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Remembrance Day 2011

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CZ Design and Print
01279 657769

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The Link is delivered free to over 3000 homes and businesses in Stansted Mountfitchet. Further copies may be purchased for £1 each or £11.00 for the year, plus postage.

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editor@stanstedlink.org.uk
by **noon on 11th November** for the December/January issue
or by hand to:
7 Blythwood Gardens,
Stansted CM24 8HG
by **noon on 8th November** for the December/January issue

The Link is produced by Stansted Mountfitchet Magazine Community Interest Company and supported by local churches, businesses and the Parish Council. Each edition is also available online at www.stanstedlink.org.uk.

EDITORIAL



Rumours that giant moles have taken up residence in the fields around Stansted are probably untrue. The trenches and large piles of earth that appeared last month close to Walpole Farm were most likely archaeological investigations preparatory to the planned new development. Good news: all the Lower Street businesses seriously affected by the flooding in February are now open and trading at last. It's been a long, hard struggle but continued support from Stansted residents will help to ensure their future success. Not so good news: although the site has now been cleared ready for the construction of our new Health Centre it seems that further delays are likely (see page 20). Once again it's a matter of so near, yet so far!

The **next issue of The Link will be a joint December/January** one. If this month is anything to go by we may be over-subscribed, so a plea to all who plan to contribute items for December and January - please keep within the suggested 300 word limit (the Editor's pen has been sorely over-worked lately!) and submit as early as possible, **before 12 noon Tuesday 11th November.**

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Stansted network is compiled by Stansted Mountfitchet Parish Council.

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

A recent tour of old haunts in York took me to Goddards, formerly the home of Noel Terry, head of Terry's chocolates, and now a National Trust property. I was asked if I had visited before. I had to admit that I had, some 40 years earlier, interviewed Noel Terry as part of a school history project. I remembered the smell of wax and varnish in the wood panelled hall; the wary welcome of the maid and Noel Terry confined to bed as he neared the end of his life. This strange juxtaposition of past and present was slightly unnerving. Looking back to who I was 40 years ago, I recalled my hopes and aspirations for the future: medical doctor; athletics correspondent for *The Times*; Booker prize winning novelist; brilliant barrister in the mould of Edward Marshall Hall! As I reflected on how differently things had actually turned out, I remembered the following words of Quaker Clifford Haigh in our special book of insights, *Quaker Faith and Practice*:

"If we are getting older it will be harder to acknowledge that we have not been called to spectacular service, that we are unlikely now to make a stir in the world, that our former dreams of doing some great healing work had a great deal of personal ambition in them. A great many men and women have had to learn this unpalatable lesson – and then have discovered that magnificent opportunities lay all around them. We need not go to the ends of the earth to find them; we need not be young, clever, fit, beautiful, talented, trained, eloquent or very wise. We shall find them among our neighbours as well as among strangers, in our own families as well as in unfamiliar circles – magnificent opportunities to be kind and patient and understanding."



Jonathan Morrell
Stansted Quaker Meeting



STANSTED FREE CHURCH
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Preachers for November

2nd 10.30am Don McGregor - New Directions
9th 10.50am United Service at War Memorial
16th 10.30am Jerry Heyhoe
23rd 10.30am Rev'd Roy Fowler – Communion
30th 10.30am Maureen Kendall



Celebration of Christmas

This annual family event will be taking place in St John's Church at 3.00pm on Saturday 20th December. As usual, we are inviting people to sing in 'the choir'. It is always great fun and we usually have over 40 people leading the singing - it would be good to have even more this year! There will be two rehearsals, both in St John's, on Thursday 4th and Thursday 18th December 7.30pm-8.15pm. If you enjoy singing and would like to take part, come along and join us.

Alan Corbishley
Tel: 816318



Carol Singing

As usual we will be carol singing round the village and the dates for this year are Monday 22nd and Tuesday 23rd December at 7.30pm. More details next month.

Mike Dyer Tel: 814059
Helen Baker Tel: 814865

THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS)

Quaker Meeting House, Chapel Hill

Clerk Sue Moloney
5 Chatter End, Farnham Geeen
Bishop's Stortford
Tel: 771405

Meeting Sunday, 10.30am



www.stanstedfamilychurch.com

Contact Howard and Ros Page
Tel: 810813
Email: contactstansfam@yahoo.com

Our Christian beliefs are conventional, we are just doing church differently. For details of events see the What's On page of our church website, or contact us.

Our **@27** meeting this month will be on Wednesday 19th November when we will have a time of contemporary worship and reflection, bible-teaching and discussion. Tea and coffee available from 7.30pm, start time 7.45pm. @27 content is designed for Christians who want to continue to grow in their faith. Whether you have been a Christian for a few months or many years, if you have a desire to know God more and to see Him do more in your life and community, why not call or email to find out more? For information about this month's venue, topic etc. please contact us using the details at the top of this section.



Ros and Howard Page

ST THERESE'S CHURCH

We have a new Bishop. In the words of Cardinal Vincent Nichols, a new shepherd. Following the retirement of Bishop Thomas McMahon after 34 years of faithful service to the Diocese, Fr Alan Williams became the 7th Bishop of Brentwood at an Episcopal Ordination Mass at Brentwood Cathedral on 1st July. The congregation included many leaders from Churches Together in Essex and East London together with interfaith leaders from the Muslim, Sikh, Hindu, Jewish faith and Orthodox religions. At the ordination ceremony in the Cathedral Cardinal Vincent Nichols quoted Pope Francis "From the lips of the church comes the cry: Give us a bishop, one who will lift us up, who will watch over us with the fullness of the heart of God. Don't send a manager or an administrator, a delegator from the agency. We need someone who knows how to reach up towards the gaze of God and who can guide us towards Him for only in His gaze is our future to be found".

Bishop Alan was previously a teacher, a University Chaplain, and most recently the Director of the National Marian Shrine at Walsingham. Knowing how busy he must be in his new role we felt very privileged that the new Bishop came to visit Fr John and the congregation at St Therese's, concelebrating mass on Sunday 21st September. It was very obvious to us that, although having a very gentle and modest presence, he was well used to mixing and circulating with all sorts of people. He introduced himself to choir members and the altar servers before concelebrating the Mass with Fr John. During the Mass he told us of his recent visit to Rome to meet Pope Francis and the lunch for all the new Bishops, at which the hot topic, to his surprise, was 'Scotland' and the then forthcoming referendum.



Photo by Tony Aldridge

Afterwards he stayed talking to parishioners at the church door before joining us in the Parish Centre for coffee and cakes, where he spent an hour sitting and chatting, making sure that he had a word with everyone present. Coming from Oldham in Lancashire, he spoke of his love of climbing and walking in the hills. We knew that we had not been sent just an 'administrator or manager' but one who would fulfil the words of Pope Francis, to pray boldly, to stay close to the people, and to be a servant to the word of God. It was hard to say goodbye when he left to finish his visit by joining Fr John for lunch.

Eileen Quinn and Tony Aldridge
Tel: 812109

ROMAN CATHOLIC

St Therese of Lisieux
High Lane

Priest Father John Garrett
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 9.00am

Confessions
Saturday 10.00am
and by appointment

Baptisms By appointment



THE FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S CHURCH

Celebration of Angels and Christmas Trees is on Saturday 13th and Sunday 14th December 10.00am-5.00pm, with Carols for All at 3.30pm on Saturday and St Clare Hospice Light up a Life service on Sunday at 11.00am. In past years we have welcomed hundreds of visitors throughout the weekend, especially for the carol singing, in spite of some adverse weather conditions! We are so pleased to host the St Clare Hospice service again this year. This is a great opportunity for organisations in Stansted to show off some amazing talents, with more imaginative trees and angels in all shapes, sizes and colours and to show our ancient village church in true Christmas tradition. We are writing to all our contributors to make sure a space is reserved for them, but we have plenty of room to display even more decorations, so please contact us if you would like an entry form. Refreshments will be on sale throughout the weekend, with mulled wine and mince pies served after the Carols and Hospice Service. The church will still be decorated for the Forest Hall School Service of Carols and Readings on Wednesday 17th December when we are pleased to welcome the young people to St Mary's.

Audrey Rodgers
Chairman
Tel: 812162



Shalom

On Monday 10th November 8.00pm at 7 Blythwood Gardens, Howard and Ros Page will be leading a talk and discussion on 'Our Father'. Our At Home is on Monday 24th November 8.00pm at 62 St John's Road. All welcome.



Marion Dyer
Tel: 814059



All enquiries: The Church Office, St John's Hall,
St John's Road, Stansted CM24 8JP
Email: st.johns.church@btinternet.com
Website: www.stanstedstjohns.btik.com

Rector: Rev'd Paul Wilkin
Tel: 812203
Email: stansted.rector@gmail.com

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

Church Hall Bookings: Rachel and Oilly Pocknell
Tel or text: 07972 373994
Email: stjohs.hallbookings@gmail.com

St John's Diary

Sunday

8.00am Said Holy Communion
9.30am Worship 4 All (1st Sunday)
9.30am Choral Eucharist (2nd-4th Sundays)

Monday-Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday

8.30am Morning Prayer

Tuesday

9.00am St John's Tots

Wednesday

9.00am Morning Prayer
10.00am Holy Communion

Monday-Thursday and Saturday

5.00pm Evening Prayer

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.

Registers for September/October will be in the next edition of The Link.

All Souls Service Sunday 2nd November at 5.00pm in St John's.

St John's choir are looking for new members, both for the adult and junior choir. The junior choir meets on Thursdays during term time 6.15pm-7.15pm for singing, activities and refreshments. The adult choir meets on Thursdays 8.00pm-9.00pm. We are looking for sopranos in particular. Further details from Anne Brooks, details above, or come to a choir practice.



St John's Christmas Market Saturday 22nd November 12.00-3.00pm in St John's Church. There will be the normal well-laden stalls - gifts, crafts, toiletries, candles, cakes, toys and games, books, bric-à-brac, tombolas and grand raffle etc, plus tempting refreshments to enjoy whilst savouring the festive ambience. Come and find some Christmas presents, grab a bargain, have a chance of winning a great prize in our raffle or tombolas and generally join in the fun. See you there!



Richard Lenton Tel: 813208
Ray Smith Tel: 813270

300 CLUB

Congratulations to the winners of the September draws:

£100 No 137 - Matthew Jessup
£ 50 No 227 - Ruth Clifford
£ 25 No 139 - Alan Corbishley

The draws for November will be held on Sunday 30th November 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.

Francine Cope
Tel: 814562

THE CRAFTON ROOM

On a sunny October day we hosted our first Silver Sunday event. Full to capacity we welcomed people from all over Uttlesford for afternoon tea and beautiful musical entertainment by Anna and Lynne. This free event is a relatively new national initiative to highlight and combat loneliness in older people, and seeing the joy it brought to those who attended we look forward to doing it again next year. A huge thank you to Peter Wright and Joanne Dellow from Daniel Robinson and Sons, and Phil Warner of Peasgood and Skeates for sponsoring and organising the entertainment; and on top of this Peter and Joanne came along to join us on the day. It was wonderful to have such genuine and heartfelt support. You may remember that our fantastic garden was also funded in part by Daniel Robinson.



Busy as ever, we then went on to host a successful seated exercise session funded by the Uttlesford Council and enjoyed the much anticipated Greek Night – an evening of good food and good company. Thank you to everybody who came along. I know that my articles always read like an Oscar acceptance speech but I must also thank Jo my right-hand woman and our wonderful cook for her continuous support no matter what I commit us to, the ladies of the WI for the loan of the lovely bunting and tablecloths to dress the hall, and last but not least, every one of my hard working and ever cheerful volunteers of whom there are too many to mention but without whom it would not be possible to lay on these events. Don't forget it is Fish and Chip Friday on 28th November at 12.30pm. Come and join us; don't be shy - a warm welcome awaits you.



Julie Beck
Centre Manager
Tel: 815091
Email: juliebeck1989@gmail.com

FRIENDS OF ST JAMES THE GREAT THORLEY

Autumn Craft Fair in the large Hall of the Barnabas Centre, Thorley on Saturday 8th November 11.00am-3.30pm. Entry is free – all are welcome.



Saturday Night Fever

Live music from Archive & Vintage Velvet

7.15 for 7.30 pm Sat 8th Nov
Forest Hall School

All Welcome

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Day Centre

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7.30 pm onwards Thu 13th Nov
Free Church Hall

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fully or partly completed shoe boxes



For more information tel
813579, 814865 or 812109
or see Link article

All welcome

WHAT'S ON IN NOVEMBER

2 Sun & 29 Sat Family Café

3/10/17/24 Mon Magna Carta Embroidery

4 Tue Link AGM

5 Wed Mountfitchet Seniors

Mountfitchet Garden Club

6 Thu Stansted History Society

7 Fri Business Forum

8 Sat Village Fireworks

U3A Saturday Night Fever

9 & 23 Sun Green Waste Skips

9 Sun Remembrance Day Service

10 Mon Shalom

11 Tue **Link copy due for Dec & Jan**

Alzheimer's Dementia Café

12 Wed Windmill Coffee Morning

13 Thu Shoe Box Packing

WI

15 Sat Saffron Walden Choral Society

Birchanger Nursery Quiz

16 Sun Family Café Birthday Event

20 Thu Stansted U3A

21 Fri Magic Evening

22 Sat Christmas Market

Lib Dem Quiz

24 Mon Shalom At Home

28 Fri Fish and Chip Friday

29 Sat U3A Saturday Seminar

Christmas Fair

Day Centre 9.30 - 11 am

Day Centre 1.00 - 3.00pm

Parish Council Offices 7.30 pm

Day Centre 2 - 4 pm

Day Centre 7.30 for 8 pm

Day Centre 8 pm

Linden House 7.30 am

Elms Farm 6.30 pm

Forest Hall School 7.15 for 7.30 pm

Lower Street Car Park 9 am - 1 pm

War Memorial 10.50 am

7 Blythwood Gardens 8 pm

before 12 noon

Quaker Meeting House 10 am

Day Centre 10 am - noon

Free Church Hall 7.30 pm

Day Centre 7.45 pm

Saffron Hall 7.30 pm

Birchanger Social Club 7.30 for 8 pm

Day Centre 10 - 11.30 am

St John's Hall 1.30 for 2 pm

Forest Hall School 7.30 for 8 pm

St John's Church noon - 3 pm

Day Centre 7 for 7.30 pm

62 St John's Road 8 pm

Day Centre 12.30pm.

Free Church Hall 9.30 am

Bentfield School 2- 5 pm

UGLEY FARMERS' MARKET

10 am - noon Sat 15th Nov

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Elena Vyaznikova (Flute)

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Nockolds, Bishop's Startford;

Sonia Levy 815282; or at the door

St John's Church Christmas Market

12 - 3 pm

Sat 22nd November

Gifts ~ Tombolas ~ Toiletries

Toys ~ Cakes ~ Books

Crafts ~ Candles ~ Raffle

Admission Free ~ Refreshments



QUIZ EVENING

7.30 for 8 pm

Birchanger Social Club

Saturday 15th Nov

£10 (incl sausage & chip supper)

Tickets from Jen on 810800



Bentfield School
PTFA

Christmas Fair

2 - 5 pm Sat 29th Nov

Santa's Grotto ~ Raffle

Stalls ~ Mulled Wine ~ Mince Pies

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Stansted & District
Liberal Democrats

QUIZ EVENING

7 for 7.30 pm Day Centre

Saturday 22nd Nov

£10 (incl hot supper) tel 813579

Teams of 4 - 8

Bar ~ Raffle

Forest Hall
School PTA



MAGIC EVENING

Friday 21st November

7.30 for 8 pm

Adults £10 Children £6 (16 and under)

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Sam on 07711 443259

Bring your own drinks, glasses and snacks

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RECOLLECTIONS OF STANSTED

I am pleased to say I get to see The Link as it is sent to me by a Stansted friend, and the October edition has several interesting items to me. It was good to see the local Scouts had a great camp on the Isle of Wight (my old Troop as Scoutmaster in the 50s) as I know the Island well and the Corfe Campsite is a nice location. It was also good to see Peggy Honour is doing well from the Millers. However, the item by Peter Brown on the closure of the Post Office brings back some memories for me. In 1941 my mother died, my father was in Africa serving in the RAF and I as an 11 year old was sent to live with my uncle, Major Fred Treacher, who was the Post Master of Stansted along with Bill and Hollie Salmon (who later became Mrs Fred Treacher). My recollections of the Post Office were much as Peter describes. The waiting room he mentions in fact became my 'den', holding much of my Scout bits and pieces. The sorting room at the back, as well as housing the Post staff, also had rows of shelves on which stood many cages of budgies and canaries. The Major was a great bird fancier and bred all kinds; in the garden at the rear was a long walk-in aviary where the birds lived in the summer months. I lived there until the end of the war having been part of the PO team as a telegram boy in the evenings and weekends, and at busy times helped with mail deliveries. Christmas time is well remembered; my area was Cambridge Road and Benfield End, and I recall the last delivery on Christmas Eve was a slow one as we got stopped along the route for drinks and mince pies by the residents - I doubt if the last few cards ever got to the right address!! I eventually moved with the return of my father in 1945 first to Woodfields then to the Recreation Ground with Miss Penny. So for me it's a bit sad to see the Post Office go but it's with a fond farewell as Peter says.

Graham Treacher
Chelmsford

BILL HARRIGAN

Bill Harrigan was the village Postmaster in the early 1980s. He died at home in Old Harlow on 28th September at the age of 92. Many people in Stansted will remember him for his great good humour, which he retained in spite of being on dialysis for many years.

Eileen Quinn

HARGRAVE HOUSE

The residents and staff of Hargrave House would like to say a big thank you to everyone who attended their Summer Fête, enabling them to raise a magnificent £1,379.82. They are particularly grateful to the many local businesses for their very kind donations. Here are just a few who offered their support: Fancy Fingers, Furnu, Barnet Fayre, Yeoman's, The Cork House, The Refinery, Yummy's, Nicky and Co, Tesco, Co-op, Rose and Crown, The Cock, Steve Golding, The Three Horseshoes, Home & Eat, Lino Thomas, Kings Butchers, Paris Legore Flowers, and Stansted Social Club.

Hayley Wright
Activities Coordinator
Tel: 817272

ALL YOU WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT POISONS

If I were to tell you that the science afternoon at the Royal Institution last month dwelt on the correct amount of poison to administer and how to obtain it, and then proceeded to advise us how to determine whether one is a psychopath or not and completed the afternoon with a consideration of blades made of virtually indestructible metal, you might well suspect that the Third Age Trust (U3A) took great pains to vet its audience before the event. I didn't notice any members of the constabulary present so presumably they were successful in this respect. Certainly they were successful in presenting to us, for the second time this year, a most informative and entertaining programme culminating in a demonstration by Zoe Laughlin of the Institute of Making and the Materials library project displaying to great theatrical effect, the wonder of materials. Zoe, as a working artist had been drawn to the science of materials from a desire to understand the materials she was creating art from. There were so many highlights from her session, including lobbing silly putty into the audience, dropping a hard ball onto the Institute's floor to demonstrate with a micro camera the



Photo by Zoe Laughlin

kind of dent it made, magically transforming a piece of wire into a paper-clip with a blow torch but culminating with an event that dropped our jaws in wonderment; with the aid of a flask of foaming liquid nitrogen she span a cylindrical magnet in thin air a few inches above a frozen piece of super conducting ceramic.

The afternoon started with a fascinating exploration of three key poisons presented entertainingly by Dr Kathryn Harkup. There was strong science here as well as amusing anecdotes, especially an understanding of what is actually happening when poison attacks a cell or neuron. From a practical point of view however, when told how many apple pips you would need to achieve a successful poisoning, we realised we had to dismiss that as an effective method to achieve a certain killing. The second presentation was far more touching as we were asked to consider the sad situation of children with behavioural problems. Essi Viding told us about the particular subset of these children with callous unemotional traits and talked about research that was continuing to pinpoint whether the source of such traits was genetic or environmental. At the end of the afternoon we walked out into Albemarle Street with great admiration for the skills of these three lady presenters and gratitude towards Barbara Lewis of the Third Age Trust and her team. We look forward to the next one on 23rd March 2015.

Alan Wheeler
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Keith Knight - Headmaster



FOREST HALL SCHOOL



The Present And The Future

The first part of the Autumn Term has been as busy as ever for FHS. Year 7 students have settled well and are already heavily involved in extra-curricular opportunities and Student Voice. Our Awards Evening took place in September when we rewarded students for their progress, attainment and contributions throughout the previous academic year 13-14. The highlight (as ever) was the Student of the Year nominations and citations. Our guest presenter was Matt Williams, the Finance Director for Stansted Airport (MAG) who gave a motivational speech about aspirations. Open Evening earlier this month was as positive as ever. Year 7 and 11 students acted as guides and parents/carers were quick to compliment the mature and helpful approach these students adopted. As those who visit us know, this is a regular occurrence and we pride ourselves on the way in which we 'show our school off'.



More recently the local community has become aware of the proposed sponsorship of FHS by the Burnt Mill Academy Trust (BMAT). I know that this has been raised through the social media group 'Stansted Matters' although I am not privy to the details. However, I must state that there is no link between this proposal and other developments. FHS has had low numbers for a while and although these are due to rise significantly in the near future, there is a need to consider additional support – both financial and educational – in the short term. The DfE, LA and IEB feel that results will improve more rapidly if the school belongs to an Academy Trust and have asked BMAT to sponsor the school. Should both parties agree, then FHS will become part of BMAT on 1st January. The name and uniform will remain. We will keep you informed.

Catherine Anderson
Headteacher
Tel: 813384

PTA Magic Night

The PTA warmly invites you and your family to an evening of magical entertainment on Friday 21st November, 7.30pm for 8.00pm, in the school hall. You will be amazed and delighted by a wonderful magician who will be performing - Martin Cox. He is a comedy magician and has performed in local establishments as well as The Magic Circle and the London Palladium. This will be a thoroughly entertaining evening for the whole family, so be sure not to miss it. Experience close-up magic, comedy magic and amazing and perplexing illusions that will leave you baffled. Martin will be performing over a period of two hours, with an interval to give him a

rest and for you to discuss with your friends and family, just how it's done! Please bring your own drinks, glasses and snacks. Tickets for this extraordinary occasion are £10 adults, £6 children (16 and under), available from myself or Sam Fairweather on 07711 443259 – order **now** as spaces are limited and tickets are selling **fast!!** We look forward to welcoming you.

Elaine Terry
Tel: 07962 586825



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOE BOXES

The Shoe Box packing evening is on Thursday 13th November 7.30pm in the Free Church Hall. Any contributions for the boxes - contents, boxes and donations of money - can be given to us in advance or brought on the evening. Please see October Link for what can and can't be put into the boxes.

Quiz evening – we are delighted that this raised £656 towards the cost of shipping the 300+ shoe boxes that we send from Stansted. Thank you very much to all who attended and contributed to this successful evening, and to DC Poulton, who kindly donated raffle prizes.

Helen Baker Tel: 814865
Catherine Dean Tel: 813579
Eileen Quinn Tel: 812109

LAST RECOMMENDED POSTING DATES FOR CHRISTMAS 2014 - OVERSEAS



International Economy (formerly Surface Mail)

Tue 4th Nov: Cyprus, Eastern Europe, Greece, Iceland, Malta and Turkey

Tue 18th Nov: Western Europe

International Standard (formerly Airmail)

Fri 28th Nov: To operational HM Forces Mail

Wed 3rd Dec: Asia, Far East (including Japan), New Zealand

Thu 4th Dec: Australia

Fri 5th Dec: Africa, Caribbean, Central and South America, Middle East

Mon 8th Dec: Cyprus, Eastern Europe, Greece

Tue 9th Dec: Canada, Poland

Fri 12th Dec: USA, To static HM Forces Mail

Sat 13th Dec: Western Europe (excluding Greece and Poland)

More information on last posting dates at www.royalmail.com/greetings or for British Forces: www.gov.uk and search for BFPO

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The autumn term has been very busy. Our new starters have settled in beautifully, taking part in all aspects of school life. One of the benefits of attending such a small school is that all children are encouraged to take on responsibility

and speak up for themselves, even the youngest. Our reception children have enjoyed finding their feet and making sure their voices are heard! In early October Y3 and Y4 children took part in a multi-skills sports event at the Joyce Frankland Academy in Newport with several other schools. They enjoyed hockey, games and improving their ball skills as well as meeting up with friends from other schools. Horse Chestnut class is learning about WW2 and the children have been taken back in time to October 1940. Mrs Haughey read real accounts of what Farnham school children experienced during an air raid near the village from the school's log book at that time. The children were taught what to do if an air raid happened whilst they were at school and specific jobs were given out to ensure the safety of everyone in the class. Wrap-around care is a major issue for most parents of school children today so Farnham now offers a breakfast club on Friday mornings in the school hall. This is so popular we are considering opening on another day and extending our hours. Farnham is a small school achieving excellent results, which is open to children resident in Essex (several families in Stansted send their children here) and Hertfordshire. Call school reception for more information or see our website at www.farnham-school.org.

Katherine Aiken
Friends of Farnham
Tel: 771339 (School reception)



PENNY FOR THE GUY

Whatever happened to 'Penny for the Guy'?
Heard on street corners in days gone by
Drunken stuffed dummies all hand made
Clothed in rags and in prams displayed
By excited children begging pennies to buy
Fireworks to light up the November sky.

Little boys would choose bangers and rockets
Jumping Jacks that they hid in their pockets
To laugh at everyone's attempts to escape
The lit leaping Jacks – a dangerous jape!
Girls chose starry sparklers and gentle volcanoes
That spewed silvery showers onto their toes.



Oh, the thrill as bonfires grew; then on the night
Oh the disappointment as they failed to ignite!
On top the Guy's reprieve was brief however
As the flames finally flared despite damp weather
Cold fingers and feet were forgotten when at last
The whiz-bangs started with the 'oohs' and 'aahs'.

November the 5th still has the magic of yore
For children and parents whether rich or poor
Affordable public displays in each village and town
Slick spectacles of dazzling lights and sound
Now 'Elf n' Safety' rules; perhaps explaining why
Sadly, there's no more 'Penny for the Guy'!

Loki

FAMILY CAFÉ

Birthday Event

Stansted Family Café is three years old in November! Recent craft activities have included sand pictures (with coloured sand), scratch-art birds and fish, and stained-glass-effect 'Bugs and Butterflies' window pictures, and puppet-making. Refreshments and activities are suitable for families with children of primary school age, and under-5s but anyone who enjoys a family-friendly atmosphere is welcome. We have several grandparents who come along for example, as well as mums and dads.



Drawing by Jacqui Whitehorn

We are holding a **special birthday-themed event on Sunday 16th November** at our normal venue, Stansted Day Centre, but at a slightly later time **10.00am-11.30am**. As usual there will be craft activities for children, great coffee and cakes, as well as some birthday-related items. Why not bring your family and spend time, not money, at the Family Café!



Ros Page
Tel: 810813



Bowling Green This has now been put to bed; many thanks must go to all those helpers for their sterling hard work during that week.

Carpet Bowls Once again this helps us to continue bowling throughout the autumn and winter months. Friday evenings from 8.00pm - call in and you will be made more than welcome. Likewise other sessions can be arranged - for further information please contact as below.

Seniors Games - Turpins These also have re-started and many of our new members are enjoying the challenge of indoor bowling!

Darts – Wednesday Evening The darts team is up and running, with three games under their belts, they continue to enjoy their matches, and we appreciate that this also helps with our coffers during the winter months.

Diary Dates

Saturday 22nd November 7.30pm **Club Dinner and Presentation Evening**

Friday 28th November 7.45pm **Club AGM**

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GUESS WHO I AM

I was born in London the eldest of three girls and went to school in Tottenham. On leaving school I attended the Northwest Poly in Kentish Town and a day nursery in Hackney to train as a nursery nurse, spending time at a premature baby unit in Hackney.

My first job working a day nursery in Hackney, which I enjoyed and found very rewarding. It was the start of a life-long love of children. At 21 I moved with the family to Staines in Middlesex, and after I married my husband, lived for a short time in Sydenham in South London before finally setting up home in Stansted two years later.

I have lived in Stansted since 1970 and raised three wonderful children who all went to St Mary's Primary School. For a total of seven years I made annual camping trips to the Isle of Wight with the 133 London Boys Brigade helping to feed many hungry mouths, and assisting with various outdoor activities - football, cricket and running the tuck shop from a tent. I've also ventured much further afield having lived in Australia in the 1980s, and more recently spent two years in Asia.

I am involved in many different organisations in and around the village and have served as President of Stansted Bowling Club. Although past retirement age I am still working with young people, but also spend as much time as I can with my six beautiful grandchildren.

Claim to Fame: I met Princess Anne at a Children's Charity Concert. **Guess who I am!**



Nature Notes

With the approach of winter the birds are returning from the fields to our gardens. Robins were among the earliest to resume residence, now followed by the tits and blackbirds. The corvids, mainly magpies and crows, have opportunistic tendencies, which being an intelligent family is perhaps what we should expect as they seem to be as numerous as ever. Overall the bird population in the area seems to be in decline. The national figures tell a similar story if rather patchily. I have remarked before about the fewer insects which share our small part of the planet. On balance they are beneficial. Despite this, insecticides are still widely applied in agriculture, horticulture and domestically. Until more selective formulations become available, sparing use of them may be the wiser course as changing the balance of nature can have unpredictable and adverse results. Nevertheless clearing out of garden hedge bottoms can be an effective antidote to the large slug and snail population now benefiting from a dearth of hedgehogs. Farmers can leave strips of uncultivated land alongside hedges to help wildlife and localise unwanted infestations, but that is impractical in gardens. We too should compromise but in different ways.

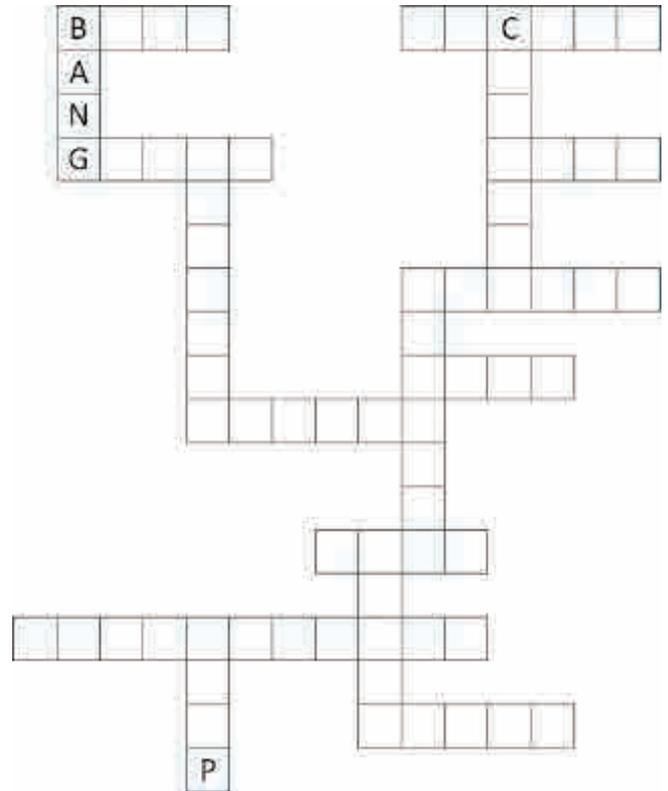


Derek Honour
Tel: 647213

WHAT A NOISE

Can you fit these words on the grid?

Bang Clank Racket Clatter Boom Grate
Rattle Screech Echo Knock Scream Thunder
Rasp Ring Tick Reverberate



Answers on page 33

DEMENTIA CAFE

The Alzheimer's Society's next Dementia Café in the Quaker Meeting Hall, Chapel Hill, will be on Tuesday 11th November at 10.00am. The speaker will be Pat from the Volunteer Centre, talking about how the centre can benefit people with dementia and their carers. On Tuesday 9th December at 10.00am the speaker will be a representative from The West Essex Safe and Well Scheme, which provides a short-term friendly, confidential service, from preventing admission to being discharged from hospital, and all that that includes. Refreshments will be provided free of charge. Cafés are open to anyone worried about their own or someone else's memory, as well as those diagnosed with dementia and their carers. They are informal, provide practical information and support, an opportunity to ask questions, and to meet with and share other people's experiences. Contact The Alzheimer's Society on 01371 872519 or email me.

Debbie Baker
Email: debbie.baker@alzheimers.org.uk

GUESS WHO I AM ANSWER



Margaret Hill

HUW JOHNSON CLUB THROUGH THE YEARS



1974 Johnson's garden in Park Road



1990 Castaway Rescue at Stansted Carnival



2005 Holiday in Weston Supermare



New Year 2004



Christmas Concert 2005



40th Anniversary Party 2014



Huw Johnson Club

The new term started in September with our summer(ish!) BBQ at St Mary's School in Foresthall Park. Although it was almost dark by the time we ate, we were very fortunate with the weather - some years, our poor chefs have been barbecuing outside in the pouring rain under an umbrella! It was great to see everyone again after our summer break and catch up on all their news. We have also had a games evening, where we played a combination of Jenga, Dominoes, Connect Four and Kerplunk, and listened to and danced to music. We were also treated to a dinner of sausage and mash at the Chequers Pub in Ugley, where 36 of us turned up for the evening – as always, the Chequers staff were very friendly, and we are already looking forward to our New Year's Dinner there in 2015. We were very sad to hear that one of our longest standing members had passed away. Gary Madge, who was only 52, died at his home in Saffron Walden on 29th September. He had been a member for as long as most of us can remember – at least 20 years – and was always very friendly and cheerful, with a very cheeky sense of humour. Along with his brother Gavin, who died over eight years ago, Gary was an integral part of the Huw Johnson Club over the years, and is sorely missed by us all. Over the next few weeks we have a curling match, crafts evening and a Halloween Party (complete with fancy dress competition), as well as our annual fireworks night, so lots to look forward to. As always, we are looking for more drivers or helpers. Please contact either Sandra Embleton on 812627 or myself if you would like more information.



Katharine Collis
Tel: 461270



Are you free on Wednesday afternoons, love babies and are well organised?

We are looking to recruit a volunteer to help the Health Visitors at the weekly baby clinic at Spangles. Every Wednesday from 1.30pm-3.15pm parents and carers come to have their babies weighed, ask advice and perhaps join the breastfeeding group or stay for a play. If you would like to know more about this opportunity please contact me.



Lesley Murdoch
Community engagement and
volunteer coordinator
Tel: 07964 106378

METAL DETECTION

I am a local metal detectorist. If anybody has lost a ring or any other precious metal object in a garden or field, and has a rough idea of where it might be, I may be able to help recover it. There would be no charge, but imagine the joy if it was recovered. No guarantees of course, but I will certainly try for them.

David Flett
Tel: 814579
Email: david@flett.info

DID YOU KNOW?

Northend House, Gall End, was once a workhouse. The 1923 Ordnance Survey Map not only shows it as an Old Workhouse but the Lane was called Workhouse Lane. To the northeast is a large plot of allotment gardens, which were presumably worked by the inmates to defray the costs of running the establishment. The New Poor Law Amendment Act of 1835 was passed by the Whig Government to curb the cost of poor relief, which had been spiralling throughout the 19th century and led to the creation of workhouses; but, before doing anything the Government, as all governments do, published a nationwide questionnaire. The answers the Returning Officers for this parish (Churchwardens Martin Nockolds and Matthew Woodley, and Overseer Charles Hicks) gave show just how hard life was then. The number of agricultural labourers in the village was given as 46 over 10 and below 20 years of age, and 136 over 20 years old. The weekly wage, which sometimes included beer provided by employers, was 12s in the summer and 10s in the winter; single men earning about one shilling per week less than married men. However, women and female children under 16 could only earn about six to eight pence per day weeding and hoeing for just two months in spring and summer (there was no paid employment for them in the winter). It was estimated that in summer about 14 labourers would be unemployed and maintained by relief from the poor rate, and in winter about 12, 'being the principle season for hedging, ditching and threshing.'



At that time, 1833, the workhouse had eight female and 10 male inmates plus 56 individuals not in the workhouse who 'received relief' the previous week. A total of 74 people needing financial help from a relatively small population (1,055 in 1831) is a significant number. The general feeling of the day can be summed up in the answer given to the question, 'Can you suggest any causes for the recent spate of agricultural rioting?'

Nothing of the kind took place in this parish, but there is reason for believing that want of employment and inadequate relief in some instances, and increasing depravity in others, have a strong tendency towards increasing vindictiveness and desperation.

Ralph Phillips

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STORT VALLEY ROTARY

www.stortvalleyrotary.com

This month we have been learning about Rotakids and considering the possibility of sponsoring a group locally. Rotakids is a junior branch of Rotary and is an exciting way for children of 12 years and under to get involved in lively activities that will make a positive difference in their local communities and globally. The children might involve themselves in activities such as raising money for charity, improving the environment, or local community projects. They might, for instance, learn how to make bird boxes or investigate how 'shelterboxes' are used in disaster relief. Citizenship is now part of the school curriculum and Rotakids is a further opportunity to give children confidence and expertise so that they will eventually take their place in society as responsible and caring adults. Stort Rotary helps to support 'Contexture'. This is a relatively new theatre company based in Bishop's Stortford which works closely with the Rhodes Arts Centre to bring professionally produced plays to our area. Contexture also aims to tour our area to bring live theatre to more communities and offers educational, work and community based activities to involve as many people as possible in the theatrical experience. We have found their plays to be of an excellent standard and in October the Club arranged a trip to their production of 'Journey's End'.

Rotary Santa will be out and about with his sleigh and carols from Saturday 6th December. Please look out for details of his evening tours of Stansted streets which will be posted in next month's Link. We invite you to visit our website where you can find out about our Club and also read the latest edition of our lively award winning newsletter and get a flavour of our range of activities and our Club's speaker programme. We meet on Tuesdays, 7,00pm for 7.30pm at the Lemon Tree, Water Lane, Bishop's Stortford CM23 2JZ.

Jan Durkin
Tel: 01799 516186
Email: jandurkin94@gmail.com

GARDENING TIPS

November is a time for plant bargains, as root balled (lifted from the soil and wrapped in hessian) and bare root (lifted from the soil and left unwrapped) plants become available, and can offer significant savings over nursery grown potted plants you would typically see available across the rest of the year. Other plants that are great value and ideal for planting from now until the early New Year are roses. Even roses you see in DIY stores will typically be bare root plants they have put in containers for sale. Leaves that deciduous trees shed onto the lawn at this time of year should be cleaned off as soon as possible. If it is dry and dew free, then a mower on a high setting can lift most of them. Failure to clean off leaves will kill off the grass beneath them. There is still plenty of time for planting narcissus bulbs, and it is a great month for putting in tulip bulbs. If in doubt with bulbs planting depths, then err on the side of deeper rather than shallower.



If you have an outdoor tap, don't be fooled by the mild wet weather we had last year; frosts can potentially become severe in November, so lag the tap with a purpose made tap cosy, or isolate it if you have an isolating valve. Containers can suffer in cold spells too. If you can, move them up close to building walls where they will receive some reflected heat, and enjoy a little protection from excess winter rain. If a prolonged sub-zero spell is predicted anytime over winter, consider bringing them into a garage/conservatory or wrap them in old bubble wrap just to stop them freezing completely solid, as even winter specific bedding can die under such extreme growing conditions.

Paul the Gardener



Stansted Cricket Club

On 13th September the Club played a T20 match with Manuden to mark the official opening of their new community facility, and on the following day, in the final match of the season, the Club lost a 40-over match to Takeley by eight runs, with skipper Josh Monk making 81. The Sunday XI won four and lost 10 of the 14 matches it played. The square has been dressed and reseeded for next season, and plans have been drawn up for closed-season improvements (installation of a glasswasher and phase 2 of the bar renovation; new roof on pavilion). Members are looking forward to the HECL Presentation Evening (Dinner and Dance) on 25th October, at which the Club will formally receive the trophies for winning the HECL Cup, Division 1 and Division 5. Three individual trophies will also be awarded to Charlie Kirby (Most Runs in Division 1: 859 and Highest Innings: 160) and to Keith Ayres (Most Wicketkeeper Dismissals in Division 5: 14). The Club would like to invite anyone interested in scoring on a regular basis next season 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
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Email: dchedge49@gmail.com

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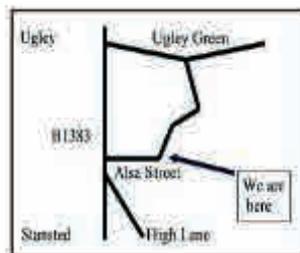
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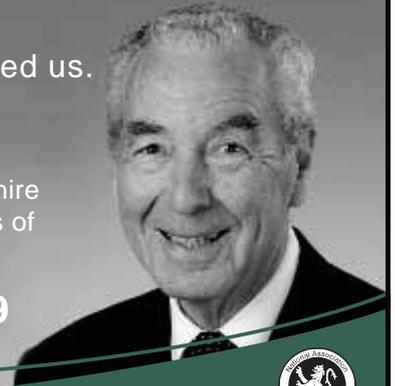
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Stansted Network

NEWS FROM YOUR LOCAL COUNCILS

VILLAGE POND

If you have passed the village pond recently you will probably have noticed it has become somewhat overgrown and it is difficult to see much open water. The



experts have advised us that it would be beneficial to remove some of the vegetation so we have arranged for The Essex

Conservation Volunteers to bring a group of volunteers to carry out some clearance work on Sunday 2 November starting at 10.00 am They would welcome support from locals so please come along and get involved. We hope to establish a pond working group to 'manage' the pond and to carry out work on a more regular basis. If you would like to be part of this please email trevor.lloyd@stansted.net. If you want to find out more about these issues related to the pond, a very informative article can be found at www.essexbiodiversity.org.uk/invasive-species/invasive-species-aquaticplants

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

As this a special year where we are marking the hundredth anniversary of the outbreak of World War I. we hope as many of you as possible will join us at the War Memorial on Sunday 9 November to honour those who gave their lives for us. We shall follow the same format as last year with all the commemoration taking



place in the Memorial Garden. The Parade will leave Crafton Green car park just after 10.30am.

SAINSBURY'S LOCAL-CAMBRIDGE ROAD

We are aware that a lot of residents have concerns about the impact of opening a third convenience store in Cambridge Road and as a result Matthew Nicholson, Head of Convenience Town Planning was invited to attend a meeting of The Economic Development Group so that we could make him aware of our concerns. He assured the group that Sainsbury's would try to organ-

ise joint deliveries with Tesco and the Co-op where there was a common supplier. They will try to avoid using large articulated lorries and where possible schedule deliveries outside peak times. They anticipate the store will open in February or March 2015.

PROJECT UPDATES

Uttlesford District Council has confirmed that it will contribute £30,000 towards the public convenience which will be included in the new community building at Crafton Green. The dropped kerb and path which facilitate wheelchair access to the MUGA at the Mountfitchet Green have been completed by UDC and look good.

We are in discussions with other partners on a number of projects which we believe will benefit the community:

- Financial contribution (50%) towards the running of the Youth Service
- Funding of an ANPR camera for Cambridge Road (much desired by Essex Police)
- Completion of the new CCTV system
- Improvements to the Mountfitchet Green
- Securing the final funding for the new skatepark and refurbishment of Bentfield Play Area

We have a long list of highway projects which have been requested, or already agreed, and the following list is NOT exhaustive:

- Reduction of speed limit on Forest Hall Road
- Possible amendments to the traffic calming scheme on Church Road
- Traffic calming for High Lane
- New zebra crossing on Cambridge Road (near the vet surgery)
- Re-surfacing and painting of lower Chapel Hill zebra crossing and approach road
- Mitigation measures relating to on-pavement parking in the vicinity of the crossing on Cambridge Road

CONSULTATIONS AND REPRESENTATIONS

It's a busy time in the world of planning and whilst the Parish Council is not the decision-maker on any planning application, we are consulted. As a result we have been, or are about to be, involved in three particularly important issues:

- Our Chairman and Clerk represented the Parish Council at the appeal hearing relating to the proposed development of the former Sworder's Sale-room site on Cambridge Road – Inspector's decision awaited.

- As we write this we are drafting further representations relating to the Fairfield appeal for development at Elsenham/Henham.
- Similarly we are preparing comments relating to the Uttlesford Local Plan for the Planning Inspectorate.

CHANGES WITHIN ESSEX POLICE

We have been advised of significant changes within Essex Police which took effect from 1 October. We are delighted to welcome PC "Jack" Russell back to Stansted. Jack served as one of our local PC's a number of years ago and is very familiar with the village. Our grateful thanks go to PC Tom Bastendorff who has been our Beat Officer for a good number of years PCSO's Stuart and Simon remain with us. Inspector Mick Couldridge has returned as our Inspector and Chris Sharp stays in place as our Sergeant

Following consultation with representatives, the Chief Constable has now made the following promises:

- 1 We promise local PCSOs will hold a weekly "street meet" on their patch (see below)
- 2 We promise every district will hold five or six Local Community Meetings. Check the police website for dates. These will be chaired by a senior officer .
- 3 The Essex Police website will show agreed local priorities as well as the activity taken to address them.

MEET THE NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING TEAM

The Neighbourhood Policing Team are holding one hour Street Meets in Stansted Library as follows:

Tuesday 6th November at 2.00 pm

Saturday 15th November at 9.00 am

Thursday 20th November at 5.00 pm

Tuesday 25th November at 9.00 am

They are keen for you to come and chat to them and discuss any local issues or concerns that you may have.

NEWS FROM UTTLESFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL

From Cllr Alan Dean

Sunday, October 5th saw a very well attended event at Stansted's Day Centre organised by UDC. Silver Sunday was a get together of people from across the district for company, entertainment and refreshments, including rock cakes just like my grandmother used to make.

Readers will have noticed the demolition of the old buildings on the Lower Street site destined to become our new health centre. This work has been proceeding at the expense and risk of the site owner. At time of writing the NHS was still checking out drawings and legal agreements and has not yet signed a lease on the proposed building, so the timetable keeps slipping. I am also concerned that the person leading the project from the NHS side has moved jobs to Cambridgeshire.

We are assured that Peter Wightman is taking over the role of Alison Manton and that all the legalities will be completed in due course, although the delay is unsettling.

Work has begun to investigate how much money Uttlesford has in its reserves that are not spoken for. In total there is about £17,000,000 in the bank. Councillors are hoping to work out how much of this is available for uses not yet identified. There will be a workshop at Stansted's Day Centre from 11.00am on Saturday November 1st to which anyone is invited to contribute ideas on what Uttlesford should be doing for the district in future years.

From Cllr Iris Evans

A team of us are still making visits to day centres across the district and we will have visited all five centres including Takeley and Thaxted by the middle of October. We will report back to Uttlesford District Council on our findings by the end of November.

Those of you who live near to or travel on Church Road will have noticed how cars are continually speeding and constantly trying to dodge around the build outs. This seems to be a particular temptation to drivers when another car is approaching from the other direction, making it quite dangerous for other drivers. Parking along Maitland Road also seems to be increasing with a number of drivers parking on the road near the post box, making it difficult for bus drivers and others to get round the corner. These cars are also forcing drivers on to the wrong side of the road which means that drivers are unable to see cars turning into Maitland Road from Church Road until the very last minute. Some manhole covers in Walson Way have come loose and are also incredibly noisy when any passing car or bus goes over them, keeping residents awake at night. These issues are of great concern to me and we are all working together to try and solve these problems through the Parish Council Highways Committee and Essex Highways.

NEWS FROM ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

From Cllr Ray Gooding

I am aware that parents have been advised and that there has been some speculation within the village but I can confirm that Essex County Council and Forest Hall School have announced that following a short consultation period with the Forest Hall School community they are progressing with the application for academy sponsorship of the school by Burnt Mill Multi Academy Trust. Over the past year ECC have been working closely with Forest Hall School following establishing an Interim Executive Board (IEB) in the last autumn term. Since the IEB has been in place there has been significant improvement in standards and this is a testament to the work of the headteacher, teaching staff,

pupils, parents and the IEB. Despite this achievement, it has become apparent that the school's size means it will struggle to be as successful as it wants to be. The school needs an appropriate growth strategy in order to ensure it becomes financially viable. In addition, being a small school means it will be difficult for the school to recruit and retain good teachers in the future. With all this in mind, the IEB supported by ECC have therefore submitted an Academy Order to the DfE for Forest Hall School to be sponsored by the Burnt Mill Multi Academy Trust from 1st January 2015.

As your local Essex County Councillor and given that I have responsibility for Education and Lifelong Learning I have to say that whilst small schools are valued by parents it can be a struggle for them to be financially viable which can leave them vulnerable and leave difficulties in providing a full range of subjects for the curriculum. By becoming a sponsored academy, Forest Hall will be able to deliver its small school ethos with Burnt Mill Multi Academy Trust providing the support and guidance needed to ensure the schools can be both viable and provide for the needs of a range of students. It is acknowledged that this is a good school but it has been vulnerable to dips in performance in the past – this partnership will protect the school from such vulnerabilities. This partnership will ensure they are able to deliver excellent outcomes that the children of Stansted deserve.

DATES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

5 Nov Windmill 7.00 pm and F&GP 8.00 pm
 12 Nov Open Spaces
 26 Nov Full Council

CONTACT DETAILS

Clerk-Ruth Clifford Admin Assistant-Anne Court
 Assistant to the Parish Clerk-Trevor Lloyd
 Email: parishcouncil@stansted.net
 Phone/fax: 01279 813214 10.00 am - 1.00 pm
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Essex County Council Member

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Member of Parliament

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

Police - PC Tom Bastendorff
 Non-emergency 101
 PCSO (Stuart Stranger) Tel: 07889 702340

Neighbourhood Watch

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Parish Public Transport Representatives

Valerie Trundle 813433 Joy Thomas 813871

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Saturday 8th November

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Plans are progressing for this annual event and we will publish the full programme in the December edition of The Link. We will also be publishing details on our website along with a leaflet drop.

If you would like to have a stall please contact Penny Thresher by email: penny_thresher@hotmail.com or telephone 07771 896670. Charitable organisations can book stalls for the Saturday at a reduced cost of £20. Charity stalls will be located in the Day Centre, where tea, coffee and cake will be on sale.



There is a really good variety of stalls this year for gifts and specialist foods with a festive theme. There will also be a number of hot food stalls selling sausages, Spanish Churros and melted chocolate, crepes and doughnuts - all of which can be washed down with traditional German Gluhwein.

There will be free parking in the Lower Street car park on Saturday, and City and Country Group have generously also made their car park in Bentfield Road available. Stall holders will have spaces reserved here as well.

Lino Thomas have generously donated a £100 cash prize for the raffle.

DIRECTORY OF LOCAL CLUBS AND ORGANISATIONS

Alzheimers Society	Tel: 01371 872519	Parkinson's UK	Contact: Kathy West Tel: 816293
Air Training Corps 494 Squadron	Tel: 681559/661929 Email: 494@aircadets.org	Uttlesford Support Group	Email:kewest@btinternet.com
Beavers Age 6-8	David South Tel: 814371	Pilots (age 5-18)	Valerie Trundle Tel: 813433
Bowls Club	Doreen Scraggs Hon Secretary Tel: 815036 Email: doreenscraggs@talktalk.net	Rainbow Pre-School	Gill Pursglove (Administrator) Tel: 814242/07966 506997 Email: admin@rainbowpreschool.net
Brownies/Guides	Glynis Prothero District Administrator Tel: 814145	Rainbow Tots (age 1½-rising 3)	Tina South Tel: 814371
CAB	Tel: 08444 775986	Rainbows	Sue Pollard Tel: 813734
Corkers Netball	Lisa Menzella Tel: 07827 988732	Rotary Club	Peter Latham Tel: 507294 Email: yp.latham@uwclub.net
Craft Club	Sam Debbah Tel: 07866 185704 Email: tuftydawn@googlemail.com	Royal British Legion	John Segar Tel: 813289
Cricket Club (adults) (juniors)	David Hedge Tel: 812509 Keith Ayres Tel: 814471	Scouts (age 10½ -14)	Mike Byrne Tel: 812780
Cub Scouts Age 8-10½	Roger Musgrove Tel: 07736 616665/01799 543466	Shotokan Karate Ryu	Donna Ring Tel: 731752 Email: skr@skr.org.uk
Day Centre	Tel: 815091	Spangles Children's Centre	Tel: 812348
Explorer Scouts	Fintan Lambe Tel: 817937	Stansted Family Café	Ros Page Tel: 810813 Email: rospagemusic@yahoo.com
Friends of St Mary's Church	Audrey Rodgers Tel: 812162	Stansted Football Club	Tom Williams Tel: 07921 403842
Garden Club	Maralyn Harris Chairman Tel: 07919 478144	Stansted Hall and Elsenham Cricket Club	David Brown Tel: 831011/07788 999663 Email: david.r.brown1 @btinternet.com
Grove Cottage	David Scott Tel: 656085	Stansted Sparks Netball	Gemma Snelling Tel: 07894 944242 Email: gemmasnelling@me.com
Helpline	Tel: 07704 553727	Stansted Supers Handball Club	Olly Pocknell Tel: 07875 391701
History Society	Peter Brown Chairman Tel: 812816	Tennis Club	Daphne Lunnon Tel: 817574 Email: drlunnon@gmail.com
Huw Johnson Club	Katharine Collis Tel: 461270 Email: kat_collis@hotmail.com	Thornbury Badminton Club	Marion or Shirley Tel: 869896 or 815871
Inner Wheel Club	Brenda Cox, President Tel: 812191 Email: brenda@coxco.demon.co.uk	U3A	Christine Chair Tel: 817587
Investigators	Ros Page Tel 810813 Email: rospagemusic@yahoo.com	Women's Institute (Stansted)	Judy Colliver President Tel: 812470
Little Scrummers	Andrew Poyser Tel: 07738 591232	Women's Institute (Ugley)	Dorothy Wallace President Tel: 850215
Millers (Windmill)	Derek Honour Tel: 647213	Whoosh Explore Canoe Club	Helen and Peter Nash Tel: 817453
Mountfitchet Club	John Robinson Tel: 812755	Youth Centre	Linda Barnes Tel: 07947 548051
music@stansted - classical concerts	Sonia Levy Tel: 815282 Email: info@musicatstansted.com		
NCT	Anna Sedgbeer Tel: 812257		
Neighbourhood Watch	Valerie Trundle Tel: 813433		

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

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At St Mary's, our school council runs as St Mary's Parliament. Elections take place in the first few days of term for the Head Girl and Head Boy, and for the representatives for each class. Each of the Parliament members joins one of the committees - Pupil Welfare and Eco committee. All the members work together to plan events and fundraisers for various causes. They already have a list of events they are planning to set up over the next few months. For the first activity they organised a 'Silent Hour' to raise money toward a new computer server. This is not usually a noisy school but it was absolutely peaceful and quiet for a time – even the reception pupils managed 30 minutes! Our next event will be Children in Need in November. For the Harvest Assembly this year, as well as songs and prayers, the children performed a poem, which was taught to just eight children each of whom had to teach others, who all then passed it on to more children ... This was a successful exercise in communication as by the end of the week the whole school knew the words and could recite their part to complete the whole poem in performance. We returned to tradition in our collection – the children donated a total of 537 pieces of fruit and vegetables which were given to Hargrave House.



Our PTFA had another successful year and have contributed widely to support projects the school has taken up and to provide additional equipment and resources. We would like to thank in particular the members of the committee who are always prepared to give their time and energy, not only with fundraising events but in other ways around the school, such as helping to host parent meetings, running the Friday tuck shop and the uniform sales. It all adds to the community activity of the school. This year, among other things, the PTFA are supporting improving outdoor learning – including our rooftop classroom - and IT provision. Thank you to all those parents who took up the invitation to visit St Mary's to see the school at work. We have been happy to show around a large number of interested parents. Some of the questions we were asked will be appearing on a new Frequently Asked Questions page of the school website. However, if you missed the tours or have further questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Christine Tonkins
Headteacher
Tel: 812212

Email: admin@st-marys-stansted.essex.sch.uk



UGLEY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Fair Trade was the subject of our September meeting - a very thought-provoking subject. The afternoon opened with a short quiz to test our knowledge of the subject with questions such as 'When did a product with the Fair Trade mark first appear in the UK?' and 'What was the first product to carry a Fair Trade mark in the UK?' - the answers being 1994 and chocolate. In the space of just 45 minutes our speaker Brenda Veitch assisted by her husband Stuart gave us a very entertaining insight into the work of Fair Trade and Traidcraft, whose mission is to fight poverty through trade, practising and promoting approaches to trade that help poor people in developing countries transform their lives. More information can be found on their website www.traidcraft.co.uk. Thanks to Brenda and her well-stocked Fair Trade stall we were able to do our little bit to help this worthy cause and engage in some Christmas shopping. Another entertaining afternoon was rounded off with a good cup of tea and some delicious Fair Trade biscuits! If this sounds like your cup of tea why not come and join us? We meet in Ugley Village Hall on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 2.15pm. 'Tales from Beatrix Potter and the Lake District' will be our subject for November, and our December meeting will be held in our President's home, Byculla, Old Mead Lane, Henham CM22 6JH on Wednesday 3rd December at 2.15pm when Christmas around the world will be our theme.

Andrea Fitt
Tel: 815922

STANSTED HALL & ELSENHAM CRICKET CLUB

Although the summer playing season is now finished the Club continues with winter activities. Our groundsmen have done an excellent job all year. Phil Maule and Dave Sandall have now put the wickets to bed by cutting and scarifying then adding top soil and grass seed. Nature now takes over for a few months. Work parties have tidied and done essential work on both grounds including improving the surface around the nets. Both the U12 and U15 teams lost the Bardfield Cup finals to strong Saffron Walden teams but to reach the final was a significant achievement. On the last Sunday of the season a Club record was broken. The Sunday XI played against Thorley and Thomas Snelling scored his first 50 for the senior team – well done him. For the record – he is only 12 years of age!!! Not to be left out, his sister Anna is having trials with Essex County Cricket Club. The juniors will be playing in the Bardfield League, the West Essex League, and the ECCC Peter Coe U13 Cup again next season. Indoor cricket at HECC continues all winter. Twelve boys will be trialling with West Essex in November and December. We are looking for a couple of tables of eight or 10 to attend our quiz on Saturday 24th January at Bishop's Stortford College with an 8.00pm start and includes a fish/chicken and chip supper. Please contact me if interested.



David Brown
Chairman
Tel: 831011

Email: david.r.brown1@btinternet.com

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Autumn is well and truly here and this month our little butterflies have enjoyed exploring the local countryside with some exciting walks to the woods to see the beautiful autumnal colours the changing season brings. The children have also enjoyed various creative activities using the fallen leaves but best of all was making this year's scarecrow, pictured here with one of our pupils Haydn Bird. We were lucky enough to have a visit from Larry, Moe and Curly the tortoises, just as they were preparing to hibernate for the winter. The children loved being able to hold



them and were fascinated by their shells and the way that they moved, such a lovely experience for them to have.

The Committee are hosting a quiz night at Birchanger Social Club on 15th November 7.30pm for 8.00pm to raise much needed funds for the Nursery. Tickets are £10 including a sausage and chip supper. Come and test your knowledge in what promises to be a fun night. Please call Jen on the number below for tickets. The Nursery is holding an open day on 15th November 10.00am-12 noon, when staff and children will be there to show you what we have to offer. There will be some activities for the children to get involved with so please do come along and see us. Birchanger Nursery is a highly respected local preschool facility in the grounds of, but separate from, Birchanger Primary School. We provide a safe, caring and stimulating learning environment for children aged 2½ to 5. To arrange a visit see our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/BirchangerNursery or telephone our administrator Jen Munton on 810800 or email: admin@birchangernursery.org.

Kirsty Moore
Birchanger Nursery Committee



MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNINGS

The Cock

In association with D C Poulton and Sons we held a Coffee Morning on 27th September in support of the MacMillan Cancer Trust. We raised £200 and were supported by local businesses, friends, and customers. We much appreciated all the support and would like to thank everyone who came along and purchased the lovely home-made cakes and bought raffle tickets.

Paul and Samantha Salmon
Tel: 812964
Email: info@thecockatstansted.co.uk

Old Lane House

Thank you to everyone who supported our MacMillan Coffee Morning. A marvellous total of £580.00 was raised whilst having a really enjoyable and worthwhile morning.

Christine and Bill Stiles
Tel: 813172

Dr Steven Dowbiggen OBE, the Principal and Chief Executive of Capel Manor College since 1986, was the Club's October speaker. After a brief history about the houses that have been on the site since the 12th century, their owners and how the College evolved from being a College of Further Education to the College known today, Dr Dowbiggen spoke about Her Grace, The Dowager Duchess of Devonshire who became the College's Patron in 1990. Her Grace passed away at the end of September aged 94, and as our meeting was on the eve of her funeral, he told us about her untiring efforts and close association with Capel Manor College over the past 24 years. Starting with his first meeting with her at Chatsworth when her dog 'Grandpa' welcomed him by pinning him down and licking him non-stop until admonished, he told us how she had encouraged her friends and associates to support London's only specialist centre for land-based studies. Under her patronage the College became a charitable trust and is now a working estate where students can gain hands-on experience in many subjects. With her interest in supporting historic building restoration, rare breeds and traditional industries, she encouraged the College to restore its stables and buildings and to teach skills that were dying out. The College Prospectus now includes horticulture, arboriculture, garden design, floristry, and saddlery, as well as animal care and environmental conservation. The College has grown from 15 students to over 3,500 and now has satellite centres based all over London. In 2000, The Prince of Wales opened a new pavilion named after Her Grace – her two stipulations were that it was to be called a pavilion and not a building and that it should resemble the new stand at Ascot Racecourse! Dr Dowbiggen's behind-the-scenes stories and anecdotes showed Her Grace's sense of fun, and how hardworking and passionate the College's first patron had been.

Our next meeting is on Wednesday 5th November, when the subject is 'The Art of Garden Photography' by Michael Howes, who will also judge the Members' Photographic Competition for the Green Bowl Cup, the subject of which is 'Art in the Garden' – anything 'arty' from mobiles to statues. Everyone welcome – membership available or come as a visitor £2.50. Refreshments before the meeting. Venue is the Day Centre. Doors open at 7.30pm for 8.00pm start.

Maralyn Harris
Chairman
Tel: 07919 478144



www.swchoral.org.uk

Saffron Walden Choral Society, accompanied by the Chameleon Arts Orchestra and conducted by Janet Wheeler performs Carl Orff's *Carmina Burana* and Saint-Saëns' *Carnival of the Animals* on Saturday 15th November 7.30pm at Saffron Hall. Tickets from our website, or tel Saffron Walden Tourist Office on 01799 524002 or on the door.

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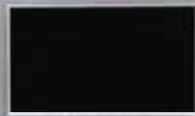
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STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET
LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

On 2nd October we were treated to a talk from Anthony Tuck on the history of Newport, its ups and downs, and about a few of the residents that have resided in the village. Newport probably originated in the early 10th century as a royal settlement in the forefront of the English advance into the east to recover lands from the Danish armies. A settlement may have existed here under the name Wigingamere which King Edward the Elder, engaged in the re-conquest of the Danelaw, ordered to be refortified in 921. By the 12th century, if not earlier, it had developed some features of a small town, such as a market and a jail, but in later centuries, with a succession of absentee lords of the manor, its urban character declined, though it was still a trading centre. With the coming of the railway in the 19th century, Newport, as well as Stansted, flourished with a gas works and maltings. Some of the more noted property owners were Sir Carl and Lady Meyer at Shortgrove Hall. They had great importance within the art scene in London, and Lady Meyer formed education and information classes in London and Newport for mothers on improving health and nutrition as well as dental care in infants. In 1588 Newport Free Grammar School was founded by Dame Joyce Frankland. Although it has retained its name, it began to take boys of all abilities in 1976, and is now fully comprehensive as well as co-educational. The greatest changes in Newport have occurred recently. One hundred years ago about 900 people, largely agricultural workers, lived in some 220 dwellings. By 1971 the population had increased somewhat to over 1,200. Since then all the livestock farms have closed; fields, orchards, and farm premises in the centre of the village have been built over. More than 2,200 people now occupy over 900 houses, with a large number of residents working in London.

Our next meeting is on 6th November 8.00pm in the Day Centre, when our subject will be 'A window on the world' 150 years of the Herts & Essex Observer by Paul Winspear. All welcome.



Steve Leaney
Tel: 647177



www.musicatstansted.co.uk,

Sunday 7th December will see a first for *music@stansted* - a concert of music for the sensuous combination of flute and harp. Two members of the Amsterdam-based chamber group Ensemble Elvisa (harpist Victoria Davies and Russian-born flautist Elena Vyaznikova) will be performing Bizet's *Carmen* fantasy, *Winter* from Vivaldi's *Four Seasons*, and music by Bax, Ravel and Tchaikovsky. The concert, in St John's Church, will start at 3.00pm and as usual there will be seasonal refreshments during the interval. Tickets £15 adults, available from Absolute Travel, Chapel Hill; Nockolds Solicitors, Bishop's Stortford; Sonia Levy tel 815282; or at the door. Entry is totally free for under 18s - so a great opportunity for families to come along and hear live music

from this ever-popular combination. More detailed information is on our website or if you have a specific enquiry please email: contactus@musicatstansted.co.uk.

Richard Allaway

BIRCHANGER WOOD

Winter is approaching. Birchanger Wood's trees are now 'on hold' until warmer times but not everything closes down. Safe in the ground, the bulbs are gathering sustenance for next year's flowering, the birds and squirrels are stocking up food for winter and burrows are cleaned, cleared, and freshened for the long time to be spent holed up in them by rabbits, foxes and badgers. Our super user-friendly paths, which wind throughout the Wood, are providing solid ground underfoot and deterring muddy splashes on our trousers and boots. Our furry four-footed friends which accompany us through the Wood also greatly benefit by not arriving home covered in wet sticky mud, which reduces the time needed for cleaning up after exercise, ironically providing more time to watch the TV, or catch up on the i-phone! So throughout the winter there is no excuse for anyone stopping their daily, twice-daily, or weekly walk in Birchanger Wood! Come on down! Some Fridays the children from St Elizabeth's School, a local specialist residential school for children and young people with epilepsy and



other associated disabilities, enjoy the outdoor life with our Warden and their carers. They are able to experience the 'Big Outdoors', including being sustained by way of tea made using a 'Kelly kettle' and the occasional bacon sandwich. Our Warden is the focal point for the youngsters on these special days.

Most Saturdays our volunteer Warden and helpers are busy trimming and caring for the paths, undergrowth and trees. They use secateurs for wayward encroaching brambles, and



much larger heavier equipment ('boyz toyz') to treat damaged and clear dead trees, sawing, chopping and creating wood piles and sorting the wood ready for sale. The income goes towards the running costs of the Trust - insurances, fuel, tools, equipment, and the employment of professional tree climbers - needed when some trees have to be climbed in order to fell or pollard them. Wood can be purchased most Saturdays from the compound close to the Water Tower entrance, off Heath Row, between 9.00am-10.00am and 2.00pm-3.00pm, priced £10 per barrow-load (approximately 90 litres). Enjoy the onset of winter!



Daphne Wallace-Jarvis
Email: secretary@birchangerwoodtrust.org

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STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET U3A

We went to Chatham Docks to celebrate the 1940s. For some of us 'old timers' it was a poignant chance to remember the ending of the WWII, 70 years ago. Several members dressed in the 1940s style and it was a delight to see so many other visitors had gone to great efforts to reproduce the dress code of the time - knee length skirts (with ladies having drawn seams up the back of their stockings); hats and gloves; babies were being pushed around in the old fashioned bassinets; and war time uniforms everywhere. For me, it was a nostalgic day! We explored HMS Cavalier, the Royal Navy's last surviving WWII destroyer, and explored the bowels of a submarine.



We studied exhibitions and admired old classic cars, ships, guns and even had the option of making a rope. We visited the evacuees' meeting room to share our memories! The air raid sirens sounded every hour and we were reminded of the way of life during those years of hardship when we 'dug for victory' and lived with food rationing!! We were entertained by the sound-a-likes of George Formby, the Andrews Sisters and Gracie Fields and the Lindie Hoppers provided an opportunity for some to swing and jive on the dance floor. What a great day - thanks Maggie and Jan. Thank you also for Margaret B's memories of the trip.

U3A Singers' Concert

The concert was a culmination of months of hard work and dedication. We enjoyed the haunting melody of 'I have a Dream' and a wide variety of music ending the first set with



'All that Jazz'. The programme came to an end after a lively performance of songs from the musicals. The singers were delighted with the prolonged show of appreciation from the audience. Thanks to Rita for this review.

Saturday Night Fever, our annual dance is on Saturday 8th November 7.15pm for 7.30pm at Forest Hall School. Tickets £13.50 includes a fish and chip supper, from Maggie 503848 or Jan 812481. Bring your own drinks and nibbles. Live music from Archive and Vintage Velvet. Dress in your funkier outfits! **The revised date** for the matinée performance of Dirty Rotten Scoundrels is Thursday 27th November. Contact Cherry on 817140 for further details.

The next **Saturday Morning Seminar** is on 29th November when Richard Epworth will reveal the process behind how we learn. How the Outside Get In: the incredible science behind learning, wisdom and prejudice. £4 members £5 non-members - contact Alan 07790 213510, email: stanstedseminars@gmail.com or at the monthly meeting.

The **next meeting** is on Thursday 20th November in St John's Hall, doors opening at 1.30pm, when Tim Turner is speaking on 'Fakes and Forgeries'. Visit our website for full details or contact Chris (Chair) 817587 or Sandra (Secretary) 814304.



Caroline Bore

FILM REVIEW



Gone Girl - 18

If you've read Gillian Flynn's dark, twisted and thoroughly modern thriller *Gone Girl* - and loved it - then David Fincher's film adaptation will enthrall! Even knowing the story makes this film no less shocking. Fincher (*Se7en*, *Zodiac*, *Fight Club*, *The Social Network*) leapt at the challenge to adapt last year's bestseller and unsurprisingly, considering that it is also Gillian Flynn's screenplay, the film emulates the book with equally visceral and psychologically taut precision. Amy and Nick Dunne are the married couple central to the story, cleverly written from each perspective in diary style. It's difficult to separate how you feel about the characters in the film if you've already read the book; you know what's coming and have already decided whose side you're on. Having said that, it doesn't detract from the film's depiction. Like the book, it is filmed in two parts: the mystery of our protagonist's disappearance, then the explanation of what really happened - after which subsequent events quickly unfold.

The cinematography, like the story, feels slick. Essentially, it is about a perfect modern marriage that has soured unexpectedly quickly. The psychopathology of the central characters, their extreme actions and venomous feelings will probably resonate abundantly with those having experience of toxic relationships; themes of revenge, deception and infidelity abound. Conversely, happily coupled viewers might find the film incredibly disturbing - possibly repulsive. There aren't many characters and one or two less pivotal ones are written out of the screenplay; this doesn't affect the film in the least as the plot twists and flips to shock and eviscerate you at every turn. It earned an 18 certification for some brief but graphic scenes, combined with an effluence of colourful language that punctuates throughout. *Gone Girl* is coarse, it's upfront, it's confrontational and most certainly not for the faint-hearted.

Anna Nolan

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STANSTED FOOTBALL CLUB



As the year now moves into the autumn season both our teams face a very competitive schedule in their respective Leagues and Cups. Now comes the test on how the pitch will stand up to all the work completed in the summer. Whilst the first team are maintaining their good form in the League, the disappointment of losing to a very experienced London Colney team in the FA Vase was clearly etched on all the management and players as they left the field at the end of the game. Everyone felt that we deserved at least a replay from the tie, but on a day of missed opportunities, unfortunately, we were out of the competition at the first hurdle and lost out on the opportunity of some welcome prize money. November gives both our sides the opportunity to claim bragging rights when we face local rivals Takeley on three occasions at Hargrave Park. Please remember that support for the team is greatly appreciated. Off the field we are now close to completing the refurbishment of our Clubhouse, both internally and externally. Huge thanks to the Sports Association for their financial support in helping us overcome our leaking roof; also to Eric Foster for decorating the inside of the building. Our Clubhouse is a wonderful facility to hold a private function - please contact the Club if you require details. Finally, once again this year Stansted Football Club is proud to participate in the village Remembrance Sunday Parade. We shall be laying a wreath in honour of all those victims who lost their lives in past conflicts.

Upcoming November Home Fixtures

- 1st Stansted v London Bari League Fixture KO 3.00pm
- 8th Stansted Res v Takeley Res League Fixture KO 2.00pm
- 15th Stansted v Takeley League Fixture KO 3.00pm
- 22nd Stansted v Waltham Forest League Fixture KO 3.00pm
- 25th Stansted v Takeley League Cup KO 7.45pm
- 29th For details please contact the Club

Tom Williams
Secretary
Tel: 07921 403842



**STANSTED & DISTRICT
LIBERAL DEMOCRATS**

Saturday 1st November 11.00am-1.30pm in the Day Centre there will be a workshop to discuss future policy - for more information see website: <http://bit.ly/1qj4fBs>. You do not have to be a Liberal Democrat to bring your ideas to this discussion. Come and have your say, even if you only stay for a short while. Coffee and biscuits will be served.

Friday 14th November 7.00pm for 7.30pm the Saffron Walden **Constituency Dinner** will be held at the Day Centre in Stansted. The speaker will be the newly appointed Lib Dem peer Julie Smith (Baroness Smith of Newnham). Julie is the Director of the European Centre in the POLIS Department at Cambridge University, and her talk is certain to be interesting. Tickets are £25 to include a three course dinner and can be purchased from me. On **Saturday 22nd November** 7.00pm for 7.30pm there will be a **Quiz** at the Day Centre, quizmaster David Morson. Teams of 4-8. Tickets £10 to include hot supper, available from me. Bar and raffle.



Catherine Dean
Tel: 813579

ODE TO WALKING FOR HEALTH

Crafton Green and it's our Friday Health Walk day
10.30am and the weather is lovely and warm
Surprisingly, and wonderfully,

most of our Fridays have been this way
And, over six years, almost every Stansted footpath and
twitchell we have explored.

It's amazing what can be achieved in an hour
(and a little bit')

Talking, Puffing, Thinking, Talking, Pausing, Looking, Talking,
Updating, Enjoying!

And at the end, the Achievement, the Reward ...
The Café, the Coffee, the Seat, Revitalising,
Comforting and Complete.

Written by Daphne Wallace-Jarvis, an 'ofttimes' walker, in appreciation of all those regular participants and the two great Stansted walk Leaders who 'make the walks work'.



This beautiful kestrel was seen on one of our health walks.

The Stansted Health Walk is part of the National Walking Programme 'Walking for Health' which is supported by Ramblers and Uttlesford District Council.

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Stansted Tennis Club



www.stanstedtennisclub.co.uk

Wilby Adult Doubles Tournament



Sixteen players enjoyed an afternoon of excellent and hard fought tennis on 5th October. The final was won by Rick Lim and Lisa King, who narrowly defeated Ed Wombwell and Jan Hollis, 6-4. The prizes and shield were presented by Ros Wilby, who is the daughter of Eddie Wilby. After Eddie's death, his widow Angela donated the shield to the Tennis Club and it has been competed for

annually since 1984. Unfortunately, Angela was unable to attend on the day.

Club Finals

A glorious day of tennis was enjoyed by players and a large number of supporters on 14th September. The day kicked off with a repeat of last year's Men's Singles final, with the



same result. Older brother, Joe Hollis beat younger brother Matt 6-1 6-4. In a closely fought Ladies' Singles final, Ruby Hollis won the title for the first time, defeating Lisa King 6-3 6-4. In the Men's Doubles, brothers Joe and Matt Hollis retained their title, beating Rick Lim and John Nichol 6-0 6-1. Ruby Hollis and Daphne Lunnon won the Ladies' Doubles with a walkover against Jan Hollis and Frances Rafferty. The last event of the day, the Mixed Doubles, was a repeat of last year's final, with the same result. Grandmother and grandson team of Jan and Joe Hollis beat Chris Hollis and Daphne Lunnon 6-4 6-3. Catherine Gibby was awarded the Roger Loveday Trophy for the most improved player.

Hospital Cup Finals

The finals were held at Castle Hill, Saffron Walden on 20th September. Stansted Tennis Club were victorious in two events. Ruby and Joe Hollis won the Mixed Doubles, beating Jude and James Walthew from Stebbing in two gripping sets. The score was 7-5 7-5. Joe and Matt Hollis had a much easier task in winning the Men's Doubles 6-1 6-1 against Adrian Brown and Joe Lampon from



The Grove. The other three events were won by Stebbing, Thaxted and Henham. This successful charity event raised money for Avocet Ward in Saffron Walden with a stunning raffle as well as participating players' entry fees.

Ladies' Night Monday 10th November 7.00pm. All lady members (especially new ones) are welcome to play.

Club sessions

Adults: Sunday mornings, Wednesday mornings and evenings and Friday mornings. All adult members are welcome and are encouraged to use the page on the website to indicate sessions they will be attending.

Tennis balls

£1 for a tube of four from Jan Hollis at 105 Cambridge Road.

Contacts Felicity Shakespeare (Secretary) 831771, Daphne Lunnon (Chairman) 817574. If you would like to find out more about Stansted Tennis Club, please visit the website.



Chris Hollis

STANSTED EVENING WOMEN'S INSTITUTE



In September several non-Committee members planned the meeting to give the Committee a break from their normal duties. The room was arranged for us to sit around tables and a glass of wine and delicious refreshments were greatly appreciated. Brenda Ryan was President and Marion Pretty Secretary for the evening, both of whom have served on the Committee in past years in these guises. Their chosen Speaker was Bob Hosking-Jones from Hertford, who gave a light-hearted talk entitled 'Village Life'. He lived in Norfolk as a young boy, went to agriculture college, and was for years a tenant farmer in North Mimms where he raised three children, who were allowed to earn money as bird-scarers in those days. He has travelled around the country widely giving his talks and has picked up many amusing stories of past life in rural districts, one being about a repatriated horse from WWI (shades of 'Warhorse') who was taught to plough, but if he heard a hunting horn he bolted with plough attached! Tales of market stall-holders who made extra money by short-changing goods with ease and were especially clever at stretching out elastic when measuring it by the yard! Those were the days. He illustrated his talk with his own rather charming verses and ended with one called 'My Dad'. A table quiz about our village brought out some new points of interest.

We enjoyed our trip to Rhodes Hall to see the extremely good production of 'West Side Story' and plan to see 'Jesus Christ Super Star' in November. Our planned November talk is the Garden at Myddleton House – speaker as yet unknown as the one booked has had to cancel! This is the third time this year this has happened, but we usually manage a substitute – or we could always just talk to each other! 13th November 7.45pm at the Day Centre - new members always welcome.



Judy Colliver
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Email: judycolliver@uwclub.net

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THE 32nd MILESTONE

The photo of the 32nd milestone on the cover of The Link last month has prompted me to tell of its historical significance to racing cyclists. The majority of cycle racing in this country takes the form of time trials, often early Sunday morning. Riders set off one at a time, at minute intervals, and are timed over a specified route, generally over a standard distance of 10, 25, 50 or 100 miles. Time trials have been held almost since the bicycle was invented, the first recorded event taking place in 1878. One of the earliest time trial courses was on the old A11 between Stansted and Newmarket. The combination of a flat road with a good surface made it fast and popular, regularly attracting over 100 riders, most of whom would first ride up from London. For many years, all courses on the A11 started and finished at the 32nd milestone. If the event was a '25', riders would head north, turning around a marshal who stood in the middle of the road at a precise point 12.5 miles away near Stump Cross. If it was a '50', the turn marshal would be near Newmarket. Top riders would aim to cover 25 miles in less than an hour. The milestone was important in the lives of many people, a symbol of their affection for cycling, this course and also the weekend club huts that were constructed locally by London clubs between the wars. The ashes of several cyclists have been scattered at the milestone. Time trials are still held regularly on the B1383, but the 32nd milestone no longer marks a regular start or finish point. However, the 32nd Association continues today to represent the cycling clubs with local clubhouses, co-ordinating their racing calendar and social events.

Ken McDonald
Tel: 813226

CORRECTION

Last month's cover photograph was incorrectly attributed to David Everett, instead of Derek Everett. Sincere apologies to Derek for the error.

Editor

ST MARY'S ELSENHAM FABRIC FUND

Our Christmas Tree Festival is on **Saturday 6th and Sunday 7th December**. For more details please telephone Jill Hill on 812397. For tickets for our Grand Draw please ring me.

Lyn Segar
Tel: 813289

MAGNA CARTA 800

Confirmation of events planned for 2015:

- 14th June - service in St John's Church and BBQ
- 19th June - unveiling of Stansted embroidery and exhibition of Magna Carta Facsimile
- 22nd June - 10.30am arrival of our Herald
- 27th June - The Baron's Medieval Fayre

Full details to follow.

Nigel Collingwood
Tel: 813428

Email: njcollingwood@hotmail.co.uk



'TRENDING' PETS

I was talking to one of our young assistants the other day and she was telling me all about 'trending' and 'going viral'. First of all she had to explain to me what these meant, as 'going viral' in my day meant catching something nasty and having to stay in bed with a cup of tea and The Sporting Life. However we soon established that what she meant was the modern phenomenon of something becoming popular very rapidly through the use of social media such as Facebook or Twitter. So I'd like to share with you what is trending in the veterinary world at the moment according to a member of the younger generation who knows about these things ...

1. Creative Pet Grooming – this seems to involve clipping dogs' fur into unusual shapes or patterns and dyeing it to resemble other animals or even film or cartoon characters. Googling 'bizarre dog hairdos' was certainly an eye opener and if you're bored or just a bit sad like me it's certainly worth taking a look. However a poodle clipped and dyed to look like a bison or the Simpson family is a step too far for me.
2. Pet Clothing - okay, so some of these dogs seem to have more clothes than me! Some outfits are quite practical but others just completely over the top, trouble is, I don't know whether to be exasperated or just a little bit jealous.
3. Raw Feeding - now this is a useful trend I think. Feeding raw meat and veg and some raw meaty bones has become increasingly popular in the last few years and many dogs have benefited from this more natural form of diet rather than eating the highly processed commercial foods that are available. Certainly I've known of dogs with long term skin problems or dietary allergies that have improved greatly on raw food. There are also well documented benefits for teeth as chewing raw meat helps to naturally clean them. For someone brought up in the age of commercial processed pet foods, going back to raw feeding could seem almost a backward step, but modern raw diets aren't just a question of getting some cheap cuts of meat from a butcher, the companies that supply raw meat for pets have done a lot of research and produce a range of raw meats in a variety of forms, for example rolls of mince with some ground up bone. Raw meat ready mixed with raw veg for more balance, freezer packs and even handy packs of freeze dried meat that are easy and light to take on holiday with you and can be fed as they are or reconstituted with a bit of water. Often the meat is locally sourced and of high quality. Obviously any change of diet should be managed carefully and research should be done so you are comfortable with the theory of raw feeding before you start so a proper balance is obtained. Some useful websites are www.honeysrealdogfood.com and www.naturesmenu.co.uk.

Well that's enough of trending, it's made me quite tired; might just go and lie down with a nice cup of tea and the latest copy of The Sporting Life ...



Ilse Pedler
Mercer & Hughes Veterinary Surgeons

Don't Forget! Copy deadline for Dec/Jan Link is 11 Nov.

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We had another really well-attended and lively meeting at Linden House on 3rd October. Our speaker, Howard Roberts of Peartree Wealth Management talked about pensions and regulations for all employers with two or more employees, which gave us a lot to think about.



As a business forum we are very keen to ensure that we use each other's services wherever possible to support our local businesses. I certainly always look to members of the forum first if I need anything at all. We would also like to encourage all our residents to do the same. So we are delivering our directory to all residents in Stansted. We have 50 businesses that are advertising their services in our business directory and would really encourage you to look for a local business if you need something. We can offer you companies who provide a wide range of services. These include design and media, food and leisure, health and beauty, homes, gardens and motors, professional services and retail and travel. This is everything you could possibly need, so we would ask you to support our local businesses and think local and buy local. Well the year certainly has been a busy one and our breakfast meetings are going from strength to strength. We are looking forward to our next meeting at Linden House on 7th November. We will also be having our Christmas lunch at Linden House on Friday 5th December which will replace our normal breakfast meeting. If you would like to join the Stansted Business Forum or would like some more information about what we do, please contact Peter James at Murdochs Property Shop telephone 813318.



Iris Evans
Treasurer



**STANSTED
MOUNTFITCHET
WINDMILL**

Our October opening was well supported. We saw many visitors all of whom were very interested in the Mill. Once again I put a table outside the Mill to sell bric-à-brac and books which helped to boost the Windmill funds. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our stewards who have done a splendid job this season. Our next event is our Coffee Morning at the Day Centre on Wednesday 12th November 10.00am-12 noon. There will be coffee, tea, mince pies and biscuits all for £1.50, plus a raffle and the usual stalls. I do hope you will come along and support us.



Molly Clark
Co-Trustee
Tel: 816768



BEEKEEPING

In my spring piece for The Link I said the Government was consulting all interested parties in order to publish its National Pollinator Strategy and following this consultation, the strategy would be published in the autumn. So we are getting near that point. We do know that as part of the strategy the Government wants to make the public more aware of the need to encourage pollinators, all 1,500 different species, including honey bees, 28 species of bumble bees, 260 species of solitary bees, 270 species of hover flies and hundreds of species of beetles, moths and butterflies. In support of this the British Beekeepers Association has launched its Call for Action, which relies on five things we can all do:

1. Grow more flowers, shrubs and trees that provide nectar for pollinators throughout the year. For instance primroses and crocuses in the spring, lavender, and daisies in the summer and ivy, hebes, and cyclamen in the autumn.
2. Leave patches of land to grow wild and weedy with stinging nettles and dandelions which provide habitat for butterflies and moths.
3. Cut the lawn less often (or at least a bit of it).
4. Avoid disturbing breeding insects in grass margins, dead wood, and bare soil.
5. Think before using garden pesticides.

The Bishop's Stortford Beekeepers Association has, for a number of years, had as its objective making the public more aware and encouraging bee keeping, by running an annual beginners class in the spring, but I ask myself how can we encourage people to take note of the Call for Action? Perhaps we can all leave a foot of unmown lawn, and buy a packet of wild seeds and scatter them on a square metre of our garden. Perhaps the Parish Council could find a sponsor to deliver a packet of seeds with every parish magazine and encourage each family to scatter the seeds in a border, hedgerow or spare land round the village (or would this be against Health and Safety or some other such law?). Now there's a challenge for our councillors - how about it guys? I think the kids would love it! (PS Without giving anything away, one Bishop's Stortford Councillor has already given our Association a meaningful amount of money under the Locality Grant Scheme to support our work in the town.)



John Dockerill
Chairman
Bishop's Stortford Beekeepers Association
Email: training@stortfordbees.org.uk

THE MANUDEN SINGERS CELEBRATE 30 YEARS

On Sunday 14th December 7.30pm in St Mary's Church, 'Messiah' returns to Manuden in celebration of our 30th Anniversary. Tickets £10 (£5 children) from 812157, or on the door. All concert proceeds will be donated to St Mary's Church, Manuden.

Teresa Priest
Tel: 647050

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