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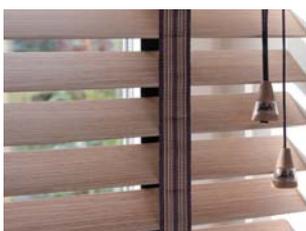


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by **noon** on 11th August
 for the September issue

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EDITORIAL



Once again the stoic folk of Stansted turned out on a murky summer day to show the flag! Chris Campbell's photograph featured on our front cover, captures the spirit of the historic moment the Olympic Torch made its way through our village. Many thanks to everyone else who sent us their photographs. We've squeezed in as many as possible on pages 19 and 30. They provide an excellent record of this momentous, once in a lifetime occasion and look even better in colour on our website.

Recent news of the possible closure of Pearsons in Bishop's Stortford is a sad reminder of how tough times are for businesses right now, especially smaller ones. It makes it even more important that we support our local businesses as much as we can enabling them to continue to provide the services needed to sustain our growing community. A perfect excuse to pay someone else to do all those jobs around the house and garden that we keep putting off, and to treat ourselves to the excellent food and drink available at local hostleries and restaurants! Not forgetting the Windmill's annual Fete, which also needs our support, on 27th August (see pages 20/21). Who knows, even the sun might show its support by making one of its rare appearances!

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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, nor is any culpability accepted for work undertaken by advertisers.

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

PASS IT ON!

It was really exciting to watch the Olympic Torch pass through Stansted on 7th July. There was a super atmosphere among the crowds lining Cambridge Road. I particularly loved the moment when one of our postmen came cycling down the road: I think he got a bigger cheer than the torch itself. The Police were cheered, the vehicles supporting the torch were cheered and then the torch itself came with the runner carrying it looking overjoyed at the honour. I didn't see what happened when she came to the handover point, but the handover is what it is about. Each of the runners is part of a chain that has carried that flame from the moment it was kindled by the sun's rays at Mount Olympus to the moment the beacon will be lit that will burn throughout the games. It must have been great to be that runner being cheered on the way, but it must have felt even better when she knew she had done her job and passed on the light.

In the baptism service each person baptised is given a light to carry. They are told, "You have received the light of Christ; walk in this light all the days of your life. Shine as a light in the world to the glory of God the Father." Each person who is baptised has the honour of being a torch bearer for Jesus, and the responsibility to carry that light till the time comes to pass it on. What an honour! What a responsibility! And it's been given to you and to me.



Paul Wilkin
Rector, St John's Church



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minister@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk

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

Preachers for August

5th 10.30am Joint Service at Bishop's Stortford URC
12th 10.30am Rev'd Tim Richards - Baptism
19th 10.30am Rev'd David Thompson
26th 10.30am Julie Finbow

Baptism of Ava Richards

On 12th August we will be delighted to welcome back Rev'd Tim Richards, who will be presiding at the baptism of his granddaughter, Ava, daughter of Juliet Richards.

SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

Quaker Meeting House, Chapel Hill

Clerk Mrs Anthea Lee
24 Lea Close
Bishop's Stortford
Tel : 656707

Meeting Sunday, 10.30am

ROMAN CATHOLIC

St Therese of Lisieux

High Lane

Priest Father Joe White
The Presbytery
St Therese of Lisieux
High Lane
Stansted
Tel: 814349

Masses Saturday 6.00pm
Sunday 10.00am
Holy Days of Obligation 8.00am and 8.00pm
Tuesday-Saturday 9.30am

Confessions

Saturday 10.00am
and by appointment

Baptisms By appointment

ST JOHN'S 300 CLUB

Many congratulations to the winners of the June draws:

£100 No 61 - Pamela Jackson
£ 50 No 95 - Nigel Holland
£ 25 No 82 - Stephen Higley

Look out for the results next month of the draws for July carried out on Sunday 29th July as these will include the first of the year's extra draws of £200! The draws for August will be held on Sunday 26th August in St John's Church following the 9.30am service. Numbers are still available for anyone who may wish to join at a cost of £2 per month per number. Please contact me for an application form if you would like to be in with a chance of winning whilst helping to support the work of St John's Church.

Francine Cope
Tel: 814562



SKYWATCH

A monthly look at an aspect of the night sky



Our yearly ride around the Sun feels something of an uneventful and rather stately trip. The elliptical route takes us through about 350 million, apparently unperturbed, miles, at a speed of 18 to 19½ miles a second depending how close we are to the Sun. (If it was any slower we would be late for Christmas.) In fact we are gently influenced by the passing planets as we toddle past them, most pulling us away from the Sun, and the occasional effects of Venus and Mercury pulling us a little closer to the Sun. We also have our continual dance with the Moon orbiting us, which, although much smaller, also adds to the Earth's wobbles. These days, now we have such accurate equipment, we can also register the gravitational tugs of distant stars and this knowledge also helps to gain more accurate measurements of their distances. This is of further interest because gravity always appears to be an absolutely Universal Force. It is fairly established that gravity comes from a subatomic particle called a graviton. Yet there are what appear to be perturbations of the strength of gravity in other areas of the Universe. This is noticed by some areas of very deep space. Around 150,000 light years away, there appears to be matter, whatever that matter is, that does not react to the gravity around it. One possibility is that it could be that the matter is so low in density that gravity has no or very, very little affect. It should be said that gravity is a very weak force. You can make that very clear by dropping a piece of steel on a desk, which fell because of gravity. Then pick up a magnet and you will defeat a universal force in an instant. And here's another demonstration of gravity, though it is rather more difficult to set up. If you had a very high building of just four walls, and a ceiling with two hooks in it, then hooked a one ton load on one hook and a piece of paper on the other. Then leave the room and suck out all the air. Remember to get out first. Once outside, press the button and the ton weight and the piece of paper will hit the ground together. Gravity is an equal force throughout the entire Universe ... probably.

Martin West

ANNUAL HILL CHILLI

Such was the weather forecast that Sonia's first attempt at this annual event on Friday 16th June had to be postponed; needless to say the evening turned out fine! The second attempt on Friday 6th July turned out well despite some teasing showers earlier in the day. A smaller than hoped for number of villagers arrived and enjoyed wine, excellent chilli, rice and salad and a good natter to boot. Many thanks to Sonia for a successful 'do', which raised £ 400 for the St John's Church Hall funds. She was ably assisted by Maxine, Susie and Alison, in serving the essentials, and Ray and Nigs in erecting gazebos to cock a snook at the threatening showers. Such is the spirit on these occasions that a bit of damp couldn't stop a lot of fun.

Ray Smith



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 Sally Chapman
Website: www.stanstedstjohns.btck.com

Rector: Rev'd Paul Wilkin
Tel: 812203
Email: paulwilkin@iname.com

Director of Music: Vacant

Church Hall Bookings: Mrs Susie Ball
Tel or text: 07972 373994
Email: stjohns.hallbookings@gmail.com

St John's Diary

Sunday

8.00am Said Holy Communion
9.30am Worship4all (1st Sunday)
9.30am Choral Eucharist (2nd-5th Sundays)

Monday-Thursday and Saturday

8.30am Morning Prayer
(9.00am on Saturday)

There are services of Holy Communion on the first Tuesdays and Wednesdays of the month in Norman Court, Hargrave House and Broome End Nursing Homes.

Tuesday

9.15am-10.30am St John's Tots

Wednesday

8.30am Morning Prayer
10.00am Holy Communion

Monday-Thursday and Saturday

5.00pm Evening Prayer

From the Registers

June

Baptisms

24th Ella Kathryn de Quincey Higley
Benjamin Anderson Liam Reeves
Oliver Lenart
Charlie Sam Cook

Marriages

30th Andrew Harrison and Cheryl Lickfold

There were no funerals in June.

IN MEMORIAM

MARGARET KATHARINE BOOKER

22.8.20 - 5.6.12

Margaret Katharine Mosse was born in Lowestoft, Suffolk to a father who was curate at St Margaret's Church. One of her ancestors served on HMS Victory before Nelson, and a high point in Margaret's life was once dining on board with the First Sea Lord. Family holidays were often spent at Stair in the Newlands Valley of the Lake District. Last summer Margaret returned to Stair, to the beck where she played with her brothers and cousins over so many summers throughout the '20s and '30s, to the little white church where her mother's ashes are interred, to the stillness and peace of the hills. She so loved it. Her childhood in Horsham, Sussex where her father became Priest-in-charge at Holy Trinity, was a happy one where life revolved around the parish. Later, her father moved on to the new Church of St Richard, Aldwick near Bognor Regis. Twenty years later, Margaret was to be married there - *by* her father - in the church he built. She loved her school years, and felt a particular affinity in her role as a member of the chapel choir, an acolyte and eventually, crucifer when she became Head Girl of the all girls' school. Even as a child, she remembered feeling frustrated that she wasn't allowed to become a server at St Richard's like her brothers, and yet she so wanted to.

On leaving school, Margaret studied to become a doctor at the University of London's School of Medicine for Women. The school was evacuated to Exeter University, where she was unhappy and failed her first year exams. The school advised her to become a nurse, but she decided to train as a physiotherapist instead! Back in London she worked in various hospitals during her training, including Great Ormond Street and St Mary's Paddington and particularly enjoyed working with children. She continued to sing in choirs and choral societies and loved going to the Proms.

After the war she spent several years working with children with severe deformities, at the Canadian Memorial Hospital in Maidenhead, before going on to a new school for the



physically handicapped, where she met a newly recruited graduate teacher, Geoff Booker. Margaret and Geoff became good friends, sharing their love of music and singing, and married in 1954, moving to Kent and then Ramsey. Wherever they were, Margaret

engaged with the local community through the Church. She either led or worked with PCCs, Mother's Unions and various pastoral and ecumenical groups. Once she managed the administration of the parish throughout a two-year interregnum!

At 50, she became the first woman to be licensed as a Lay Reader in the Diocese of Ely. She devoted more and more of her time to the pastoral work of Ramsey, then Stansted Mountfitchet. It was here that, with the encouragement of the vicar, Barry Rose, she became first a Deacon and, finally, at the grand age of 71, and after having undertaken a year's FT study at Westcott House Theological College Cambridge, she was ordained a priest. The first woman in the Diocese of Chelmsford – literally the first, because her surname began with a 'B'! She once said that she never imagined the ordination of women would happen in her lifetime. Many readers will remember Margaret. She became part of Stansted life but never ostentatiously so. She was ever kindly, wise and discerning, particularly in the early days of 'Helpline' and the then Association of Christian Churches. Margaret became its chairperson and was influential in the initiation of this magazine, eventually becoming its editor. Together with Barry Rose she brought renewed life to the parish. Margaret had a rapport with children and livened her talks with references to her friend Moses the church mouse. She was also much loved by the elderly and people in the other village churches. Her strong faith, Christian love, and duty of service were the motivators that sustained her throughout her long life.

But it wasn't the fact that she became the first woman to be licensed as a Lay Reader in Ely Diocese, or the first woman Deacon, or the first woman to be ordained a priest in the Diocese of Chelmsford that made her 'special'; it was because she was a *good* priest ... which was nothing to do with gender – it was bred in the bone. She was a 'priest' long before she was ordained – a true pastor in her community, quietly living out her faith for the benefit of others. If all this sounds rather serious, her life was anything but! A bright sense of humour and lightness of touch were her trademarks. She loved joining in with the humour and banter of her two grandsons – and you have to be quick to keep up with that! She enjoyed many holidays in France and other parts of the world, also achieving a lifetime's wish to visit the Holy Land, and to see the Passion Play at Oberammergau.

In 1996 the Bookers moved to Houghton, and after Geoff sadly died she continued, despite failing health, to assist with services, sometimes seated in a wheelchair. In May of this year she had to move to her daughter Anne's home in Worcester. Even then she loved watching her sports and keeping up with everything going on via the television and those who popped in to see her. She certainly had strong opinions on most of the world's woes. Despite the deterioration in her health, she would always assume it was just a temporary setback and that she would be fine, "once everything had settled down". Her energy and zest for life were quite incredible. Whilst it can be said that in life her taste was simple and modest, it may comfort to know that Margaret's last word she spoke was "champagne", in response to the question, "Would you like a drink?" Obviously, water was what was being offered at that stage ... but champagne was what she got! All her fine qualities were lived out in genuine humility, and she was, quite simply, a shining example of a selfless life.

Anne Renshaw (abridged)
Derek Honour



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 Teas ~ Parish Magazines on view
 ~~~~~  
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**VILLAGE EVENTS**

**August**

|           |            |                               |                               |
|-----------|------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1         | Wed        | Mountfitchet Club             | Day Centre 2 - 4 pm           |
| 3         | Fri        | NCT Children's Olympics       | Recreation Grnd 10 - 11.30 am |
| 4         | Sat        | Skips                         | Lower St Car Park 9 am - 3 pm |
| 5         | Sun        | Windmill Open                 | 1.30 - 5.30 pm                |
|           |            | Church Open and teas          | St Mary's Church 2 - 5 pm     |
| 6         | Mon        | Ladies' Day                   | Bowls Club 1.30 pm            |
| 9         | Thu        | WI                            | St John's Hall 7.45 pm        |
| <b>11</b> | <b>Sat</b> | <b>Link copy due in today</b> | <b>before 12 noon</b>         |
| 12        | Sun        | Picnic and Inflatables        | Recreation Ground 1 - 4 pm    |
| 18        | Sat        | Skips                         | Lower St Car Park 9 am - 3 pm |
|           |            | Summer Fête                   | Hargrave House 2 - 4.30 pm    |
| 19        | Sun        | Open Garden                   | Lynwood, Takeley 2 - 5 pm     |
|           |            | Olympics Theme Open Day       | Easton Lodge noon - 5 pm      |
| 25        | Sat        | Stansted Family Café          | Day Centre 9.30 - 11 am       |
| 26        | Sun        | Windmill Open                 | 1.30 - 5.30 pm                |
| 27        | Mon        | Windmill Open                 | 1.30 - 5.30 pm                |
|           |            | Windmill Fête                 | 2 - 5 pm                      |

**September**

|   |     |                  |                               |
|---|-----|------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 | Sat | Model Exhibition | St Mary's Church 11 am - 5 pm |
|---|-----|------------------|-------------------------------|



**Stansted Family**  
**Café**  
**Family Picnic**  
 1 - 4 pm Sun 12th August  
 Recreation Ground  
*FREE games, races & inflatables*  
*Hot Dogs (small charge)*  
*Bring your own picnic*  
**Everyone Welcome ~ Tel 810813**

**SUMMER FETE**

**2 - 4.30 pm Sat 18th Aug**  
**Hargrave House**  
 Barbecue ~ Tombola  
 Cream Teas ~ Raffle  
 Bouncy Castle and more ..  
**All Welcome ~ Entry only 20p**  
**Licensed Bar**

To advertise your **September event** on this page tel 814059  
 or email [events@stanstedlink.org.uk](mailto:events@stanstedlink.org.uk) by **11th August**  
**Inclusion subject to editorial decision**

**STANSTED FAMILY CAFE [www.stanstedfamilycafe.org](http://www.stanstedfamilycafe.org)**

**Inflatables on the Recreation Ground**

On Sunday 12th August from 1 - 4 pm there will be a Family Picnic on the Recreation Ground, with inflatables for different ages, plus some wacky races and games for all ages. There is no charge for entry, games or inflatables - all families welcome. Please bring your own picnic. Hotdogs will be available for a nominal cost. For more information please contact me or see our website. Our normal café will be open from 9.30 - 11.00 am on Saturday 25th August at the Day Centre. All welcome.

Ros Page Tel: 810813

**HARGRAVE HOUSE SUMMER FETE**

Hargrave House are holding their summer fête on Saturday 18th August from 2 - 4.30 pm. We are hoping the weather will be as good as the last three years. Everyone is welcome; we raised £1,419 last year and would like to raise around the same amount so please come and support our fete. Attractions include tombola, raffle, cream teas, bouncy castle, coconut shy, BBQ and licensed bar, and entry is only 20p. If you have any gifts or bric-à-brac you would like to give a home, we would be pleased to have them for our tombola and raffle stalls. We look forward to seeing you all. For more information please contact me.

Stella Papwort, Activities Co-ordinator Tel: 817272

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## FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S CHURCH

### Annual Tea Party with Art, Photography and Embroidery Competition

Coming only two weeks after the Jubilee Celebrations, we were not at all sure of the response to the exhibition planned to raise funds for the Conservation Trust at the annual Tea Party. But with more than 100 exhibitors and several hundred visitors, the weekend proved a great success. There was such a great breadth of artistic talent – from the timeless quality of calligraphy and illumination to so many atmospheric pieces in all forms of artistic genre. Every bit as talented were the photographers, who mounted a show of such variety and style. If the pictures had been in competition the judges would have had a hard task to nominate prize winners. Thanks to the Mountfitchet College, too, for lending us the screens, a perfect foil for the photographs. Some of us already knew that we had some skilled embroiderers in the village, but we and our visitors were enchanted by their contributions. We can only envy the owners of such exquisite work; we could have had a very lively auction had the pictures been for sale! How can you describe the fragile, delicate exhibition of pillow lace? It was much admired for the patience and intricacies shown in all the charming pieces on show. The patchwork stand, in all its glowing bags, cushions and quilts was very popular; all the items were for sale. Shopping was brisk and earned a great contribution to our funds.



As always a great deal of hard work for weeks beforehand was employed to make the show the successful event for Stansted that it became. Sally Argent must take all the credit for her administrative skills. Hours of hard work were spent in her dedication to recording, communications, cataloguing and then handling all the sales at the close of the event. I'm not at all sure of her answer if she will do it all again another year! Hiring the display stands cut into our profits, but were an essential part of the successful presentation in our limited exhibition space. All this required a labour force – Argents, Dales, Rogers, Ayres and Francis – proving how important it is to have the support of the Friend's Association. Keith Ayres once again enhanced the atmosphere with his lighting effects, especially the organ pipes, a delight to see them in all their beautiful painted glory. We knew we would have competition from the England football match the Friday evening preview, not to mention a very uncertain weather forecast, but we could not have anticipated being plunged into darkness, not with a power cut, but a major electrical fault. Having an event in a church meant that we had an unlimited

supply of candle power. Good wine and food turned the evening into a pleasant social occasion for most of us, Keith Ayres once more coming to our aid. The electrical engineers arrived just as England won the football match. Thankfully power was restored for the weekend show.

As always when writing these reviews, I am afraid of failing to tell everyone who contributed to the event how grateful we are for their help. So thanks to all who polished and cleaned (before and after the show), all those who transported, shopped, cooked, served refreshments, sold books, plants and raffle tickets, decorated the church and arranged the exhibits. The Conservation Trust's aim is to 'keep our Churches safe and sound, open and welcoming and to remain a focus for community life'. I am sure we played our part in mounting this exhibition, particularly as we were so pleased to welcome Crispin Truman, Chief Executive of the Trust, who joined us for tea on Sunday. Many churches throughout England were holding a Tea Party, we look forward to a write-up in the Annual Review later this year. If you have any photographs of the exhibition may we have copies? Such a successful village event should have a permanent record. A final note from our Treasurer; in spite of some heavy expenditure we made a profit of £526. The Friends and the Trust are most grateful for such a good result.

Audrey Rodgers  
Chairman

### Radio Controlled Model Exhibition

On Saturday 1st September the Friends will be holding another radio-controlled model day in St Mary's Church from 11.00am to 5.00pm. Entrance is free but donations will be gratefully received. Refreshments will be on sale throughout the day, which will include a good variety of homemade cakes. So bring the children along to see the boats, tanks, cars, planes and helicopters and lorries. Each of these models is painstakingly built in great detail and there are many fine features eg moving parts, flashing lights and realistic sound effects. This event proved to be extremely popular with people of all ages last year, so do come along and support the Friends of St Mary's Church and help us to raise funds for this beautiful old church. This is a wonderful event for all the family.

Sally Argent  
Secretary  
Tel: 812418

## WORLD'S BIGGEST COFFEE MORNING

Make time on Friday 28th September for some coffee and a piece of cake to help people living with cancer. Get together with friends, family members and colleagues, have fun and raise funds for Macmillan Cancer Support. Register now at [www.macmillan.org.uk/maketime](http://www.macmillan.org.uk/maketime), or call 0845 602 1246. Look out for notices in 'The Link' about local coffee mornings taking place in support of this event. Every day in the UK another 822 people are diagnosed with cancer. We want to be there to reach every one of them and we need your help to do this.

Kerry Briars  
Herts & Essex Fundraising Manager  
Tel: 07793 579364

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## MOUNTFITCHET GARDEN CLUB

www.mountfitchetgardenclub.co.uk

It was by responding to a request by the Bumblebee Conservation Trust (BCT) to “survey bees that visit your garden” that our July guest speaker, John Taylor, was introduced to the fascinating world of one of the most popular garden visitors – the bumblebee. Around 250 species of bumblebee can be found in the world, most of which live in the northern hemisphere, although South America has a few native species, and New Zealand has some which were introduced from Britain. Bumblebees can survive at very high altitudes and can even be found at Base Camp on Mount Everest! In the UK there are 24 species of bumblebee but only eight are commonly found. Over the past 60 years bumblebee numbers have declined alarmingly and several UK species are close to national extinction. This decline has coincided with changing farming practices especially the grubbing up of hedgerows and the introduction of pesticides. Even the use of systemic weedkillers in our gardens has caused bumblebee numbers to fall as the poison gets into the nectar. Research undertaken by the BCT shows that many crop yields are now being affected and that it would be disastrous if our pollinating bumblebees disappeared totally.

Following media campaigns the bumblebees’ plight has been recognised and both farmers and public are responding – ‘bee paths’ around/between fields, reintroduction of wild flower meadows, more nectar rich flowers being grown in gardens, nest sites being provided and less pesticides and weedkillers being used etc. Members were then told about the life-cycle of the bumblebee. Spring is the crucial time - when the Queen awakes from hibernation she must feed, find a nest site and start reproducing quickly. Mahonia is an ideal shrub to plant - it is a rich source of nectar when there are few flowers in bloom. Some Queens sit on their nests like birds keeping the eggs warm whereas others lay an egg with a nectar cup close by, seal up the hole and let the larvae fend for itself. Like the bird world – there are cuckoo bumblebees too, they leave their egg(s) for others to nurture. The RHS produces a list of ‘bee friendly’ plants on their website and everyone was encouraged to plant a few of these and to help to protect and save these vital pollinators. A selection of posters, information packs etc were available to purchase. Mr Taylor concluded his talk by saying summer would not be summer without the buzz of a bumblebee!!

**Rose Bowl Competition – three stems of roses (any variety, any colour)** - Congratulations to Sandra Embleton (1st), Delia Joyce (2nd) and Heather Cann (3rd). Commiserations to the other entrants – the judge said she had a hard job choosing!

**August Meeting** – This meeting will not be held at the Day Centre – we have an evening visit to Priorswood Nursery.

**Open Garden** – Club member, Jean Anderson, is having a Charity Open Garden in aid of Macmillan Nurses on Sunday 19th August from 2.00pm-5.00pm at Lynwood, The Street, Takeley CM22 6QS (about two miles on the left from the M11 roundabout on the old A120 towards Dunmow).

Maralyn Harris  
Chairman  
Tel: 07919 478144

## CYRIL’S GARDENING TIPS

In August it is just a matter of keeping on top of the weeds and mowing the lawn, etc. I look on this month as the time to sit back and enjoy your garden. Here are a couple of tips I have picked up. If the leaves on your plants tend to be yellowish it is a possibility that they are suffering from magnesium deficiency. For this put two teaspoons of Epsom salts in a watering can and water it in. I heard two ladies talking a couple of weeks ago about some tulips one of them had bought. One asked why, when you take them out of a vase, the heads droop. What happens is, when they are taken out of the water it drains out of the stem, which is then replaced by air. To stop this, make a pin hole right through the stem just below the bud, the air is then pushed out by the water rising up the stem.

Cyril Stoneham



## 'THE LINK' WINS ANOTHER AWARD

For some years we have submitted 'The Link' to be considered for the annual Cambridge Community Magazine Awards run by the Cambridge Building Society. This scheme covers a very wide area and we in Stansted are on the very edge of the catchment area. Dick Pollard and I attended the recent awards ceremony held at the Cambridge City Rugby Football Club. We were greeted with drinks and the opportunity to browse through copies of the other entrants’ magazines.

Then we were ushered up to the dining room where a splendid ‘high tea’ was laid out on circular tables. After we had done our best to do justice to this spread, the awards ceremony began. The awards have various different categories and 'The Link' falls into the High Frequency section, ie 11 issues per year or more. We had submitted entries in both this section and also Best Front Page. Apart from village magazines, there were also awards for specialist and charity publications and some more specific categories, such as best photo and best editorial. As we sat and watched the proceedings, we suddenly heard “Winner of the Best Front Page - 'The Link'”!

It took a few seconds for this news to sink in and then we went up to receive a handsome trophy, a certificate and a



cheque. Apparently there were 31 entries in this category so our Editor, Yvonne, deserves a big pat on the back for the December/January cover that featured her photograph of the lovely ‘old post box in a hedge’ at Bentfield Bower.

Sarah Ludlow-Elston  
'The Link' Production

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## Foresthall Park Residents' Association

www.foresthallparkresidents.org

A few months ago we had a fairly lively discussion on our website regarding a shop on Foresthall Park (see 2nd March post and subsequent comments). People were generally supportive of a small convenience store although there were some concerns. I have now learnt that the developers have applied to have the requirement to build a shop lifted (four houses would be built on the site instead). They are within their rights to do this and in order to have the requirement lifted they need to prove to the District Council that a shop is not viable. I have read the documents submitted to support this (see the Uttlesford Planning website – application number UTT/0443/98/OP – docs 03777701 and 03777704) and I think they fall some way short of proving this.

Taylor Wimpey retained Savills Retail to conduct a marketing campaign to ascertain if there was sufficient demand to support a food convenience store within Foresthall Park. The conclusion of this document is that "there is insufficient demand to secure a pre-let to justify the development being undertaken by Taylor Wimpey". The most significant reason in reaching this conclusion is that the potential catchment area is deemed insufficient to support a convenience store. In fact, nine of the eleven retailers contacted were concerned about the catchment size. However, the marketing brochure incorrectly stated that there would be 350 dwellings in Foresthall Park when in fact there will be approximately 700 dwellings in the development once complete. The soon to be completed primary school is mentioned (which will increase passing traffic), but there is no mention of the area around Foresthall Park (Mountfitchet Estate, Stoney Common and Church Hill Corner for example) and a shop in Foresthall Park would be convenient for a number of people living in those areas too. In addition, it appears that this site has only been marketed to the chain retailers - there is no evidence of this site being advertised locally or of Savills approaching some of the smaller independent retailers in Stansted who might have been interested.

I think the District Council need to determine if a shop is needed and wanted, and if so, then a more transparent and open marketing campaign needs to be undertaken to see if a suitable operator can be found. I have urged the District Council to keep the existing agreement in place for the time being. I have written more extensively about this on our website (see 10th July post). I suspect by the time you read this, the discussion will have moved on, so please look on our website for the latest news.

On a totally separate note, I would like to thank the 'guerilla' gardeners who tidied up the small landscaped area at the corner of Walson Way and Forest Hall Road earlier this month.

Stephen Berry  
Chairman

Tel: 647652

Email: s.berry@mac.com

## OLYMPIC QUEST

A stroll around the village that starts and ends in the Memorial Gardens on Chapel Hill, for all the family to enjoy, with clues to solve and things (vaguely) relating to the Olympics to look out for along the way:

1. Outdoor Sports
2. Road names containing the word 'Field'
3. Signs/objects/names of Gold, Silver and Bronze

Before starting your walk take the time to survey  
At your feet are some 'Bronzes' to help you on your way

Climb up the hill past the House where Friends are best  
To the F \_ \_ \_ \_ N where men of old stopped to rest.  
Cross the C \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ E Road at the lights by the shop  
(Not the new Tesco's but the good old C \_ \_ P!)

Now go to the Street that's S \_ \_ \_ R not gold  
And cross the road again where beer is sold.  
Turn right and proceed to the house of Trees  
(Where the Doc used to live in the sixties?).

Turn left along the path leading up to the R \_ \_  
Where the youngsters can play, just for a sec.  
Go to the Memorial Stone on the far side  
There another 'Bronze'. What date can be spied?

Straight to the W \_ \_ \_ \_ L where a 'Silver' can be found  
Part of an implement once used to till the ground.  
Now to 1 Millside and along the 'Trees in the Meadow'  
Out onto C \_ \_ \_ L H \_ L past where teeth are on show.

Go down to the Beacon beyond the Y and Z  
As far as S \_ \_ \_ \_ N Road (where you can be fed!)  
Pause at the Beacon and use the Z \_ \_ A there  
To cross the road safely but with utmost care.

Hurry along the Street passing fierce S \_ \_ \_ \_ S by  
Stopping just before 'Low' turns into 'High'.  
Turn left into the steep alley, take it slow  
At the top skirt round S \_ . M \_ \_ 'S S \_ \_ \_ L soon to go

Through the gate at S \_ . J \_ \_ 'S C \_ \_ \_ H our walk ends  
In the gardens commemorating Stansted's brave, lost friends.  
Hope you enjoyed the walk, and didn't stray  
Solved all the clues, and had fun on the way.

*How many Sports, Fields, Gold, Silvers and Bronzes did you find? Answers page 35.*

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# MOUNTFITCHET MATHEMATICS AND COMPUTING COLLEGE



2nd Grace Worth, 3rd Harry Robinson. Year 9: 1st Jessica Hardy, 2nd Georgia Crouchman, 3rd Courtney Bush.

Victoria Owen  
Student and Community Administrator  
Tel: 813384

June saw MMCC's second annual Community Day where students from years 7 to 10 took part in a wide range of events, including a performance of 'Blood Brothers' at a local Care Home, and picking litter in the village, accompa-



nied by the local Litter Picker. Some went to primary schools to play rounders; year 8 Students hosted Story Time at a Stansted Pre-School, whilst others took part in ground maintenance at Stansted Cricket Club, and assisted the Day Centre with their afternoon session of Bingo, where the manager, Kat, reported that they were very helpful, hardworking, seemed to enjoy talking to the members and did a wonderful job in the kitchen garden. She felt it was nice to have a busy inter-generational day. The College itself was also a hive of activity, with students helping maintain and improve the College gardens, producing a community website and newspaper, and taking part in a range of Eco and environment projects, making a variety of models from recyclable materials. Students from primary schools spent the day at the College partaking in a 'French Quebec Day' preparing and sampling typical cuisine, plus drama and art. Teachers



involved were ably assisted by a past MMCC student, who, being French Canadian, had a wealth of inside knowledge. Year 10 GCSE Art group produced a fabulous 'Portrait of the Queen' commissioned by Spangles Children's Centre, where we hope it will be displayed.

MMCC Students produced artwork for the Stansted in Bloom poster which has been displayed in shop windows. The winners were: Year 7: 1st Thomas Hubbard, 2nd Rosanna Terry, 3rd Isabelle Brett. Year 8: 1st Rosie James,



## STANSTED PILOTS

The children's Pilots club of Stansted Free Church will resume their usual fortnightly activities on 17th September at 6.00pm in the Free Church Hall. Before breaking off for the summer holidays, children got the chance to try their hand at Olympic sports as well as understanding the importance of recycling as part of the Eco-wing club project. On Monday 9th July, the Eco-wing had organised a practical session of collecting recyclable litter. William Frogley, known throughout the village for keeping the streets clean, gave a talk on the importance of recycling. Children got a chance to wear reflective jackets and use the litter picking tools to collect and sort recyclable material that most people casually discard without a second thought. William explained the differences between the materials and how they could be reused. The Pilots also enjoyed two taster sessions of the lesser known Olympic sports – fencing and taekwondo with Daniel Brett who has been a keen practitioner of the martial arts for several years. They learned some basic kicks, blocks and punches with safety rules used in the Korean martial art of taekwondo as well as pumsae, which are sequences of techniques. They got a chance to wear the protective gear used during Olympic sparring competitions. Three accessories used in fencing - foil, épée and sabre - were shown and handled by the children who were taught how to come en garde and lunge. A replica of the sword used by the character Éowyn in the *Lord of the Rings* trilogy was also shown to demonstrate how real swords can differ from swords used in sport. Both the sessions were imaginative and were thoroughly enjoyed by the children and adult volunteers. The evening ended with sandwiches, cakes and refreshments. For club sessions in the autumn term please contact myself or Valerie Trundle (813433).

Sanjukta Ghosh  
Tel: 817974

[sanjukta@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk](mailto:sanjukta@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk)

## Stansted Literature Group Do you love Literature?

We do. We are a friendly group of around 20 people who spend our Wednesday mornings exploring and analysing great novels and writers. We talk a lot, laugh a lot and still manage to work quite hard under the guidance of our tutor, Judith. In our next year from September we will be studying Iris Murdoch, AS Byatt, a number of South American writers and poetry of the 1930's.

We always welcome new members.

**For further details, please contact our tutor  
Judith Moss on 01279 813998 or email  
[jmossatpo@waitrose.com](mailto:jmossatpo@waitrose.com)**

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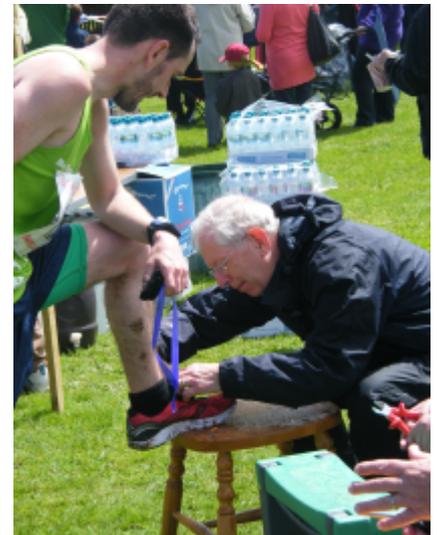
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We can't all be winners but everyone received a medal

Photographs by Peter Webb

There are nearly 300 photographs of the run on our website [www.stansted10k.org.uk](http://www.stansted10k.org.uk)



## UGLEY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

What a sight greeted our patriotically dressed members at our Diamond Jubilee meeting. The Village Hall was decorated with bunting and the tables beautifully laid with white linen table cloths and Union Jack napkins and lovely floral arrangements provided by our President, Mrs Dorothy Wallace. In fact it looked fit for a Queen! Instead of an 'official' speaker, members who had been fortunate enough to be in London on Coronation Day entertained us with their memories and very entertaining they were too! Our very popular monthly competition also had a Royal theme; members brought in some very interesting commemoratives in all shapes and sizes all carefully kept since their schooldays. A quiz with a Royal theme formed part of our entertainment and was much enjoyed by our members. Whilst on the subject of matters quizzical, our President proudly announced that our Institute had won the WI quiz held in May which meant that our Institute would be in the final at Hatfield Peverel on 22nd June. I am very proud to say that our Institute was the winner, beating over a hundred teams who had originally taken part! A delicious tea, complete with dainty sandwiches, mouthwatering cakes, and refreshing jelly and fruit punch brought another entertaining meeting to an end. Other highlights on the horizon include a talk on antique miniature furniture in September, a talk about all the Queen's horses in October, a tribute to the legendary Edith Piaf in November and festive music in December! If this sounds like your cup of tea, why not come and join us? You would be most welcome. We meet in Ugley Village Hall on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 2.30pm.

Andrea Fitt  
Tel: 815922

## Stansted Tennis Club



### Date for your diary:

Sunday 19th August 1.30pm for 2.00pm - Wilby Senior Doubles Tournament.

### Hospital Cup Tournament and Club Tournament

These are now underway and all players are reminded to arrange and play their matches as soon as possible.

### Coaching

If you are interested in finding out more about coaching please contact either Chris Hollis on 319155 or Martyn Taplin (Monday night adult coaching session) on 816386. Chris has vacancies for the following groups: 11-15 year old girls Mondays, 11-15 year old boys Tuesdays and 14-17 year old girls Fridays. Please contact Chris for more details.

### Used tennis balls

£1 per tube of four from Jan Hollis, telephone 812073.

### Club Playing Sessions

Members are encouraged to attend these open sessions:  
Wednesday from 9.00am and 6.00pm  
Friday from 9.30am. Sunday from 10.00am

### Contacts

Felicity Shakespeare (Secretary) 831771, Daphne Lunnon (Chairman) 817574, Antony Dynamou (Membership Secretary) 813121. Website: [www.stanstedtennisclub.co.uk](http://www.stanstedtennisclub.co.uk).

Chris Hollis



## STANSTED U3A

Due to the summer break there is no meeting in August. The next meeting will be on Thursday 20th September in St John's Church Hall at 2.00pm. Janet Nayler will be talking about 'The Golden Age of Radio'. The Committee members donned their black and white attire to wait at tables during the U3A Jubilee Cream Tea last month. The hall was decked out appropriately in red, white and blue bunting and balloons. Christine provided the red, white and blue flower arrangements for each of the tables and Maggie, Sally and Jan somehow managed to tease the Union Jack serviettes into looking like mini crowns. David and Vicki Thomson provided a quiz for each table to participate and a quick game of Kings and Queens was admirably won by Rex Hitchmough who was presented with a Jubilee box of biscuits. The background music of hits from 1952 to current days was provided by Alan Rich. Thank you to everyone who helped make the day such a wonderful success.

### Outings and Activities

A group of members from the Bus Pass Group enjoyed a day out at Southend recently. They all boarded the bus from Stansted Airport. The weather, although very blustery, did not dampen their spirits and everyone managed to avoid the showers. A tasty fish and chip luncheon at one of the restaurants on the front made the day even more enjoyable. Members check out the Stansted U3A website for more details of trips and outings and contact the Group Leaders directly if you want to get involved.

Tickets for the popular Stansted U3A Singers annual event, '2012 A Year of Celebration', on Saturday 6th October at St John's Church will be on sale from 19th July. The singers are again putting together a wide variety of songs for your entertainment, which will be followed by a free glass of wine or juice and light refreshments in the hall next door. This year we are lucky to be accompanied by Marion Dyer for part of the programme and there will be a special performance by Sonia Levy. Tickets are only £6 (£3 for children under 16) and are available from Ruth 814222, Barbara 814721 or Mary 814190. So, as you can see, there are a number of activity/interest groups based in the village to appeal to all its membership. See our website for full details [www.stanstedu3a.org](http://www.stanstedu3a.org) or please contact Chris (Chair) 817587 or Sandra (Secretary) 814304.



Caroline Bore

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Our members are enjoying planting and looking after our new garden. Despite the poor weather we are experiencing, the plants are growing nicely and making the garden look very pretty. The school age children are looking forward to their trips out during the summer holidays with the

Holiday Club. There will be visits to the seaside, theme parks and various other fun and interesting places. We are very grateful to the Bishop's Stortford Bowling Club who hosted the Dennyside charity match in June. The money raised will go towards funding the trips. Lots of the members got together back in June and thoroughly enjoyed the Carnival procession in Bishop's Stortford. We won the best Charity float and we were thrilled. The sun even shone for us. We have thoroughly enjoyed celebrating the Queen's Jubilee with lots of parties at Grove Cottage. We even had some royal visitors!! The Youth Club had a great time making this Union Jack to display.



Esme Willcocks  
Administrator

## ST CLARE HOSPICE

### Charity Gig At Cottered Raises £1,700

The event featuring acoustic/folk singer songwriter Edwina Hayes and raising £1,700 was organised by the Hospice's social worker Alison Campaniello. The evening featured a 30 minute support set performed by local man Rob Chamberlain before Edwina enchanted the audience with two sets of songs, and kept the audience entertained with amusing stories about her life.

### Hospice honours volunteers

Twenty-seven volunteers who have given a total of 230 years' service to St Clare Hospice were presented with long-service awards by Harlow MP Robert Halfon at a special volunteers tea afternoon hosted by Hospice Chairman Michael Chapman. They were congratulated and thanked for their commitment and enthusiasm by Chief Executive Tanya Curry and Mr Chapman.

### Stansted Friends of St Clare

The Friends quiz team won last month's quiz at the Kings Arms with the winnings going to the Hospice. Caroline also won the raffle for the first time and will donate the wine towards a future raffle. Thank you to those customers who supported the raffle.

### Future Events

The St Clare Friends are holding their bi-annual Jumble Sale at Clavering Village Hall at 2.00pm on Saturday 22nd September. Entry is 20p and includes a drink and biscuits. Donations of bric-a-brac, good, clean clothing and small items of furniture would be welcomed. If you can help, ring Gill on [815486](tel:01815486) or Caroline on [813938](tel:01813938). Thank you for your support of the Friends as always. Caroline is still organising some of the collection rotas in the area. The next collection is outside Tescos in Bishop's Park. Although we already have some volunteers, Caroline is looking for more. You will be asked to give one or two hours a year to collect for outside Thorley and Bishop's Stortford Sainsbury or Tesco stores and occasionally in Bishop's Stortford High Street. If you think you can help, ring Caroline on [813938](tel:01813938). St Clare is most grateful for the continuing support in and around Stansted and Caroline would also like to thank the supporters.

David Jackman



## 494 (Stansted Airport) Squadron Air Training Corps

This month 22 of our younger cadets have been going through a gruelling junior NCO (non-commissioned officer) course which, if successful, would mean being promoted to a cadet corporal. They spent parade nights learning about leadership, communication, motivation and health and safety. All of these are vital when they are put in charge of a flight of cadets; and they will develop skills which are important in all aspects of life. It gives the cadets the opportunity to have responsibility, which for many may be a new thing to learn! The results of the course have yet to be seen but the cadets all wait in anticipation of promotion. We are very lucky to have been joined by two new members of civilian staff; first John Robinson who has transferred from 2317 (Harlow) squadron. He will be a valuable member of our staff team as he is qualified to teach many outdoor activities such as kayaking, mountain biking and climbing. Our second new civilian instructor is Mark Cook who has moved from London. He is a retired policeman with a lot of experience. We welcome them both to Stansted Airport Squadron and hope that they enjoy their time with us!

However, we unfortunately have to say goodbye to one of our most committed and crucial members of staff. Simon Stacey has been our Quartermaster (aka 'Q') for nearly five years, but is now transferring to 999 (Dunmow) Squadron to help look after their stores. Our equipment is in impeccable condition after Q has spent a lot of time sorting it all out and implementing a kit lending system so that cadets can easily borrow kit for all the Duke of Edinburgh Awards and camps that they go on. He is moving on to a new adventure. We will be very sad to see him go and it will be a huge loss to the Squadron. We thank him for all the hard work and dedication he has put into the Unit over the years and he will be sorely missed. 494 won't be the same without him!

If you are aged between 13 and 16 and interested in joining us, contact us for more information:  
Telephone 681559 Mondays and Fridays 7.15pm-9.30pm (24 hour Answerphone) email: [494@aircadets.org](mailto:494@aircadets.org).

Alice Brooks

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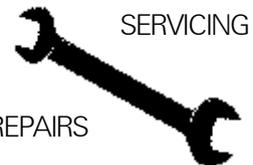
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# Stansted Network

## NEWS FROM YOUR LOCAL COUNCILS

\*\*\*\*\*

### OLYMPIC TORCH !!

What a wonderful turnout from our community to welcome the Olympic Torch. Despite the damp conditions, an estimated crowd of 5,000 lined our streets to celebrate this historic event.



We have received lots of complimentary remarks on village decorations - particularly the fountain island - and despite 'losing' a few flags and strings

of bunting, the day passed without incident! We believe it was a success for local businesses too judging by some of the queues!



*Photos by Alan Wheeler and Helen Baker*

*More photos on page 30 of this edition of the Link*

### MEMORABILIA

The feather flags and bunting which we purchased to decorate the village have been retrieved - or at least most of them! We have nine flags available to the highest bidders and strips of bunting can be purchased on a first-come, first-served basis from the Parish

Council offices. The flags and bunting were purchased from the official Olympic supplier and are unique to the 2012 games - perhaps a worthy addition to your memory boxes? Please contact the Parish Council office for further information (813214).

### HEALTH CENTRE UPDATE

At the Council Meeting on 4 July, Pelham Structures came along to unveil a revised design for the proposed new building on the former Castle TVR site in Lower Street. The plans showed a building somewhat reduced in height and bulk and more traditional in design - a brick-built "maltings" style building over two and three floors with roof space. It is now proposed that there will be two retail units - possibly a medium-sized supermarket and a chemist - with the health centre on the whole of the first floor and fourteen apartments above.

Whilst a new planning application is yet to be submitted, a show of hands at the meeting gave the developer the green light to proceed with work on the revised design. An opportunity for everyone to comment will come once the formal application is made to Uttlesford District Council.

### BELLWAY HOMES APPLICATION FOR CAMBRIDGE ROAD

A fresh planning application for fourteen residential units has been submitted for this site, omitting the gated entrance and including a pedestrian link through to the Crafton Green car park. We believe that the application will be heard by the Uttlesford Planning Committee on 25 July. We have a meeting arranged to discuss the principles of development on sites in Cambridge Road with planning officers, and a further meeting on 24 July with the developers themselves. In light of these, we asked Uttlesford to defer the application, but were refused. We have therefore submitted a revised objection to the proposals.

### GOOD NEWS FOR OUR TEENAGERS

We are delighted to announce that Linda Barnes and Jem Free, who used to work at our Youth Centre, are returning to give youth support during the summer holidays - funded by the Parish Council.

As we go to print, final details are being confirmed, but they hope to work two evenings per week, for 2.5 hours, to deliver face-to-face youth provision at the youth centre and/or skatepark. They will cover such topics as confidence and self-esteem, alcohol and drug awareness, sexual health, health and fitness and support of the NEET young people in making decisions about their future. This is great news indeed.

### **UTTLESFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL'S DRAFT LOCAL PLAN**

The consultation period on the Local Plan has now closed and we await the next stage with interest. Our formal comments on Uttlesford's proposal for sixty homes to be accommodated in Stansted will be reported in the next edition of the Link.

In the meantime, we have received presentations from three developers keen to obtain our views on development in other locations:

- 1) land to the west of Bentfield Greens - identified in Uttlesford's Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) as STA13 - a proposal for 150-170 residential units, village green, allotment site, football pitches and an informal "kickabout" area.
- 2) land south of Stoney Common Road (the former Christmas tree site) - SHLAA site STA8 - around 54 residential units with new access and potential to improve Stoney Common Road at the Pines Hill junction.
- 3) land at Elms Farm - SHLAA site STA6 - proposal for circa 60 homes with public open space, allotment site, public access to the parkland via designated footpaths and environmental improvements around the Brook.

### **NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH ANNUAL PUBLIC MEETING**

The meeting was held on Wednesday 30th May. PCSO Simon Horne represented the Police, but unfortunately Peter Caulfield, Crime Prevention Officer for Uttlesford, was unable to attend due to illness.

Mr Jonathan Fox, a local Paramedic, gave an informative and interesting talk on "Prevention is Better than Cure" in regards to security both inside and outside your property.

PCSO Simon Horne gave a Police Report on local matters and the Chairman gave a general report concerning issues which have taken place over the past six months.

Mr Richard Portway gave an update on the NhW Website and thanks were expressed by the Chairman to him for his continued support.

The Chairman expressed her thanks for the dedicated work of both Mr and Mrs Derek Poole-Adams given over many years to NhW. Sadly Mrs Janet Poole-Adams had passed away since the last meeting in October and at a recent meeting of the steering group Mrs Joy Thomas was elected as the new Treasurer, she also replaces Mrs Cherry Venn who had expressed her wish to stand down as an area co-ordinator. Cherry was thanked for her past interest by the Chairman.

Several members of the Public expressed various concerns about problems that were effecting them within the village, these were discussed at some length with the help of PCSO Simon Horne.

A full account of the above meeting can be found in the minutes which will be available to be seen on the NhW Website [www.stanstednhw.org.uk](http://www.stanstednhw.org.uk)

It has now been decided by the Steering Group that the re-arranged date of the next Annual Meeting will be Wednesday 22nd May 2013.

Chairman: Cllr. Valerie Trundle

### **ON THE BUSES!**

Essex County Council has sent through timetables for routes 7 and 7A as well as the 301 and 302. These are available, free of charge, from the library, Day Centre and Parish Council Offices.

### **PLAY EQUIPMENT UPDATE**

We are delighted to report that the refurbishment of the Mountfitchet Green play area has been completed and local youngsters are already enjoying it. The Recreation Ground project should be completed in time for the school summer holidays and will provide a greater variety of equipment than previously. Official openings of both sites will take place in the near future. Both projects have been funded by the S.106 Community Fund related to the development of Foresthall Park.

It is our intention to refurbish the Bentfield Green play area before the end of this year.

### **WINDMILL FUN AND GAMES**

A reminder to the whole community that the Windmill Fete will be held from 2 - 5pm on 27 August Bank Holiday Monday. This well-established event is the

largest single fund raising event for the Windmill and a highlight of the year. It is hoped that there will be pony rides this year, although due to lack of space at Windmill Fields, these will take place on the Recreation Ground!

If you are able to donate items for stalls, especially the legendary cake stall, please contact Cllr Bridget Gott on 814440. For further information on the Windmill, or if you would like to find out more about the work of the Stansted Millers - the voluntary group which looks after the Mill - contact Cllr Nigel Collingwood (Chairman of the Windmill sub-committee) on 813428 or look at their website [www.stanstedmountfitchetwindmill.co.uk](http://www.stanstedmountfitchetwindmill.co.uk)

### **CHRISTMAS IS COMING !!!**

Whilst many of us may not yet have enjoyed our summer holidays, there is nothing like planning ahead. The Parish Council is considering organising a Christmas Market to be held over one weekend, probably in Lower Street.

There are many logistical issues to deal with, but firstly we need to gauge support for such an event, particularly from our local shop-keepers.

A broad outline is an event to be held at the "shops" end of Lower Street (closed to traffic), over two days with stalls and attractions in the street and perhaps a synthetic ice-rink in the Lower Street car park. We would aim to involve the "art and craft" talents of the village also.

If you are interested in having a stall, or being involved in the setting up of such an event, please contact the Council Offices or Cllr Maureen Caton on 813914.

### **STANSTED BROOK**

We are very pleased to announce that we have been able to take on the services of a local gentleman to undertake litter clearing of Stansted Brook along Water Lane. Here is just a selection of what he collected on his first official trip.



On the subject of Water Lane, we are chasing Essex County Council for the installation of the new pedestrian bridge over the Brook. This will form part of the safe route to school and Church for the pupils of the new St Mary's Primary School at Foresthall Park. We understand that the bridge has been constructed but discussions are still taking place over the date of its installation.

### **HIGHWAYS UPDATES**

Several projects have been agreed to improve road safety which will be funded from the S.106 Highways Fund related to Foresthall Park:

Church Road - traffic calming measures will be installed by way of a priority working scheme - similar to that seen in Thorley, Bishop's Stortford. The pavement will be built out, narrowing the carriageway, at two points - the first on the east side of the road, just beyond the junction of Mountfitchet Road, and the second on the west side, just beyond the property known as "Churchillian". It has just been confirmed that the owners of Elms Farm have agreed to some of their land being incorporated into this scheme to enable the pavement on the east side to be widened at certain pinch points - our thanks to them.

In addition, a section of pavement will be constructed between the houses at Churchill Corner on Forest Hall Road, and the junction with Peachey Walk, Foresthall Park. This will provide a safe walking route for pupils from Foresthall Park to access the Mountfitchet Maths and Computing College.

The proposed pedestrian link from Jordon Close to Walson Way, and the request for a speed reduction on Foresthall Road to 40mph for its entire length are also in hand.

### **NEWS FROM UTTLESFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL**

July was a month with lots of action on the future of our village. (Or is it time we recognized it as a town that deserves the services of a small town of over 6,000 people?)

Pelham Structures have come back with a completely new style of building for the Hilton Cars site in Lower Street. Its height is lower and its bulk is less. The style is described as a traditional brick maltings - rather than the Titanic description coined by residents. It is likely that a new planning application will be considered in the autumn. Details such as car park capacity

still need to be analysed. Credit is due both to residents who stood firm and said the previous scheme was unacceptable and to the developer, who has listened to criticism and made many changes.

The same cannot be said for Bellway Homes, who have submitted another housing application behind You're Furnished to the Co-op. They've made minor changes to their "exclusive enclave", but still want to undermine our commercial centre by replacing it with houses. A very useful walkabout was made in June by Uttlesford's new economic development officer and councillors to Cambridge Road, Lower Street and the Riverside Business Park at Stoney Common. From this I hope that a master plan will emerge for a more successful centre for Stansted Mountfitchet – a thriving centre of shops, private and public services and jobs to serve a growing population. What has to be stopped is Uttlesford's current proposal to pack the centre with more and more homes that could turn Stansted into a soulless and service-less commuter dormitory.

So we need to agree better places for future homes than behind Cambridge Road. No site is without controversy. During July councillors will be listening to proposals for developments near Bentfield Green, east of Pines Hill and at Elms Farm. Difficult choices will have to be made in coming months.

Cllr Alan Dean

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

No meetings are scheduled for August.

|              |              |
|--------------|--------------|
| 5 September  | Open Spaces  |
| 12 September | Full Council |

#### **MP'S SURGERIES**

The Rt Hon Sir Alan Haselhurst MP will be holding his surgeries in the Parish Council Offices at Crafton Green on:

|                      |               |
|----------------------|---------------|
| Saturday 1 September | 10.45-11.30am |
| Friday 11 January    | 5.45-6.30pm   |

No prior appointments are necessary.

#### **CONTACT DETAILS**

Clerk - Ruth Clifford Admin Assistant - Anne Court  
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#### **PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS**

|                                   |                                                                                                  |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Margaret Ambrose                  | 814675<br><a href="mailto:maggielincoln@aol.com">maggielincoln@aol.com</a>                       |
| Maureen Caton                     | 813914<br><a href="mailto:m.caton@hotmail.co.uk">m.caton@hotmail.co.uk</a>                       |
| Nigel Collingwood                 | 813428<br><a href="mailto:njcollingwood@hotmail.co.uk">njcollingwood@hotmail.co.uk</a>           |
| Catherine Dean<br>(vice-Chairman) | 813579<br><a href="mailto:Catherinemarydean@btinternet.com">Catherinemarydean@btinternet.com</a> |
| Samantha Dunn                     | 810859<br><a href="mailto:samanthadunn@talktalk.net">samanthadunn@talktalk.net</a>               |
| Jo Freeman                        | 812524<br><a href="mailto:jofreeman195@yahoo.com">jofreeman195@yahoo.com</a>                     |
| Bridget Gott                      | 814440                                                                                           |
| John Hudson                       | 814489<br><a href="mailto:john@hudson8889.fsnet.co.uk">john@hudson8889.fsnet.co.uk</a>           |
| Peter Jones                       | 813252<br><a href="mailto:peter@lowerstreet.com">peter@lowerstreet.com</a>                       |
| Denise Oliver                     | 814335<br><a href="mailto:denise@olivers.uk.com">denise@olivers.uk.com</a>                       |
| Frances Richards                  | 812748<br><a href="mailto:frannie.richards@gmail.com">frannie.richards@gmail.com</a>             |
| John Salmon                       | 814789<br><a href="mailto:sam@salmonfamily.me.uk">sam@salmonfamily.me.uk</a>                     |
| John Savopoulos                   | 817687<br><a href="mailto:johnsav8@gmail.com">johnsav8@gmail.com</a>                             |
| Geoffrey Sell<br>(Chairman)       | 815925<br><a href="mailto:sellgeoffrey@yahoo.co.uk">sellgeoffrey@yahoo.co.uk</a>                 |
| Valerie Trundle                   | 813433<br><a href="mailto:prtvt@btinternet.com">prtvt@btinternet.com</a>                         |

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

|             |                                                                                          |
|-------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Alan Dean   | 813579<br><a href="mailto:cllrdean@uttlesford.gov.uk">cllrdean@uttlesford.gov.uk</a>     |
| Iris Evans  | 815848<br><a href="mailto:iris.evans9@googlemail.com">iris.evans9@googlemail.com</a>     |
| John Salmon | 814789<br><a href="mailto:cllrsalmon@uttlesford.gov.uk">cllrsalmon@uttlesford.gov.uk</a> |
| Joe Rich    | 813112<br><a href="mailto:cllrrich@uttlesford.gov.uk">cllrrich@uttlesford.gov.uk</a>     |

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

|             |                                                                                                |
|-------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Ray Gooding | 813103<br><a href="mailto:cllr.ray.gooding@essexcc.gov.uk">cllr.ray.gooding@essexcc.gov.uk</a> |
|-------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

#### **Member of Parliament**

The Rt Hon Sir Alan Haselhurst MP  
Tel: 0207 219 5214/Fax: 0207 219 5600  
[alan.haselhurst.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:alan.haselhurst.mp@parliament.uk)

#### **Police**

|                        |                   |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| PC Tom Bastendorff     | Tel: 01279 812211 |
| Non-emergency No.      | 101               |
| PCSO (Stuart Stranger) | Tel: 07989 174801 |

#### **Neighbourhood Watch**

[www.stanstednhw.org.uk](http://www.stanstednhw.org.uk)

# DIRECTORY OF LOCAL CLUBS AND ORGANISATIONS

|                                    |                                                                                                                                  |                                 |                                                                                                                                                                  |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Alzheimers Society                 | Tel: 01371 872519                                                                                                                | Neighbourhood Watch             | Valerie Trundle Tel: 813433                                                                                                                                      |
| Air Training Corps<br>494 Squadron | Tel: 681559/661929<br>Email: <a href="mailto:494@aircadets.org">494@aircadets.org</a>                                            | Pilots (age 5-18)               | Valerie Trundle Tel: 813433                                                                                                                                      |
| Beaver Scouts<br>(age 6-8)         | David South<br>Tel: 814371                                                                                                       | Rainbow Pre-School              | Gill Pursglove (Administrator)<br>Tel: 01279 814242<br>Mobile: 07966 506997<br>Email: <a href="mailto:admin@rainbowpreschool.net">admin@rainbowpreschool.net</a> |
| Bowls Club                         | Doreen Scraggs<br>Hon Secretary Tel: 815036<br>Email: <a href="mailto:doreenscraggs@talktalk.net">doreenscraggs@talktalk.net</a> | Rainbows                        | Sue Pollard Tel: 813734                                                                                                                                          |
| Brownies/Guides                    | Glynis Prothero<br>District Administrator<br>Tel: 814145                                                                         | Rotary Club                     | Peter Latham Tel: 507294<br>Email: <a href="mailto:yp.latham@tiscali.co.uk">yp.latham@tiscali.co.uk</a>                                                          |
| CAB                                | Tel: 08444 775986                                                                                                                | Royal British Legion            | John Segar Tel: 813289                                                                                                                                           |
| Cricket Club (adults)<br>(juniors) | David Hedge Tel: 812509<br>Keith Ayres Tel: 814471                                                                               | Scouts<br>(age 10½ -14)         | Mike Byrne<br>Tel: 812780                                                                                                                                        |
| Cub Scouts<br>(age 8-10½)          | Roger Musgrove<br>Tel: 816172                                                                                                    | Shotokan Karate Ryu             | Donna Ring Tel: 731752<br>Email: <a href="mailto:skr@skr.org.uk">skr@skr.org.uk</a>                                                                              |
| Day Centre                         | Tel: 815091                                                                                                                      | Spangles<br>Children's Centre   | Tel: 812348                                                                                                                                                      |
| Explorer Scouts                    | Fintan Lambe<br>Tel: 817937                                                                                                      | Stansted Family Café            | Ros Page Tel: 810813<br>Email: <a href="mailto:rospagemusic@yahoo.com">rospagemusic@yahoo.com</a>                                                                |
| Friends of St Mary's<br>Church     | Audrey Rodgers<br>Tel: 812162                                                                                                    | Tennis Club                     | Daphne Lunnon Tel: 817574<br>Email: <a href="mailto:drlunnon@gmail.com">drlunnon@gmail.com</a>                                                                   |
| Garden Club                        | Maralyn Harris<br>Chairman Tel: 07919 478144                                                                                     | Thornbury<br>Badminton Club     | Marion or Shirley<br>Tel: 869896 or 815871                                                                                                                       |
| Helpline                           | Tel: 07704 553727                                                                                                                | U3A                             | Christine<br>Chair Tel: 817587                                                                                                                                   |
| Grove Cottage                      | David Scott Tel: 656085                                                                                                          | Women's Institute<br>(Stansted) | Judy Colliver<br>President Tel: 812470                                                                                                                           |
| History Society                    | Peter Brown<br>Chairman Tel: 812816                                                                                              | Women's Institute<br>(Ugley)    | Dorothy Wallace<br>President Tel: 850215                                                                                                                         |
| Huw Johnson Club                   | Marion and Tom Johnson<br>Tel: 812284                                                                                            | Whoosh Explore<br>Canoe Club    | Helen and Peter Nash<br>Tel: 817453                                                                                                                              |
| Millers (Windmill)                 | Derek Honour Tel: 647213                                                                                                         | Youth Centre                    | Linda Barnes<br>Tel: 01371 873156/<br>07920 466 923                                                                                                              |
| Mountfitchet Club                  | John Robinson Tel: 812755                                                                                                        |                                 |                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Music Club                         | Sonia Levy Tel: 815282<br>Email: <a href="mailto:info@musicatstansted.com">info@musicatstansted.com</a>                          |                                 |                                                                                                                                                                  |
| NCT                                | Anna Sedgbeer Tel: 812257                                                                                                        |                                 |                                                                                                                                                                  |

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

## BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES or SPECIAL OCCASIONS

If you would like to mark any occasion that is special to you or someone you know, by announcing it in the Link, please email a short message together with your name address and telephone number to: [announcements@stanstedlink.org.uk](mailto: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.

Message \_\_\_\_\_

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## ROTARY CLUB OF STANSTED STORT VALLEY

www.stortvalleyrotary.com

### Rotary support for the Birchanger Wood Trust

Money raised by our Rotary Club and boosted by matching grants from the Rotary charity is helping the fantastic Birchanger Wood Trust to present their wonderful ancient Birchanger Woods using the latest smartphone technology. There can't be many readers of this publication who have not yet visited, absolutely free of charge, the now beautiful and traditionally managed woodland on our doorstep. From a degraded 69 acres tanglewood it has now been opened up and a 5km network of two metre wide interlinking pathways installed. Woodland flora and fauna is re-establishing and to walk along the paths whether young or old, fit or infirm or even pushing a buggy, in a wheelchair or walking the dog, it is an uplifting, healthy and life enhancing experience.



The Birchanger Wood Trust is a model of a charitable organisation. It is entirely run with dedicated local volunteers, it attracts both young and old, it renders an invaluable service to the community, and because all the money used is raised by the Trust and its benefactors and is effectively spent. This latest project involves erecting conventional signs at the two main entrances to the trail but then at points of interest smaller signs will be located which as well as a brief description will have the new Quick Read sign (QR) offering further free information to those with an internet connected mobile phone. (QR signs are appearing everywhere and with an internet connected mobile phone may well become a vital tool for school children and very useful to the rest of us.) Volunteers will identify the important features, the technology class of a local school will test the link from the QR sign to the website and scouts and other groups of young people will help with installation.



Rotary provides the opportunity to enjoy convivial activity whilst supporting a range of good causes and anyone wishing to be involved with our new look Club please contact me or visit our website [www.stortvalleyrotary.com](http://www.stortvalleyrotary.com). We meet on Tuesday evenings at the Lemon Tree Restaurant, Water Lane, Bishop's Stortford.

Peter Latham  
Tel: 507294

Email: [yp.latham@uwclub.net](mailto:yp.latham@uwclub.net)



The National Childbirth Trust  
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Olympic fever has hit Stansted! To prove it, the Stansted NCT, along with Rachel Pocknell from Sunnyside Childcare, are delighted to be holding our very own Children's Olympics which will take place at the Recreation Ground on Friday 3rd August 10.00am-11.30am. The event follows on from the national games4life work that is taking place all over the country. The races are aimed at toddlers through to KS1 children and obstacle courses for prams will ensure that even those children not yet walking will be able to participate on the day. Traditional and fun games will take place, so bring along a picnic and enjoy this fabulous child-focused Olympic event at the newly refurbished recreation playground. Rachel has even given the event a Facebook page so please like 'Stansted Children's Olympics on the Rec' and let us know that you are interested in taking part. Everyone welcome.

Have you liked our Facebook page? All our events are updated on this site for our members with information about local events or classes relevant for mums to be, babies and pre-schoolers. Our coffee mornings are an informal gathering held in a member's house, so if you fancy a friendly chat and some new playmates why not pop along to one of our coffee mornings. We would love to meet you and it is a great way of making new friends. Monday mornings is toddlers from walking till three years, Wednesday afternoons our pre-schoolers meet from three years upwards and Friday mornings is for pregnant bumps and babies up to walking age. Contact me for details of our weekly events. Other events planned for this month are listed below; we have ensured there is a trip a week to help with keeping the children entertained during the summer holidays. If you are interested in attending any of our events, please contact me.

#### Additional events being held this month.

**Friday 3rd** For all ages – Children's Olympics 10.00am-11.30am on the Recreation Ground (St John's Church Hall if wet)

**Monday 6th** For all ages - Trip to Van Hages, meet at entrance at 10.30am

**Tuesday 14th** For all ages - Coconuts soft play from 10.00am

**Wednesday 15th** For all ages – Playground Fun at Bishop's Stortford 11.00am by the Castle bring a picnic and swimming costumes if sunny

**Monday 20th** For all ages – Braintree Discovery Centre 10.00am in the car park (bring a picnic)

**Tuesday 28th** For all ages - Hatfield Forest Outing 10.30am meet in car park– bring your own picnic.

Anna Sedgbeer  
Tel: 812257

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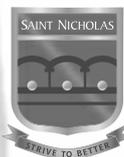
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## OUR ROAD



In the 1930s 12 houses were built on what is now called Stoneyfield Drive; but then the road was known as Park Road. There was a gate at the top end, and fields that led down onto Stoney Common. Only when the newer houses were added in the 1950s as part of the Mountfitchet Estate, did the road become Stoneyfield Drive.



The original houses were home to mostly Stansted people who worked on local farms or at Rochford Nurseries (now Foresthall Park). The road was unmade with no street lighting. Children played out in the road without fear of being run over because nobody had a car! The houses had gas lighting downstairs and nothing upstairs (only candlelight – before the days of ‘health and safety’). Rents were paid to Saffron Walden Rural District Council via the ‘Rent Man’ who called round to each house every week to collect the cash.

All this changed when the new houses were built and the road became ‘Stonyfield’ Drive or is it ‘Stoneyfield’ Drive?



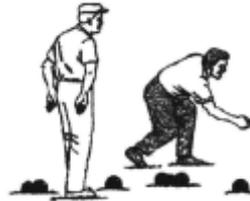
(It depends on which of the three signs along the road you look at!) Some of the residents of the original 12 houses moved into the newer houses on the Mountfitchet Estate. The road was made up and pavements added. Electricity was installed and the rents were paid to Uttlesford District Council. Now many of the properties have been purchased and improved under the ‘Right To Buy’ scheme, and children no longer play in the road. They now have the



Mountfitchet Green with a range of modern play equipment, currently being refurbished, to use.

Until recently there were three children who were brought up in the 12 original houses, who still lived in them with their families. Now I’m the only one left here who still remembers the older part of the road as Park Road.

Marion Pretty



**STANSTED  
BOWLING  
CLUB**

**Herts & Essex Senior League** - doing very well and are third in the league at present.

**North West Essex League – Stansted A Team** – continuing to gain points, the last two games against Quendon and Saffron Walden earned another 12 points in total.

**North West Essex League – Stansted B Team** – last two games against Dunmow and Saffron Walden have earned a total of four points.

**Weekend Friendlies** – Havers Park (Kent Cup) home and away fixture – Havers Park retained the cup and an enjoyable time was had by all – a big thank you to Havers Park for the lovely meal. We have now renewed our fixture with North Weald and had a lovely day when they came over to us and won – just started our meal when the heavens opened – we were so lucky to finish in the dry.

**Ladies Monday Evening League** – played six games now - won four - lost two – still plenty to play for, well done ladies.

**Ladies Thursday Friendlies** – enjoyable and close game against Bishop's Stortford - we came second ! Elsenham unfortunately had to cancel. Clavering brought the sunny weather and another good game. Very close game against Quendon. We lost by three shots; enjoyable afternoon – lovely, sunny and great company.

**Bert Grub Competition - 22nd June.** A very well supported Club Competition – lots of banter on all rinks – after all individual scores checked our winner was Alan Bore – well done Alan.

**Memorial Shield – 30th June**– this involves one team at home and one away (Tiptree) – we are very pleased to be through the first round – good luck with the next round.

**Widdop Cup – 5th July** - again one team play at home and one away (Thaxted) - good result again and we are through to the next round – carry on the good bowling.

**Ladies Day – Monday 6th August 1.30pm** – hopefully the sun will shine on us this day – we look forward to a good afternoon’s bowling with our many friends - contact below if any queries. Stansted Bowling Club has once again been the chosen venue to host the Essex Ladies Area County Singles Final on Sunday 15th July at 2.30pm. Anyone wishing to find out information on joining Stansted Bowling Club, please contact as below.

Doreen Scraggs  
Hon Secretary

Tel: 815036 or 07812 483178

Email: doreenscraggs@talktalk.net

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## HATFIELD FOREST

We hope you enjoyed Jubilious June here at Hatfield Forest, we had fun as Kings and Queens of the Forest. Did you manage to get to some of our specific Jubilee events? We had Bells and Beer, Midsummer Magic and into July we had our fantastic performance by Illyria 'The Twits' which was great fun for children and brought back memories for all the adults! We also had families join us out in the woods on our Wilderness Camp Course which gave everyone an insight into camping out in the Forest and a basic introduction to Forest survival and animal tracking. We do all of our Wilderness Courses with Woodlife Trails who are a specialist bushcraft company with a huge range of Wilderness skills and experience. If you are interested in doing a bushcraft, tracking, wildcamping or wildlife course please visit [www.woodlife.co.uk](http://www.woodlife.co.uk) or let me know by email and I can pass on your enquiry. You should have noticed that we have had major road works completed on the exit/entrance roads into the Forest, this is a huge improvement; however please be assured they are not finished yet so please bear with us while we complete the works. We are also nearly there with our new discovery room, we hope you are all enjoying the current installations. Please see local press for our official launch party. Our boats are arriving on the lake through July: you will see the changes to the pier opposite the Shell House

Don't forget we have the secondhand books now in the second bike hire container. If you have any books please bring them all the way down to the lake area or drop them in at the Estate Office. Our fundraising work on the boardwalk is continuing through Gravel Pit Coppice/Elgin Coppice and this year we are selling raffle tickets to fundraise for the vital works to our most popular walkway. Please catch up with staff and volunteers in the lake area to buy raffle tickets for every £1 ticket we sell we get £2 back from the National Trust. All of our teams are busy keeping the public areas safe and hazard free but please keep an eye on the Conservation in Action board to find out where the teams are working. Roll on the summer holidays and some sunshine please! We look forward to welcoming you to Hatfield Forest throughout July and August.

Hannah Morrice  
 Visitor Experience Team Leader  
 Tel: 870678  
[Hannah.morrice@nationaltrust.org.uk](mailto:Hannah.morrice@nationaltrust.org.uk)

## RCCE OIL BUYING SCHEME

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The Rural Community Council of Essex (RCCE) Trading Community Interest Company has set up a new countywide scheme to reduce the cost of domestic heating oil for its members. An annual membership fee covers all oil deliveries for the year. Oil orders are taken by a local co-ordinator each month (minimum 500 litres), and the total village order is submitted to RCCE Trading CIC who can then negotiate the best price from a whole range of suppliers. On receipt of their oil delivery, members pay the company supplying the oil direct. For further details contact:

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## Nature Notes

The wet weather during the spring and early summer has resulted in a massive surge in the vegetation growth, but as always in nature, there are winners and losers. On poor soils some usually stunted spring flowers have flourished in the wet conditions while on the rich soils many of the flowers which we have been used to seeing have been smothered by fast growing weeds. Trees like the lime, hawthorn and chestnut are producing good crops of seeds, berries and conkers. Oak trees, however, have not fared so well and it looks like being a poor year for acorns which means lean times ahead for the jays and squirrels which feed on them.

In our garden the smaller birds have been having a rough time. Two young blackbirds and two young robins appeared in the early spring before the weather deteriorated, but since then, partly due to the weather but mainly due to the attentions of the magpies and crows, the nests of song thrush, blackbird, chaffinch, collared dove and pigeon have all failed. The bluetits rely on very small caterpillars living on the new oak leaves to feed their young, but these did not appear this year, so, no young bluetits.

There was, however, success finally for a pigeon. Having had her first nest sacked by the magpies, she built another nest just outside the back door where the predators dared not approach. Here she raised two young pigeons and we all got to know each other very well. For nearly two weeks after they had left the nest the young birds returned regularly to perch on the fence by the door and it was soon apparent that the two siblings had distinctly different personalities.



We now only see one of them about occasionally and it is possible that the more adventurous of the two has gone off to make its way in the world. Young pigeons are distinguishable from the adults in that they do not develop the white collar round the neck until fully mature. See the photo.

Felix

## The Day the Olympic Torch came to Stansted



Photos by Judy Colliver and Helen Baker



Photos by Alan Wheeler and Claire Lanigan



Photos by Jenny Allaway and Alan Bowles

*Report and more pictures on page 19.*

*Our on-line editions of the Link have colour versions of all photos see [www.stanstedlink.org.uk](http://www.stanstedlink.org.uk)*

## St Mary's CE Foundation Primary School



The summer term is always busier than ever for events, outings and sports fixtures. A key topic in the curriculum this term has been Water – and the weather has certainly provided an excellent starting point for that! Within this theme classes have variously investigated rivers, habitats, The Thames and London. There have been class visits to a variety of venues including Fowlmere Nature Reserve, the Thames Barrier, The London Eye, and the Police Museum. We have also enjoyed an Olympic Week beginning with our own Sports Day. The children got events underway with an opening ceremony, parading in their houses, all in their house colours and carrying a house banner. Each of the houses has their colours on a trophy in the cabinet this year, with Foresters winning the overall sports trophy this year. The rest of Olympic week included further sporting events, and work based on a country that competes in the Olympic Games. Events included a dance workshop also based on the chosen countries and 'Zoologica', where the children learned of how animals adapt to their habitats and the amazing feats their bodies can perform.



Our PTFA held their annual summer event - a Family Fun Day followed by a Barn Dance, to mark the final summer in our current building. The weather did its best to spoil the day, but the event went ahead and a good time was had by all who attended. The school really values all the work the PTFA do to fund raise for the school, and we also say "Thank you" to everyone who supports their events.



*Photos by Matthew Jessup*

Finally, we will be saying "Farewell" to our Year 6. They have achieved very well indeed in their learning and we have also been proud of them as pupil leaders in the school. We wish each of them happiness and success as they move on to the next stage in their lives and education. Good Luck!

If you are new to the area and would like to have a look at our

school, please give us a ring to arrange a visit. You can also visit our website [www.stmarysschool-stansted.ik.org](http://www.stmarysschool-stansted.ik.org).

Christine Tonkins  
Headteacher  
Tel: 812212



[www.rainbowpreschool-stansted.co.uk](http://www.rainbowpreschool-stansted.co.uk)

Our Diamond Jubilee Party was a great success (thanks not only to the weather but to the dedication of the staff and volunteers) with nearly 50 children joining in the fun and games. We all sat down together for an outdoor picnic very much enjoying Gregg's sandwiches and Yeomans' Jubilee cupcakes. The oldest child and youngest child who attend Rainbow cut a large Union Jack cake (kindly donated by Ann Conroy, a former leader of Rainbow and now one of our volunteers) to loud cheers.

The vegetables that have been planted are growing well and we have strawberries appearing. It is very exciting watching their growth. A shop selling fruit and vegetables has been set up in the classroom, encouraging counting to five and asking the shop keeper how much. Lots of fun has been had in the playground with the 'building site', wearing hard hats and high-vis vests, constructing brick walls and making pretend cement in a mixer. The older children have been busy visiting their primary schools in preparation for September and we wish them all well. Rainbow Pre-School takes children from 2½ years to rising 5. If you are interested in applying for a place for your child please visit our website for details. You need to put your child's name down now, however young, to ensure a place. Places for September 2013 and 2014 are filling up fast!!

Gill Pursglove  
Administrator  
Tel: 814 242  
[admin@rainbowpreschool.net](mailto:admin@rainbowpreschool.net)



STANSTED  
MOUNTFITCHET  
WINDMILL

Our opening on Sunday 1st July was well supported. We had many visitors, sold a lot of souvenirs and many cups of tea and coffee and soft drinks for the children. All the visitors were interested in their tour of the Mill and expressed their appreciation. We had one special visitor who was both interested and interesting. She transpired to be Mrs Herrit, who is the granddaughter of the last Miller to work the Mill in 1910. Mrs Herrit's mother was a young girl when her father ceased milling and moved to Tolleshunt Major, walking all the way with all their worldly goods on a handcart - some journey by today's standards! I hope everyone noticed our Union Jack proudly flying from the top of the Windmill, thanks to the efforts of Tony Wellings, to welcome the Olympic Parade.

### Windmill Openings in August

Sunday 5th, Sunday 26th and Monday 27th 1.30pm-5.30pm.

**Windmill Fête** Bank Holiday Monday 27th August 2.00pm-5.00pm. More details on pages 20/21.

Molly Clark  
Co-Trustee  
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## STANSTED DISTRICT GUIDES OLYMPIC EVENT

Fifty Rainbows, Brownies and Guides from Stansted District met at Manuden School on 23rd June for an Olympic Celebration. We began by marching round the field behind our unit flags, in Opening Ceremony style. We followed a Guiding challenge called 'On Your Marks' to gain some great badges. Activities included making up your own sport, designing and making a mascot, circus skills, exercise routines, obstacle races, making clay pots, and learning to play boccia (a paralympic event). At 6.00pm the Rainbows went home, and the Brownies and Guides sat down to a meal. Then the Brownies put up their beds in the hall whilst the Guides set up a Wide Game on the field. This involved finding all five Olympic rings and completing challenges to keep them – great fun for all. Traditional campfire singing followed with the blazing fire keeping us warm as the rain came, but not hard enough to prevent us from toasting marshmallows! The 32 Brownies eventually settled to sleep; the Guides were in tents outside and also eventually slept in spite of the heavy rain. At least we know the tents are waterproof for when we go to Jamboree! Beds cleared away, it was time for a sausage and egg bread breakfast, before more activities and dance workshops led by the Guides, followed by the giving out of medals at the Closing Ceremony.



It was the first time we had held a District residential event and everyone agreed it had been a success, and something we will hopefully repeat. Thank you to a great team of Guiders who worked so well together to make it work, and some delightful girls who took part so enthusiastically.

Glynis Prothero  
District Administrator



## STANSTED FOOTBALL CLUB

Stansted Football Club are pleased to announce major changes to both the Management Committee and playing staff of your local Football Club. At the end of last season, it became apparent that unless drastic action was taken, this Football Club was in serious danger of losing its senior status which would have resulted in the Club going out of existence.

As a result of an urgent meeting of all interested parties who wished to see the survival of this Football Club, a new Management Committee was elected with a mandate to bring this Club back into the heart of Stansted and the local community. Sitting at the head of our Committee is the Club's new Chairman, Glyn Warwick, who has replaced previous Chairman, Terry Shoebridge (now Club President); Glyn has lived in the village for 30 years and possesses a wealth of experience in local football matters. I'm staying on the Committee as Club Secretary. I will continue to organise the Club's fixture games, and also liaise between our Club, County and National Football Associations, as well as the Essex Senior League. I've lived in Stansted for more than 18 years. Joining as new First Team Manager is Dave Roach. In his role, Dave will be looking to develop the first team squad into a side that can compete against the opposition and have the desire to want to play for the Club. Dave is also local to Stansted and is currently the captain of Stansted Cricket Second XI. Our Facilities Manager, John Turner, will oversee the upkeep of the grounds and Clubhouse. He also has a role of coaching and developing younger players as we are looking to introduce a local Youth Team development programme. John was the Manager of the Stansted Under 17 Champions of their league last season.

These, along with other volunteers, are actively recruiting local players and sponsorship to help move the Club forward.

Our league season for home matches does not commence until September. However, we have been drawn to play a home FA Cup Extra Preliminary Round game against Norwich United over the weekend of 11th August (please watch out for details of date and kick-off times). The players would be overwhelmed to see a good turnout of local support for the game that would give us all great confidence for the season ahead.

Tom Williams  
Secretary  
Tel: 07921 403842



One year ago, Little Scrummers started at St John's Church Hall on Saturday mornings. We soon had to move on to the Romeera Leisure Centre to cater for the increasing number of children. The classes continue to grow, and despite the weather, every Saturday sees the children out on the pitches practising their tag rugby, and joining in other rugby games. For more information please contact me.

Andrew Poyser  
Tel: 07738 591232  
Email: [info@littlescrummers.com](mailto:info@littlescrummers.com)  
Website: [www.littlescrummers.com](http://www.littlescrummers.com)

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## MUSIC IN THE PARK IS A SELL-OUT FOR BENTFIELD!

A fabulously sunny day, great music and brilliant selection of stalls and entertainment were in store for the families attending this year's Music Festival. Held on 30th June in the beautiful setting in front of Hargrave House, the glorious



line-up kicked off with *Ricochet*, followed by *JJ and the Swordfish*, *Space Hoppers*, *Bamboo Loud*, *All of A Sudden*, *Rockamikki* and finally headliners, *The Jjarrs*. All proceeds will be going towards the projects for this year in Bentfield Primary School which are the renovation of the Reception Class play area and extra Library books. A spokesperson said, "Because of the licensing restrictions we had to turn away people this year which is the first time, we can only advise people to buy tickets early next year."

Sam Scott Smith

## NEWS FROM THE GARDENS OF EASTON LODGE PRESERVATION TRUST

In May and June we had music in the gardens provided by the Saffron Walden Town Band and Braintree Music School respectively; both went down extremely well with visitors and we hope to have them back next season. Guided tours are becoming ever more popular and we will continue to have them for the rest of the season with two on each open day at 1.00pm and 3.00pm. We also have a new marquee housing books about the history of the gardens for visitors to browse through at their leisure. On 19th August our open day will be having a sports theme to celebrate the Olympics. Children can take on a series of challenges based loosely on Olympic events, and when they have completed them they can collect their gold medal. At all the open days there will be the opportunity just to relax and take in the wonderful atmosphere of the gardens, play croquet on the lawn and enjoy drinks and homemade refreshments from our tea pavilion. We are always keen to welcome new volunteers and anyone interested in joining our team for open days or to help with our regular Thursday gardening sessions should email [enquiries@eastonlodge.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@eastonlodge.co.uk) or leave a message on 01371 876979. Further information about the openings is also available from these sources as well as on the website at [www.eastonlodge.co.uk](http://www.eastonlodge.co.uk).

Helen Carter  
Trust Administrator  
Tel: 07899 974107

The children have been very busy during the last few weeks of term. Classes 1 and 2 spent a lovely day at Walton-on-the-Naze and Reception went to Linton Zoo. Year 6 spent a day at Wickstead Park as part of their end of year activities. Year 5 spent a day in London and visited the Space museum as part of their prize for winning the Mission X competition. Years 3 and 4 had a busy and informative day at Hampton Court as part of their history topic. Our Olympic week was very successful. At the beginning of the week the children enjoyed their sports evening of competitive races. During the week classes investigated the history of the Olympics; all classes were represented at the 'District Athletics Competition'; and the week culminated with our sports challenge morning, where the team talk groups competed against each other in a variety of fun activities. Our Musical Evening was a lovely occasion - the band played and several solo performers sang, rapped or played their instruments to an appreciative audience; Bentfield Primary School definitely has got talent! Music in the Park was another success and we do apologise to many who we had to turn away because we were full to capacity. I have been reliably informed that the event will happen again next year. The year 5 and 6 performance again was appreciated by all who attended and we said a fond farewell to our year 6 leavers at their Leavers' Assembly and their Leavers' Party. The children are to be congratulated for all their hard work this year which has been reflected in their annual reports. However the tireless dedication of all the staff and the parent community in the school must also be commended, all of which has made this year great! The Autumn term begins on Wednesday 5th September.

Cathie Bonich  
Tel: 813626

### CALLING NEW ADVERTISERS

Bookings are now being taken for the new advertising year. For details of prices please visit [www.stanstedink.org.uk](http://www.stanstedink.org.uk) or call Marion and Mike on 814059. Thank you.

### OLYMPIC QUEST – ANSWERS

- Sports – 5:** Bowling – Bowls Club Recreation Ground, Scuba Diving – Chapel Hill, Angling – Stansted Angling sign, Lower Street, Football – Recreation Ground (goal posts), Rugby – Little Scrummers poster.
- Street Names – 6:** Woodfield Terrace, Greenfields, Bentfield Road, Mill Fields, Woodfields, Woodfield Close.
- Bronzes – 4:** 3 'weathered' metal plaques in Memorial Gardens, plaque at the base of the Fuller Maitland Memorial Stone on Recreation Ground dated 1867

**Silvers – 6:** Silver Street, 2 St Stephen's Court signs, silver on plough beside Windmill, 'What's a Name's' and 'H@me' shop signs in Lower Street.

**Golds – 5:** 'Dorringtons' sign, 2 'Yuva' plaques, gold crown atop Fountain at top of Chapel Hill, 'Steve Goldings' on Chapel Hill.

If you spotted more – well done!!!



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## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor

**Did you know that:** Stansted parishioners own the Crafton Green House site including the car park, or that the Council are at present developing plans for a £750,000 Council Office complex with a few other associated activities?

Some of our Parish Councillors objected to the planning proposals for a health centre (which were subsequently rejected by UDC Planning Committee) when there was not, and is not at this moment in time, a viable alternative site within the parish agreeable to the NHS-PCT other than No 2 Lower Street (Castle Garage site.)

I emailed the Chairman of our Parish Council suggesting that, as the need for a doctor's surgery was perhaps greater than new Council Offices to all residents and patients, all planning should cease until the situation became clearer.

Later when I learnt that the developers of the No 2 Lower Street site were working feverishly to get fresh plans before the Planning Committee in the very little time that is still available, due to the national PCT funding crisis, I again emailed our Council welcoming the latest news but urged caution and prudence on further expenditure on the Crafton Green site for at least six short months. To date I've not received a reply!!!

In last month's 'The Link', the council lists the concerns that parishioners expressed; some wanted this, some that. Did the council say to 'the concerned', "do you want a surgery or do you not?" That is the stark position that we are fast approaching, the message I'm getting from our health providers.

Ralph Phillips



### Stansted Evening Women's Institute

The summer continues to behave as though it is autumn and we have yet to have a meeting where we can blossom forth in our summer dresses, that's if anyone bothers to buy these any more. Our Diamond Jubilee Tea Party on 20th June was a great success and we had plenty of takers for a homemade cream tea in the Day Centre, which we decorated with balloons and bunting for the occasion. We even managed to make a small profit for our funds though that wasn't the



intention! People have asked us to do another one (not with the Jubilee theme) as it was nice to have somewhere to sit all afternoon and chat and drink tea.

Our Speaker, Peter Webb, made a return to our Institute after a gap of six years to update us on the efforts of himself and his wife to live a self-sufficient life working a smallholding in Essex. Their first efforts at raising turkeys for sale at Christmas (which turned out to be too big for most normal ovens), catching rabbits for neighbours and hiring out a gypsy caravan for holidays didn't really produce a big income. However with his wife's unstinting help - 'she a game old girl' - he says many times in his talk, they dug potatoes and grew fruit, learned to plough and generally lived the dream life they had always wanted. He ended his talk by saying that he wouldn't change his present life for anything - good to meet a truly happy man. The competition for an old garden tool was won by Pearl Wellings with her 100-year-old wooden garden trug complete with brass fittings and maker's name.

Looking ahead we will be having a Jumble Sale in early October, so keep your unwanted items until then and we will recycle them for you! Our August speaker is John Burrows, and his talk is entitled 'Voyage to Australia and New Zealand with 28 dogs and 6 cats' - the mind boggles. Sadly I won't be there as I'm joining the U3A trip to the Rhine; but lots of people will be and Kath Poole will take the Chair - its OK, we do have others, so come along at 7.45pm to St John's Church Hall on 9th August.



Judy Colliver

## ST JOHN'S ROAD ASSOCIATION

Roadworks aimed at helping to alleviate the puddling in St John's Road are due to take place in the section from the road hump adjacent to The Hollies to the junction with Cambridge Road. The work is due to commence on Monday 23rd July and is likely to take up to two weeks, depending on weather conditions at the time. Closure of part or all of this section of road will be necessary to enable the installation of soakaways and drainage gulleys, and the hardening off of the new road surface, following completion of the main work. The members of the Committee and the contractors apologise for the disruption and any inconvenience caused by these works, and ask for the support and co-operation of all concerned in helping things to go as smoothly as possible.

As a timely reminder, all residents are asked to be aware that in the summer months, and following the resurfacing of the road, the soft bitumen is very vulnerable to damage. Most of this is caused by vehicles entering and leaving premises using the steering wheel whilst stationary, or nearly so, thus scuffing up the bitumen surface. Evidence of this can be seen outside most premises and, although the damage repairs itself in due course, it can give rise to tar being trodden into adjacent premises. This is completely beyond the power of the Committee or the contractor to control, and frontagers are therefore urged to take extra care when entering and leaving their properties (warning notices may be helpful in some cases) and to take precautions against the treading of tar on to the floor coverings in their homes or business premises.

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## Stansted Cricket Club

The external work on the pavilion extension is virtually complete and we hope to finish fitting out the kitchen and toilets by mid-July. After nine rounds of matches the 1st XI are 6th in Division 1 with three wins from nine games. The 2nd XI are 6th in Division 5, with four wins from 10 matches. The Sunday XI have had two wins, two draws, one defeat and several cancellations. In the Cup Stansted v Langley could not be played due to bad weather and Langley went through to the semi-final on the toss of a coin. The home fixtures for the remainder of the season are:

### August

Sat 4th 1330 No fixture for 1st XI  
Sun 5th 1430 Friendly Sun XI v Gt Chesterford  
Sat 11th 1330 HECL Div 1 1st XI v Theydon Bois I  
Sun 12th 1430 Friendly Sun XI v Snitterfield CC  
Sat 18th 1330 HECL Div 5 2nd XI v  
Stansted Hall & Elsenham II  
Sun 19th 1130 Friendly Sun XI v Hockerill II  
Sat 25th 1330 HECL Div 1 1st XI v Bishop's Stortford III  
Sun 26th 1430 Friendly Sun XI v TBC

### September

Sat 1st 1330 HECL Div 5 2nd XI v Thundridge  
Sun 2nd 1300 Friendly Sun XI v Thorley

Individual performances of note have come from H Kirby (102 no), M Allen (72), M Chambers (70 no), Jay Waidyaratne (69) and J Monk (56). In addition D Ayres took 3 catches as stand-in wicket-keeper against Farnham.

Our next SCC Quiz night is scheduled for Friday 14th September. More details will appear in the next edition. The Club would like to invite anyone interested in scoring on a regular basis to contact me. Any adults wishing to join the club should contact me; juniors should contact Head Coach Keith Ayres on 814471.

David Hedge  
Hon. Secretary  
Tel: 812509



## Huw Johnson Club

Our final meeting this term will be at 'Four Winds', when the Lenton family throw open their garden for some outdoor activities. We will also be celebrating several birthdays, so there will be cake and other goodies. We are always happy to welcome any teenage helpers, especially those taking their Duke of Edinburgh Award; we meet on Thursday evenings in St John's Church Hall. We would also welcome new drivers, either for the Community minibus or using your own car. You will need to have a trial run with another driver before driving the minibus. Please contact me if you are interested. The Club will now have a break until September.

Marion Johnson  
Tel: 812284

## NEWS FROM THE CRAFTON ROOM

www.stansteddaycentre.org.uk

Many thanks to the students and teachers from The Mountfitchet Maths and Computing College who came to help us on 19th June as part of their day out in the community. A great time was had by all and the children worked really hard on our kitchen garden.

The Red Cross are now based at the Crafton Room at the Day Centre every Tuesday between 10.00am and 1.00pm. They have a wide range of equipment available for loan or sale. The service is available to anyone, so to find out more telephone the number below or come along and talk to a Red Cross representative. Keep an eye on the village notice boards for more special occasion lunches. Later in the year we will be doing a Harvest Lunch and one to celebrate St Andrew's Day, as well as planning the usual Christmas celebrations and on-going fish and chip dinners, all of which are coupled with a super raffle. These days are proving very popular so book early to avoid disappointment. We will also be holding our 2nd annual Quiz Night in November. Watch this space for details and if you think you can make up a team of between six and eight, please give us a ring. For details of menus and upcoming events, you can also check out our website.

Kat Lupton  
Manager  
Tel: 815091



A total of £1734.17 was collected in Stansted in Christian Aid Week. Thank you to everyone who donated, to the volunteers who knocked on your doors and to the scouts, who delivered some of the envelopes.

Catherine Dean  
Tel: 813579

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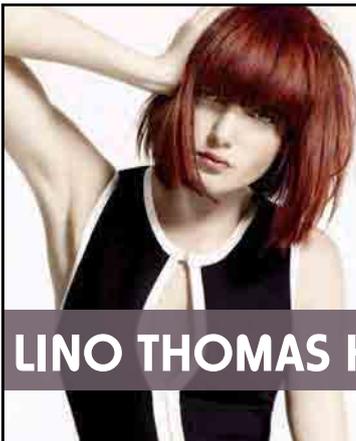
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