Stansted Mountfitchet

The Link



Volume XLVII Number 1 November 2026

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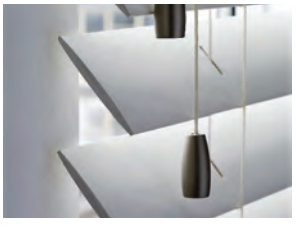
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Expert Clean Living

Front Cover

Stansted Football Club

by Matt North

Enhanced by Paul Burt Photography

Stansted Mountfitchet Village Magazine

The Link

www.stanstedlink.org.uk

The Link is published by Stansted Mountfitchet Magazine Community Interest Company and delivered free to 3700 homes and businesses in Stansted. Further copies may be purchased for £1 each or £11.00 per year, plus postage. Each edition is also available on our website.

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

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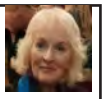
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CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE COMBINED DECEMBER AND JANUARY ISSUE

Please email: editor@stanstedlink.org.uk or post to 7 Blythwood Gardens CM24 8HG by noon on **9th Nov.**
Word attachment or typed into an email, max 300 words; landscape photographs **min 250KB** as a separate jpg.
Articles may be subject to editing

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EDITORIAL



Stansted Football Club sent us the eye-catching cover picture for November, for the third front cover this year with a sporting theme. Our thanks to Tom Williams for organising this terrific picture, and to Matt North for taking it, as well as to Paul Burt who enhanced it beautifully. While I am on the subject of front covers, I would like to extend our apologies to the owners of the field behind Blythwood Gardens. Their field was used by young footballers on the evening of the eclipse, shown on our October front cover. However, they forgot the important rural rule about the importance of staying on public footpaths!

You will see that this edition of The Link is particularly full of lovely photographs. Karen Bayford took a clever sequence of sunrise pictures, tracking the sun as it became more visible; see page 11. Thanks so much to Karen for enhancing our magazine in such a special way. If anyone would like to send photographs to be considered for inclusion in The Link, please email them to editor@stanstedlink.org.uk. They may not be used immediately, but we do keep any that may be suitable for a future edition. Please send high resolution photographs if you can. You will also see that there are an amazing number of fundraising events, including several quizzes, which are extremely good for your brain health, as well as a lot of fun. Our younger readers will be pleased to see that a social centre for teenagers is starting up after half term. For more details, please see page 7. Thanks to all our contributors who enable this magazine to happen, as well as to our advertisers, without whom it could not survive.

Ed

STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET EVENING WI

The speaker for our September meeting was Heather Cann, one of the members of our WI, and an expert florist. Her demonstration was entitled *Changing Seasons.* She used autumnal flowers, plus foliage and berries from the garden; with careful pruning, she designed and created some beautiful arrangements, advising on the construction of each as she went along. The bases used were a posy ring oasis, a posy tray and the most environmentally friendly base was a hollowed-out pumpkin! The results were amazing and the finished arrangements were included in our raffle.



It seems a long time ago now but our refreshment stall at the Windmill Fête in August raised over £550 for the windmill. Very special thanks to everyone who contributed cakes and helped serve refreshments. Some of our members attended the funeral of Margaret Chastney and helped serve refreshments at her wake, held in St John's Hall. Margaret was a founder member of our WI in 1960 and lovingly remembered. Our next meeting will be held on **Thursday 12th November** at 7.30pm in Touchpoint. The speaker for our meeting is Janet Brewer. Her talk is entitled *Ancient Egyptian Jewellery*. We welcome visitors and new members to our meetings, do come and join us.

Christine Morris
Email: chris2.morris@btinternet.com

BRAIN TRAINING

The placebo effect is real

For a long time, people were very sniffy about the placebo effect; but now research on the brain shows how and why it works, along with its counterpart, the nocebo effect. It is all about prediction, which is profound. The prime function of the brain is survival, and it uses expectation to enable that. Pick up a cup of tea and you predict how heavy that cup is without thinking about it. Get it wrong and there will be tea all over the place or a bruised nose. Most prediction is subconscious. Strap in.

Part of the prefrontal cortex has a strong connection to that part of the brainstem mentioned previously: the dorsolateral column of the periaqueductal grey (dlPAG), which raises the call to action and blocks unhelpful pain signals. This area responds not only to threat but also to prediction errors, inputs from the world outside that do not match what was predicted. The weight of that cup of tea was different from what was expected, which leads to either changing the prediction or needing more information.

The placebo effect works through this circuit; you are reliably told something will reduce your pain, so you take or do the thing. The continuing pain does not now match your new expectation, so the prediction map is changed and the incoming pain signals are blocked out by the dlPAG. The opposite is also true, being told something will hurt like billy-o and, in truth, you just get a mild prod, generating a perception of unwarranted pain, the nocebo effect.

These effects are not only physical, but cognitive too. Tell someone a task is easy and the chances are high that they will find it so, and vice-versa. It is worth looking up The Pygmalion Effect, a person in authority having high expectations that an underling will perform very well.

Clare Harding
Z-Health Master Practitioner
Tel: 07802 872919

ARMISTICE DAY

This year Armistice Day is on **Wednesday 11th November**. There is always a small gathering at the War Memorial in the Memorial Gardens to observe the two minutes silence at 11.00am which marks this important occasion. Everybody is very welcome to attend.



Flowers are placed by volunteers on the War Memorial throughout the year, for which we are very grateful.

Janet Hollis
Email: janhollis@btinternet.com

SUSTAINABLE STANSTED

www.sustainablestansted.org

Helping you save energy, money and planet

As winter approaches, we need lights to be on longer and heating to be turned up, which leads to higher energy bills, especially with recent price increases. All is not lost; there are sources of information and advice to help you save money on your energy consumption. One example is a relatively new leaflet published by Age UK, which is a well-established, national charity supporting older persons. It provides simple, clear advice on a range of topics to help you save energy and money, including understanding your energy bill. It has a section on quick and easy energy saving tips on areas such as heating and lighting, cooking, laundry, draughts and insulation. You can read details on the Age UK website www.ageuk.org.uk and download a copy of the booklet. Another good source is the well-respected Energy Saving Trust www.energysavingtrust.org.uk/energy-at-home/heating-your-home.

When it is cold outside, we can help with a free Thermal Imaging survey to show you where your house is leaking heat, and where you are wasting money heating the outside of your house. To request a free survey, please contact us. We hope this information is helpful.

Bob Burlton
Tel: 07764 182921
Email: sustainablestansted@gmail.com

AUBREY BUXTON NATURE RESERVE

www.essexwt.org.uk/nature-reserves/aubrey-buxton

Our work parties are once again in full swing, meeting every Tuesday and Thursday morning at one of the eight wildlife reserves maintained by our Uttlesford team. We move as a group between these eight areas in order to carry out the work required to keep these reserves in good condition. At the time of writing much of our time is engaged in cutting our meadow areas and removing the cut material. By doing this we help to keep the soil nutrient poor; this restrains the growth of grasses and promotes the ability of wild-flowers to compete. The summer drought has made our task easier as the mass of cut material to be removed is well down on last year.

As soon as we have finished in the meadows we will be working in the woods throughout the winter, coppicing and other tree management work, tree planting and a variety of other activities. As we work in the reserves, we always find time to appreciate nature and to share any sightings or discoveries made. If you are interested in joining as a volunteer or learning more about wildlife in North-West Essex please visit our website.

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

1ST STANSTED BROWNIES

Celebrating 100 years of adventure, friendship and fun!

To mark this very special milestone, we are holding a celebration for everyone who has been part of our Brownies family over the years. Whether you were a Brownie decades ago, a former leader, helper or volunteer, we would love you to join us and share in the festivities. Come along, catch up with old friends and reminisce about your Brownie days.



This very special event will take place on **Saturday 28th November** 2.00pm–4.00pm in the Stansted Scout Hut, Water Lane. We would also love to hear from former members who have memories, photographs or stories from their time with the unit.

Abbie Scott
Email: firstfstansted@hotmail.com

HUW JOHNSON CLUB

We are a social club for adults with a learning disability which meets at 7.00pm on the third Thursday of the month, usually in St John's Church Hall, for a range of activities to bring people together. In September we went to Ace of Lanes in Bishop's Stortford for what was a fun and competitive game of ten pin bowling! Everyone had a great time as you can see in the photo below. Thank you to all the staff at the bowling alley who always look after us so well.



On **Thursday 10th December** at 7.30pm we will be holding the Club's carol concert at St John's Church. All are welcome for carols, readings, a raffle and mince pies afterwards. As always, new members are welcome to come and try the Club out; please get in touch to check the details of the next session. New volunteers to help us put on the activities and transport members to and from the sessions are always very welcome too.



Ellen Brooks
Tel: 07800 896516
Email: ellenbrooks@hotmail.com

POT LUCK QUIZ 5

1. Which two wives of Henry VIII outlived him?
2. Who was the unfaithful husband of Octavia Caesar?
3. Helen Sharman was the first British woman to do what?
4. How are French speaking Belgians known?
5. Who lives in the Island of Sweetwater?
6. What breed of dog is Pluto?
7. What stage name did singer Arnold Dorsey adopt?
8. How is Nicolai Poliakov better known?
9. Which British pop star of 70's was previously a grave digger?
10. Who was the Italian Member of *The Three Tenors*?

Dave Morson

Answers on page 28

??????????????

HEARING HELPESSEX

www.hearinghelpessex.org.uk

This free NHS Hearing Aid Maintenance Service runs an appointment-only clinic 10.00am-noon on the second Monday of every month. The dates for the next six months are: 9th November, 14th December, 11th January, 8th February, 8th March, 12th April. Contact 01245 496347 for an appointment or please see their website. Details are also in the regular advert on page 12 of The Link.

Audrey Rodgers
User of the service

STANSTED SINGS TOGETHER

Festival of Light

Dear singers and singers to be, I cannot wait to get singing with you again. No matter the challenges and the struggles across the world at present, let us raise our voices in a festival of song, of light and joy! Previous sessions have inspired TouchPoint to continue supporting *Stansted Sings Together* with helpers, cakes and snacks. This year we will be meeting on **Saturday 28th November** 12.30pm-5.00pm in the Free Church Hall on Chapel Hill, and we are combining all the hours we usually sing into one rich, fun afternoon. At 5.00pm we invite friends and family to an informal sharing of what we have done during the day



As always, we want this to be a safe space where everyone is welcome to come and join in the singing, have a delicious soup lunch, a cuppa and snack and get to know local people you might not otherwise have a chance to meet. Children are welcome with an accompanying adult. The hall is fully accessible and singers are encouraged to be comfortable either sitting or standing. You do not need to read music as we will learn aurally and from word sheets or musical scores, to suit individual preferences. The main purpose of the event is to connect, support each other and celebrate the beautiful community we have become. Those who have sung with me previously should have received an email with further details; if you have not received it, please get in touch. If you have not been before and would like to know more, please email me. I look forward to seeing you.

Jane Wheeler
Email: janievox@mac.com

STANSTED IS WELL READ

8 pm Tue 3rd Nov
Dog and Duck, Lower Street

Tin Man

by Sarah Winman

This book is a deeply moving, beautifully written short novel about lifelong friendship, unrequited love and the quiet grief of ordinary lives

All Welcome Tel 813056

Stansted Mountfitchet Local History Society

7.30 pm Thu 5th Nov
Touchpoint

***Finds from the Thames Foreshore* by**
Stephen and John Engeham
(The Mudlarks)

Visitors Welcome Entry £3

T4U

SHOE BOX QUIZ

7 for 7.30 pm Fri 6th Nov
St Theresa's Parish Centre

Raising money for the transportation of the shoe boxes

Tickets £7 from Tracy 07745 246096
or Verity 07854 930829
Bring your own food, drink & glass
Plenty of Free Parking

WHAT'S ON IN NOVEMBER

3	Tue	Stansted is Well Read	Dog and Duck 8 pm
5	Thu	Local History Society	Touchpoint 7.30 pm
6	Fri	Stansted Business Forum	Kings Arms 7 - 9 am
		Shoebox Quiz	St Theresa's Hall 7.30 pm
7	Sat	Autumn Craft Fair	St James Ch, B S 11 am - 3.30 pm
8 & 22	Sun	Skips	Lower St Car Park 1 - 5 pm
9	**Mon**	**Link copy due in today**	**before noon**
		Hearing Help	Touchpoint 10 am
10	Tue	Coffee Morning	Ugley Village Hall 10 am
		The Arts Society BS	South Mill Arts 10.40 am
		RSPB	Bishop's Park Comm Cntr 7.30 pm
12	Thu	W I	Touchpoint 7.30 pm
13	Fri	Quiz Night	St Theresa's Hall 7 for 7.30 pm
14	Sat	U3A Seminar	St Theresa's Hall 9.30 am
15	Sun	Music@stansted	St John's Church 3 pm
18	Wed	Ugley W I	Ugley Village Hall 2 pm
		Newport Flower Club	Ugley Village Hall 7.30 pm
21	Sat	Ugley Farmers' Market	Ugley Village Hall 10 am - noon
		Harmonaires Concert	St John's Church 3.30 pm
28	Sat	Stansted Sings Together	Free Church Hall 12.30 - 5.30 pm
		Brownies Celebration	Scout Hut 2 - 4 pm
		Late Autumn Quiz	St John's Hall 7 for 7.30 pm

Ugley Village Hall

www.ugleyvillage.org.uk
COFFEE MORNING
10 am - noon Tue 10th Nov
Coffee • Tea • Cakes
Bring and Buy • Raffle
Come and have a relaxing morning before the Christmas Rush
Free Parking ~ All Welcome

theWI INSPIRING WOMEN

Stansted Evening W I

7.30 pm Thu 12th Nov
Touchpoint

Speaker Janet Brewer
Ancient Egyptian Jewellery
Visitors Welcome Entry £3

STANSTED SINGS TOGETHER

A Festival of Song, Light and Joy

Come and join Stansted's Community Choir
12.30 - 5.30 pm Sat 28th Nov
Free Church Hall, Chapel Hill
(there is limited free parking)
All abilities welcome

To book your place please email Jane on janievox@mac.com

ST JOHN'S STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

Late Autumn Quiz

7 for 7.30 pm Sat 28th Nov
St John's Hall

Tickets £15 incl ploughman's
From Katy Tel: 07834 235011
Bring your own drink and glass
Quizmaster Matt Breeds

Come as a team or on your own and join others

STANSTED ST THERESA OF LISIEUX

Charity Quiz Night

7 for 7.30 pm Fri 13th Nov
St Theresa's Hall

Tickets £5 Please book in advance
Bring your own food, drink and glass
Please text Annabelle on 07736 958066
or email: higginsmarie22@gmail.com
Proceeds to MS-UK who provide support to people with Multiple Sclerosis and their families, and St Theresa's Church

THE Harmonaires CHOIR

Dreams

A varied programme of both popular and contemporary choral masterpieces

3.30 pm Sat 21st Nov
St John's Church

Tickets: Adults £10, children and students free on the door or from www.theharmonaireschoir.com

UGLEY FARMERS MARKET
www.ugleyvillage.org.uk

10 am - noon
Sat 21st Nov
Ugley Village Hall

Fruit & Veg ~ Eggs
Beef ~ Pork ~ Lamb ~ Houseplants
Bread ~ Home Baking ~ Jam
Chutney ~ Honey ~ Skincare ~ Plants
Refillable Laundry and Edible Products
Knitting and Needlework

Refreshments and Free Parking
For info and future dates tel 814052

music@stansted

3 pm Sun 15th Nov
St John's Church

I Dodici Choir
Music by Billy Joel, William Byrd and Cecilia McDowall
Something for all tastes,
Tickets: adults £18, conc £15 under 21s free. Pay on the door

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 warm and comfortable, and continues to be a popular meeting place. Now colder weather is returning, why not come along for a couple of hours and help save on home energy costs? All ages are welcome, although particularly suitable for children.



Parents, children and all ages drop in and adults relax with a hot drink and chat, while the children enjoy plenty of space to run around and play with the toys, and join in a Sing-Along at around 10.30am. Always popular are push-along walkers, story books, puzzles, the pop-up tent and a variety of toys and vehicles. 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. We look 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

What a fantastic year this has been for us, and the best bit has been having all our lovely visitors come and see us on the farm. We are starting to get very excited about Christmas and really hope you will be joining us for the festivities this year, as there will be so much to do. As it is such a busy time for Mrs Claus, we are giving her the festive season off again this year, but fear not, the Santa Sleigh Train will be in action driven by Santa and his helpers, so do not miss this. Make sure you keep an eye on our Facebook page so you are up to date with all our plans and activities and enjoy all the fun. All our animals are always so happy to see you and we still have a variety of babies that are so cute, but very cheeky. At the moment there are sheep, goats, ponies, all sorts of chickens, ducks, turkeys, pheasants and they all love to see our visitors.

These events are a vital lifeline for us to raise enough funds to feed and look after our animals throughout the winter and we can only do this with your help and support. Entry is £6 and we are open daily 10.00am-4.00pm. You can find us in Hall Road Elsenham CM22 6DN. See you soon!

Elaine Terry
Tel: 07747 787973

ST MARY'S C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL

www.stmarysstansted.co.uk

It has been wonderful to see our children back in school, ready to learn and eager to dive into their new topics. A special welcome goes to our new Acorn children in Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). They have settled in really well, having a fantastic time exploring our indoor classrooms and outside space. Our older pupils have stepped up as role models for our newest members, by guiding them through lunchtimes and keeping a caring eye out on the playground. Several of our older pupils also attended Sports Ambassador Training alongside other local schools, representing St Mary's brilliantly and gaining valuable leadership skills.



Our Early Years and Key Stage 1 children got off to an exciting start this year with a hands-on visit from Little City. The pupils loved dressing up and trying out different roles, running a bustling café, sorting mail in the post office and working on a busy building site. We were also delighted to welcome our new Acorn parents to join the EYFS session; it was a wonderful opportunity to see our youngest learners and their families so completely engaged.

We also enjoyed our special Harvest Celebration Collective Worship. It was a lovely occasion filled with singing and thoughtful speeches about the importance of harvest and helping those in our community. Finally, it has been a pleasure welcoming numerous prospective families for tours of St Mary's recently. Please contact the school office directly if you would like to view the school.

Steph Marshall
Email: smarshall@st-marys-stansted.essex.sch.uk

BIRCHANGER PRIMARY SCHOOL

www.birchanger.essex.sch.uk

Wonder, connect, grow

Our vision is for every child to flourish and experience *Life in all its Fullness*. A key part of this journey is nurturing children's spirituality, helping them to develop a sense of wonder, purpose and connection with the world around them. We share a simple and meaningful understanding of spirituality as *the special spark within us that helps us wonder, connect and grow.* Through regular collective worship, children are encouraged to pause, reflect and explore life's bigger questions. These moments often focus on spirituality through nature, helping children appreciate the beauty and awe of the world around them, while also providing opportunities for those who wish to deepen their connection with God through outdoor reflection and prayer.



The photograph above captures children creating nature art during one of these experiences. They spent time collecting natural materials, creating beautiful artwork, and enjoying moments of stillness and gratitude. By weaving spirituality into school life in meaningful and age-appropriate ways, we aim to help every child grow not only academically, but also as thoughtful, reflective and compassionate individuals who are ready to make a positive difference in the world.

Sharon Vessey
Headteacher
Tel: 812362
Email: admin@birchanger.essex.sch.uk



Calling all students in years 6,7 and 8 to a new Drop In for an hour or so of after-school socialising, snacking and playing games in St John's Hall. This will take place every Monday 3.15pm-5.00pm during term-time. Opening immediately after half-term on **Monday 2nd November**, we are really looking forward to seeing many of you; just drop in any time that suits you. You can get more information by contacting our Youth Officer, Alex Hall, email: youth@smgd.org.uk. Otherwise, just come along and give it a try. There will be hot chocolate and toast.

Alan Corbishley

MANUDEN PRIMARY SCHOOL

www.manudenprimary.co.uk

It has been a busy and exciting start to the new school year and I have been delighted to begin my first term as Headteacher. Manuden is a small village school with a strong sense of community, where we have the privilege of knowing our children and families extremely well. Our vision, *Growing Hearts, Growing Minds, Growing Dreams*, reflects our ambition for every child: to be happy, confident, curious and well prepared for whatever comes next. This term, we have been continuing to develop opportunities for our children both inside and outside the classroom. Alongside their learning, pupils have already enjoyed a range of sporting and enrichment activities, and we are continuing to broaden the experiences available to them throughout the year.

We are also looking ahead. Applications for children starting Reception in September 2027 open in November, and we would be delighted to welcome families from Manuden, Stansted and the surrounding villages to come and see our school. Our school tours begin after half-term, with our first taking place on **Tuesday 3rd November**. Visiting during the school day gives families the opportunity to see the school as it really is: children learning, playing and enjoying being part of our school community. If you are considering primary schools for September 2027, please do get in touch. We would be very pleased to show you around and answer any questions you may have.



Phil Molyneux
Headteacher
Tel: 813370
Email: office@manuden.essex.sch.uk

ST JOHN'S 300 CLUB

Many congratulations to the winners of the September draw:

£100	No 145	Stuart Ayres
£ 50	No 53	Nicola Ward
£ 25	No 64	Elizabeth Lister

The draw for November will be held on **29th November** 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. There is a limit of five numbers per household. 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

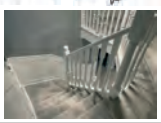
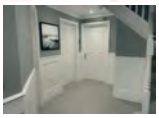
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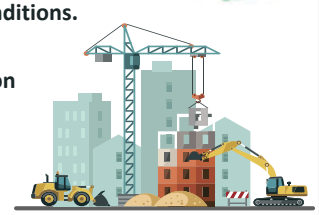
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ST THERESA'S QUIZ

We are holding a Quiz Night on **Friday 13th November** 7.00pm for 7.30pm in St Theresa's Hall. Proceeds will be split between St Theresa's Church funds and MS-UK who provide support to people with Multiple Sclerosis and their families. Tickets are £5 and must be booked in advance by text or email from me. Teams of up to six people. There will be prizes and a raffle. Please bring your own food and drink.

Annabelle Higgins
Tel: 07736 958066
Email: higginsmarie22@gmail.com

TOE BEANS
CAT RESCUE

Winter is coming and so are the hungry cats!
We are heading into one of our busiest seasons. While many cats are busy claiming the warmest chair in the house and convincing their owners they have never been fed, winter brings extra challenges for the vulnerable cats. Food, veterinary treatment and cosy foster spaces are all in greater demand during the colder months. The five kittens pictured may look as though they are auditioning for the world's cutest Christmas card, but they represent exactly why community support is so important. Behind every adorable kitten are costs for food, vaccinations, neutering, microchipping and veterinary care. Your generosity helps ensure that kittens like these get the best possible start in life and the chance to find loving forever homes.



We are also urgently looking for new fosterers. If you have space in your home and a little time to spare, fostering is one of the most rewarding ways to help cats in need. Better still, it will not cost you a penny. Toe Beans covers all food, litter and veterinary expenses, while you provide the love, care and cuddles that help cats prepare for their future families. After all, if cats ran the charity themselves, the entire budget would probably be spent on treats, the office would close daily for mandatory naps, and judging by this photo, every cat tree would have a strict five-kitten minimum occupancy rule! Our Facebook address is ToeBeansCR.

Shirley Johnson
Tel: 01799 252028
Email: toebeanscr@gmail.com

THE GARDENS OF
EASTON LODGE

www.eastonlodge.co.uk

The gardens have now closed for the winter after a lovely end to the season. We had beautiful weather for the Apple and Bees Day in September, and visitors thoroughly enjoyed the day. We had prepared new information for visitors about the trees; the dahlia border, Michaelmas daisies and winter daffodils were looking stunning, and large numbers of huge spiders and other spooky characters invaded the gardens for our Autumn and Halloween Day.



Winter Daffodils

We have several projects planned for this closed season, which will feature in our news as we complete them. We are planning to improve our main wildflower meadow area. Already in October we could see the result of our efforts for next year in the kitchen garden, with lots of new seedlings coming up. It is a challenge to take out the weeds, while leaving the seedlings of the herbs and flowers which we do want. We have been planting additional spring bulbs; the snowdrops spread themselves, but each year we plant a variety of others to follow on. It is particularly important this year as, unusually, we will be opening next March, for the National Garden Scheme, giving visitors the opportunity to see our earlier daffodils.

Over winter we will also be refreshing our website. Please do look it up in the meantime. It has some of our historical information and gives contact details if you wish to arrange a talk about the gardens or a group visit for next year.

Jill Goldsmith
Tel: 01371 876979
Email: enquiries@eastonlodge.co.uk

LATE AUTUMN QUIZ

We will be holding a quiz on **Saturday 28th November** 7.00pm for 7.30pm in St John's Hall. Entry is £15 to include a ploughman's supper. Bring your own drink and glass. All proceeds to St John's Church. The Quizmaster will be Matt Breeds. Please contact me to book.

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Email: grandmakatyd@gmail.com


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SUNRISE OVER THE CHURCH ROAD ALLOTMENTS

Many thanks to Karen Bayford for sending us these beautiful pictures of sunrise over the allotments near to where she lives. They were taken on the first Sunday in October.











If you have any scenic photographs which which you would like to be considered for publication in The Link, we would love to hear from you. Please email them to editor@stanstedlink.org.uk before the 9th of the month. Inclusion will be subject to space. I look forward to hearing from you!

Elizabeth Oakley
Editor
Email: editor@stanstedlink.org.uk

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IN THE GARDEN

Time to say goodbye to hanging baskets?
Hanging baskets became popular in Victorian Britain as the population became obsessed with elaborate floral displays, and exotic trailing species became available for the first time. Nowadays we know much more about the impact this type of gardening has on the environment. Hanging baskets take a huge amount of watering. Water shortages are a growing reality; by 2030 we are predicted to be under severe supply stress. The bedding plants have a heavy carbon footprint, as most start their lives abroad and then are only grown on in greenhouses in the UK enabling them to be labelled as grown here. These are usually annual plants, so only survive for one growing season. Perhaps it is time to adapt as this kind of gardening is costly and unsustainable.

Now the good news! We can still have beautiful flowering planting, but it needs to be in the ground and planted permanently where it will last much longer and need significantly less water. We have the knowledge and the means, we just need to change our mindset. A visit to Beth Chatto's dry gardens near Colchester will show you how fantastic drought planting can look.



If you have any garden design or planting questions which you would like to see answered in future editions of The Link, please do get in touch with me.

Anthea Thomas
Email: anthea154@googlemail.com

STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET WINDMILL

www.stanstedwindmill.co.uk

We reported on the Windmill Fête in the last edition of The Link. Since then, we have done all the final accounts and are pleased to report that we made a profit of £3,500, all of which goes towards important conservation work at the mill. The WI tea and cake stall contributed £568 to the total so we would like to say a big thank you to them. Thank you also to everyone who helped at the fête, all the local businesses that supported us and everyone who turned out on a changeable day weather-wise to contribute towards our increased revenue.

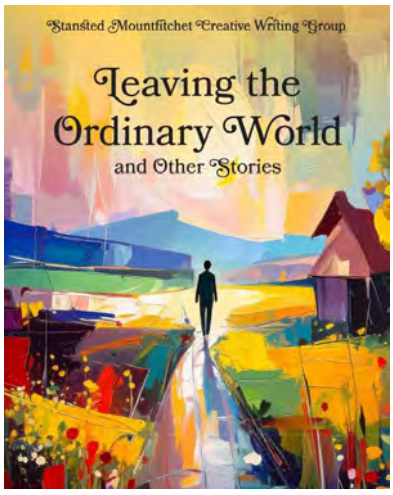
The final open day for this year was on Sunday 4th October. We would like to say a big thank you to all our volunteers who have undertaken stewarding duties this year and enabled us to open on all the traditional dates. Although there are no more open days until Easter, we are always happy to show people around the mill by private arrangement; perhaps you have friends or family visiting and you are taking them on a tour of the village? A climb to the top of the mill is always a memorable experience and they can purchase mill merchandise as a reminder of their visit to Stansted. We are also happy to show groups of Cubs, Brownies and Scouts around the mill as well as school parties. We are equally happy to show groups of well-behaved adults around the mill. Please call me or email info@stanstedwindmill.co.uk to arrange a visit.

We now turn our attention to preparing for Santa at the Mill which takes place on **Saturday 12th December.** Full details will be published in the December edition of The Link.

Trevor Lloyd
Tel: 07739 428352

CREATIVE WRITERS

Building on the success of their last one, members of the Stansted Mountfitchet Creative Writing Group are pleased and proud to announce the publication of their second anthology. *Leaving The Ordinary World is* a vibrant new collection of short stories inviting readers into a world where the ordinary becomes extraordinary. Each tale offers a fresh adventure ranging from enigmatic to playful, mysterious to heart-warming, ensuring surprises at every turn. This book will delight, entertain and linger in the mind long after the final page.



If you love reading a good story but lack the time or inclination for a full-length novel, *Leaving the Ordinary World* fits the bill perfectly. Priced at a very reasonable £8 it is an ideal Christmas gift for any book lover. For more details and how to obtain a copy, please email us; you will be very glad you did.

Yvonne Ayres on behalf of the group
Email: stanstedcreativewritinggroup@gmail.com

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

Never eat cheese; eat salmon sandwiches and remain young
'What does this mean?' I hear you ask! The answer is that it is a way designed to help us remember things, lest we forget. The first letter of each word spells out the word *necessary*. There are times when it doesn't matter too much if we forget something. It happens to us all; but there are times when it is vitally important to remember. Later this month we will experience Remembrance Sunday. There will be a special service at St John's Church to which all are invited. Some will be wearing poppies, some laying wreaths, some will be offering words and prayers, and for two minutes at 11.00am, there will be silence in which to remember all those who are swept up in war and conflict, past and present. The words *We will remember them* will be spoken.

We need to remember and to learn from what has gone before, so that we can pledge ourselves to honour the price paid by so many, and to commit ourselves to working for a just and peaceful world. As Quakers, our Peace Testimony is very important, and many Quakers are involved in peace work across the world. We also seek to be peacemakers in the community and the relationships we find ourselves in. This practice begins with seeking out and resolving whatever in our own way of life may contain the seeds of war, and to bring into the divine light those emotions, attitudes and prejudices which live in ourselves and are the root of destructive behaviour. We are also challenged to get involved in the work of reconciliation between individuals, groups and nations. Good practices to remember!

Heather Kent
Quaker Meeting House

STANSTED QUAKERS

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Stansted CM24 8AE
www.stansted.quakermeeting.org

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

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.



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Preachers for November

1st	10.30am	New Directions - Mike Dyer
8th	10.50am	Remembrance Sunday at St John's
15th	10.30am	Rev'd Stuart Veitch - Communion
22nd	10.30am	Rev'd Chris Wilson
29th	10.30am	Len Ward



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From St John's Registers

September

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The Arts Society Bishop's Stortford

www.tasbs.org.uk

The Three Kings, the real story

Continuing our 50th Anniversary year, our next meeting is on **Tuesday 10th November** at 10.40am in South Mill Arts (SMA). It follows our AGM, with coffee available from 10.00am. Our lecturer, Tony Rawlins, will give us a light-hearted seasonal lecture for Christmas, describing what we actually know about the three kings, or rather what we do not know. For a start, how many kings were there? Matthew's Gospel does not tell us. We assume there were three because they brought three gifts. Why gold, frankincense and myrrh? In addition, there is no reason to suppose they were kings of anywhere. It took 500 years for them to be given names, even though we still do not know their gender; some of them might have been women. Since they gave away the timing of the birth of the baby Jesus to Herod the alleged baby slayer, we can reasonably assume they were not too clever, let alone wise!



Come and be entertained, amazed and enlightened. Visitors are very welcome for which we invite a donation of £7. If coming by car please register the car number at SMA reception. Our membership secretary, Sue Chapman, can be contacted by email: info@tasbs.org.uk or tel 508542. Please see our website for further details. Our Facebook page is Arts Society Bishop's Stortford.

Michael Fitch

T4U

CHRISTMAS SHOE BOXES

www.teams4you.com

Christmas Shoe Box Appeal quiz

Our quiz in aid of transport costs for the Shoe Boxes is on **Friday 6th November** 7.00pm for 7.30pm in St. Theresa's Parish Centre. There is plenty of free parking. Please bring your own food, drink and glass. Tickets are £7 each, which is the cost of shipping two boxes. Please text or email to reserve your place.



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STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET u3a

www.stansted.u3asite.uk

The Gardening group had a chance to admire the diligent work done by silent contributors over the centuries as they visited Chelsea Physic Garden, London's oldest botanic garden, established in 1673. This living classroom of plants, seed banks and a catalogue of thousands of plants, is used to inform modern research as well as preserving ancient wisdom for generations to come.

Challenged as we are by the media chipping away at our optimism, it was an unexpected antidote to listen to Andy Strange's talk on the RAF's Special Operations Executive at our September monthly meeting. He gave a highly convincing account of their extraordinary WWII efforts to resist Nazism. Those in this movement did not look for renown or praise but worked tirelessly and often in total secrecy; it was heartening to hear about their brave, understated activities.

Using single engine Lysander aircraft, clandestine flights into enemy-occupied Europe took place frequently to unload agents and weapons or pick up escaping personnel. Flights were not navigated by radio, but using a map and compass; this required incredible flying skills to land carefully in out-of-the-way places before the enemy could respond. The pilots were not the only people putting their lives at risk. Personnel carried into enemy territory had to blend in and not draw attention to themselves as they set about the information-gathering or spying missions. Women proved especially successful as operatives and frequently flew into danger.



Ahead there are more fascinating u3a talks and events to look forward to, including Cambridge Lecturer Dr Christine Corton talking about Dickens' life with reference particularly to David Copperfield. This seminar will take place on **Saturday 14th November** at 9.30am in St Theresa's Hall. There are also challenging and fun classes being run every day by the u3a. All information is on the website or you can call 07874 385541 to find out more.

Julia Cook

Stansted Business Forum

SUPPORTING LOCAL STANSTED BUSINESSES

www.stanstedbusinessforum.com

At our meeting on 2nd October, Sue Lewis, the Fundraising and Communications Manager at Accuro, talked about the work they do as a local charity. They create opportunities for fun, friendship and belonging for people with disabilities from the age of eight, while giving parents and carers the chance to take a break. They run projects across West Essex, including the Accuro Connections Youth Club in Stansted, where members can build confidence and independence, try new activities and spend time with friends. Sue explained how local people with disabilities feel seen, heard and valued through the charity. To learn more about Accuro, its services and ways to get involved, please phone 870297 or visit www.accuro.org.uk.



Our next breakfast meeting is on **Friday 6th November** 7.00am-9.00am in The King's Arms. To book your place please visit our website. Please contact Steve, SBF Secretary, email: hello@stanstedbusinessforum.com if you have any enquiries about the Business Forum.



Iris Evans

MOTOR NEURONE DISEASE ASSOCIATION

www.mndassociation.org

I am writing on behalf of the Motor Neurone Disease Association (MND) to share an inspiring local story about a daughter who was determined to improve support for people affected by the disease. After losing her mother to MND in 2023, local volunteer Sophie Bell has worked with the association to establish the new West Essex Group, creating a much-needed support network for people across the area living with MND, their families and carers. The group was officially launched in mid-October at Phoenix Live, Harlow.

This story highlights the impact of MND on local families, the power of community support, and an important new resource for people affected by the disease in West Essex. If you would like any further information, or an interview with a representative from the MND Association, please do not hesitate to get in touch. Thank you for your time and consideration. We greatly appreciate any support you can offer in helping us reach local people who may benefit from the group.

Chloe Rich
Community Support Coordinator
Tel: 01604 800659
Email: chloe.rich@mndassociation.org

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www.musicatstansted.co.uk

Lovers of choral music will want to be at St. John's Church for our next concert on **Sunday 15th November** at 3.00pm, given by leading London-based choir *I Dodici* (The Twelve). After meeting through choral singing at university, many of the choir's members have pursued careers in music, whilst others work in medicine, education and the law. Conductor Gabriel Chernick has led the choir since its formation, alongside his work as an award-winning composer, orchestrator and jazz pianist.



The choir is based at St James's Church Sussex Gardens, where it performs throughout the year, alongside regular appearances at Westminster Abbey, St Paul's Cathedral, St Martin-in-the-Fields and St John's Smith Square. International performances have included Notre Dame, the Sorbonne and L'Ecole Normale Supérieure during a European tour to Paris, and a series of Handel's *Messiah* concerts performed in Venice alongside the Academy of Ancient Music.

The choir's programme will be based around their recently-released CD *Flight*, including numbers from favourite song-writers like Billy Joel, William Byrd and London-born composer Cecilia McDowall. Something for all tastes, making for a perfect family afternoon out. Tickets: adults £18, over-65s £15, under-21s free, available on the door. There will be refreshments during the interval.

Richard Allaway
Tel: 814118
Email: contactus@music@stansted.co.uk

UGLEY VILLAGE HALL COFFEE MORNING

We will be having another of our famous coffee mornings on **Tuesday 10th November** 10.00am-noon at Ugley Village Hall. There will be a grand raffle, bumper bring and buy stall, and coffee and tea with home-made cakes. Do come along and find some bargains, perhaps win a prize and enjoy a chat and refreshments. We would be delighted to see you there. All proceeds will go towards the upkeep of Ugley Village Hall. There is free parking.





Susan Bone
Tel: 814052

STANSTED IS WELL READ

The next meeting of our book club will be on **Tuesday 3rd November** at 8.00pm in The Dog and Duck, Lower Street, where we will be discussing last month's book choice *Tin Man* by Sarah Winman. The book is a deeply moving, beautifully written short novel about lifelong friendship, unrequited love and the quiet grief of ordinary lives. Book clubs provide a wonderful introduction to new books you might otherwise not consider.

Have you read any good books you can recommend? Please do get in touch if you would like to join us. A warm welcome awaits.



Diana Griffin
Tel: 813056
Email: stanstediswellread@gmail.com

www.theharmonaireschoir.com

Dreams
Join us for an autumn afternoon of outstanding music on **Saturday 21st November** at 3.30pm in St John's Church. On the theme of *Dreams*, there will be a varied programme of exceptional beauty: uplifting music by Sarah Quartel, Deborah Scroggins, Gjeilo and Laurisden as well as popular classics by The Cranberries and Alex Warren arrangements for Voces8, along with contemporary choral masterpieces.



Tickets: £10 adults, children/students free are available from our website or on the door. The Harmonaires Choir, formed in 2014 by Musical Director Josie Cowley, is a tight-knit ensemble renowned for its exceptional performances and dedication to community enrichment. They have garnered acclaim for their harmonious renditions of classic and contemporary choral pieces, singing in cathedrals and performing fundraising concerts locally. For more information about the choir, please see our website.

Elizabeth Jennings

Stansted Network

NEWS FROM YOUR LOCAL COUNCILS

Stansted Mountfitchet Parish Council (SMPC)

With news of a crucial planning inquiry for the village, the result of the 2026 Anglia in Bloom, details of the Remembrance Service, as well as important recycling advice from Uttlesford, and advice sessions run from the Mountfitchet Exchange

Stansted & Birchanger Planning Inquiry

Appeal gets underway on 3 November

Soon a Public Inquiry will begin to determine the outcome of City & Country's contentious proposals to build 300 homes south of Stansted Mountfitchet and a further 180 near Birchanger.

The last time our community was at the centre of a planning inquiry was in 2021, when a developer tried—unsuccessfully—to win permission to build on land east of Pennington Lane. This time around, the stakes are higher.

The Planning Inquiry's Significance

The land proposed for these 480 homes is defined as Metropolitan Green Belt in Uttlesford District Council's (UDC) Local Plan. According to some district councillors, if City & Country wins this inquiry, it would "ride a coach and horses" through a Local Plan which was only approved in March after two previous failed attempts and at the cost of millions of pounds of public money.

Worse still, such an approval risks triggering a wave of speculative development across the district—and potentially nationwide. It would hand developers a blueprint to test whether green belt land elsewhere can be reclassified as "grey belt" and built upon.

How We Got Here

On 10 June this year, UDC's planning committee unanimously rejected both outline applications, going against the recommendation of their own planning officer. Following this refusal, the Secretary of State stepped in, calling both applications in for a full statutory review.

Fighting the Residents' Corner: Rule 6 Parties

Recognising the gravity of this threat, the communities of Birchanger and Stansted have united. Since this summer, Stansted Mountfitchet Parish Council, Birchanger Parish Council, the Birchanger Residents' Association, and the Stansted & Birchanger Green Belt Preservation Group (BSGPG) have joined forces to secure Rule 6 Status at the Inquiry. This formal status allows our community to present its own legal case and cross-examine the developer's witnesses.

To back this fight, residents have raised over £12,000 through a GoFundMe page organised by BSGPG. This money has been used to hire professional legal representation.

Meanwhile, SMPC and Birchanger Parish Council have committed to covering any remaining funding shortfall.

Please note that our specific grounds for opposition cannot be detailed in print just yet. Revealing our strategy early could weaken our professional representative's hand during cross-examination. Keeping these details confidential ensures the funds raised by the community are not squandered.

We will keep you updated as the inquiry progresses. Thank you for standing with us to protect our villages.

Format, Dates, and Decisions

The inquiry will function much like a court case, overseen by an independent Planning Inspector. UDC's legal team and community representatives will sit on the opposition side to protect the Local Plan, while City & Country's counsel will argue for the development.

When The inquiry sits from **November 3–7** and **17–20** (Also Nov 24–27 - if required).

Where The Council Chamber or committee room at the UDC offices in Saffron Walden.

Public Involvement The hearings are open to the public (with limited seating) and will be livestreamed online. Links will be posted on the Stansted Mountfitchet Parish Council (SMPC) website 1–2 weeks before we begin.

To speak, you must register online with the Planning Inspectorate and submit a statement beforehand, quoting the application reference **UTT/25/3012/OP** (the Stansted site) or **UTT/25/3011/OP** (the Birchanger site).

The Decision Timeline The Planning Inspector will not make the final decision. Instead, they will submit a detailed Recommendation Report to the government by 27 January 2027. The Secretary of State will make the final determination, with the ultimate verdict expected **around March or April 2027**.

Anglia in Bloom Results

Praise for community organisations gardening contributions

Organisers had hoped for Stansted earning a Gold Award at this year's Anglia in Bloom, and although the village received a Silver in the overall category, there were still plenty of positives from the 2026 campaign.

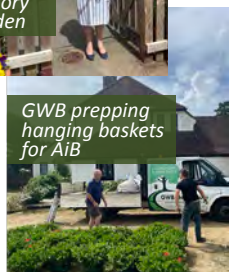
The judges praised the village's entry for engaging young people with gardening and nature, pointing to Bentfield Primary School's allotment on Walpole Meadows as a prime example. The Spangles sensory garden—helped by a £350 SMPC community grant—also caught their eye during the June tour: "You demonstrated what can be achieved in a small space with the right vision." Other highlights included Human Roots' Elms Farm allotment for its beautiful presentation, along with St Mary's Church for "the gentle restoration of the grounds." Volunteers from both these projects were praised for their passionate commitment.



The Memorial Gardens: a AiB focal point in 2026



Spangles Sensory Garden



GWB prepping hanging baskets for AiB

Conditions were less than optimal during the June visit, as Stansted's open spaces were bleached dry by the hottest summer on record—making the missed gold less of a surprise.

The report gave Stansted in Bloom organisers clear food for thought. Recommended areas for improvement included cutting the number of sites to be judged, adding variety to hanging baskets, and demonstrating greater use of water harvesting.

The Parish Council thanks all the individuals and organisations involved, along with our contractors GWB, and especially Trevor Lloyd, who once again drove the campaign.

"We did take a slight back step from the Silver Gilt award in 2025, which is disappointing," said Mr Lloyd. "But we can now take stock over the winter and consider plans for next year."

Playground Consultation

Nearly 200 responses received on play equipment choices



Thank you to residents who took part in our two-month Playground Consultation, which ended on 3 October. Your survey feedback will help choose a replacement for the old, vandalised tree house on the Recreation Ground, as well as some benches for Bentfield Green play area.

The play equipment working group is now reviewing the close-to 200 responses. Along with public preferences, the group will evaluate lead times and future maintenance requirements and costs, before submitting a final recommendation to the Full Council for approval in November. The final decision will appear in next month's edition of *The Link.*

Remembrance Service 2026

Sunday, 8th November — from 10.30am



Join the community this Remembrance Sunday, 8 November, to honour the 72 service personnel named on the village memorial who made the ultimate sacrifice defending the nation in the two world wars, as well as all the men and women who have served our nation in conflicts since 1945.

Last year over 250 people turned out to participate in the Remembrance Service. We look forward to welcoming even more residents to the event this year.

Parade Timings and Route

10:30am: Parade participants from local organisations should gather at Crafton Green car park.

10:40am: The parade departs down Chapel Hill towards the war memorial.

11:00am: Two-minute silence and service led by Rev'd Helen Flack from St John's Church.

Refreshments

Everyone is invited to St John's Church Hall after the service for tea and coffee and light snacks.



1 HOUR ROAD CLOSURE

Chapel Hill

To ensure public safety and a quiet service, **Chapel Hill** will be closed to all traffic from **10:30 to 11:30am** on Sunday, 8th November

November Roadworks

Sets of significant roadworks affecting Stansted in November include:

- **CHURCH ROAD** — Closed until 6 November (ECC)
- **HIGH LANE** — Closed 9-10 November (Bloor Homes)
- **BURY LODGE LANE** — Closed 11-12 November (with ongoing temporary lights through to 11 December)
- **CROASDAILE ROAD** — Closed 16-17 November (OpenReach)

Please note SMPC does not schedule or approve roadworks. This is the responsibility of Essex County Council. Please visit their website if you should need more information regarding the roadworks referred to above.

www.essexhighways.org

Mountfitchet Exchange Advice Drop-ins

Help and support from Peabody and Citizens Advice



Since the end of the Covid lockdowns in 2021, the Thursday morning advice sessions run by Peabody Trust and Citizens Advice Uttlesford have become some of the most-used services at Mountfitchet Exchange.

In 2026, both organisations have had to adjust the timing of their drop-ins, which has caused some confusion about when they are available. Tied to which is, some on-going questions out there regarding what support each organisation provides.

Now following contact from Citizens Advice to clarify the services offered in Stansted, we thought this was a good opportunity to remind residents of the current arrangements.

citizens advice Uttlesford

Offers free, confidential and impartial advice on issues such as:

- Employment disputes and discrimination
- Consumer complaints
- Debt management
- Housing issues and disputes with landlords
- Problems with local councils and utility companies

Drop-in Service

Every Thursday except the second Thursday of each month
9.30am–2pm

Online Service

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday
9.30am-1pm

The online service is available via a laptop kept at the Mountfitchet Exchange reception. Simply ask a member of the reception team, who can set up the computer so you can speak directly to an adviser in Saffron Walden.

Peabody

Peabody's advice team supports residents with housing and tenancy issues, including:

- Managing tenancies and rent payments
- Dealing with rent arrears
- Claiming benefits
- Avoiding homelessness
- Managing money and living independently
- Referrals to drug treatment programmes and life-skills support.

Drop-in service

The second Thursday of every month
11am–3pm

Both services are available at Mountfitchet Exchange. If you are unsure which service can help with your situation, please speak to the reception team, who can point you in the right direction.

'Oh No!' the Bin's Not Emptied!

Bin hangers let you know your rubbish needs sorting



If you have found your green recycling bin unemptied with an "Oh No!" sign hanging from the handle, here's why.

Uttlesford District Council is working to improve recycling rates across the district — in Essex food makes up to 30% of waste in general rubbish bins.

And then confusion about what can be recycled in your green-lidded bin is creating further problems, namely, it takes just a few non-recyclable items—black plastic bags, or nappies, or polystyrene, etc—in a green bin to result in the entire load of otherwise recyclable material being sent to landfill!

Contaminated Waste

Refuse crews are now identifying contaminated recycling bins by attaching an "Oh No!" hanger to the handle. The yellow and black sign lets you know that your bin contains items that should not be there.

Crucially, your bin will not be emptied until the offending items have been removed. Once they have, the bin will be emptied on the next available collection.

You may also receive a letter explaining what contamination prevented your collection from going ahead.



LITHIUM BATTERY REFUSE FIRES

Following a refuse truck fire near Takeley in July, the district council wants to remind residents that batteries must never be put in general rubbish or recycling bins.

Refuse trucks can cost hundreds of thousands of pounds, and this was the third time lithium batteries have set a refuse truck alight in Uttlesford.

Batteries and items containing integrated batteries should instead be taken to dedicated recycling points:

- Saffron Walden Recycling Centre
  Thaxted Road, Saffron Walden, CB10 2SG
- Bishop's Stortford Recycling Centre
  Off Dunmow Road, Bishop's Stortford, CM23 5RG
- Tesco Express
  Cambridge Road, Stansted Mountfitchet, CM24 8BZ
- *The Co-op*
  Church Road, Stansted Mountfitchet, CM24 8BE



RECYCLING SMALL ELECTRICAL ITEMS

Finally, some recycling good news for residents: small electrical items such as kettles and toasters can now be disposed of as part of regular rubbish collections, meaning there is no need to make a trip to a recycling centre.

To use the service:

- Remove any batteries or light bulbs
- Leave plugs and cables attached
- Put the item in a standard-size carrier bag, not a black bin bag
- Place the bag on top of your bin by 7am on collection day.

www.uttlesford.gov.uk/recycling-and-waste

Stansted Mountfitchet Parish Council

Clerk Ruth Clifford
Deputy Clerk Emma Philbrick
Communications Officer Dan Schlanker
Email: *info@stanstedmountfitchet-pc.gov.uk*
Tel: *01279 813214*
Answer phone: After 2pm Monday-Friday and at weekends
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: *@stanstedparishcouncil*

Parish Councillors

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cllrsell@uttlesford.gov.uk
Colin WARE | ☎ 07722438067
colin.ware@stanstedmountfitchet-pc.gov.uk

Parish Council Meetings

Meetings are on Wednesdays from 7.30pm at the Mountfitchet Exchange. You can also follow meetings online using Zoom :
4th November *Full Council* **11th November** *Open Spaces*
25th November *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; Call 101 (non-serious), or 999 (serious & ongoing incidents) www.essex.police.uk/ro/report
Mountfitchet Exchange (72 Chapel Hill)
Stansted Youth Club (Peter Kirk Centre)
TouchPoint (72 Chapel Hill)
There are no confirmed November dates at these venues as we go to press. See our social media channels and website for updates.

Advice Sessions

Uttlesford Citizens Advice run a FREE drop-in service at the Mountfitchet Exchange. An advisor is also on hand via computer hook-up on Monday, Wednesday & Friday. On the following Thursdays this month:
5th November, 19th November, 26th November.
Advice is available on these dates from 9.30am-1pm.
Peabody Trust's drop-in service—also at the Mountfitchet Exchange—is on **Thursday, 12th November** from 11am-3pm.
Advisors can help with benefits, evictions, rent arrears, debt.

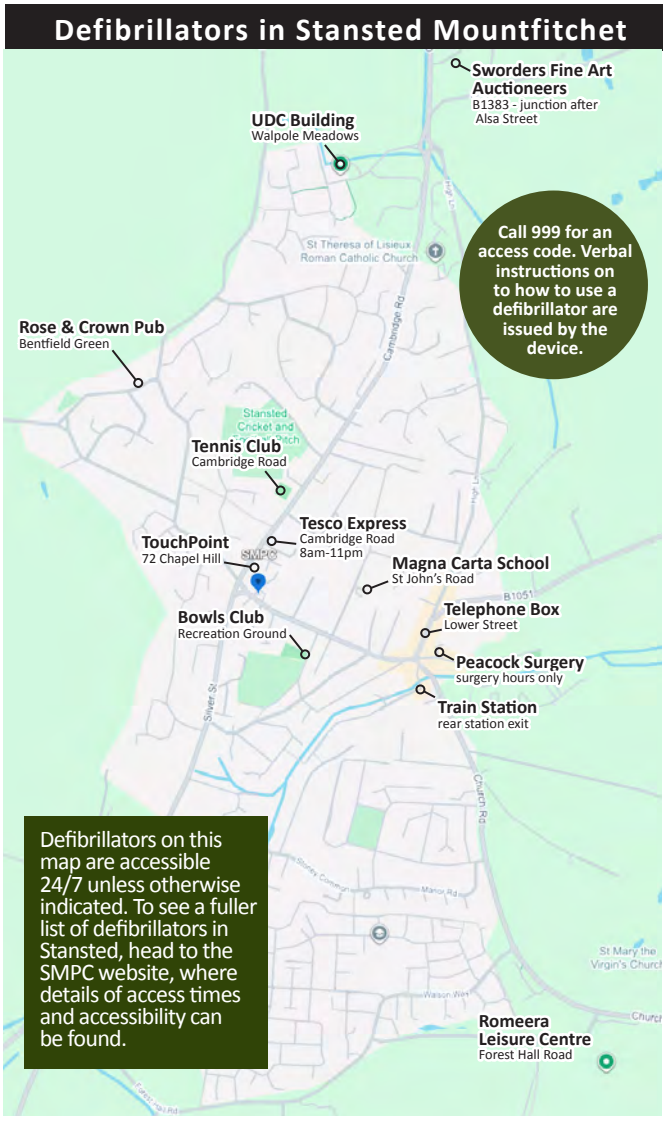
TouchPoint, Stansted

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. *Food shares* Crafton Green Wednesdays 5-5.30pm; Thursdays 10am-2pm, Fridays 1-2pm and Saturdays 10-11am
Community Cafe Thursdays 10am-5pm, Fridays 8.30am-noon
Free hot meals on Thursdays 12.30-2.30pm
Breakfast Club every Friday 9am-10am
Contact info@thetouchpoint.org ☎ 07572 114882

Garden Waste Skip Service

The SMPC-funded garden waste service runs from 1-5pm in the Lower Street car park on the following Sundays this month:
8th November, 22nd November

Defibrillators in Stansted Mountfitchet





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Whilst walking, cycling or driving in our beautiful and mainly rural area you will come across a variety of crops at various stages of their life cycle. One of these is sugar beet, a plant that is harvested during the colder months, from September to March. When my wife and I were checking out one of The Hundred Parishes quiet lane walks last winter, we came across great mounds of root vegetables. The farmer explained that they were recently-harvested sugar beets that were about to be transported to the local sugar beet factory in Bury St Edmunds, around 35 miles away. Bury St Edmunds is one of just four UK processing plants, all in the East of England and run by British Sugar. In total, they produce over a million tonnes of sugar each year, around half of the UK's consumption; the rest is imported.



Sugar beet is sown in spring and harvested in autumn and winter. Sugar in the form of sucrose is produced by photosynthesis in the leaves and is stored in the root. An average mature root weighs about a kilogram. About 20% of this is turned into sugar. The sugar content of the beet deteriorates if it freezes, so the farmer must judge when best to harvest and get the beet to the factory as quickly as possible. The harvesting process first removes the leaves and then lifts the beets from the ground into a truck driving beside the harvester. The truck deposits the beets into giant heaps.

On the day we watched the operation, the already-harvested beet was being loaded onto a fleet of large lorries for transport to Bury. Once in the factory, the beet is washed and processed to extract the sugar. The residue pulp is turned into animal feed.



Ken McDonald
Secretary
Tel: 813226
Email: hundredparishes@btinternet.com



Grove Cottage

www.mencapgrovecottage.org

We have launched two new clubs, giving our members more opportunities to get creative, have fun and make friends.

Creative Music takes place on Monday afternoons 1.00pm–3.00pm, with sessions exploring music, singing, movement and creative activities, including music from different cultures, artwork, costume design and making instruments from recycled materials.

Groove Disco is a monthly disco night for adults aged 18+ with learning disabilities. It is on the first Monday of every month, 6.00pm–8.00pm at South Mill Arts and is open to everyone, not just Grove Cottage members. There is no need to book, entry: £10 on the door, cash or card. Attendees must be able to be independent or be accompanied by a parent or carer.

Grove Cottage is 60!
We held a party for our members, staff and volunteers during the summer, celebrating six decades of Grove Cottage and the community that makes it so special. Until December, **Bishop's Stortford Museum** is showcasing an exhibition exploring our history, while the *Bishop's Stortford Independent* is running a seven-week series: ***Grove Cottage at 60: A Journey Through the Decades***. As part of our 60th anniversary celebrations, we launched ***Give60,*** a simple way to help us continue supporting people with learning disabilities for years to come. If you could give **£5 a month,** it could help make a real difference. You can donate via JustGiving, or perhaps you prefer to make a one-off donation.



Festive Fun Run 2026
This takes place on **Sunday 29th November**. Registration opens at 10.00am, with a festive warm-up at 10.45am. The 5K and 1K runs begin at 11am. Entry: 13+ £14, under 12 £7. Go to www.tickettailor.com/events/grovecottage/2458829 to book your tickets. The event starts and ends at The Bandstand, Sworders Field, Bishop's Stortford, CM23 2AY. Reindeer antlers are included in the entry price, and participants are encouraged to embrace the festive theme and dress up in their favourite Christmas attire.

Sarah Smith
Email: comms@mencapgrovecottage.org



NEWPORT AND DISTRICT FLOWER CLUB

By the time we receive this publication we will be well into Autumn, nights having drawn in. We can take a moment to remember our wonderful September demonstration by Lorraine Gagen entitled *Into the Wardrobe*. We are lucky to have Lorraine, a qualified NAFAS demonstrator, as a member of our Club and she lit up our evening with the most beautiful and vibrant arrangements. We all know how expensive flowers are these days and it is becoming particularly difficult for demonstrators to work within flower club budgets. Lorraine, however, was very careful sourcing her blooms, using not only those from the high street and her own garden and allotment but from our local flower farms. This enabled her to showcase the most glorious flowers not often found in florists and supermarkets.



Our last Club meeting of the year will be on **Wednesday 18th November** 7.00pm for 7.30pm start in Ugley Village Hall; we are welcoming Rachael Borenkova with her Christmas demonstration *A Floral Concert*. Extra special refreshments will be provided in addition to tea and coffee so please come and join us. We would love to see you there. You can contact us by email or our Facebook page, Ugley Bunch Flower Club.

Sandra Honour
Programme Secretary
Email: ugleybunchflowerclub@gmail.com

MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

This is a big thank you to everyone who came to the Coffee Morning on 25th September at our house. The weather was very kind and lots of people came to support Macmillan Cancer Support. As a result, when all the donations were counted, together with the raffle, cake stall and bring-and-buy, a grand total of £1,250 was raised. Many people were able to gift-aid their donations so the eventual total should be increased by well over £100. A special thank you to the team of friends who gave us such a lot of help.

Christine and Bill Stiles

STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

www.stanstedhistorysociety.org.uk

Our October meeting was again very well attended; our guest speaker was Alex Froggatt, an auctioneer and valuer at Sworders Fine Art Auctioneers, who gave a presentation on *A Brief History of Glass – an observation of glass through the ages.* Glass was a highly expensive commodity in the 17th and 18th centuries; at the start of this period, clear glass as we know it today was not manufactured because coloured or opaque glass were much cheaper to produce.

During the 18th century, lead was introduced to the manufacturing process to produce clear glass, and the latter half of the century saw the development of enamelled items in Newcastle. These processes were used in the glass industry that was centred in Stourbridge in the 19th century. Alex showed examples of how glass products developed across this entire period, especially in relation to wine glasses, decanters and carafes. The members were invited to guess the *basic, better and best* of different sets of items, to varying degrees of success! All of the items were valuable, but the best can attract truly astonishing prices. The photograph below shows enamelled glass from Newcastle, mid-18th century.



In addition to Alex's presentation, Tony Wellings ran a table showing some interesting and varied glass artefacts from the past which invoked many memories. Our thanks are due to Alex for such a detailed and interesting talk that clearly resonated with our members. Our next meeting is on **Thursday 5th November** at 7.30pm in TouchPoint, when our guest speakers will be Stephen and John Engeham, known as The Mudlarks. They will be talking about *Finds from the Thames Foreshore*. New members and guests for the evening are always very welcome; please refer to our website for full details of our season's programme.

Keith Parslow
Secretary
Email: keithparslow0910@gmail.com

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SOUTHMILL ARTS, BISHOP'S STORTFORD

www.southmillarts.co.uk

Below is a selection of what's on offer during November.



Remarkably compelling, amazingly detailed and always humorous, Psychic Medium Tony Stockwell joins us on ***Tuesday 3rd Novembe****r at 7.30 pm*



Big Adventure Productions returns with the fairytale classic Beauty & the Beast. It starts on ***Thursday 26th November*** *at various times and runs into the new year*



See Josh O'Connor in National Theatre Live: Golden Boy, screening on ***Thursday 5th November*** *at 7 pm*



The Best in Comedy show returns on ***Friday 27th November*** *at 7.30 pm with a top line-up featuring the hilarious Iain Stirling, Hal Cruttenden, James Ellis and Rich Wilson*

For further details, and for other shows and events in November, please visit the South Mill Arts website.

Seren Stephen
Tel: 710299
Email: sstephen@southmillarts.co.uk

UGLEY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

The speaker at our September meeting was the very entertaining Katie Lynn from *Molten Wonky*. Her subject was fused glass, something that she is very passionate about. Before showing us the delightful items which she had made, she told us a little about her creative journey. She studied design and art at Braintree College; her subjects included photography, printing textiles and painting on glass. Her favourite was the latter and this led her to Chelsea School of Art where she studied mural design, and whilst in her twenties she produced a number of stained-glass windows.

Katie travelled widely and when she returned, she went back to college to study visual merchandising and worked at Habitat, Harvey Nichols and Selfridges. A trip to Bali transformed her private life and she is now married with four children. When her youngest child started school, she decided that she wanted to get back into creating again; she visited an exhibition which focused on fused glass and she was hooked! She invested in a kiln and in October 2009 her glass fusing business was born. Katie has a studio in Hempstead where she regularly hosts studio glass fusing workshops and of course a shop where you can buy some unique glass gifts. For those who want to try this fascinating craft, she also sells DIY kits.



Our November meeting is on **Wednesday 18th November** at 2.00pm in Ugley Village Hall; our speaker will be Ruth Leigh who will be telling us about the legendary author Jane Austen. Why not come along and join us for the afternoon? You would be most welcome!

Andrea Fitt
Tel: 815922

POT LUCK QUIZ 5 ANSWERS

1 Anne of Cleves and Catherine Parr
2 Mark Anthony 3 Travel in Space 4 Walloons
5 Popeye the Sailor 6 A Blood Hound
7 Englebert Humperdink 8 Coco the Clown
9 Rod Stewart 10 Luciano Pavarotti

THE PLACE ON THE HILL

www.stanstedfreechurch.org.uk

There is always a warm welcome for you at *The Place on the Hill*. We invite you to join us for free coffee, cakes and biscuits. We have lovely comfy seats and offer a safe and friendly environment for adults. There is no need to book, just come along to the Free Church at the bottom of Chapel Hill. We are open every **Wednesday 10.00am-noon** and everyone is welcome. We also have a jigsaw you can work on. There is limited parking behind the church. 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

RECYCLING

We are still collecting foreign coins, stamps, original ink cartridges, mobile phones, iPads and tablets. Items should be placed in the boxes outside the main blue door of the Free Church at the bottom of Chapel Hill. There is also a collecting box in the porch of St John's church, which is open most Tuesday mornings and some Saturday mornings. Please place items in a paper or plastic bag or envelope using a separate bag for each category. You can also leave items for recycling in the porch of 7 Blythwood Gardens.

Other items
Please do not leave spectacles, blister packs or any dental products, as they only end up in the dustbin and we only have one small one at the church. Thank you.




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

STANSTED HALL AND ELSENHAM CRICKET CLUB

www.stanstedhallelsenhamcricket.club

More success for the Club: having been crowned champions of the Herts and Essex Border League Division 1, individual awards have been announced and Zaheer Nazir won most wickets taken with 26. In the 2nd XI, Division 3, other individual awards were won. William Zobel 12 wicketkeeping dismissals, Duncan Easley highest individual score 153 not out, and finally Oliver Saunders for the U18 player of the year. On top of these individual awards the 2nd XI won the Division 3 Fair Play award.

A Club presentation evening has been arranged for **Friday 13th November,** and the AGM will take place on **Tuesday 24th November**. If you would like any information about the Club, please contact me.



David Brown
Tel: 831011 or 07788 999663

STANSTED FOOTBALL CLUB

www.essexseniorleague.co.uk

It has been a good few weeks for the Club both on and off the field. Firstly, our First team have put together a strong run of results which has cemented our position in the top five and lays the foundation for a real big push for promotion back to Step 5. Our young U23s are also learning how to cope with playing adult football; the physicality they are coming up against is affecting their results.

Off the field the Club has secured three kit sponsorship deals. Our first team home shirts will be sponsored by Murdochs estate agents, our first team away shirts by G and G Galleo drink supplies and the U23s home kit by Abco payroll specialists. Our sincere thanks to them all for their valued support.



After years of bemoaning local councillors and County Football Association (FA) regarding the lack of facilities in Stansted, work has commenced on a new 3G pitch facility based at Forest Hall School which will be ready by March next year. We wish to thank Burnt Mill Academy Trust, Forest Hall School and County FA for bringing the plans together. We will be able to offer more football related activities to a wider group of players regardless of age and gender and be affiliated to Stansted Football Club. Finally, the Club will be honoured to participate at this month's Remembrance Sunday parade and service in honour of those who made sacrifices on our behalf.

League fixtures at Hargrave Park in November:

5th	Stanway Rovers	U18s	7.45pm
7th	Rayleigh Town	First	3.00pm
10th	London Harts United	First	7.45pm
19th	Heybridge Swifts	U18s	7.45pm
21st	East Thurrock	First	3.00pm
28th	Burnham Ramblers	First	3.00pm

Under 23s yet to be released, please see social media for all fixture updates.



Tom Williams
Tel: 07921 403842

Stansted Tennis Club

Founded 1889

www.stanstedtennisclub.co.uk

Player Profile: Captain Fantastic!

This month, long serving member **Daphne Lunnon** is in profile. She joined the Club in 1995 and has had many roles, including Membership Secretary, Club Chairman and Ladies 1st Team captain. Daphne is the current Ladies Singles Club Champion. Daphne has played tennis since she was a child in Gravesend. Always sporty, she joined a sponsored coaching programme and never looked back. She played for her school team and joined the local tennis club in Gravesend. They had six grass courts; those were the days! Daphne's favourite player as a child was Chris Evert. *She always looked so together - glowing rather than sweating. I wore a dress for tennis and in my head imagined I was Chris Evert playing at Wimbledon.* Daphne's favourite shot is a backhand down the line; very satisfying when it comes off, which is not as often as she would like. Mostly, though, she likes to dominate at the net.



I asked Daphne what she liked most about the Club and she replied that she enjoys the tournaments and events throughout the year. She really appreciates the facility we have; a sports club can only function when tasks are carried out behind the scenes. We have a great team of volunteers taking on various jobs to spread the load, and make it happen.



As for League tennis, her favourite away fixture is Clavering, due mainly to the fantastic teas. She enjoys being Ladies Captain, she is a born organiser, and everybody has the greatest respect for her. Daphne is fiercely competitive but incredibly fair. As an opponent your game gets tested, as a teammate you could not wish for more. Club Chairman, Jamie Hogg, says *Daphne is a stalwart of the club, her experience and level headedness are a huge asset, and she can always be relied upon to give wise council.*

Jon Budd
Email: contact@stanstedtennisclub.co.uk

Human Roots doing Plot to Plate

This summer we have been donating some of our produce directly to Paola, the new cook at TouchPoint. We popped in to see her in action and asked a few questions about the produce and how we can help her.

So far Paola has utilised all the produce we have donated, cooking up some tasty roasted vegetables to serve with meat and rice. She loves using the seasonal vegetables, and enjoys telling her customers the story behind the food, which certainly goes down well; so hopefully they return again and again. We asked what plans she has for the autumn squash; she is looking forward to making some squash and pasta dishes, and some rich ravioli with squash filling. The winter warming squash soup is always a favourite at the café.



Paola's passion for cooking stems from her Italian grandma, whose ethos was to create something out of nothing. Paola also follows this method and uses everything she possibly can when cooking, making delicious lunches. In Paola's words, the produce from Human Roots *is a joy for the eyes and soul*. We asked her what we could supply next season; she has some ideas for peppers, aubergines and courgettes, so we will certainly be trying our best to create a harvest of them. TouchPoint café serves up Paola's dishes every Thursday 11.30am-2.00pm. She would love anyone to pop in, say hello and enjoy her homemade dishes.

We try to meet up once a week throughout the year. If you are interested in joining the team, please email Cathy at humanrootscommunity@gmail.com. Thank you.

Ashley Huggonson
Volunteer

DON'T FORGET!

Next month's Link will be a double issue covering December 2026 and January 2027.

FRIENDS OF ST JAMES CHURCH, THORLEY

Autumn Craft Fair

We will be holding our annual fair on **Saturday 7th November** 11.00am-3.30pm in the St Barnabas Centre, Church Lane CM23 4BE. Why not come and get some early Christmas presents? Refreshments available all day. Entry is free and all proceeds will go to the church.

Sandra Ayres
Tel: 814471

RSPB

www.group.rspb.org.uk/stortvalley

In 2000 the RSPB purchased Hope Farm, an arable farm in Cambridgeshire, to research and monitor the benefits of nature-friendly farming. They grow seven different crops in rotation with multiple crops in the same field. The farm is an amazing place where birds and all of nature thrives. For our meeting Sophie Mott, the Assistant Manager, will be telling us how this has been achieved and outline future plans. This will be on **Tuesday 10th November** at 7.30pm in Bishop's Park Community Centre, Lancaster Way Bishop's Stortford CM23 4DA.

On **Tuesday 17th November** we have our midweek birding walk starting at 10.00am from the Flitch of Bacon, The Street, Little Dunmow CM6 3HT. This 4.6-mile walk passes through the older parts of Little Dunmow and Barnston and is mostly along good paths and quiet lanes.



Fen Drayton Lakes

We end the month on **Saturday 28th November** at 10.00am with a visit to the outstanding RSPB Fen Drayton Lakes CB24 4RB. The reserve began life as a flooded sand and gravel quarry next to riverside meadows and the RSPB have been creating more wildlife-friendly features with a variety of habitats, including open water and wetland mixed with grassland, scrub and woodland. Full details of all our activities can be found on our website.

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

DIRECTORY OF LOCAL CLUBS

Beaver Scouts Age 6-8	Angela Madigan Tel: 01371 513028
BS Beekeepers	Kate Walker Tel: 07399 197756 Email: secretary@stortfordbees.org.uk
Bowls Club	David Danby Tel: 07799 722948 Email:daviddanby30@gmail.com
Brownies (Tue)	Kathy Shearman Tel: 07724 355533
Brownies (Wed)	Abbie Scott Email: firststansted@hotmail.com
CAB	Tel: 01799 618840
Corkers Netball	Lizzie Read Tel: 07770 594848
Cub Scouts Age 8-10½	(Tue) Huskies Jerry O'Connor stanstedhuskies@gmail.com (Thu) Bulldogs Hazel Crundwell 1ststanstedcubsbulldogs@gmail.com
Explorer Scouts	Roger Pettett Tel: 07715 740715
Friends of St Mary's Church	Lynda Dale Tel: 07716 099474 Email: lynnydale@hotmail.com
Fun Place on the Hill	Sue Parker Tel: 657116 Email: funplace@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk
Grove Cottage	Sarah Smith Email: comms@mencapgrovecottage.org
Guides	Jennifer Jarvis Tel: 814434
History Society	Roger Barrett Tel: 814216 Email: rmbarrett54@gmail.com
Human Roots	Keiran Oliver Tel: 07946 783039 Email: keiran@humanrootscommunity.org.uk
Huw Johnson Club	Ellen Brooks Tel: 07800 896516 Email: ellenbrooks@hotmail.co.uk
Let's Talk, Stansted Mental Health Support	Richard Haywood Tel: 07794 268208 Email: contact@stanstedmentalhealth.org
Little Scrummers	Andrew Poyser Tel: 07738 591232
Millers (Windmill)	Tudor Owen Tel: 07485 452333 Email: info@stanstedwindmill.co.uk
music@stansted Classical concerts	Sonia Levy Tel: 815282 Email: contactus@musicatstansted.co.uk
Neighbourhood Watch	Linzi Shelford Tel: 07427 377118 Email: linzishelford@hotmail.com
Parkinson's UK Uttlesford Support Group	Simon Russell Tel: 01799 524638 Email: simonrussell2@tiscali.co.uk
Rainbow Pre-School	Lorraine Hayes Tel: 814242 Email: admin@rainbowpreschool.net
Rainbows (Wed)	Abbie Scott Email: firststansted@hotmail.com
Rotary Club	Peter Latham Tel: 881607 Email: stortvalleyrotary@gmail.com
RSPB	Peter Allen Tel: 07876 295456 Email: peter2349@sky.com
St Clare Hospice	Rebecca Day Email: info@stclarehospice.org.uk
St John's Road and Area Association	Secretary: David Marchant Email: david@marchant.com
Scouts (age 10½ -14)	Mike Byrne Tel: 812780
Sparks Netball	Gemma Snelling Tel: 07368 809138 Email: gemmasnelling@me.com
Stansted and District Past Rotarians Club	Geoff Lay Email: geofflay.22@gmail.com
Stansted Badminton	Vince Tel: 07793 000107
Stansted Business Forum	Iris Evans Email: iris.evans9@gmail.com
Stansted Cricket Club (Adults) (Juniors)	Ben Sammons Tel: 07852 510330 Email: bensammons3178@gmail.com Keith Ayres Tel: 814471
Stansted Football Club	Tom Williams Tel: 07921 403842
Stansted Hall and Elsenham Cricket Club	David Brown Tel: 831011/07788 999663 Email: david1.r.brown@gmail.com
Stansted is Well Read	Diana Griffin Tel: 813056 Email: stanstediswellread@gmail.com
Stansted Social Club	Andrew Sharpe Tel: 812992 Email: stanstedclub@gmail.com
Stansted Speed Watch	Warren Vickers Tel: 813996 Email: vickersw@aol.com
Stansted Tennis Club	Fiona Kelly Tel: 07949 623484 Email: contact@stanstedtennisclub.co.uk
Talking Newpaper (BS and District)	Richard Barnett Tel: 651270 Email: familybarnett24@hotmail.com
The Hundred Parishes Society	Ken McDonald Tel: 813226 Email: hundredparishes@btinternet.com
TouchPoint	Shirley Johnson Tel: 07572 114882 Email: info@thetouchpoint.org
Town Twinning	Chairman: Geraldine Allars Tel: 07833 089298 Email: twinning@stanstedmountfitchetpc.gov.uk
u3a	Susan Sedgebeer Email: stanstedu3a@gmail.com
WI (Stansted)	Jenny Wraith Tel: 816524
WI (Ugley)	Andrea Fitt Tel: 815922
Youth Centre	Essex Youth Services Tel: 07584 140507

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 by emailing editor@stanstedlink.org.uk.

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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