £1,500 for MIND. Some 19 players enjoyed the annual tour to La Manga in Southern Spain from 3rd to 7th October, playing five T20 matches. La Manga CC won the tournament which was followed by a Trophy Presentation Dinner at Panorama Las Lomas. Results were:

SCC 88	SW Bandits 215-5	Lost by 127 runs
SCC 120-8	La Manga CC 126-4	Lost by 6 wickets
SCC 104-4	Morton Colliery CC 105-1	Lost by 9 wickets
SCC 148-6	Penydarren CC 119	Won by 29 runs
SCC 128-6	Cardiff CC 130-2	Lost by 8 wickets

Work continues towards achieving Clubmark re-qualification by 31st October. The Club's AGM is **Monday 11th November** 7.30pm in Stansted FC's clubhouse. The HECL AGM is on **Monday 18th November** 7.45pm at Hockerill CC. You can contact the Club by email: stanstedcc@gmail.com and follow it on our website, on Facebook at Stansted Cricket Club, and on Twitter at @StanstedCC. If anyone would like to sponsor the Club next season (eg by a large banner displayed at the ground) please contact Huw Edwards, email: huwr_edwards@hotmail.com. The Club would like to invite anyone interested in scoring next season on a regular basis to contact me. Adult players wishing to join the Club should contact me; juniors should contact Head Coach Keith Ayres on 814471.



David Hedge
Hon Secretary
Tel: 812509



www.uttlesfordcab.org.uk

Volunteers Needed

Uttlesford Citizens Advice Bureau is expanding its service in Stansted by recruiting volunteers to work in the new library as advisers. Training will take place in the library on Thursdays, starting in November and will take about six months. As an adviser you will work with people to try and fix the underlying cause of their problems, give them confidence to take action and to help them become more knowledgeable about their rights. You will challenge yourself, meet new people and gain new skills and experiences that could enhance your CV. At the moment we offer a limited number of weekly appointments from Stansted GP Surgery; however, we are very aware that there is considerable unfulfilled demand and significant barriers for residents to get to our offices in Saffron Walden and Great Dunmow. More information is available from 01799 618840 or from our website, where you can also download a role description and application form by searching for adviser training 2019.

Jo Hancock
Office Administrator

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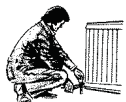
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www.stopstanstedexpansion.com

The 2018 Stansted Airport Planning Application should be considered entirely afresh.

That is the verdict of leading planning barrister Paul Stinchcombe C in an independent legal opinion prepared for Stop Stansted Expansion (SSE). The full legal advice has now been published and can be viewed on our website. The

C's opinion sets out the key precedents in planning law and confirms that Uttlesford District Council (UDC) is lawfully entitled to reconsider the entire Planning Application. A number of new material factors which have arisen since the application was provisionally approved last year mean there is an obligation to reconsider. The C's advice explains that, provided there are good reasons, the new Planning Committee could lawfully reach a different planning judgment from the former Committee who, by the slenderest of margins (the Chairman's additional casting vote), provisionally approved the Application last November. It is worth noting that the five members of the former Planning Committee who voted in favour of the expansion plans last year are no longer councillors, whereas the five who opposed it were all re-elected and continue to serve on the Committee.

Importantly, the legal advice also points out that UDC could support SSE's High Court challenge for the Planning Application to be treated as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP). If the case is won, the responsibility for the application would automatically transfer to the Secretary of State for Transport thereby removing the risk of a costs award against UDC as well as the costs of a public Inquiry.

SSE Campaign Office
Tel: 870558

Email: info@stopstanstedexpansion.com

For further information about this subject, see page 20.

ST MARY'S CHURCH, FARNHAM Christmas Trees and Tributes

Come to our exhibition of Christmas trees decorated by the people of Farnham on **Saturday 14th December 10.30am-3.00pm**. Taking part will be *The Stansted Bell Ringers*, *Woodwind of Stortford* and organist Andrew Bruce. Come and see the Memorial Tree and meet Father Christmas. Light refreshments will be served and there will be a raffle. This event is to support Farnham Church's current fundraising project.



Barbara Stubbings
Tel: 776168

RANDOM JOTTINGS



This sign is to be found in Spencer Close, and the photo was sent in by Yvonne Ayres who saw the humour in it. She is calling it *The Children are not for Turning* (which may resonate with those of us who remember the days of Maggie Thatcher!).

Ed.



STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET
LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

There was a change in this month's programme as Charlie Haylock, our guest speaker, was unable to attend. Fortunately Tony Wellings stepped in; with very little notice he produced a great evening with full audience participation in a *Bygones Quiz*. This fascinating and often infuriating quiz consisted of ten trays of assorted bygone artefacts or objects; each individually labelled with a letter and each tray related to a particular theme or trade. The room was laid out with separate tables with about six chairs per table. The trays were then passed from table to table and, within approximately four minutes, your table had to guess what the objects related to and tick your answers on a printed sheet before passing the tray on to the next table. Lots of laughter and banter ensued as well as bemused faces. Our sincere thanks to Tony for the enormous amount of work and time he put in to making this a memorable evening. No, my table didn't win but we did get over half right so not too bad. Our next meeting is on **Thursday 7th November** at 8.00pm in the Day Centre when Keith Lovell will talk about Essex Signs; do join us.

Edward Taub

Tel: 816932

Email: taub8jr@btinternet.com

The next edition of The Link covers both December and January; there is no separate January issue. Please mail items for both months before noon on **Saturday 9th November** to editor@stanstedlink.org.uk

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DIRECTORY OF LOCAL CLUBS AND ORGANISATIONS

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Air Training Corps 494 Squadron	Tel: 681559 661929 Email: 494@aircadets.org	St John s Road and Area Association	Leila Riddell Tel: 07770 955830
Beaver Scouts Age 6-8	Angela Madigan Tel: 01371 513028	Scouts (age 10 -14)	Mike Byrne Tel: 812780
Bowls Club	Peter Beattie, Hon Secretary Tel: 07850 329192 Email: peterdavidbeattie@gmail.com	Shotokan Karate Ryu	Donna Ring Tel: 731752 Email: skr@skr.org.uk
Brownies (Tue)	Kathy Shearman Tel: 07724 355533	Spangles Family Hub	Tel: 812348 Email: vcl.essexwest- uttlesfordadminhub@nhs.net
Brownies (Wed)	Susan Scott Tel: 810955	Stansted and District Past Rotarians Club	Geoff Lay Email: geoff.lay@ntlworld.com
CAB	Tel: 01799 618840	Stansted Badminton Club	Vince Tel: 07793 000107 Raj Tel: 07775 915418
Corkers Netball	Lizzie Read Tel: 07770 594848	Stansted Business Forum	Iris Evans Email: iris.evans9@gmail.com
Cricket Club (Adults) (Juniors)	David Hedge Tel: 812509 Keith Ayres Tel: 814471	Stansted Family Café	Ros Page Tel: 810813 Email: contactstanfam@yahoo.com
Cub Scouts Age 8-10	Nic Devine Email: kinglouie.huskies@gmail.com	Stansted Football Club	Tom Williams Tel: 07921 403842
Day Centre	Tel: 815091	Stansted Hall and Elsenham Cricket Club	David Brown Tel: 831011 07788 999663 Email: david1.r.brown@gmail.com
Explorer Scouts	Paul Thorneycroft Tel: 01371 876784	Stansted Sparks Netball	Gemma Snelling Tel: 07894 944242 Email: gemmasnelling@me.com
Friends of St Mary s Church	Lynda Dale Tel: 07716 099474 Email: lynnydale@hotmail.com	Stansted Speed Watch	Warren Vickers Tel: 813996 Email: vickersw@aol.com
Garden Club	Maralyn Harris Tel: 07919 478144	Stansted Supers Handball Club	Olly Pocknell Tel: 07875 391701
Grove Cottage	Jocelin Warren Tel: 07482 535020 Office Tel: 656085	Talking Newspaper (BS and District)	Richard Barnett Tel: 651270 Email: familybarnett24@hotmail.com
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Huw Johnson Club	Katharine Collis Tel: 461270 Email: kat_collis@hotmail.com	W I (Ugley)	Dorothy Wallace Tel: 850215
Investigators Age 7-11	Ros Page Tel 810813 Email: contactstanfam@yahoo.com	Whoosh Explore Canoe Club	Helen and Peter Nash Tel: 817453
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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 Uttlesford Support Group	Vivian Falk Tel: 01799 513128 Email: vivian@brackendalehouse.co.uk		
Rainbow Pre-School 506997	Gill Pursglove Tel: 814242 07966 Email: admin@rainbowpreschool.net		
Rainbows (Wed)	Rachel Roberts Tel: 078648 21905		
Rainbows (Fri)	Sue Pollard Tel: 813734		

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

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Community & Care	Broome End Care Home	8	Jeweller	John Wilson	10
	Hargrave House Care Home	8		Legal	Herts and Essex Wills
	Hearing Help	10	Lever & Co Solicitors		26
	Helpline	10	Leisure	Golf World	IFC
	Human Roots	16		Stansted Social Club	16
	Mountfitchet House Care Home	8	Motor Repairs	D Bonney & Sons	26
	Ross Nursing Services	10		Essex Autospray	26
	Christmas Trees	Alsa wood	28	Music Lessons	Carr (Piano, Organ, Singing)
Squires		IBC	Priest (Piano, Violin, Singing)		12
Computing	MCM Computer Services	12	Hamilton (Singing)		12
	Taylor Computer Service	12	Networking	Stansted Business Forum	26
Dance	Graham School of Dance	12		Osteopathy & Physiotherapy	Quendon Osteopathy
	Dental	Castle Dental	6		Williams (Osteopath)
Chapel Hill Dental		6	Painting, Decorating & Plastering	Ada Decorating	32
Education & Children	Birchanger Butterflies Nursery	12		Brown’s Painting & Decorating	32
	Howe Green House School	12	David Duncan Decorating	32	
	Rainbow Pre-School	12	Lesley Anne (Painting)	32	
	Tuition (ages 4 - 11)	12	MWR Interiors	32	
	Electrical	Albury Electrical Services	36	Prime Decor	32
CK Electrical		36	Ray on the Hill	32	
Stansted Electric		36	Personal Services	Fresh Leaf (Hypnotherapy)	10
Estate Agent		Murdochs		IBC	Glynis Cheers (Hypnotherapy)
	Mansell & Co Accountants	IBC		Stansted Psychotherapy	10
Furniture & Restoration	DT Bedroom & Kitchen Designs	IFC	Plumbing & Heating	Harpers Plumbing & Heating	OBC
	Furniture by Design	38		JDW Gas Heating Specialist	36
	Peter Worby Antiques Restoration	38		Jones (Plumbing & Heating)	36
Fitness	Flexible Strength	6		M Lloyd and Son	36
	Back to Basics (Pilates)	6		Newman’s Home Services	36
	Stansted Yoga Lounge	6		Orion Heating	36
Food & Drink	Great Clerkes Farm	16		P Knight Plumbing	36
	Hadham Brewery	OBC		Stansted Gas Services	36
	Lams Chinese Takeaway	IBC	Printing	Chogou Printing & Embroidery	32
	Mayflower Chinese Takeaway	IBC		CZ Design & Print	32
	The Dog & Duck	16	Property Maintenance	Do-It-4U	32
Garden Services	D Honour & Son (Landscapes)	OBC		Fairweather Windows	IFC
	Illuminating Gardens	30	Finch and Son	OBC	
	Gill Owen & Colin Frost	28	Herts & Essex Window Doctor	32	
	Langthorns Plantery	28	Retailers	Paris Legore (Flowers & Gifts)	IFC
	Mowtivated	28		Squires (Gifts, Plants and Cards)	IBC
	The Secret Gardener	28	Soft Furnishings & Sewing	Stort Blinds	IFC
Funeral Services	Daniel Robinson & Sons	26		Teach me to Sew	18
	J Day & Son (Stonemason)	26	Tree Surgeons	All Aspects Tree Services	28
				Tree Management Company	28
				Uppercut Trees	28

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