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Our front cover shows
Charlotte Burt with her face
painted at the Windmill Fête

**Photo by her father Paul
of Paul Burt Photography**

Stansted Mountfitchet Village Magazine

The Link

www.stanstedlink.org.uk

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

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CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE NEXT ISSUE Please email editor@stanstedlink.org.uk by noon on 9th of the month. Submissions should be in Word or typed into an email, maximum 300 words, and may be subject to editing. Please send photographs as separate jpg not embedded in documents. PDFs and posters are not accepted.

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The first meeting of the new season of the Society took place on Thursday 7th September and was extremely well attended. The Chairman, Dave Perry, welcomed members both old and new for what will be a very interesting series of talks and discussions over the next few months. He also explained why the time of the meetings had been brought forward by half an hour which the Committee considers will be advantageous in the colder winter months.

Dave introduced our speaker, Ralph Phillips, who gave an interesting talk with numerous slides which showed in great detail the early types of locomotives used and also the various types of carriage. First Class had luxurious and comfortable seats; Second Class was inside the carriage but very basic accommodation. With a Third Class ticket you sat outside whatever the weather with the added joy of having soot and debris covering you.



As the railway trains usually had limited brakes, Ralph also explained how employees had to clamber from one carriage to another to engage the brake mechanism, which caused numerous injuries and the occasional death. However, as the march of the railways as transportation expanded, and the quality and speed of trains grew, so did the importance of the passenger stations and goods terminals. This led to intense competition between the large railway conglomerates to take advantage of this expanding market. Of course, there were also casualties of this expansion; the demise of horse-drawn goods and passenger transport was inevitable.

Members are encouraged to view the Society website. Our next meeting is **Thursday 5th October** at 7.30pm in the Day Centre. New members will be very welcome to join us.

Edward Taub
Email: taub8jr@btinternet.com



Coach trip to Green Island Gardens

Despite rain the day before, the coach set off in sunshine on 19th August to visit Fiona Edmond's 20 acre garden in Ardleigh near Colchester. Set in mature woodland, it is a garden for all seasons with the vistas changing as the seasons progress. This encourages visitors to return to see the garden rooms, terraces, island beds, water gardens and ponds at different times of the year. A small nursery offered a good selection of plants found in the garden. Another bonus was the freshly made scones; Fiona was kept very busy replenishing the tearoom.



September Meeting

After a very hot and humid day, our September meeting was a social evening, held in Linda and Tony Gurr's beautiful garden where everyone appreciated relaxing in the cool of the evening and catching up with each other. Starting slightly earlier than usual, it gave everyone a chance to wander around the garden and see the lovely topiary, pots and flower borders. The Green Bowl photo competition entitled *Flowers in my Garden* was won by Christine Hope.

October Meeting

This will be held on **Wednesday 4th October** 7.30pm for 8.00pm in the Day Centre. Paul Embleton will be talking about *Our Travels - Flora from Around the World*. There will be refreshments prior to the talk. Everyone is welcome; members free, visitors £5.

Maralyn Harris
Chairman
Tel: 07919 478144



STANSTED
MOUNTFITCHET
WINDMILL

Our Bank Holiday Fête was very well supported and fortunately we were blessed with good weather again so everyone was able to enjoy the attractions; see page 3 opposite for a full report and pictures.

Our last open day of the year is on **Sunday 1st October** 1.30pm-5.30pm. Our Santa at the Mill event will be taking place in the run up to Christmas so look out for details in The Link.

Trevor Lloyd
Tel: 07739 428352

STANSTED WINDMILL FETE

www.stanstedwindmill.co.uk

The inflatables on The Rec were popular with the older children and Robbie the Land Train was busy all afternoon giving rides to the younger children. The traditional attractions around the Mill did good business and the WI ladies had a very busy afternoon serving teas along with an impressive selection of homemade cakes. The attraction that many of the younger children really love is the teddy bear parachute which involves a child's favourite cuddly toy being winched to the top of a 57 foot high windmill with a parachute attached and then being launched into the air and slowly falling to ground - unless it gets caught up in the tree! Once the cuddly toy has been returned safely to its owner it is presented with a certificate in recognition of bravery.



Teddy bear and cuddly toy parachuting



Guarding the money



Robbie the Land Train



Enjoying the inflatables or just relaxing



Yummy cakes to eat and games to try



Plenty of people took advantage of our new electronic payment facility which will now be available on all our open days. We were pleased that overall the money raised was similar to last year. We would like to acknowledge the support from a number of local businesses including Brohmon, Tesco, Stansted Social Club, AVS and Canfield Carpentry.

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

EDITORIAL



Thanks so much to Paul Burt who took the front cover picture this month. The face being painted is that of Paul's daughter Charlotte; this was one of the many events going on at the Windmill Fête on Bank Holiday Monday. Paul also provided some of the photographs for the windmill celebration section, which you will find on p 3. We are very lucky to have Paul on The Link team. This month we were especially chuffed to hear from a young man, 10 years old, whose *nom de plume* is Funky Chicken. He has written an amusing and clever piece which you can see on p 13. His mother says that his sister (aged 8) would like to write a book review for us some time; what incredibly literate children! We invite other youngsters to send us articles or photos – this magazine is for people of all ages. Tricia Bromley's Quiz on p 7 is a very welcome addition to the magazine this month.

Our sympathies to the residents of Grove Hill, who are still suffering from huge lorries going past their houses, one getting stuck for *five* hours, which beggars belief; see p 13. The closure of Goldings is reported briefly on p 11, so very sad to see them go. Have a tissue close by when you read the bittersweet story *Bob's not here* on p 29; many thanks to Marilyn Bromley for sharing it with us.



www.stanstedbusinessforum.com

Stansted Business Forum (SBF) Lunch

Dustin Schuyler, Headteacher from Forest Hall School came to our lunch on 1st September accompanied by Head Students Siena Nicholls and Samuel Letchford. More than 40 members and visitors who run businesses locally came along.



Front row: Siena Nicholls Head Student, Andrew Blatt SBF Kemi Badenoch MP, Dustin Schuyler Headteacher Iris Evans SBF, James Garrett SBF
Back row: Samuel Letchford Head Student, Peter James Chair SBF

Local MP and government minister, Kemi Badenoch, attended the lunch and met Dustin, Siena and Samuel. Dustin said that it was a wonderful opportunity for the Head Students and for the school to network with so many professionals from around the area and to meet our local MP, who is very supportive of the school. He wants to instil the students at the school with confidence and to become independent lifelong learners. He added that meeting with professionals provides students at the school with the opportunity to discuss careers and life options. Forest Hall School is a community school and Dustin said that there is no better way for the school to get involved with the community than by working alongside local businesses and organisations.



Iris Evans
Email: iris.evans9@gmail.com

CHRISTMAS SHOE BOXES



www.teams4u.com

We will once again be packing and sending shoe boxes via Teams4U to vulnerable children in the Ukraine, Moldova, Georgia, Bosnia and Romania. If you wish to contribute items for the boxes, please bring them along to Stansted Free Church on **Saturday 21st October** 10.00am-noon or any Wednesday morning during the same times. Alternatively if you let one of us know that you have donations, we will be happy to arrange collection. Suitable items are as follows:

- Toiletries - toothbrushes/paste, soap, face flannels/sponges
- Hairbrush, comb, girls' hairbands and clips
- Stationery items: paper, note pads/exercise book, 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/underwear
- Soft toys and hand puppets
- Small items of jewellery
- Sweets and chocolates (well within their use by date)

We never have enough items for older boys; these could include 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 informative leaflets in churches and around the village, or visit the website where you will see all the other amazing things that the organisation does. Shoe box packing will be on **Wednesday 1st November** at 2.30pm in St Theresa's Parish Centre, High Lane. If you can help, please let one of us know, or just turn up on the day; there is plenty of free parking. If you are making up a complete box, labels can be downloaded from the website, or are on the leaflets. If you wish, include a photo of yourself and a Christmas card.

Eileen Quinn 812109
Helen Baker 814865
Catherine Dean 813579

Email: catherinemarydean@btinternet.com



Green Waste Skip Dates

Lower Street Car Park
Sundays 12.30 - 4.30 pm

1st, 15th & 29th Oct
12th & 26th Nov
10th Dec (last until April)



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WHAT'S ON IN SEPTEMBER

1/15/29 Sun Green Waste Skips

- 1 Sun Windmill open
St Mary's Church open
AGM
- 3 Tue Stansted is Well Read
- 4 Wed Mountfichet Garden Club
- 5 Thu Local History Society
- 8 Sun Wellbeing festival
- 9 Mon Link copy due in today
- 10 Tue RSPB
- 12 Thu W I
- 13 Fri Open Day
- 14 Sat U3A Saturday Seminar
St John's Church Quiz
- 15 Sun Open day
- 18 Wed Ugley W I
- 19 Thu U3A Monthly Meeting
- 21 Sat Farmers' Market
Shoobox Collection Morning
- 21 Sat - 29 Sun Half term Halloween
- 22 Sun Village Harvest Supper
- 28 Sat Lib Dem Quiz

Lower St Car Park 12.30 pm

- 1.30 - 5.30 pm
- 2 - 5 pm
- Social Club 2 pm
- Dog and Duck 8 pm
- Day Centre 8 pm
- Day Centre 7.30 pm
- St John's Church and Hall 2 - 5pm
before noon
- Bishop's Park 7.30 pm
- Day Centre 7.30 pm
- Arthur Rank Hospice 3 - 5pm
- Free Church Hall 9.30 am - 12.30 pm
- St John's Hall 7 for 7.30 pm
- Easton Lodge 11.30 am
- Ugley Village Hall 2 pm
- St John's Hall 2 pm
- Ugley Village Hall 10 am
- Free Church Foyer 10 am - noon
- Daisy May's 10 am - 4 pm
- St Theresa's Parish Centre 6 pm
- Day Centre 7 for 7.30 pm



Saturday Seminar

An Introduction to
Venetian Painting by
Jo Brooks

9.30 am - 12.30 pm Sat 14th Oct

Free Church Hall

Visitors welcome but
u3a members take priority

Email: stanstedseminars@gmail.com

St John's Church Quiz Night

7 for 7.30 pm Sat 14th Oct
St John's Hall

Tickets £12.50 incl ploughman's
from Katy Tel: 07834 235011

Bring your own drink and glasses
Proceeds to hall floor renovation
and the Children's Society



Village Harvest Supper & Entertainment

Fish/Chicken/Veggie/Sausage & Chips

6 pm Sun 22nd Oct
St Theresa's Parish Centre

Tickets: Adults £12 children £10
From 814059, 812457 or 850209

Bring your own drink & glass

Tickets must be bought in advance



Stansted & District
Liberal Democrats

QUIZ EVENING
7 for 7.30 pm Sat 28th Oct
Day Centre

Tickets £7.50 from 850209
Bring your own food
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Nibbles provided



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Sun 15th Oct

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Sat 21st - Sun 29th Oct

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www.daisymaysfarm.org



Christmas Shoeboxes

Shoe Box Items Collection Morning

10 am - noon Sat 21st Oct

Free Church Foyer

*or bring to The Place on the Hill
in the Free Church Foyer any
Wednesday in October 10 am - noon*

See list of suitable items on page 4

For more information call 813579

814865 or 812109



www.ugleyvillage.org.uk

10 am - noon

Sat 21st Oct

Ugley Village Hall

*Meat ~ Eggs ~ Fish
Bread and Home Baking
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Scout Group Activity Day

We held our annual all Group activity day at Skreens Park near Chelmsford. On what was a gorgeous sunny Sunday, the Beavers, Cubs and Scouts along with some parents spent the day on various activities. Depending on their age the activities were kayaking, rafting, crate stacking, air rifles, archery, cave bus, high ropes and gladiator challenge. With the sweltering heat, anything on the lake seemed to be a favourite activity.



Sausage in a roll lunch was provided and everyone had a really good day. Well done all for taking part and thank you to the parents who helped. If anyone wants to get involved with our Group we could always do with more adult leaders as we always have kids on our waiting lists.

Mike Byrne
Scout Leader

Email: stanstedscouts@hotmail.co.uk



ST MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

www.stmarysstansted.co.uk

We have already kicked off our term with a visit to Stansted Mountfitchet Castle for Key Stage 1. It was a very busy and enjoyable trip. To give you a glimpse into what the children will be learning this half term, our oldest pupils (Years 5 and 6) will be focused on the intricacies of Tudor life at court in *Off With Her Head*. They will grapple with facts and evidence to become criminal investigators and take part in one of the most famous trials the world has ever known. Lower Key Stage 2 (Years 3 and 4) are taking a *Road Trip USA*, where they will be writing diaries, learning about Native Americans and designing totem poles. Key Stage 1 (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 welcome. Please contact the school office to make an appointment.

Kara Power
Acting Headteacher
Tel: 812212

Affinity Water will be installing new water mains in Stansted over the next few months. They will be working along Silver Street, Church Road, Pines Hill, Stansted Road, Chapel Hill, Spencer Close and Forest Hall Road. They are starting on 25th September for four weeks in Silver Street, from the Chapel Hill Junction to The Old Bell pub. Temporary traffic lights will be used. Church Road will be closed outside Forest Hall School during half term for another section, from 21st-29th October.

Affinity Water are aware the works will cause some disruption, obviously it can be very inconvenient when working outside people's homes. The works are however essential. They have been in regular meetings with Essex Highways to ensure they can mitigate the level of disruption caused, particularly when they need to close roads. Affinity have done extensive research for the area, not only for customers in a direct impact area, but also for surrounding areas that may see an increase in traffic flows through the use of their diversion route. All of these diversion routes can be found on www.one.network. We will bring you details of ongoing works in later issues of The Link and you can check their website for updates.

Ed

QUIZ

Give the:

- 1 Name of the animal with types called Gentoo, Macaroni and Chinstrap
- 2 Type of spice which is the most expensive in the world by weight
- 3 Name of the fast-food franchise with the most restaurants in the world
- 4 Year in which Chernobyl happened
- 5 Number of bones in the human body
- 6 Name of the world's largest reef
- 7 Collective noun for a group of pandas. Is it: a *cuddle*, an *embarrassment*, or a *shock*?
- 8 Name of the entity which is measured on the Scoville Scale
- 9 Name of the sport played at the Roland Garros stadium in Paris
- 10 Northernmost county in England
- 11 City in the USA which is nicknamed the *motor city*
- 12 Number represented in Roman numerals as MCMLIX
- 13 Currency of Poland
- 14 Capital of Slovakia
- 15 Name of the author of *Carrie*, *The Green Mile* and *Misery*

Compiled by Tricia Bromley

Answers on page 29



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The next in our series of professional concerts is coming up on **Sunday 12th November** at 3.00pm in St John's Church when the exciting young cellist Maxim Calver will be playing for us. Max's cello studies began at the age of four and by eight he was a pupil at the Yehudi Menuhin School. Now a post-graduate student at the Royal College of Music, Max has already performed at numerous venues across Europe, from London and Manchester to Berlin and Amsterdam. In 2018, he was the Strings Category winner in the BBC Young Musician of the Year. His prowess has earned him the support of several young musicians' trusts, including the Countess of Munster Musical Trust which is generously supporting his appearance in Stansted.



Max will be choosing from his extensive repertoire of baroque, classical and romantic masterpieces for his recital. Tickets are adults £15, concessions £12, under 25s free, available in advance tel: 81528 or on the door.

Richard Allaway
Email: contactus@musicatstansted.co.uk



SUSTAINABLE STANSTED

www.sustainablestansted.org

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We are launching an ambitious programme of activity this Autumn, to help you cut your energy usage and bills. We are timing this as we anticipate the winter, with those long, dark, cold nights. This is when we use much more energy heating and lighting our homes which increases our gas and electricity bills. Our Household Energy Saving Group will be providing tips to help local residents to make important savings. We will be producing a leaflet with many tips on how you can reduce the energy you use in simple, little or no cost ways, and delivering it door to door throughout Stansted in October and November; please look out for it.

You can also pick up copies in local shops and pubs, for example.

Also, we will be visiting local gatherings to explain and demonstrate some of our tips in person. We will also be doing this in some Energy Saving surgeries (to be arranged and advertised). We will be posting lots of this information in the weeks to come on our Facebook page and website. Please contact us with any comments or queries. We look forward to helping you to save energy, money and the planet.

Bob Burlton
Household Energy Saving Group
Email: sustainablestansted@gmail.com



www.arhc.org.uk

Take a tour around the Hospice

Situated next to the Cambridge Babraham Road *Park and Ride*, the Arthur Rank Hospice is nearer to Stansted than readers may think. See behind its doors at our next Open Day on **Friday 13th October** 3.00pm-5.00pm. The event starts with light refreshments in our comfortable bistro followed by a brief talk and a guided tour, where you will have a chance to meet the staff, learn about the services they provide and find out more about the work of the hospice. Take this opportunity to look around the award-winning building and find out more about the people who work or volunteer there. There is a large free car park alongside the hospice. For more information and to book, please see our website or call 01223 675888. If you are unable to attend a face-to-face tour, we also have a virtual tour on the website.



Living Well Videos

Sometimes it is difficult to start conversations with loved ones, especially conversations about dying. Even though death is a certainty, few people share their wishes with their friends and family. Arthur Rank have created a series of videos to support people to live well. For example, advance care planning, with Clinical Nurse Specialist, Katie Williams, is a really useful video to help you think about planning ahead; it is suitable for people with a long-term illness and those who just want to get organised so they can get on with living. You can find these on our website.

Virginia Goode
Communications Assistant
Tel: 01223 675777
Email: communications@arhc.org.uk



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GOLDINGS

By now, local residents will know that Goldings, our wonderful Fruiterer and Greengrocer, is no longer trading. Steve Golding's shop had been in the village for 30 years. The produce was of a very high standard and the staff were so very friendly and helpful.



The stalwart of the business, Mandy Pearson, is now working at Yeoman's. You will remember her waiting outside the shop, as shown in the photograph, always happy to chat and make her customers feel welcome. It is so sad to see small independent businesses ceasing to trade. Goldings kept us going during the worst of the Covid days; who can forget the long queues of people, two metres apart, waiting for fresh veg, fruit, milk, eggs and even bird food and dog treats? We will miss you very much.



Ed

ST JOHN'S 300 CLUB

Many congratulations to the winners of the September draw:

£100	No 45	William Kent
£ 50	No 272	Donald Nash
£ 25	No 108	Jean Newson

The draw for October will be held on **29th October** in St John's Church, following the 9.30am service. Numbers at £2 per month for each number 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
Email: jean733@btinternet.com



BREAST CANCER NOW

This is a great big thank you to all who supported our afternoon tea event in August, those who made delicious cakes, scones and jam, served tea, washed up, donated items for the raffle and Bring and Buy, manned the stalls and helped clear up. Another big thank you to everyone who came, and drank tea and were very generous with their cash. We made the fantastic amount of £1,245. A lovely afternoon was had, the sun shone, and everyone seemed to enjoy the occasion! Thank you once again.

Christine Morris

HUW JOHNSON CLUB



The Club restarts at the end of September with a curling competition; in October we will have a visit from the Woodwind Band of Bishop's Stortford. If you or anyone you know with a learning disability is interested in attending as a member, please do get in touch. We would also welcome any new volunteers; please let us know if you can help out.

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



VILLAGE HARVEST SUPPER AND ENTERTAINMENT

Our annual Harvest Supper is on **Sunday 22nd 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.



There will also be some light entertainment from the churches and the u3a Strummers, not to be missed! Tickets are £12 adults, £10 accompanied children and must be booked in advance from me on 814059, Dave 850209 or Ann 812457. Please bring your own drink and glass. Everyone is welcome.



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GROVE HILL

Village residents are so fed up with the convoys of HGVs and tipper trucks using Grove Hill as a through way, causing traffic jams and potentially very dangerous situations, as exemplified in the photos below. To quote a local resident:

Since 6.20am this morning there has been a yellow oversized vehicle attempting to drive down Grove Hill A1060. The driver reported to a resident that he had 'paperwork' allowing him to use this road ...? He cannot move forward because his load is too wide to avoid damage to the listed cottages at the bottom.

He is unable to reverse and is stuck. There has been a queue of cars trying to access the road, and at one point a van overtook the entire queue, mounted the pavement and was away – it is causing some extremely dangerous manoeuvres. If any of the local councillors need to visit then there is ample opportunity. We have a mass of photo footage of vehicles mounting the pedestrian pavement as the road is too narrow for these wide vehicles.



We are extremely annoyed with the delays and excuses that the authorities keep on dishing out with regards the promised scheme to rid the village of the dangerous HGVs that hound our roads every day from 6.00am-6.00pm. Parish Highways keep on passing the buck and say they have no authority to do anything, they can only lobby, so the question is *What is the point of them being there?* Residents put more effort into chasing for resolutions than they do! Councillors at the front end of getting this promised scheme in place keep pushing back dates on meetings required to move to the next step.

Consultation with neighbouring villages seems not to be managed efficiently. These villages oppose the scheme as they are using Grove Hill as a tool or excuse to oppose housing development applications in their area; councillors managing the scheme should point out to them that this has not worked so far as new developments are going up left right and centre.

It should be stressed to them that directing HGVs to use Hall Road Elsenham would actually benefit them as HGVs would then not use neighbouring villages' roads.



The picture shows a lorry which was stuck on Grove Hill for five hours a few weeks ago!

It seems councillors dealing with this opposition are not using the correct counter strategy or being persuasive enough for neighbouring villages to understand this scheme would actually benefit them.

Grove Hill Residents

THE COST OF LIVING CRISIS AT WALTON-ON-THE NAZE

'Twas 25 August when I went to Walton-on-the-Naze for a day out. After some marvellous hot doughnuts and strawberry milk, we decided to go to the pier for a bit. Much like any arcade or pier, a reward on some of the games was Walton's garbage currency - a long chain of paper red tokens that you could purchase prizes with. I played a game of PacMan for 50p, and having eaten a ghost and lost my life to one as an act of retaliation, the machine coughed up 10 tokens, effectively valuing WT1 (Walton Token) at 5p. After playing a few more games, we decided to go to the prize store. Most decent things there were valued at ridiculous prices like WT7495, so I bought the most amusing gift I could afford - a red rubber ball, valued at WT50. Sticking with my calculation of the price of a token from earlier, this means that a small spherical bit of rubber that I could easily have bought elsewhere for 20p cost me £2.50. After one final bit of maths, you will realise this puts the inflation rate at 1250% for the average PacMan player. That's right, living where you do is almost thirteen times **cheaper** than it would be to live at the Walton-on-the Naze pier.

The Funky Chicken
Aged 10

Email: cmgpelly@gmail.com (mother)



THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

Imagine you were enjoying a clear and sunny day and you looked up and could see a variety of vapour trails crisscrossing the sky, left behind by jet planes. Those planes are not ours; they did not take off from Stansted, they are far too high. We neither know their origin nor their destination, but we know where they are right now because they are leaving their mark. Neither the crew nor the passengers aboard can see their own vapour trail; it is behind them. To start with the trails are precise, but in due course they are blown about by the wind and disperse in the cold air. Nevertheless, they have, for a while, left their mark, a mark their passengers cannot see.

Life is like that isn't it? Our pilgrimage through life leaves a mark, a mark we cannot see, a distinct mark to start with, but one that will eventually disappear over time. That mark denotes the influence and impact we are making every day on those around us. Other people will be better able to see it than we can, yet in a way it is our gift to the world, even though we can see little of it. So often it is at funerals that the mark a person has made is most clear. On such occasions a person's life can be extolled with a sense of gratitude. Sad in a way, for that is too late, isn't it?

Perhaps that is a lesson to us; to show our appreciation of people's impact on our lives while we still can. Let us affirm people around us, they are after all, a gift of God to us, just as we are a gift to them. So, affirm one another and affirm yourself as well.



Stuart Veitch
Stansted Free Church



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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

1st 10.30am To be confirmed
8th 10.30am Denis Walker - Harvest
15th 10.30am Topsy Brice
22nd 10.30am Rev'd Gill Hulme
29th 10.30am Rev'd Stuart Veitch - Communion



All enquiries: The Church Office, St John's Hall,
including St John's Road, Stansted CM24 8JP
Church Hall Tel: 815243 (with answerphone)
Bookings Office hours: Monday 3.00pm-5.00pm
Thursday and Friday 10.00am-12.00
Email: stansted.church.office@gmail.com
Website: www.thefivechurches.org.uk

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

ST JOHN'S REGISTERS

There were no baptisms, weddings or funerals in August.

26th Malcolm Treacher - Interment of Ashes in
St Mary's Churchyard



FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S

A lady called Cathryn contacted me via the church pages for help with some research into her family history. She came for a visit to the church from America for a week-long stay. She toured the village, visited the castle, enjoyed meals at both The Kings Arms and The Lower Street Brasserie, and spent many hours both inside St Mary's and in the churchyard.



She told me that she visited Stoneyfield and spoke to residents telling them that her ancestors used to own the land that they now lived on. Cathryn is a descendant of Thomas Sandford. In 1632, Thomas, his brother Robert and Andrew, his uncle, emigrated to America and became founders of the town of Milford in Connecticut. She was thrilled to hear about the history of the church and to be in the village where Thomas, Robert and Andrew once lived.

Our last Open Sunday of 2023 will be **1st October**. We look forward to welcoming you all from 2.00pm-5.00 pm with refreshments available.



Lynda Dale
Tel: 07716 099474



ST THERESA OF LISIEUX CATHOLIC CHURCH

High Lane, Stansted CM24 8LQ
www.sttheresasstansted.or

Parish Priest

Fr Clement Orango
Tel: 814349
Email: frclementorango@brcdt.org



Parish Administrator

Clair Rava
Tel: 816889
Email: stansted@dioceseofbrentwood.org

Masses

Saturday 5.00pm-5.30pm Confessions 6.00pm Mass
Sunday 10.00am Mass

Baptisms By appointment

Our Mass times can be subject to change so please refer to our website/Newsletter for updated information. Confessions are at 5.00pm every Saturday before the Vigil Mass and by appointment.



STANSTED QUAKERS

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

Contact
860379

Jonathan Morrell Tel: 07775

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 This is a guided Quaker meditation. There is more information on the noticeboard outside the Meeting House or do contact Sue on 07759 532115. We generally meet on the 2nd Saturday of each month.



UGLEY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Our August meeting opened with the sad news of the passing of Ruth Rawlinson, a much loved, dedicated member of our WI, who over the years held the positions of president, vice president and treasurer. She will be much missed.

There was a change to the scheduled programme due to the hospitalisation of our booked speaker Brian Carline. Members were instead entertained by the legendary Edith Piaf - with a little help from one of our members - a great Piaf fan who recounted the highs and lows of her all too short life. These included quotes from her autobiography which gave it a more personal element. Members heard four live recordings of her songs and had the chance to view some interesting items from the speaker's collection of *Piafiana* including concert programmes and photos, and even to try some of her favourite perfume, Arpège by Lanvin. Everyone was presented with a single red rose in memory of Edith Piaf.

A member of staff from Saffron Walden Museum will be entertaining us at our October meeting which will be held on **Wednesday 18th October** at 2.00pm in Ugley Village Hall. Why not come along and hear what she has to say? You would be most welcome.

Andrea Fitt
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www.eastonlodge.co.uk

October is the last hurrah for visitors to the gardens, as we close for the winter at the end of the month. October is usually a lovely time of the year, with autumnal warmth and lots of colourful squashes, weird shaped tromboncos and pumpkins ripe for picking and selling. The dahlias and roses are still looking lovely; the autumn crocus and winter daffodil pop up and of course the trees start to turn their autumn shades. For children it is a time for gathering conkers and making dens in the wood.



Sunday 15th October is our final full Open Day and together with Wendy's Petcare Services we are planning a dog show to make it a special day out for all the family. There will be dog classes for the cutest puppy, handsomest dog and prettiest bitch and we are encouraging owners to think about Halloween costume for their dogs too! Essex Police Dog handlers will be with us and Dr Alex to offer veterinary advice. There will be a number of pet food and other stalls, and as usual we will have plant, crafts and our own produce stalls. Open Thursdays continue to the end of October. This is a time for visitors to see the Trust's volunteers hard at work. We will be taking the last cuttings of the year, that is if those taken in August and September have not thrived. This is always a possibility as our volunteers are not around daily to tend them and the beds we use for cuttings in the walled kitchen garden can get very hot and dry. We will also be starting autumn planting of bulbs as well as relocating shrubs and perennials before the winter cold arrives. For more information please see our website.

Entry details: Thursdays 11.00am-3.00pm, last entry 2.00pm. Entry £5 on the Gate. Sunday 15th October 11.00am-5.00pm, last entry 4.00pm. Tickets £6.50 on the Gate, £5.50 in advance via our website or through www.trybooking.com.

Jill Goldsmith
Tel: 07947 183439
Email: jillgoldsmith@virginmedia.com



THE PLACE ON THE HILL

www.stanstedfreechurch.org.uk

The Place continues to offer a friendly warm space for all adults on **Wednesdays 10.00am-noon**. Join us for free coffee, cakes and biscuits 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, please come along to *Fun Place on the Hill* which opens on Fridays; see separate article for more information.

During Wednesdays in October, items for the shoeboxes can be brought to the church foyer. See article on page 4 for suitable items.



Mike and Marion Dyer

Tel: 814059

Email: theplace@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk

NANCY MAY AT ST MARY'S

While the sun beat down outside on Sunday 10th September, the temperature was just right inside St Mary's Church for Nancy May's concert of music for a summer's afternoon. The audience was treated to a fabulous concert by Nancy, a young soprano who lives locally. She performed alone but was accompanied by a recorded orchestra. The acoustics in the church were perfect.



Her repertoire from operas and musicals provided 90 minutes of pure entertainment, including songs from *Les Misérables*, *The Sound of Music* and *Phantom of the Opera*. Nancy May also gave beautiful renditions of *Ave Maria* and Joni Mitchell's *Both Sides Now*, concluding to rapturous applause with *Time to Say Goodbye*.

We were so fortunate to have Nancy May visit Stansted. Although she lives in Essex, her next scheduled local appearance will not be until 23rd December when she is due to give a Christmas Concert by Candlelight at Hatfield Heath's parish church.



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Thatch has been used as a roofing material for thousands of years. It was once common in rural areas because the material was cheap and readily available. Now, a thatched roof is much more expensive but the skill of the thatcher can still be seen throughout The Hundred Parishes. A thatcher undertakes a five-year apprenticeship with a master thatcher before becoming a master thatcher himself. Most properties in the UK use either long straw, wheat reed or water reed.



Thatcher working in Rickling Green

Many thatched properties are listed and when re-thatching is needed the same type of material must be used as before. In medieval times wheat grew to nearly six feet tall, while today's modern farming methods produce shorter-stemmed wheat and this has weakened the straw and its longevity. Now specialist growers produce taller-stemmed varieties, grown especially for thatching.



Clavering Lantern Thatch

There is some debate about the longevity of a thatched roof. To some extent, life expectancy relates to the material used, but it is also dependent on factors such as pitch, orientation and air circulation. A good thatch will typically

last 20-50 years, providing excellent insulation. The ridge, along the top of the roof, will last 10-20 years, so requires more frequent attention. Traditionally a new layer of material is laid over the seasoned roof; this is called *spar coating*. The bundles of straw taken up onto the roof are called *yelms*. Twisted hazel sticks known as *spars* or *gads* are used to secure the thatch in place. A thatcher may mark his work by placing a distinctive straw finial on the ridge. Thatch appears not only on houses. There are several thatched pubs, a thatched church at Duddenhoe End in the parish of Elmdon, and a partly-thatched village hall in Ashdon.



Ken McDonald
Secretary
Tel: 813226

Email: hundredparishes@btinternet.com

**STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET
EVENING WI**



At our August meeting the speaker was Rex Freeman whose talk was entitled *Growing Old Disgracefully*. He told us of a member of his family who had decided to grow old gracefully but died a very lonely man. Rex's history involved a great interest in music and arts groups which led to helping others to attain their ambitions. Another great interest was tennis which he still plays at his great age. He recommended solo holidays like Saga and u3a. His basic message was that everyone needs a reason to get up each morning to keep them going to which we all agreed.

Our speaker for our next meeting on **Thursday 12th October** is Sharon Gould who is going to talk about *East End to Essex*. We meet on the second Thursday of every month at 7.30pm in the Day Centre. We welcome visitors and new members; do come and join us.

Linda Gurr
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NEWS FROM YOUR LOCAL COUNCILS

PARISH COUNCIL UPDATE

These month's Parish Council pages are devoted to a village-wide part-night lighting scheme to be trialled over a three-month period starting in October.



Street Lighting Trial

This autumn the Parish Council is to undertake a lighting trial that will see about a third of streetlights under its control in the village switched off from midnight to 5am. The trial is to last three months after which a review will be undertaken to determine whether the switch should become permanent for all, or some of, those lights.

The Parish Council has set aside over £23,000 in its 2023/4 budget to meet the routine annual costs for lighting in the village, a figure that is under pressure as our existing energy contracts expire and energy markets remain volatile. Converting lights to LED, and installing timers, will allow the Parish Council to make significant energy savings. It is estimated that LED lanterns, once installed, will be up to 80% more efficient than the current lighting stock. Streetlights that are turned off for part of the night could see a further 50% reduction in energy consumption.

These savings in energy usage will help the Parish Council manage its budget, and also allow it to take an important step to a greener future for Stansted Mountfitchet. In June 2022 the Parish Council joined many other organisations and authorities in declaring a climate emergency. One commitment stemming from this was to update the 242 streetlights managed by the Parish Council to LED.

In the June edition of The Link, the Parish Council announced it had received £34,900 from the district council under its Zero-Carbon fund to pay for this conversion to happen. The money, however, was conditional that the Parish Council introduce a part-night lighting scheme and would identify and tackle areas of the village where there was a duplication of lighting stock.

Eliminating duplication in practice means where a street is lit by two lamps in close proximity, one should be decommissioned. The Parish Council has decided that seven duplicate lights will be withdrawn from service as part of the lighting trial. At a meeting on 13th September, the Council will have discussed which of the lights highlighted in yellow in the table, will be converted to part-night lighting. Any changes agreed at that meeting will be reported in the next edition of The Link.

Will all Stansted's street lights be included in the trial?

Responsibility for streetlighting in Stansted Mountfitchet is shared between Essex Highways, Uttlesford District Council and the Parish Council. Only streetlights maintained by the Parish Council will be involved in the trial. Of these 242 streetlights, 149 will remain lit all night throughout the trial.

Continues Page 22

TRIAL LIGHTING

October-December 2023

Of street lamps administered by the Of the streetlights administered by the Parish Council, 149 will stay lit all night, 86 will be switched off from midnight though to 5am, and seven lights will be decommissioned.

You can use the table on page 21 to see how lights in your area will be affected by the trial. The street (left hand column) is shown next to the code displayed on a light in the

All Night Lights 149

Part Night Lights 86

Decommissioned 7

village. In the picture 'BG2' shows it is number 2 light of Bentfield Green. In the table it has been coloured green to indicate it will remain on all night throughout the trial.



Alderbury Road	AR1	Church Road	CR9	Mary McArthur Place	MP1	St. John's Crescent	JC4
Alderbury Road	AR2	Church Road	CR10	Mary McArthur Place	MP2	St. John's Crescent	JC5
Bentfield Causeway	BC1	Church Road	CR11	Millfields	MF1	St. John's Lane	JL1
Bentfield Causeway	BC2	Church Road	CR12	Mill Hill	MH1	St. John's Road	JL2
Bentfield Causeway	BC3	Church Road	CR13	Mill Hill	MH2	St. John's Road	JR1
Bentfield Causeway	BC4	Church Road	CR26	Mill Hill	MH3	St. John's Road	JR2
Bentfield Causeway	BC5	Church Road	CR27	Millside	MS1	St. John's Road	JR3
Bentfield Green	BG1	Church Road	CR28	Millside	MS2	St. John's Road	JR4
Bentfield Green	BG2	Church Road	CR29	Millside	MS3	St. John's Road	JR5
Bentfield Green	BG3	Church Road	CR30	Millside	MS4	St. John's Road	JR6
Bentfield Green	BG4	Clarence Road	CA1	Mount Drive	MD1	St. John's Road	JR7
Bentfield Green	BG12	Coltsfield	CO11	Mount Drive	MD2	St. John's Road	JR8
Bentfield Green	BG5	Croasdaile Rd	CD1	Mount Drive	MD3	St. John's Road	JR9
Bentfield Green	BG6	Croasdaile Rd	CD2	Mount Drive	MD4	St. John's Road	JR10
Bentfield Upper Green	BU1	Croasdaile Rd	CD3	Mountfitchet Road	MF1	St. John's Road	JR11
Bentfield Road	BR2	Croasdaile Rd	CD4	Mountfitchet Road	MF2	St. Mary's Drive	SM1
Bentfield Road	BR3	Croasdaile Rd	CD5	Mountfitchet Road	MF3	St. Mary's Drive	SM2
Bentfield Road	BR4	Croasdaile Rd	CD6	Mountfitchet Road	MF4	Station Road	SR2
Bentfield Road	BR5	Croasdaile Rd	CD7	Mountfitchet Road	MF5	Station Road	SR3
Bentfield Road	BR6	Croasdaile Rd	CD8	Mountfitchet Road	MF6	Stoney Common	SC1
Bentfield Road	BR7	Dove Close	DC1	Mountfitchet Road	MF7	Stoney Common	SC2
Bentfield Road	BR8	Greenfields	GF1	Norman's Way	NW1	Stoney Common	SC3
Blythwood Gardens	BW1	Greenfields	GF2	Norman's Way	NW2	Stoney Common	SC4
Blythwood Gardens	BW2	Grove Hill	GH1	Norman's Way	NW3	Stoney Common	SC5
Blythwood Gardens	BW3	Grove Hill	GH2	Norman's Way	NW4	Stoneyfield Drive	SD1
Blythwood Gardens	BW4	Grove Hill	GH3	Norman's Way F/Path	NW5	Stoneyfield Drive	SD2
Blythwood Gardens	BW5	Grove Hill	GH4	Norman's Way F/Path	NW6	Stoneyfield Drive	SD3
Blythwood Gardens	BW6	Grove Hill	GH5	Norman's Way F/Path	NW7	Stoneyfield Drive	SD4
Blythwood Gardens	BW7	Grove Hill	GH6	Park Road	PR1	Stoneyfield Drive	SD5
Blythwood Gardens	BW8	High Lane	HL1	Park Road	PR2	Sunnyside	SS1
Brewery Lane	BL1	High Lane	P10	Park Road	PR3	Sunnyside	SS2
Brewery Lane	BL2	High Lane	12	Park Road	PR4	Sunnyside	SS3
Brewery Lane	BL3	High Lane	P93	Park Road	PR5	The Champions	TC1
Brook Road	BK1	High Lane	P92	Poulteneys Road	PR1	The Champions	TC2
Brook Road	BK2	High Lane	P159	Poulteneys Road	PR2	Water Lane	WL1
Burnell's Way	BN1	Highmead	HM1	Priory Drive	PD1	Water Lane	WL2
Burnell's Way	BN2	Lower Street	LR1	Priory Drive	PD2	Water Lane	WL3
Burnell's Way F/Path	BN3	Lower Street	SP2	Queen's Close	QC1	Water Lane	WL4
Cannon's Mead	CM1	Lower Street	LS3	Queen's Close	QC2	Water Lane	WL5
Cannon's Mead	CM2	Lower Street	LS4	Queen's Close	QC3	Water Lane	WL6
Cannon's Mead	CM3	Lower Street	LS5	Rainsford Road	RR1	Water Lane	WL7
Cannon's Mead	CM4	Lower Street	LS6	Rainsford Road	RR2	West Road	WR4
Cannon's Mead	CM5	Lower Street	LS7	Rainsford Road	RR3	West Road	WR5
Chapel Hill	CH1	Lower Street	LS8	Rainsford Road	RR4	West Road	WR6
Chapel Hill	CH2	Lower Street	LS9	Rainsford Road	RR5	West Road	WR7
Chapel Hill	CH3	Lower Street	LS10	Rainsford Road	RR6	Wetherfield	WE1
Chapel Hill	CH4	Lower Street	LS11	Rainsford Road	RR7	Wetherfield	WE2
Chapel Hill	CH5	Lower Street	LS12	Rainsford Road	RR8	Wetherfield	WE3
Chapel Hill	CH6	Maitland Road	MA1	Rainsford Road	RR9	Wetherfield	WE4
Chapel Hill	CH7	Maitland Road	MA2	Rainsford Road	RR10	Wetherfield	WE5
Chapel Hill	CH8	Maitland Road	MA3	Recreation Ground	RG1	Wetherfield	WE6
Chapel Hill	CH9	Maitland Road	MA4	Recreation Ground	PNL	Wetherfield	WE7
Chapel Hill	CH10	Maitland Road	MA5	Recreation Ground	RG3	White Bear	WB1
Chapel Hill	CH11	Maitland Road	MA6	Recreation Ground	RG4	White Bear	WB2
Chapel Hill	CH12	Manor Road	MR1	Recreation Ground	RG5	Woodfield Close	WC1
Chapel Hill	CH13	Manor Road	MR2	Recreation Ground	RG6	Woodfield Terrace	WT1
Chapel Hill	CH14	Manor Road	MR3	Recreation Ground	RG7	Woodfield Terrace	WT2
Chapel Hill	CH15	Manor Road	MR4	Recreation Ground	RG8	Woodfields	WD1
Chapel Hill	CH16	Manor Road	MR5	St. John's Crescent	JC1	Woodfields	WD2
Chapel Hill	CH17	Manor Road	MR6	St. John's Crescent	JC2		
Church Road	CR8	Manor Road	MR7	St. John's Crescent	JC3		



DUPLICATION: One of the two streetlights at the junction of Mount Drive & Mountfitchet Road will be switched off for the trial.

PART-NIGHT LIGHTING:

At Blythwood Gardens (diagram opposite) some streetlights will be turned off from midnight to 5am, with the remaining ones staying on all night so residents can proceed along the street always with an illuminated light in sight.

UNSUITABILITY Some areas, like Stoney Common, have been excluded from the trial

Continued from Page 20

How were lights chosen for inclusion in the trial?

Where possible the Parish Council has tried to ensure there is a pathway of light to follow as you walk through the village at night. That is, when you are walking along a street where a light has been switched off, you will always be in sight of an illuminated lamp. The trial has also been planned so the main thoroughfares of Cambridge Road, High Lane, Lower Street, Chapel Hill and Church Road are lit all night. Also, the village twichels are excluded from the trial as well as Water Lane, as these are viewed as pathways particularly important for walking around the village.

Won't turning street lights off make the village unsafe?

In preparing for the trial, we consulted with the Essex Police's Uttlesford Community team. Their experience is that in areas like Saffron Walden and Dunmow where part-night lighting schemes operate, there has been no evidence of an upturn in crime. The police will also be providing feedback to the Parish Council on whether they have observed any spike in crime during the three months of the scheme.

When will the trial start?

The trial is likely to begin in October, once contractors have completed switching sodium to LED bulbs and installing timers to streetlights participating in the trial. The timing of the trial itself has also been dependent on the completion of a structural review and electrical testing of the Parish Council's streetlights which was completed over the summer.



Will other village areas be switched to part-night lighting?

This will depend on sourcing additional grant funding. For example, Chapel Hill has been kitted with ornate "lantern" stylings that double the cost of converting to a LED light to £750. For areas like Stoney Common, which has a particularly poor road surface, they may be unsuitable for inclusion.

Will the switch to part-night lighting become permanent?

Hopefully yes, but this depends on the success of the trial. Once this has ended the Parish Council will undertake an assessment of the scheme. But should we need to adapt it and revert a light to an all-night setting this can be easily done, with a flick of a switch on the timer.

How can we provide feedback on the trial?

As the trial progresses, or when it is complete, we would welcome residents' thoughts on how turning streetlights off from midnight to 5am has affected them. If you would like to let us know, you can either:

Email: info@stanstedmountfitchet-pc.gov.uk

Contact a Parish Councillor (see page 23 for contact details)

Comment via our website or social media (see page 23) or

Visit us at our reception at the Mountfitchet Exchange.

STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET PARISH COUNCIL

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Committee & Projects Officer Laila Azure-Marxen
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PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

Meetings are at 7.30pm at the Mountfitchet Exchange. If you wish to attend virtually, look for Zoom details in the agenda documents on our website:

Full Council **Oct 4** *Emergency Planning* **Oct 11**

Open Spaces **Oct 11** *Highways* **Oct 18**

Finance & General Purposes **Oct 25**

UTTLESFORD DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

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POLICE

PCSO 81764 Alex STEWART
email: alexander.stewart@essex.police.uk
Non-urgent incidents call: 101
Serious incidents call: 999 www.essex.police.uk/ro/report
Meet-Ups: Oct 10 (10am-noon) & **Oct 18** (3-4pm) at the Library; Stansted Co-op (3-4pm)

LIBRARY

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

ADVICE SESSIONS

Uttlesford Citizen's Advice run a FREE drop-in service every Thursday from 9.30am-2pm. You can also ask to speak to an advisor during Parish Council reception hours via computer hook-up. Ask at reception for details.

The **Peabody Trust** a drop-in service on the first Thursday of each month (**Oct 12**) from 11am-3pm. Advisors can help with benefits problems, housing issues, access to job training and offer support to overcome addiction.

TOUCHPOINT, STANSTED

The community wellbeing project runs a variety of clubs, groups and activities from 72 Chapel Hill where you can socialise, get help, access training, and fill up your larder for free! **Foodshares** Stansted Social Club Wed 2.30-3.30pm, Thursdays Crafton Green 10am-noon, Saturdays 1-2pm; **Community Cafe** Thursdays 11am-5pm, Fridays 10am-12pm; **Free hot meals** on Tuesdays 4-6pm for pre-school and school age children; **Breakfast Club** every Friday 8.30am-10.30am. Contact info@thetouchpoint.org ☎ 07572 114882

GARDEN WASTE SERVICE

A refuse truck will be in the Lower Street Car Park from 12.30-4.30pm to recycle your garden waste on the following Sundays: **Oct 1, 15, 29**

Village Defibrillators

Defibrillators in yellow on the map are accessible 24/7. Call Emergency Services for an access code. Defibrillators in orange are only available during the working hours of the establishment they are sited at.





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We supported the Skate Jam during the summer and were out in the village on Sunday 10th September with help, support and advice on Suicide Prevention Day. Meeting, talking and listening to people is one of our main functions and we are always here if you find that you need to reach out to someone.

This month we are holding our 3rd Annual Wellbeing Festival in support of World Mental Health Day on **Sunday 8th October** 2.00pm-5.00pm in St. John's Church. This is an event not to be missed as we welcome over 30 stalls and local clubs, groups and societies who will be promoting their products and services. The stalls will be spread between the hall and church with several wellbeing and family activities taking place outside. Music will be provided by Stansted Social Club and light refreshments will be available.



This is a fantastic opportunity to purchase early Christmas gifts. You can also chat to a variety of clubs and societies who will have information on how to join them. *Let's Talk Stansted!* members will be available to talk about events we have planned for the forthcoming year; we will be there for you to talk to us, or us to you.

Anne Guney

Email: contact@stanstedmentalhealth.org

PHARMACY UPDATE AND FINAL REPORT

Last month I reported that we hope to have a licensed community dispensing pharmacy in the Lower Street area. Some time ago I met Kemi Badenoch MP. She advised that we had done all that could be hoped of us and that the issue was now commercial which only Mountfitchet Partners Ltd (MPL) and Prof Ashok Soni OBE could resolve. The owner of Stansted Pharmacy and MPL have now agreed that the latter will take over the Stansted Pharmacy lease in Castle Maltings with effect from 1st October, and Prof Soni will no longer be involved. Please note that they will be open as a chemist from that date but will not be dispensing prescriptions until 1st November.

What this means for the local residents is that we will have a licensed community dispensing pharmacy next door to Stansted Surgery and retain Boots on Cambridge Road. People with mobility difficulties will be able to enter a licensed pharmacy with relative ease. We now have a state-of-the-art health centre comprising our Primary Care GP surgery, an NHS dentist and a dispensing pharmacy. This campaign started in February 2008 and so ends another chapter in the development of our growing community and needs. Thank you to all who helped.

Ray Woodcock

Tel: 816468

Email: raymond.woodcock@btinternet.com



RSPB

www.rspb.org.uk/groups/stortvalley

Our October programme features a new midweek walk, the return of a much-welcome speaker and a visit to a lovely local reserve. Plenty to enjoy and we hope you can join us. To start the month on **Thursday 5th October** at 10.00am near St Andrews Church, Much Hadham SG10 6DH we have one of our increasingly popular short, sociable, local bird walks. We plan to follow a clockwise circular route offering views across the Ash Valley taking in Green Tye and Perry Green. Our monthly meeting will be on **Tuesday 10th October** at 7.30pm in Bishop's Park Community Centre next to Tesco. We welcome back John Buckingham to present *The Wonders of Bird Migration- Part 2*. Last year John gave us a wonderfully entertaining insight in to migration, the long distances birds travel and how we monitor them. This year John will explain how migrating birds know their route and when to travel.



On **Sunday 15th October** we have a visit to Waterford Heath and the River Beane (see photo). Meet at Vicarage Lane, Waterford, Hertford SG14 3LU at 10.00am. This wonderfully varied reserve has a range of habitats with a good variety of species and offers the opportunity to walk along the beautiful River Beane in the direction of Stapleford. Full details of our activities are on the website or contact us.

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The hot weather in September has seen a small increase in wildfires, and we have been on standby to support around the county with our six-wheel off-road vehicle. Even in the hot weather the crew continue to train hard to ensure we can react in the quickest way to any eventuality. Our training this month has been heavily focused on reacting to building fires and also even aircraft fires. We were able to attend Stansted airport and train alongside our airport fire service colleagues who put us through our paces to simulate entry to an internal aircraft fire; it was a great exercise to be part of.



The crew have attended a whole host of incidents over the last few months, but it is always a highlight when there is a positive outcome. Our crew was called to a fire reported by a quick thinking resident who saw smoke coming from a roof. Due to the speed of the crew from Stansted, the fire was contained and a special furry four-legged friend Murphy was rescued unharmed from the ground floor of the property. Murphy became the centre of attention and is now forever a mascot of our fire station. As ever our crew continue to visit homes and carry out home fire safety visits, free to any Essex resident and can be booked on our website. This is a Government and Essex County Fire and Rescue Service initiative to get a working smoke alarm in every residential dwelling so please feel free to get in touch. Lastly as a station we are really keen to get out and support and meet our community, so if you have any community events where you would like to see us, please let us know. Stay safe and best wishes from us all.

Steven Perry

Tel: 01376 575830

Email: stansted.oc@essex-fire.gov.uk



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FUN PLACE ON THE HILL

www.stanstedfreechurch.org.uk

The Fun Place on the Hill is open every **Friday, including school holidays**, from 9.15am-11.30am in the Free Church Hall. Throughout the summer we welcomed regular and new visitors to the Fun Place, where parents, children and all age visitors drop in and relax with a hot drink and chat. Meanwhile the children enjoy plenty of space to run around and play with the toys, and listen to Story Time at around 10.30am. Free squash and healthy snacks are available for children, and tea or 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



DAISY MAY'S FARM

www.daisymaysfarm.org

Things are getting very spooky down on our farm in readiness for our **Half Term Halloween!!** This spookitastic fun will be taking place every day from **Saturday 21st to Sunday 29th October** and is going to be such an exciting event and you must pre-book, so make sure you do it now to avoid disappointment. Tickets are only £10 each and there will be: a pumpkin patch, a pumpkin ball pit, a fancy-dress competition, a Monster Mash show, a ghost train, lots of spooky fun, with hot food available.



Please note that we are still open every day and our lovely farm animals and their babies always look forward to seeing you; and do remember our other exciting farm attractions. Events like these are vital to the survival of our farm, so please do support us in any way you can. 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 in Hall Road, Elsenham, CM22 6DN and our opening times are 10.00am-4.00pm.

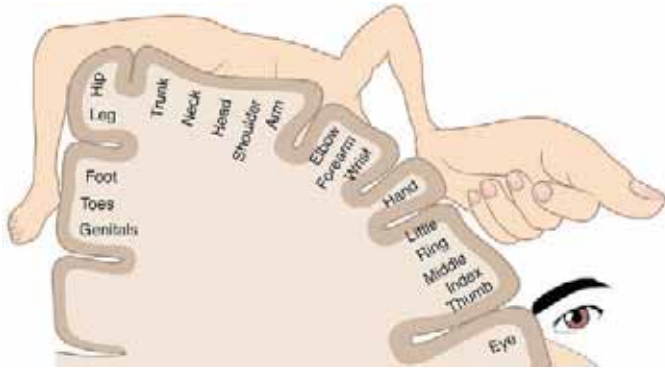
Elaine Terry

Tel: 07747 787973

BRAIN TRAINING

www.clareharding.com

How using your thumbs can improve your vision, or your private parts, your ankles and toes. There are many eye drills that improve vision, and some involve using a target within an arm's distance. For example, near/far is rapid switching between a near target and a far target. For any eye drill we can use the tip of a pen or our thumb. The tip of a pen is a very small target whilst our thumb nail is much bigger. There is value to using both, especially for a sports person.



Within the brain lies the sensory cortex, where the various parts of the body are laid out, as the accompanying picture shows. What lies next to each other affects the other. A close peer at the picture shows the eyes lying beside the thumbs, the toes next to the genitals. Since this is in the sensory cortex, warming, cooling or adding vibration (for example, holding an electric toothbrush) to your thumb will help improve vision, as will doing the same to your private parts to improve toe or ankle movement. So you could hold a metal spoon with your thumb running up the handle, giving a sensation of coolness. Bring the thumb and spoon fairly close to the bridge of your nose, not the tip, and find a distant target, a letter or number if possible. Now switch between your thumb and the target as quickly as the targets become clear. This drill can really help the non-dominant eye! Do one minute of repetitions with the non-dominant eye, then a further 30 seconds with both eyes. Which thumb you use does make a difference. Test your balance before and after the drill and use the thumb that gives the best result.

Clare Harding
Z-Health Master Practitioner
Tel: 07802 872919

ST JOHN'S CHURCH QUIZ

St John's Church is holding an autumn quiz on **Saturday 14th October** 7.00pm for 7.30pm in St John's Hall. We will be serving a substantial Ploughman's Supper during the interval. Bring your own drinks and glasses; interval tea or coffee can be purchased. There will be a raffle. Tickets: £12.50, available from me. Proceeds will go to the renovation of St John's Hall floor and The Children's Society.

Katy Dockerill
Tel: 07834 235011
Email: grandmakatyd@gmail.com

THE AUBREY BUXTON NATURE RESERVE

www.essexwt.org.uk

We have now cut all the meadow areas and removed the debris. This takes many hours of manual labour for the working parties who are also cutting meadow areas in the other Essex Wildlife Trust reserves across Uttlesford. We use a scythe mower, which is the kindest on all the species that are living amongst the vegetation, and it gives us a chance to watch the various mice, voles and other creatures scurry away to the borders and retained grassy areas. This year we were delighted to see large numbers of frogs of all sizes that have been living in the meadows. The ponds in the reserve have obviously provided well for the breeding population.



The top pond and local wildlife!

The three main ponds are quite different from each other in appearance and the flora and fauna they support. The top pond is rich in plants and invertebrates such as water fleas and mayfly lava which indicate good water quality. It is regularly visited by the heron, but you will need to approach with stealth in order to see it. It is important that fish are not added to the pond as they prey on the smaller wildlife and reduce the diversity. The middle pond appears stagnant and lacking in life; we want to do a proper assessment of it before acting. What looks visually appealing to us may not be the best for wildlife. Some paths in the reserve can become very muddy in autumn and winter; we would like to improve these to give people a dry footing and to avoid the trampling of areas off the path. We have applied for funding for this and we will have to see if we obtain it.

John Welham
Warden
Email: communications@essexwt.org.uk



LIB DEMS QUIZ

Stansted Liberal Democrats invite you to a Quiz on **Saturday 28th October** 7.00pm for 7.30 pm in the Day Centre. Tickets are £7.50, available from either of us. Please bring your own food, drink and glass; table nibbles will be provided. Quiz-master is David Morson and there will be a Raffle.

Catherine 813579
Email: catherinemarydean@btinternet.com
Geoffrey 815925
Email: sellgeoffrey@yahoo.co.uk

BOB'S NOT HERE

Bob's not here. He has not been here for many lights and darks. I don't know where he has gone but he does not give me my food, and he does not take me out to the big grass or to the trees - the trees and more trees, beyond the grassy area. Sometimes Ronnie and Reggie would be there, with Bert. Bert is Reggie and Ronnie's Bob. Ronnie and Reggie run with me and we sniff each other and bark. I am so happy when I am with them. Maggie takes me there but not so often as Bob did. Where is Bob?



Bob had been different. He wasn't so friendly to me and his voice was sad, and then he didn't come down to my room, where my food is kept and where I sleep. He stayed in the place where Maggie and Bob sleep. One dark there was a lot of noise. It woke me up and Maggie shut me in my room. I barked but she did not let me out; then there were lights coming and going through the window, and 'wah wah wah wah', and strange voices. Maggie made a noise that frightened me, just like I make when I am very afraid. I stayed in my room all through the dark. My body moved but my legs stayed still and I made sounds, just like Maggie. When the light came, Maggie let me out to my grass at the back. I was so glad because I needed to let the water out and Maggie does not like me doing that in the place where I live.

Now, there are many people here, but not Bob. I can see legs, lots of legs. When I look up, I see faces I do not know and some of them whimper and make other strange sounds. I hear them say Bob's name over and over. Maggie is giving them the stuff that they eat. She has forgotten that I like to eat, so I jump up on to the sofa and then on to the table because there are things I want to eat. But Maggie shoos me down. She tries to push me out on to my grass but the small creature is there - the one that comes to my grass from far away, the one that hisses at me. I won't go, so Maggie closes the door. Every now and then a paw comes down and pats my back or my head. I don't want them to do that so I slink off to my place where I sleep, and hope that they will go. Then I see legs I know and I look up. It is Bert. "Allo old fella". I am so excited to see him that I bark and jump up. He ruffles my ears and I feel both happy and sad. Later, it is dark and Maggie is putting things in the box that is cold, and in the box that makes that 'whooshing' noise. The strangers have gone. Maggie and I go to the trees. It is cool and quiet here and I like it. I can pretend I am with Bob. Maggie talks to me quietly and I like that too. She feeds me when I am back in my room again. She has not forgotten me. Soon we

sit in front of the box that has people inside. I curl up on Maggie. She is soft and warm, and I feel safe. But I miss Bob. And Bob's not here

Marilyn Bromley
Stansted u3a Creative Writing Group



RECYCLING



A reminder that we can take the following for recycling: ink cartridges (**not** toners), dental products, blister packs, stamps, mobile phones, ipads and tablets (**not** laptops). Please make sure all personal data has been erased from ipads, mobiles and tablets. The easiest way to do this is by a *factory reset*. It would be helpful if **all items** could be placed in a paper/plastic bag or envelope; please use a **separate** one for each category and do not mix toothbrushes with blister packs, for example. Donated items 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.

If you have laptops or printers there are two organisations which refurbish them and donate to schools and charities. Both will collect from you free of charge. Contact Cambridge Recycling Centre on 01223 473875 email: sales@cambridge-computer-recycling.co.uk or Townstech in Harlow tel 898240 www.townstech.co.uk.



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

QUIZ ANSWERS

- 1 Penguin
- 2 Saffron
- 3 Subway
- 4 1986
- 5 206
- 6 Great Barrier Reef
- 7 Embarrassment
- 8 Hotness of peppers
- 9 Tennis
- 10 Northumberland
- 11 Detroit
- 12 1959
- 13 Zloty
- 14 Bratislava
- 15 Stephen King

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STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET u3a

www.u3asites.org.uk/stansted/home

In August the Garden Group paid a special visit to Heyrons, High Easter, a former farmyard and barn converted into a house and garden, a 45-year labour of love. The house looks onto a beautiful walled courtyard; the gardens can be glimpsed through an archway. These comprise mature trees with herbaceous borders, a rose garden, a former lawn tennis court, a dry garden and views across the Essex countryside.



The group was welcomed and put at ease by their hosts, Catherine and Richard Wollaston. On their tour Richard enthused over plans for the future, next being the creation of a wildlife pond which the group hopes to see on a future visit. Afterwards they lingered over a hugely generous tea with seemingly endless supplies of cakes.

Our Saturday Seminar on 19th August with Patrick Parrinder was a huge success. The subject was *HG Wells*, Utopian, English novelist, journalist, sociologist and historian, best known for his science fiction novels such as *The Time Machine* and *The War of the Worlds*.

He grew from shop work apprentice to world famous author, a larger-than-life character, influential and energetic, achieving what would now be worldwide rock star fame.

Our next seminar, with interactive discussion, is on **Saturday 14th October** 9.30am -12.30pm in the Free Church Hall. Led by Jo Brooks, it is *An Introduction to Venetian Painting*. Please email us for tickets; more details are on our website, where details about future seminars can also be found.



The speaker at the General Meeting on **Thursday 19th October** will be Ian Currie, Fellow of the Royal Meteorological Society. Ian is a full-time weatherman, broadcaster, columnist and editor of the *Weather Eye* magazine. He also runs a website www.frostedearth.co.uk which includes daily weather forecasts. His talk is called *Gales, Greenhouses and Global Warming*.

Anne White
Tel: 07874 385541

STANSTED IS WELL READ

The next meeting of our book club will be on **Tuesday 3rd October** at 8.00pm in the Dog and Duck, Lower Steet. We will be discussing *The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo* by Taylor Jenkins Reid. We are looking forward to reading about the glitz of Hollywood as a legendary film actress reflects on her relentless rise to the top, the risks she took, the loves she lost and her long held secrets. Although fictional, the character of Evelyn Hugo is said to be loosely based on an amalgamation of certain real-life film stars. 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

HATFIELD FOREST

www.nationaltrust.org.uk/hatfield-forest



As the nights draw in and autumn begins to take hold, the forest starts to transform. The leaves begin changing colour and the trees' silhouettes change. If you are lucky, you might catch a glimpse of the wild deer as they make their way into the forest for the rutting season. The berries are starting to fade and it is nearing the time to pick sloes. The forest is a fantastic place to go for a walk and enjoy peaceful surroundings. In the Lake area, the café is open daily 9.00am-4.30pm serving freshly made sandwiches, savoury pastries, delicious homemade cakes, and hot and cold drinks. Outdoor seating and toilet facilities are available.



Coco enjoying a doggie ice cream from the Forest Café

The scaffolding has been removed from Shell House and it is back to its original magnificence. Cliveden Conservation have done a fantastic job restoring it and all that remains is a deep conservation clean of the interior before it is opened to the public. Interpretative signage will shine a light on Shell House's past. Venison and firewood sales will soon be available. Further details can be found on our website, where you can also find information about other local National Trust properties.

Hannah Underwood
Assistant Business Services Co-ordinator
Tel: 870678
Email: hannah.underwood@nationaltrust.org.uk



STANSTED SOCIAL CLUB

www.smsc.uk.com

The AGM is taking place on **Sunday 1st October** at 2.00pm. The accounts will be available throughout the Club prior to the meeting, and we think they speak for themselves! Please submit any questions in writing to the Secretary before the meeting so we can have answers ready, which will lead to a quicker and smoother meeting.

We took part in the annual inter-village cricket tournament and finished runners-up behind The Dog and Duck. Well done to The Rose and Crown and The Kings Arms. This year's event was in aid of *Let's Talk Stansted*. The Club have also been invited to attend the presentation day for Anglia in Bloom and we hope our floral displays cheered everybody up!



We will be providing music again at the annual village Well-being Festival which is taking place on **Sunday 8th October** 2.00pm-5.00pm in St. Johns Church and Hall. Come and have a chat if you have any questions about the Club, or are interested in joining. October sees another packed entertainment schedule. We start on **Saturday 7th** with *Imagine the Beatles*, followed by *Claire Louise Rossi* on **Sunday 8th** after the meat raffle. **Saturday 14th** sees the return of the *Jersey Boys* so come along and enjoy a fabulous evening of Frankie Valli hits. On **Saturday 21st** there is a Club Anthems evening with *Rachel Stenton*. One not to be missed! Our annual Halloween Disco is on **Friday 27th** and we round off October with the *ELO Encounter* on **Saturday 28th**. All Saturday night events start around 9.00pm. Non-members can attend events but there will be a £10 entry fee for *Imagine the Beatles*, *Jersey Boys*, Club Anthems and the *ELO Encounter*.



Andrew Sharp
Tel: 812992

Email: stanstedclub@gmail.com



STANSTED BOWLS CLUB

Towards the end of the outdoor bowls season, we will be holding our AGM on **Friday 17th November** at 7.30pm; the nomination sheet is on the notice board. We will then be looking forward to the Presentation Dinner on **Saturday 25th November** 7.00pm for 7.30pm where winners and finalists receive their awards. Congratulations to Alan Whitehead,

our winner of the Friday Evening Emerson Club Competition.

We had an enjoyable afternoon at the Windmill Fête on Bank Holiday Monday. In the adult section of the target bowls, Aaron won £20; in the junior section Sophia won £10; well done to both of you. The weather was very kind, which was a bonus. We will soon be preparing the Green ready for winter; the seasons seem to move very fast.

Doreen Scraggs

Hon Secretary

Tel: 07881 852833 or 815036

Email: doreenscraggs@talktalk.net



Stansted Tennis Club

Founded 1889

www.stanstedtennisclub.co.uk

The final Ladies Only fun tournament of the year was played on the newly painted courts. Sixteen ladies played in this one-day tournament. Winners were Debbie Lane and Carol Cook who beat Val Ashwood and Chris Bailey 6-1 in the final. The consolation winners were Diane Brown and Sue Simpson who beat Lyn Timms and Anthea Thomas 4-0. We were lucky with the weather, and everyone had a very enjoyable day.



Upcoming events include a quiz night on Friday 6th October. Visit our website for further details. Various forms of coaching from beginners' group, cardiac, juniors, improvers through to individual coaching is available at the Club. Contact Ollie Toms www.olliestennis.co.uk or Martyn Taplin mj.taplin@btinternet.com for further details.

Debbie Lane

Email: contact@stanstedtennisclub.co.uk

DON'T FORGET!

The clocks go back one hour at 2.00am on Sunday 29th October





FOOTBALL CLUB

www.essexseniorleague.co.uk

After a very inconsistent start to the new season by our own high standards, the team management and players are gradually finding their feet playing in the Spartan South Midlands League. Vocal support at both home and away games continues to give the team plenty of encouragement; in spite of this, there were some early season defeats in both FA Competitions and League fixtures. Players need to train harder and increase their fitness levels in order to handle the new playing system of the league we now compete in. This month there is only the one scheduled home league fixture against Harpenden Town on **Saturday 21st October**, kick off 3.00pm. However we still await the League Cup draws so a home midweek tie would need to be scheduled in.

In other news, our Over 45's have now started their season and have two scheduled league fixtures being played at Hargrave Park on **Saturdays 7th and 14th October**; kick off for both games is 2.00pm. Our Under 15's will play their first round of their divisional cup at Hargrave Park on **Friday 13th October**, kick off 7.45pm. Both teams would love to see some local support so come along and cheer them on.



Tom Williams
Tel: 07921 403842



STANSTED HALL & ELSENHAM CRICKET CLUB

www.shcc.hitscricket.com

The Club's 1st XI were runners-up to Matching Green in the Premier Division of the Herts and Essex Border League. It was down to match 18, the final match, but Matching Green did not falter. All in all a great season for the 1st XI with plenty of runs especially from Rory McGurk, Nick Price and Jacob Talbot. The 2nd XI comfortably won Division 3 under the guidance of Andrew Mackinlay who continued to encourage our younger players. They did not disappoint by batting, bowling and fielding very well.

The junior section finished off a very successful season with a Presentation Day and BBQ. The U14s won the West Essex Cup and the U13s came runners-up in the Cup. The junior committee have already met and planned for winter indoor nets and the 2024 season. After the September friendlies there will be a general tidy. Groundsman Phil Maule has provided the Club with a great cricket wicket and outfield all year. We look forward to a busy winter of quizzes and fund-raising. We will be celebrating 50 years of cricket at Stansted House next season. If you are interested in joining our Club, please contact me as below. Cricketers - hibernate well!



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



Stansted Cricket Club

www.stanstedcc.hitscricket.com

Talent hits a target no one else can hit. Genius hits a target no one else can see. Friends, Stanstedonians, countrymen, lend me your ears. Our quest for talent has struck gold. Step forward Nas Kattiyani who debuted for our 1st XI on 29th July scoring 211 not out. I would add his bowling figures but want to keep the chap grounded. I have spoken to Pep for his advice and we have secured Nas on a five-year contract with no release clause. He is ours - forever. Folks interested in our 1st/2nd XI detailed results and performances can access these through: www.stansted.play-cricket.com/Matches?tab=Result



Matt Cope and his offspring, known as Thing 1 and Thing 2

Moving on to even sunnier news. Our very own Matt Cope has been nominated by the ECB Coach Awards' scheme in the Coach of the Year category. To avoid confusion, Matt is a human man who coaches our junior teams brilliantly (ie he is not an 80-seater slightly posh bus); this nomination is thoroughly deserved - we strongly support him and are very lucky to have him. Whilst writing, we would like to make a big shout out to our sponsor, the Rose and Crown who contributed generously to our fund to buy a new bowling machine for the junior teams. Many local folks also contributed their hard-earned cash and it is very much appreciated. As always, I will sign off by asking any potential players to contact Ben Sammons on 07852 510330. You will be made very welcome regardless of skill level.

Robin Keck
Treasurer
Tel: 07717 571791
Email: rkeck@hogarthdavidslloyd.com



We know many people are worried about rising interest rates and high energy bills. Friendly advisers at Uttlesford Citizens Advice are here to help, with free advice and support. We can help you to access advice for:

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- Budgeting and specialist debt
- Housing and homelessness issues
- Emergency funds for fuel, food, prescriptions and essential travel
- Local food banks and children's clothes banks
- Support for carers
- Job seeking

Tax credits are coming to an end; most people will need to move onto Universal Credit (UC) instead. The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) have started sending out UC Migration Notices, explaining what you need to do. Please note that you will not be moved across to UC automatically. When you receive your letter from DWP you must act quickly and claim UC by the deadline otherwise your benefits will stop. However, you must not make a claim for UC before you receive your written notice.

Our advice is available to everyone and is always free, confidential and impartial. For quick and easy access to our help, visit our video access point in Stansted library, Monday, Wednesday and Friday 9.30am-1.30pm. Simply touch the screen to talk to an adviser, just as you would in a face-to-face appointment. For online advice go to www.citizensadvice.org.uk or contact us. To access over 150 local health, wellbeing and community groups go to www.uttlesfordfrontline.org.uk.



If you have some time to spare, please think about joining our amazing team of volunteers. You can make a real difference to people's lives and have a positive impact on your community; hours are flexible so fit well with family or other existing commitments.

We have vacancies for volunteers to join us as a Trustee or as part of the Advice and Disability Benefits teams. For more information and an application form, please visit our website.

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

IN THE GARDEN

As the nights start drawing in and the light levels fall during the day, the garden responds by slowing down. The grass needs less mowing, leaves take on their glorious autumn hues and, if we have early morning frosts, plants like dahlias will die and need cutting down. There are many who claim success in leaving the tubers in the ground over winter but traditionally it is recommended they are lifted, trimmed, allowed to cure for a week or so, then placed slightly apart in a ventilated box lined with newspaper and two layers of semi-dry compost over the tubers. The box should ideally be kept somewhere frost-free where they can be checked every so often. Any tubers which have become mouldy during storage should be removed to prevent the rot spreading.



There are still plenty of other jobs that can be done. Climbing roses should be pruned and tied in to withstand autumn winds. Cut back, lift and divide existing perennials, planting any new ones now whilst the soil retains some warmth and a good level of moisture. Cut back any tall shrubs like buddleias, lavateras and larger shrub roses to about half their height to prevent wind rock during the winter months and to ready them for their hard prune once the spring arrives. Trees begin to extract as much goodness as they can from their leaves before shutting down for winter, which causes the red hues to emerge. One of the great joys of this time of year is to revel in this glorious display so spend some time among the leaves before raking them up. Put the fallen leaves in a container to rot down for rich leaf mould to be used as mulch in future years.

u3a Garden Group
Email: stanstedu3a@gmail.com



DIRECTORY OF LOCAL CLUBS AND ORGANISATIONS

494 (Stansted Airport) Squadron ATC	Contact: Fg Off Lauren Reeks RAFAC Tel: 07771 964637 Email: oc.494@rafac.mod.gov.uk	Rotary Club	Peter Latham Tel: 881607 Email: stortvalleyrotary@gmail.com
Beaver Scouts Age 6-8	Angela Madigan Tel: 01371 513028	St Clare Hospice	Rebecca Day Email: info@stclarehospice.org.uk
BS Beekeepers	Kate Walker Tel: 07399 197756 Email: secretary@stortfordbees.org.uk	St John's Road and Area Association	Secretary: David Marchant Email: david@marchant.com
Bowls Club	Doreen Scraggs Mob: 07881 852833 Home: 815036 Email: doreenscraggs@talktalk.net	Scouts (age 10½ -14)	Mike Byrne Tel: 812780
Brownies (Tue)	Kathy Shearman Tel: 07724 355533	Stansted and District Past Rotarians Club	Geoff Lay Email: geoff.lay@ntlworld.com
Brownies (Wed)	Susan Scott Tel: 810955	Stansted Badminton Club	Vince Tel: 07793 000107 Raj Tel: 07775 915418
CAB	Tel: 01799 618840	Stansted Business Forum	Iris Evans Email: iris.evans9@gmail.com
Corkers Netball	Lizzie Read Tel: 07770 594848	Stansted Cricket Club (Adults)	Ben Sammons Tel: 07852 510330 Email: bensammons3178@gmail.com
Cub Scouts Age 8-10½	Emma Croutcher Email: croutchere@gmail.com	(Juniors)	Keith Ayres Tel: 814471
Explorer Scouts	Paul Thorneycroft Tel: 01371 876784	Stansted Football Club	Tom Williams Tel: 07921 403842
Friends of St Mary's Church	Lynda Dale Tel: 07716 099474 Email: lynnydale@hotmail.com	Stansted Hall and Elsenham Cricket Club	David Brown Tel: 831011/07788 999663 Email: david1.r.brown@gmail.com
Garden Club	Maralyn Harris Tel: 07919 478144	Stansted Social Club	Andrew Sharpe Tel: 812992 Email: stanstedclub@gmail.com
Grove Cottage	Sarah Smith Email: comms@mencapgrovecottage.org	Stansted Sparks Netball	Gemma Snelling Tel: 07894 944242 Email: gemmasnelling@me.com
Guides	Jennifer Jarvis Tel: 814434	Stansted Speed Watch	Warren Vickers Tel: 813996 Email: vickersw@aol.com
Helpline	Tel: 07704 553727	Stansted Tennis Club	Debbie Lane Tel: 07870 971983 Email: debbieglane@gmail.com
History Society	Roger Barrett Tel: 814216 Email: rmbarrrett54@gmail.com	Talking Newspaper (BS and District)	Richard Barnett Tel: 651270 Email: familybarnett24@hotmail.com
Human Roots	Keiran Oliver Tel: 07946 783039 Email: keiran@humanrootscommunity.org.uk	The Hundred Parishes Society	Ken McDonald Tel: 813226 Email: hundredparishes@btinternet.com
Huw Johnson Club	Ellen Brooks Tel: 07800 896516 Email: ellenbrooks@hotmail.co.uk	TouchPoint	Shirley Johnson Tel: 07572 114882 Email: info@thetouchpoint.org
Let's Talk, Stansted Mental Health Support	Richard Haywood Tel: 07794 268208 Email: contact@stanstedmentalhealth.org	Town Twinning	Chairman: Geraldine Allars Tel: 07833 089298 Email: twinning@stansted.net
Little Scrummers	Andrew Poyser Tel: 07738 591232	u3a	Susan Sedgebeer Email: bertiestar@gmail.com
Millers (Windmill)	Tudor Owen Tel: 810805 Email: info@stanstedwindmill.co.uk	WI (Stansted)	Linda Gurr Tel: 07743 549241
music@stansted (Classical concerts)	Sonia Levy Tel: 815282 Email: contactus@musicatstansted.co.uk	WI (Ugley)	Dorothy Wallace Tel: 850215
Neighbourhood Watch	Linzi Shelford Tel: 07427 377118 Email: linzishelford@hotmail.com	Youth Centre	Essex Youth Services Tel: 07584 140507
Parkinson's UK Uttlesford Support Group	Simon Russell Tel: 01799 524638 Email: simonrussell2@tiscali.co.uk		
Rainbow Pre-School	Gill Pursglove Tel: 814242/ 07966 506997 Email: admin@rainbowpreschool.net		
Rainbows (Fri)	Sue Pollard Tel: 813734		

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

BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES or SPECIAL OCCASIONS

If you would like to mark any occasion that is special to you or someone you know, by announcing it in the Link, please email a short message together with your name address and telephone number to: announcements@stanstedlink.org.uk or send the details to 7 Blythwood Gardens, Stansted CM24 8HG. Details must be submitted by the 8th of the month for publication the following month.

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