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Front cover
The Aurora Borealis
by Dale Crowson

Stansted Mountfitchet Village Magazine

The Link

www.stanstedlink.org.uk

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CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE NEXT ISSUE

Please email editor@stanstedlink.org.uk by noon on **9th July**. Submissions should be in Word or typed into an email, maximum 300 words, and may be subject to editing. Please send photographs (**preferably landscape**) as separate jpg.

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EDITORIAL



We are very lucky to have several readers who are happy to send us their beautiful photographs. Dale Crowson is one of these; his photo of the Aurora Borealis, taken on Friday, 10th May is absolutely stunning and we are so grateful to him for sharing it with us. Paul Burt, our photographic consultant, is full of admiration, saying that the photo feels like a painting. Praise indeed from the professional! Like so many people, I had not really heard that the aurora was due to happen, so I missed it; so infuriating.

Our local schools will be celebrating the second half of the summer term in style; various parent teacher groups have gone to a huge amount of trouble organising amazing fun days for the village to enjoy, hoping to raise money for school essentials. In addition, local beauty spots are hosting events; see Hatfield Forest p6 and Easton Lodge p11. With regard to our local nature reserve, Aubrey Buxton, please note the caution to dog owners on p15. It does not seem that long ago that we could not tell you about summer events, as there were none, due to that horrible virus. Looking at the What's On section, p5, it is wonderful to see so much going on now. Finally, good wishes to our GCSE and A level students, who will be done with their exams by early July and will be no doubt celebrating the end of that particular form of unpleasantness. We wish our readers a very happy summer.

Ed

NATURAL BEEKEEPING

Well the rain is persisting, and I know summer really only starts after the summer solstice, but this has been ridiculous! I think many plants have flowered really early this year, largely because there has not been any late frost. As a result many of the trees have kept their flowers, which are now fruiting. The elderflowers are out in force. This is great for the trees, but it has not been very good for the bugs, especially the ground burrowing wasps and bumblebees, which I have not seen this year. Butterflies love warm sunny days and again I have not seen many.



As you know, I do natural beekeeping now, but a long time ago I had conventional box hives for a number of years. This year I put out six empty hives and three now have honeybees. So they seem to be doing really well, even with all the rain; I think it is due to the abundance of flowers and very little competition from other pollinators. So even though there have not been many flying days, they have not had to fly very far. I am now holding my breath for a few dry weeks of hot weather, mainly to help all the other pollinators to have a chance to play catch-up. I will keep you posted. What you can keep an eye out for is how the numbers of pollinating flies, wasps, butterflies and bumble bees pick up over the next month.

Kevin Hancock
Email: thebigflyin@gmail.com



STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET u3a

www.u3asites.org.uk/stansted

For the first time ever, the u3a is holding a nationwide festival this **July** at the University of York, based around their exhibition centre. Members will be running a wide variety of activities: talks, sporting events, musical entertainment and workshops, which will make this u3a national festival something to remember. Several members from Stansted will be going, including one or two from the Committee, so we hope to bring back lots of fresh ideas for our own u3a.

May's Saturday seminar plunged into a highly contested controversy concerning palaeontology. Did birds evolve from dinosaurs or reptiles? Our speaker, Mike Howgate, began by saying, very forcefully, that he was going to give the minority view, speak against the conventional wisdom of the day and argue that it was from reptiles. He gave a witty, compelling and fascinating account of his views, tracing the theory of flight from reptiles such as *Longisquama insignis*, and denouncing the arguments that flight evolved from dinosaurs. Such was the combative nature of his argument, that it left us all wanting more. So, watch this space; perhaps the dinosaur pathway will get an airing soon!

This month the Garden Group will be visiting David and Anne Willet's garden in Little Hadham. David entertained us in February with a talk on *Famous Gardens*; he is a member of Thorley u3a and opens his garden annually in aid of charity. Finally, do please remember that new members will always be very welcome to try out any class before committing. Do check out our website or phone 07874 385541 to find out more about the variety of activities on offer.

Susan Sedgebeer
Email: stanstedu3a@gmail.com

FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S

Here is a last-minute shout out to all of you who do not yet have your tickets for *Post Floyd Dream* (Pink Floyd tribute band) on **Saturday 6th July**. Doors open 7.15pm with the band on stage at 8.00pm. Tickets: £25.00 are available from www.ticketsource.co.uk/friends-of-st-marys-standsted. There will be laser lights and a bar. *That Other Band* will be playing swinging 1940s American songbook music on **Sunday 7th July** 3.00pm-5.00pm. Nancy May returns on **Sunday 11th August** at 3.00pm bringing us music for a summer's afternoon. Nancy came last year and filled the church with her wonderful soprano voice. Tickets: £12.00 are available from www.nancy-may.co.uk/events or call 07938 629087. There were standing ovations last year as she sang both classical and popular pieces that we all know and love.



A busy weekend for us at St Mary's is coming up as we welcome back the scouts for a churchyard work party. The list of jobs is long, but we will be working our way through them. Many thanks to them all and the parents and leaders who give up their time on a Sunday. *Anglia in Bloom* is being judged next month so we need to be all spruced up.



However, it is not just about winning awards, it is more to do with taking pride in the only churchyard in Stansted and respect for those buried here. See you all soon!



Lynda Dale
Tel: 07716 099474

KEITH TURNER

Kelvin, Karen and Sandra are sad to announce the death of their father, Keith Turner, on Thursday 23rd May. Keith was born in Stansted in 1934 to Ken and Nellie Turner who ran Turner Brothers grocers in Lower Street. He and his wife Joan lived in Stansted until a business opportunity took them to Cambridgeshire in 1986. Keith was organist and choirmaster at St Mary's and St John's churches for many years, having started as a choirboy in 1941. There will be a memorial service on **Friday 5th July** at 2.30pm in St Mary's Church to which family and friends are welcome.

Kelvin Turner



DAISY MAY'S FARM

www.daisymaysfarm.org

We are so excited as once more our fabulous woodland campsite is open and we are ready to receive guests. You can stay in the woodland area and get back in touch with nature or stay in our camping paddock where there is lots of space and beautiful scenery. All of these options obviously include entry to the farm where you can meet our lovely animals and all their babies; what a fabulous holiday and all for just £25 a night as well as being right on your doorstep. To book, please message us through our Facebook page.

We still have babies of all sorts everywhere: chicks, ducklings, lambs and kid goats, who love a cuddle. Trust me, they do not come much cuter! We have a fabulous safe area to play in, a train ride for £2 extra, a stream to splash in, ride-on toys, a woodland trail to explore, ice creams to be slurped, crafts to be created and more. We are open every day, but please always check our Facebook page just in case. Entry: £6, under 1s free, and it really is a fabulous day out for all the family. There is so much to do and see at the farm and our animals just love seeing you all. So do be sure to come and see us over the summer. We look forward to seeing you. You can find us in Hall Road, Elsenham CM22 6DN.

Elaine Terry
Tel: 07747 787973



Touchpoint Notice Board

We have been contacted by some of the local community who do not have social media, asking where all Touchpoint's events are listed. These, plus all groups led by our partners, can be viewed on the notice board directly outside the Touchpoint building next to the library.

The calendar of events is updated monthly and all activity dates and times are advertised. We encourage anyone interested in finding out more to take a look at it; and if the café is open, I would highly recommend popping in for a cup of tea and to meet some of the wonderful volunteers who will be more than happy to provide further information.

Hannah



BIRCHANGER PRIMARY SCHOOL

www.birchanger.essex.sch.uk

As we come to the final term of the year the children have been busy enjoying all the summer term has to offer. Our older children have been busily practising for their end of year production *The Wizard of Oz*, and the Year 6s have their residential trip to look forward to now that SATs are finally over.

Our children in Key Stage 1 have been loving their topic on the seaside and are looking forward to their seaside afternoon in July. In Reception, the children have been learning about fairytales and have had fun in their rôle play area of *The Three Bears*. They are looking forward to their Teddy Bears' Picnic. Parents and children came together earlier in the month and had a picnic lunch on the field. It was lovely to see the children enjoying their ice lollies, listening to some music and showing their parents and carers what they get up to at lunchtimes, whether it be playing football, tree-climbing, digging in the mudpit, going round in the cars or dressing up; great fun was had by all!

Sharon Vessey
Headteacher
Tel: 812362



FUN PLACE ON THE HILL

www.stanstedfreechurch.org.uk

The Fun Place is open every **Friday, including school holidays**, from 9.15am-11.30am in the Free Church Hall which is pleasant and comfortable. All ages are welcome, although it is particularly suitable for children. Parents, carers and all age visitors are welcome to drop in and enjoy a relaxing hot drink and chat, while the children enjoy plenty of space to run around.



As well as the variety of toys, and the popular Sing-Along around 10.30am, books are always a favourite with everyone. 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



MAGNA CARTA PRIMARY SCHOOL

www.magnacartaacademy.org

Creativity is seeing what others see and thinking what no one else ever thought. Albert Einstein

One of our school values is to nurture creativity in all shapes and forms. For us, creativity means the confidence and ability to produce original and unusual ideas. This, combined with one of our other school values, curiosity, encourages excitement and eagerness to learn.

This term pupils have been very creative indeed. Year 6 pupils have enjoyed exploring cooking and nutrition with *Come Dine with Me* projects, independently planning three-course meals and researching, budgeting and purchasing ingredients. We all enjoyed the delicious aromas of hand-made garlic bread, bruschetta and nachos wafting through the building. The main course featured salmon-based stir fry and pasta dishes, followed by cookie dough and tiramisu to finish.



Year 3 recently enjoyed an immersive experience from ancient Britain. The excitement was palpable as pupils visited the village (our converted art room) which had been dimmed and decorated, and filled with sounds of nearby dwellers working, animals foraging, crackling fires and the river bubbling through it all. They used their sense of sound, sight and touch to explore and record their adventure by creating cave art works on the underside of upturned desks. We believe, like Einstein, that each pupil has a unique perspective that lends itself to originality. We will continue to keep supporting pupils to find theirs.

We have a full diary of fun events for pupils this term, especially our Summer Fun Day on **Sunday 7th July** noon-3.00pm. Everyone is invited to join us for fun and games; please bring a blanket. Entry is free! We will have a bouncy castle and face painting, BBQ, Pimms, cakes and a raffle, plus traditional fair games. If any local businesses can provide raffle prizes, it would be great; please email: magnacartapta@gmail.com.

Amber Cope
Parent Governor
Email: copea@bmatrust.org.uk

STANSTED IS WELL READ

8 pm Tue 2nd July

Dog and Duck, Lower Street

Books by Ian Rankin

Each member will select a book by Ian Rankin. With so many titles to choose from, Rebus or otherwise, it will be interesting to hear and discuss members' choices

All Welcome Tel 813056

Bentfield School PTA



1.30 - 8 pm Sat 6th July

Live music to suit all tastes

Tickets from the School Office,
The Dog and Duck or Intercounty

£15 advance, £18 on the gate

Accompanied under 16s free

but still need a ticket



Friends of
St Mary's Church

Post Floyd Dream

7.15 pm Sat 6th Jul

That Other Band

3 pm Sun 7th Jul

Tickets from

www.ticketsource.co.uk/friends-of-st-marys-stansted

WHAT'S ON IN JULY

2	Tue	Stansted is Well Read	Dog and Duck 8 pm
6	Sat	Music in the Park	Bentfield School 1.30 pm
		Post Floyd Dream	St Mary's Church 7.15pm
7	Sun	Summer Fun Day	Magna Carta School noon
		Windmill Open	1.30 - 5.30 pm
		That Other Band	St Mary's Church 3 pm
7/21	Sun	Green Waste Skips	Lower St Car Park 12.30 - 4.30 pm
9	Tue	Link copy due in today	before noon
		The Arts Society B S	South Mill Arts, B S 10.40 am
		RSPB	Bishop's Park, B S 7.30 pm
10	Wed	Hill Chilli	31 Chapel Hill 7 pm
11	Thu	W I	Touchpoint 7.30 pm
13	Sat	Summer Fayre	St Mary's School noon
		Harmonaires Concert	B S Methodist Church 7 pm
17	Wed	Ugley W I	Ugley Village Hall 2 pm
20	Sat	Ugley Farmers' Market	Ugley Village Hall 10 am
21	Sun	Open Day	Easton Lodge 11 am - 5 pm
27	Sat	Elsenham Farmers' Market	Elsenham Village Hall 12.30 pm



**MAGNA CARTA
PRIMARY SCHOOL**

SUMMER FUN DAY

Noon - 3 pm Sun 7th July

Bouncy Castle • Face Painting

Traditional Fair Games

Raffle • BBQ • Pimms • Cakes

All Welcome ~ Bring a Blanket
Entry Free



**Green Waste
Skip Dates**

**Lower Street Car Park
Sundays 12.30 - 4.30 pm**

7th & 21st July

4th & 18th Aug



10 am - noon

Sat 20th July

Ugley Village Hall

Fruit and Veg ~ Beef, Pork, Lamb

Eggs ~ Fish ~ Soup ~ Hummus

Bread ~ Home Baking ~ Jam

Chutney ~ Honey ~ Skincare

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10.40 am Tue 9th July

South Mill Arts

*Edith Durham's bold Edwardian
collection of beautiful Balkan things
by Elizabeth Gowing*

Guests welcome Entry £7

Coffee served from 10 am

Tel 656065 for more information



Women in Song

music by female composers and lyricists

7 pm Sat 13th July

B S Methodist Church

Tickets: Adults £10, children free

www.theharmonaireschoir.com

Retiring collection for Refuge



**ST MARY'S
PRIMARY SCHOOL**

SUMMER FAYRE

Noon - 4 pm Sat 13th July

Donkey Rides • Football Factory

Animal Encounter Show

Acts from The Voice

Tea and Cakes

All Welcome Entry Free



**HILL
CHILLI**

7pm Wed 10th July

Sonia's Place, 31 Chapel Hill

Fun, Friends and Food

Bring your own drink

Tickets £10 on the door

All Welcome

Proceeds to St John's Church Hall



HATFIELD FOREST

www.nationaltrust.org.uk/hatfield-forest

Come and visit us this summer and you will experience the beauty of the lake and forest in a way you have not before, whether it is attending one of our open-air theatre events or boating on the lake. The lake was created in the mid-18th century, when the Houblon family, who owned the forest, dammed the Shermore Brook. A boat hire facility operated from before the Second World War through to the 1980s.

Following dialogue with *Natural England*, a non-departmental public body, sponsored by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, six boats have been provided for rent. These are named after indigenous trees that can be found within the forest: oak, ash, hornbeam, maple, hawthorn and hazel.

The boats are handmade by Clovelly Boats in Devon and are available to hire in the school summer holidays from the pontoon by the Shell House, noon-4.00pm. A maximum of five people are allowed in a boat and the cost is £10 for 30 minutes.



Photo by Chris Connell, National Trust

Alternatively, you could introduce your young ones to fishing. *Get Hooked* is running from **Saturday 13th July to Sunday 8th September**. Tickets are £5 for children aged 6-16 years and they must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. More information can be found by searching for *Get Hooked* on our website.

Also, in July we have the *The Adventures of Dr Dolittle* performed by the excellent Illyria Theatre company. This is an exciting musical about the adventures of a village doctor who discovers he can talk to the animals; it is fun for all the family in our wonderful forest setting. Search the website for *Dr Dolittle* for booking and ticketing information. Come along and enjoy summer fun in the forest.

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



THANK YOU JO

Has anyone been barrelling along to the Galapagos?

Can anyone help me contact a very helpful post-person? My cousin recently visited the Galapagos Islands where she posted a postcard addressed to me into an ancient whisky barrel, used since 1793 as a postbox for sailors. Tradition dictates that anyone passing the barrel checks for post and sees if their return home will take them anywhere near the intended destination of the letters that have been left. My postcard made it to me extremely quickly, within only a few weeks of posting, while I was out at work. It was hand delivered, suggesting that the deliverer lives locally. The postcard was enclosed in a white envelope with a note from Jo, the deliverer. I would love to thank Jo in person - so if anyone knows of a local, intrepid friend by that name, I would be very grateful to be put in touch!

Claire Pelly
Email: cmgpelly@gmail.com



SUSTAINABLE STANSTED

www.sustainablestansted.org

We are always keen to provide local residents with useful information to help them to reduce their carbon and



RESIDENT ADVICE PACK

Taking Action on Climate Change

energy usage, which helps to save money and the planet. So we were pleased to see that Essex County Council has recently launched new Climate Advice Packs for residents, schools, businesses and early years. There are two versions for residents. The standard one (see picture) provides advice mainly in words, with some pictures and illustrations, but there is also a new, easy

read version that uses more pictures and fewer words to give its advice.

They cover many important topics including transport, energy at home, food, waste, outdoors and the natural world, *what can I do?* and lists of further available resources. They can be found at www.essexclimate.org.uk then look for Advice Packs. We hope you find these helpful. Please look out for further advice and updates on our SustainableStansted Facebook page and website.

Bob Burlton
Email: bob.burlton@outlook.com

Women in Song

Join us for a summer evening recital celebrating the outstanding music of female composers and lyricists. The concert will take place on **Saturday 13th July** at 7.00pm in the Methodist Church, South Street, Bishop's Stortford. With a broad range of genres, discover new classics from composers such as Quartel, Daley, Simons, Perry and more. There will be a retiring collection in aid of the charity *Refuge*, supporting women and children. Tickets: adults £10, children free, available from our website.



The Bishop's Stortford based choir was formed just over nine years ago by Musical Director Josie Cowley and is going from strength to strength, singing in cathedrals as well as performing fundraising concerts locally. One of the judges at the 2023 Manchester Amateur Choral Competition described The Harmonaires' performance as *a superb presentation from this tight ensemble. All-in-all an example of accessible, varied programming of pieces, performed to an extremely high standard.* For more information about the choir please see our website.

Liz Jennings

Email: Jenningselizabeth4@gmail.com

RANDOM JOTTINGS

Not what it says on the tin

I did not get to the Chelsea Flower Show this year, so watched it via the BBC. Looking forward to seeing the usual stunning, colourful floral displays in the show gardens, I was disappointed to see just lots of trees, foliage and posh sheds overflowing with leafy indoor plants. If the TV coverage was a true reflection of what was there, then the event should have been called the Chelsea Greenery Show.

Unbelievable

According to a recent newspaper article, a man accused of driving without a licence attended his court hearing in Michigan via a video link - whilst driving a car! The accused seemed genuinely surprised when the judge sentenced him

to jail time, instructing the 44-year-old to turn himself in immediately.

Pecking order

Having stocked up the bird table, I sat watching a rook, an unusual visitor to my garden, as it swooped down to feed. I noticed a group of jackdaws waiting patiently in a nearby tree not attempting to approach the table until the rook flew off. Once the jackdaws had their fill, a magpie flew down from its perch on the fence and ate in isolated splendour until one of my regulars, a pigeon, descended from the garage roof. Tired of waiting their turn, more of my regulars, a gang of blackbirds, tried to muscle in on the pigeon, but were robustly denied access, and had to make do with whatever was left when he/she had their fill. A fascinating portrayal of the pecking order.

Loki



www.mencapgrovecottage.org

Exciting News

We have planning permission to rebuild Grove Cottage on London Road! This milestone marks a significant step forward in our journey towards enhancing our facilities to better serve our community.

Glow for Gold

Ditch your dark clothes, step into summer, and get your Glow On! Join us during Helping Herts Week from **1st-7th July**. Dress up in your brightest clothes and accessories, invite your friends and family, and let your personality shine. Grown-ups can have fun too. Ask your family and friends to sponsor you and be part of something amazing: raising awareness and support for Grove Cottage. Every £1 you raise will be matched by Helping Herts, doubling your impact. Join *Glow for Grove* by contacting Mina on 07710 699574 email: mina@mencapgrovecottage.org.

Sarah Smith

Email: comms@mencapgrovecottage.org

ST JOHN'S 300 CLUB

Many congratulations to the winners of the May draw:


£100	No 245	Amanda Snelling
£ 50	No 8	Stephen Higley
£ 25	No 117	Isabel Thwaites

The draw for July will be held on **28th July** 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



Stansted Pilates & Osteopathy



Hazel Williams is one of the few osteopathic practitioners who specialises in both structural and cranial osteopathy to treat a wide range of patients from babies to the elderly, from the immobile to athletes. Her treatment can help with: back, neck, joint, arthritic, muscle and sciatic pain, trapped nerves, sports injuries, headaches and migraine.


She also incorporates acupuncture to aid pain relief and provides specially formulated pilates classes to help improve and maintain fitness.

Classes held at: *The Quaker Hall, Chapel Hill.*
8-9pm Mon / 9-10am Sat.

Please call to book an appointment or a class
01279 813371 or **07973 409675**
www.hazel-williams.co.uk

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Skydiving for Accuro

On Sunday 19th May, six intrepid fundraisers completed a tandem skydive at the North London Skydiving Centre. The group comprised Adam and Ellis from Bishop's Stortford-based IT company Genmar, Stansted-based father and daughter duo Olly and Alex, and Takeley-based mother and son duo Zoe and Archie. Zoe is the scheme co-ordinator for Accuro's adult projects in Uttlesford.



The six skydivers arrived early at the centre. Two of them took to the skies first, followed shortly after by the others. They all received a certificate of completion and took home memories that will last a lifetime. Between them, the group raised £4,151.85, including gift aid, for Accuro Care Services, a charity which supports people with disabilities.

Katie Bullett

Email: katie@accuro.org.uk



SOCIAL CLUB

www.smsc.com

It looks as if summer has finally arrived which means it is membership renewal time. There has been no increase from last year so it is just £5 for over-65s and £20 for everybody else. We would like to welcome the 30 new members who joined recently. We have had some marvellous feedback about the garden refurbishment; the addition of lighting and a few shrubs adds a fantastic finishing touch. We look forward to welcoming everybody for the Euros and other events throughout the summer.

July offers another packed month of entertainment, starting with the fabulous *Time Warps* on **Friday 5th**. The return of our *Lady Gaga* tribute, who is performing a party set, is on **Saturday 6th**. DJ John returns on **Friday 12th**, and on **Saturday 13th** we welcome *The Malones* who are making their Club debut and will be knocking out some fantastic Ska and 2-Tone tunes. On **Saturday 20th** we welcome back *All Glammed Up*, an awesome glam-rock band. Karaoke returns on **Friday 26th** with *Cloud 9* and we round off the month on **Saturday 27th** with *Electric Vinyl* and their superb 80s set.

If you are new to the area or are unfamiliar with the Club, but may want to join, just pop in and have a chat with one of the Committee. You get an awful lot for your membership fee including all standard entertainment, drinks at competitive prices, fantastic company, the weekly members draw and the famous Sunday meat raffle!



Andrew Sharpe

Email: Stanstedclub@gmail.com

IN THE GARDEN

July is usually one of the hottest months of the year but after the weather patterns that have been dominating our climate throughout the spring it is difficult to predict what things will be like during this summer. If we do experience hot dry spells, ridiculous though it may sound after such a wet winter and spring, it still makes sense to save water when we can. Watering should be done in the cooler hours, early morning or in the evening, to avoid evaporation which would occur in the middle of the day. Direct any water to the base of each plant, rather than spraying wide areas, to maximise the benefit of watering.

Make preparations for your garden if you are planning a holiday during this time. Ask a friend or neighbour to look in from time to time, let them pick any ripe fruit or vegetables which will encourage further crops to be produced. Similarly, flowers like sweet peas and dahlias will produce continuous blooms if they are picked regularly. House plants can be given a holiday too. They will benefit from a spell outdoors when it is warmer. Plunge the pots into the soil to minimize water loss.



The summer months are a busy time for gardeners when everything is growing and flowering abundantly. Deadheading will keep blooms coming for longer so never go for a walk round the garden without your secateurs. Late-flowering perennials such as roses will benefit from a general organic fertiliser applied now. In addition, these plants will benefit from a feed after the first flush of flowers; this will encourage them to continue blooming well into autumn. Talking of autumn, why not plant some autumn-flowering bulbs like colchicums, autumn-flowering crocus and nerines to produce flowers through September, October and maybe even into November?

u3a Garden Group

Email: stanstedu3a@gmail.com

HILL CHILLI

Come to the Hill Chilli at Sonia's, 31 Chapel Hill, on **Wednesday 10th July** from 7.00pm for an evening of fun, friends, and food! Bring your own drink of choice. Tickets are £10 on the door. All proceeds to St John's Church Hall.



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To write this I looked back on last year's pictures for comparison. This June we were ahead on some of the core jobs around the Gardens, such as reshaping umbrellas of the Portuguese laurels in the Italian Garden. The fern rill and the wildflower spiral features that were in the mind's eye last year have now come into their own.

However in other areas it has been a struggle; the dahlias and vegetables may or may not have bounced back by the time you read this. Hopefully, though, July will turn into a lovely warm summer month with occasional overnight rain to water the plants.

The roses and waterlilies should be at their best in the Italian garden and the walled kitchen garden mixed border should be hot with *Crocasmia*, *Achillea* and *Hemerocallis*. We are keeping our fingers crossed for good numbers of butterflies and perhaps hummingbird hawkmoths supping from the lavender hedges.



As D-Day on 6th June fortuitously fell on a Thursday, many visitors came to see the Gardens and the wonderful exhibition our archivist had pulled together specially for that Open Thursday.

For those who missed it, there will be a further chance to see the exhibition at our Open Day on **Sunday 21st July** when we remember the rôle of the Gardens and estate in the World Wars. Gates open at 11.00am and there will be the opportunity to visit other exhibitors' stalls and the local Austin 7 Club, as well as singing and dancing to *Perfect Vintage* duo's 1940s songs. Visitors can bring picnics and dogs on leads are welcome. For more information about tickets, times, activities and refreshments please see our website.

Jill Goldsmith
Tel: 01372 876979
Email: enquiries@eastonlodge.co.uk

The May meeting was our AGM, and after the business side of things was completed, the entertainment began. This included a quiz with a May theme, and our monthly competition was an item beginning with *M*. This attracted a good number of entries including a *Housewife Magazine* from May 1946, full of nostalgia-inducing adverts including Amami shampoo costing 4d including purchase tax and its slogan of *Friday night is Amami night*, and a curling lotion: *Lorelox curls make lovely girls at 2/7d per bottle*. The magazine also included an article on public speaking in which the author commented that her ability to address an audience with confidence *started like many good things, at the Women's Institute*.

More recent nostalgia was provided in a poem written in 1982 by the late much-loved Phyllis Harrison who was president of our institute at the time. In a 14-verse poem she mentioned each member of the Committee in turn, thanking them for their hard work over the year. This was recited by a member of the current committee and proved of great interest. The names included Mrs: Pearman, Leach, Bunting, Doggett, Gilbey, Dix, Smith, Lawrence and Camp, Misses Ecclestone and Tennant as well as P Maule-Horne.

Our July meeting will be held on **Wednesday 17th July** at 2.00pm in Ugley Village Hall when Brian Carline will be entertaining us with a talk entitled *Our Street*. Why not come and join us for the afternoon? You would be most welcome!

Andrea Fitt
Tel: 815922



Our next meeting is on **Tuesday 9th July** at 10.40am in South Mill Arts, with coffee from 10.00am. The presenter is the writer and lecturer, Elizabeth Gowing whose lecture is entitled *Edith Durham's bold Edwardian collection of beautiful Balkan things*.



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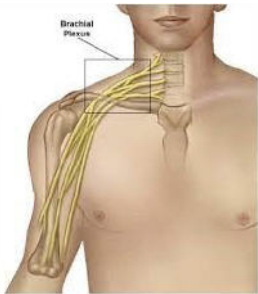
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BRAIN TRAINING

It is my nerves! Part 2

Continuing last month's theme of nerves and what they do: they convey information both to and from the brain. Following an injury or surgery, or from overuse or misuse, usually there will be nerve damage; to fully regain strength and prevent further problems, any affected nerves need attending to.

Last month I drew attention to the sciatic nerve, which can easily get trapped in the hip musculature. This month I am picking on the shoulders, the *brachial plexus*. As can be seen in the picture, many nerves pass through a small space between the shoulder and the upper arm. Lifestyle and



stress lead to shoulders rolling forwards and sitting too high, and so this small space gets even smaller, squashing the nerves.

Nerves can get compressed in any joint of the body, such as the elbows in golfers or tennis elbow. We do three different things to nerves to improve function:

- We stretch a nerve. This helps activate muscles, important in strengthening weak muscles
- We slide a nerve. This is a frequent action in rehabilitation, sliding the nerve through the tissues where it is stuck
- We shorten a nerve. This is done when a nerve has been thoroughly over stretched and things are very sore.

Whilst none of this information is of immediate use to you, the point is not to overlook the nerves as part of rehabilitation. An aside: shoulders are particularly difficult to rehabilitate because the shoulder joint is shallow, allowing for great freedom of movement, but this also means that they can easily sit badly from lifestyle or poor form in the gym. There is also a huge emotional component to how shoulders sit. When we are stressed or frightened, up they go!

Clare Harding
Z-Health Master Practitioner
Tel: 07802 872919

STANSTED EVENING WI



For our May meeting, which was also our Annual Meeting, we were back at the newly named Touchpoint which looked much improved after its recent renovations. The retiring Committee were thanked for their tireless work during the year and were duly re-elected. Our next meeting is on **Thursday 11th July** at 7.30pm in Touchpoint when our speaker, Tony Tutton, will entertain us with *Coronation to Coronation*. We are asking members to bring along a friend as well as their own drinks and refreshments, but all are welcome.

Linda Gurr
Tel: 07743 549241



HUW JOHNSON CLUB

The Club has had a great start to the term with a delicious meal out at Easton Lodge. This was followed by a visit from the *Bishop's Stortford Ukulele Society* which had members up and dancing and singing along to the wide range of songs they performed. We have a trip to the bowling alley in Bishop's Stortford coming up for everyone to look forward to. The Club's 50th birthday party will be held on **Sunday 11th August**. Do get in touch if you have a connection to the Club and would like to attend.

Ellen Brooks
Tel: 07800 896516

RSPB

www.group.rspb.org.uk/stortvalley

With the arrival of July and hopefully summer we will conclude another successful year for our group with two events to enjoy. Firstly, we have our midweek birding walk on **Wednesday 3rd July**. Please note this is an evening event and the date has been changed. We plan to meet at The Dukes Head, High Street, Hatfield Broad Oak CM22 7HH at 6.00pm. With the longer summer evenings this is an opportunity to enjoy a wander around the delightful and varied countryside that surrounds Hatfield Broad Oak. Following the walk, we plan to retire to The Dukes Head for refreshments.



For our last meeting we welcome back John Buckingham on **Tuesday 9th July** at 7.30pm in Bishop's Park Community Centre CM23 4DA, for his talk on the *Wonders of Bird Migration - Part 2*. Last year John gave us a wonderfully entertaining insight into bird migration with his talk that focused on the worldwide long distance bird journeys and how we monitor them. At the end of the talk, he was asked *How do the birds know the route to take?* with the answer being *That is in another talk*. We are very happy and privileged to welcome John back to explain how migrating birds know their route. Contact me for full details of all our activities or please see our website.

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

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

Boxes, boxes boxes! They have invaded my home now, and they have come in all shapes and sizes. I am of course referring to moving boxes. There is a large pile in one corner of the lounge that are all completely new, flat and pristine, yet to be assembled and filled, taped together with the parcel tape, all 18 rolls of it. In other corners of the house there are other boxes, already packed. Some of these are less pristine; in fact rather battered and bruised, marked as they are with writing of numbers or instructions as to each box's final destination at a previous time and previous move. All the boxes all have *Pickfords* written on them, being the removal company that all Salvation Army officers use to move their belongings from A to B, or in my case from Stortford all 8½ miles to Harlow!

Yes, after three years as the leader of The Salvation Army in Bishop's Stortford, it is time for me to move again. We get used to this over time, because we do it often. Moving that is. It has been an absolute honour to work in this area and town, and be the leader for the fellowship which represents the Salvation Army here. One of the biggest events these last few years was to begin life in our own, permanent home and building. After 20 years using Markwell Pavillion as our Sunday base, we opened our own community centre in Unit 3, Ducketts Wharf, South Street, next door to Kwikfit. Not only will the summer see a new leader in Major Susan Robinson arrive, there will also be a new employee who will be launching new activities that will seek to meet the needs of the Bishop's Stortford town and area. It is my firm belief that the fellowship I leave is in good hands. As for myself, I begin not only a new chapter of work, but also a new life with my soulmate and friend, Yvonne. The last few years have seen us both have sadness, but as we marry in July, that sadness is turned to gladness! It has been a privilege to write these lines from time to time, and I leave you with this thought, that if Jesus is your friend, He will have anything you worry about, covered for you: God bless you all!

Alan Frederiksen
Major



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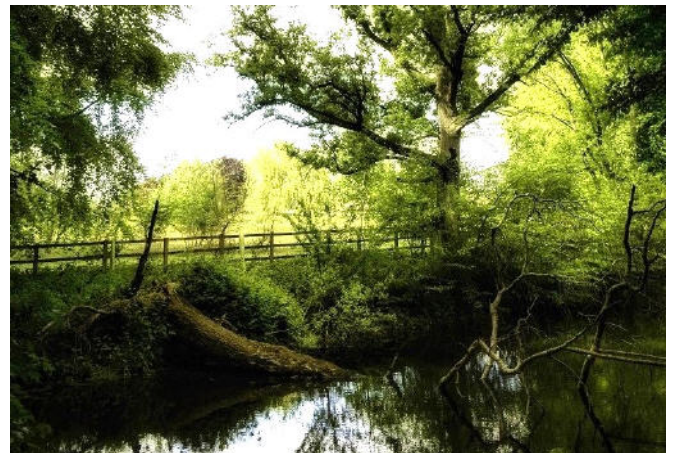


Photo by Mick Fitch of The Arts Society of Bishop's Stortford

With regard to the ponds, we need to ask members of the public not to allow their dogs to enter the ponds. The reason is twofold. Firstly, there has been very significant bank erosion to the top pond where dogs enter and exit the water.

Essex Wildlife Trust has now commissioned revetment work to be carried out soon to this area using several thousand pounds of the charity's resources. The second reason relates to the anti-flea and tick treatments that we give our dogs. There is now increasing evidence that these treatments are harming our ponds and streams and negatively affecting the invertebrate species in the water. I am sure some will be disappointed by this but we ask for your co-operation in helping to look after the plants and wildlife in this reserve.

John Welham
Warden

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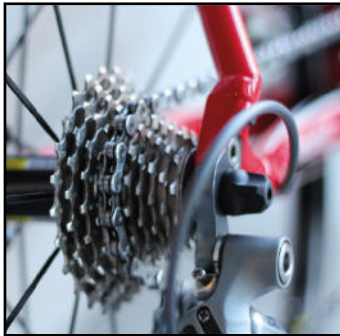


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THE HUNDRED PARISHES SOCIETY

www.hundredparishes.org.uk

The 19th century was a period of great railway development. Several railways in The Hundred Parishes no longer exist although they played an important role during their hundred-year lifetime.

The Saffron Walden Railway was constructed in 1865. It branched off the London-Cambridge main line and ran from Audley End Station to Saffron Walden. In 1866 it was extended to Bartlow, to link up with the Stour Valley Railway. Following loss of passengers and freight from rail onto road, a report in 1964 by Sir Richard Beeching identified many lines that were deemed uneconomical; many stations and miles of track were decommissioned, including the Saffron Walden line.



In Hertfordshire, a line ran from St. Margarets to Buntingford, including stations at Braughing, Hadham, Standon and West Mill. The Buntingford Line was closed to passengers in 1964 and goods trains a year later. Buntingford Station is now a private residence. Braughing station opened in 1863 and closed in 1964 and is also a private residence, but it retains many of the original features including the platform, signal box and signals; see photo.

Another line ran from Bishop's Stortford via Dunmow to Braintree. Much of this is now the Flitch Way Country Park, a 15-mile route that was opened in 1994 and is largely maintained by a group of volunteers, Friends of the Flitch Way. It is used by walkers, horse riders and cyclists and is part of National Cycle Network Route 16. The demise of the original rail line cannot be blamed on Beeching; it closed in 1952 for financial reasons. Our website includes a fuller exploration of local railways under the *Articles* section, while the *Walks* section includes routes from current railway stations, plus a new series of Quiet Lane walks that do not use footpaths.



Ken McDonald
Secretary
Tel: 813226

Email: hundredparishes@btinternet.com



STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET WINDMILL

www.stanstedwindmill.co.uk

Our pre-fête meeting is on **Wednesday 10th July** 7.00pm in the windmill. Anyone with an interest in helping with the fête or having a stall is invited. As always the fête takes place on the last Bank Holiday of the year which this year falls on **Monday 26th August**. We have booked familiar attractions for the Rec which include Robbie the Land Train, Teacups Roundabout and a number of inflatables. All the familiar attractions at the mill and Millside will be on offer again this year.

Efforts to get the continued re-pointing of the mill brickwork under way are being held up by administrative issues concerning Scheduled Monument Consent which has to be obtained from Historic England before work can begin. This is a source of some frustration to us but no doubt we will get there in the end. We have had a welcome increase in the number of organised group visits from local youth groups, schools and other organisations to the windmill. We are very pleased to host such visits. Enquiries should be made via the email address below or using the contact form on our website.

We are looking forward to welcoming Dr Martin Bridge to the mill. Martin is a distinguished dendrochronologist who works for the Oxford Dendrochronology Laboratory and also does consultancy work for Historic England. Dendrochronology (or tree-ring dating) is defined as the scientific method of dating tree rings to the exact year they were formed in a tree. Martin is interested in dating the upright shaft in the mill and we hope his findings will support the story that according to local tradition, it was once part of a ship's mast.

Trevor Lloyd
Tel: 07739 428352

Email: info@stanstedwindmill.co.uk

STANSTED IS WELL READ

The next meeting of our book club will be on **Tuesday 2nd July** at 8.00pm in the Dog and Duck, Lower Street. Following the start of a new darker series of Rebus on television we decided last month that each member would independently select a book by Ian Rankin. With so many titles to choose from, Rebus or otherwise, it will be interesting to hear members' choices, and discuss and compare individual views at our July meeting. Please do get in touch if you would like to join us with your own Ian Rankin experience. A warm welcome awaits.



Diana Griffin
Tel: 813056
Email: stanstediswellread@gmail



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THE PLACE ON THE HILL

www.stanstedfreechurch.org.uk

Summer is here at last, but we are still the go-to place if you are in need of company or just want to get out of the house. Join us for free coffee, cakes and biscuits in friendly company on **Wednesdays 10.00am-noon**. We also 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. There is limited parking behind the church. Adults of all ages are welcome. If you have children, 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



The volunteers have been making the most of recent kind donations from Touchpoint and Treecology, to transform the allotment pathways with bark and cardboard, trying to eradicate weeds. We have also been busy planting our summer crops and seeds with abundance, as well as trying to keep those pesky slugs and snails at bay; more to follow on our success regarding slugs and weeds in the coming months. Already our allotment is looking lush with vegetables sown earlier this year, and the colours of our lupins and perennials make the allotment a great place to spend a bit of time. We are all enjoying seeing nature doing its thing.



We are committed to growing fruit and vegetables which we can enjoy and share with the local community. Working together on the allotment is good fun, great exercise and brilliant for picking up hints and tips from each other, as well as having a cuppa and a natter. Our aim is to put a bit back into the local community; we are always happy to welcome new volunteers. If you are interested in joining the team, please email Cathy at cathymizzard@gmail.com.

Ashley Huggonson
Volunteer



www.southmillarts.co.uk

Concerts and Comedy

There are so many exciting shows this July at our theatre. *Beyond the Barricade* bring us a concert portrayal of the greatest songs in musical theatre on **Friday 5th**, featuring past principal performers from *Les Misérables*. Then prepare for a nostalgic trip back to the decade of glam and rock as *Counterfeit 70s* take you on a musical ride of the biggest 70s hits on **Saturday 20th**, paired with stunning costumes and video footage.

Fancy a laugh? On **Tuesday 9th**, from the heart of South London's vibrant Brixton, *That's Drag Bingo*, hosted by Orange Gina, brings you a night of drag artistry, impromptu dance-offs, and a classic game of bingo, wrapped together with cheeky humour; this is where bingo meets fabulous. On **Saturday 27th**, *La Voix* joins us for an evening of live vocals and side-splitting comedy.



Family Shows

Start your summer holidays with the family on a high with these undeniably fun and truly magical shows. On **Thursday 25th**, *The Extraordinary Time-Travelling Adventures of Baron Munchausen* tells a story including pirates, princesses, unicorns and dragons to name but a few. Voted the Best Children's Show at the Leicester Comedy Festival 2020, imaginations will run wild with the giggles of the audience, ensuring that the stories end happily ever after.

Carrying on the magic, London's longest-running theatre magic show, *West End Magic* joins us on **Saturday 27th**. This exciting family-friendly show offers a mystical mixture of magic and comedy. Are you interested in technical theatre? Learn all the basics of technical production culminating in a live event, in our week-long theatre workshop starting on **Monday 29th**. For more information about everything that is happening this season, head to our website.

Seren Stephen

Tel: 710200

Email: enquiries@southmillarts.co.uk

Stansted Network

NEWS FROM YOUR LOCAL COUNCILS



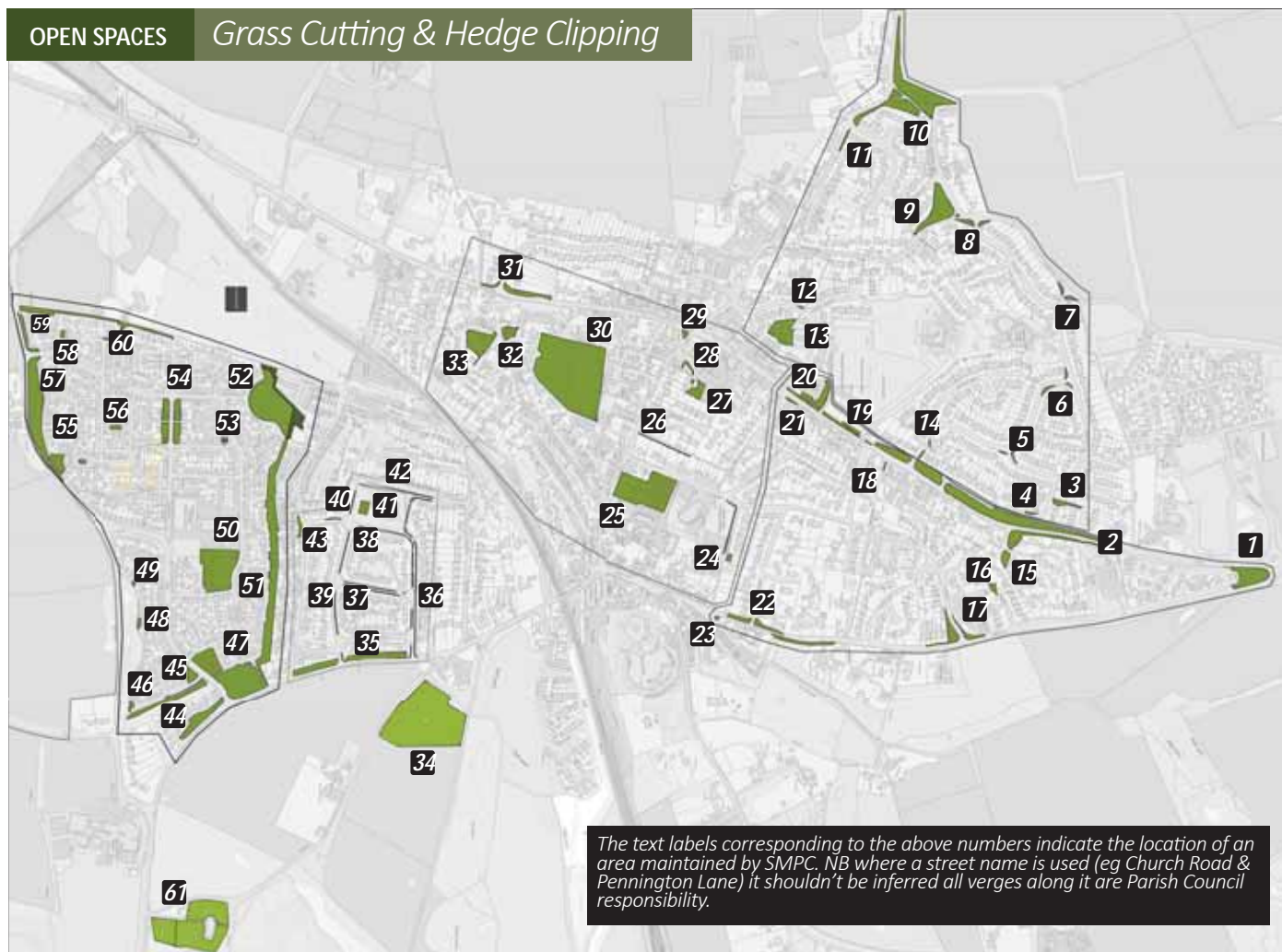
PARISH COUNCIL UPDATE

...with pictures of the village D-day Commemoration Service, an update on Grove Hill, Council grass cutting and hedge maintenance, and a goodbye to one of our Councillors

80th Anniversary
of D-Day — 2024



The village's commemoration of the D-day landings saw over 100 residents turn out to pay their respects at the Memorial Gardens on June 6. Attendees then gathered in St John's Church to witness the unveiling of a plaque from the community of Rungis to mark the anniversary. Poems in French by Chantal Lamberton Newham of the Rungis-Stansted Twinning Association and in English by Parish Council Chair Maureen Caton were read as an affirmation of friendship and gratitude between the two communities.



One of the most frequent questions SMPC fields over the summer months is, who cuts the grass and hedges? and when will they next be cut? We thought it would be useful for residents if we published a map detailing our areas of responsibility in this regard, along with some words of explanation.

Keeping the grass short and the hedges trimmed around the village is a shared responsibility. The map opposite shows areas maintained by SMPC. You may find it is up to Uttlesford District Council, Essex Highways, or your property management company to keep on top of things, depending on where you live in Stansted. For example, at Mountfitchet Green the play area grass is cut by SMPC. The rest of the green is cut by Uttlesford District Council. Cuts to the verges around Mountfitchet Green are shared between the two authorities. The green spaces at Walpole Meadows are kept by the property management company assigned by Bloor Homes.

The grassy areas that are looked after by SMPC are cut by our contractors twice-monthly. Hedges, meanwhile, are clipped annually with the work done outside bird-nesting season (March to August). For areas not looked after by the Parish Council, contact the relevant party directly. We have no powers to compel another authority to cut back overgrowth.

For more information

- ▶ Stanstedmountfitchet-pc.gov.uk
> Documents > Gardening Contracts
- ▶ Uttlesford.gov.uk > High hedges
- ▶ Essex Highways.org

Areas maintained by Stansted Mountfitchet Parish Council

- 1 Knight sign High Lane
- 2 Cambridge Rd / Lower Street
- 3 White Bear
- 4 Queen's Close
- 5 Rainsford Rd / Croasdaile Rd
- 6 Rainsford Rd / Croasdaile Rd
- 7 Pennington Lane
- 8 Long Croft
- 9 Bentfield Green
- 10 Bentfield Green
- 11 Bentfield Causeway
- 12 Bentfield Gardens
- 13 Sub Station
- 14 Croasdaile Rd
- 15 Five Acres
- 16 Birchalls
- 17 Coltsfield / High Lane
- 18 Normans Way
- 19 Croasdaile / Cambridge Roads
- 20 Stansted Tennis Club
- 21 Clarence / Cambridge Roads
- 22 High Lane / Lower Street
- 23 Lower Street Junction
- 24 Burnells Way
- 25 Memorial Gardens
- 26 Vicarage Twitchel
- 27 TouchPoint
- 28 Mountfitchet Exchange
- 29 Chapel Hill Fountain
- 30 The Recreation Ground
- 31 Blythwood Gardens
- 32 Stansted Windmill
- 33 Windmill Fields
- 34 Elms Farm Allotments
- 35 Church Road
- 36 Maitland Road (excl corners with St Mary's / Priory Drive)
- 37 Priory Drive (excl corners with Mountfitchet Road)
- 38 Mount Drive (excl corners with Mountfitchet Road)
- 39 Mountfitchet Road (excl corners with Mount Drive)
- 40 Mount Drive (to Stoney Common)
- 41 Mountfitchet Green Play Area
- 42 Stoneyfield Drive
- 43 Stoney Common / Manor Rd
- 44 Jordan Close
- 45 Palmer Close
- 46 Palmer Close / Peachey Walk
- 47 Walson Way Play Area
- 48 Peachey Walk
- 49 Peachey Walk
- 50 Hampton Road Picnic Area
- 51 Forest Hall SUDS
- 52 Wilkins Crescent Play Area
- 53 Hudgell Rd / Childs Lane
- 54 Reeve Road Play Areas
- 55 Btw Newell Rd / Felstead Crescent
- 56 Felstead Crescent
- 57 Forest Hall Road
- 58 Bentley Drive
- 59 Blake Mews
- 60 Bayford Way
- 61 St Mary's Churchyard & Cemetery Close

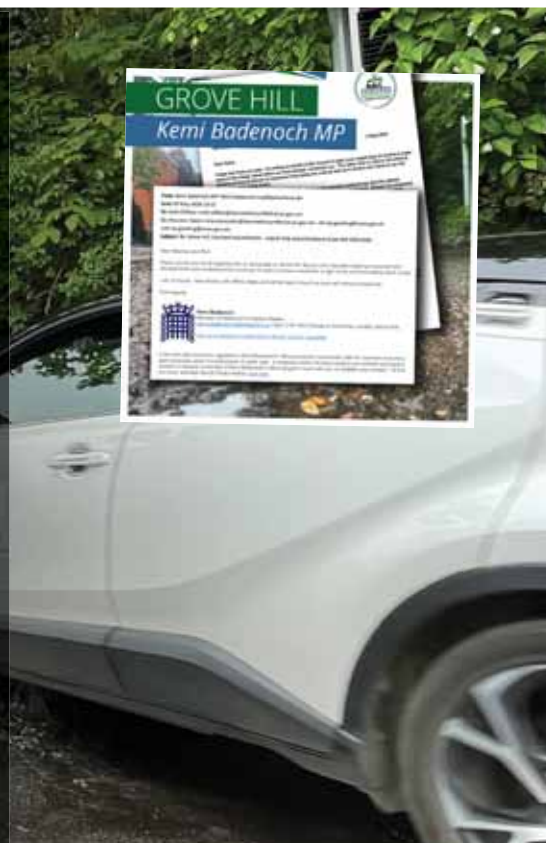
PROGRESS ON GROVE HILL?

Parish Council Chair Maureen Caton in May wrote to Kemi Badenoch MP asking for help to find a solution to the problems bedevilling Grove Hill.

Firing off letters to our constituency MP is something SMPC try to avoid making a habit of. But our Chair felt that a stand-off between Affinity Water and Essex County Council over who was to blame, and more importantly who should fix, the source of leaking water down Grove Hill had left the parish council with no other option.

Residents and business owners first made SMPC aware of the damage to homes, property, and premises caused by the water flowing down Grove Hill 10 months ago. It has been an item on Parish Council meeting agendas ever since. Efforts to get Affinity Water and ECC to work towards a solution have fallen on deaf ears. Hence the letter.

Emails from Kemi Badenoch to Affinity and Essex County Councillor Ray Gooding appeared to focus minds. As did coverage of the issue on BBC Essex and in the Daily Mail. But now the publicity dust has settled, is the leak nearer to being fixed? Essex Highways have brought forward work to clear the gulleys and drains of Grove Hill from July to June. County officials have also visited the village to inspect the problem first hand. Affinity Water have retested the water. But they maintain the leak isn't from their faulty infrastructure. They also still haven't met ECC officials to discuss the matter. They have, however, offered to drill an exploratory bore hole while the work to clear the gulleys and drains is carried out.



ROOM AT THE TABLE

In June, Jamie Hogg announced he was resigning as a Parish Councillor at SMPC. Jamie has been on the Parish Council since November 2020 and participated on many of our working groups and committees. He served as our representative on Stansted Airport Watch and was a member of the working group trying to secure improved sports facilities for the village, particularly the provision of football pitches for our younger residents. We wish him well for the future.

Two vacancies to fill

Mr Hogg's departure, however, now offers a chance for someone else to play an important part in community life. Last month SMPC published on our website and social media channels a Notice of Vacancy. This was issued by Uttlesford District Council. It laid out the conditions under which the vacancy left by Jamie's resignation should be filled: firstly by-election; and otherwise by co-option. It is unclear if there's to be an election. This piece is being written ahead of the June 21 deadline, by when an election needs to be called. But if you have read this far and fear you have missed the boat to throw your name into the hat, you haven't — there is another seat on the Full Council to be filled. After last year's local elections, 14 councillors were elected (uncontested) into their posts. This is one shy of the maximum number to represent a community of Stansted's size.

Application packs

You don't need to be a politics junkie to be a Parish Councillor. Our councillors strive to leave political affiliations outside the chamber door. But if you can spare some evenings each month to take decisions on behalf of our community - head over to our website stanstedmountfitchet-pc.gov.uk. Go to the [documents section](#) and download a [parish councillor application pack](#). We'd love to hear from you.

SkateJam 2024 4 August

It'll be 10 years since Stansted's first skatejam, and the evergreen Seann Thompson has been hard at work to make this year's event one to remember. The skate park in the Lower Street car park will once again be the venue for what has become a perennial highlight of the village social calendar. Expect music, street food vans and plenty of adrenaline action with the first of six competition categories getting underway at 10.30am.



Don't do a Bojo on July 4

You now need to show a photo ID at polling stations for parliamentary, local and Police, Fire & Crime Commissioner elections. Boris never got the message and didn't get to vote in May's local elections. What counts for voter ID can be found on the Electoral Commission's website. Also as the Mountfitchet Exchange will serve as a polling station for the General Election, the library and Council offices will close for the day and there will be no Citizens' Advice session. Pass the message!



STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET PARISH COUNCIL

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Committee & Projects Officer Laila Azure-Marxen
Communications Officer Dan Schlanker
Email: info@stanstedmountfitchet-pc.gov.uk
Tel: 01279 813214
Office Hours Mon-Fri 9am-4pm, Wed 9am-2pm
Reception: Mon-Fri 10am-2pm
Website: www.stanstedmountfitchet-pc.gov.uk
Facebook: www.facebook.com/stanstedcouncil
Instagram: stansted@parishcouncil
Twitter: @StanstedMPC

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Lois PRIOR ☎ 07472172223
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Geoffrey SELL ☎ 815925
cllrsell@uttlesford.gov.uk
Tom van de BILT ☎ 07710426850
tomvandebilt@stanstedmountfitchet-pc.gov.uk

PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

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

July 3 Full Council
July 10 Highways Sub-committee
July 17 Open Spaces
July 31 Full Council

UTTLESFORD DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Alan DEAN
☎ 813579 email: cllrdean@uttlesford.gov.uk
Geoffrey SELL
☎ 815925 email: cllrsell@uttlesford.gov.uk
Ray GOODING
☎ 813103 email: cllrgooding@uttlesford.gov.uk
Nick CHURCH
email: cllrchurch@uttlesford.gov.uk

ESSEX COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Ray GOODING
☎ 813103 email: cllr.ray.gooding@essex.gov.uk

MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT

Kemi BADENOCH MP
House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA
☎ 0207 219 1943 email: kemi.badenoch.mp@parliament.uk

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-up Events: TouchPoint 9-10.30am **July 5**
Mountfitchet Exchange: 12-1pm - **July 13**
The Co-op: 3-4pm - **July 19**

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, except when Peabody operate advice sessions. **NB there will be no Advice Session on July 4 as the Mountfitchet Exchange will serve as Polling Station on this date.** You can also ask to speak to an advisor during Parish Council reception hours via computer hook-up. Ask at our reception for details. **Peabody Trust** run a drop-in service on **Thursday, July 11** 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

The district council's garden waste recycling services will see a waste truck in the Lower Street Car Park on Sundays **July 7 & 21 from 12.30pm to 4.30pm**

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. The latest Defib to be added to the local network can be found at the Stansted Social Club on Lower Street.



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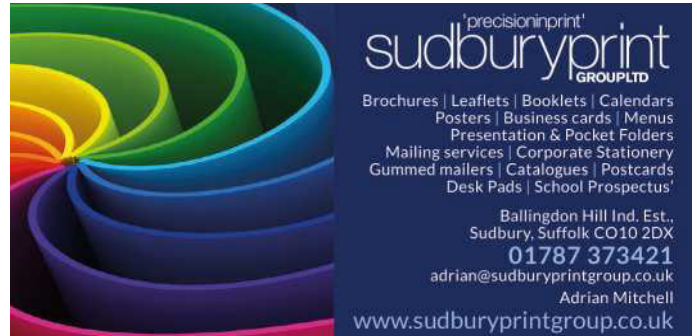
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ST MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

www.stmarysstansted.co.uk

It has been another busy summer half term at school. Year 6 had a very successful four-night residential trip to Aylmerton in Norfolk. I dropped into Holly class this week to check what this year's highlights were and replies came thick and fast, with most children agreeing that the muddy *barefoot* walk along Blakeney Point was definitely a memory to be treasured. The children had the opportunity to pick and eat wild samphire which was quite a new taste for some of them. As always, swimming, high ropes and Pirate Day scored highly but also den building with the subsequent surprise water pistol attack from the teachers! A huge thank you to our staff for giving up their own time to accompany the children.

A quick reminder too about our Summer Fayre on **Saturday 13th July** noon-4.00pm. We have acts from *The Voice* to entertain you, a *Spirit of the Wild* animal encounter show, donkey rides, football factory, tea and cakes and much, much more. Again, a massive thank you to our tireless Parents, Teachers and Friends Association. We really appreciate you!

Matthew Curzon
Headteacher
Tel: 812212



www.stanstedtennisclub.co.uk

The Boyd Trophy Plate was recently played with Diane Brown and Rick Lim defeating Cathy Brenner and David Fletcher 6-1 in the final. On Saturday 8th June 16 ladies got together at the courts to play a friendly ladies only round robin tournament and lunch. After nearly six hours of play the winners were Daphne Lunnon and Louise Chalk who defeated Cathy Brenner and Chris Bailey 6-1. The consolation winners were Val Ashwood and Dina McDonald who won 4-2 against Carol Cook and Lyn Timms.



There will be a Stansted Summer Tennis Camp **Monday 5th-Friday 9th August** 9.30am-12.30pm for 10s and under, and 1.00pm-4.00pm for Ages 11 and over. For further details please email: phil_tennis@outlook.com or call 07871 654573. If you would like to find out about lessons from Dan Warwick, please email: danw.tennis@gmail.com. Coaching is also offered by Martyn Taplin and details can be found about this and all our other activities on our website.

Debbie Lane
Email: contact@stanstedtennisclub.co.uk

STANSTED SCOUTS



Double Gold

Well done to both Matilda and Harry who have recently attained their Chief Scout's Gold award, the highest award in the Scout section. The required nine challenges have been completed at Troop, District and County level over the last three years.



All sorts of activities are covered, for example: sailing, looking after a new Scout, tidying graveyards, making robots, going on weekend expeditions, backwoods camping and improving physical fitness. Wear your Golds with pride, and well done from all of us.

Mike Byrne
Scout Leader
Tel: 812780



STANSTED BOWLS CLUB

www.stanstedbowlingclub.co.uk

The A team is doing very well in the league and hoping for promotion into the top flight. Much depends on the weather as we have had two games cancelled already due to rain. Hopefully the B team will do as well as the A team. In fact all the teams are playing very well. We have men and ladies competing in the Essex championships this year and I wish them all the very best of luck in their quest for top honours. We also have players taking part in the North West Essex Bowling Association games which helps players get experience in playing with different competitors. These games take place all over Essex.

Check out our website to see when the teams are playing at home. You do not have to be a member to come along and watch a game, and there are always people around who will help to explain what is going on. However, if you do fancy being part of a friendly club which offers a subsidised bar, lots of banter and other activities for you to get involved in, then come along to the Club on a Friday evening where one of the players will show you around. Alternatively drop me an email and I will help answer your questions and get you started. Please see our website for further information.

Peter Beattie
Hon Secretary
Email: peterdavidbeattie@gmail.com



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DIRECTORY OF LOCAL CLUBS AND ORGANISATIONS

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	Peter Beattie Tel: 07850 329192 Email: peterdavidbeattie@gmail.com	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
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	Roger Pettett Tel: 07715 740715	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 is Well Read	Diana Griffin Tel: 813056 Email: stanstediswell read@gmail.com
Grove Cottage	Sarah Smith Email: comms@mencapgrovecottage.org	Stansted Social Club	Andrew Sharpe Tel: 812992 Email: stanstedclub@gmail.com
Guides	Jennifer Jarvis Tel: 814434	Stansted Sparks Netball	Gemma Snelling Tel: 07894 944242 Email: gemmasnelling@me.com
Helpline	Tel: 07704 553727	Stansted Speed Watch	Warren Vickers Tel: 813996 Email: vickersw@aol.com
History Society	Roger Barrett Tel: 814216 Email: rmbarrrett54@gmail.com	Stansted Tennis Club	Debbie Lane Tel: 07870 971983 Email: debbieglane@gmail.com
Human Roots	Keiran Oliver Tel: 07946 783039 Email: keiran@humanrootscommunity.org.uk	Talking Newspaper (BS and District)	Richard Barnett Tel: 651270 Email: familybarnett24@hotmail.com
Huw Johnson Club	Ellen Brooks Tel: 07800 896516 Email: ellenbrooks@hotmail.co.uk	The Hundred Parishes Society	Ken McDonald Tel: 813226 Email: hundredparishes@btinternet.com
Let's Talk, Stansted Mental Health Support	Richard Haywood Tel: 07794 268208 Email: contact@stanstedmentalhealth.org	TouchPoint	Shirley Johnson Tel: 07572 114882 Email: info@thetouchpoint.org
Little Scrummers	Andrew Poyser Tel: 07738 591232	Town Twinning	Chairman: Geraldine Allars Tel: 07833 089298 Email: twinning@stanstedmountfitchet- pc.gov.uk
Millers (Windmill)	Tudor Owen Tel: 810805 Email: info@stanstedwindmill.co.uk	u3a	Susan Sedgebeer Email: bertiestar@gmail.com
music@stansted (Classical concerts)	Sonia Levy Tel: 815282 Email: contactus@musicatstansted.co.uk	WI (Stansted)	Linda Gurr Tel: 07743 549241
Neighbourhood Watch	Linzi Shelford Tel: 07427 377118 Email: linzishelford@hotmail.com	WI (Ugley)	Dorothy Wallace Tel: 850215
Parkinson's UK Uttlesford Support Group	Simon Russell Tel: 01799 524638 Email: simonrussell2@tiscali.co.uk	Youth Centre	Essex Youth Services Tel: 07584 140507
Rainbow Pre-School	Gill Pursglove Tel: 814242/ 07966 506997 Email: admin@rainbowpreschool.net		
Rainbows (Fri)	Sue Pollard Tel: 813734		
Rotary Club	Peter Latham Tel: 881607 Email: stortvalleyrotary@gmail.com		

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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