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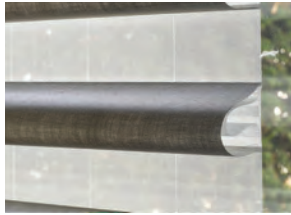
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Front Cover

Impromptu Blythwood FC Solar Eclipse Match

by Laura Higley

Enhanced by Paul Burt Photography

Stansted Mountfitchet Village Magazine

The Link

www.stanstedlink.org.uk

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CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE NOVEMBER ISSUE

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

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EDITORIAL



Solar eclipses are not exactly common, unless you want to chase them round the globe. So we were very pleased indeed to receive the photo of an impromptu football match on the fields behind Blythwood Gardens for this month's cover from Laura Higley; many thanks to her. It was taken on 12th August just before 7.30pm when the sun and moon were showing their extraordinary spectacle. Thanks also to the young footballers who made the picture more interesting.

We are back to our usual number of pages this month I am glad to say. Now that schools have started a new academic year we are more likely to have a bigger issue, and we welcome Manuden School to our contributors. We are also happy to hear, for the first time, about the Darts Teams which play at the Football Club. They have had a very successful summer and we look forward to hearing more about them in the future.

Our Guest of Honour this month has to be Margaret Silvester, a truly fascinating lady whose story graces this issue on pages 6 and 7. She was born several years before the start of WWI, and she tells us what life was like in Stansted in both the pre-war years and during the war. Her attention to detail is incredible; her diaries have been kept meticulously over the years. People who live in the Stoney Common area will be especially interested in her article, as she mentions specific houses and places; residents of that part of Stansted will be familiar with these. I know you will all enjoy reading her wonderful article.

Ed



STANSTED SCOUTS

Scout Group Activity Day

Our annual welcome back Group Activity Day at Skreens Park saw 70 Scouts take part in activities including canoeing, rafting, archery, crate stacking, cave bus and abseiling. Sunny days are meant for being outdoors and the morning was full of laughter and fun. After a sausage in a roll for lunch, using our brand-new event shelters pictured below for protection from the sun, it was back out to the activities and laughter. The shelters were purchased with a generous donation from *The Link*. We continued to have brilliant sunshine with plenty of hydration breaks in the afternoon. Well done to all our beavers, cubs and scouts for taking part, and thank you to the parents who came down and helped.



We would love to hear from anyone who would like to get involved with our group, as we would like more adult leaders and helpers so we can take more children from our waiting list. If you can help, or have any queries just email us. Thank you.

Cassie Romney
Scout Leader

Email: stanstedscoutgroup@gmail.com



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.

During October, you can bring any items for the *Christmas Shoe-boxes* to The Place; see separate article for suitable items. Thank you.



Mike and Marion Dyer

Tel: 814059

Email: theplace@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk

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. For some summer fun, our August meeting was a disco and crafts night, offering something for everyone. Thank you to Nazma and her family for organising it all. We have two meetings planned in October and everyone will appreciate the extra chance to catch up.

As always, new members are welcome to come along 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 help transport members to and from the sessions are always very welcome too.



Ellen Brooks

Tel: 07800 896516

Email: ellenbrooks@hotmail.com

STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET u3a

www.stansted.u3asite.uk



STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET WINDMILL

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A thought-provoking October

October promises to be an especially stimulating month, with two seminars and a fascinating talk at our monthly meeting. On **Saturday 10th October** 8.30am for 9.00am in St Theresa's Hall, Dr Kevin Bryant presents *Autism and ADHD Today: Pathology or Personality? Are autism and ADHD disorders, or simply part of natural human variation?* Kevin will examine some of the scientific evidence surrounding these increasingly debated subjects and explore the questions behind the headlines. Kevin is a King's Fellow in Bioscience Education at Anglia Ruskin University.

Another seminar takes place on **Saturday 24th October** 10.00am for 10.30am in St John's Hall. Don Mobley, a former USAF pilot now living in Suffolk, will turn his attention to the United States Constitution and the balance of political power. His presentation, *The Constitution vs Unitary Executive Power*, will examine the Founders' system of checks and balances, Project 2025, changes made during the first 18 months of the current administration and concerns surrounding the 2026 midterm elections. It promises an illuminating examination of the implications for American democracy.



At our monthly meeting on **Thursday 15th October** at 2.00pm in St Theresa's Hall, a speaker from the Jane Austen Society will explore the life and work of arguably Britain's best-known female writer of the 19th century. The talk is designed for a general audience. There is no charge for this event, but the two seminars are £7 each and places must be booked in advance.

These are just a small sample of the wide range of activities and interest groups available through our u3a. To take part, you need to be a member. If you are retired or no longer in full-time employment, come along to a monthly meeting at St Theresa's, visit our website or call 07874 385541 to find out more and join us.

Susan Sedgebeer

The weather at our Bank Holiday Fête was a bit mixed as those who went will testify. The second rain shower started just after 4.30pm and was heavy enough to more or less finish the event a little early. However, despite a clearly lower attendance, possibly due to the changeable weather combined with competition from a charity cricket match in the village, we surprisingly made a little more than last year for which we are very thankful.



Our thanks go to everyone who braved the weather and supported us to bolster our sadly depleted funds, due to the large sum spent on repairs to many of the shutters a few months ago. There is one more open day this year which will be on **Sunday 4th October** 1.30pm-5.00pm. Entry: adults £3, children £1.

Trevor Lloyd
Tel: 07739 428352

The Church craft group had our usual stall at the Windmill Fête on Bank Holiday Monday. The raffle prize was a basket of fairy tale characters, which was presented to the winner by Ann Conroy.



If you would like to buy more of our crafts, we are regulars at Ugley Farmer's Market on the 3rd Saturday of each month.

Kathy Chatto
Email: kathychatto@btinternet.com



CHRISTMAS SHOE BOXES

www.teams4you.com



The produce just keeps on coming

This time of year, our volunteers really start to enjoy the fruits of their labour. The squash is growing bigger by the day, not quite ready to harvest yet and the tomatoes, well they just keep on coming; the corn is nearly ready to pick and it is looking good. We think this year we have cracked the code for growing corn. The patty pans have produced some wonderful specimens too. The carrots we have harvested so far have been the perfect shape and size; Bugs Bunny would even be impressed. We have been donating to Touchpoint for their food share programme on a weekly basis. We will announce our total donation weight once we have harvested all the crops, but it will be another bumper year.



As with all allotments, there have been the rare disappointments. The runner and French beans have not been as successful as in previous years. We thought with all the watering, the growth would have improved, but talking to other allotment holders everyone's beans have produced a poor crop. Never mind, there is always next year. The planting season is not totally over; we are planning to plant some winter vegetables including cauliflower, cabbage and broccoli very soon, which hopefully we can harvest and enjoy over the winter months. We try to meet up once a week, attending the allotment throughout the year. If you are interested in joining the team, please email Cathy at humanrootscommunity@gmail.com.

Ashley Huggonson
Volunteer

DON'T FORGET!

The clocks go back one hour
at 2.00am on Sunday 25th October



As previously, we will be packing shoe boxes to be sent by Teams4u to disadvantaged children in Eastern Europe. If you would like to contribute, please bring items on **Saturday 10th October** 10.00am-noon to the Free Church Foyer. Alternatively, you can bring them to the Free Church drop-in any Wednesday at the same times. If you have donations and are unable to make those times, please let us know and we will collect from you. The list of suitable items includes the following:

- Toiletries: toothbrushes and paste, soap, lip balm, face flannels or sponges
- Hairbrush, comb, girls' hairbands and clips
- Stationery items: paper, note pads, exercise books, pens, pencils, crayons, ruler, geometry set, craft pack
- Small games, puzzles, bubbles, small musical instruments, toy vehicles, fidget toys
- Items of clothing: gloves, hats, scarves
- Small bags, new socks and underwear
- Soft toys (sadly not hand knitted) and knitted hand puppets
- Small items of jewellery
- Sweets and chocolates, well within their sell by date

Some ideas for items for older boys: finger skateboards, small plastic characters, sunglasses, skipping rope, playing cards, marbles, key ring, comb, wallet, whistle, yo-yo, calculator, fidget spinner, baseball cap, hair gel, shampoo, spray deodorant. We never seem to have enough of these items. If anyone has a 3D printer and would like to make items such as fidget toys, please get in touch. Look out for leaflets around the village, where you can find all the information, or visit the Teams4u website.

We will be packing the boxes on **Wednesday 4th November** 7.00pm-9.00pm in St Theresa's Parish Centre, High Lane. All are welcome to join us. There is ample parking. This year the cost of shipping the boxes is £3.50 per box, so we would be delighted to receive monetary donations. If paying by cheque, please make cheques payable to Teams4U. If you are making up a complete box, labels can be downloaded from the website, or are on the leaflets. Please include a Christmas card and, if you would like, a photo of yourself. The boxes will be leaving Stansted on **Thursday 12th November**.

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.

Verity Beynon Tel: 07854 930829
Email: verity.beynon@gmail.com
Tracy Bottalico Tel: 07745 246096
Email: tracybottalico@icloud.com



Singers Concert

**3 pm Sat 3rd Oct
St John's Church**

Harvest Moon

A variety of songs to enjoy

Adults £10, Children £5
(includes light refreshments)
from 815409 or on the door



Stansted Evening W I

**7.30 pm Thu 8th Oct
Touchpoint**

Speaker

Jas Bahra from

Your Hearing Clinic

Visitors Welcome Entry £3



Christmas Shoeboxes Shoe Box Items Collection Morning

10 am - noon Sat 10th Oct
Free Church Foyer

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

See list of suitable items on page 4

For more information call Verity
07854 930829 or Tracy 07745 246096

WHAT'S ON IN OCTOBER

1	Thu	Local History Society	Touchpoint 7.30 pm
2	Fri	Stansted Business Forum	Kings Arms 7 - 9 am
3	Sat	U3A Singers Concert	St John's Church 3 pm
4	Sun	Windmill Open	1.30 - 5.30 pm
8	Thu	W I	Touchpoint 7.30 pm
9	Fri	Link copy due in today	before noon
10	Sat	U3A Seminar	St Theresa's Hall 9 am
		Shoebox Items Drop-off	Free Church Foyer 10 am - noon
		Music@stansted	St John's Church 7 pm
11 & 25	Sun	Skips	Lower St Car Park 1 - 5 pm
13	Tue	The Arts Society BS	South Mill Arts 10.40 am
		RSPB	Bishop's Park Comm Cntr 7.30 pm
15	Thu	U3A Monthly Meeting	St Theresa's Hall 2 pm
17	Sat	Ugley Farmers' Market	Ugley Village Hall 10 am - noon
		Thaxted Arts and Crafts	Thaxted Church 10 am - 4 pm
18	Sun	Halloween Open Day	Easton Lodge 11 am - 5 pm
		Village Harvest Supper	St Theresa's Parish Centre 6 pm
21	Wed	Ugley W I	Ugley Village Hall 2 pm
		Newport Flower Club	Ugley Village Hall 7.30 pm
24	Sat	U3A Seminar	St John's Hall 10.30 am



7 pm Sat 10th Oct

St John's Church

Ensemble 360 String Quartet

*Familiar melodies from
Tchaikovsky and Borodin plus
Barber's Adagio for Strings*

Tickets: adults £18, conc £15
under 21s free. Pay on the door



Green Waste Skip Dates

Sundays 1 - 5 pm

11th & 25th Oct

8th & 22nd Nov

Lower Street Car Park



Village Harvest Supper & Entertainment

Fish/Chicken/Veggie/Sausage & Chips

6 pm Sun 18th Oct

St Theresa's Parish Centre

Tickets: Adults £12 children £6
From 814059, 812457 or 814865

Bring your own drink & glass

Tickets must be bought in advance



Ugley W I

**2 pm Wed 21st Oct
Ugley Village Hall**

Nursery Rhymes

*Hear the background story to your
favourite rhymes*

Visitors Welcome

Plenty of free parking

THE ARTS SOCIETY BISHOP'S STORTFORD

10.40 am Tue 13th Oct
South Mill Arts

**Life on a Harp String
by Margaret Watson**

*The history, design and music of this
unique instrument which boasts
over 1,400 working parts*

Guests welcome Entry £7. Coffee 10 am
Tel 656065 for more information



OPEN DAY

11 am - 5 pm Sun 18th Oct
(last entry 4.00 pm)

Halloween Fun

Spooky Trail, Craft Activities, Games

Tickets £7.50 on the gate or £6 in
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Under 16s Free Dogs Welcome

Refreshments and Produce



www.uglevillage.org.uk

**10 am - noon
Sat 17th Oct**

Ugley Village Hall

Fruit & Veg ~ Eggs

Beef ~ Pork ~ Lamb ~ Houseplants

Bread ~ Home Baking ~ Jam

Chutney ~ Honey ~ Skincare ~ Plants

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Monthly Meeting

7.30 pm Tue 13th Oct

Bishop's Park Community Centre CM23 4DA

Liz Cutting Along the Stour Estuary

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quiet and private places along the estuary

Visitors welcome, entry £5

Tel: Peter 07876 295456

www.group.rspb.org.uk/stortvalley

STANSTED PEOPLE

MARGARET SILVESTER



Stoney Common beginnings

I was born on 29th March 1931 in Brook Cottages and was baptised Margaret Ellen at St John's church. My mother, Ellen Anderson, married Ernest Silvester in 1930; she was 21 and he was 27. My father was happy about living in Brook Cottages as they were close to where he worked at Rochfords Nurseries. The Forest Hall estate was built where Rochfords used to be. Both my parents attended the Church School on Lower Street. Before she married, Mum worked as a cook for the Tennant family at Orford House in Ugley. My sister Ena was born just over two years after me.

Near Brook Cottages there was a small channel for water to run into the brook. Rochfords Cottages were on the other side. At the bottom end there was a corner shop and at the top end was the Mission Room. You could buy nearly anything at the corner shop and it was constantly busy. We obtained our skimmed milk straight from the dairy by taking milk cans up to Broome End. There was also a Club House opposite Brook Cottages where my father spent time with his mates, playing billiards, darts and table tennis, especially during his bachelor days. At times, all the local adult residents gathered there and the children were sent gifts. I still have a little wooden dresser; these gifts were very precious to us. Weddings were celebrated in the Club House, including that of my aunt Ena Lilian in 1940; my sister and I were both bridesmaids. One evening, when the house was unusually quiet, I felt compelled to find our mother. I took Ena with me and we crossed the little bridge across the channel and met our mother near the shop; we were still dressed in our nightdresses!

I attended the Council School on Chapel Hill when I was four; it was beside where the Free Church is now. One building was for girls and the other for boys. My first report was when I was nearly seven; my best subjects were written Language, Handwriting, Arithmetic, Geography, History and Nature. I had lots of exercise as I had to walk from school to Stoney Common for lunch and back again; a lovely walk up West Road, across the Black Bridge, along Water Lane and across a little field to Chapel Hill. By 1941, evacuees had arrived in Stoney Common and we made more friends. In 1942 my days at the Council School ended. My friend Jean

Palmer (later McBride) and I had won scholarships to the Herts and Essex High School.

There were big spaces by the brook; we called this area Grippers. On a flat part the boys played football; I joined them once and tried a header, but I saw stars after the ball hit my head! There was one tree which we named The Lighthouse. We could climb up its trunk and sit in a flat area. We crawled along its strong boughs and swung from them. A rope was attached to one of the boughs and we could swing on the rope to the other side of the brook. Grippers had slopes to the brook, very handy for sledging when it snowed. It was a beautiful area for wildflowers such as harebells, sorrel, dog daisies and buttercups. One May we children held an event to celebrate May Day, with my sister as the May Queen bedecked with daisy chains. There was dancing and recitations.

Sunday services were held at The Mission Room at the top of Stoney Common; parents attended these and Ena and I went to Sunday School in the afternoons. We were handed colourful sheets depicting bible stories; these inspired me to do some painting and drawing for homework. I went to confirmation classes in Birchanger, on a regular basis. I was playing in a field near the Mission Room when I heard the news of the outbreak of war in September 1939. We went to the village hall in Birchanger to be fitted with gas masks; we never had to use them which is just as well as I found it suffocating to be inside one.

Several evacuees from London stayed in the Stoney Common area; two, Donald and Graham, stayed with my Granny in 27 Rochfords Cottages. Donald burnt his feet on some hot cinders at Grippers and Granny helped the burns to heal. She received a certificate from Queen Elizabeth to thank her for her efforts during the war; I still have that certificate. My father was in the Home Guard; sometimes he had to sleep in the Club House so he could do his bit if a bomb dropped. One did drop in Grippers as there was a bomb crater there. I remember searching for shrapnel. At home, we had to sleep in a cupboard under the stairs for a while and we had heavy blinds on all our windows.

Jean and I started at Herts and Essex High School in 1942. I caught the bus at the top of Bells Hill. After many years of sitting together in primary school, we were parted as we were put in different classes. While the war was still raging, we shared our school with students from Clapton High School; they had afternoon lessons and we were taught during the morning. After two years, my schooling came to a full stop as I had an accident when I was 13. On 9th September 1944 I went to the playground on West Road. There was a rectangular structure of metal bars, and I leapt across to a bar on my right and fell to earth. Mum and I went to the doctor's surgery on Silver Street and we were told that I should go straight to Haymeads Hospital in Bishop's Stortford. I was in the middle of a long ward, and my first memory was of trying to get out of bed and being unable to do so. My next memory is of tubes of liquid going into my ankles; this was penicillin. There was a conference to see whether I would be eligible to receive penicillin as the priority was treating war wounded. Luckily I was able to have it.

The soil which I fell on had got into a cut on my arm and I had tetanus and lockjaw; without penicillin I would have died. The infections spread rapidly throughout my right arm, which had to be amputated on 13th September to prevent further spread of the infections. I had to spend four months in hospital; the penicillin eventually worked and I felt much better. I really liked a certain doctor and I remember standing on my bed singing *Charlie is my darling!* I had to learn to write with my left hand. I spent Christmas in hospital and I was lucky to receive many gifts from school, including a tiny 1945 diary; I still have this. The spaces were very small but I was able to write very clearly, in spite of my not being a natural left-handed person. I started back to school on 15th January 1945.

After I retired in 1991 from my career in education, I was asked to give a talk at the History Society about Rochford's Nurseries and the Stoney Common Community. I was happy to do so. At that time, many Rochford ex-employees still lived locally. So I interviewed them and they lent me photos to accompany my talk. The Society Chairman, Peter Sanders, asked me to put the talk into book form, which I duly did. This is now available on the Local History website and I like it best that way.



Since retiring, I have been attending Stansted Free Church where the photo above shows me celebrating my 95th birthday.

Margaret Silvester



**STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET
LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY**

www.stanstedhistorysociety.org.uk

Our first meeting of the new season took place on Thursday 3rd September, and was very well attended with over 40 members present. Our guest speaker was Liz Lake, who gave a very interesting and detailed presentation on the history of Bridge End Garden in Saffron Walden, and the continuing programme of restoration.

The garden is a Victorian villa garden that is open to the general public, covering an area of approximately seven acres. It was created by Atkinson Francis Gibson who lived from 1763-1829 and was part of the wealthy Gibson Quaker family that had established their fortune through banking, brewing and investment in the railways.



By virtue of being a rare example of a late Regency and early Victorian historic garden, it is Grade II listed, and is free of charge to visitors. The garden is maintained by a small number of employees, and a team of highly enthusiastic volunteers.

As well as outlining the history of the garden, Liz talked of the ongoing challenges in maintaining it, and the concerns surrounding climate change. As one of the highlights of Uttlesford it is well worth a visit, and our thanks to Liz for such an interesting and varied talk.

Our next meeting is on **Thursday 1st October** at 7.30pm in Touchpoint, when our speaker will be Alex Froggatt, who will give a presentation on *A Brief History of Glass; an observation of glass through the ages*. New members and visitors for the evening are always very welcome. Please see the programme for the season on our website.

Keith Parslow
Email: keithparslow0910@gmail.com

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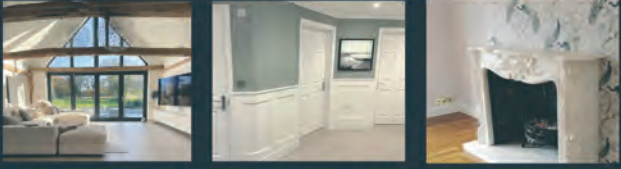

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Email: Hello@wittsendbusinessservices.co.uk



BIRCHANGER PRIMARY SCHOOL

www.birchanger.essex.sch.uk

We have been delighted to welcome our new reception children, Chameleon Class. They have settled into school life incredibly well and have already impressed us with their enthusiasm, confidence and kindness. It has been a pleasure to see them making new friends and getting to know their Year 6 buddies.



We began the new academic year with a special Wellbeing Day focused on spirituality, providing children with opportunities to reflect on themselves, others, the world around them and what truly matters. Throughout the day, the children took part in activities designed to promote gratitude, reflection and spiritual awareness. They also explored the wonder of the natural world, creating artwork from natural materials and reflecting on why we should be grateful for nature.

As part of our learning about stewardship and caring for God's world, the children spent time thinking about our wonderful planet. They created bug hotels to support local wildlife, helped to care for our local environment by taking part in litter picking, reflected on the beauty of our much-loved Secret Garden, and created colourful bunting to celebrate this special outdoor space. It has been a fantastic start to the year, and we are looking forward to seeing our children continue to flourish as they learn, grow and live out our school vision of life in all its fullness.

Reception 2027 intake

We are pleased to announce that our Reception 2027 Intake Open Days, which include children's tours, are on **Tuesday 6th** and **Wednesday 14th October** at 9.15am. Families are also warmly invited to attend our Open Evening on **Tuesday 3rd November** at 6.00pm. We look forward to welcoming prospective parents and children to our school and sharing all that makes Birchanger such a special place to learn and grow.

Sharon Vessey
Headteacher
Tel: 812362

Email: admin@birchanger.essex.sch.uk



MANUDEN PRIMARY SCHOOL

www.manudenprimary.co.uk



At the beginning of September, I became the school's new Headteacher. By the time you read this, the Autumn term will be well underway, and I will have had my first few weeks getting to know the children, staff and families. I have worked across both state and independent education and have also had the opportunity to live in the United States, Hong Kong and Dubai. Those experiences have given me a broad perspective on education and communities, but one of the things that particularly attracted me to Manuden was something much closer to home: the size of the school, its strong community feel and the opportunity to help lead a village school confidently into its next chapter.

My priorities for the school are straightforward: high expectations and strong teaching, happy and confident children, and ensuring that every child is known, supported and encouraged to do their best. I also want the school to remain an active and valued part of village life. There are exciting plans ahead; over the coming months, we will be looking carefully at how we can continue to develop and strengthen the school for the future, while protecting the close-knit character that makes a small village primary so special. I am very much looking forward to becoming part of the village community and to sharing more of school life during the year ahead.



Phil Molyneux
Tel: 813370

Email: headteacher@manuden.essex.sch.uk



SAFFRON WALDEN TREFOIL GUILD

www.trefoilguild.co.uk

We meet monthly on Tuesdays 10.30am-noon. Although we are called Saffron Walden Trefoil, we meet at various venues between there and Bishop's Stortford, and beyond, depending on the activity. Sometimes it is in members' homes, at a café, garden centre, park, theatre or museum for example. I describe it as guiding for grown-ups, but you do not have to have been involved in guiding; just share the ethos and be over 18.

Trefoil is a place to find friendships, get active and involved, and give support to others. Recent meetings have seen us making pancakes, visiting Aubrey Buxton Nature Reserve and Madingley American Cemetery, Easter crafting and playing *Call My Bluff*. We have a Christmas meal planned for the end of the year. For more information please see our website or contact the chairman Lesley Ingham on 07706 59662 or me. We would love to meet you.



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IN MEMORIAM

BRENDA RYAN

3rd February 1938-29th May 2026



Brenda Ryan was a woman who got things done and was known throughout Stansted for her multitude of community roles: Stansted Evening WI president, 1st Stansted Scouts leader, Parish Councillor and Avon representative of 50 years. Her organisational skills resulted in her being sought out to run countless fêtes and events over the years.

Born in Edmonton, north London, Brenda met my dad Patrick (Pat) through their shared love of cycling; he competed at the highest level in time trials in England. They married in 1965 and moved to Stansted in 1970 when I was one. It was here that mum fully embraced village life, throwing herself into committee roles and volunteering to help run events. You could not go out without Mum bumping into someone she knew, and when I was growing up, it was impossible to get away with anything! She could certainly talk; but she always got things done. She was on the Parish Council as an Independent as she believed there was no place for party politics on the council; it was about things that mattered to people in the village.

They went on to have my brother, also called Patrick. My dad died a few years ago so there are now just me and my wife, our children Caitlin 18 and Alex 14, Patrick and his wife and their sons, Jensen 19 and Theo 17.

Dave Ryan



The fair began 16 years ago with only a handful of stalls as a small fundraising event for Thaxted Church. Since then, the fair has gained a reputation for quality and atmosphere which our dedicated team work hard to sustain and develop. We have over 60 stalls of curated artists and makers from the local area, showcasing pottery, painting, glassware and woodwork. This year we also have a selection of local artisan food and drinks producers. The fair will take place on **Saturday 17th October** 10.00am-4.00pm.

We will be running our popular children's trail, so there's something for all the family. The fair has proven to be a fantastic fundraiser for Thaxted Church with last year's event attracting over 2000 visitors and this year we are aiming for even more, so be sure to invite your family and friends to join us. The fair is organised by a small committee of volunteers working with the support of the local community who all help to make this event special and enjoyable. A pop-up café will be in the church serving tea, coffee, cakes and savoury snacks. We look forward to welcoming you. Find out more on our social media pages: Facebook and Instagram @ThaxtedArtAndCraftFair. Free admission and free

parking in village car parks. Donations welcome in support of Thaxted Church.

Rachel Elizabeth

Email: thaxtedartandcraftfair@gmail.com



Memory Lane Café

A friendly welcome awaits at our Memory Lane Café for people living with dementia and their loved ones and carers. Join us every Monday 10.00am-noon for a cuppa, a chat, and good company. There are gentle activities for anyone who fancies joining in, or you are welcome to simply sit and enjoy the company. There is no need to book, just drop in whenever suits you. There is nearby parking in the Crafton Green pay-and-display car park, and our building is fully accessible. This is what some of our regular visitors have to say:

The Café offers mum and me a chance to meet up with fellow dementia carers and people. It offers a lovely space for us to chat, have a drink and coffee.

I have been coming to the Memory Lane Café for a while and really enjoy the company of everyone.

Since I have been going to the café, I have got some good information about dementia through meeting different people who come. They offer a good, relaxed environment for the individuals to chat and make friends which makes a huge difference in their lives. Through these chats I have learnt about different activities offered."



We would love to see you there. If you have any questions, please contact us.

Touchpoint Garden

Work is progressing well on improvements to the terrace area which will make the space more welcoming and accessible. This summer has certainly put both the garden and our volunteers to the test. The prolonged dry weather, combined with the hosepipe ban, has meant that all watering has been done using watering cans, to the extent that some of our volunteers are now showing signs of developing one arm noticeably stronger than the other! The garden has undoubtedly suffered in the heat, but the plants, shrubs and flowers are still looking remarkably good.

Alice Whitaker

Tel: 07572 114882

Email: info@thetouchpoint.org

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As autumn and winter approach, many of us will be consoled by happy memories of last year's concerts, including contributions from exciting new talents as well as return visits from the ever-popular guitarist Gary Ryan and crowd-pulling concert pianist Chenyin Li. To whet your appetites, our next, and equally exciting, season starts on **Saturday 10th October** at 7.00pm in St. John's Church featuring the Ensemble 360 String Quartet. Familiar melodies from Tchaikovsky and Borodin will be on the programme, as well as Barber's universally beloved Adagio. Please see our website for details of the rest of the series of concerts, given by world-class musicians in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere.



We have been sending out our annual newsletter to our regular subscribers, with details of how to take advantage of our concessionary discounts by buying a season ticket for the four 2026/27 concerts. If you are not already on our mailing list and would like to receive the newsletter, just email us with your address, email and phone number and we will do the rest. Even if you have never come along and enjoyed a music@stansted event before, it is worth considering this great opportunity to experience the highest-quality live music-making without having to stir from Stansted.

Richard Allaway
Email: contactus@musicatstansted.co.uk



STANSTED U3A SINGERS

The Singers present *Harvest Moon* **Saturday 3rd October** at 3.00pm in St John's Church. Tickets: adults £10, children £5, to include a glass of wine or soft drink and light refreshments, available from 815409 or on the door. Everyone welcome, do join us.

Jenny Jordan



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

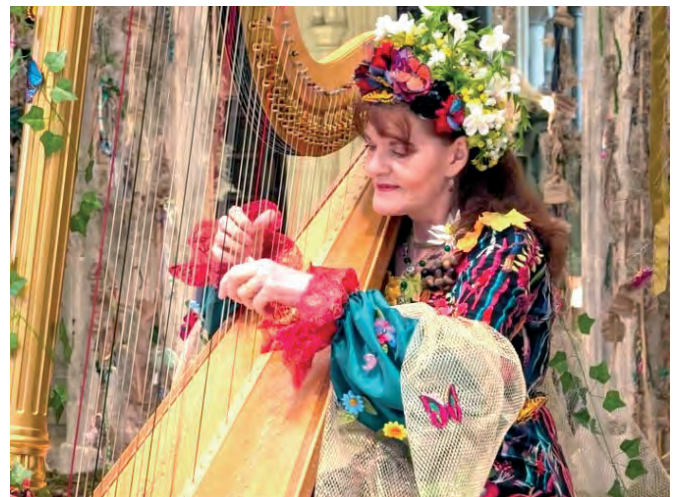
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www.tasbs.org.uk

Our next meeting is on **Tuesday 13th October** at 10.40am in South Mill Arts (SMA) with coffee available from 10.00am. Our speaker is Margaret Watson on *Life on a Harp String*, the history, design and music of this unique instrument which boasts over 1,400 working parts. We will have a jam-packed hour of information and entertainment into the 5,000-year history, music and lore of the harp, including slides of the extraordinary designs as the instrument developed over the centuries. This will include the lavishly decorated Rococo harps made for Queen Marie Antoinette. We will see the fashion statement that became associated with the instrument; and listen as Margaret plays her harp for us on this unique musical journey.



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

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

October is a month of visual transformation as trees change to a mosaic of copper, gold and amber. At least that is the usual order of things, although having had such a dry summer, it feels as though we have been coping with falling leaves since August! Now autumn is here, order is restored. I love how the autumn air somehow seems different. As the evenings draw in, life slows down and nature begins its quiet retreat. There seems to be a lesson for us in the autumn landscape. Trees do not cling desperately to their fading leaves. Instead, they release them gracefully, trusting that this period of emptying is essential for new growth to emerge in the spring.

Sometimes we find ourselves doing the exact opposite; holding onto old habits, past anxieties, or heavy burdens that no longer serve us. Maybe we treat letting go as a sign of defeat or loss; yet autumn reminds us that letting go is a natural, beautiful, and necessary part of life's rhythm. In the Christian tradition, Jesus invites us to lay down our heavy burdens, promising rest for our souls: *Come to me, all you who labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest (Matthew 11 v28)*. Releasing what we cannot control is not about giving up; it is an act of profound trust or creating space. When a tree sheds its leaves, it is not dying, it is conserving its energy, deepening its roots, and preparing for a future season of fruitfulness.

As we see the leaves fall this month, let us take a moment to pause. What are we carrying that we need to let go of? What burdens can we hand over to God to find peace?

Kathryn West
Pastoral Assistant
St John's Church



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Email: revhelenstn@gmail.com

Pastoral Assistant Kathryn West Tel: 816293
Mobile: 07880 602717
Email: kewest@btinternet.com

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

Services Together on Sunday (1st Sunday) 9.30am;
Holy Communion (2nd, 3rd and 4th Sundays)
9.30am

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

Parish Administrator Tel: 816889
Email: stansted@brcdt.org

Masses:
Saturday 5.15pm-5.45pm Confessions
6.00pm Mass

Sunday 8.30am Mass
10.00am Mass

Wednesday 12.30pm Mass

Our Mass times can be subject to change so please refer to our website/Newsletter for updated information, including weekday Masses. Confessions are at 5.15pm every Saturday before the Vigil Mass and by appointment.

Baptisms: By appointment



There were no entries in St John's Registers for August.



STANSTED FREE CHURCH

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www.stanstedfreechurch.org.uk

Minister Rev'd Chris Wilson
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Email: revcjwilson@gmail.com

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

Preachers for October

4th 10.30am The Worship Team
11th 10.30am Rev'd Chris Wilson - Communion
18th 10.30am Rev'd Marcia Tull
25th 10.30am Karen Quelch - Harvest

Our 20th Anniversary

On Sunday 6th September we celebrated 20 years of being a joint Methodist/United Reformed church. As it was a significant milestone, we invited one of our former ministers, Rev'd David Mullins, to lead our service. What a lovely service it turned out to be. David is a very good guitarist and he joined our music group for the day. It was great to have him playing with us again.



During the service we watched a PowerPoint presentation, compiled by Mike Dyer, covering all the major events over the last 20 years. It brought back both happy and sad memories, as many of our original members have died or moved away; but we have also had several new people join us, including three local preachers!

After the service we shared happy memories over coffee and cake, and David told us what he and his family have been doing since he left the area and retired from the ministry.



The following Sunday was the first service conducted by our new minister, Rev 'd Chris Wilson.



STANSTED QUAKERS

Quaker Meeting House, 71 Chapel Hill
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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BRAIN TRAINING

When stress balls work and meditation cannot

The prime function of life is survival. In the wild, life-threatening stress provokes three reactions: fight, flight or freeze. Each demands strong physical action. Having survived the stressful event, recovery is needed. It is actually the strong physical action which fires up the recovery system.

For most humans, stress is rarely life threatening, so this stress-recovery process no longer works as it should. The connection between the brain and the spinal column is the brainstem. Part of this is responsible for survival and another for recovery. The recovery part needs the natural response to survival, ie action, for it to engage.

The survival part raises heart rate and blood pressure and sends blood to the skeletal muscles, preparing us for vigorous action. It also blocks out pain since knee pain when running away from a lion is not going to help our survival. This triggers the recovery part, which lowers blood pressure and heart rate, creates protective inflammation (yes, not all inflammation is bad!) and releases opioid and cannabinoid painkillers. Painkillers and the tricyclic anti-depressants work through this system.



If you get stressed it is useless to just sit on your bottom and expect meditation to calm you down. It cannot do so until you have done something vigorous to kick in the recovery system. This vigour can be raising the heart rate, like whizzing up Church Road to St Mary's to cause breathlessness; or it can be muscular. If ten press ups, ten pull ups and ten star-jumps are not practical, try a stress ball or, even better, finger stretcher plus stress ball or, even better, finger stretcher plus stress ball and give this an almighty stretchy-squeeze. Strong isometric movement has been found to be as effective as other forms of exercise at enabling the switch to recovery mode.

Clare Harding
Tel: 07802 872919
FB Flexible Strength Manuden



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. It continues to be a popular meeting place and is warm and comfortable. Now cooler weather is returning, why not come along for a couple of hours and help save on home energy costs?



Parents, grandparents and carers, children and all age visitors are welcome to drop in. The children have plenty of space to run around and play with the toys, and imaginative play is encouraged. Everyone enjoys the Sing-Along at around 10.30am. Adults chat over hot drinks in a relaxed atmosphere. 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



UGLEY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

At our August meeting, members were greeted with the sight of white tablecloth-bedecked tables, beautifully decorated with summery serviettes and cake stands laden with bite-sized sweet and savoury delicacies. Delicious home-made scones were also on offer with cream and jam. I have no idea which goes first! All these delights were washed down with copious amounts of tea and coffee. Our monthly competition theme was a pretty cup which attracted numerous entries including examples decorated with delicate roses, a tea cup from Japan and an item from the Denby pottery.

Having indulged in a delicious tea we then tested our brains with a quiz before the drawing of our usual well-stocked raffle brought another entertaining afternoon to a close. Our next meeting is on **Wednesday 21st October** at 2.00pm in Ugley Village Hall when Peggy Griffin will be talking about the history of nursery rhymes as its theme. Why not come along and hear the background story to your favourite nursery rhymes? You would be most welcome.

Andrea Fitt
Tel: 815922



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www.toebeanscatrescue.org

The gentle art of growing cats

It has been exceptionally busy this year with so many kittens. Some come from feral or semi-feral mums, and it takes time, patience and plenty of treats to win their trust. There is nothing quite like the moment a tiny ex-feral decides you are safe enough to sit on, usually when you are least expecting it. Below is a photo of Olive and Crouton who will hopefully be in their new homes by the time you are reading this article.



So much of this transformation is thanks to our incredible fosterers. Caring for a pregnant queen means weeks of reassurance, late-night check-ins and the honour of being her chosen birthing partner. Then come the babies: wide-eyed, squeaky and determined to explore everything. Fosterers spend hours litter-training, socialising, and watching fragile newborns grow into bold, beautiful little characters. Many mums are barely out of kittenhood themselves and once their babies are raised, they are ready for well-deserved pampering in homes of their own.

We always welcome new volunteers and at the moment we are specifically looking for a **volunteer driver** to support fosterers in the Dunmow area. The role involves collecting supplies from our store near Thaxted and delivering to foster homes that rely on regular drop-offs. It is a vital job that keeps all our cats thriving until they go to their forever home. Please contact me if you can help. Thank you.

Shirley Johnson
Tel: 01799 252028

Email: toebeanscr@gmail.com

SPEED WATCH

The short note from the Parish Council in the September issue of The Link asked for Speed Watch volunteers. Earlier this year the Stansted Mountfitchet team had to disband, for a variety of reasons. The team started in 2010 with a group of 10 volunteers. We were able to patrol the local roads, specified by the Police, three times each week.

Why is Speed Watch so very important to our community? Since the team was disbanded, serious road traffic accidents have occurred on busy roads such as High Lane and Cambridge Road. Please consider becoming a speed watcher; you may help to prevent a road accident. I have mentioned to Ruth Clifford, our Parish Council Clerk, that if potential volunteers want to know more, and she organises a meeting, I am prepared to explain what a Speed Watcher does, including demonstrating the equipment. If you would like to know more, please call me.

Raymond Woodcock
Tel: 07707 143268

NEWPORT AND DISTRICT FLOWER CLUB

Our last Club meeting took place during the afternoon of 12th August when about 40 people joined us for our annual cream tea. Visitors and members were welcomed with a glass of alcohol-free Prosecco before sitting back and enjoying a wonderful demonstration by Elaine Boobier entitled *Teatime in Bloom*. Beautiful colourful arrangements were created in teacups, picnic baskets and other novelty containers, all representative of a glorious teatime. A cream tea was then served with homemade scones, cream, jam and pots of tea, with Elaine's arrangements raffled off at the end of the afternoon.



We usually meet on the third Wednesday of the month and our next meeting will be a workshop on **Wednesday 21st October** 7.00pm for 7.30pm in Ugley Village Hall. For further information please email us or follow us on Facebook, Ugley Bunch Flower Club.

Sandra Honour
Programme Secretary
Email: ugleybunchflowerclub@gmail.com



Stansted Network

NEWS FROM YOUR LOCAL COUNCILS



Stansted Mountfitchet Parish Council (SMPC)

News of 2027 local elections, September's skate park Jam, our response to Bloor Homes' Walpole 2 project, a visit from the Mayor of Rungis, and a lengthy closure of Church Road.

Term Extension for Parish Councillors

Election costs dependent on smooth local government reform

Next May, Stansted Mountfitchet Parish Council will feel some electoral repercussions from the government's policy to reshape local government into a five-authority unitary model across Essex.

One repercussion will be that although Parish Councillors were elected to a standard four-year term back in May 2023, successful candidates at the polls next year will serve a one-off, five-year term starting from 6th May. This temporary shift aligns the parish election cycle with the one for the newly forming West Essex unitary authority.

Election costs

By syncing cycles, the government intends to avoid leaving parish councils to foot 100% of the bill for standalone polling. The joint election date will see parish councils, such as SMPC, having to cover 50% of the shared expenses for the May 2027 vote. Uttlesford District Council will pay the remaining half for venue hire, staffing, and core administration - though SMPC will still be responsible for 100% of its ballot paper printing costs, alongside a £45 administration fee.

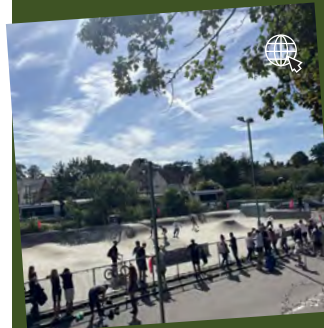
"All these costs will be factored into our budget-setting process for next year, as our Earmarked Reserve may need to be topped up," explains SMPC Chair Maureen Caton. "What will happen if the process to form a new unitary authority is delayed, we do not know as that could potentially leave the Parish Council footing all of its own election costs."

Six-month rule

As it stands, however, from 10th November Uttlesford's "six-month rule" will take effect: no by-elections can be held for any casual vacancies that arise between then and May 2027. The Parish Council currently has one Councillor position to fill. If it wishes to do so after November, it will need either to fill by co-option or leave the position open until the election.

Skate Park Jam 2026

Holding the Stansted Skate Park Jam a week after the school holidays did not impact attendance for this community favourite. Long-time Jam organiser Seann Tompson once again travelled up from Hastings



to oversee the event, which he believes is the only one in Uttlesford and certainly the only one backed by a local authority. SMPC supports the event by providing free bottles of water for contestants, and supplying First Aid supplies. The skate park itself is owned by the Parish Council.

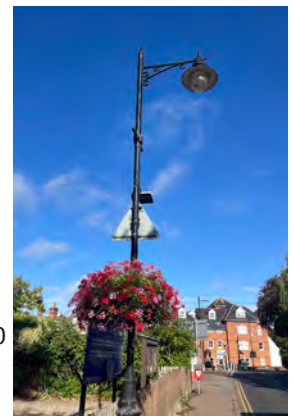
 [instagram@stanstedparishcouncil](https://www.instagram.com/stanstedparishcouncil)

Bright news for dark winter nights

Survey finds streetlights in better shape than feared

With darker nights returning and electricity prices rising, the Parish Council has two pieces of excellent news regarding our streetlights.

First, a summer survey revealed that all 119 streetlights previously flagged as needing potential repairs are structurally sound. This downgrade in risk saves the community an estimated £111,000 in replacement costs – at least in the immediate term.



“The fact that the traditional lights and lamp posts along Chapel Hill and Church Road passed inspection was particularly reassuring,” says John O’Brien, Chair of the Finance and General Purposes (F&GP) Committee. “These would have been exceptionally expensive to replace.”

As a result of this positive report, routine safety surveys will return to a five-year schedule instead of every three years. The second piece of good news is tied to a recent switch of energy brokers. The council expects big energy savings having been signed up to new energy contracts. While the F&GP committee was originally considering the need for an expensive upfront investment to convert more streetlights to LEDs, a new fixed-energy contract may drop the annual lighting bill.

“If these savings are confirmed when the next bills arrive, there won’t be a pressing need to convert to LED just yet,” explains Cllr O’Brien. At a time of rising energy costs for most business and local authorities this would be especially welcome.

Pennington Lane: Focus of Concern

Parish Council Responds to Bloor Homes’ Application

In the last issue we provided a brief update on Bloor Homes plans to build 270 homes on land to the north of the village. The developer submitted its revised planning application (UTT/25/0534/OP) on 7 August for this scheme. Despite a brief consultation window that ran during the Parish Council’s August recess, SMPC submitted its formal response ahead of the 1 September deadline. Bloor proposes building 270 homes north of Walpole Meadows.

While SMPC broadly supports this development—as it is one of two sites designated in the District Council’s Local Plan (the other being for 57 homes east of High Lane)—our support is not unconditional.

SMPC welcomes the scheme’s reinstated country park as well as attempts to manage traffic along High Lane, but has lodged four major objections.

Pennington Lane Buffer

Bloor reduced the protective buffer between the development and Pennington Lane hedgerows from 30m to 20m. This threatens vital habitats, including bat colonies, and contradicts national and district biodiversity policies. SMPC demands the 30m buffer be restored.

Insufficient Road Infrastructure

The current layout relies on a single access point for 417 homes and places too much weight on Hornbeam Way as a secondary estate road. A single vehicle breakdown here could entirely block emergency services.

Traffic Congestion

The scheme will cause severe congestion at the Cambridge Road roundabout. Without mitigation, this breaches the National Planning Policy Framework (para 116) and UDC’s Local Plan (Core Policy 27).

Inadequate Highway Safety

Proposed “build-out” traffic calming measures on High Lane may increase rather than decrease crash risks. Furthermore, the 20mph limit and speed cushions along High Lane lack statutory approval, the proposed cycle lane repeatedly cuts off abruptly, and planned footway improvements rely on “on-site” infrastructure that does not actually exist.

Many residents echoed these concerns in their submissions

Rungis Mayor to Pay a Visit

New Chair for Twinning Association

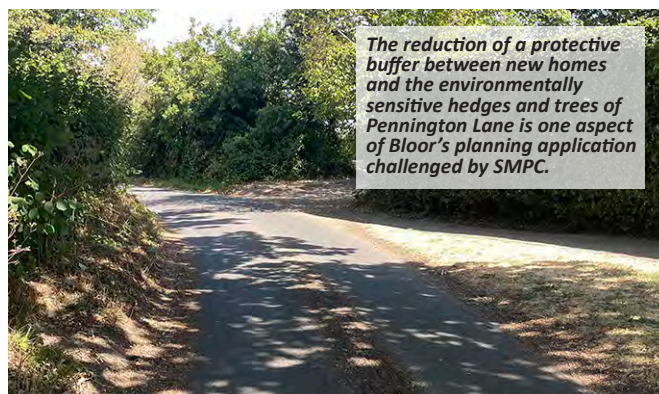
The Mayor of Rungis, Bruno Marcillaud, will visit Stansted this December to meet members of the Stansted Business Forum and local community. This follows an initiative launched earlier this year by SMPC Chair Maureen Caton to strengthen trade ties with the French town, home to Europe’s largest open-air market.



Along with the mayor’s visit, also in December the Stansted Twinning Association will host Rungis residents for a sight-seeing trip to Stansted and London.

The Association also recently welcomed Linda Huggett as its new Chair. Along with wishing Linda—who is also a Parish Councillor—the best in her new role, we would like to thank outgoing Chair Geraldine Allars for her dedicated work promoting community ties. To find out more about twinning activities, email:

 twinning@stanstedmountfitchet-pc.gov.uk



to the Uttlesford District Council (UDC) planning department. The Parish Council would like to thank everyone who took the time to engage with this consultation, especially given the very short notice.

What happens next? Now that the comment window has closed, planning officers will be reviewing the feedback and asking Bloor Homes to address any valid, critical objections. The developer must then submit revised documents or mitigation plans. After assessing whether the proposal aligns with national planning policies and Uttlesford’s Local Plan, officers will issue a formal recommendation to either approve or refuse the application. Finally, the UDC Planning Committee will vote on the outcome. This entire process typically takes between 13 to 16 weeks.

Dates for next month’s Planning Inquiry into City and Country’s Stanhanger project have been confirmed.

The inquiry will run from **November 3–7**, before breaking and resuming from **November 17–20**, and then **November 24–27** if required. SMPC continues to work with its planning expert on its case to oppose City & Country’s 480-home green-belt proposal. In welcome news this summer the government accepted Uttlesford now has 5.35 years of housing land supply, up from the previous 4.77 years. Crucially, crossing this 5-year threshold removes the presumption in favour of speculative development, strengthening the case against the project set as 5 years of land supply.

Remembrance Wreaths

With just over a month until Remembrance Sunday, SMPC is receiving enquiries about wreath-laying arrangements. The Parish Council oversees the arrangements for the service and supervises the order in which organisations pay tribute at the War Memorial in the Memorial Gardens. For details of cost and to place an order for a wreath, organisations should contact the local representative of the Royal British Legion. You can do so emailing:



sibambridge@icloud.com



CCTV System Upgraded



We are pleased to report that the Parish Council's CCTV network is now fully operational, having been taken out of service by a car collision in 2024.

The final stage of the repair project was completed over summer, when contractor Videcom upgraded the computer servers at the Mountfitchet Exchange that store CCTV footage. Cameras and signal relay equipment have also been upgraded after a replacement transmitter pole was installed on Cambridge Road to replace the one destroyed in the accident.

CCTV Upgraded

The upgraded system now provides improved camera technology, better camera positioning, higher-quality images and more reliable signal transmission. This is important as footage from cameras at the bottom of Chapel Hill needs to be transmitted to secure storage servers at the Mountfitchet Exchange. While the system was out of service, the Parish Council was unfortunately unable to provide footage requested by the police or insurance companies investigating incidents that occurred during that period.

CCTV FOOTAGE

Who can request imagery: Emergency services and insurance companies only. Individuals should apply through the police (crime-related incidents) or their insurer (vehicle damage claims)

How Long is footage stored: 30 days

Where are cameras sited:

- Crafton Green car park
- Lower Street car park (2 locations)
- The entrance to the skate park (Lower Street car park)
- The Chapel Hill / Lower Street junction
- Cambridge Road (2 locations)
- ANPR cameras (2 locations) on Cambridge Road

Church Road Closed till November

Drainage work by Essex County Council sees Church Road shut for a month from 12 October to 6 November. The closure will run from the junction with Walson Way down to the roundabout at Lower Street. The diversion route is via Forest Hall Road, Silver Street, and down Chapel Hill to Lower Street. Getting into the village will be made more difficult by a set of temporary lights in operation on Bury Lodge Lane (near the airport carparks), which will be in use until 8 December. The third set of significant roadworks in Stansted in October is on Silver Street near the Chapel Hill junction. Temporary traffic lights will be in operation 8-9 October to allow patching of the surface to be completed. NB SMPC is not involved in the planning and timetabling of roadworks, which is a responsibility of the county council. For further information:



www.essexhighways.org

Old Fire Station Restored

With the village being blessed with so rich a history it is great to see there is now a new piece for the public to enjoy. Retained firefighter Billy Parr and a team of volunteers spent several summer weekends revamping the former fire station, currently used as the SMPC environmental rangers' office and store. The building now features a freshly painted storefront and a QR-coded plaque. When scanned, the plaque connects visitors to a SMPC webpage detailing the stories of both this station and its predecessor across the street at Quaker House. A small ceremony to mark the completion of the project will be held in Autumn, attended by representatives of Stansted Airport, the Parish Council as well as Mr Parr and his team.



Before and after: the 'old fire station' on Chapel Hill.

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

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ryanackerman@stanstedmountfitchet-pc.gov.uk

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georgebraeckman@stanstedmountfitchet-pc.gov.uk

♥ **Maureen CATON** | ☎ 813914

Chair of SMPC

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♥ **Joanna KAVANAGH** | ☎ 815157

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♥ **Ayub KHAN** | ☎ 815800

Vice Chair of SMPC

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♥ **John O'BRIEN** | ☎ 816772

johnobrien@stanstedmountfitchet-pc.gov.uk

Geoffrey SELL | ☎ 815925

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.

The log-on details are published with the agendas ahead of meetings on the SMPC website: **7th October Full Council** **14th October Open Spaces**, **21st October Highways**

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

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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): **TouchPoint** (72 Chapel Hill):
There are no confirmed October 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 every Thursday from 9.30am-2pm, except when Peabody operate advice sessions.

An advisor is also on hand via computer hook-up on Monday, Wednesday & Friday from 9.30am-1pm.

The **Peabody Trust's** drop-in service—also at the Mountfitchet Exchange—is on **Thursday, 8th October** 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

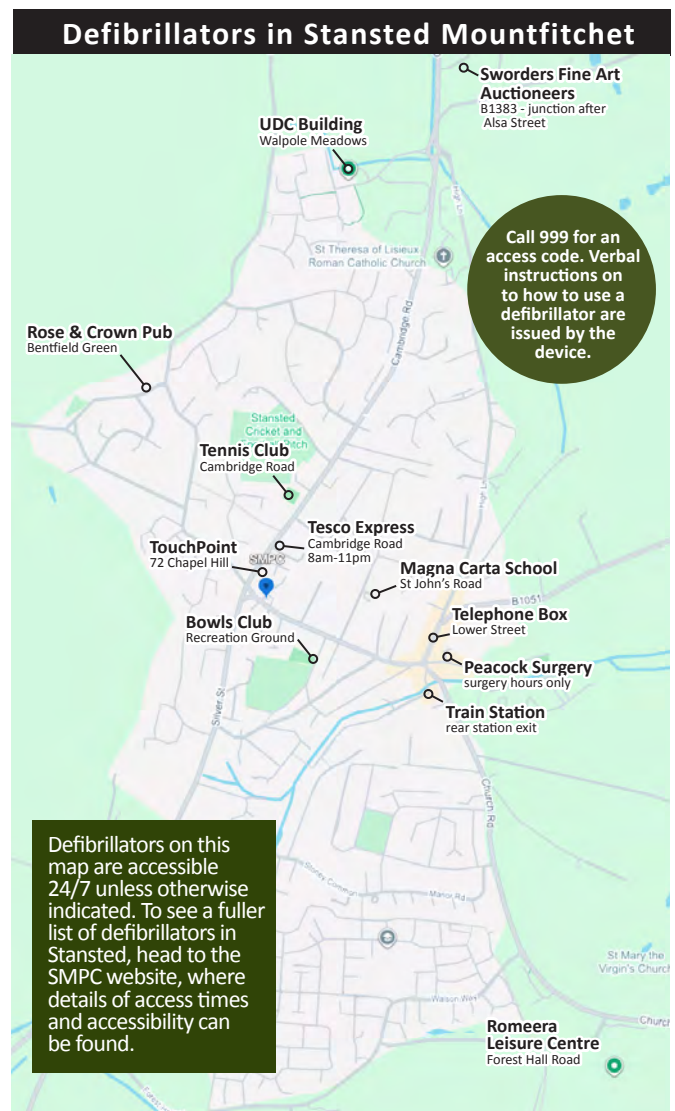
Breakfast Club every Friday 9am-10am

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:

11th October, 25th October



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DAISY MAY'S FARM

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Halloween at the Farm

The spookitastic fun takes place every day from **Saturday 24th October to Sunday 1st November** 10.00am-5.00pm.

It is going to be so exciting, and you must pre-book, so make sure you do it now to avoid disappointment. There is going to be so much going on, including:

- A gift bag for all your goodies
- Witches hunt with prizes
- Pumpkin ball pit with sweets
- Monster mash dance-a-long with prizes
- Halloween arts and crafts
- Creepy crawly corner
- Halloween stamp hunt
- Animal food
- Giant marshmallow for toasting

Plus extras costing a little more:

- Halloween train
- Pumpkins
- Face painting



Please note that we are still open daily during the rest of October 9.00am-4.00pm week-days, 10.00am-4.00pm weekends; entry is £6, under 1s free. Our lovely farm animals and their babies

always look forward to seeing you and do not forget our other exciting farm attractions. Your coming to the farm is vital to our survival, so please do support us in any way you can. We always need help running these events, so if you would like to get involved, we would love to hear from you. Thanks so much. You can find us in Hall Road, Elsenham CM22 6DN. Please keep an eye on our Facebook page for all the latest farm news and updates.

Elaine Terry
Tel: 07747 787973

LIFETIME MORTGAGES

www.wefg.co.uk

Could a modern lifetime mortgage be the solution?

There are a number of recurring trends in reasons for clients considering a modern lifetime mortgage. Here are some real life scenarios from this year:

- A lady aged 64 who wanted to retire but could not afford to do so as she was not yet in receipt of her state pension. A modern lifetime mortgage (formerly known as Equity Release) was used to raise an initial lump sum and provide her with a drawdown facility to supplement her income until she receives her pension
- A gentleman aged 72 who wanted to move house but needed a small mortgage to afford the onward purchase

- A lady aged 77 who wanted to raise money to give to her daughter to fund some renovations on her property and make it suitable for her growing family
- A couple aged 68 and 71 who have an Interest Only mortgage that needs to be repaid but do not want to sell and move to a smaller property. They plan to continue to make a monthly payment so that their debt does not grow
- A lady aged 75 who wanted to build a new conservatory on her property.

There are multiple occasions where clients who are either retired or approaching retirement need to raise finance and where a traditional mortgage is not going to fit for a variety of reasons. Advice is available on all types of mortgages. People who are over 55 are often concerned that age could be an issue, but there is such a large selection of different mortgage options available nowadays that it is more a case of finding the **right** mortgage for individual circumstances, and people are often pleasantly surprised at the range of options available.



Jordan Gregory
We Financial Group FCA: 1004369
Tel: 973373
Email: jordan@wefg.co.uk

STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET EVENING WI



David Willett was our speaker at our August meeting; his topic was *Suffragettes*. The name comes from the word *suffrage*, which means the right to vote. Ette means small and was added by the press to demean the women wanting the right to



vote. There were two elements in the votes for women campaign: Suffragists and Suffragettes. The dividing line between them was about tactics. Suffragists used peaceful legal methods but because decades of petitions to authority had achieved little progress, direct action tactics were used by the Women's Social and Political union (WSPU), known as the Suffragettes, as it was seen as the only alternative to bring about change. Their slogan, *Deeds not Words*, involved militant tactics and had a great impact on the government and society. Their chosen colours were purple for dignity, white for purity, green for hope. The photo shows WSPU members campaigning in 1906.

Women over the age of 21 finally had an equal vote with men in 1928. There has been further discussion since then about gender equality with a levelling up in terms of opportunity, salary, wellbeing and health. Since 1915 the WI has campaigned to tackle diverse issues that matter to women in the community. Recent WI campaigns include equal pay, climate change, mental health and violence against women. The WI has brought about real change. Our next meeting will be held on **Thursday 8th October** at 7.30pm in Touchpoint, when the speaker will be Jas Bahra from Your Hearing Clinic. We welcome new members and visitors to our meetings; do come and join us.

Christine Morris
Email: chris2.morris@btinternet.com

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AUBREY BUXTON NATURE RESERVE

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

With the arrival of Autumn I hope that we will have sufficient rain to replenish the chalk aquifer upon which we rely for our water supplies. At the time of writing the ponds in the reserve are as low as I have ever seen them. I also hope that the young trees we planted last winter have survived the summer drought. Looking down the tree tubes that are protecting them from deer and rabbits it is hard to tell if they are still alive, so fingers crossed. Thanks to an award from The Stansted Airport Community Fund, new paths are in place at the southern end of the reserve where it gets particularly muddy in the winter. These will allow people to access the reserve without walking further up the slope over the wildlife meadow. Please do keep to the paths.



Autumn is a good time of year to see fungi and there are some particularly impressive ones by the central bench in the reserve. These are giant polypores, a bracket fungus that likes to feed on rotting wood especially beech. At our West Wood reserve near Thaxted we thought we had found another interesting fungus but it turned out to be a slime mold. This bright yellow species has the common name of dog vomit slime mold. Dog owners will be able to attest to the appropriateness of this name.

John Welham

Warden

Tel: 07767 648890

Email: communications@essexwt.org.uk

IN THE GARDEN

Don't be too tidy!

Lots of perennials, grasses and bulbs can provide a long period of interest long after their initial show of flowers is over. *Allium christophii* seed heads are still looking great although they flowered in late May. Many perennials can provide interest through winter and a home for wildlife too. Ladybirds love to hide in the dead leaves of *Echinops* and the seedheads look lovely. Rudbeckias, *Phlomis*, Sedums (*Hylotelephium*), *Agapanthus* and many others can be left until early spring standing stiff and upright in the gar-

den. They look great covered in a hoar frost on a chilly winter's day and the leaves provide protection for the roots.



Lavenders should be cut back, but do not cut into old wood; just cut them back as far as you can to stop them going leggy. Roses also benefit from cutting back hard in winter. There is no need to worry about your technique with roses; a RHS study showed you could mow them with a lawn mower and they will still flower just as well!

This is the perfect time to plant new plants along with bulbs. Put a handful of grit under your bulbs as they like good drainage, and a sprinkle of fish, bone and blood with new plants will get them off to a good start. A mulch like Strulch will deter weeds and keep the roots cosy and damp. Autumn is the time to make leaf mould mulch; rake up the leaves, shred them, and put them in plastic bin bags punctured a few times to let moisture and air in. Keep them damp but otherwise forget about them for a year and there will be a lovely crumbly mulch. I let fallen leaves stay on the beds in a thin layer, which does the same job.

Anthea Thomas

Email: anthea@gwbhorticulture.co.uk

ST JOHN'S 300 CLUB

Many congratulations to the winners of the August draw:

£100	No 42	Anthony Minshull
£50	No 14	Sarah Ludlow-Elston
£25	No 100	Christopher Bone

The draw for October will be held on **25th October** in St John's Church, following the 9.30am service. Numbers at £2 per month for each number are still available for anyone who may wish to join the Club and be in with a chance of winning one of the 38 prizes totalling £2500 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



STANSTED FOOTBALL CLUB

www.essexseniorleague.co.uk

Now we are into October, our first team is starting to show consistency in their results which has enabled us to move into the top six of the league. The key now is to stay there and, with a run of home games now scheduled, our team management and players are working hard to maintain the momentum that has already been built. Our new Under 23s side has also had an encouraging start to the season competing against older and more experienced players in the Essex Olympian League, and we have seen some of these under 23s making the first team squad on match days.

Now responsible for all our social media posts is Matt North. He is doing an excellent job of promoting the Club with information across our social platforms, especially on match days, with live updates on team selection and in game details. His new home match day programme has already received rave reviews which has led to new sponsorship agreements for both the club and individual players. It is always worth keeping an eye out for updates with our fixture schedule on the club's X Account and Facebook because games do change quite regularly. Below are our scheduled home games for October:

8 th	U18s	Braintree Town	7.45pm
15 th	U18s	AFC Pegasus Colchester	7.45pm
17 th	First	Lymore Gardens	3.00pm
31 st	First	Athletic Newham	3.00pm

Please note the Under 23s October Fixtures are yet to be released.



STANSTED DARTS TEAMS

The Stansted Darts teams play at the Football Club House on Wednesday and Thursday evenings, and they continue to dominate their respective Summer Leagues with both team and individual performances. This is now the second season that we have hosted the darts in our Clubhouse and it has proved to be a great success, as the majority of the players are now regular Stansted FC supporters on match days.



Tom Williams
Tel: 07921 403842



STANSTED HALL AND ELSENHAM CRICKET CLUB

www.stanstedhallelsenhamcricket.club

The 1st XI have had nine straight wins during the latter half of the season and so they return to the top division. They are now champions of the Herts and Essex Border League Division 1 and have been promoted back into the Premier League. A mixture of experience and youth has worked very well this year; therefore it has been very much a team effort.

The 2nd XI finished 4th in Division 3 under the leadership of Paul Mason-Smith, with our young players in

particular making a huge contribution. The Club defeated the President's XI in a highly entertaining match with Paul Grayson, ex Essex CCC, playing for the President. The junior section had a very busy enjoyable season, and the Club will continue with All Stars (5-8 years old) and Dynamo cricket (ages 9-11) in 2027.

A very successful Golf Day was won by both Stansted Cricket Club team and individuals; very well done. A total of 44 players took part and £650 was raised. The Presentation Evening will be held on Friday 23rd October followed by the Annual General Meeting in November. It was all in all a very successful season; Club spirit has been excellent throughout. If you are looking for a cricket club for the 2027 season look no further; we have a beautiful ground and a strong community spirit. If you are at all interested please contact me.



David Brown
Tel: 831011 Mob: 07788 999663
Email: davud1.r.brown@gmail.com



STANSTED BOWLS CLUB

The 2026 season has drawn to a close with the Club's finals day held on 5th September. We had a lovely day with the weather very kind and players and spectators able to enjoy the bowls, the bacon and sausage rolls, the doughnuts and the bananas; we had to have something healthy! A few drinks were in order after the exertion of competing. So, on to the events themselves. Congratulations to everyone who reached the finals, all of whom are pictured in the photo below the results.

- Ladies Challenge Shield: Lorna beat Colleen
- Eleanor Irwin Cup: Shirley beat Lorna
- Ladies' Triple Final: Colleen, Brenda and Shirley beat Lorna, Ann and Jayne
- The Alcock: John S beat Peter S
- The Fletcher: Graham beat Alan W
- The Buck Pairs: John S and Peter S beat David D and Dave W
- The Newman: Peter B beat David D
- The Brett: John S beat Peter B



We are now putting the green to bed. A major renovation is necessary this year due to the hot weather during the season seriously impacting the playing surface. In the close season we will be meeting every Friday evening for a social and perhaps holding other events from time to time. Watch out for announcements on our social media.

David Danby
Secretary
Tel: 07799 722940
Email: daviddanby30@gmail.com

The 2026 Summer Tournament

Tournament Finals Day is the showpiece event at the Club and this year was played on Sunday 6th September which turned out to be a beautiful day. The initial draw had been made on 25th April, then tournament organiser Daphne Lunnon sent information about the first-round draw to all participants. This year an impressive 34 players entered. The matches are played throughout the summer, with the first round played in May and June.

The tournament dates way back to 1951 when J Ratcliff and J Mosey won the inaugural Mixed Doubles event. Men's and Ladies' Singles started in 1955 then Men's and Ladies' Doubles in 1969. The player who holds the record for most titles is Sandra Ayres with a staggering 40 to her name. Daphne Lunnon is no slouch either, with a mighty 19 titles under her belt. There are five separate finals to get through on the day; results are shown below:

- Men's Singles winner Jon Purshouse beat Tom Baker 2-6, 6-3, 6-4
- Ladies' Singles winner Daphne Lunnon beat Sandra Ayres 6-4, 6-4
- Men's Doubles winners Jon Purshouse and Ben Jones, beat James Thorpe and Andy Constantinou 5-7, 6-2, 7-5
- Ladies' Doubles winners Chris Bailey and Mel Smyth beat Fiona Pye and Sandra Ayres 6-3, 6-3
- Mixed Doubles' winners Ben Jones and Chris Bailey beat Mark Edmeades and Carol Cook 6-4, 6-2.



The day was very well attended with members and family all enjoying some great tennis. Daphne does a fantastic job every year organising the tournament; her efforts go largely unnoticed due to her conscientiousness and amazing organisation skills. The Ollie Toms award for most improved player was awarded to Samantha Wallace, a very well-deserved winner; we had many nominees for the trophy this year.

Jon Budd
Email: contact@stanstedtennisclub.co.uk

The rains have refreshed the gardens in time for a tranquil close to the season at the end of October. Full autumn colours are appearing earlier than usual, as many trees are preserving their strength by becoming dormant earlier than usual. In October we will have the joys of kicking up golden brown leaves in the Lime Wood at the same time as enjoying the last flowers of the season: the dahlias, the *hylothelephium* (ice plant) and the Michaelmas daisies. Roses have flowered continuously, keeping our spirits up through this year's hopelessly dry summer.



Our Autumn and Halloween Open Day is **Sunday 18th October** 11.00am-5.00pm with the last entry at 4.00pm. Entry fees: adults £7.50 on the day or £6 in advance through www.trybooking.com. Children are free. Visitors will be encouraged to look at the huge variety of trees and appreciate the stories of who planted them, while also enjoying the gardens at their spooky best. In the walled kitchen garden, the pumpkins have enjoyed the heat of the summer and already in August turned a vibrant orange. They are not huge, so visitors will need to be very precise to win the guess the weight competition. More squashes were still growing in September, so hopefully there will be lots to make soup for visitors, to use for craft activities for children and to sell. Volunteers have worked hard to make jam with the fruits from the garden, so there will be a jam and jelly tombola, as well as other local produce and craft stalls. Children will love discovering the Halloween decorations, and the trail and family games, and the Rock Choir will sing lots of our favourite songs from noon. We are open on Thursdays 11.00am-3.00pm with last entry at 2.00pm until the end of October. For further details, please look at our website.

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



RSPB

www.group.rspb.org.uk/stortvalley

Our October events start on **Saturday 3rd October** at 10.00am with a visit to Wandlebury Country Park. Meet at CB22 3AE. Located on top of the Gog Magog Hills, this 110-acre site is designated as a County Wildlife Site and is important for its chalk meadows and mature woodland.

For our monthly meeting on **Tuesday 13th October** at 7.30pm in Bishop's Park Community Centre, Bishop's Park CM23 4DA we welcome Liz Cutting who will present *Along the Stour Estuary*.

Liz is a keen naturalist who has access to many quiet and private places along the estuary. This combined with her photographic expertise will allow her to present the rich variety of birds and wildlife to be found there.



The Stour Estuary

We finish the month on **Tuesday 20th October** at 10.00am with a midweek walk starting from St Mary's Church, Standon SG11 1LA. This is a pleasant five-mile walk crossing farmland using footpaths and field edges; it passes several fine viewpoints. Towards the end, the walk follows the River Rib through a water meadow before returning to Standon.

Full details of all our activities can be found on our website, and I thoroughly recommend you pay a visit and look around. Alternatively, you may like to join our email list so that you can receive reminders and notifications about our events.

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

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October Entertainment

Live Shows

Catch *The Gruffalo* on stage on **Monday 5th** and **Tuesday 6th**. Tall Stories' much-loved magical, musical adaptation of the classic picture book by Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler returns by popular demand, celebrating the show's 25th anniversary. Songs, laughs and mischievous fun for children aged three and up and their grown-ups.

Make it a month of laughter with some hilarious comedy shows, starting with the return of *The Best in Comedy* on **Friday 2nd** with a wonderful lineup including Pete Firman, Mark Watson, Kevin Daniel, and Maureen Younger.

As seen on Live at The Apollo, Mock The Week and more, Andy Parsons comes to us on **Thursday 8th** with a brand-new show: *Please #@!\$ off to Mars*.

After jabbering on about it every week on her hit podcast *Life with Nat*, Natalie Cassidy is stepping into the world of live podcasting with a very special live tour. The show will be filled with chat and laughter, as well as a possible guest appearance from some of your favourite family members or celebrity friends and is on **Sunday 18th**.



Join one of Britain's best-loved quizzers, Mark Labbett, aka *The Beast*, for an evening of questions and conversation on **Friday 9th**.

Cinema

Up for the trilogy challenge, my precious? Join us for *The Lord of the Rings* 25th Anniversary Film Festival on **Sunday 25th**. We have horror films taking over our cinema all day this Halloween. From *The Nightmare Before Christmas* to *Carrie*, there is something for all ages. For more information about everything that is happening this season, please visit our website.

Seren Stephen
Tel: 710200
Email: sstephen@southmillarts.co.uk

DIRECTORY OF LOCAL CLUBS

Beaver Scouts Age 6-8	Angela Madigan Tel: 01371 513028	RSPB	Peter Allen Tel: 07876 295456 Email: peter2349@sky.com
BS Beekeepers	Kate Walker Tel: 07399 197756 Email: secretary@stortfordbees.org.uk	St Clare Hospice	Rebecca Day Email: info@stclarehospice.org.uk
Bowls Club	David Danby Tel: 07799 722948 Email: daviddanby30@gmail.com	St John's Road and Area Association	Secretary: David Marchant Email: david@marchant.com
Brownies (Tue)	Kathy Shearman Tel: 07724 355533	Scouts (age 10½ -14)	Mike Byrne Tel: 812780
Brownies (Wed)	Abbie Scott Email: firststansted@hotmail.com	Sparks Netball	Gemma Snelling Tel: 07368 809138 Email: gemmasnelling@me.com
CAB	Tel: 01799 618840	Stansted and District Past Rotarians Club	Geoff Lay Email: geofflay.22@gmail.com
Corkers Netball	Lizzie Read Tel: 07770 594848	Stansted Badminton	Vince Tel: 07793 000107
Cub Scouts (Tue) Age 8-10½	Huskies Jerry O'Connor stanstedhuskies@gmail.com (Thu) Bulldogs Hazel Crundwell 1ststanstedcubsbulldogs@gmail.com	Stansted Business Forum	Iris Evans Email: iris.evans9@gmail.com
Explorer Scouts	Roger Pettett Tel: 07715 740715	Stansted Cricket Club (Adults) (Juniors)	Ben Sammons Tel: 07852 510330 Email: bensammons3178@gmail.com Keith Ayres Tel: 814471
Friends of St Mary's Church	Lynda Dale Tel: 07716 099474 Email: lynnydale@hotmail.com	Stansted Football Club	Tom Williams Tel: 07921 403842
Fun Place on the Hill	Sue Parker Tel: 657116 Email: funplace@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk	Stansted Hall and Elsenham Cricket Club	David Brown Tel: 831011/07788 999663 Email: david1.r.brown@gmail.com
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Little Scrummers	Andrew Poyser Tel: 07738 591232	TouchPoint	Shirley Johnson Tel: 07572 114882 Email: info@thetouchpoint.org
Millers (Windmill)	Tudor Owen Tel: 07485 452333 Email: info@stanstedwindmill.co.uk	Town Twinning	Chairman: Geraldine Allars Tel: 07833 089298 Email: twinning@stanstedmountfitchetpc.gov.uk
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Neighbourhood Watch	Linzi Shelford Tel: 07427 377118 Email: linzishelford@hotmail.com	WI (Stansted)	Jenny Wraith Tel: 816524
Parkinson's UK	Simon Russell Tel: 01799 524638 Email: simonrussell2@tiscali.co.uk	WI (Ugley)	Andrea Fitt Tel: 815922
Rainbow Pre-School	Lorraine Hayes Tel: 814242 Email: admin@rainbowpreschool.net	Youth Centre	Essex Youth Services Tel: 07584 140507
Rainbows (Wed)	Abbie Scott Email: firststansted@hotmail.com		
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 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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Please call to book an appointment or a class
01279 813371 or **07973 409675**
www.hazel-williams.co.uk






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