

Volume XXX Number 9 August 2010

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#### VOLUME 30 Issue 9 August 2010



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by **noon** on 11th August for the September issue by **noon** on 11th September

#### **EDITORIAL**

This summer has seen a great flurry of communal activities. It started with the Big Toddle on Recreation Ground in June. Over the period of 17th-20th of the month St Mary's Church hosted a successful long weekend with a reminiscent and musical flavour. On 19th Windmill enthusiasts and those involved in the restoration gathered for a Reception and also on that day there was a display in aid of research into Parkinson's Disease. On 27th came the first Ordination in St John's Church, and the well-supported Fun Run held in tropical heat. The Big Sing in the Memorial Garden followed and then in July came the ever-popular Music in the Park at Bentfield School, the Cricket Club's 150th Anniversary and the MMCC (and its predecessor's) 50th Birthday. And they were just the unusual events! It showed that when the community has reason to celebrate, there are people willing to make it happen.

It is noticeable that Cambridge Road, Chapel Hill and Lower Street all have empty shops. The retail market is inherently volatile, so it would be reassuring to see them re-opening soon, particularly as most would be individual or small businesses. A lively village invites lively shops.

A good resolve for the rest of the year would be a vigorous campaign to reduce speeding, especially in Church Road, High Lane and Silver Street. That really would make it a year of achievement.

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THE FRONT COVER

This quarter's cover shows the Mile Post opposite the Fountain. The history of this and other local mile signs will appear in a future issue.

**Stansted network** is compiled by Stansted Mountfitchet Parish Council.

**DISCLAIMER** Opinions expressed in this magazine are given freely and do not necessarily represent those of the editorial committee

#### THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

#### WORKS IN PROGRESS

The crowning moment arrived! On Sunday 4th July, our younger daughter, Rosemary, was among 25 candidates presented that day in Chelmsford Cathedral, kneeling before the Bishop to receive the laying on of hands and anointing of her palms with holy oil. Thus ordained a deacon, Rosemary's first appointment is as Assistant Curate in the parish of St Peter ad Vincula, Coggeshall.

In her twenties, while studying at the Royal Academy of Music, Rosemary discussed with the Chaplain the next step in her faith journey. Hoping to join the Coldstream Guards Band after graduating, she was baptised by me in the event of her passing the entrance stage. Things turned out differently. Temporarily, Rosemary became assistant to the United Reformed Church Ministries Department Convenor. One day, she came home to announce her decision to enter the priesthood. Her sense of a vocation had grown while developing strong links with her local Anglican church in Wembley.

Completing a rigorous application process, she trained at Westcott House, Cambridge, where for a time she was responsible for the chapel music and liturgy. In 2005, Westcott students published a CD 'Glimpses of God, reflections in words and music', describing the odyssey that had individually brought them to discern God's call. Each sensed that in coming to train, they had not so much arrived at a destination, as reached the next step in an ongoing quest. All affirmed that: 'Our understanding of God develops as we experience the joys and pains of worship, study, pastoral work and life. The ideas we present are not doctrinal statements but 'works in progress'.' Every human being is a work in progress. From the moment of our conception, God is at work in us to complete what he began whereby we come up to Christ's way of being human.



Allen R Morton URC Minister Stansted Free Church



#### STANSTED FREE CHURCH

Methodist / URC Chapel Hill www.stanstedfreechurch.org.uk

Ministers Rev'd Allen Morton

Tel: 757635

Email: minister@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk

Rev'd David Mullins

Tel: 654475

Email: minister@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk

**Lettings** Marion and Mike Dyer

7 Blythwood Gardens, Stansted CM24 8HG

Tel: 814059

Email: lettings@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk

**Preachers for August** 

1st 10.30am The Worship Team

8th 10.30am Jean Hay

15th 10.30am Rev'd Allen Morton - Holy Communion

22nd 10.30am Rev'd David Thompson 29th 10.30am Rev'd Allen Morton

#### SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

**Quaker Meeting House, Chapel Hill** 

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Masses Saturday 6.00pm

Sunday 9.00am and 10.30am Holy Days of Obligation 8.00am and 8.00pm

Tuesday-Saturday 9.30am

Confessions

Saturday 10.00am

and by appointment

**Baptisms** By appointment



Thank you to everyone who contributed to the £1500 collected in Christian Aid Week. At the special service in May we saw how Christian Aid has supported residents in the slums of Kenya to build toilet blocks, so that they no longer have to use the open sewers. As well as making a more pleasant environment there is also less chance of catching diseases. So next time you flush the toilet, remember that the money you gave in the Christian Aid envelope could be providing this very basic facility, which we take for granted.

Catherine Dean Tel: 813579



All enquiries: The Church Office, St John's Hall,

St John's Road, Stansted CM24 8JP

Tel: 815243

Email: st.johns.church@btinternet.com Office hours: 9.00am-12 noon, Monday,

Wednesday, Friday

Administrator: Mrs Elizabeth Jennings Website: www.stanstedstjohns.btik.com

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Tel: 812203

Email: paulwilkin@iname.com

Assistant Rev'd Giles Tulk
Curate: Tel: 817155

Email: stansted.curate@googlemail.com

**Director of** Lorraine Everett

Music: Email: church.music@stansted.net

**Church Hall** Joy Lambe **Bookings:** Tel: 817937

Email: joy@popcornwebdesign.co.uk

St John's Diary Sunday

8.00am Said Holy Communion9.30am Worship 4 All (1st Sunday)9.30am Choral Eucharist (2nd -

4th Sundays)

Monday-Tuesday and Thursday-Saturday

8.30am Morning Prayer There are services of Holy Communion on

**Tuesday** the first Tuesdays and 9.00am St John's Tots Wednesdays of the

month in Norman Court, Hargrave House

WednesdayCourt, Hargrave Ho9.00amMorning Prayerand Broome End10.00amHoly CommunionNursing Homes.

Monday-Saturday 5.00pm Evening Prayer

#### ORDINATION AT ST JOHN'S CHURCH

On Sunday 27th June a very special occasion was held at St John's Church. It was so special, that no-one can remember this sacrament having been held there before – and it may well be that this was the first such service ever to be held in the parish. It was 'The Ordination of Priests' conducted by the Bishop of Colchester, the Right Reverend Christopher Morgan. Three deacons were presented to be ordained priest, one of whom was our very own Giles Tulk who came to Stansted as Assistant Curate after his ordination as deacon a year ago. The other two ordinands were Anne Howson from Saffron Walden Team Ministry and Sally Lodge from

Halstead Team Ministry. There were clergy representatives from each of these areas, and of course each ordinand was strongly supported at the service by friends, family, and members of their own congregations.

There was a wide variety of music – from contemporary hymns (such as 'I, the Lord of Sea and Sky') to more traditional hymns (including the beautiful 'Sweet Sacrament Divine'), and the choir from St Mary's School sang Graham Kendrick's 'Come to the Feast'. St John's choir led the congregational singing - with several guest choristers from Takeley and Saffron Walden choirs swelling the ranks. The order of service stated 'The Church of England maintains the historic threefold ministry of bishops, priests and deacons. Its ministers are ordained by bishops according to the authorised form, with prayer and the laying on of hands'. This laying on of hands was very much in evidence. When each of the ordinands came forward to kneel before the bishop, they virtually disappeared under a sea of outstretched arms of visiting clergy who gathered round to place their hands on the head of the ordinand. Giles said afterwards that although he felt the weight of hands on his head, he also experienced a wonderful feeling of being held and supported.



One of the visiting clergy was the Rev'd Karin Skott, who is Chaplain to the Ordinands in Karlstad Diocese in The Church of Sweden. It was delightful to hear her read the Gospel in Swedish – and for those of us whose Swedish is rusty, we were relieved that it was also read in English! After the Eucharist had ended, the choir sang a rousing rendition of Handel's 'Halleluiah Chorus' - a fitting finale to a deeply spiritual and uplifting service. Those members of the congregation not used to St John's electronic organ were amazed when the director of Music, Lorraine Everett, leapt off the organ stool to conduct the choir, whilst the organ mysteriously played the accompaniment! This was, of course 'one she had prepared earlier'! So ended a long (two hours) worship, but as the Bishop led the newly ordained priests out into the sunshine, I felt privileged to have been part of such a wonderful service and to witness what was a very special occasion for three people who had answered God's call to serve His church and His people. At one point we, the congregation, were asked of Giles, Sally and Anne "will you continually pray for them, uphold and encourage them in their ministry"? The response was a resounding "We will". Let's always remember that promise.



## From the Registers June

#### **Baptisms**

13th Florence Grace Mackenzie Amy Elaine Hancock Isla Grace Cook

#### Marriage

26th Vikki Caroline Nankivell to Richard Owen Morris

#### **Funeral**

7th Constance Laura Knowles, age 73 - at Parndon Wood

#### ST JOHN'S 300 CLUB

Congratulations to the winners of the June draws, who were:

£100: No 55 – Matt Cope £ 50: No 52 – Nicola Ward £ 25: No 166 – Mr B Robinson

The July draws, including the extra draw for £200, will take place on Friday 30th July at the Rose & Crown at 7.30pm, followed by the August draws on Tuesday 31st August in the Old Bell at 7.30pm. Come along and see if you are a winner!

There are still some numbers available if anyone wishes to join or increase their numbers – for an application form, please contact Francine Cope (814562) or Rosemary Thomson (815551).

#### ST JOHN'S THEATRE OUTINGS GROUP

All the tickets for 'The Rivals' and 'Calendar Girls' are now sold and I have provisionally booked tickets to see Aled Jones in concert on Friday 19th November at The Corn Exchange, Cambridge. Tickets, including travel, will cost £35-£37 and we will be leaving Stansted at 6.15pm. I have already attended a previous concert, which was most uplifting. Please call or email me if you are interested in coming along.

Rosemary Thomson Tel: 815551

Email: r.thomson321@btinternet.com



#### THE BIG SING

Around 100 people turned up to sing favourite hymns accompanied by Bishop's Stortford Town Band in the Memorial Gardens on 20th June.



We were joined by visitors from the Cherubim and Seraphim Church in Birmingham, who sang some of their rousing choruses which we all joined in! Thank you to those who gave generously to the collection which, once the expenses had been paid, resulted in £140 being sent to Christian Aid.



Catherine Dean Tel: 813579

#### **VILLAGE EVENTS**

August

Sun Windmill open 1.30 – 5 pm St Mary's Church open 2 – 5 pm

4 Wed Mountfitchet Club Day Centre 2 – 4 pm

Mountfitchet Garden Club Day Centre 7.30 for 8 pm 7 Sat / 8 Sun Skips Lower St Car Park 9 am – 3 pm

12 Thu WI St John's Hall 7.45 pm 21 Sat / 22 Sun Skips Lower St Car Park 9 am – 3 pm

29 Sun Windmill open30 Mon Windmill Fête2 pm

September

1 Wed Mountfitchet Club Day Centre 2 – 4 pm
Mountfitchet Garden Club Day Centre 7.30 for 8 pm
2 Thu Local History Society Day Centre 8 pm

4 Sat / 5 Sun Skips Lower St Car Park 9 am – 3 pm

5 Sun Windmill open 1.30 - 5 pmSt Mary's Church open 2 - 5 pm

9 Thu WI St John's Hall 7.45 pm 16 Thu U3A St John's Hall 2 pm

To advertise your **September** event please tel 814059 or email: events@stanstedlink.org.uk before 11th August. All entries subject to editorial approval.



Stansted Windmill Open 1.30 - 5 pm Sun 1st & 29th Aug

St Mary's Church Open 2 - 5 pm Sun 1st Aug





### Stansted Windmill

#### ANNUAL FÊTE

2 - 5 pm 30th August (Bank Holiday Monday)

Tombola ~ Shooting ~ Cakes Bric-à-Brac ~ Pet Advice Teas ~ Parachuting Books ~ Raffle ~ Bowling Live Music ~ Stalls and the rest .....

A real Villagey Afternoon not to be missed!

#### **HOLIDAY BODIES**

Ok.....Summer is still here and some of us need to shape up ready for our holidays. However, do not worry there is still hope to shed some weight before facing the sun loungers! I've come up with some hints and tips in order to help push you forward to achieve those goals.

#### **Eat Regularly**

Feeding our bodies with good food on a regular basis is an essential factor in weight loss. Our bodies need the right nutrients in order to metabolise and burn the fats. This would mean having your three main regular meals but with a nutritious snack in between.

#### Cravings

This is a hard hurdle to overcome. However, it can be achieved! One great tip I would suggest is to brush your teeth after your main meal. This can help to overcome the cravings of having dessert.

#### Hydration

With all this hot weather around, it is important to take in plenty of water. This will also allow any toxins to be flushed out of the body.

#### **Coconut Oil**

Coconut Oil is very useful in reducing weight. It increases the body metabolism by removing stress on the pancreas thereby burning more energy and helping obese and overweight people reduce their weight. You can purchase this from your local health food store and just simply add a small amount in the frying pan as an alternative to olive oil.

#### **Exercise Programmes**

It is best to chop and change your exercises as much as possible. The body loves to adjust itself with a fresh stimulus through exercise. An example would be to take a run but to vary the run with different speeds. Attending different fitness classes is also a great way to boost the metabolism.

#### No Eating 90 Mins Before Exercise

Yep that's right no eating up to 90 minutes before doing your exercise session. We're trying not to disturb the body's digestion system too much as we want to allow the body to work hard and with a post workout meal this will allow the body to adapt more effectively.

#### Plenty of Rest!

Now that's an order! Rest is a crucial component to any weight loss and fitness plan. The body only changes when its in a rest mode (this does not mean rest all the time!). We actually cause damage to our muscles when we exercise and its in the rest periods that we recover, repair muscle and allow for the metabolic fat burn to take place.

If you need further advice and assistance with your personal fitness goals please contact me.

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#### ST MARY'S MIDSUMMER TEA PARTY

It must have been one of the busiest weekends Stansted has seen for a long time – so much to see, celebrate and sing about. We began to plan our 'Stansted - The Way We Were' months ago. The support that came from our appeal to village organisations for memorabilia was so much more than we could have imagined. Our thanks go to all the sporting clubs in Stansted for displays of past glories and present triumphs; to members of Stansted Local History Society who exhibited cards, slides and interesting artefacts; our Fire Brigade from the earliest days, and the story of the much-loved squire. Fuller-Maitland. The Bell Ringers produced records from over 100 years ago until the present day. There were exhibits from Stansted WI, the British Legion and Stansted Windmill - so much had great appeal to our younger, newer, Stansted residents. 'Stansted Had Talent' was a great way to remember our stage-struck past – operatic societies, choirs, gang shows, pantomimes - nearly all of them in the Central Hall of happy memories!



Then there were the pageants (with huge casts) for coronations, Festival of Britain and the rest. Our week-long carnivals made a display in themselves, Carnival queens, floats and the celebrity guests who were supplied by Aubrey Buxton. So many old school friends, Scouts, Guides, Youth Fellowship etc, were reunited. If only we had had some recording equipment we could have made a true sound archive for our children and grandchildren. Perhaps it is just as well, some of the tales told are best left unrecorded!

But our Exhibition was only a part of the Midsummer Tea Party. From the time we opened on Thursday until 5 o'clock on Sunday, when we had to suggest kindly to the aged gentleman who had come by train from South London that we really must close, a team of volunteers to whom we are most grateful, served tea and cakes. Cake tins were emptied, kettles were boiled almost non-stop. Our thanks, also, to Susan Bone, Madeline Hart and Jean Robinson for the lovely flower arrangements throughout the church. Sponsorship of the flowers was made by many Stansted families in memory of those for whom St Mary's had special meaning. Any event in St Mary's would not be complete without music. Our two lunchtime concerts were given by Matthew Rowlands and his talented young musicians from the Stansted Mountfitchet Mathematics and Computing College. They were a real breath of fresh air and gave the audiences much pleasure. We shall see and hear them again later in the year. Everyone would agree that the highlight of the whole affair was the concert arranged by St Mary's former organist, Keith Turner. His invited choir from various choirs, St Mary's Singers and

his own family of talented musicians, joined us in a concert of 'These You Have Loved'. The first half was sacred, with well-remembered items from the choir, soloists and hymns; the second half was secular with delightful barbershop songs from Kelvin and his family, enthusiastic audience participation in the chorus of 'The Hippopotamus Song' and in true traditional British flag waving to finish with, 'Jerusalem', 'Rule Britannia' and 'Land of Hope and Glory'. To try and say thank you to Keith and his family, and to his reunited choir, is inadequate - to use an old dance band signing-off number 'Here's to the Next Time'. It was all a great emotional reunion, but it would not have been so successful without the vast amount of work undertaken by Keith Ayres, Ros and Barry Francis and James and Stella Rodgers. Two of us had an idea, but they did all the hard work. A final note, the slogan from the Churches Conservation Trust is 'Save our Historic Churches': over £1.000 was raised for the fund. Our gratitude to all who came and contributed to our Tea Party.



Audrey Rodgers On behalf of The Churches Conservation Trust



#### STANSTED FOOTBALL CLUB

I am afraid that this will be very brief this month as your normal contributor, Larry, is off on his holidays. Well, the World Cup has been a disappointment from England's perspective but we have at least had wonderful weather to enjoy - bet you can tell already this is written by a female. As far as our Senior Team are concerned they already are in training and my sources are telling me they are looking good, so hopefully we can enjoy another successful season.

We are hoping to have our turnstiles in place before the commencement of the new season, which I believe is one of the ground improvements we need if we hope to ever gain promotion to the next league up. This will also, hopefully, mean that spectators will all have to pay the admission price as we do need all the income that we can get. Yes, you guessed right, I am the Treasurer. Visitors to our Clubhouse may have noticed that it is looking very spruce lately and this is largely down to Terri and her 'other half', Ron, who have undertaken a lot of the cleaning. I would like to take this opportunity to sing the praises of Tony Smith because without him this Club would not have survived, as he devotes all his spare time to the Club. To all newcomers to the area please come and visit us - you will be sure of a warm welcome.

Lynne Furber Treasurer

#### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

The St John's Road Area Association gives notice that between 23rd July and 31st August, St John's Road, St John's Crescent and St John's Lane is to have a new surface dressing. Therefore would owners of parked vehicles please remove them and refrain from parking in these roads between these dates. No responsibility will be accepted by the Committee, the residents or contractors if damage occurs to any vehicle or to personal property during these works.

St John's Road Area Association

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#### DISTRIBUTION OF THE 'LINK'

Nearly 3000 copies of the magazine are delivered free and by contract each month to all residential and business addresses in Stansted including Forest Hall. If by the end of the preceding month you have not received your copy, please advise us by ringing 812216 or 647213. One or two residents have stated that they do not wish to receive their copy but the 'Link' contains Parish Council news and information which carries a legal requirement for the Council to communicate with parishioners, so we must adhere to a non-selective distribution system. For this reason we do not observe 'no free papers' notices. May we ask you to ensure that there is an accessible post-box or distribution point on your property, especially if there are security gates? Thank you.

Editor



#### STANSTED SCOUTS

#### **Thetford Camp**

What a weekend! On a hot Friday afternoon, an advance party of ten travelled up to the Scout site at Two Mile Bottom in Thetford Forest. By 5.30pm the camp was set and we sat down for a BBQ. The other 21 Scouts and Leaders arrived at 7.00pm and it was straight into Crate Stacking - a new activity for most, climbing higher as you stack the crates underneath you. Twenty crates high was the most achieved, simply because we ran out of crates!

Bedtime was 11.00pm after cake and hot choc. Surprisingly everyone settled down by midnight. Saturday, and another very hot day dawned. After breakfast it was time for the Zipline. The take off platform always seems higher once you're on it, and some of the harnesses were a little 'snug' shall we say, causing the odd moan at the stopping end of the line - well it did from the adults! A brief stop for lunch and it was abseiling time.

It's not natural going backwards over a ledge, but virtually everyone had a go, some looking as though they did it every



day. Our evening meal was chicken stew with dumplings all cooked over a blazing wood fire (as were all the meals) followed by apple pie and custard. We then had two hours on the water walker, which is an inflatable tube on a pool of water, a bit like a hamster's wheel. This was tiring, and very soon upped the heart rate! It was then time for the campfire, a few songs around the fire, with supper of poptarts, popcorn and a can of pop.

Sunday dawned nice and hot again, and today was kayaking time, in two sessions due to our numbers. We went up the river against the current, which then made returning easier. Capsize drill was performed by all those that wanted to. The local adder population decided to join us in the river at the same time, and someone said adders don't swim! (In fact they also climb trees.) No worries, not one adder was harmed by rampaging Scouts!! All too soon it was time to strike camp and we left for home at 4.30pm. While we were there, we camped under the pine trees, which gave us some

welcome relief from the sun, but not the falling cones. Each day we had to look for wood for our fire, cut it and stack it. Our pioneering project was a ballister, which we fired water bombs from - an excellent way to cool down, and for those with energy, football and rounders were also played. We all had lots of fun while being outdoors in the fresh air. That's Scouting for you.

#### **County Awards**

On 30th June, I received an award (on the right in the photograph) together with Mark Gerber our Group Scout Leader, for our 5th year of growth. Making the presentation is Lord Petre, Lord Lieutenant of Essex, who is the President of Essex Scouts.



Mike Byrne Scout Leader Tel: 812780



#### Nature Notes

So many of our garden shrubs and plants came originally from the Mediterranean area. They are particularly well adapted to the extremely dry conditions we experienced here in June and July. The Mediterranean climate is normally one of winter rainfall followed by hot, dry summers . Plants which have had to develop various strategies to cope with these dry conditions are described as *xerophytic* from the Greek words *xeros* (dry) and *phuton* (plant).

Shrubs such as rosemary and lavender have very narrow leaves, those of rosemary being quite needle-like and leathery. This reduces the surface area from which the plant could lose water .The stems of some plants develop spines which again help to conserve moisture. Thistles, echinops (globe thistle) and eryngiums (sea holly) fall into this category. Other plants such as acanthus develop spiny bracts on the flower spikes, as well as spiny tips to the leaves. This plant was much-loved by the Greeks and Romans who used the pattern of the leaves for the design at the top of their Corinthian columns. Cistus shrubs (members of the rockrose fam-ily) are drought resistant. They are woody evergreen plants, often with small leaves, some species having rough, leathery leaves. These again help the plant to lose less water. Sages such as phlomis (Jerusalem sage) have grev felted leaves and flourish in full sun. Another strategy for coping with extremely dry summer months is to store water in underground bulbs. Crocuses and species tulips in spring, autumn crocuses and colchicums in the autumn, are all natives of the Mediterranean.

Rosina Kirkwood

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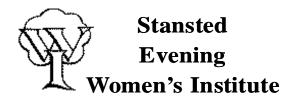




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Our secretary Jenny Wraith was able to attend the 95th NFWI AGM in Cardiff this year where she was one of 4,500 members. I imagine the singing of 'Jerusalem' and 'Land of my Fathers' was quite something. The Resolution for the 'clear and mandatory country of origin labelling on all food products' was passed by a vote of over 99% of members. Members are asked to encourage their MEPs and MPs to pressure the European Parliament and UK Government to back reform in the European Union. Nearly 19,000 new members have joined the WI in the last year including one which meets in the V and A Museum (perhaps as a living exhibit) and one in Brighton University, and there are young women meeting in London during the office lunchtime! We still make cakes and even jam but there are other things in the pipe-line like the WI Body Fit Camp (which sounds a bit scary to me) and Day Schools run by celebrity chefs, both at our ever popular Denman College. The AGM this year was rounded off by the group, 'Last Man Standing' - winner of the BBC's 'Last Choir Standing' competition. This brought a standing ovation from the audience and their leader des-cribed the occasion as "the biggest hen night in the world"!

Locally we were on hand again at the Mill celebrations to dispense tea and cakes and will be there in many guises at the Fête in August. From time to time we are asked to give teas to groups on coach trips in the area and in September we are doing this for a group of bell ringers from Polstead in Suffolk, who spend the day visiting various churches and ringing their bells and exploring the church. I don't think they will manage to ring at St Mary's as we are the last visit of the day; they always look for a WI tea!

Our July speaker was Frances Boardman who gave a most unusual talk on food in the past that had connections with famous women. We had to try and say where we thought various items of food came from and were for the most part quite wrong in our assumptions. Lemons came to Europe in the 2nd century from the Himalayas. Eleanor of Castile was known as the Lemon Queen as she always had the first of the year's crop delivered to her. She eventually had 16 babies but I don't know if that had anything to do with eating lemons. Oranges came from SW China in the 9th century and were very much prized; they used to be sold in theatres in London for sixpence each and of course were associated with Nell Gwynne, a mistress of Charles the second. His wife, Catherine of Braganza, made tea drinking popular in this country, though it was considered more of a medicine than the drink to solve all problems as it is today. Potatoes were brought to Europe from Peru by the Spanish but were thought by the church to cause leprosy so were not widely eaten. Marie Antoinette used the potato flowers to decorate her hair, despite their horrible smell, which probably disguised others more unpleasant! What a fascinating evening we had with no end of useful pieces of knowledge in case we join a Quiz team. Our August Meeting on 12th in St John's Hall as usual at

7.45pm is open to all and includes a talk on 'Guide Dogs for the Blind' by Brenda Weaver.

Judy Colliver

President - Brenda Ryan Tel: 812725



#### 494 (Stansted Airport) Squadron Air Training Corps

The Squadron continues to be very active this summer with all sorts of events and activities planned; hardly a weekend goes by without there being something on. This month six of our cadets took part in the Tri-Service Falklands Memorial Trophy competition at the Cadet Training Centre in Colchester. The team came 3rd out of eight teams representing Air, Sea and Army Cadet units from all over the county. Twelve cadets including the Squadron's most junior members, went to Army Training Regiment Pirbright, Surrey over the weekend of 18th-20th June; they took part in target shooting, archery, leadership exercises, climbing, and much more. This gave a chance for many of our young cadets who had not yet had an experience of a camp. In the evening there were activities such as ice skating which everyone enjoyed - even the staff!



The following weekend some of the senior cadets did an adult first aid course at Carver Barracks near Saffron Walden. This is the next stage up from the junior first aid course. The 16 hours of training covered a wide range of injuries and illnesses with the cadets learning how to recognise and treat casualties. The training was rounded off with an assessment of each cadet based on several simulations of first aid situations. The Squadron swimming team also took part in the Wing Swimming Championships. This is personally one of my favourite sporting activities within the ATC. The Squadron came a respect-able tenth out of the 26 Squadrons in Essex Wing.

If you are aged between 13 and 16 and interested in joining us, contact us for more information - telephone 681559 / 661929 Mondays and Fridays 7.15 - 9.30 hrs (24 hr Answer phone). Email: 494@aircadets.org.

Cpl Sophie Slade-Hunswick 494 Sqn ATC

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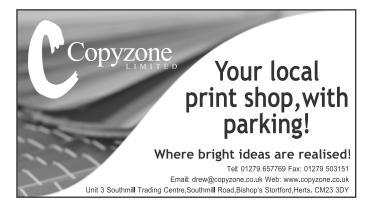
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Day therapy to support patients with a life limiting illness (and their families) is evolving in order to offer a holistic approach. The Creative Living Team has developed a range of supportive group programmes and workshops aimed to help patients and families throughout the patient's illness with symptom management as well as considering their psychological and spiritual wellbeing. The Breathlessness Group is a four week half day programme in which patients learn therapeutic techniques to empower them to manage their breathlessness symptoms. In turn this enables the patient to maintain control of their condition. The group is proving to be a great success for patients attending. The Brighter Living programme provides information and the tools to help patients manage symptoms of fatigue and anxiety. They are offered advice and coping strategies. These include relaxation and pacing techniques to enable patients to continue their interests and daily activities in ways that are manageable to them, individually, and their condition. Practical needs are assessed for equipment needs to allow them to maintain independence and improved quality in their everyday lives. If you or any family member or friend feel that one of these programmes would help or be of benefit please do not hesitate to contact Beth on 773768. Our services are free to all our service users so we are most appreciative of all those in the local community who raise funds in order to help raise the much needed £2.5 million each year.

I would like to draw your attention to an event being organised by the Inner Wheel of Bishop's Stortford in aid of St Clare Hospice. On Wednesday 6th October a four-course dinner, tombola and auction is taking place at Weston Business Centre in Takeley at 7.30pm for 8.00pm. Tickets are only £35 and the speaker is Mrs Tricia Stewart whose friend was the lady who inspired the WI Calendar, film and stage show of 'Calendar Girls'. The evening promises to be one of both inspiration and fun. Please contact Liz on 503749 for tickets. The other event is the Chestnut Ball being held at The Churchgate Hotel in Old Harlow on Friday 15th October at 7.00pm. This will be a great opportunity to put on your glad rags and cummerbunds to enjoy the live singer and dance while helping to raise funds for the Hospice. For further details please contact Janie on 07990 526598 or Suzette on 07947 74479. If you can, please support either of these events as local residents try to 'do their bit' to say "thank you" to the Hospice for the support given to them when a loved one was in the care of St Clare Hospice.

Finally, a huge thank you to Marion Dyer for all her hard work in organising the Stansted Fun Run. A great day was had by all and the Hospice patients will benefit directly from some of the funds raised on the day.



Caroline Bore

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#### Stansted Cricket Club

Despite losing to Newport in the quarter-final of the HECL Cup, the 1st XI continue to be runaway leaders at the top of Division 3 with nine wins from the first 10 matches. The 2nd XI remain 6th in Division 6 with four wins from 10. The Sunday XI has had one win and one draw from seven matches to date.

Significant contributions have been made by I Parsons (146no), M Chambers (101no), J Ayres (97no), H Kirby (78 and 62), M Burgoine (78), M Baldock (68no), C Kirby (66no), F Kirby (63no), M Cope (58), S Carter (51) and D Roach (50). We have had to go to press before the Fun Day on 11th July and the Cricket Week (24th-31st July), but trust that these proved to be great successes and were well-attended.



Back Row - Richard Gardiner, Mohseen Noori, David Ayres, Ben Baker, Charlie Kirby, Matt Abbotson, Matt Cope

Front Row - Mark Gatland, Jez Kealy, Ian Parsons (captain), Mike Burgoine.

Home fixtures for August are:-

Sat 7th 1:30pm 1st XI v Roding Valley I Sat 14th 1:30pm 1st XI v Willingale

Sun 15th 2:30pm Sun XI v Opponents to be confirmed

Sat 21st 1:30pm 2nd XI v Matching Green II Sun 22nd 2:30pm Sun XI v Hockerill II Sat 28th 1:30pm 1st XI v Harlow Town II Sun 29th 2:30pm Sun XI v Chrishall

> David Hedge Hon Secretary Tel: 812509

#### ANNOUNCEMENT

Miss Nellie Price, who has lived in Stansted all her life, will be 90 years old on 6th August. Many congratulations from all your friends.



Yvonne Peachey



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#### **Headteacher Retires**

Jo Mullis retires this summer as Head of MMCC after a 35 year career in education. On graduating from Bristol University with an honours degree in French and Italian, Jo did her one year Postgraduate Certificate in Education at Homerton College, Cambridge, and gained a distinction. She started her teaching career in Kent, moving after two years back to her native Essex where she became Head of French at Tabor High School, Braintree. From there she moved on to Brentwood County High School, Saffron Walden County High School (where she was sole Deputy Head), and then to the Mountfitchet High School (now MMCC) in 2002. "Looking back on those 35 years", says Jo, "I realise what a rich experience I have had. The schools and posts were all very different but I enjoyed them all and adored some. The longest time I spent in one school was 13 years at Brentwood County High School where I joined to lead a large Modern Languages Department teaching French, German and Spanish to 'A' Level, but progressed to Assistant Head. It has been such a privilege and pleasure to work with the community in and around MMCC. I shall never forget it." Jo decided last October to take early retirement to reclaim some time for her own life and her family. Colleagues from throughout Jo's career joined governors, PTA members, College staff, members of the Stansted community and students to bid farewell in a series of events at the end of term. Jo has been an inspirational and much-loved headteacher who has never wavered in her belief that each student should be known and valued as an individual, and all should be encouraged to succeed. MMCC has been graced by her presence and we wish her a long and happy retirement.

> Mrs K Griffiths Chair of Governors

#### **MMCC Prizegiving**

The Annual Prize giving is the culmination of a year's hard school work and becomes a celebratory event for staff, governors and students alike. This year's gathering took place on a very hot evening in a full hall. Space does not permit the inclusion of all the names; suffice to say that over 100 winners received accolades. Notably four girls and six boys were awarded Student Achievement Prizes, while eight girls and four boys attained the coveted Individual Awards. A fine gender balance!

Mere numbers do not however convey the efforts expended by staff and students throughout the year but it was evident to those of us from outside the College environs that a good spirit had prevailed in a year made the more exacting by outside influences.

Miss Jo Mullis spoke of the loyalty and sheer hard work of staff and governors and the gratifying response from students over eight years of rising achievement. This rising tide also embraced the College's dramatic productions with acclaim going to the 2010 presentation of 'Oliver!'. Sir Alan Haselhurst, MP, who presented the prizes, was staunchly supportive of the College's attainments and stressed the

merits of personal voluntary efforts on behalf of the community of which it is a part. He made particular mention of the service and assistance to others that had been demonstrated by many of the prizewinners.



L to r: Katy Griffiths, Chair of Governors, The Rt Hon Sir Alan Haselhurst, MP and Jo Mullis, retiring headteacher.

The high point of the evening came at the end when the presentation of the Jack Petchey Leader Award to Miss Jo Mullis was made by Mrs K Griffiths, chair of governors. She stressed that this was a unanimous choice made by staff and students and reflected Jo Mullis's several years of unswerving dedication to colleagues and students and recognition of her ever-open door. The staff members also gave her a bouquet. Jo Mullis has undoubtedly established a fine standard for the new Headteacher to build upon. Stansted is fortunate to have a College which, being smaller than most, is well integrated into the village and now, in association with Saffron Walden County High School, has a promising future.

Derek Honour 'Link' Editor

#### **Creative Arts Evening**

The Creative Arts department hosted an evening full of flair and aptitude on Wednesday 30th June. Students from all year groups were given the opportunity to perform and display some of the work they have produced in the Creative Arts areas over the last term. An audience of parents, friends and family watched as the Year 7s performed their hip hop street dance routine; Lewis Edridge from Year 11 performed some of his very own tracks as well as a monologue from 'Blood Brothers'. A variety of musical pieces were performed, with Vydimantas Baltrusaitis sharing his grade 4 piece on the piano, and Gina Martinelli wowed the audience with her vocal rendition of Pixie Lott's 'Cry me Out'. There was angst and emotion in Sally Reeve-Arnold and Megan Langer's scene as Mrs Lyons and Mrs Johnstone with raised voices and smashing vases. As the Year 11 drama group performed their final exam piece, the dropping of a pin could be heard as the tension and suspense of the piece totally captivated the audience. The evening clearly demonstrated the vast talents that lie amongst our students here at MMCC and we know that the audience enjoyed it as much as we did.

> Miss C Beard Head of Creative Arts

#### **Lunchtime Recitals**

MMCC were fortunate enough to be invited to perform two lunchtime recitals at St Mary's, Stansted Mountfitchet as part of the church's celebrations. With the Year 11 students on exam leave we felt that it was an ideal opportunity for our younger students to gain concert experience in an informal environment. We had all areas of our music department represented; class and extra curricular work as well as instrumental students and GCSE coursework pieces. Thursday saw two Year 10 singers performing their course work pieces alongside Lewis Edridge who has recently won the Bill Wooden music prize with his guitar playing and song writing capabilities. The Junior Choir sung on both days and their enthusiasm was definitely infectious especially when followed by Harriet Walker, who studies at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, performing two pieces on the cello. On the Friday the Year 7 Samba Band performed Warwick enchanted the audience with her renand Megan dition of 'Where is Love', which she sung with acclaim in the recent MMCC production of 'Oliver!' All of the students enjoyed performing in such a wonderful setting.

> Mrs J Williams Music Teacher

#### **Community Team Group Reading at Stansted Library**



In July, a group of Year 10 students, better known as the MMCC Community Team, staged a story time and puppet show at Stansted Library. After a week of some serious puppet making, the groups finally had the chance to show off their story telling skills! Group 1 consisted of Steven Mardell, Timothy Hopkins, Gemma Morrison and Stephanie Ellam (Year 11). They read a book called 'Monkey Puzzle'. Group 2 followed after them and consisted of Jack Clements, Charlotte Ketteridge, Alice Astell and Emma Taylor. Their story was 'Billy's Bucket'. The session was an overall great success, with parents and children thanking us and asking when we would be doing it again! All of the students worked incredibly hard on making the time they had with the children positive and bursting with energy. After the show, the Team gave the children a chance to play with the puppets themselves, which of course, they absolutely loved! With many thanks to all the students, Viv Goodfellow and the team at Stansted Library, we had a lot of fun and hope to be doing more community work in the new College year!

Miss L Gittins

#### 50th Anniversary

The College celebrated 50 years on the Forest Hall Road site on 14th July. A large selection of photos and memorabilia were displayed in the hall. Many former students and staff and interested local people attended and helped put names to faces. Some even owned up to the outrageous hairstyles in some of the photographs! An accompanying publication, 'Fifty Years of Secondary Education in Stansted', is available to purchase from College priced £3.00. Please contact College reception on 813384.

Mrs M Smith Head of History

#### **MMCC PTA - Car Boot Sales**

Sunday 26th September - 11.00am-2.00pm (setting up from 10.00am). Pitches: cars £7.00, vans and lorries £12. Hot snacks. Please phone Tina on 814371 or Yvonne on 813071.



The last few weeks of the school year have been very busy at Rainbow. The whole Pre-school (along with accompanying parents) paid a visit to Wimpole Home Farm in Cambridge, where they watched the animals being fed, had a picnic and had fun in the adventure playground and sandpit. A great time was had by all and many of the children fell asleep on the journey home. The children have been celebrating the Football World Cup with lots of themed events, including a sponsored cake bake, where the children made and decorated chocolate rice crispie cakes with footballs and they had their own game of football on the Recreation Ground. The children made England flags (also Danish and Italian flags) to support their team and ate snacks from the participating countries including Dutch cheese, French croissants and Mexican salsa and tortillas.

The ECAT (Every Child a Talker) programme is also continuing with visits to the pre-school from a speech therapist and storytellers from the library and the Spangles Children's Centre. Please look out for our future fundraising events after the summer, including a Ladies Pamper Evening on 29th September and monthly Quiz Nights at the Rose & Crown on the first Tuesday of the month (starting in October). Finally, we would like to wish all the children leaving Rainbow to start primary school all the very best and hope they enjoyed their time with us. If you are interested in a place at the Preschool from September 2011 onwards please contact Gill Pursglove on 814701 for further information. If you are interested in a place for your child at Rainbow Tots (age 18 months to  $2^{1}/_{2}$  years) please contact Tina South on 814371.

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#### **NEWS FROM YOUR LOCAL COUNCILS**

## DECISION TIME ON SITING OF NEW HEALTH CENTRE

At a meeting with representatives of NHS West Essex (formerly West Essex PCT), the working party of the Parish Council was told that negotiations on the central site in the village had failed to reach agreement.

The NHS WE have asked the Parish Council for its views on the way forward with the indication that a decision needs to be reached before long. In response, the Parish Council has sent a request for information on all the main potential central sites to enable it to consider the way forward. By the time this Link is delivered, a Special Meeting of the Parish Council will have been held on 21 July to determine the Council's views. Results of this meeting will be reported in the next Link and will be posted on the Council's website.

The Parish Council recognises that there are strong views about the location of the health centre within the village. What is equally important is that Stansted receives health service provision that is fit for the 21st century.

#### **ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL (ECC)**

There are five areas where the Parish and the County Councils mainly interact:

- Highways the repair of most footpaths and roads (but not unadopted roads) fall to ECC as does the painting of lines on roads and the provision of pedestrian crossings. Speed limits, traffic calming measures and parking restricting all form part of the remit of highways. As you may imagine there is regular contact on all of these issues and more. Sometimes there is a difference of views but more frequently there is delay in implementing agreed changes either because of the time consuming procedures or because of limited funding where we, as a small community, complete with demands from the whole of Essex.
- Tackling winter weather conditions if there
  is a repeat of last winter's frost, ice and snow in
  coming years, then ECC is the authority with
  the responsibility for gritting roads and

footpaths (supplemented in limited areas by UDC). However, these actions will only be taken on main roads and not in residential areas. Generally ECC did a good job last winter in this village.

- Libraries this is a valued service in Stansted and, given the enlargement of population once Foresthall Park is completed, there will be discussions as to whether there needs to be changes to meet increased demand.
- Schools education in all forms is an ECC responsibility. We talk with the schools and ECC about the needs of our children and of adults. The probable relocation of St. Mary's is a major event not just for children and parents but for the community.
- Lighting although about 75% of the street lights in Stansted are owned by the Parish Council, the remainder are in the hands of ECC which explains why some roads have no lighting between 12 midnight and 5 am. This mixed ownership is unsatisfactory and discussions are to be requested by the Parish to create a more rational approach.

It is hoped that parishioners will find it easier to understand where responsibilities lie but, if in doubt, consult the Parish Council.

#### **TREES**

We have many well-established and mature trees In our village and are lucky to have them. However, like most things in life, they require care and maintenance. Most towns and parishes have a community Tree Warden who can be called upon to look at trees in public ownership and advise on their condition and whether any maintenance is required. Our Tree Warden retired a few years ago and we are still looking for somebody to take on this role.

We appreciate that it could be a lot for one person to take on, so are trying to establish a list of qualified people who could be called upon - we do already have a couple of people from whom we have taken advice and are grateful to them for having come forward. If you are suitably qualified and happy to be included on the list, please contact the Clerk on 01279 813214 or email parishcouncil@stansted.net

## TREE PRESERVATION ORDERS AND CONSERVATION AREAS

If you live in one of our Conservation Areas, or have trees within your boundary with a Tree Preservation Order on them, it is essential to check with Uttlesford District Council prior to undertaking any surgery. In most cases consent will be required either to lop the tree or most certainly to fell it. Failure to receive the appropriate consent from Uttlesford may result in a hefty fine to the property owner, so if you are thinking of having any work done, please contact Ben Smeeden on 01799 510466 in advance.

#### **HELP OUR LOCAL POLICE**

The Police face many law and order challenges in their increasingly busy role locally. The public are encouraged to pick up the phone and report anything which is not an emergency but they think warrants reporting, to the non emergency number 0300 333 4444. Phoning this number will register the issue for police intelligence purposes and the matter will be reported back to local officers to deal with if necessary but equally as important, it will be logged as a reported incident. It is important for people to have the confidence to call as the Police can only understand the issues affecting us if we report them and what you may believe is a minor incident could have been related to other incidents in the Village or district which viewed individually may seem relatively minor but may be part of a wider problem. Senior officers will receive a report of the number and nature of incidents being reported and will be able to see any emerging patterns which may be cause for concern and which will enable them to make decisions on the information received. If they don't receive the information from us they cannot spot the problems as they develop. For problems locally which need the attention of the PCSO's when they are on duty, the public are asked to use the number printed in the "Link", phoning the PCSO number will not necessarily mean the issue is logged so use the above number to ensure it is registered as an incident

For all Emergencies use the 999 number.

#### PROGESS TOWARDS A PARISH PLAN

On 28 July the Parish Council will receive a draft of the Parish Plan which will provide members with time to read and to produce any additions, deletions or amendments. Once these have been incorporated, meetings will be held with Essex County Council and Uttlesford District Council to receive comments. By late autumn it is hoped to

lodge the Parish Plan with the District Council where, hopefully, it will receive approval and will form the basis for action. Although it is too large a document to include in the Link, the draft Plan will be able to be read on the Parish Council website (www.stansted.net) from about the middle of August.

#### STANSTED IN BLOOM 2010.

This year ten gardens were entered for our two invited judges, Mrs Anne Berrisford and Mrs Diane Newland to view and assess each garden on its merit, ably assisted by Mrs Joy Thomas and Cllr. Iris Evans.

The standard of the gardens was high and the results of the Competition will be published in next month's "Link" magazine.

On Saturday 10th July in Stansted Free Church Lecture Hall, prizes and certificates will have been presented to all our participants.

Photographs of all the gardens were taken and we hope to print some of them next month, along with a photo of the competitors themselves.

We would like to thank those businesses in Stansted who have given very generously to our Competition. A list of the donors will appear next month.

Watch this space for news concerning our three local schools who have also taken part in "Stansted in Bloom".

## PROPOSED RELOCATION OF ST. MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

At a recent meeting Cllr Stephen Castle, Cabinet Member for Education Essex County Council spoke about the Councils plans for a 300 place primary school.

A new school is required, he stated, because:

- The existing school doesn't have enough capacity
- New housing at Forest Hall Park, eventually 700 houses
- Accommodation at St. Mary's is in poor condition and there will be little money to address this in the short term.

The County Council believe that redevelopment on the existing St. John's Road site is not a realistic option. This is because the existing site is restricted, has significant changes of level and is accessed via a private road. Additionally, there would be an extra £2.4 million extra cost to build on the old site. This in large part due to the fact that Section 106 (planning agreement between the District Council and the developers) funding totalling £1.7 million would not be available. A new building on the Forest Hall site would it is claimed offer a significantly enhanced and better quality accommodation for the school both in terms of curriculum delivery and sustainability. The headteacher confirmed that the classrooms will be larger than the existing ones.

The Parish Council had raised with Cllr Castle about preserving the links with the Church of England if St Mary's were to relocate. It was confirmed that the links with the Church will continue to be a vital part of the school's identity. A new school building will be designed with the community in mind. There will be community room/facilities attached to the new school's hall. The school therefore will serve the community not just during school hours.

Questions were raised about access from the centre of the village to Forest Hall Park. The pavement is narrow in Church Road. Concern was also expressed about airport noise. The Council undertook to look at these issues.

What now? A statutory period of consultation is now taking place. After which Cllr Castle will take a decision on whether to relocate to Forest Hall Park. My view is that this will go ahead. If so the new school could be expected to open in the first half of 2012.

If St. Mary's vacates its existing site what will be its future use? My longstanding view is that the existing playing field should be preserved as an open space. I should like also to see some community facilities on the site. It was confirmed that no decision has been taken yet on what to do with the St. John's Road site.

Stansted currently has one Pre-School facility Rainbow which is attached to St. Mary's. The County Council stated that it will relocate to the Adult Community Learning premises on the Peter Kirk site in St. John's Road. The Council has secured £550,000 capital funding for this. Both Rainbow and St. Mary's will work together to ensure that there is sufficient time for parents to drop off and collect children at both establishments.

#### **NEWS FROM UTTLESFORD D.C.**

Several important local issues will be influenced in one way or another by the agenda that is being rolled out by the coalition government. Geoffrey Sell has written about the runway cancellation and also about the St. Mary's primary school. Support needs to be given to the county council to get on with the construction of the new school before spending cuts kick in. There have already been reports that 6-700 new schools across the country may be chopped.

I have similar concerns about the long-overdue health centre and doctors' surgery for Stansted. News is seeping out that the health service in Essex is due to be reorganised yet again to save management costs. New management might bring confusion and further delay and so I think it is time for the present primary care trust (PCT) to press ahead with building the new surgery wherever it can provide the best the facilities. If no suitable central site is available, which seems likely to be the case, I do hope that the PCT will press on at Walson Way, Foresthall Park. I have spoken to many people who are fed up having to climb the stairs at the cramped surgery in St. John's Road and only a few people who want to avoid a Foresthall location at all costs.

The other big issue is planning. The new government is sweeping away regional plans and housing targets, telling councils they now should get on and plan for local needs such as housing based on their own evidence. The council's own evidence shows that the local need is about the same as the scrapped regional target. The problem is that many councils aren't used to delivering these responsibilities without central government/regional guidance. So far Uttlesford is waiting to be told what to do next. In the past the council has blamed its idea for a new town at Elsenham on 'higher authorities'. Now it has no such excuse. The need for new housing over coming decades has not gone away with the new government. We must all hope that Uttlesford DC gets to grips with this by the autumn or we will face a very uncertain future as the development industry gets frustrated and kicks off a wave of speculative planning applications to fill the vacuum.

District Cllr Alan Dean

#### SECOND RUNWAY-STANSTED AIRPORT

The Council is delighted that BAA has formally withdrawn its application for a second runway. The company announced recently that it would no longer be pursuing expansion at Stansted or Heathrow. The airports application had been due to come up for public inquiry sometime this year but the plan for a second runway, which has always been opposed by UDC has now been scrapped altogether.

The Council unanimously agreed a cross party motion. Councillors resolved that a letter be sent from the Council to the Prime Minister to thank him and the new coalition Government for honouring the pre-election commitment on airport expansion plans. The letter also requested a meeting with the Secretary of State for Transport. Council agreed that at this meeting we would call on his support to force BAA to sell back all purchases for the second runway, and to help rebuild and compensate the communities (for example, Mole Hill Green) affected. We will also request that a moratorium on a second runway at Stansted Airport be in place for a period of at least fifty years.

In conclusion, I should like to thank the hard work done by Stop Stansted Expansion in opposing the application.

## POSSIBLE PARTNERSHIP WITH HARLOW DISTRICT COUNCIL

Financial pressures are encouraging local authorities to consider the benefits of working with neighbouring councils. Earlier this year a partnership with South Cambridgeshire District Council failed to proceed.

It was recently announced that Harlow and Uttlesford Councils have agreed to explore the possibility of entering into a shared service partnership to provide Council Tax, Business Rates and Benefits services. A feasibility study is being commissioned to identify cost and benefits (including savings) of the councils working in a partnership. Subject to the findings of the feasibility study and decision-making processes, such a partnership could potentially come into operation from 1 April 2011.

(District Cllr Geoffrey Sell)

#### **DATES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS**

28 July Full Council

There are no meetings scheduled during August.

#### **CONTACT DETAILS**

Clerk - Ruth Clifford
Admin Assistant - Anne Court
Email: parishcouncil@stansted.net
Phone/fax: 01279 813214 10am - 1pm
www.stansted.net

#### **Uttlesford District Council Members**

Alan Dean Tel: 01279 813579

Email: cllrdean@uttlesford.gov.uk

John Hudson Tel: 01279 814489

Email: cllrhudson@uttlesford.gov.uk

John Salmon Tel: 01279 814789

Email: cllrsalmon@uttlesford.gov.uk

Geoffrey Sell Tel: 01279 815925

Email: cllrsell@uttlesford.gov.uk

#### **Essex County Council Member**

Ray Gooding Tel: 01279 813103

Email: cllr.ray.gooding@essexcc.gov.uk

#### **Member of Parliament**

The Rt Hon Sir Alan Haselhurst MP House of Commons, London SW1A OAA Tel: 0207 219 5214/Fax: 0207 219 5600 Email: haselhursta@parliament.uk

#### **Police**

 PC Tom Bastendorff
 Tel: 01279 812211

 Non-emergency number
 0300 333 4444

 PCSO's (Stuart/Kelly)
 Tel: 07801 461 666

#### **PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Catherine Dean	813579
Iris Evans	815848
Jo Freeman	812524
Bridget Gott	814440
John Hudson	814489
Peter Jones	813252
Janice Loughlin	812346
Tudor Owen	812825
Ruth Rawlinson - V/Chairman	814222
Jonathan Rich	813112
John Salmon	814789
Dan Scott	815098
Geoffrey Sell - Chairman	815925
Bill Stiles	813172
Valerie Trundle	813433

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#### STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET WINDMILL

#### Official Re-opening Saturday 19th June

The day of the official re-opening arrived and although the weather was not what we had hoped for, by contrast the proceedings were. In the face of wind and rain the Committee, with sterling help from our local Scout Group, managed to erect the marquee and the refreshment gazebo At the well catered lunch we were pleased to welcome visitors including our MP Sir Alan Haselhurst, the team from IJP who carried out the restoration, representatives from English Heritage and the Parish Council. Millers Co-chairman, Derek Honour, on behalf of the village, expressed thanks to everyone who contributed to the restoration and outlined the history of the Mill. Tudor Owen, Miller and Parish Councillor, presented Giles of IJP (who was on site throughout the work) with a photographic record of the renovation. After lunch the mill was officially re-opened by Sir Alan Haselhurst and guests were then given a guided tour. We owe a special thank you to the WI who served tea and cakes and it was good to see many people who have helped us over the years. We had a record number of visitors from the public, many of whom purchased souvenirs. A big thank you goes to everyone who helped to make the day a success and we hope to have your continued support in the coming years.



The annual Fete will take place on Bank Holiday Monday, 30th August, from 2.00pm. It will have the characteristic village flavour including bouncy castle, visiting attractions, singers, shooting (of a short) and, of course, a bumper bricabrac.

Molly Clark Trustee

Those who have been contributing to the Mill Appeals over several years must have been wondering what had happened to their money. Well, it has been mounting up with other donations, grants and fund raising activity contributions in a Windmill Fund looked after by the Parish Council. Eventually, English Heritage was persuaded to agree to a generous grant of £112,000 to which was added our almost matching sum, thus enabling major works to be done. These were required because, to put it simply, with the cap (top) of the mill not turning for about 100 years, the weight of the sails and other parts bearing down on the mill in one place had caused tilting of the cap. Although remedial work was done

at times, that was not the complete answer, so the cap had to be lifted off and repairs made to the turning circle and upper brickwork, thus levelling the cap again. At the same time the sails were repainted and the fantail linked to the cap plus other associated works. All this means that most of the repairs are invisible to the general public but the result of the cap turning again with the weight more evenly distributed should allow the Mill to stand for many years to come.

Peggy Honour Former Trustee



#### STANSTED LIBRARY

We offer a wide range of library services. We have DVDs, books on tape, computers for public use, and ... books. Library membership is free, and it costs nothing to borrow books. The backbone of the library service is the library catalogue, listing all the materials in all the libraries. It allows us to search for and obtain items from any other branch, and is available online for you to use wherever you find internet access – you can order your own items, free of charge, for collection from a library convenient for you. If Essex Libraries don't have the book you want, we will try and obtain it for you. We charge £1.00 for the service.

Our children's section is bright and full of lovely books to encourage reading, sharing stories and language development. We run story and rhyme times for children. These are on **Tuesday at 11.00am and Thursday at 2.30pm**. We also offer class visits to schools, and every summer participate in the National Reading Challenge where children are encouraged to read during the summer holiday, and are rewarded with medals and certificates.

Our public access computers can be used by anyone who is a member of the library. We allow up to an hour of free use per day. We also subscribe to a range of online services, which allows our customers free access to sites which they would otherwise have to pay for – such as Ancestry, the website which lists all sorts of useful family history information. We also have free Wi-Fi with no time constraints. So, if you're not already a member, what are you waiting for? We are open: Tuesday 9.00am-1.00pm, Wednesday 2.00pm-5.00pm, Thursday 2.00pm-6.00pm, Saturday 9.30am-5.00pm, and you'll find us in Crafton Green, at the top of Chapel Hill.

Vivian Goodfellow Stansted Library Tel: 815419



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Two Stansted mums give their experience of the Grove Cottage nursery: "Our little girl turned one last week. She has Down's Syndrome and it is important to us that she achieves her full potential. As part of trying to ensure we help her in every way, she has been attending Grove Cottage nursery in Bishop's Stortford since she was only five months old. We haven't looked back. She has the most fantastic time there, gets taken swimming, has her physiotherapy, enjoys messy play and having lunch with her friends – with one-to-one care throughout. She is always smiling when we pick her up and we're sure this interaction has been great for her social skills. Grove Cottage has provided invaluable support for us as parents of a child with special needs, and has introduced us to other parents in a similar situation. We look forward to enjoying their other clubs and groups as our baby girl grows up."

"My little boy joined the nursery when he was 18 months and is now a strapping 28 year old. The nursery was great for his development and the five hour sessions gave me a welcome break. He now goes to the Wednesday Evening Club with a friend from Stansted. I think it is very important that he meets friends in a club where he is completely accepted. Grove Cottage now has a series of clubs for school age children and young adults. I wish these had been available when my son was growing up."

Sara Perry, a volunteer in the Grove Cottage nursery, was invited to a ceremony in London to be given an award as Volunteer of the Year by the Pre-School Learning Alliance. Our Patron, Professor Simon Haskell is shown congratulating Sara.



David Scott
Tel: 652983
Website: mencapgrovecottage.org
Facebook: GroveCottageBishopsStortfordMencap

## mustc@stalisted

music@stansted is all geared up for another season of four high-class concerts, from October through to March next year, all taking place in St John's Church in the centre of Stansted. On Saturday 16th October at 7.30pm we welcome leading chamber ensemble London Concertante to play a selection of music for woodwind and strings. Sunday 5th December at 3.00pm brings a piano recital by the versatile Charles Owen. In the New Year, the exciting young violinist Victoria Sayles and her accompanist Martin Cousin play for us on Sunday 11th January at 3.00pm, and our season is brought to a close on Saturday 12th March at 7.30pm by the renowned harpist Catrin Finch. Catrin's 2nd appearance in Stansted had to be cancelled due to ill-health last year, so we are particularly pleased to have got her into the diary for 2011.

If you were a subscribing member last year, or are already on our mailing list, you will be receiving our newsletter very soon, including an invitation to subscribe again for the coming year at the reduced rate of £32 for all four concerts. This represents a saving of a third on the standard price of £12 per concert and is unchanged since 2008/09. If you would like to be added to our mailing list (with no commitment to become a subscriber), please send your name, address and email address if you have one to: info@musicatstansted.com or to music@stansted, The Limes Mews, Silver Street, Stansted CM24 8HE. Or just come along (with the family if possible – we charge just £1 for accompanied children!) on any of the dates above to enjoy music from world-class artists in a beautiful setting and friendly atmosphere!

Richard Allaway



## HuwJohnson Club

Many people have told me how much they enjoyed our Christmas concerts and were disappointed that last year's concert was cancelled. However, this year we will once again be on stage - 17th December at St Mary's School. Before we begin a round of rehearsals we have a boat trip with lunch aboard from Broxbourne on 24th July then a break until the first week in September.

We have a very busy timetable in the autumn. With many newcomers in the village perhaps you would like to pay us a visit one Thursday evening in September and find out what we are all about? We meet in St John's Hall (except on the second Thursday of the month) and provide activities and fun evenings for people with disabilities. For more information please ring me.

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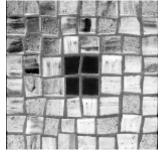
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### Stansted Tennis Club



#### **Tournament Results**

The Bristow Boys' Singles tournament took place in June. There was a high entry of 12 boys. Competitors were placed in groups according to age and then played each player within that group. Group winners were Joe Hollis, Matt Hollis and Felix Rutherford. After the round robin stage, the boys were then seeded according to their results for the knockout stage. In the semi finals, Joe Hollis beat Conor Hutchinson, while Matt Hollis defeated Thomas Taplin. In the final between the Hollis brothers, age and experience showed as Joe defeated Matt 6-0 to win the tournament. Honorary life member, Pat Clower, presented trophies to the winner and runner-up.

#### Dates for your diary

Members with email addresses will be circulated with tournament details. Please also keep an eye open for posters and entry forms in the clubhouse. The next Ladies' Open Evening will take place from 6.30pm on Monday 9th August. Club Finals will take place on Sunday 12th September.

#### **Club Tournament**

The first round for all events has now been completed. Please would all players left in the tournament note that quarter finals need to have been arranged and played by 11th August. As the holiday period approaches, it is advisable that contact is made to arrange matches as quickly as possible.

#### Coaching

The Friday lunchtime adult coaching session has stopped for the summer holidays and resumes on Friday 10th September.

#### Contacts

For further information, please contact Richard Mott (Secretary) on 466348, Janet Hollis (Chairman) on 812073 or Daphne Lunnon (Membership Secretary) on 817574.

Chris Hollis

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## UGLEY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

In the space of an afternoon our members were taken on an 'armchair' tour of 'Docklands Past and Present', our guide being the enthusiastic, informative and entertaining Peter Laurence. With the aid of a large number of archive and contemporary images he guided us around Poplar, and showed us the interior and exterior of the private chapel of the famous East India Company and the delightful Chaplain's house, now a listed building. From there we moved on to Limehouse (very Dickensian) - the houses now form part of a heritage area. The Limehouse Locks have been beautifully restored for all to enjoy and it was pointed out that, thanks to the Docklands Development Board, we can now have more access to the dockland areas than was possible in the past! From Limehouse we travelled to St Katherine's Dock, constructed in the 1820s, which has been converted into a beautiful marina; from here we moved to Rotherhithe, an area now given over to schools, family housing and a shopping centre. Russia Dock was next on the itinerary which on its closure was converted into parkland. From here we travelled to Wapping and Shadwell basin, now used as a safe area from which children learn sailing. A visit to Docklands wouldn't be complete without a look at Canary Wharf. Here it was pointed out that as everything was under cover, those who worked there need not venture into the outside world. Our last 'port of call' was the George V docks and the still extant Tate and Lyle sugar refinery - an appropriate place to take our tea break! So ended another entertaining afternoon for our members. Other talks on the horizon include Antiques with Mr Tim Turner in September and the history of finger printing in October. Why not come and join us? We meet at Ugley Village Hall on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 2.30pm. You would be made very welcome. Armchairs not provided!

> Andrea Fitt Tel: 815922

#### THE BIG TODDLE - UPDATE

Thank you to everybody who raised sponsorship money for the Barnardo's Big Toddle last month. Despite the inclement weather, together we raised nearly £400. An additional huge Thank You goes to Steve Golding for donating so much fruit for the children, and to Millways for copying all of the treasure maps used on the day. The support of the local businesses for this great fundraising event is greatly appreciated.

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## STANSTED BOWLING CLUB

It seems like only yesterday that I was writing in the 'Link' how much we were looking forward to the new bowling season, and suddenly we are over half way through and are playing the return matches of our first games. Our 'B' team in the NW Essex League are still having great success and are, at the time of writing, in second place. Once again our 'C' team, in which there are several players only in their second season of bowling, are still producing some very good results. Well done to all team members and keep up the good work.

Unfortunately, our vice captain, Dave Perry, is unable to continue with this position for the rest of the season. On behalf of both the Committee and members of the Club, I would like to thank Dave for all his hard work in the Committee and his dedication to the Club; we look forward to his continuing presence in both league and club matches. We are very fortunate to welcome as our new vice captain John Scraggs. John is one of the Club's top bowlers as I found out when I played against him in a Club team friendly match last Friday! Fortunately, for our team, John's wife Doreen was playing on our side and, in a display of skill and dexterity, she led us to victory. I am not sure if it was a case of "anything John can do I can do better", but irrespective of that, how fortunate the Club is to have a skilful husband and wife combination as John and Doreen, and long may they continue.

Whilst mentioning leaders, I think that it is only right that I mention our Club captain Del Sharp. Del has been a foremost member of the Club for many years, and has held virtually all senior positions including captain, president and vice captain. His skill as a bowler and coach is recognised throughout not only our Club, but also all the local clubs. He continues to work tirelessly for the benefit of the Club and its members and for the betterment of the sport in general. A very big thank you Del from all of us. It is customary for the president, Roy Barnes to have President's Day in July, when teams from our Club and other local clubs, join us in a fun day of bowling. This year, however, the President's Day has had to be re-arranged and will now take place on 11th September; may I ask members to note this in their diaries.

Roy Barnes will be stepping down, after many years service, as the Club's green keeper at the end of next season. If you or anyone you know would be interested in this position, please contact me so that I can arrange a meeting with Roy, who will be able to give you full details of what this position entails. Don't forget, if you are interested in joining the Club either as a bowling member (even if you would just like to learn the game) or a social member, you will be very welcome to come along any Friday evening from 6.00pm onwards at the Clubhouse which is situated in Recreation Ground, just off Chapel Hill. Enjoy the wonderful weather.

Edward Taub Secretary Tel: 816932 E-mail: ebtaub@gmail.com



#### STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET U3A

www.stanstedu3a.org

Firstly, my apologies to those of you that realised there was no article from me on behalf of the U3A for July. My only excuse is that I missed the deadline as I was on holiday in France. So, to catch up, I would like to remind people that there is **no meeting in August** as this is our summer break. We resume again in September when we hope to have an Open Day and a variety of activities on offer along with the opportunity to chat and socialise. Full details of this will be in the next issue and on local notice boards around the village, along with a full list of future outings. We look forward to meeting new potential members, but if you would like to know more at any time please contact me on the number below.

One of our most recent trips was to the Champagne Picnic at Little Easton, Dunmow. This was a '60s concert and brought back many memories of youth for many of our members - we all had a great time - and the weather stayed dry! It hardly seems that last time some of us saw some of the artists was over 40 years ago, and it was good to see so many people dancing and enjoying themselves. One of the groups playing was the Alan Price Set - remember his 'The House that Jack Built' and 'Don't Stop the Carnival'? Thanks to the organiser, a group of us were taken behind the scenes and met Alan (with scarf on) and his band. Picture is Alan with some of our members and Committee.



#### **Forthcoming Outings:**

You do not have to be a member to come to one of our meetings to see if you like it, so why not come to our September meeting at 2.00pm on Thursday 16th September in St John's Church Hall?

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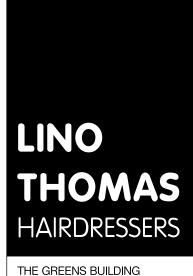
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#### **SKYWATCH**

A monthly look at an aspect of the night sky.



Some of us, and I am one, may remember the glorious days when television did not start until 5.00pm with Children's Hour. But on one particular weekday morning at about 7.00am Greenwich Mean Time, in 1963, many televisions were turned on to watch live pictures from America sent by satellite. The pictures were black and white and somewhat grainy, but most television was in those days. And a reporter on the BBC was able to chat with his opposite number in New York. The transmission did not last very long because the satellite was in a low orbit, 100 miles or so high above the middle of the Atlantic, toddling round the Earth roughly every 90 minutes. After ten minutes, and having proper gentlemen at each end, they bade each other goodbye as the signal began to fade.

Most spacecraft still orbit in the range of 100 to 200 miles above the Earth, and this includes the International Space Station which stays in permanent contact with Earth by having listening stations around the World: a system that was developed for the Moon trips. But today's communication satellites are sent up to 30,000 miles, about 13% of the distance to the Moon, because at that altitude the orbit becomes synchronous with the Earth's rotation, thus apparently staying above the same place on Earth. It is sometimes known as the Clarke Orbit, from the science fiction writer Arthur C Clarke who postulated the idea some years before we had the rocket power and the precision to send satellites so far. However, anything orbiting so high faces considerable risks. Although it is rare, satellites have been known to bang into each other. If that occurs, then both of them must be manoeuvred, from Earth, to stop them going on to knock others. More manoeuvring is required when the Sun decides to send out particularly dense radiation which would damage or destroy many satellites. Again, they can be manoeuvred to a safe position and moved back when the problem is over. But all these changes need fuel which, 30,000 miles from a fill up, effectively shortens the life of any satellite. One thing that can not be predicted or protected, is a lump of very old rock, possibly only an inch or so across, but travelling at thousands of miles an hour. If you remember 1964, I bet some of you are humming 'Telstar'?

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## Hallingbury Hike highlights airport blight around Stansted

SSE is staging the Hallingbury Hike, a special four mile circular walk, on Sunday 26th September to highlight the blight which lingers over the beautiful north west Essex countryside in the wake of the recently withdrawn plans to construct a second runway at Stansted. Hikers will set off from 2.00pm after a commemorative photo at Great Hallingbury village hall. There is no charge for taking part. Refreshments will be available from 1.00pm to 5.00pm for departing and returning ramblers and route maps will be provided. More information on the Hallingbury Hike is available from the Coming Events section of the SSE website: www.stopstanstedexpansion.com or by calling 870558. Great Hallingbury is located just off the M11 (junction 8) and the village hall is in Church Road, CM22 7TZ. While the area around Stansted Airport is not spectacular in the way of the Lake District or the Devon coast, it nevertheless has its own quiet, distinctive and outstanding beauty. In the words of Sir John Betjeman, writing in October 1967: "It is a quiet, prosperous, agricultural area of old stone and flint churches, pargetted cottages with red tiled roofs, spreading farms and gabled manor houses, little hills, elms, oaks, willowy streams and twisty lanes leading to towns of such renowned beauty as Thaxted and Saffron Walden. The very fact that this country is so gentle, unobvious and typical of the best of England makes it all the more important that, being so near to London, it is preserved from noise and 'development'."

However, while plans for a second runway at Stansted have been scrapped for the time being, airport operator BAA is refusing to give a guarantee that it will not revisit its plans for major expansion over coming decades. This is exacerbating the blight which has hung over the area since plans to expand Stansted were mooted for the fourth time by the Government in 2002. A further concern is the stated desire of BAA to use the existing facilities at the airport more intensively - something which would have far reaching effects for those living under flight paths not only in Essex but extending into Hertfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Suffolk. The second runway threat may have receded for the moment, but the spectre of expansion will continue to hang over the community until we have a long term guarantee that plans to make Stansted Airport bigger than Heathrow today will never again be revisited.

> Carol Barbone Campaign Director Tel: 07775 523091 Email: cbarbone@mxc.co.uk

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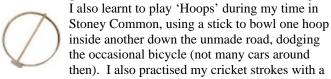
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#### ONE BOY'S WAR -**EVACUATION**

I was eight years old when war broke out and the evacuation began. An only child, I found myself 'deposited' in Stansted Mountfitchet, a place I'd never heard of and a world away from my home in Wanstead. My first billet was with an elderly couple, Mr and Mrs Shaw. They lived in a house within the grounds of Rochford's Nurseries (now Foresthall Park), Mr Shaw being a manager there. I have just one vivid memory of my brief stay - being woken up at 6.30am every morning by clanking railway wagons passing within a few feet of my bedroom window, hauling coal to fuel the Nursery furnaces. I was soon moved to 47 Rochford Cottages, home of Mr and Mrs Dockerill, their two adult sons, Owen and Bernard, a fellow evacuee, 10 year old Peter Balkin, and an affectionate spaniel called Judy.

Visits from parents were looked forward to with eager anticipation. I was luckier than Peter in that my parents came fairly frequently, either on a Thursday afternoon (my father's half-day off from his business as a Master Gentleman's Hairdresser in Forest Gate), or on a Sunday. Peter's parents rarely came, but his older brother, George, would sometimes arrive on a motorbike. Christmas Day 1939 I received a surprise visit from my parents who stayed for two whole days, at a house two doors down. It was the best of Christmas presents!

Life as an evacuee was not always easy. Attempts at mingling with the local children resulted in many a misunderstanding as all struggled to comprehend accents not encountered before. The inevitable rivalries between the locals and evacuees also existed. But I do have happy memories of visits to the 'tuck shop' at the end of the road, and of larking around in the fields at the back of the cottages.



tennis ball and an improvised bat against a high wall in the yard, much to the annoyance of the neighbours! Mr Dockerill worked at Rochford's and during the summer the family's day started at about 6.30am. Breakfast was always the best meal with egg on toast every other day (and my first experience of Lea and Perrin sauce). I can still picture Mr Dockerill with his collarless shirt

done up and secured with a collar stud, wearing the ever-present working cap, and hear his rather 'colourful' language when we got in his way

whilst preparing for school. I can also picture the dark winter afternoons and the procession of nurserymen trudging home through the allotments, with just occasional lamps to light their way during the blackouts.

That winter was extremely cold and using the outside toilet was most unpleasant. A tin tub was used for washing purposes (a shower meant a light fall of rain in those days!). Coal fires were the only means of heating, and as there was no fire in my bedroom I remember shivering with the cold. Getting to school was also made difficult by the freezing weather, as our schooling was split between the local village hall and the school in Birchanger, half a day in each. We walked the one and a half miles between the two (no school buses) despite the deep snow, with just one adult, usually someone's mother, to accompany us. (No Health and Safety, or CRB checks either!) But we still managed to enjoy the team games organised by our teachers on Grippers Fields. In those pre-TV days, entertainment was limited to the wire-



less with programmes such as ITMA, featuring Tommy Handley, and board games to while away the long winter evenings. I was envious when Peter joined the Scout group, and I cried when, for some reason, I was unable to join the

Cubs! I also remember going to the cinema with Peter, in Bishop's Stortford, to see 'The Four Feathers' starring Ralph Richardson. We covered the three-mile journey at Scouts Pace (jogging 50 paces then walking 50 paces) and on reaching a stone marking the boundary between Essex and Hertfordshire, we proudly stood astride with a foot in each county. Such simple pleasures!

During the summer of 1940 air raids increased, and I remember taking shelter under a large table at Birchanger School, sucking a sweet handed out by the teacher. We were told that the last one to swallow their sweet would get an extra one, and I managed to claim the prize! That summer was as hot as the winter had been cold, and I recall Sunday evenings spent outside The Bell, whilst Mr and Mrs Dockerill were inside, drinking lemonade and counting the Army lorries full of troops passing by on the A11. Troops evacuated from the beaches at Dunkirk perhaps? With Stansted now receiving just as many air raid warnings as London, I was allowed to return home, arriving in Wanstead on Saturday 7th September 1940, a grim and unforgettable day in London's history. It was to suffer the heaviest air raid ever during the period known as the Battle of Britain. What a homecoming!!

> Eric Barker South Woodford

#### PHOTOGRAPHY, PRINT AND PAINT

The coffee morning and exhibition held in the Day Centre on 19th June raised £400 for research into Parkinson's Disease. The exhibition was dedicated to the memory of Peter Chastney who lived with Parkinson's for many years. Thank you to everyone who came to see the exhibition, which included Peter's photographic work, paintings by local artists and calligraphy work.

Kathy West

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#### **SUMMER'S HERE!!**

It's always said that the British are renowned for being able to talk endlessly about the weather and I've certainly found in the last couple of months that nearly everyone that has come into the consulting room has had some comment to make and I think with good reason at the moment. I know the sunshine is lovely but we've certainly seen quite a few animals struggle with it. As well as the usual heatstroke cases, we've also seen rabbits with flystrike, fish gasping for oxygen in ponds and the start of the annual flea season! As a vet you have to be prepared to treat a variety of species and although it's mainly cats, dogs, rabbits and horses at our surgery we have to be prepared for the odd goat or pig, the occasional snake or parrot and the very occasional poorly

I used to keep Koi carp a few years ago and so I seem to get the job of dealing with the fish calls. Most fish problems are caused by problems with water quality so it is always important to have filtration and aeration systems in most outdoor ponds. It's also a good idea to get a water quality testing kit so you can test nitrite levels. When the weather is very hot and sunny it can cause algae to grow at a faster rate in the ponds and therefore reduce the oxygen content of the water. This can have the effect of making it difficult for fish to get enough oxygen, hence the gasping fish at the surface of the water, or it predisposes fish to fungal or bacterial infections. Plenty of oxygenating pond weed, water lilies to cover some of the surface, some kind of shade for the pond and the pumps on constantly are all important things for a healthy pond and fish at this time of year. So I hope everyone continues to enjoy a lovely summer but don't forget to take your dog for a walk early in the morning or later in the evening, check your pet rabbits twice daily for fly strike and stock up on flea treatments from the surgery as well!

We hope to have a stall at the Windmill Fête in August, so please drop by for a chat.

> Ilse Pedler Mercer and Hughes Veterinary Surgeons



#### Programme: September 2010 to May 2011

2nd Sep	Stansted Wheelwrights & Forges -
741. 0.4	Tony Wellings and Peter Brown.
7th Oct	London's Docklands Past, Present &
	Future - Peter Lawrence.
4th Nov	Village Signs - John Weston.
2nd Dec	Members' Evening.
6th Jan	Essex on the Home Front 1914-1918 -
	William Tyler.
3rd Feb	The History of Bottles - David Barlow.
3rd Mar	Stansted and other Windmills in East
	Anglia - Ted Pretty.
7th Apr	The £1,000,000 Bank of England Forgery

of 1873 - George J Smith.

5th May

Annual General Meeting, followed by a presentation by Peter Sanders.

Meetings are held in the Crafton Room, Crafton Green, off Chapel Hill from 8.00pm until 10.00pm on the first Thursday of each month throughout the season. Tea and coffee are provided; volunteers to serve refreshments will be most welcome. Car parking is freely available. Members' subscriptions will be £8 for the year or Day Members £2 per visit. We look forward to seeing you at our forthcoming meetings. For further or late information visit the Parish website www.stansted.net and follow the link to the History Section

> David Harrison Programme Organiser



#### HATFIELD FOREST HIGHLIGHTS

The summer is here and hopefully it is a glorious one. The school holidays are in full swing here and we have lots of events for everyone to come and join in on. Every Friday in August bring your family to discover Hatfield Forest's history including Iron Age Rampage 6th August, Medieval Mayhem 13th August, The Timber Tudors 20th August and Greedy Georgians 27th August. Every Wednesday we will be exploring the wildlife and woodlands of Hatfield Forest with Who Lives in the Wood? 4th August, Tree-mendous Trees 11th August, Wildlife Wednesday 18th August and Woodland Journeys 25th August. For those adventurous souls we will be holding Bat Walks every evening between Monday 23rd August and Friday 27th August. Find out about their favourite haunts, and see how many of the Forests nine species you can spot. For more information on any of our events please ring 870678. Look out for our walks exploring the Forest and having a closer look at the work we do including our Marsh and Wood Pasture Restoration projects. All walks will be advertised on our Conservation in Action Board near the Café. Some very exciting news is that the Shop has now relocated to the Discovery Room. It should be easy to find us and have a browse for summer time treats. As always I hope to see you all around the Forest soon.

> Laura Slater Community Warden Tel: 874043

Email: laura.slater@nationaltrust.org.uk

#### UGLEY FARMERS' MARKET

(Every 3rd Saturday of the month)

#### Saturday 21st August

Ugley Village Hall

#### 10.00am-12 noon

Meat and poultry, season fruit and vegetables, bread, eggs, preserves, honey, baking, crafts, cards

Refreshments

Easy parking

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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 form below to 7 Blythwood Gardens, Stansted CM24 8HG.
Details must be submitted by the 11th of the month for publication the following month.

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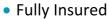
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