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#### Front cover:

Harvesting in Hazel End by Peter Webb enhanced by Paul Burt Photography



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CONTRIBUTIONS Up to 300 words in Word format. Photographs to be sent as separate attachments (jpeg). By email (preferred) to editor @stanstedlink.org.uk by noon on 9th October for the November issue or by hand/post by noon on 7th October to 7 Blythwood Gardens, Stansted CM24 8HG.

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#### **EDITORIAL**



We are very grateful to Peter Webb for his lovely harvest shot on the front cover; he has captured the activity of the scene beautifully. If anyone else has photos of local places, people, animals or events, do feel free to send them to us. We love involving our readers in every aspect of this magazine.

Last month I mentioned that local events are beginning to occur, which is really great. You will see on the facing page that there is a list of What's On in October; we hope you find this sort of summary information helpful. In November's issue of The Link, we are hoping that we will have enough events to display them attractively in nine boxes as we used to do, taking up a whole page. Many of the festive season events should be able to take place; hopefully these will feature in the What's On page next month. As far as events last month are concerned, how pleasant it is to read about young people's activities, such as the Scouts' trip on p11 and the Skatepark Jam, p31. The Windmill Fête was obviously a huge success, congratulations to the organisers of that special day. Finally, how lovely to read about Barnet Fayre's 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary; the team is much appreciated and held in great affection by many Stansted residents.



www.musicatstansted.co.uk

#### **Brook Brass**

It really felt as if summer had come at last when, after weeks of grey skies, the sun came out to shine on our free outdoor concert by the Brook Brass quartet on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> September. The gardens of St John's Church were filled with people of all ages who had come along to enjoy an hour's worth of live music that ranged from medieval Venice to the Pink Panther and from Hungarian folk dances to African-American spirituals. The music brought smiles all round and even moved some younger members of the audience to dance. Our thanks to the musicians who offered to play for us free of charge.



It was wonderful to be hearing live music in Stansted again, and we were pleased to be able to announce that we will be re-starting our regular concerts with a return visit by guitarist Gary Ryan on **Sunday 21**st **November** at 3.00pm. Due to the intimate nature of the guitar, we are going to hold this concert in the Church Hall with the audience seated 'in the round' so that everyone is as close to the music as possible. Put the date in your diaries now; details will be on our posters and website in due course.

Richard Allaway Email: contactus@musicatstansted.co.uk



#### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

The Royal British Legion is celebrating its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year. We are the country's largest Armed Forces charity, with 180,000 members, 110,000 volunteers and a network of partners and charities, helping us give support wherever and whenever it is needed. Every year we lead the nation in commemorating and honouring those who have served and sacrificed. We remember those who lost their lives on active service in all conflicts, from the beginning of WWI right up to the present day, as well as all those who have served and their families.

#### Help us Distribute Poppies this November

Every November, we distribute our paper poppies to raise vital funds to help today's Armed Forces community; it would not be possible without our incredible supporters. We are currently looking for volunteers for our house-to-house poppy distribution in Stansted and Elsenham. If you can spare a couple of hours in November, please contact me by telephone or email.

Simon Bambridge Tel: 07768 955454 Email: sibambridge@icloud.com



The Place will continue to open every **Wednesday** 10.00am-noon, adults only in the church foyer. Free coffee, cakes, and biscuits to enjoy in good company - what more could you ask? There is no need to book, just turn up. We look forward to seeing you.





Mike and Marion Dyer Tel: 814059

Email: theplace@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk



www.stanstedwindmill.co.uk

A gloomy day greeted us on Bank Holiday Monday when we gathered early that morning to set up the attractions for our annual fête. Worries about poor weather and Covid concerns turned out to be unfounded as the attendance was the biggest in living memory! We had an impressive array of inflatable attractions on the recreation ground which were very popular with the youngsters, as was Robbie the train. We sold over 450 wrist bands which surpassed all our expectations. There were sack races run by *Let's Talk Stansted*, which were new to the fête and very popular, as was our new football darts game. The traditional stalls all around the mill and on the mill field were busy all afternoon.



Photograph taken by Richard Thomas

The sales of WI tea and cakes were double that of 2019. The two local catering businesses with stalls, Yummy's and The Bean House, had plenty of custom and their donations will help boost the mill funds. The takings for admission to the mill were double what is normal for a Bank Holiday. This was the first large scale social event for the village since the lockdown restrictions were eased; people seemed to be very relaxed and there was a really positive vibe. The general consensus was that the event had been a huge success and was just what the village needed. A big 'Thank You' to St John's Church, The Free Church, Scouts and Day Centre, for the loan of their tables and to all the local businesses which sponsored attractions and made donations. These include: Absolute Vehicle Services, Bean House Café, Brohmon, Canfield Carpentry, Chogou, The Co-op, Goldings, Inter County, Stansted Golf World, Tesco and Yummys. In addition, our warmest thanks to all the volunteers who helped so much erecting gazebos, tents, tables etc. and fetching and carrying all the goods to the stallholders.

Our last mill opening of the season is on **Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> October** 1.30pm-5.30pm.



Molly Clark Co-Trustee Tel: 816768

#### WHAT'S ON IN OCTOBER

Fri 1	Business Forum, The Linden	7.00am
Sun 3	Green waste skip, Lower St	12.30pm
	St Mary's Open Sunday	2.00pm
	Windmill open	1.30pm
Thu 7	History Society, Day Centre	8.00pm
Sat 9	Shoe Box items, Free Church	10.00am
Sun 10	Wellbeing Fest, St Johns Hall	2.00pm
Thu 14	Stansted W I, Day Centre	7.30pm
Sun 17	Tennis Club Tournament	10.00am
	Easton Lodge Open Day	11.00am
	Green waste skip, Lower St	12.30pm
Tue 19	Arthur Rank online talk	7.00pm
Wed 20	Ugley W I, Ugley Village Hall	2.00pm
Thu 21	U3A, St John's Hall	1.30pm
Sat 23	Shoe Box Quiz, Free Church	7.30pm
Sat 30	Lib Dem Quiz, Day Centre	7.30pm
	Halloween Skydive, Beccles	8.00am
Sun 31	Green waste skip, Lower St	12.30pm

#### **BARNET FAYRE CELEBRATES**

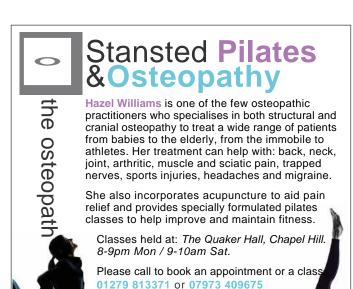
I cannot believe how quickly 30 years have gone by since I opened Barnet Fayre! How very lucky I am to have such an amazing long-standing and loyal team within the salon. Not only are they fabulous hairdressers, but they care, have compassion and a wicked sense of humour. The year after opening in 1991, my childhood friend, Mary opened *Vanity Fayre Beauty Salon* on the same premises. This was the result of a dream we had when we were teenagers; it is really wonderful for our clients that we can combine our two businesses.



I can truly say that I absolutely love my job as it is my hobby too; I get to meet up with lovely clients and my colleagues seem like family; Amy is actually my niece. When she was a child I tried to encourage her to become a dog-groomer since she loves dogs so much. Thank goodness she did not listen to me; I am so proud of her brilliant people and hairdressing skills; she is a great asset to the salon. *Barnet Fayre* is my pride; I am blessed and happy.



Martine Beck Proprietor Tel: 813087



www.hazel-williams.co.uk





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### THE HUNDRED PARISHES SOCIETY

www.hundredparishes.org.uk

Recently, climate change has brought examples of extreme weather all over the world. Part of the solution to global warming is to use natural energy. Our ancestors harnessed the power of water by means of water mills, thought to have been invented by the Greeks. The Domesday Book of 1086 AD recorded no less than 5,624 watermills in England alone. Most were used to grind wheat. They continued as a prime source of energy until the Industrial Revolution. The Hundred Parishes has a wealth of these mills, many retained through their conversion into private homes. Several may be seen on our walks, whose descriptions can be freely downloaded from the website.



On the River Cam, Hinxton once had three water mills. One remains, a 17th century mill built on the site of on older one mentioned in Domesday as worth eight shillings. It ceased to operate commercially in 1955 but now works again on days when it is open to the public; the final opening in 2021 is on 3<sup>rd</sup> October, 2.30pm-5.00pm. It can be seen at any time from the outside and is on our walk number 14. Linton's watermill on the River Granta dates from the early 18th century and there has been a mill on the site since the 13th century. It stopped working in 1972 and has now been converted into apartments. Walk 109 passes it. Weatherboarded 18th century Kings Mill in Littlebury was originally powered by the River Cam and then steam until it stopped working in 1924. Walk number 165 passes Kings Mill during a short exploration of historic Littlebury. What remains of Great Bardfield watermill can be seen on walks 103 and 104, while the remains of Tilty watermill are on walk 120.



Ken McDonald Secretary Tel: 813226



Our first meeting since March 2020 took place at The Day Centre under very different circumstances. Over 30 members attended and heard me talk about the diary of Caroline Fuller Maitland written in 1857; she was the younger sister of William Fuller Maitland of Stansted Hall. Her diary *How we went to Rome* was about her travels from her home at Park Place, Berkshire accompanying her sister Esther and husband Ridley Herschell. Their travels took them by the newly built railways of the day to London and Dover; ferry to Calais then railway again to Lille, Paris, Dijon, Lyons, Avignon and on to Marseilles. Then they went by carriage across to the Italian States via Florence and Rome. It was a fascinating insight into travel then, hearing of their experiences and the difficulties encountered. Almost two months later they returned to England with many stories to tell.

The next meeting is on **Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> October** at 8.00pm in the Day Centre when our good friend Charlie Haylock will be talking to us about *Surnames*.

Roger Barrett Tel: 814216 Email: rmbarrett54@gmail.com



#### DAISY MAY'S FARM

www.daisymaysfarm.org

As well as getting the farm ready for winter, things will also be getting very spooky down on our farm in readiness for Halloween; see our Facebook page for all the scary details. We have had an amazing summer and have tried and tested so many new attractions: *Love a Lamb* sessions; our brilliant campsite where folk loved a bit of wild camping; and the Daisy May's Hatchery where you got to take chicks home and enjoy them for a while. They were all a brilliant success. Whilst we cannot offer all these attractions throughout the colder months, you can still enjoy activities such as meeting and feeding the animals, counting the carrots around the farm, enjoying the seasonal arts and crafts, and taking a hike through our woodland trail; there is always something to do and see at the farm.



Please make sure you keep an eye on our website or Facebook page as visiting times may change through the winter months and our animals really do want to keep seeing you, even when it is a bit chilly. If you like life on a farm and have a bit of spare time, please do get in touch as we are always in need of volunteers as there is always rather a lot to do. As ever, thank you so much for your support. We are at Hall Road, Elsenham CM22 6DN.

Elaine Terry Tel: 07747 787973





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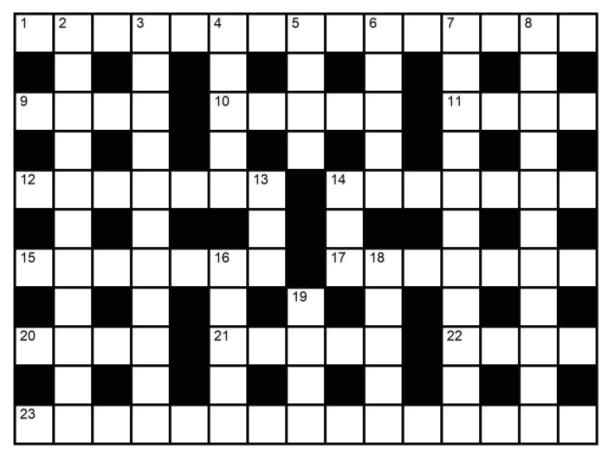


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#### **FUN AND GAMES PUZZLE TIME**



Compiled by Cliff Gilbert. Answers on page 25

#### **ACROSS**

- 1 An Olympic sport since 1992 (15)
- 9 Surface for bowls out of doors (4)
- 10 Those who fail the 16 test (5)
- 11 A party of excesses (4)
- 12 Competitor in track and field (7)
- **14** Rust (7)
- 15 React to a good performance (7)
- 17 Decorated (7)
- 20 Noise of a starting pistol (4)
- 21 Most suitable (5)
- 22 Near (4)
- 23 France's gift to the USA (6,2,7)

#### **DOWN**

- 2 Wound dressing (11)
- 3 Illumination by wax (11)
- 4 Gymnastics discipline (5)
- 5 Welsh emblem (4)
- 6 Home county (5)
- 7 Suitable for half time? (5,6)
- 8 Class of 130-135 lbs (11)
- 13 Final curtain (3)
- **14** Peruvian edible tuber (3)
- 16 The wee stuff (5)
- 18 City of the 2010 Commonwealth Games (5)
- **19** Page (4)

#### **CRYPTIC PRESIDENTS QUIZ**

My daughter and I have been tackling the Rainbow Charity Quiz which poses 100 cryptic clues to things avian. I recommend it to anyone who likes a challenge of this kind; you can find it on the Internet

I thought I would try compiling a small one myself. Each solution is the name of a US president.

- 1 The first might have been growing honest with age
- Wow! There's a kind of door in the middle with darling 'arold
- 3 Murder victim in energy-free Lancs. town
- 4 Did he really carry a burglar's tool?
- 5 This president sketched flags in anonymity
- 6 And this one, with victory, might have been called governer
- Wealthy but alright with nothing on
- 8 Conqueror! How a king started down treading a family tree

Compiled by Cliff Gilbert. Answers on page 33





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www.mencapgrovecottage.org

Five young thrill seekers raised a staggering £2,044 by skydiving from the dazzling heights of 13,000ft. The team, from Hard Soft Computers in Sawbridgeworth, completed their tandem sky dive at the North London Sky Diving Centre on Saturday 14th August. Ellie Reeve and Emma Barker said: "The skydive was amazing and we feel so privileged to have contributed to such a fantastic sum of money raised for Grove Cottage. After a super early start and a two-hour drive, we were meant to jump at 11.00am but due to the weather we had to wait until 5.00pm; the wait was absolutely worth it! You cannot say no to such an opportunity to push yourself out of your comfort zone. It was amazing to go through the experience together with the rest of our team: Ben, Morgan and Claire; we now share an extra special bond." Nicky Hastler, Community Fundraiser, thanked the participants saying: "We are extremely grateful to the team who took on this amazing experience and really cannot thank them enough for their support. We would urge anyone who is interested in taking on a similar challenge for us to get in touch as we have a calendar full of sponsored cycles, runs, skydives and treks!" Our next sky dive is on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> October. To find out more, please visit our website.



We operate a special educational needs nursery five days a week alongside many other clubs and activities for older children and adults. Social and educational activities are provided for people of all ages with a learning disability, to help them to reach their potential and avoid social isolation by supporting lifelong friendships. Grove Cottage also provides vital respite to families and carers.

Alison Cameron Fundraising Assistant Tel: 07940 543281

Email: fundraising@mencapgrovecottage.org



www.bentfieldprimaryschool.co.uk

We have had a fantastic start to the new school year and it has been most pleasing to see the pupils arrive back looking smart and demonstrating an enthusiasm and eagerness to learn. The last 18 months have been somewhat of a blur, especially with the ever-changing guidance of what schools need to do to keep pupils safe during the pandemic. The children have had to adhere to mandatory restrictions and, although they have coped amazingly well, we know that it has been far from ideal. I would say that my favourite part of returning this term has been seeing all year groups running around and playing with each other at playtimes and lunchtimes (rather than being restricted to their own class bubbles) and seeing the pupils collaborating in the classroom by being able to do more work in groups due to the removal of table rows. These aspects of the school day have been sorely missed and we can only hope that they are here to stay.

We also start the year by saying a warm welcome to our new reception and nursery cohorts. Of course, it is not long before parents of reception pupils for September 2022 start to think about preliminary visits before the application process begins. Our new school website is now in place and should offer a wealth of information about our school (including the virtual tour, which we recorded last year). I am also pleased to announce that we will be returning to actual visits to the school and we warmly welcome prospective pupils and parents to come and have a look round. Dates for open days can be found on our website; please feel free to contact us and make an appointment.

David Rogers Headteacher Tel: 813626

#### **PURSE FOUND**

This attractive purse was found in Silver Street near Sanders Close. There was no money in it, but it may be of sentimental value to someone.



Please contact me if it belongs to you.



Mike Dyer Tel: 814059

#### Stansted Mountfitchet Social Club Your Friendly Community Hub!



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For bookings or further information please contact Susan Bone Tel: 01279 814052 Email:ugleyvillagehall@gmail.com





#### ST CLARE HOSPICE

www.stclarehospice.org.uk

#### Volunteer with St Clare

Volunteers play an integral role at the hospice, helping to ensure that nobody in West Essex and East Hertfordshire has to face their journey alone. Some lend support to our patients on our Inpatient Unit, others may help tackle loneliness and isolation amongst local people, or tend the gardens or work in the office. "Volunteering gives you the opportunity to join a friendly and welcoming community of local people," says Stacey Towler, Volunteer Manager. "Joining St Clare Hospice's volunteering team will offer you an immense sense of reward and value in your own life." Voluntary roles currently available include gardening and driving visitors to the hospice. For more information, call the volunteer team on 773700, visit our website or email volunteer@stclarehospice.org.uk.

#### **OCTOBER CHALLENGES**

#### Conquer Wales' highest mountain by night!

Explore Mount Snowdon by moonlight and raise money for the hospice whilst taking on this fantastic challenge. Following the Llanberis track to the summit, using torches to light your way, trekking by night will bring a fresh twist to this classic charity challenge. At the summit you will be rewarded with unforgettable views of the sun rising across the Snowdonia National Park. At the finish line in Llanberis you can celebrate your achievement with a well-earned breakfast.

#### Details:

- Saturday 16<sup>th</sup>-Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> October 12.00am-11.59pm (duration 1 day)
- The distance is 9.5 miles
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Go to www.globaladventurechallenges.com/register and once registered you will receive a comprehensive welcome pack with all the information you need.

#### Halloween Skydive

It is Halloween at the end of October, and to mark the occasion the hospice is looking to round up the bravest and most daring of its supporters to take on one of the most chilling ... blood-pumping ... horrifically-frightening feats known to mankind ... don't worry, it is completely safe; but you will need your wits about you for the exclusive, adrenalinefuelled St Clare Halloween Skydive in fabulous fancy dress! There will even be a face-painter there on the day, to make sure you look the part in those mid-flying photos! With a parachute specially designed for two people, you will board an aircraft and soar to around 13,000ft (approximately two miles high). Once you exit, you accelerate to 120 mph, covering each thousand feet in approximately five seconds. At 5,000ft the instructor will deploy the parachute which will then be controlled by both persons until you land softly and gently some four minutes later. If you want to experience every aspect of the sport on your very first jump, a tandem skydive is just the thing! Following a short pre-jump briefing, you will enjoy the thrill of free fall and even learn the basics of steering and landing a modern square gliding parachute, while securely attached to a highly experienced instructor.



#### Details:

Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> October 8.00am-5.00pm at Beccles Airfield, Suffolk. *Registration is £50 and we ask you to pledge to raise £500 in sponsorship for the Hospice.* For more information please contact the fundraising team on 773750 email: fund@stclarehospice.org.uk or go to www.stclarehospice.org.uk/events

Rebecca Cussens Communications Manager



#### STANSTED SCOUTS

#### **Scout Group Activity Day**

To thank our Scouts for sticking with us through the pandemic we paid for the whole group to go to Skreens Park Activity Centre near Chelmsford. On a glorious Sunday, just over 100 Scouts (all sections) and some parents spent the day on activities. Depending on their age the activities were kayaking, zip-wire, high ropes, air rifles, paddle boarding, archery, low ropes and sensory trail. Paddle boarding and kayaks seemed to be the most enjoyed.



We provided lunch for everyone; a large Broadoak sausage in a roll was the main attraction. Everyone had a really good day and well done all for taking part and thank you to the parents that came down and helped. All sections are now back up and running but as usual we could do with more adults willing to become leaders.

Mike Byrne Scout Leader Tel: 812780

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#### CHRISTMAS SHOE BOXES

www.teams4u.com

As usual, we will be packing shoe boxes to send to disadvantaged children, most probably in Romania, and sending them again via the organisation Teams4u.

If you have items for the boxes, please bring them along on Saturday 9th October 10.00am-noon to the Stansted Free Church foyer, or let one of us know that you have donations and we will be happy to arrange collection. The list of suitable items includes the following:

Toiletries - toothbrushes/paste, soap, face flannels or sponges

Hairbrush, comb, girls' hairbands and clips Stationery items – paper, note pads, exercise books, pens, pencils, crayons, ruler, geometry set, craft pack Small games, puzzles, bubbles, small musical instruments,

toy vehicles Items of clothing - gloves, hats, scarves, small bags, new socks and underwear Soft toys and hand puppets

Small items of jewellery

Sweets and chocolates (well within their use by date)

We never seem to have enough things for older boys: finger skateboards, small plastic characters, shades, skipping rope, playing cards, marbles, key ring, comb, wallet, whistle, yo-yo, calculator, fidget spinner, baseball cap, hair gel, shampoo, spray deodorant. Look out for leaflets in churches and around the village, where you can find all the information, or visit the website. We are also delighted to have cash donations, as each box costs £2.50 to ship. If you are making up a complete box, labels can be downloaded from the website, or are on the leaflets. Please include a Christmas card and also a photo of yourself if you would like to. The boxes will be leaving Stansted on 29th October.

> Helen Baker 814865 Eileen Quinn 812109 Catherine Dean 813579

Email: catherinemarydean@btinternet.com

#### CHRISTMAS SHOE BOX APPEAL QUIZ

Our annual guiz in aid of transport costs for the Shoe Boxes is on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 7.00pm for 7.30pm in the Free Church hall. Please bring your own food, drink and glass. There will be a raffle on the night. The guiz master is David Morson. Numbers are limited and entry is by ticket only, priced £5, purchased in advance from Eileen Quinn on 812109.





#### **Christmas Market**

After a year off, St John's Christmas Market is back on Saturday 20th November noon-3.00pm in the Church Hall. Please put this in your diaries now. There will be the usual stalls and refreshments as well as a Grand Draw with some super star prizes. Tickets on sale beforehand or on the day. More details to follow in the November

> Kathy West 01279 816293

Email: kewest@btinternet.com

#### **Craft Stall**

We had a very successful day at the Windmill Fête selling items made by our very talented craft ladies. Rev'd Colin Fairweather presented the raffle prize of Carolling Mice to Kathie, the winner.



The Craft Stall is open every 3rd Saturday of the month, 10.00am-noon at the Ugley Village Hall Farmers' Market. We will also have a stall at the Christmas Market (see above).

> **Craft Ladies** Sally, Kathryn, Helen, Ann and June



www.stanstedchurches.com/messychurch

#### Messy Church is Back!

We are delighted that Messy Church will resume on Sunday 14th November 3.30pm-5.00pm in St John's Church Hall. More details in next month's Link, but meanwhile please book the date. This relaxed and lively style of church is for all ages, especially families; it has activities, stories, singing, free food, and plenty of fun. Everyone is welcome.



Marion Dyer Tel: 814059

#### THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

L'Oréal have announced that *You are worth it*. Thanks, L'Oréal, but worth what? Worth the cost and the effort presumably of some gel or lotion, that will change your life, or suspend the natural process of ageing (for ever?). Good for L'Oréal. Yet at other moments on your TV screens, the fiction and the fact tell you otherwise: you are not worth it at all. On the battle grounds of peaceful coexistence, international fair trading that favours the poor, stewardship of the environment, the honouring of childhood, the integrity of politics, we fall so far short that if there is a God in heaven, he must be tearing his hair out by now. No wonder there is an awful lot of depression and stress around these days. It all seems to add up to the answer: Sorry folks, you are not worth it, you are a disaster.

Yet Christ came to tell us the opposite. He did not just come to announce it from the safety of a pulpit or a Bishop's chair. He addressed it with his life, permitting his fellow men and women to reject his message and to reject him, to the extent that he was institutionally murdered in cold blood. Yet still he said *You are worth it*. It is a complete upside-down set of values to proclaim *You are worth it* from a cross on Calvary's Hill. You are worth it because you are loved by God. Despite any feelings of stress and strain, any sense of failure, any feelings of inadequacy, you are loved. That was, after all, what Jesus' message was all about and that love makes you worth it. So, L'Oréal sort of got it right; not only are you loved, but God loves your neighbour too, just as he loves you.



Rev'd Stuart Veitch Stansted Free Church



#### STANSTED FREE CHURCH



www.stanstedfreechurch.org.uk

**Secretary** Betty Francis

Tel: 813977

Email: betty@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk

**Lettings** Marion and Mike Dyer

Tel: 814059

Email: lettings@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk

#### **Preachers for October**

3<sup>rd</sup> 10.30am Rev'd Gill Hulme - New Directions

10<sup>th</sup> 10.30am Mike Dyer
17<sup>th</sup> 10.30am Denis Walker
24<sup>th</sup> 10.30am Rev'd Jan Bisschoff
31<sup>st</sup> 10.30am Julie Finbow

As we are currently seeking a new minister, please contact the secretary as above with any general church enquiries. The church hall is available for regular and one-off bookings. **The Place on the Hill** is now open on Wednesdays 10.00am-noon for adults only. See p2 in The Link for further details.





Mike and Marion Dyer Tel: 814059

#### From St John's Registers

#### August

#### **Baptisms**

15<sup>th</sup> Jacob Edward Dudley 22<sup>nd</sup> Greyson John Stuckey **Funerals** 

10th Joan Pigrum, age 87

12<sup>th</sup> Kevin Roy Field, age 57

19th Joan Yvonne Hens, age 94

20th Kenneth Wilson, age 92



www.stanstedfamilychurch.co.uk

Contact Howard and Ros Page

Tel:810813

Email: stanstedfamily@gmail.com

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

We are pleased to be able to meet in person again but our regular venue is unavailable as The Link goes to print, and venues may change closer to the time; if you wish to join us for a friendly, informal meeting on a Tuesday evening or a Sunday, please get in touch. All meetings offer a combination of modern worship music, Bible-based talk, discussion and prayer. We hope to resume running the Alpha Course in person later in the autumn. Investigators (group for children aged 7-11) has re-started on Friday evenings, with sessions including lots of games, fun challenges, stories, discussions, and creative activities such as craft and drama. There are a few spaces for new children. For more information on any of the above, please contact us. We are also happy to receive prayer-requests from anyone, and regularly see answered prayers.

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?





Ros and Howard Page





All enquiries Hall bookings

The Church Office, St John's Hall, Including Church St John's Road, Stansted CM24 8JP Tel: 815243 (with answerphone)

Office hours: 9.00am-4.30pm Mon, 2.00pm-5.00pm Tues and Thur

Email: st.johns.church@btinternet.com Website: www.stanstedstjohns.btck.co.uk

Rector Rev'd Dr Colin Fairweather Tel: 816721 Email: revdrcolinfairweather@gmail.com

**Assistant** Rev'd Helen Flack Tel: 01371 876145 Email: revhelenstn@gmail.com Curate

Kathryn West Tel: 816293 **Pastoral** Email: kewest@btinternet.com **Assistant** 

Director of **Anne Brooks** 

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

#### ST JOHN'S 300 CLUB

Many congratulations to the winners of the August draw:

£100 No 18 Gina Thomas £ 50 No 161 Margaret Wells £ 25 No 141 Jacqueline Corbishley

The draw for October will be held on 31st October in St John's Church, following the 9.30am service. Numbers at £2 each 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 this year. The Club raises vital money to help cover the heavy maintenance costs and work of St John's Church.

> Jean Newson Tel: 819062

#### THE RELIGIOUS **SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS)**

Quaker Meeting House, 71 Chapel Hill Stansted CM24 8AE www.stansted.quakermeeting.org

Jane Mitchell Tel: 503024 Clerk

Email: sjane.mitchell@ntlworld.com

Lettings Yvonne Estop Tel: 07595 087207

Email: yvonne-wood@outlook.com

**Sunday Worship** 10.30am. Visitors are always welcome.

**Light group** session is held on the second Saturday of each month 10.30am-noon at the Meeting House. This is a Quaker spiritual practice similar to a guided meditation. All are welcome and you do not have to be a Quaker. Please contact me for more information.



Sue Moloney Tel: 07759 532115 Email: suemol@uwclub.net

#### **CATHOLIC**

#### St Theresa's of Lisieux



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

Father Lee Bennett Priest

Tel: 814349

Email: frleebennett@dioceseofbrentwood.org

Parish Rev'd Deacon Des Connors

**Deacon** Tel: 07748 464101

Email: desconnors@dioceseofbrentwood.org

Masses

Saturday 5.00pm Confessions 6.00pm Mass

8.30am and 10.00am Mass Sunday

> 9.15am Confessions Noon \*Latin Mass

(\*First Sunday of every month)

9.00am Confessions 9.30am Mass Monday Tuesday 7.15am Confessions

8.00pm Latin Mass

Wednesday Noon Confessions 12.30pm Mass Thursday/Friday 9.00am Confessions 9.30am Mass

**Baptism** By appointment



#### FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S CHURCH

What an amazing turnout for the return of thisismytheatre on Saturday 21st August; there were no fewer than 55 people in the audience! As always it was a simply wonderful performance by the cast and a very welcome visit from Sarah Slator, the director. The animals enriched the story of The Secret Garden so beautifully. Thank you to all who came.



I was asked to take part in an interview all about Champing which appeared in the Sunday Observer on 29th August. They even sent a photographer! I am pleased to say that the article has created a flurry of new bookings for St Mary's Church: a good example of the power of the press. Our final Open Sunday for this year will be on Sunday 3rd October 2.00pm-5.00 pm. I will have the kettle on and look forward to seeing you all. Free entry but donations are welcome as always. See you all there.



Lynda Dale Tel: 07716 099474



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#### STANSTED EVENING WI



We are so lucky in this area to have lovely places to walk, especially during the last year. Even if we are unable to go very far, we have fields and trees all around us to be enjoyed. Our last open-air meeting took place on the Recreation Ground in September. How good it has been to have somewhere safe to gather and have a cup of tea and a chat. Several new people joined us and we look forward to meeting them in more normal surroundings very soon.



We had a Bring and Buy Sale which raised £51 for the *Breast Cancer Now* research and care charity. Many WI members were involved in helping at the Windmill Fête, making tea of course and serving and selling homemade cakes, which are always so popular. It was lovely to see so many people out again with their children and really enjoying themselves after months of hardly daring to speak to anyone. Our next meeting is on **Thursday 14**th **October** at 7.30pm in the Day Centre when Gary Matthews is our speaker. His talk is *The History of Easton Lodge: the Countess and her Gardens.* We are looking forward to welcoming a speaker once again. New members and visitors are always welcome.



Judy Colliver Tel: 812470



www.mountfitchetgardenclub.co.uk

The meteorological calendar says the first day of autumn is always 1st September and some tree leaves and plants are starting to change colour or die back; but with the mini heatwave at the beginning of September and the possibility of an Indian Summer, many plants are still in full bloom and adding lots of colour to our gardens. Late flowering plants such as dahlias and chrysanthemums are often top-heavy and liable to wind damage so remember to stake them. Winter flowering bedding plants such as pansies, violas and bellis daisies can be planted in tubs, hanging baskets and window boxes to give you colour throughout the winter months. It is bulb planting time too and shops and nurseries are stocked up with a variety of bulbs to tempt you.

Autumn is a busy time in both the garden and vegetable plot and with the shortening days it is sometimes a mad rush to get all the

jobs completed as you slowly put the garden to bed for the winter, so write a list. It is a great feeling as you cross off the items but remember mother nature can be fickle and you could have summer flowers in October and November, so be prepared to change the list. With many of the Covid restrictions being lifted over the summer, gardens that specialise in autumn plants and colour are opening again to visitors. Please check the National Garden Scheme website to find out local openings. All of the Royal Horticultural Society gardens are open, our closest one being Hyde Hall at Rettenden.

Maralyn Harris Chairman Tel: 07919 478144



#### STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET U3A

www.u3asites.org.uk/stansted/home

Around 50 members met in St John's Hall on 19<sup>th</sup> August for our second monthly meeting since the lifting of Covid restrictions, to hear Eve Regelous' amusing talk: *Everything Stops for Tea*. She spoke about the history of tea from when it was introduced to Britain as a rare commodity, tea sampling and her experiences in various tea rooms such as The Ritz, Harrods and tea rooms around Essex. We were given recipes and the names of a few of Eve's favourite tea rooms.



Our second Saturday seminar on 28th August was also well attended. Julian Whybra spoke at length about the history of East Seaxe, the origins of the tribes and settlers who lived in this region and Roman influence in what is now Essex. We learnt that East Seaxe was a kingdom from 527 AD to 839 AD and this is the basis of the name of Essex. In a fascinating talk he traced the names and lives of the kings of East Seaxe and included the origins of many village names in this area. Now that Covid restrictions are lifted many of the interest groups are meeting again in person and a new gardening group is being launched. Our next monthly meeting is on Thursday 21st October when Tony Diamond will speak on *The History of Chocolate*. This meeting will include the AGM and the U3A organisers are welcoming nominations for posts on the Committee.

> Anne White Tel: 07874 385541







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www.stanstedmentalhealth.org

National Suicide Prevention Day was on 10<sup>th</sup> September, so a group of us dropped into the pubs of Stansted to chat to locals and find out what more we can do to support the community and encourage people to get involved in our activities. Our organisation was started a year ago and during this time we have trained over 20 mental health first-aiders in the village, we have set up numerous activities to get people talking and most importantly of all, we have spoken to and supported countless people who needed someone to turn to. In recent weeks as things have begun to open up, we have been delighted to have supported such events as the Windmill Fête and the Skatepark Jam. It has been wonderful to see people together again having so much fun in the village. In the past few weeks, we have had our own events as well, including Football Fever and the launch of the Veg Shed at Elms Farm allotments.

We will be holding our first **Stansted Wellbeing Festival** on **Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> October** 2.00pm-5.00pm in St John's Church Hall. This is a chance to find out more about the clubs, hobbies and crafts in the village and how you can get involved. We also have our regular events which are going from strength to strength. Please encourage anyone you know who may enjoy and benefit from coming along.

**Touchpoint Drop in Café** Thursdays 11.00am - 5.00pm, Crafton Green House

**Muddy Walkers** Thursdays at 7.30pm, on the recreation ground **Veg Shed** Sunday mornings from 10.00am at Elms Farm Allotments

If you have any suggestions as to future events or activities you would like to set up, please feel free to contact us.

Richard Haywood Tel: 07794 268208

Email: contact@stanstedmentalhealth.org



#### STANSTED IN BLOOM

#### The Stansted in Bloom Group

Two of the mainstays of our committee, Chairman, Tin-Tin Azuze Maxen and Treasurer, Ali Brown, have resigned as they are moving out of the village. We would like to wish them well with their moves and thank them for their valuable contribution to our achievements in our first year. As no-one has come forward to fill these vacancies it looks like the group as it was constituted almost a year ago will cease to exist and this will be our last report in The Link.

The group has had a number of noteworthy achievements including making significant contribution to the restoration of the Knight signs, the makeover of the High Lane Junction, a very successful photographic competition, a record entry in the garden competition and the village's first entry in the Anglia in Bloom competition. The results of this competition should be available by the time the November edition of The Link goes to print.

Trevor Lloyd

#### **BRAIN TRAINING**

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#### Mindfulness, Meditation and Sport

An insuperable meditation problem is the insistence that you must meditate for at least 20 minutes to get any benefit. I have given meditation my best shot several times in my life and always fail due to sheer boredom. Twenty minutes of witnessing my mind drivelling on about utter twaddle leaves me far more stressed than when I began. So it was with great joy that I attended a Z-Health webinar given by a sportneuroscientist, Julia Eyre, researching into meditation for sports people. She works with high level athletes and uses meditation to help them cope with the huge mental stresses that accompany their sport. She has discovered that it only takes five minutes a day. After five hours' worth of five-minute daily doses, the brain changes for the better. After a while, you can double the time to ten minutes; keep the length useful for you. Big hurrahs all round.



Meditation can be broken into two overall types. Closed, where you focus on something, including movement; and open, where you allow your mind to wander. Beginners (and the bored) usually suit closed rather than open. She recommends three meditation apps: Headspace, Calm, and Jon Kabat-Zinn. In my most recent attempt at meditation, I did use Headspace and it really did help when I was extremely stressed. Then I made the usual mistake of trying to meditate for too long, got bored and so stopped using it.

Mindfulness/meditation is a highly recommended way of reducing stress. We all need to do that, especially with coronavirus still very much around. Longterm stress is very bad for long-term health. Hopefully we need no longer be bamboozled into bottom sitting for longer than we need.

Clare Harding Z-Health Master Practitioner Tel: 07802 872919



### Stansted Network

NEWS FROM YOUR LOCAL COUNCILS

**OPEN SPACES** 

REJUVENATING THE PLAY AREAS & GREEN SPACES OF MOUNTFITCHET GREEN AND FORESTHALL PARK



he Open Spaces Committee has been busy since spring embarking on one of the largest projects it has undertaken – re-invigorating the play areas and green spaces in the south of the village.

The ambitious plans focus on improving the play environments for young residents in the Foresthall Park and the Mountfitchet Green estates. A budget of £50K has been proposed. The lion's share of this will be invested in Mountfitchet Green. The cost for both projects is to be spread over several financial years. Grants from national, county and district sources, along with National Lottery funding, will hopefully cover much of the investment costs.

The proposals have been tailored for each specific area from the reintroduction of play equipment on Reeve Road, to the construction of a trim trail at Wilkin's Crescent to the more expansive goal of transforming the green space at Mountfitchet Green.

Hundreds of residents have responded to our online consultations and replied to letters dropped through their front doors. Reeve Road residents were the first community to be consulted in May. A consultation followed in

July on Walson Way, before the communities close to Wilkin's Crescent and Mountfitchet Green were sounded out on the Parish Council's proposals in August.

Now as this initial phase of consultation draws to a close, CIIr Alan Barnes, chair of the Open Spaces committee, takes time to answer questions about the project.



Alan Barnes, Chair of the Open Spaces committee

Firstly, how did the project come about? Last September the Parish Council was approached by a

young resident of Mountfitchet Green requesting that more play equipment for children of her age be provided. Among her suggestions were football goals, picnic benches and a zip wire. We felt this person had identified an unmet need in the community and set up a working group to see what could be done. Starting with Mountfitchet Green, the group also identified areas of Foresthall Park that may benefit from the provision of new, or the reinstatement of existing, play equipment for both younger and older children.

How have you gone about planning for the project? The Open Spaces committee has taken people's ideas on the type of equipment they would like and how to improve facilities, then combined these with its own under the objective of developing existing play areas in the south of Stansted to strengthen communities and boost opportunities for physical exercise. We took these plans, obtained the necessary equipment and landscaping cost, and started to explore possible funding sources. We then used letter drops and social media to get feedback on our draft plans from the communities local to these play areas.

Did the pandemic affect your plans at all?

It has made things more difficult. Closing dates for some funding applications were in mid-September. So to develop proposals, finalise equipment lists, sign off site layouts, and get everything costed on time was already a challenge. The lockdowns added to that as we were short of manpower and resources at times. Our plans were constantly under review with many last minute changes and additions. But we would like to thank the public for their invaluable input. That's allowed us to get funding applications off and get some of these projects started.

What have you learned from the various consultations around the projects?

Encouraging community involvement in the planning and execution of these projects has been a priority. We found direct mailing people, conducting letter drops and holding face-to-face meetings to be the the most productive ways to obtain local views. Obviously we also got feedback from the council website and our social media channels. But though these produced more responses, comments tended to be more general. In future we will probably canvas the wider community to the areas impacted than this time. We would also like to better canvas local schools. After all, it is primarily for children that we are undertaking this work.

How have you squared viewpoints from across the community? We have tried to balance out the views of people with children that would benefit from increased play and exercise opportunities against others who raised genuine concerns about antisocial behaviour, and others who just wanted things to stay the same. Hopefully we struck a good balance between all three groups. In some areas we will provide places for young children to let off steam in a safe environment whilst leaving others for people to enjoy a more natural setting. We read all the comments sent to us and have tried to be mindful of if our plan's benefits outweigh the costs.

What lessons has the Parish Council learned from the project? I think it has re-emphasised the value of canvassing the public. More specifically, in light of this particular project, we are formulating a consultation process to make our decision making as transparent as possible. That policy will have some element of flexibility around consultation. At the end of the day, different communities and residents from varying ages like to be consulted in different ways.



#### FORESTHALL PARK

WHERE: Reeve Road, Walson Way and Wilkin's Crescent PROPOSAL: Reintroduce play equipment at Reeve Road plus a new

roundabout. New seating from recycled plastic at Walson Way. New swing/slide and trim trail at Wilkin's Crescent plus surplus play kit from Reeve Road sited in the existing play area

BUDGET: 15k with funding from Essex County Council's Community Initiative Fund, Section 106 funds COMPLETION: Reeve Road, June '21; Wilkin's Crescent, Walson Way - funding-dependent



#### MOUNTFITCHET GREEN

*PROPOSAL* Picnic benches, greenery, zipwire, disabled equipment, football goals & target panels, meshed fencing, repainted Multi Use Games

Area, dog-poop bins, signage, bigger play area. *BUDGET* £37K funded by district councillor grants, CIF funds, the National Lottery, and the Parish Council budget. *COMPLETION* Multi-phase project over several years

\*Figures in this article are indicative & subject to change

#### **ELECTION AFOOT?**

n August, long-serving councillor Daphne Wallace-Jarvis resigned from her post on the Parish Council, which she has held since May 2015. Daphne has been a passionate advocate as a councillor of expanding the public's access to green spaces and footpaths in and around the village. This followed the resignation of Daniel Brett the previous month. Daniel was a valued participant in Parish Council life and a stalwart of our Open Spaces committee.

As required, Uttlesford District Council sent us the Notices of Vacancy which were posted on our website, social media

and noticeboards. As we go to print, an election has been called for Daniel Brett's seat in the South Ward and we are waiting to hear whether or not an election will be called for Daphne's seat but the cut-off date for requests falls after our Link deadline!



If more than one nomination is received for the election, then a poll will be held in October. If no election is requested for Daphne's seat, then that will be filled by the Parish Council through co-option. If an election is called, and contested, then this will also be decided at the polling booths in October.

#### WALPOLE MEADOWS DEFIBRILLATOR

t was fantastic to learn of Alison Bradnick's campaign to source a defibrillator for Walpole Meadows. There are seven currently spaced around the village and surrounding areas (see listings, page 23). There can, however, never be too many when it comes to these vital pieces of life saving kit. Waiting for an ambulance can have tragic consequences



whereas employing a defibrillator within minutes of a cardiac arrest can improve the chances of survival by 80 percent. That's why the Parish Council and District Councillor Geoffrey Sell have been keen to back Alison's efforts.

The cost of the defibrillator has been met by the district councillor with a £700 donation to Alison's campaign. Another £500 is required to cover the cost of the unit's housing and its installation. It's hoped the equipment will be

located at the District Council's offices at the front of the Walpole Meadows estate.

You can donate at justgiving.com/crowdfunding/alison-bradnick. Alternatively, if you are wary of transferring money via online means, you can make a payment to the Parish Council who will act as an intermediary. The Parish Council provided a similar service for the Save Stansted Village group. It is preferred that donations are made in person at the Parish Council's offices at the Mountfitchet Exchange or via contacting us directly. This is to limit our own exposure to online fraud.

#### SKATE SEATING, BASKETBALL HOOPS

e end with two bits of news of interest to our younger residents. The first is an update on sourcing seating for users of the skatepark. For much of the summer skatepark users have made use of two benches donated by a public house. The benches and tables were in a poor state with exposed nails and splintered wood, posing a safety hazard.

Robbie Spurgeon stepped forward to source and fit replacement lengths of wood to make the seating safer for fellow skatepark users. But it was agreed this was only a temporary measure while the Parish Council chased down funding to purchase more appropriate replacements. We are pleased

to report that thanks to a successful bid to the Welcome Back Fund, the Parish Council hopes to be ordering up to two tables and benches for use at the skatepark.



We shall also be purchasing new basketball hoops for the Multi Use Games Area at Mountfitchet Green. The existing hoops were prone to damage and their replacements are built from more resilient material. It is expected the new hoops will be installed within the next few weeks.

#### **DISTRICT COUNCIL NEWS**



Alan Dean District Councillor reports



Officers at Uttlesford District Council are deeply engaged in a multi-agency response to the international crisis surrounding Afghanistan and its people who have been evacuated to the UK.

At the time of my writing in early September, three hotels at Stansted Airport had been taken over to house desperate people who have come to our shores. The people of Stansted Mountfitchet and others way beyond the local area have risen to the challenge by bringing clothing and other essentials to our Day Centre to be passed on to the Red Cross. Thanks are owed to the new TouchPoint team of volunteers for making this happen.

Stansted Surgery has also been highly involved helping many people arriving here with ailments, so thanks also to their clinicians and support people too. I read that about one-third of councils across the country have so far offered permanent accommodation for people from Afghanistan.

Uttlesford will contribute in a small way, but it is too early to say how. District Council staff have been working with other local authorities and numerous central government departments to coordinate action and seek to resolve problems. UDC has particular responsibilities in relation to public health and emergency planning. It is clear to those closely involved that the situation will not be resolved quickly. The

situation is evolving from day to day.

Speaking personally, the Westminster Government's lack of preparedness has aggravated an existing tragedy, leaving council people running to catch up. As one person close to the local action said to me: "It's like being in the eye of a storm waiting for the worst to hit you." Yet I guess that's nothing compared with the trauma suffered by those people who have had to flee from a distant country.

I had hoped to write about the outcome of the Pennington Lane planning appeal, whose decision was expected on September 2. However, a day after this date had passed I was told by the Planning Inspectorate that the Inspector "hopes to be able to issue this later in the current month". Let's hope the extra time is being used to compose a dismissal notice.

For the last three weeks on a Thursday, I have enjoyed either a cup of tea or coffee accompanied by a variety of sandwiches, cakes and conversations at the Crafton Green Day Centre. The TouchPoint group of volunteers has got off to a good start now the Day Centre has sprung back to life after its long lockdown closure.

I know that previous clients are looking forward to the return of hot lunches, and I'm sure that TouchPoint's good publicity will provide the news in due course. The Parish Council is supporting these revived services, whilst Uttlesford's future backing sadly remains uncertain.



A volunteer sorts donations in response to Essex County Council's appeal for clothes for people fleeing Afghanistan

Two months ago, we reported that Stansted's airport's appeal against the refusal of its planning application to grow to 43 million passengers per annum had been upheld, meaning that the airport had won. Since then, UDC has decided to take the matter to the High Court in an attempt to overturn the national Planning Inspectorate's decision. There may be more news on this by November.

Finally, a word about district council chief executives. We said goodbye on August 31 to the chief executive for the past five years, Dawn French. Dawn has retired from local government service to look after two relatives who are not in good health. It has not been an easy five years under two political administrations. The first one cut staff numbers and hence the capacity of the organisation to deliver services for local people. The present ruling group has brought about much confusion by making promises that cannot be delivered.

Wearing the shoes of a chief executive – whose job is to do the ruling politicians' bidding – has not been easy. A new chief executive may have been appointed by the time this edition of The Link hits your letter boxes. He or she will need armour plating! In the meantime, an interim chief, Rob Tinlin from Edinburgh, is holding the fort. Watch this space!

#### STANSTED PARISH COUNCIL

#### **STAFF**

Clerk Ruth Clifford

Trainee Deputy Clerk Emma Philbrick

Committee & Projects Officer Laila Azure-Marxen

Communications Officer Dan Schlanker Email: parishcouncil@stansted.net

Phone/fax: 01279 813214

Mon-Fri 9am-4pm, Wed 9am-1pm

Website: stansted.net Facebook: stansted.parishcouncil Instagram: stansted@parishcouncil Twitter: @StanstedSMPC

#### PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

Meetings are on Wednesdays in the Mountfitchet Exchange conference room. The public can attend virtually via a zoom invite. Request these from the clerk by 5pm the day prior to a meeting. Questions from the public are invited at the start of Full Council meetings only. Seek permission to film or record proceedings.

- Oct 6 Emergency Planning 7pm, Open Spaces 8pm
- Oct 20 Full Council
- Oct 27 Highways 7pm

Finance & General Purposes 8pm

#### PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Alan BARNES

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Maureen CATON - CHAIRMAN

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**Geoffrey SELL** 

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**Thomas Smith** 

tel: 815925

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Geoffrey SELL	

#### **ESSEX COUNTY COUNCILLOR**

Ray GOODING

tel: 813103 email: cllr.ray.gooding@essex.gov.uk

#### MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT

Kemi Badenoch MP, House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA tel: 0207 219 1943 (House of Commons) email: kemi.badenoch.mp@parliament.uk

#### **POLICE**

PCSO Nikki Morris

tel: 101(non-emergency) email: nikki.morris@essex.police.uk Community Policing Team:

braintreeanduttlesfordcpt@essex.pnn.police.uk

#### **LIBRARIES**

The library at Mountfitchet Exchange opens:

Tuesday 9am - 1pm Wednesday 2pm - 5.30pm

Thursday 2pm - 7pm Saturday 9am-5pm

#### GARDEN WASTE RECYCLING

Residents without access to the Recycling Centre for Household Waste at Saffron Walden can use a skip to dispose of garden waste, alternate Sundays, Lower Street Car Park, 12.30-4.30pm. Dates coming up:

October 3, October 17, October 31

Alternatively sign up for Uttlesford District Council's garden waste bin collection service - uttlesford.gov.uk/gardenwaste

#### **DEFIBRILLATORS**

There are seven public access defibrillators spread around Stansted and close-by.

Call 999 to get a key-code to access a defibrillator. Instructions to use the device are easy to follow. DO NOT WAIT FOR AN AMBULANCE. Rapid use of a defibrillator saves lives. The quicker one is used after a coronary arrest, the greater the chance of survival.

- The Day Centre, Crafton Green, CM24 8AX
- The Bowls Club, The Recreation Ground, CM24 8BD
- Lower Street Telephone Box, CM24 8LP
- The Surgery, Castle Maltings, CM24 8XG
- Romeera Leisure Centre, Forest Hall Road CM24 8TZ
- Rose & Crown Public House, Bentfield Green, CM24 8HX
- Three Horseshoes Public House, Hazel End, CM23 1HB



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#### CAMPING OUT FOR CANCER

My son Wilson is 10 years old and is raising money for Cancer Research by camping out every night in memory of his nanny, Jean Dolley and his nana, Christine Bushnell, who both passed away due to cancer. He was inspired by a news article of another boy who is also camping out for charity. On 12th June he took to his tent in the garden and has stayed there ever since! I was unsure to start with but agreed to set up a Just Giving page on 28th June, which would have been his nanny's 80th birthday. He has committed to camping out until his own birthday on 19th November, but is very keen to do longer! Even when we went on holiday this year, he took his tent and was given special permission to set up outside our caravan at our holiday park, which was no mean feat as were positioned on a slope and a couple of our neighbours stayed up late, which kept him awake for a while.



We are now on our second tent as the zip broke on the first and we are considering getting a third, just in case. We are very proud of Wilson, as this is not the first time he has raised money for Cancer Research. A couple of years ago (pre-Covid) he made some squishies and sold them at the Bentfield School Christmas Fayre; he sold out and made £100. He is hoping to raise £1000 with his camping venture and already has over £600. If you would like to donate, visit www.justgiving.com/fundraising/katrina-bushnell. Thank you.

Katrina Bushnell

#### **CROSSWORD ANSWERS**

#### Across

1 Beachvolleyball 9 Lawn 10 Users 11 Orgy 12 Athlete 14 Oxidate 15 Applaud 17 Adorned 20 Bang 21 Ideal 22 Nigh 23 Statue of Liberty

#### Down

2 Elastoplast 3 Candlelight 4 Vault 5 Leek 6 Essex 7 Blood orange 8 Lightweight 13 End 14 Oca 16 Urine 18 Delhi 19 Leaf



### RSPB STORT VALLEY LOCAL GROUP

www.rspb.org.uk/groups/stortvalley

I am pleased to announce the restarting of our talks and walks. Our next walk is on **Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> October** at 2.30pm in Castle Gardens, Bishop Stortford. Tel: 07454 801894 or email: I.jaques@yahoo.co.uk. Donations to our local group are welcome. Our talks will start in November. In October you might spot a jay scouting around for somewhere to bury fallen acorns and hazelnuts. If you let seed heads form on flowers and weeds such as teasels and thistles you will attract finches, perhaps even brightly coloured goldfinches. Starlings gather in large groups on treetops and telephone wires before joining up with other groups in large roosts. Letting your lawn grow slightly longer and avoiding chemical sprays can turn your lawn into an all year feeding station for them. They like to hunt for insects such as leather-jackets, as do blackbirds and thrushes.



A murmuration of starlings

Some jobs to do in the garden to help wildlife in October include cleaning bird baths, tables and feeders and start to top up regularly. Leave fallen leaves to provide shelter and protection for wildlife. Leave seed heads to overwinter to provide food for birds. This is also the time to tidy up a pond if you have one; not too much because there will be lots of life overwintering in it and they still need a home.

Sheila Bowles Tel: 814973



Linden House has always been a member of the Business Forum since we first started over six years ago. It has also been the venue for our monthly breakfast meetings which have been a great success. We are pleased to announce that Linden House has undergone refurbishment over the summer and has now reopened under the name of The Linden. All our local hostelries, including The Linden, are in a very convenient location, being less than an hour by train or car from Cambridge and London and only ten minutes from the airport. The Stansted Business Forum is very pleased that we are holding our first breakfast meeting of the year at The Linden on **Friday 1st October** at 7.00am and we are looking forward to our November meeting.



Iris Evans Treasurer

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www.humanrootscommunity.org.uk

I am sure that I am not the only one who thinks we have had a rubbish summer ... right? I sincerely hope you have been one of the lucky ones to get away and get your fill of sunshine. Having said that we have been super lucky to have some bumper crops producing some fantastic vegetables. Key volunteers and I have had our heads stuck in the foliage over the last six weeks, weeding, watering, trimming and harvesting.



Collectively we have harvested over 305kg of fresh produce which is pesticide free and as organic as we can get it. We have been making up our free vegetable boxes and helped deliver over 82 boxes to local families, bringing us to a total of 72 people being helped through the summer. We are all so proud to be part of such a fantastic scheme and cannot adequately thank the wonderful people that make it all happen. A special shout out goes to one of our star volunteers Ashley Huggonson, who was recently awarded *Volunteer of the Month*. We love her to the end of the world and could not have made it through the season without her. Thank you, Ashley, you are amazing! If you would like to be part of the team please get in touch via our website and look for the contact form; we are currently recruiting garden volunteers and trustees.



Keiran Olivier Tel: 07946 783039

Email: keiran@humanrootscommunity.org.uk



### STANSTED AND DISTRICT LIBERAL DEMOCRATS

#### Halloween Quiz

Join us on **Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> October** 7.00pm for 7.30pm in the Day Centre, Crafton Green. There will be prizes for best adult and child fancy-dress. Tickets £8, including light refreshments, are available from Geoffrey Sell 815925 email: sellgeoffrey@yahoo.co.uk or David Morson 850209 email: davidmorson20@gmail.com.



### ST MARY'S C OF E FOUNDATION SCHOOL

www.stmarysstansted.co.uk

As September draws to a close the school has returned to a large degree of normality. Collective worship has resumed in the hall as well as our whole school celebration assemblies, and the children are once again free to roam around all our outside spaces during play time or lunch time. Who knows whether bubbles will return, but for now it is a refreshing change. We have already kicked off our term with a visit to the Mountfitchet Castle for Key Stage 1, plus we celebrated Roald Dahl Day with our time-honoured whole school dress up and catwalk parade of Dahl characters. Prizes were awarded to the best costumes in each Key Stage.

To give you a glimpse into what the children will be learning this half term, our Year 5 and 6 pupils will be studying *Princes, Peasants and Pestilence,* incorporating 14<sup>th</sup> century poetry, using maps and battle re-enactment. Years 3 and 4 are taking a *Road Trip USA*, where they will be diary writing, learning about Native Americans and designing totem poles. Years 1 and 2 are exploring the topic of *Towers, Tunnels and Turrets,* with the previously mentioned castle trip, recounts and learning about castle life. Prospective parent visits to the school for new starters are now welcome in person on any of the following dates: 2<sup>nd</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> October or 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> November. Contact details are below.

Matthew Curzon Headteacher Tel: 812212

Email: office@st-marys-stansted.essex.sch.uk



#### Saturday 16th October

Ugley Village Hall 10.00am-12 noon

We hope to have the following stalls:

beef ~ pork ~ lamb ~ fish ~ eggs ~ honey ~ fruit and veg bread and home baking ~ hummus and soup local wine and cider ~ skincare ~ plants eco household products ~ knitting and needlework cut flowers ~ cards and needlefelt ~ ceramics

Refreshments with home made cakes and bacon rolls

For further information or to go on our email list, please contact Susan Bone on ugleyvillagehall@gmail.com or telephone 01279 814052

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www.arhc.org.uk

#### Retail hub in Sawston celebrates opening

It has been over a year since the hospice took over and transformed Unit 35 on the Eastern Counties Leather Industrial Estate, between Sawston and Pampisford. Due to the pandemic, plans for the original opening were postponed several times, but customers are now able to visit and shop for good quality furniture and bargains Tuesdays to Saturdays 10.00am-4.00pm. If you would like to donate preloved goods, please check the list of items which can be accepted on the *shop donations* section of our website and call us on 01223 242684 to check that they are still needed. Two vans are now available to both pick up donations and deliver purchases. Our eBay store is an outlet for unique, unusual and designer items:

www.ebay.co.uk/str/arthurrankhospicecharity. Our store on Amazon is a treasure-trove for pre-loved books and DVDs; and our Facebook page showcases star pieces of furniture and recent quality donations. In some instances, you can click and collect from one of our local shops.



The official opening of the shop, in July

#### Would you like to know about end-of-life care?

We are welcoming Dr Kathryn Mannix, bestselling author of *With the End in Mind* to be our guest speaker at our annual lecture on **Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> October** 7.00pm-8.30pm. This will be an online event, open to anyone with an interest in end-of-life care, both medical and non-medical. Kathryn is a palliative care physician, passionate to get us all better acquainted with the idea of dying well. Her new book, *Listen: How to find the words for tender conversations* will be released in September. The event is free but registration in advance is required. For more information visit the *annual lecture* section of our website.

Dawn Easby Head of PR and Communications Tel: 01223 675875 Email: dawn.easby@arhc.org.uk



www.eastonlodge.co.uk

After such an unusual growing year, it is a relief to see the gardens close to their best at this time of year. The Italian Garden is still full of colour, setting off the pale honey colour of the fresh stone in the restored balustrade. The dahlias in their border in the walled kitchen garden are covered in flowers. The bees and butterflies love them, particularly the orange and yellow decorative dahlia called Pooh. Did you know dahlias arrived in Spain from Mexico in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century? There are 14 classes of dahlias; we managed to win the pompom class at the Countess of Warwick show with our stunning Lady Linda. Pooh, shown below, came second in its class.



Our final Sunday Open Day is 17th October; in the past few years we have had lovely weather on this day. We will have an array of pumpkins and squashes and our jam and jelly tombola. Our archivists will feature Peto's Japanese gardening legacy and we will showcase the work our volunteers are doing to extend the Japanese style area at the bottom of the glade. Some of the acers in the gardens may be taking on their autumn colours. There will be a range of stalls; this may be a good chance to stock up on bulbs for the spring. Our volunteers will provide refreshments, hot and cold drinks, savoury rolls and homemade cakes. Tickets can be bought in advance to ensure speedy entry, obtainable through our website, our Facebook page or direct from Trybooking.com; visitors can also pay on the day. The Gate opens at 11.00am, last entry 4.00pm, adults £5.50, under 16s free. For further details see our website. Also, please note that we will be continuing to welcome visitors on Thursdays until the end of November.

> Jill Goldsmith Tel: 07947 183439

#### **DON'T FORGET!**

The clocks go back one hour at 2.00am on Sunday 31st October



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#### End night flights to protect health of local residents

Stansted Airport Watch (SAW) has called for the health and well-being of local residents to be prioritised over economic benefits by bringing an end to night flights at Stansted Airport. Stansted is presently allowed more than twice as many night flights than permitted at Heathrow. The Government states that it recognises that noise from aircraft taking off and landing at night is regarded as the most disturbing form of airport operations. Yet the Government is proposing to continue to allow up to 13,700 night flights a year at Stansted, an average of 37 per night between 11.30pm and 6.00am, for a further four years.

SAW is urging the Department for Transport to follow the most recent scientific advice from the World Health Organisation (WHO), which found clear evidence of the adverse health impacts for residents around airports and beneath flight paths caused by night flights. Sleep deprivation from aircraft noise gives rise to fatigue and higher levels of stress and anxiety, and evidence shows it can have an adverse effect on the cognitive development of schoolchildren. Data from numerous studies strongly suggests that those living in the vicinity of airports have a higher risk of cardiovascular disease. The elderly and those with preexisting conditions are at higher risk from the effects of aircraft night noise. SAW's three main priorities are:

- 1. An unequivocal commitment to phase out all night flights at Stansted by 2030, except in the case of genuine emergencies, starting next year
- 2. Restrictions on night flights to apply from 11.00pm to 7.00am, so that 'night' truly means 'night', as defined by the WHO
- An immediate ban on all night-time aircraft landings at Stansted using reverse thrust, except in the case of genuine emergencies.

SAW Campaign Office Tel: 870558

Email: info@stanstedairportwatch.com

#### RECYCLE INK, STAMPS AND **TOOTHBRUSHES**



We are still collecting original (not remanufactured or own brand) ink cartridges, postage stamps, toothbrushes, electric toothbrush heads, and toothpaste tubes (please place dental items in a paper or plastic bag). Please leave items in the boxes outside the blue main door of the church. There is also a collecting box inside St John's church. Alternatively please leave items in the porch of 7 Blythwood Gardens. Please note that we do not take laser toner cartridges. Thank you.



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

It is said that the sun always shines on the righteous and so it proved when the annual Skatepark Jam was blessed with its usual glorious day of sunshine. The jam has been organised by Sean Thompson every year since the skatepark was opened seven years ago. He puts in hours of work to arrange the event and gets support from local sponsors like Yeoman's and Mix Wine Bar as well as companies from across the UK such as Dead Sailor who are a BMX supplier based in Cornwall. On top of that he sources an ice cream van, a noodle stall and the all-important music.

SKATEPARK JAM



Sean arranges a schedule that ensures riders of all ages and abilities, across the four disciplines: scooters, skateboards, inline skaters and BMX, get a chance to showcase their skills The event always attracts riders from across the district as well as older riders from further afield. There was also a sizable audience, possibly inspired by the performance of our BMX and skateboarders at the recent Olympics. It is a very special day for our skatepark community and we owe a big debt of gratitude to Sean for making it all happen.



Trevor Lloyd

#### LINK ADVERTISING

We are now taking bookings from new advertisers for our printing vear which begins in November

Ads on the inside pages start from £235 for the whole year!

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See www.stanstedlink.org.uk/advertising for a price list and booking form

or if you do not have internet access call Marion on 814059

#### **RANDOM JOTTINGS**

Every day there seem to be new challenges being issued, from doing 10,000 steps a day to the Blue Poo challenge: eating food coloured with blue catering dye and measuring the time it takes for the dye to appear at the other end - a sort of DIY barium meal to indicate the state of the gut bacteria. Another bizarre challenge is to wear just one dress for 100 days! It is actually a very clever advertising ploy from a US company who manufacture the dress concerned. Made from a special merino wool-based fabric, it purports to be cool enough for summer wear and warm in the winter. Obviously, if you are wearing it for 100 consecutive days the non-washable dress is going to need cleaning in some way, and there are all sorts of tips provided when the dress is purchased. To prevent it from getting really smelly the advice is to turn the dress inside out and hang it either outside or near an open window. According to social media there are women who have taken up this challenge and actually succeeded, claiming it has completely changed their attitude to clothes and their lives. I must say that the idea of not having to spend time thinking about what to wear each morning does appeal.



Another clothes challenge is the 333 one, which involves wearing just 33 items from your wardrobe for three months; a useful exercise when making decisions for packing a holiday suitcase perhaps? This sounds much easier to achieve until you realise the 33 items include footwear and accessories like jewellery and scarves etc. If you see me walking about the village in the same outfit for weeks at a time, you will know that it is not because I have fallen on hard times, I have just taken up the 333 challenge.



**Yvonne Ayres** 

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#### UGLEY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

What's in the box? was the rather intriguing title of last month's talk, given by me. The answer was quickly revealed; in the box were magazines and concert programmes ranging in date from 1936 to 1963, all relating to French singer Edith Piaf. In the space of just 45 minutes members heard the life story of the legendary singer and my own personal memories. I had met some of the friends and family of Edith Piaf and the composer (Charles Dumont) of what is arguably her best-known song, Non je ne regrette rien. Members enjoyed listening to this song as well as If you love me, really love me and La vie en rose. At the end of the talk each member and visitor was presented with a red rose in memory of Edith Piaf.

Our next meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> October** at 2.00pm in Ugley Village Hall when Kate Birkbeck will be speaking about the Gardiner family of Stansted Hall. Why not come along and join us for what sounds like a very interesting afternoon? You would be most welcome!

Andrea Fitt Tel: 815922

#### STANSTED FOOTBALL CLUB



www.essexseniorleague.co.uk

During October the First Team play home games not only against local rivals, Takeley, but also Walthamstow, who are everyone's favourites to win the Essex Senior League this season. We will see if we can maintain the fantastic start to this campaign where we have not been out of the top five. Cup matches will also begin which includes the early rounds of the Essex FA Senior Cup. Off the field, the Club are looking to appoint a new physiotherapist to work alongside our first team managers in assessing and treating our playing squad on both match days and training sessions. This is a great opportunity for someone who is undertaking a physiotherapy course and would like some hands-on experience. Due to the importance of this role, all expenses would be fully covered. Interested parties please call the mobile number below or email: stanstedfc@btinternet.com.

The new league season for our over 45s veterans is up and running; our joint management team was pleased with how the early season friendlies went and have added some more experience to their squad as they face the challenge of playing in the top division this season. Fixtures at Hargrave Park in October are below; any changes will be announced on our social media websites.



Tom Williams Secretary Tel: 07921 403842



www.stanstedtennisclub.co.uk

#### Ladies doubles tournament

On Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> August, 16 ladies took part in the last social tournament of the year. Despite the unpredictable weather it was a great afternoon of tennis, brilliantly organised once more by Debbie Lane. The eventual winners, after a thrilling match, were Diane Brown and Marta Henshall who beat Daphne Lunnon and Sandra Ayres 6-4. The consolation round was won by Gail Hogg and Sue Simpson, beating Dina McDonald and Fiona Kelly 4-3.



#### Forthcoming mixed doubles tournament

The Jim Kitson trophy tournament will take place on **Sunday 17**th **October**, 10.00am-4.00pm, open to senior male and female members of the club. To enter please email Gail Hogg on gailhogg721@gmail.com.

#### New ladies' and men's club sessions

A new evening Club session for senior men will be held on the first Monday of every month from 7.00pm, open to members and non-members (£2 visitor fee). There will also be an additional ladies' Club evening, so these will be on the second and fourth Monday of every month from 7.00pm. Coaching

LTA qualified coach Ollie Toms continues his popular coaching programme, including junior tournaments and tennis camps and group or individual coaching for juniors and adults. For more information call 07917 652014 or visit www.olliestennis.co.uk.

Fiona Kelly
Publicity Officer
Email: contact@stanstedtennisclub.co.uk

#### CRYPTIC PRESIDENTS QUIZ ANSWERS

- 1. George Washington is an anag. of growing honest age.
- 2. Wo / odro / w / Wilson. Ref. Alf Garnett's name for Harold Wilson
- 3. Abe I / in / coln (without e)
- 4. Jimmy Carter. Jimmy is an alternative for jemmy
- 5. An / drew / Jacks / on
- 6. Grover Cleveland. Anag. Of v with called governer
- 7. Rich / ard / Nix / on. Ard is a slang word for alright
- 8. William / How / a / r / d Taft. Starting letters of the last five words



#### STANSTED BOWLS CLUB

Time has passed so quickly this year; I cannot quite believe that we are nearing the end of the outdoor season. As a club we have survived the year quite well, managing to fulfil most of our fixtures and welcoming a clutch of new members. I must admit it has not been easy, as has been the case for most clubs, but we are hopeful that 2022 will be a better year for everyone.

For every bowls club the state of the green tends to be the most important factor, and our green team works hard throughout the year to maintain it to ensure that it plays well. At the end of the season we have work days, where the preparation for the following year's growth is laid down. This generally includes applying a vast quantity of top dressing to even out the hollows, after a thorough spiking, scarifying and other technical stuff; apologies to the green team for not being more au fait with the precise terminology. All this needs time and effort and, although we have called on members, if anyone in the village wanted to help us, we would be grateful. The exact days will depend on the weather forecast and it may be that by the time you read this the work will have been done, but please give me a ring if you think you can help. Although the green closes from October until next spring, the Club stays open. We are hoping that we will be able to hold some social events and afternoon carpet bowls will resume in October. Our seniors also participate in the Indoor League at Turpins in Saffron Walden. Just contact me if you want to know more.

> Jeanette Mansell Secretary Tel: 07967 033924 Email: jeanette.mansell2016@gmail.com



Stansted Cricket Club

www.stanstedcc.hitscricket.com

The HEBL league season ended with the 1st XI winning their last two matches to finish fifth in Division 1. The 2nd XI finished 8th in Division 3. Player availability was a big problem in the holiday season and we had to cancel three of the last four fixtures as we could not raise a side. The end of season event on Sunday 29th August was well attended with junior awards, games and a barbecue. On Monday 30th August in the annual charity Pub Challenge match, the Rose and Crown beat the Dog and Duck in a well-supported event. We hope to hold a quiz in the pavilion before we close down for the winter. For more information on the Club please go to our website.



David Hedge Hon Secretary Tel: 812509 Email: dchedge49@gmail.com

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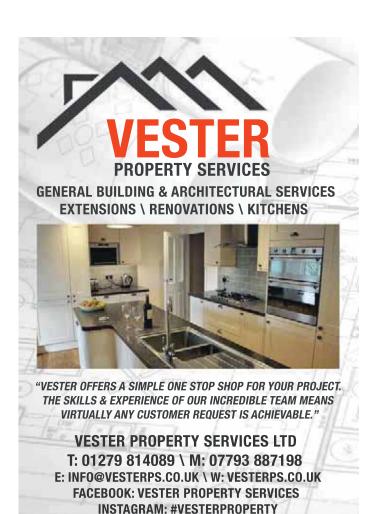
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