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Stansted Skatfest
by Jimmy Lawrence
Photography

Stansted Mountfitchet Village Magazine

The Link

www.stanstedlink.org.uk

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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



What an amazing picture on this month's front cover; it seems that the skateboarder is jumping out of the page at us! Thank you to Jimmy Lawrence for this picture as well as the one on p 7; there have been many people who have provided us with photos in this edition, including for the Windmill Fête, which is described on p 9. If you use a magnifying glass, you might be able to spot a Teddy Bear parachuting down the side of the mill in one of the photographs. The lucky, brave bear belongs to the niece of Mandy in Goldings. Both the Fête and the Skatepark Jam were very successful indeed. Organising events like these takes a huge amount of time and effort; many people worked together to ensure the success of the Fête, including members of the WI. As regards the Skatepark Jam, congratulations and thanks to Seann Tompson for all his hard work in organising such a big event.

As you will have read last month, the September Link provided the last of the quizzes and crosswords from that very brainy gentleman, Cliff Gilbert, who has sadly passed away. If any of our readers would like to provide items for our Puzzle Page, we would really love to hear from you. These do not need to be either crosswords nor quizzes, but perhaps other types of word games or mathematical conundrums.

OUR MONARCHS

I am writing this at the end of one of the most momentous weeks in the history of our country. It started with Boris Johnson being Her Majesty's Prime Minister, and ended with PM Liz Truss reporting to His Majesty. Some Stansted residents will have seen a change of monarch, but most people have not, in view of the longevity of Queen Elizabeth's reign. I have been astounded by all the ceremonies involved in the changeover, with King Charles barely able to grieve for his mother like the rest of us can. I have also been amazed by the amount and variety of duties undertaken by a Sovereign; the late Queen worked unbelievably hard, right up to virtually the end of her very long life when she asked the new PM to form a government.



Thanks to Ken McDonald for the photograph of the flag at St John's Church at half-mast on 8th September, the date of the Queen's passing. Bells tolled at Birchanger, Stansted and Farnham on 9th September and memorial services were held at all three churches on 10th September.

Ed



VILLAGE HARVEST SUPPER AND ENTERTAINMENT



After a break of three years due to Covid, we are delighted to announce the return of our annual Harvest Supper on **Sunday 16th October** at 6.00pm in St Theresa's Parish Centre, High Lane. As previously we are providing a fish, chicken, sausage or veggie meal with chips followed by choc ices. There will also be some light entertainment, not to be missed! Tickets £10 adults, £8 accompanied children, must be booked in advance and are available from me on 814865, from Catherine 813579 or Kathy 816293. Please bring your own drink and glass. Everyone welcome.

Helen Baker



www.musicatstansted.co.uk

We are back in business, post-pandemic, with a full programme of four concerts in the diary for 2022-23, all taking place in St John's Church. On **Saturday 15th October** at 7.30pm, the renowned *Piatti String Quartet* return with a programme of music by Elgar, Moeran and Beethoven. The exciting young pianist Dominic Degavino will include Mozart, Chopin, Schubert and Brahms in his recital on **Sunday 27th November** at 3.00pm. We have some wonderful musicians planned for our concerts on 29th January and 25th March; more details will be published in The Link nearer the time, or you can find out more from our website. Tickets: adults £15, concessions £12, under 18s free; available on the door, or in advance from Nockolds; Bishop's Stortford Independent; or call 812582. A season ticket though can cost as little as £40. Save money and enjoy a season of exceptional music-making!

Richard Allaway
Tel: 814118

Email: contactus@musicatstansted.co.uk



SAFFRON WALDEN MUSIC FESTIVAL

Do you play an instrument? Are you under 18? Or do you know someone who could answer yes to both of those? Then this Music Festival is for you. There are classes for Brass, Guitar, Piano, Strings, Woodwind and Voice, plus, new for this year, Percussion and Jazz. Each category has classes from pre-Grade 1 to post-Grade 8 and the ethos is very much about encouragement, development and the opportunity to perform. All participants receive individual feedback from a professional adjudicator and the best performances compete to be the overall winner in the finale concert. The festival, now in its 10th year, is a celebration of inclusive music making for beginner musicians all the way to more advanced players. Many musicians from previous festivals have gone on to read music at prestigious music colleges and universities.



Josh Lucas, last year's winner

My mother, Ellie Morrow, founded the festival because of her passion for music education, which many of you know about. She encouraged, supported and accompanied the children who took part and made the festival both a joyful celebration of live performance and a competition for excellence at all levels. There is now an Ellie Morrow Trophy for the most promising performance in each section up to Grade 4 standard. This year's festival is on **Sunday 20th** and **Saturday 26th November** at Saffron Hall, and is open to all school age musicians who live or attend school in Essex, Suffolk, Cambridgeshire or Hertfordshire. Please follow us on Instagram and Facebook, just search Saffron Walden Music Festival. Applications close on **Thursday 20th October**. If you are not a musician but you enjoy concerts, please come to the finale concert on Saturday 26th November at 6.00pm at Saffron Hall - it's free!



Amy Morrow Plant
Email: amymorrow47@hotmail.com



STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET U3A

www.u3asites.org.uk/stansted

There are fewer ex-Concorde pilots than USA astronauts, so we were very fortunate to have Captain John Hutchinson to speak at our August meeting. His talk was *Concorde, a 20th Century Icon, a Celebration of a Golden Age in aviation*. Flying Concorde for the last 15 years of a distinguished career in aviation, John's love of the aircraft was very evident. The plane caught the respect and affection of the general public in Britain and the USA as no other passenger plane; it was loved by the pilots who flew it for it had no parallel. This well-illustrated talk took us right through the mechanics of a flight from take-off to landing. It was absolutely fascinating. We listened, learned and asked many questions afterwards. Several copies of the book about him, *The Wind beneath my Wings*, were bought and signed.

There will be a concert by Stansted u3a Singers with Musical Director Isobel Bradshaw on **Saturday 1st October** at 7.30pm in St John's Church. Tickets £10 to include a glass of wine, under-14s £5 to include a soft drink, available from Jean on 850275 or Susie on 07803 802617. The topic for the Poetry Group at their meeting on **Thursday 6th October** is *The Letter S, Poet or Topic*. On **Monday 10th October** Margaret Easter will give a talk to the Garden Group on *Herbs in the Garden*. At October's General meeting, on **Thursday 20th**, Martin Lloyd will talk about *Passports, Assassins, Traitors and Spies*. This is a story about how three passports played their influential role in the course of history: an attempted assassination which altered the regulations for issuing passports; the capture of a spy which caused a worldwide modification to the design of the document, and for one person, the passport itself which turned into a killer.

Learn, Laugh, Live!

Anne White
Tel: 07874 385541

SHALOM REUNION

In August some of the former Shalom group visited Margaret Silvester, who is recovering from a fall.



The weather was kind and we enjoyed sitting on the new patio. Margaret was particularly pleased as it was the first time that she had ventured into her garden since her fall in May. We hope to meet up every summer.



Marion Dyer
Tel: 814059

The sun shone on 3rd September over Sworders Field for the *Cottage in the Park* food and music festival, sponsored by Countryside. The event did not disappoint, attracting around 1,100 visitors and raising approximately £11,000, which is the most that this type of event has ever raised.



A number of local bands and entertainers took to the stage including *Livewire Rock Academy*, *De Rosa Music School*, *Grove Cottage Performing Arts*, *Woodwind of Stortford*, *Bishop's Stortford Gospel Choir*, *J & J Duo* and *Steve Young and the Real Time Players*. As evening fell, stand-up comedy legend and actor Paddy Lennox took centre stage with his mischievous sense of humour, followed by local rock cover band *The Lackeys* who headlined the event with a range of hits from the 1950s to the present day.



There was a wide variety of hot food to suit any appetite including Mexican quesadillas, Caribbean jerk chicken, Thai specialities, pizza and a hog roast, plus sweet treats including fudge, waffles, doughnuts and ice cream. Hadham Brewery showcased their handcrafted ales, alongside a real lemonade bar, prosecco from The Suffolk Horsebox Bar and a delightful selection of gin from Ginporium. There was plenty of fun for the kids including bouncy castles, arts and crafts from The Little Arts Workshop and face painting.

Alison Cameron
Tel: 07940 543281
Email: fundraising@mencapgrovecottage.org

Our refurbishment programme continues with the tables being strengthened, painted, and new tops attached. They fit nicely with the colour scheme within the Club. We had planned to landscape the rear garden this year but have put things on hold due to the uncertainty in the economy. Assuming that things go from strength-to-strength for the next six to eight months we should be able to move things forward in 2023. Alongside our thriving pool, darts and snooker teams, we also have our weekly members' meat raffle at 3.00pm on Sundays. You could win your lunch and more. Profits from the raffle go towards our senior citizens' Christmas Lunch, and the children's Christmas Party. The members' draw follows the raffle with a chance of winning a tasty £100! Please note that you do need to be in the Club if your membership number is drawn.

We have some great entertainment to chase away the winter blues with a packed programme lined up for Saturday nights in October. There is a double bill featuring Cher and Amy Winehouse tribute acts on the 1st. On the 8th we welcome back our resident DJ John for more old skool classics. The 15th sees another double bill, this time with Mick Hucknall and Elvis tributes. On the 22nd we have our Freddie Mercury act, and we round off the month with an Ed Sheeran tribute on the 29th. If you have any suggestions for acts that you would like to see in the Club, please contact me. Also in October we have the AGM, which is on **Sunday 9th** at 2.00pm. Copies of accounts will be available in the Club and on the website prior to the meeting. If you would like to submit any questions prior to the meeting, please email me.



Andrew Sharpe
Tel: 812992
Email: stanstedclub@gmail.com

LINK ADVERTISING

Calling New Advertisers

We have just a few spaces remaining for our new printing year which begins in November

Ads on the inside pages start from £255 for the whole year!

There are various sizes available including some on the cover

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



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St John's Church

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* * *

St Mary's Open Sunday
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WHAT'S ON IN OCTOBER

1 Sat	U3A Singers Concert	St John's Church 7.30 pm
2, 16, 30 Sun	Green Waste Skips	Lower St Car Pk 12.30 - 4.30 pm
2 Sun	Windmill Open	1.30 - 5.30 pm
	Open Sunday	St Mary's Church 2 - 5 pm
4 Tue	Stansted is well Read	Dog and Duck 8 pm
5 Wed	Mountfitchet Garden Club	Day Centre 7.30 pm
5 & 19 Wed	Bereavement Café	Day Centre 10 - 11.30 am
6 Thu	Local History Society	Day Centre 8 pm
8 Sat	Love Your Library Day	Stansted Library 9 am - 5 pm
	Shoebox Quiz	St Theresa's Parish Centre 7.30 pm
	Helen Rollason Ramble	Easton Lodge 11 am - 5 pm
9 Sun	Link copy due in today	before noon
	Wellbeing Festival	St John's Church 2 - 5 pm
11 Tue	RSPB	Bishop's Park Comm Centre 7.30 pm
13 Thu	WI	Day Centre 7.15 for 7.30 pm
15 Sat	Farmers' Market	Ugley Village Hall 10 am - noon
	Music@stansted	St John's Church 7.30 pm
16 Sun	Harvest Supper	St Theresa's Parish Centre 6 pm
19 Wed	Ugley WI	Ugley Village Hall 2.15 pm
20 Thu	U3A Monthly Meeting	St John's Hall 2 pm
22 Sat	Tennis Club Quiz	St John's Hall 7.30 pm
23 Sun	Gardens Open	Easton Lodge 11.30 am - 5 pm



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www.uglevillage.org.uk

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To advertise **your event** on this page of the November issue
tel 814059 email: events@stanstedlink.org.uk **by 9th October**
Inclusion is subject to editorial decision & availability of space



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7.30 pm Sat 15th Oct


St John's Church

Piatti String Quartet

Elgar ~ Moeran ~ Beethoven

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SKATEPARK JAM

The 7th annual Stansted Skatepark jam was a great success, with people of all ages and abilities taking part. They put on quite a show for all the spectators who came to watch. Many people left after having a great time and winning prizes.



I would like to thank our main event sponsors Yeomans Café and Mix Wine Bar alongside all the other sponsors from the BMX, Skate and Scooter industries for making this event possible once again. I am already looking forward to seeing everyone back at the park again for next year's jam.

Seann Thompson



THE PLACE ON THE HILL

www.stanstedfreechurch.org.uk

A reminder that we are open **every Wednesday** 10.00am-noon for adults only. Free coffee, cakes and biscuits to enjoy in good company - what more could you ask? We even have a jigsaw you can work on. There is no need to book, just come along to the Free Church at the bottom of Chapel Hill and save on your home's energy bills! If you have children, then please come along to *Fun Place on the Hill* which opens on Fridays; see separate article for more information.



Mike and Marion Dyer
Tel: 814059

Email: theplace@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk

ST MARY'S SCHOOL

www.stmarysstansted.co.uk



A warm welcome back to all our pupils, old and new. It is always lovely to see our reception classes settling well into school. Our reception topic for this half term is *Marvellous Me*. Willow and Lilac class are doing lots of self-portraits; Stage 1 are working on *The Enchanted Woodland*. What big surprises are waiting if you go down to the woods today? Foxes and badgers, with voles and mice beneath the leaves on the forest floor. We are classifying and identifying, making maps, working with natural materials in art and building a den. Years 3 and 4 are concentrating on *Tremors*, discovering the dangerous and ferocious world of natural disasters whilst glimpsing their deadly effects. We will attempt to build models of our own exploding volcanoes. The children will study historical narratives and newspaper reports and learn about Pompeii and rocks in science. Key Stage 2 children will travel back 5000 years to ancient Egypt and unravel the secrets of the tombs, using historical sources and age-old artefacts. There is so much to discover in this grandiose topic - pharaohs and gods, mysteries and curses, mummies and kings. English will focus on chronological reports, research skills, mystery stories and play scripts. In design and technology, the children will be making clay water carriers and making models of tombs and pyramids. If you are a prospective parent and would like a school tour, please contact our school office to make an appointment.

St Mary's joins with the whole community and the nation in mourning the passing of The Queen. We held a day of remembrance and celebration in school to commemorate her long reign and the importance of her life.

Matthew Curzon
Headteacher
Tel: 812212



FUN PLACE ON THE HILL

www.stanstedfreechurch.org.uk

On Friday mornings we welcome adults, parents and children. In a relaxed atmosphere, adults chat over coffee and the children enjoy plenty of space to run around, playing with the toys and listening to Story Time around 10.30am. Although particularly suitable for children, all ages are welcome, from 9.15am-11.30am in the Free Church Hall which is warm and comfortable. Why not come along for a couple of hours and help save on your home energy costs? Free squash and healthy snacks are available for children, and tea/coffee and biscuits for the adults. There is limited free parking in the church car park. Looking forward to welcoming you on Friday mornings.

Sue Parker and Fran Richards
Tel: 657116

Email: funplace@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk



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STANSTED WINDMILL FETE

www.stanstedwindmill.co.uk

The weather gods were kind to us again this year and we had a fine day for the Fête. Unsurprisingly attendance was down on last year, because last year the Covid restrictions had just been lifted and there was a big bounce back factor and more people would have been away on holiday this year. The WI had a very busy afternoon; we are very grateful to them and all our cake bakers for all their hard work. The Teddy Bear Parachute was reinstated and this was as popular as ever with the youngsters who also enjoyed the bouncy castles and roundabout. The traditional stalls around The Mill and on Mill Fields were also busy and there was a really positive community buzz about the whole event.



I've always wanted to do that!



Come on mum!



All that prize money at stake...

If only I could just get it in once ..

Look, that's my teddy coming down now...

Didn't he do well?



Photos: Richard Thomas and Carole Gray



Let's see what number you've got?



All aboard ... or do you prefer the roundabout?

The organisation and delivery of an event like this is a significant challenge and the bulk of the work is undertaken by a relatively small group of volunteers whose average age is probably nearly 70 years old. It is important that we recruit some younger people to be involved if events like this are to continue. If you are interested in making a contribution to future events, please contact me. We are very grateful for the support of our sponsors, The Stansted Business Forum, AVS autos, Canfield Carpentry, KMD Private Wealth Management Ltd, Golf World, Brohmon and Tesco. The final open day at the Mill is Sunday 2nd October 1.30pm-5.30pm.

Trevor Lloyd Tel: 810805
Email: info@stanstedwindmill.co.uk




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STANSTED SCOUTS

Scout Group Activity Day

The whole group went to Skreens Park Activity Centre near Chelmsford for another activity day as our first one last year was such a success. On what turned into a lovely sunny Sunday, the Beavers, Cubs and Scouts, along with some parents, spent the day taking part in activities. Depending on their age, the activities were kayaking, parachute drop, crate stacking, air rifles, archery, bouncy castle and the traversing wall. The kayaks seemed to be the favourite.



We provided lunch, a large tasty sausage in a roll being the main attraction. Everyone had a really good day, and well done all for taking part; thank you to the parents who came and helped. If anyone wants to get involved with our group we could always do with more adult leaders, as we always have Beaver and Cub waiting lists.

Mike Byrne
Scout Leader
Tel: 812780



MANUDEN PRIMARY SCHOOL

www.manudenprimary.co.uk

We have had a busy and exciting start to the academic year with a wide range of Experience Outcomes as part of our creative curriculum, providing purposeful and meaningful learning opportunities for our children:

- Our new reception children have been preparing and perfecting a Barn Dance; they plan to make bread and soup for their parents to eat at the dance. The Big Question, *Why are farmers important?* has guided their learning
- Year 1 and 2 children have been having A Bug's Life exploring the Big Question: *How do our school grounds support minibeasts and their habitat?* For their Experience Outcome, they are creating habitat and food chain dioramas
- Year 3 and 4 children have been asking, *Who had the greater right to England - the Anglo Saxons or the Vikings?* In order to demonstrate their understanding, the children are creating a freeze frame re-enactment of the battle for England
- Finally, our Year 5 and 6 children have been investigating the events leading up to the sinking of the Titanic and asking *Who was responsible for the sinking of the Titanic?*

Choosing the right school for your child is one of the most important decisions you will have to make. We invite you and your child to visit our friendly and nurturing school on our Open Day, Tuesday 15th November. There will be a tour of the school, along with a number of exciting presentations and curriculum workshops from our children, and an opportunity to meet our headteacher and staff. To arrange a visit please email: office@manuden.essex.sch.uk or call us.

Manuden Primary School - nurturing life skills and inspiring achievement for today and tomorrow

Marnie Tait
Acting Headteacher
Tel: 813370

Email: admin@manuden.essex.sch.uk



www.bentfieldprimaryschool.co.uk

The academic year has started well; even though the hot summer weather was amazing, we were glad to return to school in cooler temperatures. The pupils have started the year looking smart and demonstrating how eager to learn they are, and we are looking forward to a much more settled time than we have experienced in the last few years. It is wonderful to see the smiles on the faces of our new reception pupils, although it is obviously a slightly nervous time for them. They are settling in brilliantly and, at the time of writing, are building up to full school days after their staggered start. It is not long before parents of reception pupils for September 2023 start to think about preliminary visits before the application process begins. Once again, we will be holding open days for prospective pupils and parents to visit the school; they will have a pupil-led tour and the opportunity to ask any questions. We are holding five open days this term: Tuesday 11th October, Monday 17th October, Thursday 10th November, Wednesday 16th November and Thursday 1st December. Details of how to book appointments, and further information about our school can be found on our website.



Finally, I would like to say a huge thank you to those who came to support our school events last year, in particular the Summer Fayre and Music in the Park. The return of this type of community occasion has been most welcome and it was lovely to see so many people enjoying themselves, whilst supporting our school.

David Rogers
Headteacher
Tel: 01279 813626

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www.daisymaysfarm.org



FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S CHURCH

Things are getting very spooky down on our farm in readiness for our half term Halloween party. This spookitastic fun will be taking place every day from **Saturday 22nd - Saturday 29th October** and this is going to be such an exciting event. You must pre-book, so make sure you do it now to avoid disappointment. Tickets are only £10 each and there will be the following attractions:

- Pumpkin patch
- Pumpkin ball pit
- Fancy dress competitio
- Monster Mash show
- Ghost train
- Lots of spooky fun!!!



There will also be hot food from Ollie's Food Shed. Of course, there will be our lovely farm animals who always look forward to seeing you, and don't forget our other exciting farm attractions. Events like these are vital to the survival of our farm, so please do support us. We also always need help running these events, so if you would like to get involved, we would love to hear from you! Thanks so much. Please keep an eye on our Facebook page for all the latest farm news and updates. We are at Hall Road, Elsenham, CM22 6DN and are open every day: weekdays 9.00am-5.00pm and week-ends 10.00am-5.00pm.

Elaine Terry
Tel: 07747 788973

SHOE BOX QUIZ

A reminder of our quiz on **Saturday 8th October** 7.00pm for 7.30pm in St. Theresa's Parish Hall. Tickets are £7 and available from any of us. Please bring your own refreshments. David Morson will be the quizmaster. We hope to see you there.

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



This year seems to be flying by and we now have less than eight weeks left of the Champing season. We have hosted overnight stays for a variety of guests from all over the world: a couple from America celebrating 10 years of marriage, and a lovely couple from New Zealand. Such a mix of people who are all thrilled to have the opportunity of such a unique overnight stay. One couple were on a four-night Champing tour, and were with us on their third night; they were quite clearly completely sold on the idea!

On 8th September we were the final destination for a Historic Church tour, an annual Churches Conservation Trust event which this year focused on CCT churches on the Herts and Essex borders. With 28 guests and staff, we were thrilled to showcase St Mary's to them on the anniversary of Sir Thomas Middleton's funeral which took place in the church in 1631. Special thanks to Audrey Rodgers and St John's Church for the loan of pewter plates used at his very extravagant funeral. Our last Open Sunday for the year is on **2nd October** 2.00pm-5.00pm, with refreshments available.



Lynda Dale
Chairman
Tel: 07716 099474



Enabling Community Projects in the Stansted Area

Connect 120 started as a collaborative venture between Stansted Airport and the churches along the A120 corridor. The purpose was to enable churches to facilitate mission in the local area, with a particular focus on schools and young people. After lockdown, Connect 120 is now back in a new incarnation. The Fund has been set up by the churches of Stansted, Birchanger, Farnham, Takeley and Little Canfield, working together with me, as priest in charge, and seeks to support community-based projects; these may be social, educational, creative or environmental in nature, so anything that blesses our villages!

Applications will be considered by a discernment group, which will ask three fundamental questions of any proposed project:

- How is it consistent with Christian values?
- How will it promote personal, social, emotional, spiritual or intellectual flourishing?
- What legacy will it have?

The 'Christian values' criterion has a broad remit and does not mean that projects have to be explicitly faith-based. Justice, compassion, creativity, healing and well-being are all Christian values, as is the desire simply to make community life better. The core purpose of Connect 120 Fund is to allocate funds wisely in order to bless our communities. If you are involved in community life and have ideas about how to enrich it, we would love to hear from you. More information and an application form are available at www.thefivechurches.co.uk/the-connect-120-fund/. Please email me if you have any enquiries.



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

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

A Quaker friend recently wrote an article entitled *Let God's love help shape the world we live in*, suggesting that we should not seek to rely on our own resources alone, but to allow God's love to work through us. One of the prayers which I find most challenging in response to that suggestion is based on a traditional Franciscan Four-Fold Blessing:

May God bless me with discomfort - with easy answers, half-truths and superficial relationships, so that I may love from deep within my heart.

May God bless me with anger - at injustice, oppression and the exploitation of people, so that I may work for justice, freedom and peace.

May God bless me with tears to shed - for those who suffer from rejection, starvation and war, so that I may reach out to comfort them and turn their pain to joy.

May God bless me with enough foolishness - to believe that I can make a difference in this world, so that I can do what others claim cannot be done.

We all face challenging times ahead in the wake of the war with Ukraine: rising energy costs, climate change, cost of living crisis as well as personal challenges and concerns for loved ones. We may all need extra help, whether from friends, family, local community or charities in the months ahead. If we can also draw down on God's love as we face such challenges, we may find that we are also blessed, and thus enabled to live and work in new ways which offer hope and strength as we seek for truth and peace.

Heather Kent
Stansted Quaker Meeting



STANSTED QUAKERS

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

Contact Jonathan Morrell
Tel: 07775 860379
Email: woldsouth3@gmail.com

Lettings Yvonne Estop Tel: 07595 087207
Email: yvonne-wood@outlook.com

Sunday worship 10.30am. Visitors are always welcome. We join together in stillness for an hour, followed by coffee and chat. Quakers allow each person to explore their own experience of the divine. We try to live our faith in everyday life, with a dedication to peace, simplicity, truth, equality, and nature.

Light Group Quaker guided meditation. More information on the noticeboard outside the Meeting House, or contact me. A session is held on the second Saturday of each month.

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



STANSTED FREE CHURCH

Methodist / URC
Chapel Hill
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

2 nd	10.30am	Topsy Brice
9 th	10.30am	Rev'd Gill Hulme - Harvest
16 th	10.30am	Denis Walker
23 rd	10.30am	Rev'd Martin Camroux
30 th	10.30am	Rev'd Stuart Veitch - Communion

New Members

During a recent service, we were very pleased to welcome Pat Lingwood and Carole Digby into membership of our church. They have both been worshipping with us for a number of years and transferred their membership from churches they previously attended.

The Place on the Hill for adults only and **Fun Place on the Hill** for all ages are open every Wednesday and Friday respectively; see separate articles for further details. Why not come along and save on your heating bill?

Hall Bookings

We have some availability for new regular bookings, both day-time and evening. Please contact Marion as above for information.





Tel: 819062

CATHOLIC

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www.sttheresasstansted.org

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Priest in Charge Rev'd Dr Colin Fairweather
Tel: 816721
Email:
revdrcolinfairweather@gmail.com

Associate Priest Rev'd Helen Flack
Email: revhelenstn@gmail.com

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

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

Services Family Communion (1st Sunday) 9.30am
Holy Communion (2nd-4th Sundays)
9.30am

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

Masses
Saturday 5.00pm Confessions 6.00pm Mass
Sunday 8.30am and 10.00am Mass
9.15am Confessions

Baptism by appointment

Masses

We are currently reviewing our weekday Mass times. Please check our website and Facebook page for any updates or changes to Mass. We look forward to welcoming you to our Parish.



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.

Our mid-week church meeting, *The Vine*, includes modern worship songs, prayer and Bible study and discussion. Regular members receive email updates on dates, venues and any changes. If you would like to join us, you will be very welcome - but please contact us for details of venue and time. All meetings are in-person, although it is possible to join us online if that is easier for you. 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

From St John's Registers

August

Baptism

7th Nicholas William Nigel Bone

There were no weddings or funerals in August

ST JOHN'S 300 CLUB

Many congratulations to the winners of the August draw:

£100	No 24	Stella Skingle
£50	No 36	Janet MacFarlane
£25	No 157	Ann Lee

The draw for October will be held on **30th 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

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- a carer
- responsible for children

You can use the online benefit calculator on our website, or our advisers can carry out a benefit check for you.

Help from the Government Every household will automatically receive £400 off their electricity bill in six instalments, under the *Energy Bills Support Scheme*. You do not need to claim and it does not need to be paid back. Payments are £66 in October and November and £67 in December to March. Your electricity supplier will take the amounts off your bills; if you have a prepayment meter, they will confirm whether they will add the instalments to your meter or send you vouchers.

Cost of Living Payment If you get income related benefits, you will receive a £326 *Cost of Living Payment (CLP)*. You only get one such payment, even if you claim multiple benefits. To get this payment you must have either:

- been getting a benefit payment on or between 26th April and 25th May this year; no matter if it gets paid to someone else, like your landlord
- started a successful benefit claim by 25th May - or by 26th April if you are applying for Universal Credit.

There is a second *CLP*. If you receive Working or Child Tax Credit, it will be in the winter; for other benefits, it is in autumn. If you are not claiming benefits, and are eligible, you should claim as soon as possible as you might be able to get the second *CLP*.

Help from your local Council. Households in Council Tax bands A-D are eligible for £150 which does not have to be repaid. How you will be paid depends on how you pay your bill. Go to www.uttlesford.gov.uk/energy-bills-rebate or call UDC on 01799 510510 for details. A separate discretionary fund is available for people who do not pay Council Tax, whose homes are in brackets E-H or where households have suffered a recent change that has led to financial hardship. See www.uttlesford.gov.uk/energyrebate-ehf. These schemes are separate from the Exceptional Hardship Fund for help towards Council Tax bills.

There are some changes to the **Warm Home Discount Scheme** which will identify households with high fuel costs and match the addresses to low-income households, who receive certain benefits; the rebate will be paid automatically by March 2023. If you have previously received the grant and are concerned that you may miss out this year, please contact us.

If you were receiving a disability benefit on 25th May 2022, the Government will automatically give you an additional £150 within two weeks of 20th September.

If you are over State Pension age and get Winter Fuel Payments, you will automatically get an extra £300 per household with your usual payment.

If you cannot pay your energy and water bills, afford food or essential items such as clothes or an oven, or you need help with health costs, school costs or essential travel if you are looking for work, there is other support available. Please contact us or visit www.citizensadvice.org.uk. You can also ascertain whether you could get help from local and national charities at www.turn2us.org.uk.

If you are struggling, speak to the organisations you owe money to; they might let you pay smaller amounts or take a break from payments, but do not ignore bills or letters. Our specialist debt team can provide confidential help and support to manage debt. It is completely free, so please get in touch. If you are finding things difficult, remember your mental health is as important as your physical health, so talk to your GP if your money problems are affecting your mental health or go to www.uttlesfordfrontline.org.uk for information and to self-refer to a wide variety of local health and wellbeing support groups.

Jo Hancock
Tel: 01799 618840
Email: help@uttlesfordca.org.uk

HOLIDAYS

Just back from me holiday rested and calm
Long sunny days are a soothing balm
To everyday strife and all that stuff
(Comes a point when enough's enough)

I'm back from me holiday serene and strong
Ready for anything that comes along
Tune into the news the first time in ages
Same doom and gloom – nothing changes



Me holiday's a memory, how time goes by
And I'm as restless as a butterfly
Caught up with all me chores, that's ok
Sadly no plans for more trips away

Summer holidays are now well past
Gets dark early, days go so fast
Soon it'll be Christmas – Hooray
Time to book the next holiday!

Loki



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MEMORIES

The Link - what a very suitable name for a magazine that not only tells the community what is currently happening in Stansted and surrounding villages, but also brings back many happy memories to those of us born and bred in Stansted. A nephew who

lives in Stansted kindly passes The Link to me as I now reside in Eire. The August report from Stansted Football Club prompted me to put pen to paper, so to speak. Memories came flooding back of the Saturday evenings when my dear dad, Ken Turner, once Secretary of Stansted FC, would return home after every match to call in the results to the media establishments and write up reports for publication.

Mention of Hargrave Park brings back many happy thoughts of the other activities that took place there, such as the annual summer carnivals and, of course, cricket. I remember a particularly fine letter from my aunt, who lived in Cambridge Road. She described enjoying her garden on a beautiful summer afternoon surrounded by the aroma of roses and sweet peas, with the birds chirping and the bees buzzing. In the background she could hear the unmistakable sound of leather on willow as the ball struck the bat, and in my mind's eye made it all the way to the boundary for a six! I was instantly transported back to the village of my youth.

I also recall Peter Philpott who, every Saturday morning, walked from Bentfield End to Hargrave Park to mark out the white lines and ensure the pitch and facilities were in good order for the match.

These people and many others were, and still are, the unsung heroes of local football and other societies and sporting clubs. From reading Tom Williams' write-up, many of the players still seem ambitious. I remember the 1983/84 season when Stansted FC won the final of the FA Vase at Wembley; what excitement that brought to the village.



Of course, the following season a number of the more talented players had moved on to the bigger and more senior clubs who had the money to seduce the players with dreams of success. I believe back in the day many of the players in the professional English leagues were made up of guys from these humble beginnings, who dreamed of being able to join a professional team and played purely for love of the beautiful game!

So, my thanks go to The Link and to Tom Williams for evoking such happy memories. Keep up the good work.

Trish Cuttelle
Email: tc6315@gmail.com



Stansted Network

NEWS FROM YOUR LOCAL COUNCILS

PARISH COUNCIL UPDATE

...with news of a change of provider at the Stansted Youth Club, the search for a site for this year's firework display, the call for volunteers to shape the village's response to climate change, the Summer Windmill Fete, and how to get smoke alarms fitted for free



NEW YOUTH CLUB SERVICE PROVIDER

In Spring, the Parish Council announced that the contract for the provision of youth services would go out to tender this year, and we invited bids from suitable providers.

For the last ten years, the Youth Club has been run by Gemini Youth Support (known as the Stansted Youth Centre for the last 12 months). In both guises it has been headed up by Linda Barnes, a former youth worker of considerable experience for Essex County Council.

Linda announced her retirement during the Youth Club's summer holidays. The Parish Council would like to express their gratitude to Linda, and her band of amazing volunteers, for saving and subsequently running the club and we wish her all the best in her retirement.

We are pleased to announce the winning tender was submitted by Essex Youth Services. EYS will work in partnership with Uttlesford District Council and Stansted Parish Council and plans to deliver new and exciting activities for 13-19 year olds in the village.

This organisation wasted little time in meeting younger residents and held a series of meet-and-greet events at the end of September at the Youth Centre in Lower Street. These offered a chance for EYS youth workers to introduce themselves and for ideas to be exchanged on the kind of activities people would like to see offered in the future.



The contract for service provision at the Youth Club came up for renewal in September

To find out more about the Stansted Youth Club under its new operator, email Louise, Essex County Council's district commissioner for youth services on louise.stirling@essex.gov.uk.

QUEEN ELIZABETH II 1926 – 2022

It was with great sadness in September that Stansted Mountfitchet Parish Council heard of the passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

Our sincere condolences are offered to His Majesty King Charles III and the members of the Royal Family.

Her Majesty was inspirational and a model for decency, tolerance and respect.

The Queen leaves a legacy of devotion to duty in a lifetime of service and leadership to the nation, the Commonwealth and the world.



SEARCH FOR FIREWORKS SITE CONTINUES

Bursts of fireworks across the night sky were sorely missed by residents last November. The Parish Council's Events working group has been trying hard for much of this year to find a spot to host the fireworks. In a village with limited open spaces large enough to safely host such a popular event, this has proved no easy task.

A suitable site for a fireworks night needs not just to have enough space to accommodate a large crowd, but room for access by cars and emergency vehicles, and sufficient distance from housing and fire hazards, such as trees.

The last village firework display was in 2019 at Forest Hall School. The pandemic put a pause on the event in 2020 and then, citing concerns around Covid-19 and health and safety, the school's Trust put us off in 2021. Our Events working group is waiting to learn their stance for 2022.

Alternative sites at Bentfield End, the Recreation Ground and Mountfitchet Green were considered by the working group. Unfortunately these were viewed to be unsuitable. They were either too small, had poor site access, or were too close to houses and trees.

One possible option identified by the working group was land near to Walpole Meadows. As we go to press we are awaiting further news on the feasibility of the site.

Another alternative noted by the group was the land at Elms Farm, once ownership is transferred to the Parish Council by the housing developer Crest. The presence of existing trees, and plans to use the land for rewilding schemes, along with the location of nearby housing are factors weighing against the use of the site however.

Ultimately, should these options not prove possible, then we shall be unable to put on the event this year. Please watch our website and Facebook page for announcements.



Mountfitchet Green and Walpole Meadows were two sites considered as possible venues for the November fireworks

JOIN THE CLIMATE FIGHT

Recent rain may have revived some patches of green to your yellowed lawn, but there can be no denying that mother nature has given us a warning shot across the bows this summer with regard to climate change. The hottest summer since records began saw not only temperatures in excess of 40C for the first time, but a drought declared in large parts of the country, Stansted Mountfitchet among them.

It was against this backdrop in August that the Parish Council announced it would be establishing a Climate Change Community Group. Its aim is to find ways for our village to play a part in tackling climate change and also to help maintain the biodiversity of our area.

The group operates independently of the Parish Council and had its first meeting on September 19, when Parish Councillor Peter Jones and Project Officer Laila Azure-Marxen gave a short presentation about the group's goals. This was followed by a Q&A session. In attendance were members of the Bishop's Stortford Climate Group and a number of Stansted residents who had responded to the call for participants.



The summer heat scorched many of Stansted's open spaces

If you would like to add to their number and help shape the climate group's activities by organising events and workshops and deciding how best to reduce the village's carbon footprint, please email laila.azure-marxen@stansted.net. Beyond possessing a passion for the environment, and an interest in finding local solutions to climate change, you need to be over the age of 11.

ANGLIA IN BLOOM AWARDS 2022

The Awards Ceremony for Anglia in Bloom 2022

took place in September during a luncheon at Orsett Hall in Grays. There were representatives and entries from cities, towns and villages throughout the whole of East Anglia, and Stansted entered this event for the second time, led by Trevor Lloyd. Judges visited our nominated sites in July and we were delighted to receive 4 awards:

- Churchyard category Award of Merit, St Mary's Church
- Care Home category Silver Award, Mountfitchet House
- Small Town category Silver Award, Stansted
- Special awards Best Grow Your Own projects; Award Winner, Human Roots

The Anglia in Bloom (AiB) region forms part of the Royal Horticultural Society's Britain in Bloom competition, and covers the six eastern counties of Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Essex, Hertfordshire, Norfolk and Suffolk.



WINDMILL SUMMER FETE

Congratulations to the Stansted Millers for once again putting on this year's Windmill Summer Fete. This August bank holiday, over 400 people turned out to the Recreation Ground and Windmill Fields to enjoy face-painting stands, second-hand book stalls, crockery smashing and golf-putting competitions.

The fête is one of the Millers' means to fill their coffers as they continue to pursue a lengthy and costly list of repairs to the village's Grade II* listed windmill. On the to-do list currently is re-pointing of the mill's brickwork (estimated to cost £55k) and in a few years' time a new set of sails, priced at an approximate £70k.

This year the Parish Council underwrote the Summer Fête should it incur a loss or be cancelled. We also act as one of two trustees for the mill and set aside part of our budget each year to help with its upkeep. This amounted to £4,000 in 2021-22.



The idea behind the event is to help communities get the best out of their village, town or city - both environmentally and florally - by encouraging them to improve their surroundings through the imaginative use of trees, shrubs, flowers and landscaping.

It also aims to achieve a litter free and sustainable environment. Ultimately beyond the awarding of prizes, which range from Gold to Bronze, AiB is about encouraging communities to take pride in their area.

Many congratulations to all those who contributed to this year's entry, and we look forward to achieving even greater success in 2023.



SMOKE ALARMS FITTED FOR FREE

House fires killed 311 people across the UK in 2021. Having a home with smoke alarms that are broken or have dead batteries puts lives at risk. To try and ensure residents' homes have fitted, functional smoke alarms, Essex Fire Service will be installing detectors for free in Stansted this month.

On Thursday 6th and Friday 7th October, the Fire Service will be going door-to-door to homes testing smoke alarms, replacing faulty ones or fitting new ones for free. They will also be fitting sensory smoke alarms for people with visual or hearing impairments.

Our Police Community Support Officer, Alex Stewart, along with other members from the local police team, will be supporting the Fire Service in this initiative and will be on hand to listen and provide advice on crime-related matters.

DISTRICT COUNCIL NEWS



Ayub Khan
District Councillor
reports



Cost of living

The cost of living crisis continues to bear down on the Stansted community regardless of income level. Stansted District Councillors are concerned about the impact, especially for residents on low income as well as those in the middle income bracket. It is one of the reasons why Stansted District Councillors put together a budget motion at the February meeting of Uttlesford District Council (UDC) to provide an additional £100 payment for those families who qualify for the Local Council Tax Support Scheme. I was pleased that our motion was accepted, providing additional help over and above the Government initiatives currently available.

Following our approach, UDC has extended the hardship scheme to those in council tax bands E-H struggling to pay their bills. Search for qualifying criteria for the scheme at: www.uttlesford.gov.uk/energyrebate-ehf. The scheme closes on 31st October. The maximum award is £200. Please do look into this and see if you qualify.

Energy costs

The high cost of energy will impact all of us; more so on those recovering from illness or needing specialist medical equipment on throughout the day and night. We await the Government's response to the October price hike, but if you are struggling to pay your bill it is advisable to contact your energy provider in the first instance. They have a statutory obligation to provide a payment plan that you can afford. The local Citizens' Advice Team have an energy team to provide further advice on reducing your bill, home insulation and other practical help. Please do contact them. *See article on page xxxxx*

Uttlesford District Council Housing Department

In 2019, the Residents for Uttlesford (R4U) administration entered into an agreement with an external provider called Uttlesford Norse to deliver maintenance, and gas/electrical checks for its council house stock. This is a 10-year agreement. Recently, the service of this provider has been under scrutiny as they have failed to undertake timely gas safety checks of council-owned properties. This is a serious breach, and given that UDC is the legal landlord, and the chief executive of the District Council has had to refer the authority to the Housing Regulator.

This means that UDC housing could be put under special measures, which invariably would lead to intervention by the regulator. There is an improvement plan in place with Uttlesford Norse, but the key weakness has been the lack of management of the contract applied by the council. Stansted District Councillors will continue to hold the administration to account and check that they put in place the appropriate arrangements to monitor the provider and ensure tenants get the very best possible service.

Parking

Following concerns from residents, I am pleased that the Parish Council Highways Panel has agreed to look into parking across Stansted, starting with Foresthall Park. It is really positive that residents have agreed to join a small working group to see what solutions can be found. We know that there is no universally agreed approach to parking, whether it is a residents' scheme, or yellow/red lines. I hope the working group can take forward discussions with a tailored approach for the development. Further information can be obtained from the chair of the working group, Cllr Peter Jones (see page 23 for contact details).

Support & advice is available

Finally, I know that it is a worrying time for many, particularly residents who are facing difficulty in paying bills, but there is advice and support available, be it through the excellent work of Stansted's voluntary sector such as Touchpoint, or health partners like the Stansted surgery, as well as from our local business community, all of whom are working hard and will have staff and volunteers who in some way will also be affected by the current economic crisis.

STANSTED PARISH COUNCIL

STAFF

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Committee & Projects Officer Laila Azure-Marxen
Communications Officer Dan Schlanker
Email: parishcouncil@stansted.net Phone: 01279 813214
Office Hours Mon-Fri 9am-4pm, Wed 9am-2pm
Reception: Mon-Fri 10am-2pm
Website: stansted.net Facebook: stansted.parishcouncil
Instagram: stansted@parishcouncil Twitter: @StanstedMPC

PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

You can attend our meetings at the Mountfitchet Exchange in person or virtually with the Zoom details found on the agenda posted on our website. Statements can be made during Public Participation at the start of Full Council meetings; permission should be requested to film or record proceedings.

- **October 5** Full Council
- **October 12** Emergency Planning (7pm)
Open Spaces (8pm)
- **October 19** Highways
- **October 26** Full Council

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POLICE

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email: stephen.dale@essex.police.uk
PCSO 81764 Alex Stewart
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LIBRARY

The library at Mountfitchet Exchange opens:
Tuesday 9am-1pm Wednesday 2pm-5.30pm
Thursday 2pm-7pm Saturday 9am-5pm

GARDEN WASTE SERVICE

As part of the bi-monthly garden waste skip service, a refuse truck will at the Lower Street Car Park 12.30pm-4.30pm: Oct 2, Oct 16, Oct 30

VILLAGE DEFIBRILLATORS

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SAVE THE SHARKS

On 21st August I visited a fundraising cake stall run by three of the Eco Girls featured on the front cover of the June 2021 edition of The Link. This time they were joined by two friends, and their cause was to save Sharks, seen as a critical part of the marine ecosystem, and some of which are threatened with extinction. I had heard about the event through my road's What's App group, and I was so impressed I felt I had to write an article for the Link about it!



Martha, Tilly, Chloe, Phoebe and Sullivan at their stall

Like many young people today, the group were very aware of today's issues; they asked me if I or any of the people I was buying for had any food allergies. How impressive is that! They were all extremely polite, explaining to me about the various cakes each of them had made and what the ingredients were. I bought a selection and they were truly delicious. They raised £128 for the Marine Conservation Trust as it supports a range of marine life, not just sharks. This was a very good amount, considering there are not many people walking up Chapel Hill on a Sunday morning. Well done to the group for giving up their time and thinking of others.



Marion Dyer
Tel: 814059

STANSTED IS WELL READ

The next meeting of our book group will be on **Tuesday 4th October** at 8.00pm in The Dog and Duck, Lower Street where we will be discussing *Girl, Woman, Other* by Bernadine Evaristo. We are looking forward to reading this winner of the Booker Prize 2019 which is made up of 12 beautifully interwoven stories of identity, race, womanhood, and the realities of modern Britain; it sounds like a book that everyone must read! Please do get in touch if you would like to join us, a warm welcome will await.



Anne Watson
Tel: 898693

Email: stanstediswellread@gmail.com

STANSTED MESSY CHURCH

www.stanstedchurches.com/messychurch



We are hoping to re-start messy church in the near future. Please visit our website or contact me for more information.



Marion Dyer
Tel: 814059

Email: messychurch@stanstedchurches.com



STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET

LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

1st September was the first meeting of the season and was introduced by the new Chairman Dave Perry. He took the opportunity to thank Peter Sanders, the previous Chairman, for all the sterling work he had carried out over the past years and presented him with a gift as a token of the society's appreciation. Dave then introduced the speaker, Tony Crosby, who talked about *Chelmsford's Industrial Trail*.

Tony began by outlining the growth of Chelmsford industries and paid particular attention to the rise of the Marconi Company, who perhaps represent the best known of these industries. Guglielmo Marconi was a pioneer in the newly developing electronics industry and originally set up business in London. Due to the electrical interference in the ever expanding commercial and residential development of the capital, he looked for a place close by to site his factories. The first factory was established in about 1898 and the last closed in the 1980s. Marconi's development of radio signals was responsible for the first BBC radio broadcast in 1920.

There were many other industries, ranging from Hoffmann's, major ball bearing manufacturers (1898) to Britvic the soft drink makers, established in Chelmsford for 60 years and finally closed in 2014. So, over the course of some hundred or so years, the old light industries of farming, brewing and milling were expanded to include heavier and more technical industries. Few exist now and their sites are continually being developed for housing and retail parks. Tony's talk concluded with questions from the floor and the chairman thanked Tony for such an interesting and illuminating talk. Our next meeting on **Thursday 6th October** at 8.00pm in the Day Centre is entitled *A walk around the 100 parishes*.

Edward Taub

Email: taub8jr@icloud.com

RANDOM JOTTINGS

Good Deeds



During this summer's really high temperatures thoughtful Stansted residents and businesses kindly supplied containers of fresh water for dogs outside their properties.

Someone went one step further by providing a specially labelled drink for a different creature.

Further proof, if any were needed, of Stansted's caring community.



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STANSTED LIBRARY

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We will be joining in with other Libraries across the country to celebrate Libraries Week, **Monday 3rd-Sunday 9th October**, plus we will be hosting our next *Love Your Libraries Day* on **Saturday 8th October** with a Sustainability theme this time. Come along and enjoy some recycling craft activities for children, choose from a selection of books about sustainability and enjoy a hot drink and cake. You can recycle batteries and old ink cartridges here in the library. Halloween arts and crafts events will be taking place at the end of October.



Story Time has begun in the Library for Early Years Foundation Stage children on Thursdays 3.30pm-4.00pm. Join us to listen to exciting stories every week. You could also pop into the Touchpoint café right next door for a hot drink and delicious cake. The library is now open each day with staffed library hours remaining the same:

- Tuesday 9.00am-1.00pm
- Wednesday 2.00pm-5.30pm
- Thursday 2.00pm-7.00pm
- Saturday 9.00pm-5.00pm

In addition, the building is opened by the Parish Council from 9.00am-2.00pm each morning and the automatic machine is available for issue, return and renewals. New members are always welcome.

Susannah Freeman
Deputy Library Supervisor
Email: Stansted.library@essex.gov.uk

Helen Rollason Cancer Charity

HELEN ROLLASON RAMBLE

www.helenrollason.org.uk

Join us for our Autumn Rural Ramble at the Gardens of Easton Lodge on **Saturday 8th October**. Choose from four circular walking distances of 1, 4, 6 or 10 miles or a 10-mile trail run; all tickets include a scrummy cream tea! Entry fees start at £8. Advance booking via our website or from me.

Holly Butler
Tel: 01245 380719
Email: fundraising@helenrollason.org.uk



HUW JOHNSON CLUB

The Huw Johnson Club restarted on Thursday 22nd September after our summer break. We have an action-packed timetable for our autumn term including performances by Woodwind of Stortford and a jazz duo to entertain the members. If you would like to learn more about attending or volunteering for the club, please do get in touch.

Ellen Brooks
Tel: 07800 896516
Email: ellenbrooks@hotmail.co.uk



www.eastonlodge.co.uk

What a year it has been! We are beginning to see some plants bouncing back from the extreme drought, with fresh growth on the dahlias and some of the other late flowering perennials in the Italian Garden. We are hoping for good autumn colours, in time for our next Open Day. Our most dramatic autumn tree is the scarlet oak at the top of the Glade, but we also have lovely autumn colours from our acers: by the archive building at the front of the Gardens, the row of acers across the end of the croquet lawn and the range we have down in the Japanese style garden. The crab apples also look good, with their red, yellow or green apples. This will be the first year when we might enjoy the creamy white fruits on the *Sorbus cashmiriana* (Kashmir Rowan) which we planted near the elephant statue.



Our final Open Day of the season is on **Sunday 23rd October**. We will have the last of our produce for sale, hopefully including pumpkins and squashes. It has been a fantastic year for fruit, so our jam/jelly tombola will be well stocked. There will also be plant, honey, craft and wildlife stalls and activities for children. Tickets will be available in advance from our website or on the gate, which opens at 11.00am. We are also open to visitors on Thursdays in October 11.00am-3.00pm, with refreshments and our garden produce on sale. Advance tickets not required.

Jill Goldsmith
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RSPB

www.rspb.org.uk/groups/stortvalley

By giving us excellent coverage and publicity, The Stansted Link has played an important part in making us into a thriving group with growing membership and well-supported activities. Any publication has limits on the amount and timescale of coverage, so we are delighted to announce that our completely redesigned and updated website has full details of all of our activities through to summer 2023. Please take time to look around the website. Feedback suggestions and contributions would be welcome. Our next meeting is on **Tuesday 11th October** at 7.30pm in Bishop's Park Community Centre. Georgina Bray, Farm Manager, will tell us about *The RSPB Hope Farm Conservation Project*, an outstanding RSPB success story which has both produced food cost-effectively and immensely benefited wildlife.



On **Sunday 16th October** we plan to meet at 10.00am at King's Mead, Herts and Middlesex Wildlife Trust reserve at Ware SG12 9XD. This is one of Hertfordshire's largest reserves and offers a range of habitats and a pub for post visit refreshments. On **Thursday 20th October** we will meet at 10.00am by the Markwell Pavilion, Castle Gardens, Bishop's Stortford, CM23 2EL for the first of our short, sociable, local bird walks through countryside offering a variety of habitats. The walk ends at a venue for suitable refreshments. I hope you will be able to join us in having fun, enjoying birds and nature. For further information please contact me.

Peter Allen
Tel: 07876 295456
Email: peter2349@sky.com



RECYCLING



A reminder that we are still collecting old spectacles and cases, stamps, original ink cartridges, toothbrushes, electric toothbrush heads, and toothpaste tubes (please place dental items in a paper or plastic bag). They can be left in the boxes outside the blue main door of the Free Church at the bottom of Chapel Hill. There is also a collecting box inside St John's church. Alternatively please leave items in the porch of 7 Blythwood Gardens. Thank you.



Marion and Mike Dyer
Tel: 814059

Email: recycle@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk



www.mountfitchetgardenclub.co.uk

September Meeting

Members welcomed back George Lockwood, who presented the next talk in the series *Flowering Shrubs for each month*; this time it was for September and October. He gave details of shrubs which flower or have spectacular leaf colour in the autumn. Advice on the best position to site the shrubs, type of soil required, whether annual pruning or just tidying up was required and the overall height/spread was given. George is an organic gardener and looks after five gardens. He discouraged members from using pesticides as these often kill friendly insects; they should use natural means to get a happy balance in the garden. One ladybird larva will consume 50 or more aphids in one day and in its adult form will eat more than 100. The lacewing larva loves eating aphids and consumes 100-600 in its lifetime so is known as the Aphid Lion! He advised that watering in the morning is best and by pouring the water only on the ground around plants ensures that the delicate eggs of lacewings and ladybirds are not washed off the leaves.

Next meeting

Zsuzsa Serer will be presenting *Growing Tropical Plants in the UK and their influence on us* on Wednesday **5th October** 7.30pm for 8.00pm at the Day Centre. Visitors are always welcome, and membership is available.

Maralyn Harris
Chairman
Tel: 07919 478144



We had a very enjoyable meeting at the Linden in September. Janice Radcliffe from Assurelink told us about how important it was for people to be supported in their homes; they sell a home kit which enables safe and secure home living for loved ones. Email Janice on janice.ratcliffe@assurelink.co.uk for further information. Russell Marchant from Reed in Partnership told us about the company's restart programme which aims at getting people into sustainable employment. It is a fully funded recruitment service with a social benefit. If you need help, then contact Russell at russell.marchant@reed.com.

Congratulations to Forest Hall School on their examination successes. Their students received amazing results, with grades improving rather than following the national trend of decreasing. The GCSE results were the highest since the new style GCSE and grading system was introduced. Headteacher Matt Carter said that they have high aspirations and are going from strength to strength. Our next forum meeting is on **Friday 7th October** 7.00am at the Linden. To book, please email James Garrett at hello@stanstedbusinessforum.com.



Iris Evans
Email: iris.evans9@gmail.com

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Why Sucking a Sweet relieves a dry Cough

A dry cough is initiated by the vagus nerve sending signals about irritation in the throat to the cough centre in the lower brainstem. Anything we can do to calm the vagus nerve will help alleviate the need to cough.

- Sucking a sweet encourages the production of saliva, which soothes an irritated throat. Saliva is produced by a cranial nerve located right next to the vagus nerve
- Feeling the sweet in the mouth, pushing it around and chewing all stimulate the brainstem, as does swallowing. Along with this, the simple act of moving the throat up and down will help calm irritation
- Taste, in particular sweet taste, calms the vagus nerve.



Sucking on a sweet will not cure a cough, just alleviate it. However, sometimes the cough has gone on too long and is no longer serving any useful purpose, except to boost Lockett's profits. If sucking on a sweet stops the coughing, this can prove to the brain that the need to cough has gone, and so the chronic cough can be 'cured'.

Clare Harding
Z-Health Master Practitioner
Tel: 816430

STANSTED EVENING WI



We welcomed our speaker Mel Rees to our August meeting on probably the hottest evening in the month. He, very tongue in cheek, asked how long he should talk in light of the high temperature. When 10 minutes was suggested, he said he would stick to the shortened version! *My Family and Other Setbacks* was a light-hearted look at the travails of family life and covered stories and episodes from everyday life which we could all relate to. Finding humour in even the most dire of circumstances, he had us all laughing. Mel began writing 35 years ago and has published several books based on humour and different experiences in life. Some of his books were purchased by members; they are also available to purchase on Kindle. For a light-hearted look at life and families they are recommended.

As always, we supported the Windmill Fête with our members involved and manning various stalls including a cake stall, tombola and white elephant stall. We also ran the tea tent providing a continuous supply of tea, coffee, cakes and juice all afternoon. It was a great occasion and we thank

everyone for providing delicious cakes which were appreciated by all. Our next meeting is **Thursday 13th October** at 7.30pm in the Day Centre when Chris Truran will be talking about *Every Contact Leaves a Trace!* This is another fascinating talk following on from *Dabs and DNA*, a previous talk given by Chris. Please come and join us, visitors and new members are always welcome, we would love to see you!

Christine Morris
Email: chris2.morris@btinternet.com



UGLEY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Martyn Lockwood was the speaker at our August meeting. He gave an entertaining and very amusing history of the saucy seaside postcard and explained that when first created, they were plain with a pre-printed postage stamp. Later they were decorated on the front with a small space for the message, the back being reserved for the address. In 1902 the familiar divided back card appeared, allowing the front to be used for the view and half the back for the message.



Donald McGill (1875-1962) was the most famous of the saucy seaside postcard illustrators; Martyn showed us many examples of his work, such as the one shown above, during his beautifully illustrated talk. At the end of his talk, he judged our competition for a seaside postcard, the winning entry featuring the work of Donald McGill! The drawing of our well-stocked raffle and refreshments brought a highly amusing entertaining meeting to an end. Jan Rickwood, one of our members, will be the speaker at our next meeting on **Wednesday 19th October** at 2.15pm in Ugley village Hall. Her subject will be the art of hand massage. Why not come along for an entertaining, relaxing afternoon? You would be most welcome.

Andrea Fitt
Tel: 815922

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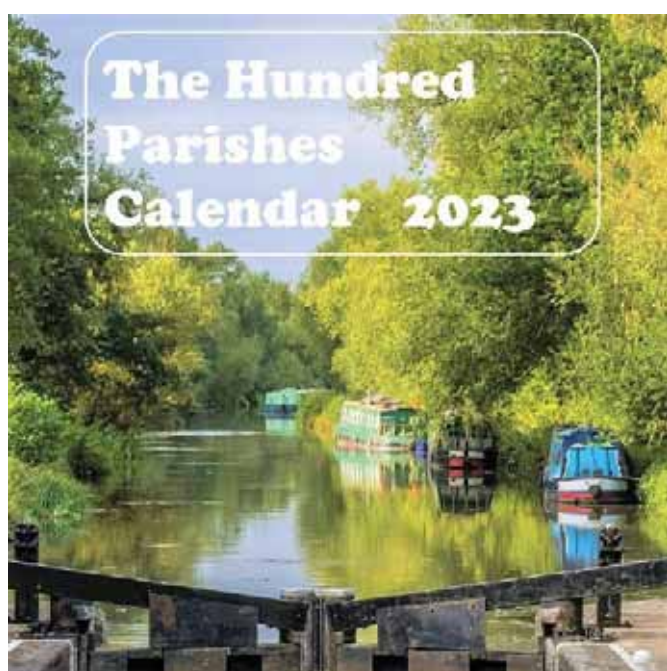


THE HUNDRED PARISHES SOCIETY

www.hundredparishes.org.uk

Our Society is a membership organisation as well as a registered charity. Its formal objectives are: to advance the education of the public in the character and history of The Hundred Parishes, provide information for leisure time occupation and promote the conservation, protection and improvement of the area, for the benefit of the public. We tend to abbreviate this by saying we encourage people to appreciate the area.

Over the years, the Society has pursued its aims through a number of channels: regular articles in local magazines, via our website, and a hardback book, 800 copies of which now reside in people's homes and libraries. We have recently expanded our activities by launching a Facebook group (search for The Hundred Parishes). You do not have to be a member of The Hundred Parishes Society to join the Facebook group. Once you have agreed to the group rules, you can join the private group, share in discussion and post photos. We hope the Facebook initiative will engage with an additional audience as well as our existing members. The immediacy and interaction of Facebook complements our established, structured approach, which will remain undiminished.



We have produced our 2023 calendar which features photos of the local area and costs £10 from local outlets including YZ (The Post Office) on Chapel Hill. We hope many people will buy a copy to hang on the wall. Please see our website for a full list of stockists.



Ken McDonald
Secretary
Tel: 813226

Email: hundredparishes@btinternet.com

STANSTED BOWLS CLUB



The 2022 outdoor season is now complete and although it has not been the best of seasons for the Club, the games which have been played, whether league, friendlies, intra club competitions or just roll-ups, have been enjoyable and after-match bar takings have been good. The green has not yet fully recovered from the early season damage; a spell of wet weather would really have helped but unfortunately this did not materialise. By the time this is published the green will have been put to bed and the Club is hoping for kinder weather over the closed season to help it recover properly.

As far as league results are concerned, the North-West Essex A team ended near bottom in their division, facing relegation, but only on shots difference. The B team and Seniors finished in the middle of their respective leagues and the Ladies at the bottom! Friendlies have been hit by cancellations, either through lack of players, other clubs cancelling on us, or the weather. If you are interested in bowls, please note that I have moved away from Essex and relinquished the secretary role; the new contact is Doreen Scraggs email: doreenscraggs@talktalk.net. The Club always welcomes new members and has a programme of events over the winter season, including indoor bowling at Turpins.

Jeanette Mansell

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STANSTED FOOTBALL CLUB

www.essexseniorleague.co.uk

The first two months of the season have unfortunately seen some inconsistency in both performances and results; not what the Club was hoping for. However, with the experience of our management team and coaching staff, they are able to identify the issues. These are being addressed and the confidence to win games will return soon. Although our FA Cup run came to an end, this article is being written before we face lower opposition in the FA Vase, a competition that, of course, has a great significance to the Club; playing these cup fixtures at home on a Friday evening has proved a great success as it has generated more support for the team and the Club both on and off the field. Our over 45s veterans have now started their season and will be playing home games at Hargrave Park; this brings a new challenge to win back promotion; certainly, the new players who have been added to the squad will make them one of the favourites to do that.

It is a new season for our two youth teams, the under-13s and under-14s who play in the Eastern Junior Alliance League. Both teams have thoroughly enjoyed playing on the main pitch over the past six weeks and it is great to see the players turn up and support the first team, even being mascots on match days.

Fixtures at Hargrave Park in October

1 st	v Stanway Rover	3.00pm*
11 th	v Chelmsford City	7.45pm
	Tolleshunt D'Arcy Memorial Cup	
18 th	v Romford	7.45pm*
22 nd	v West Essex	3.00pm*
29 th	v Buckhurst Hill	3.00pm*

* ESL Premier Division

Any changes will be announced on our social media websites.



Tom Williams
Tel: 07921 403842

STANSTED HALL AND ELSENHAM CRICKET CLUB

www.shcc.hitscricket.com

Cricketers can't complain about the summer of '22. Hot, sunny, true pitches with fast outfields, no matches cancelled because of rain, what more could we possibly want? The Club had a great summer of non-stop cricket. The 1st XI finished 3rd in the HEBL Premier Division having lost four of the first five matches. The batsmen certainly scored a lot of runs and the bowlers toiled somewhat. The 2nd XI was eventually relegated from Division 2 but we did have some notable performances, particularly from some of our young players. Matches against our sponsors Russell Property and Nockolds were played on The Hundred format and were both close and entertaining. Stewart Pimblett and Nick

Racey, our very own 'Burger Kings' provided superb barbecues. The junior section continued to thrive. Our ground at Molehill Green was used by all age groups. The facilities continue to improve particularly the wicket and outfield. The ground was used for nets, matches and All Stars.

Our coaches have worked really hard this season to help young members improve their skills and enjoy the game. Plans are already in place for winter nets and the summer of 2023; we are considering having a girls' section next year. We cannot thank our coaches enough; we have the best coaching of a small club in the area: Andrew Mackinlay, Oliver Patmore, Paul Walton, Kevin Fiddell, Jason Brown, Carl Steward, Paul Findlay, plus Frances and Gus Mackinlay - a huge thank you. During the winter months, the seniors will be netting and quizzes will be held. If you enjoy cricket and are interested in joining our club, please contact me.



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



Stansted Tennis Club

Founded 1889

www.stanstedtennisclub.co.uk

A ladies-only fun tournament was held on 19th August. Winners were Fiona Pye and Chris Bailey who beat Sue Simpson and Carol Cook 6-3. The consolation round was won by Caroline Crossley and Catherine Gibby who had a close match and won 4-3 against Ginette Basten and Fiona O'Brien.



The Club is holding a quiz for members and friends on **Friday 28th October at 7.30 pm** in St John's Hall. Last year this proved a great success and a good fundraiser. We are always happy to welcome new members. See our website for more details. Coaching can be offered, see www.olliestennis.co.uk or email Martyn Taplin on mj.taplin@btinternet.com for further details.

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BS Beekeepers	Kate Walker Tel: 07399 197756 Email: secretary@stortfordbees.org.uk	Scouts (age 10½ -14)	Mike Byrne Tel: 812780 Tel: 03002 470122 Email: essexwest- hftcentraladminhub @nhs.net
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Uttlesford Support Group	Rachel Foster Tel: 07818 417971		
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	Zest Window Cleaning	26				Repairs	D Bonney & Sons	16
Community &	First Aid Training Stansted	8					Essex Autospray	16
Care	Hargrave House Care Home	8					Stansted Bicycles	24
	Hearing Help	10					The Premier Detailing Company	28
	Helpline	10				Music Lessons	Carr (Piano, Organ, Singing)	10
	Mountfitchet House Care Home	8				Osteopathy	Quendon Osteopathy	6
	Sierra Homecare Ltd	8					The Osteopath	6
Computing &	MCM Computer Services	18				Painting	Ada Decorating	26
Office	Taylor Computer Service	18				Decorating	Brown's Painting & Decorating	26
Dance	Cygnets Ballet Studios	18				& Plastering	Lesley Anne (Painting)	26
	Graham School of Dance	18					MWR Interiors	26
Dental	Castle Dental	10					Ray on the Hill	26
Education &	Birchanger Butterflies Nursery	10					T F Plastering	26
Children	Howe Green House School	10				Personal	Fresh Leaf (Hypnotherapy)	6
	Rainbow Pre-School	10				Services	Stansted Psychotherapy	6
Electrical	Albury Electrical Services	24				Plumbing &	Harpers Plumbing & Heating	OBC
	CK Electrical	24				Heating	JDW Gas Heating Specialist	24
Estate Agent	David Lee	28					Jones (Plumbing & Heating)	24
	Intercounty	30					M Lloyd and Son	24
	Murdochs	30					Orion Heating	24
Financial	Mansell & Co Accountants	IBC					P Knight Plumbing	24
Furniture	DT Bedroom & Kitchen Designs	IFC				Printing	Chogou Printing & Embroidery	30
Fitness	Flexible Strength	6				& Design	CZ Design & Print	IBC
	Stansted Pilates	6				Property	Do-It-4U	24
Food & Drink	Hadham Brewery	OBC				Maintenance	DPS Handyman Services	24
	The Cock Inn, Henham	18					Fairweather Windows	IFC
	Yummy's	18					Finch and Son	OBC
Garden	D Honour & Son (Landscapes)	OBC				Retailers	Paris Legore (Flowers & Gifts)	IFC
Services	Illuminating Gardens	34					Follies (Gifts, Plants & Coffee)	IBC
	Greenscroft Fencing	34				Soft	Neil Smith Interiors	28
	Mowtivated	34				Furnishings	Stort Blinds	IFC
	Outerspace	28				Sport	Golf World	12
	Super Gardens	IBC				& Leisure	Stansted Social Club	12
	The Secret Gardener	34				Tree Surgeon	Uppercut Trees	34
Funeral	Daniel Robinson & Sons	16						
Services	J Day & Son (Stonemason)	16						



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