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by **noon** on 11th October
 for the November issue

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EDITORIAL



The path to producing each issue of 'The Link' is not always a smooth one for the production team! There is often the odd obstacle to overcome. The recent 'bomb scare' at Stansted Police Station requiring the evacuation of nearby residents (including yours truly) on 'Link' deadline day, was a different challenge altogether! The 'bomb' caused a lot of excitement and disruption, but fortunately proved not to be a danger. It was quite a bizarre experience but surprisingly not a frightening one, due entirely to the calmness displayed by all those involved. Thank you to all who offered shelter to the 'evacuees'. It's heart warming to know that old-fashioned caring and neighbourliness is still the order of the day in modern Stansted.

Now that the Olympics and Paralympics are over and autumn is here, it's time to start thinking about Christmas. The Parish Council is leading the way with preparations for an exciting new venture for Stansted, a Christmas Market (see page 19). For other clubs and organisations also planning local events, it's a good idea to enter the details in the Village Diary at the Library to ensure that your fundraiser doesn't clash with another of a similar nature. Finally, make the most of the brief respite between the Jubilee/Olympics excitement, and the upcoming Christmas celebrations. Enjoy October!

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Stansted network is compiled by Stansted Mountfitchet Parish Council.

DISCLAIMER Opinions expressed in this magazine are given freely and do not necessarily represent those of the editorial committee, nor is any culpability accepted for work undertaken by advertisers.

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

At a recent Quaker Meeting for Worship our spoken ministry touched on the theme of truth and trust. Truth is one of our testimonies along with simplicity, equality and peace. Our testimonies are central to how we understand our faith and practice and they constantly challenge us to look afresh at how we live in the world.

Truth underpins personal relationships and the proper conduct of public affairs. When people speak we assume they are telling the truth. To assume otherwise, unless we have good cause, would make life impossible. Human relationships would have no value or purpose and the basis on which communities function would collapse. At the heart of this is the loss of trust.

The following quote from a Quaker publication captures for me the essence of our testimony to truth.

“We can only be true to our innermost sense of spiritual harmony if we are faithful to the truth and honest in our dealings. This is all the more important in today’s complex social, political and economic system, where these values can so easily be lost to sight. Truth and integrity are therefore something that Quakers regard as fundamental guiding principles not just in their own lives but also in public affairs.”

As well as being honest in our dealings with others we also need to be honest with ourselves. The following from our book of insights, *Quaker Faith and Practice*, makes the point: “Be honest with yourself. What unpalatable truths might you be evading? When you recognise your shortcomings, do not let that discourage you. In worship together we can find the assurance of God’s love and the strength to go on with renewed courage.”



Jonathan Morrell
Stansted Quaker Meeting



STANSTED FREE CHURCH

Methodist / URC
Chapel Hill

www.stanstedfreechurch.org.uk

Minister Rev'd David Keeble
Tel 01799 522037
minister@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk

Lettings Marion and Mike Dyer
7 Blythwood Gardens, Stansted CM24 8HG
Tel 814059
lettings@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk

Preachers for October

7th 10.30am The Worship Team – New Directions
14th 10.30am Rev'd David Keeble - Communion
21st 10.30am Julie Finbow
28th 10.30am Janet Bottoms

The Place on the Hill

See elsewhere in 'The Link' for details of our new drop-in offering free Fairtrade ground coffee and other refreshments, WiFi internet, computers, a place to 'chill out', somewhere for the kids to play, books to read and borrow, and more - every Wednesday 9.30am-12.30pm starting on 31st October in the newly re-furbished foyer. All welcome.

Stuart Townsend

We are very sad to report that Brian and Janet Townsend's son Stuart has died following a heart attack. He was aged just 46 and did not have any history of heart problems. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family.

ROMAN CATHOLIC

St Therese of Lisieux
High Lane

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

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

Confessions
Saturday 10.00am
and by appointment

Baptisms By appointment

SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

Quaker Meeting House
Chapel Hill

Clerk Mrs Anthea Lee
24 Lea Close
Bishop's Stortford
Tel : 01279 656707

Meeting Sunday, 10.30am



All enquiries: The Church Office, St John's Hall,
St John's Road, Stansted CM24 8JP
Tel: 815243
Email: st.johns.church@btinternet.com
Office hours: 9.00am-12 noon, Monday,
Wednesday, Friday
Administrator: Mrs Sally Chapman
Website: www.stanstedstjohns.btck.com

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

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

Church Hall Bookings: Susie Ball
Tel or text: 07972 373994
Email: stjohns.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 There are services of Holy Communion on the first Tuesdays and Wednesdays of the month in Norman Court, Hargrave House and Broome End Nursing Homes.

Tuesday
9.00am St John's Tots

Wednesday
9.00am Morning Prayer
10.00am Holy Communion

Monday-Thursday and Saturday

5.00pm Evening Prayer

ST JOHN'S 300 CLUB

Many congratulations to the winners of the August draws, who were:

£100: No 5 – Linda and Tony Gurr
£ 50: No 151 - John Jaques
£ 25: No 128 – Emma Pritchard

The draws for October will be held on Sunday 28th October in St John's Church following the 9.30am service.

Numbers are still available for anyone who may wish to join at a cost of £2 per month per number. Please contact me for an application form if you would like to be in with a chance of winning whilst helping to support the work of St John's Church.

Francine Cope
Tel: 814562

From the Registers

August

Baptisms

5th Noah William Lynch
12th Daisy Henrietta Denise Davenport
19th Jasmin Tia Saunders
26th Harley Robert Ledain

Weddings

18th Oliver Thompson and Laura Quinn

Funerals

9th Queenie Brown, age 71 - service at St John's followed by cremation at Three Counties Crematorium, Braintree
14th William Harold Bull, age 87- service at St John's followed by cremation at Parndon Wood
17th Roy Partlett - at Parndon Wood
22nd Zena Stewart, age 85 - at Parndon Wood
29th Jeanette Harrold, age 68 - at Parndon Wood



Harvest Supper Sunday 7th October St John's Hall

As is now our tradition, we will be holding our Village Harvest Supper followed by light entertainment provided by all the churches. We shall be repeating last year's hot meal of fish, chicken or veggie burger and chips. The supper starts at 6.00pm and tickets priced £6, with children £4, are available from: St John's Office (815243 Mon, Wed, Fri 9.00am-noon), Helen Baker (814865), Catherine Dean (813579), Marion Dyer (814059) or any of the churches. **As we have to order the food from outside caterers, advance booking is required and tickets will not be available on the day.** Please bring your own drink and glasses. All are welcome and any surplus money raised will go to Samaritan's Purse towards transportation costs for the Shoe Boxes.

Helen Baker and Catherine Dean



On Monday 8th October at 7 Blythwood Gardens we welcome Roger Harrison, son of Phyllis Harrison, who will be talking and showing pictures of his family history. Our 'At home' on Monday 22nd October is at 13 Blackbushe, Bishop's Stortford. All are welcome. Both meetings start at 8.00pm.

Marion Dyer
Tel: 814059

FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S CHURCH

Radio Controlled Model Exhibition

The Committee of the Friends of St Mary's Church wishes to say a very big "thank you" to the Moorhen Model Boat Club



and the Roydon Flying Club who put on a wonderful display in St Mary's Church on Saturday 1st September. A steady flow of visitors were received during the day, and many



families attended with young children who were very impressed seeing all the working models so expertly made and displayed. St Mary's Church provides a lovely venue for this event. Next year the Moorhen Model Boat Club has agreed to put on another exhibition, and will ask train enthusiasts to join them to make it even more interesting.

On behalf of the Committee I would like to extend our thanks to all the Friends of St

Mary's Church who baked cakes, served tea and coffee and donated raffle prizes. This exhibition was such a great success due to the help and support of so many kind people, who without question are always willing to help the Friends of St Mary's Church.

Coffee Morning Thursday 25th October 10.00am-12 noon

Sandra and Keith Ayres are kindly holding a coffee morning in aid of The Friends of St Mary's Church at their home, 49 St John's Road, Stansted from 10.00am to 12 noon. Entrance will be 50p inclusive of tea/coffee. There will be a raffle, tombola, bric-a-brac and craft stall as well as homemade cakes. If you have any books, bric-a-brac, tombola or raffle prizes and would like to donate or even make a cake, it would be very much appreciated. Please telephone Sandra (Ayres) on 814471 or myself for information.

Angels, Christmas Trees and Carols

This event is planned to take place at St Mary's Church the third weekend of December - more information in next month's 'Link'.

Sally Argent
Secretary
Tel: 812418

photos from Maria White

SHOE BOX PACKING

The shoe box packing evening will be **Monday 5th November** at 7.00pm at Stansted Free Church hall. All are welcome to help.

Any items for the boxes, shoe boxes (preferably already covered in Christmas paper) and donations of money can be brought along on the evening. We need a lot of items for the boxes and it costs at least £2.50 to transport each box, so all contributions will be greatly appreciated. In addition, on **Saturday 27th October** 10.00am-12 noon the Free Church foyer will be open for the collection of items for the boxes.

If unable to make either event, please contact one of us so that we can pick up from you. There are leaflets in all the churches and around the village about what can and can't go into the boxes. And of course we also need a lot of shoe boxes, so please let us have them. Also, if anyone would like to help by covering some boxes in advance, please give us a ring as early as possible so they can be covered in preparation for our packing evening.

Last year we sent over 200 boxes from this one evening, so let's see if we can do even better this year. This is one 'Christmas box' which can make a huge difference to the life of a disadvantaged child. See you on the 5th.

Catherine Dean 813579
Helen Baker 814865
Eileen Quinn 812109

THE PLACE ON THE HILL

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Come to the newly refurbished foyer of the Free Church, every Wednesday from 9.30am-12.30pm, starting on 31st October. No need to bring your purse, everything is free of charge. Whether you are a young mum or dad, carer, homemaker, unemployed, working, retired, feeling alone, just need a place to have a sit before walking up or down Chapel Hill - or none of these!! - then a warm welcome awaits you at **The Place**. For more details please contact the Free Church Team: Marion and Mike 814059, Fran 812748, Catherine 813579 or Betty 813977. We look forward to seeing you.

Marion Dyer



Birchanger Buddies

QUIZ NIGHT

8 pm Fri 5th October

Birchanger Village Hall

Tickets £8 incl **Fish 'n' Chips**
Call / text Gemma 07745 036066

Tables of 6 ~ BYO drink & glass

Proceeds to Birchanger Buddies



Stansted Singers

2012 A Year of Celebration

7.30 pm Sat 6th Oct

St John's Church

Tickets Adults £6 Under 16s £3
from Ruth 814222

Barbara 814721 or Mary 814190



Village Harvest Supper & Entertainment

Fish/Chicken/Veggie & Chips

6 - 8.30 pm Sun 7th Oct

St John's Church Hall

Tickets: Adults £6 schoolchildren £4 from
814059, 813579, 814865

or St John's Church Office 815243

Bring your own drink & glass

All Welcome but advance booking required

Proceeds to Samaritan's Purse for Shoeboxes

VILLAGE EVENTS

October

2 & 16 Tue	Food for Thought	Venue tbc 7.45 pm
3 Wed	Mountfitchet Club Garden Club	Day Centre 2 - 4 pm
5 Fri	Spangles Buggy Walks begin Birchanger Buddies Quiz	Day Centre 7.30 for 8 pm Children's Centre 10.30 - 11.30 am
6 & 13 Sat	Stansted Family Café	Birchanger Village Hall 8 pm
6 Sat	U3A Concert	Day Centre 9.30 - 11 am
7 Sun	Windmill Open	St John's Church 7.30 pm
	Village Harvest Supper	1.30 - 5.30 pm
	Shalom	St John's Hall 6 pm
8 Mon	Shalom	7 Blythwood Gardens 8 pm
10 Wed	Red Cross Gift Fair	Parklands 10 am - 3.30 pm
11 Thu	Link copy due in today WI	before 12 noon St John's Hall 7.45 pm
13 & 27 Sat	Skips	Lower St Car Park 9 am - 3 pm
13 Sat	WI Jumble sale Music@stansted Lib Dem Quiz	St John's Hall 11 am St John's Church 7.30 pm
18 Thu	U3A	Day centre 7 for 7.30 pm
21 Sun	Bring & Share Picnic Lunch	St John's Hall 2 pm
22 Mon	Shalom At Home	Quaker Meeting House 11.30 am
25 Thu	Friends of St Mary's Coffee	13 Blackbushe, B Stortford 8 pm
27 Sat	Shoe Box Collection Point Herts & Soul Concert	49 St John's Road 10 am - noon Free Church Foyer 10 am - noon
28 Sun	Stansted Family Café	St John's Church 7.30 pm
31 Wed	The Place on the Hill opens	Day Centre 9.30 - 11 am Free Church 9.30 am - 12.30 pm



**BritishRedCross
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Wed 10th October

10 am - 3.30 pm

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Stansted Evening WI

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11 am Sat 13th October

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Entry 20p

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- ◆ *Invent a bug and name it*
- ◆ *Bug Wordsearch*

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Thurs 2 - 6, Sat 9.30 - 5



Friends of
St Mary's Church

COFFEE MORNING

Thu 25th Oct 10 am - noon

49 St John's Road

Entry 50p includes tea/coffee
Raffle ~ Tombola ~ Bric-à-Brac
Crafts ~ Homemade Cakes
All Welcome

Tel 814471 or 812418



**Stansted & District
Liberal Democrats**

QUIZ EVENING

7 for 7.30 pm Day Centre

Saturday 13th October

Tickets £9, under 18s £4.50
(incl ploughmans) from 814222

Bar ~ Raffle



Community Choir Concert

7.30 pm Sat 27th October

St John's Church

Tickets £6, under 16s £3 from
Church Office 815243

Katy 812997 or Pauline 817830

Licensed bar & light buffet

Stansted Quakers

Bring & Share Picnic Lunch

11.30 am Sun 21st October
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music@stansted

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Marisa Gupta Piano**

**7.30 pm Sat 13th Oct
St John's Church**

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Marcel Morelli MSc (Chiro), DC,
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BISHOP'S STORTFORD UKULELE BAND

Visitors to the Rose and Crown on August Bank Holiday Monday were treated to the fascinating sound of the Bishop's Stortford Ukulele band, and invited to join in the singing of some well known songs by the Beatles and other artists. The



band rehearses in Bishop's Stortford, but draws its members from a wide area, including Harlow and Braintree. You can listen to their music on the following you-tube links: <http://youtu.be/Q4WYnOIjjjY> and <http://youtu.be/zlJjgB0NgEg>.

Marion Dyer
Tel: 814059



STANSTED
MOUNTFITCHET
WINDMILL

STANSTED WINDMILL FETE

Whilst we head this article 'Windmill Fête' perhaps a more apt title would be 'Village Fête' judging by the amount of local villagers that attended. We are pleased to say that the day was a great success. All the Millers worked very hard with lots of support and help from numerous people who clearly enjoy giving a helping hand to get everything in place. The day commenced at 7.30am when the tables were collected from our local churches by Simon Collingwood, without whose help we would not have got off to such a good start. This year, for the first time we had pony rides and also an ice cream vendor, both of which proved very popular. We also had a P/A sound system with music which was appreciated by everyone. All the usual children's attractions were well supported by both children of the village and many from further afield. Even the weather was kind to us - just the odd shower which did nothing to spoil the day - and everyone was pleased to see the windmill sails turning once again. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all the helpers/volunteers and everyone who came along and supported what transpired to be a very successful Fête. (See page 14 for photographs.)

We are now coming to the end of what has been a good year for Stansted Windmill and our last opening will be Sunday 7th October, from 1.30pm-5.30pm. Do try to come along and see us. After this date we will still be available to give parties, both adults and children, a tour of the Mill by appointment.

Ted Pretty Co-Chairman
Tel: 814433
Molly Clark Co-Trustee
Tel: 816768

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Food for Thought is the name of a series of frank and friendly discussions on some of life's 'big questions'. Enjoy a light meal and then an opportunity to share your views and listen to others. For a lively debate, we hope many different view-points will be represented! Questions for discussion will be advertised in 'The Link' and on village notice-boards.

Anyone is welcome to attend any or all of the discussions. There is no charge for attending or for food, but those taking part need to register at least 48 hours in advance of each evening, to allow for catering and to receive info on venues (all in central Stansted). If you wish to attend a Food for Thought evening please email us at stanstedf4t@yahoo.co.uk giving the date or title of the discussion you wish to attend, your name, and any special dietary requirements (vegetarian, allergies etc). We look forward to some lively discussions throughout October and November - register soon to avoid disappointment!

Tuesday 2nd October at 7.45pm **"Is this it?"**

Is there evidence for anything beyond what we can see, and what science can explain?

Tuesday 16th October at 7.45pm **"Happiness - choice or consequence?"**

What is happiness? What really makes us happy?

Howard and Ros Page
Stansted Family Church
Tel: 810813

CAN YOU HELP?

I am hoping that the readers of 'The Link' may be able to help me in my search for two caricatures of my dad (Denis Perry) that appeared in a local newspaper in the 1960s.

One of the local newspapers (I am sure it was the Herts & Essex Observer) used to print cartoons of local sportsmen alongside match reports and I know that my dad featured in at least two of them (one for cricket and one for football). He played football in Bishop's Stortford and played cricket for Hockerill and Stansted. Someone kindly lent us both cartoons about thirty years ago, but they were returned without taking a copy. My dad, with typical modesty, never kept such souvenirs but I would dearly love to have copies of them now.

If you have any information please contact me at Photosound in Bishop's Stortford on the number below.

Thank you for taking the time to read this.

Leigh Perry
Tel: 651434

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Sandra Ruff

STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET U3A

Our next meeting will be on Thursday 18th October in St John's Church Hall at 2.00pm. Mel Rees will be giving a follow-up talk from last year – a light-hearted look at family life, kids and animals called 'And another thing I meant to say ...'

Outings and Activities

A coach full of U3A members set off for Germany last month to see the 'Rhine in Flames'. A calm ferry trip to Calais saw the group begin its journey through France, Belgium, the Netherlands and finally into Koblenz in Germany. The long weekend took in castles, vineyards and a rather scary cable car trip, for some. There was wine tasting in a family run vineyard when some of the partakers were reluctant to spit out their samples! Many outings involved taking in the local musical activities and cuisine. During their evening walk to see the fireworks on the Rhine, a large screen showed Mo Farrah winning his second gold medal in the Olympics. He was heartily cheered and urged on by the small party of U3A members undaunted by the thousands of Germans surrounding them. The homeward trip, tinged with sadness, was lifted by a visit to the Atomium in Brussels. The weather was perfect, the company great. The laughter and giggles that were had by all will remain with Julie for a very long time. Many thanks, again, to Maggie and Jan for a wonderful trip.

The cycling group had a great outing over to Much Hadham recently, taking in a lovely meander through bridleways and woodland finally arriving at Hopleys for a welcome coffee break and, of course, a good chat and catch up.



One of the U3A quiz teams, Ray's Dragons, won the monthly quiz night at the Kings Arms this month challenging the winning streak of St Clare Friends, well done.

The Stansted U3A Singers are holding their annual concert, 2012 A Year of Celebration, on Saturday 6th October at St John's Church with free refreshments afterwards. Tickets are only £6 (£3 for children under 16) and are available from Ruth 814222, Barbara 814721 or Mary 814190.

See our website for full details www.stanstedu3a.org.



Foresthall Park Residents' Association

Many of you will have noted the temporary closure of Church Road. This is to facilitate the road improvements which will see the pavement built out in several places so that cars going in one direction have to stop and give way. This should slow the traffic down and make the pavement along Church Road safer for pedestrians. The trees obstructing the view of pedestrians to cars and vice versa at the bridleway (footpath 53) exit on to Church Road have also been cut back. I would like to thank the Parish Council for pushing Essex County Council for these improvements prior to the new school opening. I know that further work is planned around the school (yellow lines/no waiting restrictions) which should be implemented before the school opens in November. Other projects in the pipeline (per 'The Link' August issue) include adjusting the speed limit on Forest Hall Road, extending the path from Peachey Walk to the Romeera/MMCC and linking Jordon Close to Walson Way via a footpath.

Some of you may also have seen the post on our website about a newly formed toddler group in Foresthall Park - 'Little Foresters'. This is simply a network of mums/dads/carers and their children getting together on an ad hoc basis for tea/coffee and perhaps some trips further afield. By the time you read this, they will have had their first get together - I think that this is a terrific idea and I hope it takes off. For more information, please contact Claire Dent (clairedent@me.com/07860 153550).

With the onset of autumn, we have had our final game of Thursday tag rugby on The Rec - unless the Parish Council would consider floodlights?! I would like to thank all those from the village (not just Foresthall Park) that helped make this a successful sporting and social fixture and we will look to pick this up again next May.

Those of you that have been up to The Rec recently or to Mountfitchet Green will have seen the new play equipment. These projects have been funded out of the S.106 Community Fund. As more of this money is made available, it would be good to see some of it spent in Foresthall Park. Thus far, the only money from this pot spent within the development has been on bins! We have a number of slightly more exciting ideas and we will invite further suggestions and thoughts in the near future.

Finally, a gentle reminder to the cyclists among us. With the possible exception of young children under supervision, bikes should be ridden on the roads and bridleways and not on the pavements around the development.

Stephen Berry (Chairman)

Email: s.berry@mac.com

Tel: 647652

www.foresthallparkresidents.org

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Computer-generated image depicts the Arlington house type at Foresthall Park. *Available on selected plots only, subject to status, terms and conditions and stage of construction. †Calls to 0844 numbers cost 5p per minute from a BT landline. Mobile and other providers' charges may vary. Prices and details correct at time of going to press. 306EX

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Our new season begins on 13th October when Jonathan Dormand (cello) and Marisa Gupta (piano), will be giving a concert in St John's Church, Stansted at 7.30pm.



Born in South Yorkshire, Jonathan has performed as both solo artist and chamber musician throughout the UK and much of Europe, Canada, Japan and the USA. In 2010 he graduated from the Royal Northern College of Music with a first class honours degree. He has won numerous awards for his playing from the Countess of Munster Musical Trust, Hattori Foundation, Musicians' Benevolent Fund, and the

Philharmonic Orchestra/Martin Musical Scholarship Fund. He plays a cello made in c.1780 by John Betts.

Maria Gupta is also the recipient of numerous prestigious awards, including top prizes at the International Concours Maria Canals in Barcelona and the Gian Baltista Viotti International Piano Competition, a Solti Foundation award, and a Fulbright Scholarship. A versatile musician, she feels at home with works for solo piano, as well as works for violin or cello and piano. She has also performed at the Wigmore Hall with acclaimed baritone, Thomas Maglioranza.



The programme for their concert in Stansted is a good one, and is expected to include Prokofiev's Sonata for cello and piano in C op 119, Brahms' Sonata for cello and piano No 2 in F op 99, as well as popular romantic pieces by Fauré and movements from one of Bach's well known suites for unaccompanied cello.

Future concerts this season are on Sunday 2nd December at 3.00pm – Gary Ryan (guitar); on Sunday 27th January at 3.00pm – Chenyin Li (piano); and on Saturday 23rd March at 7.30pm – Kimon Parry (clarinet) and Antony Ingham (piano).

If you are not already a member of *music@stansted* there is still time to join! Full membership for the whole season is £32 (concessions £30), while tickets for individual concerts are £12 each, children £1. Try us first before becoming a member. Simply buy a ticket for the concert on 13th October from Stansted Carpets Chapel Hill, Nockolds Solicitors Market Square Bishop's Stortford or Sonia Levy 31 Chapel Hill (815282) and then, if you like what you see and hear, pay the difference (£32 -£12 = £20 for the next three concerts!) and join on the night.

For more information please visit our website – www.musicatstansted.com.

Alan Corbishley

In May 2010 the Coalition Government ruled out any extra runways in the southeast, but it now seems to have been persuaded that it needs more hub capacity around London. New Government policy is therefore being formulated and ministers have stated that all possibilities will be open for consideration.

Stop Stansted Expansion (SSE) has welcomed the Government's recent decision to establish an independent commission to look at aviation connectivity issues. There have been three independent assessments in the past, and all of them have concluded that there should not be any more runways at Stansted. We have every reason to believe that this new commission will reach the same conclusion. If, however, that is not the case, SSE will be fighting this expansion with as much commitment and determination as in the past.

The 2013 edition of Stop Stansted Expansion's (SSE's) much-loved Community Calendar is now on sale across the region, featuring beautiful views of homes and heritage in the shadow of Stansted Airport. All proceeds from sales of the calendar, the eleventh to be produced, will be used in the continuing campaign by SSE to fight off the threat of an extra runway or runways at Stansted Airport. As in previous years, the A3 format calendars are widely available, see page 22 for Stansted outlets. The SSE campaign office can also arrange gift mailing at a small extra charge.

Further details together with a complete list of stockists can be found on the SSE website at <http://www.stopstanstedexpansion.com/calendar.html>.

Carol Barbone
Tel: 870558

Email: info@stopstanstedexpansion.com



SPANGLES BUGGY WALKS

If you have a baby or young child, why not join us for a buggy walk up and down the hills of Stansted. Outdoor exercise can lift your mood while helping you to lose weight and tone your body. You can also talk as you walk so it is a great way to meet other parents. The children benefit from being out in the fresh air, spotting horses, ducks, the windmill and other points of interest along the way and the babies almost invariably fall asleep. The walks will be every Friday from 5th October starting at the Children's Centre in Lower Street at 10.30am and will last for an hour.

Lesley Murdoch
Tel: 812348





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Stansted Evening Women's Institute

I was away in Germany when the August meeting took place so I am indebted to Bridget Gott and Jenny Wraith for telling me about it, and to Kath Poole who was President for the evening.

I had been looking forward to hearing why the Speaker, John Burrows, had crossed the world by boat with 28 dogs and six cats – imagining in my mind a very large rowing boat manned by these animals and flying a Union Jack! Well of course, not quite like that. John had in fact worked for Spratt's (now Spillers) who not only made dog biscuits but shipped pets and show animals abroad in their merchant ships. On this famous occasion he stood in at the last minute for one of the men in charge of the animals, who had fallen down a gangway.

The routine of exercising and feeding the animals proved to be very exacting, particularly through the Bay of Biscay, which was very rough, and the howling gale at Melbourne which followed. The 13 year old cat died of natural causes and not rabies, which would have meant quarantine for the whole ship. One dog, Bozo the beagle, was a biter so he had to have a noose every time he was handled. He was off-loaded at Melbourne with several others, which was a relief. The weather was very hot, particularly for a St Bernard, so John took two to his cabin to shower, a very lengthy business.

After Sydney there were only 10 dogs left, some for Brisbane and then across the Cook Straits, where the ship was surrounded by dolphins. The last were delivered to Wellington safely after a journey of four and a half weeks. John was able to indulge in some touring and returned via Hong Kong. The shipping cost per animal was £400, which included food and everyone's expenses; this was in 1973, I wonder what it would be today?

We were saddened to hear of the death after a long illness, of a long time member Queenie Brown, who had served on the committee and run our competitions.

We are having a Jumble Sale on Saturday 13th October in St John's Church Hall at 11.00am. Jumble welcome. The October Meeting is on Thursday 11th October at 7.45pm in St John's Church Hall. Our Speaker is Jackie Marshall-Ward and her subject is 'Women of the Water' – mermaids perhaps?



Judy Colliver
President

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Jenny Clark



UGLEY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Mr Barry Kaufmann-Wright, a former wildlife crime officer, was the speaker at our recent meeting. The title of his very interesting talk being 'Wildlife in the garden', a talk which he illustrated with a selection from his vast collection of slides - he has over 61,000 in fact! As the title suggests he concentrated on those featuring wildlife in the garden. Birds are naturally amongst the largest species of wildlife to be found in our gardens and amongst other things he explained that the thrush is the gardener's friend as it eats snails, that the wren builds eight nests in the spring and the female selects the one that they will actually live in, that the greenfinch is one of the noisiest and that the chaffinch is the most common in the UK. From birds he went on to talk about butterflies and moths, encouraging us to grow stinging nettles as they attract tortoiseshell and peacock butterflies and that no less than 42 varieties of native moths feed on the nettles! We were warned though to grow the nettles in a bucket as they would quickly take over the garden. We ended our meeting by helping two of our members mark milestones in their lives - one, Marion Pretty, celebrated her diamond wedding anniversary in August and was presented with an orchid, and the other, Jean Skelton, celebrated a very special birthday and received flowers and a cake. So ended another entertaining and memorable meeting for our members. Why not come and join us? You would be assured of a warm welcome. We meet in Ugley Village Hall on the third Wednesday of the month at 2.30pm.

Andrea Fitt
Tel: 815922

UGLEY FARMERS MARKET IS TEN YEARS OLD!

On **20th October** Ugley Farmers' Market celebrates its tenth birthday. It was opened in October 2002 by our MP, Sir Alan Haselhurst, and we have invited him to come along again to open our birthday market.

Some of our stallholders have been with us from the beginning and we have a wide variety of stalls, including meat, poultry and game in season, eggs, bread, honey, home baking, fruit and veg, local beers, plants, needlework and knitting, ceramics, cards and skincare. Our stallholders are happy to discuss their products with you.

The market is also a social event and it is good to relax with coffee and cake or a bacon roll.

Further details can be obtained from Susan Bone, tel 01279 814052 or email ugleyvillagehall@gmail.com.

Come and help us celebrate!



Stansted Windmill Fete

A most enjoyable day which raised over £2,700

For a full report see elsewhere in this edition



There were super prizes in the raffle



The sails turning was a lovely sight



The bouncy castle was very popular



... as were the pony rides



A smashing success!!



Teddy parachuting is still a favourite

Photographs by Mike Dyer and Yvonne Ayres

THE BIRCHANGER WOOD TRUST

The Birchanger Wood Trust which owns Birchanger Wood has recently completed a new high grade surfaced path on the Birchanger side of the A120. Take a walk/run or just go and contemplate in it and enjoy. The major winding woodland path and the public footpath in our part of the Birchanger Wood were completed only this August so they do need time to mature somewhat. In addition, we will be placing some seating at the north and south ends of the Wood when we have the necessary hard wood available. The new path is just over 1 km in length and it actually links up with the paths already reconstructed in the Wood on the Bishop's Stortford side of the A120. The Trust has just one section more to finish and when completed, will provide some 5.2km of wheelchair and buggy-friendly paths suitable for all the family, all-year-round.

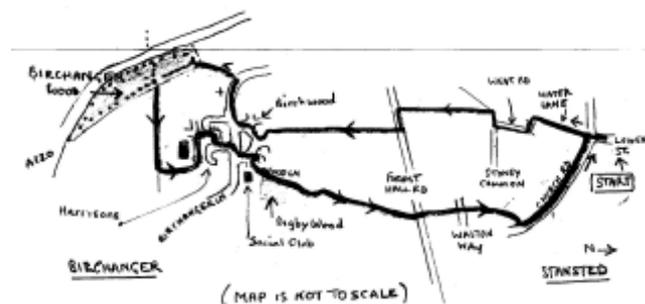
Birchanger Wood is ancient woodland and to conserve our undergrowing bulbs including wood anemones and English bluebells we need to keep feet on paths to regenerate the natural flora and fauna. So please stay on the designated paths, and keep your dogs under control, ensuring that all dog faeces are placed in suitable containers or taken home for disposal – trees and hedges are not places on which to leave these containers. The Wood is maintained by a dedicated group of volunteers and our voluntary Warden enjoys teaching children and students of all ages and groups in the ancient art of woodland maintenance.

You can access Birchanger Wood by way of several footpaths and the bridle path from Birchanger Lane. Below is a circular walk/run from Stansted to Birchanger Wood. This is a simple route with easy paths and no stiles. As an 'ancient' myself, I find this a really excellent route and would recommend you try it out.

Stansted to Birchanger Wood approx 5-5½ miles.

This walk commences at the bottom of Lower Street. Cross the road and walk down to Stansted Mountfitchet Railway Station. Turn right and walk along Water Lane (with the railway on your left), go over the railway bridge turning right into West Road. Continue along West Road and at the bottom is Stoney Common. Turn right and then after a few yards take the public footpath left - be careful as there are two paths which start at roughly the same point - you want the most left footpath which initially follows Brook Way. Continue uphill to the end of this path, turn left onto Forest Hall Road, after a few yards cross Forest Hall Road to the pavement on the other side of Forest Hall Road continuing in the same direction. You will quickly see the public footpath sign. Turn right onto this footpath which runs all the way over to Birchanger. Do not branch off left at any point. At the end of this path, you are in Birchanger and a metalled path takes you through a short left and right at the back of the housing estate Birchwood. In the housing estate, keep going generally bearing right to reach Birchanger Lane. Turn right along Birchanger Lane and continue, ignoring a public footpath on your left and the next one on your right. Just before the road bends right, cross over the road and take the bridle path to your left and this will take you down to the corner of Birchanger Wood. Walk through the Wood. There is just over 1km of very good path in the Wood and it is set out in a figure of eight.

Exit the Wood via the public footpath where there is an old sign referring to the Wood and reminding users not to cycle through it. Take this footpath back towards Birchanger. When this footpath crosses another footpath at a paddock - do not continue straight over, as the path is not good - instead, when you reach the paddock turn left onto another footpath and go through the housing estate Harrisons, and so to Birchanger Lane. Cross Birchanger Lane, go around the back of the Social Club (Wood Lane) and find the beginning of the public bridleway (and if you want, footpath through Digby Wood - keep left in this Wood and rejoin the bridle way) back past Parsonage Farm to Forest Hall Road. Cross Forest Hall Road to another path, which will take you to Walson Way. Cross Walson Way and follow the path. At the bottom turn right to reach Church Road and by turning left on Church Road you will return to the centre of Stansted village at Lower Street.



A full size map of the village, which includes public paths and bridle ways can be obtained from the Stansted Parish Council Offices at the top of Chapel Hill behind the Library. They are free, and the office is open Monday to Friday 10.00am-1.00pm.

Daphne Wallace-Jarvis
Secretary and Trustee

Email: <http://www.birchangerwoodtrust.org>



HERTS & SOUL CONCERT

St John's Church, Stansted is hosting a concert by the Herts and Soul Community Choir who will be performing a variety of popular songs from their repertoire.

Saturday 27th October at 7.30pm in St John's Church

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**STANSTED
BOWLING
CLUB**



*Stansted
Cricket
Club*

Finals Day – Saturday 18th August, what a scorcher, well done to all finalists and winners – superb performance throughout the day by **ANN CONROY** who won all **FOUR** of her finals; she certainly is a true champion. All games were played within the sporting spirit with very close results. Many thanks to all the spectators, markers, catering and bar. To round off the day we all enjoyed good company and a great meal at The Cock – especially when the lights went down!!

RESULTS

Dolly Thompson

Eleanor Erwin
Ladies Challenge
Newman
Novices
Buck

Fletcher
Alcock
Brett

WINNERS

Ann Conroy & Yvonne Sharp

Ann Conroy
Ann Conroy
Ann Conroy
Jasper Gneiting
John Hollis & Derrick Giffin

Derrick Giffin
John Scraggs
John Scraggs

FINALISTS

Stella Rodgers &
Doreen Scraggs
Stella Rodgers
Patricia Perry
Doreen Scraggs
Roy Smith
Mike Shewry &
John Scraggs
Mike Shewry
Del Sharp
John Hollis

Perrin Rose Bowl – took place on Sunday 26th August – very close game and the winners were Stella Rodgers and Del Sharp with an impressive score of 29 shots.

Emerson Cup – Friday 7th September - a good evening of bowling - final winners were Jim Rodgers and Roy Smith with an equal score of 26 shots.

Daniel Robinson Cup – Sunday 9th September – this was the second leg where although we won on all rinks we still had some shots to make up – so well done to Elsenham in retaining the cup. Our thanks must go to Bart Robinson for sponsoring this event. We did have a hot-shot score on one of our rinks this afternoon which was ably led by Skipper Jim Rodgers, 1 – Bernard Simpson 2 – Peter Short 3 – Doreen Scraggs . Last but not least a big thank you to those who helped with the catering, a lovely meal was had by all and a special big thank you to Caroline Bore for her gravy!

Watch this space for update on Carpet Bowls as we now come to the end of the outdoor bowling season.

Anyone wishing to find out information on joining Stansted Bowling Club please contact as below:

Doreen Scraggs – Hon Secretary
Tel: 815036 or 07812483178
Email: doreenscraggs@talktalk.net

BRING & SHARE PICNIC LUNCH

Stansted Quakers will be holding a bring-and-share picnic lunch at the Meeting House, Chapel Hill, on Sunday 21st October from 11.30am. Hot and cold drinks will be provided. We hope this will be a multi-faith event so please come along and share food and faith.

Jonathan Morrell
Stansted Quaker Meeting
Tel: 07775 860379

The new pavilion extension is fully operational and we completed fitting out the kitchen and WCs by mid-August. We shall now undertake the final internal painting during the autumn and have an official opening at the start of next season. The 1st XI finished 4th in Division 1 with six wins from 14 games played. The 2nd XI finished 6th in Division 5 with six wins from 15 games played. The Sunday XI has had five wins, four draws, one defeat and several cancellations due to adverse weather. On 12th August we entertained Snitterfield CC, a touring side from Warwickshire containing past member and Vice-president Peter Havers. SCC won by six wickets in a close and entertaining game.

Recent individual performances of note have come from B Baker (114 no), C Kirby (111 no), R Gardiner (84), H Kirby (78), M Allen (72), J Prichard (67 no), B Sammons (65), M Baldock (56) and M Noori (51 no). Best bowling has come from J Monk (5-11 against Bishop's Stortford III) and from D Hedge (5-51 against Hockerill, the first of which was his 1000th wicket for Stansted CC). In the field K Ayres took three catches and one stumping and J Kealy took three catches.

Details of the winners of the SCC Quiz night held on Friday 14th September at St John's Church Hall will appear in the next edition.

The Club would like to invite anyone interested in scoring on a regular basis next season to contact the secretary. Any adults wishing to join the club should contact me; juniors should contact Head Coach Keith Ayres (on 814471).

David Hedge
Hon. Secretary
Tel: 812509

CALLING NEW ADVERTISERS

We have one small colour and a few black and white advertisements remaining for our new printing year which begins in November.

Colour ads start from as little as £400, and black and white from £125 for the whole year!

Please visit www.stanstedlink.org.uk for a price list and booking form or if you do not have internet access call Marion on 814059

We look forward to hearing from you!

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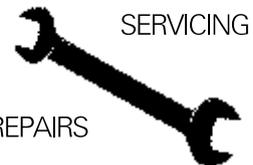
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Stansted Network

NEWS FROM YOUR LOCAL COUNCILS

TRAFFIC CALMING ON CHURCH ROAD

By the time this edition of The Link drops through your door work should be well advanced on installing priority working at three points along the road (similar to the pattern on the road to Thorley Sainsbury). This scheme should achieve two objectives - slowing traffic thus improving safety and making it easier and less fraught to cross Church Road. Such a scheme is long overdue but is now even more needed given the opening of the new and larger St Mary's School on Foresthall Park.

Other schemes happening now or shortly include a footpath along Forest Hall Road from the end of Peachey Walk to MMCC, a footpath link from Jordon Close to Walson Way and the installation of a new bridge over the brook in Water Lane as well as improvements to the surface of Water Lane. Still under investigation is the most suitable way to widen the footpath along Church Road taking into account safety and environmental considerations.

PARKING AND SAFETY ON CAMBRIDGE ROAD

Uttlesford District Council and the Parking Partnership have agreed to implement a series of proposals to improve short-term parking and safety on Cambridge Road. Adjustments have been made to increase on-street parking spaces, while the time limit allowed will be reduced from one hour to thirty minutes to encourage a quicker turn-round. The Crafton Green car park is available if a longer period is required. It is hoped that parking bays will be marked out to maximise use of the limited space. A loading bay will be established in front of Tesco to serve retailers and this will operate between 6am and 6pm. Outside of these hours parking will be permitted.

Double yellow lines will extend from the zig-zag lines around the corner into Clarence Road which should improve sight lines and visibility to the pedestrian crossing when travelling from the north. Double yellow lines will extend along the west side of Cambridge Road. The Parish Council is pushing for a second row of bollards to protect pedestrians using the crossing and Coopers Alley.

WELCOME TO NEW BUSINESSES

Although it was sad to see Matt Wilde move his H@ME business from Lower Street to larger premises at the Birchanger Industrial Estate in Bishop's Stortford, and the closure of Emily Florist, it is pleasing to see that new businesses are moving in with Henham Reclaim now located in what was Glasscock's Yard and another florists due to open in the former mirror shop (or for longer established residents, in Peggys!) We wish them success in their trading as we do all our other retailers and providers of services. Fingers crossed maybe other empty premises on the Cambridge Road, Lower Street and Chapel Hill will be filled in the autumn.

The Parish Council recognises the need to support our businesses. Planning is underway to see if a Christmas Market and entertainment can be provided along with seasonal festive lights.

Hopefully, in these difficult times, parishioners will give as much support as possible to our local businesses.

UPDATE ON PLANS FOR CHRISTMAS MARKET AND ENTERTAINMENT

The Parish Council has been working on the idea of a Christmas Market to include a Christmas light switch-on, choirs and a pantomime on Friday evening, the 7 December, followed on Saturday 8 by a craft fair, with local traders providing food and drink etc, a Father Christmas and his Grotto with reindeer and a photographer in the Castle and an ice or roller rink. Also in the evening a live band will be playing in a marquee on the Lower Street car park. On Sunday 9, a Craft and Boot fair with the panto early evening.

We have had a lot of interest from local traders and crafts people who support our efforts to boost local trade and organisations at this time of year. We are however, still seeking sponsors for contributions to the lighting, marquee costs etc, but we are confident this could be a very successful event and bring the community together to celebrate Christmas and support local traders and crafts. A final decision on the financial feasibility of this project will be made at the Full Council meeting on 12 September and we

shall contact all those who have expressed an interest in a stall or providing food/drink/entertainment following that meeting.

TREE WORK AT THE TENNIS CLUB

Two applications to Uttlesford District Council for permission to crown reduce the horse chestnut trees at the Tennis Club have been refused. The Parish Council has appealed, and there will be a hearing in October.

The reason why we wish to undertake surgery to these trees is two-fold. There is a big maintenance headache for the tennis club as birds which sit in the trees constantly drop their mess onto the courts presenting a health and safety hazard requiring on-going professional cleaning at considerable cost. Some of the branches interfere with the floodlights and, in addition, many hours are spent every autumn in clearing the leaves. Generally, we have concerns at the sheer size of the trees which are very tall as it is some years since any surgery was undertaken and parts of limbs have already fallen.

We have now sought further advice from a tree surgeon, and it appears that there may be another route for us to achieve our aims, without the need for full crown reduction. We have therefore submitted a third application to Uttlesford which, if successful, will mean that the appeal hearing can be cancelled.

LOOKING FORWARD TO PROJECTS IN TRAIN

Following the installation of new play equipment on Mountfitchet Green and the Recreation Ground, keep an eye open for other projects which, it is hoped, will come to completion.

- A new CCTV system should be installed over the next couple of months. Apart from much higher spec cameras, the positioning of the cameras will be improved on the back of advice from the police. Cameras will cover the Lower Street area, Cambridge Road, Crafton Green and Lower Street car parks (including the skatepark) and the play area in the Recreation Ground. There will also be two cameras which will record number plates (ANPR's). Funding will be provided by Uttlesford District Council.
- The play area at Bentfield Green will be re-equipped. Currently funding is being sought.
- A booklet detailing a wide range of walks along footpaths (prepared courtesy of Bill Stiles) is close to complete and will be distributed to every household.
- A preliminary design and layout for the new enlarged library, Parish Council offices and

community space will have been amended and the revised plans will be displayed for comment.

Apart from these projects, most of which are achievable through the Parish Council (at least given a moderately favourable wind), there are on-going highways issues which require the co-operation of other authorities. These include issues at Foresthall Park especially with the move of St Mary's School in the autumn, amendments to the Lower Street residents' parking scheme, at least one more pedestrian crossing on Silver Street, implementation of a previously agreed scheme for traffic calming on High Lane and agreeing ways to improve parking and the environment on the Mountfitchet Estate.

To achieve these schemes will require backing to be won from Essex County Council, Uttlesford District Council and the Parking Partnership. Be assured, however, continuing efforts are being made to achieve results.

CLEANER REQUIRED STANSTED DAY CENTRE, CRAFTON GREEN

Cleaner required for the Day Centre. Hours are flexible, but will total 20 per month. Hourly rate £7.50. Previous cleaning experience is essential and references will be requested. For further information and an application form please contact the Council Offices on 01279 813214.

BUFFY PLAYBUS

Uttlesford Buffy Bus Association is a local charity community-based, non-profit making organisation established in 1994. Buffy Bus is a playbus designed to bring to the under fives an opportunity to paint, play and socialise in a playgroup environment.

It relies on grant aid, charitable donations and their own fund raising efforts. Suggested donations £2 for a child and £3 per family, per visit. If you would like more details please contact Rosie on 01799 522130 or email: info@buffybus.co.uk or www.buffybus.co.uk

Buffy Bus will be in Stansted every Wednesday between 11am - 12.30pm in Walson Way, Foresthall Park.

BISHOP'S STORTFORD COMMUNITY BUSES

Do you need a minibus? Bishop's Stortford Town Council has four minibuses available for hire in Bishop's Stortford and the surrounding area. You should provide your own driver, aged between 25 and 70, and who holds a D1 entitlement licence. Rates are very competitive and include fuel, insurance and VAT. Within Bishop's Stortford mileage is charged at a flat rate of 94p per kilometre (equivalent to £1.50 per mile) and outside of Bishop's Stortford at a charge of £18 plus 47p per kilometre (equivalent to 75p per mile). If you wish to retain the bus overnight, there is a £20 per night charge. Note a returnable damage deposit of £250 will be required.

For further information please contact reservations@bishopsstortford.gov.uk or on 01279 652274.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- 3 October - UTTLESFORD SOUTH AREA FORUM - 7.30 pm at Helena Romanes School, Great Dunmow
- 3 November - Bonfire & Fireworks, Elms Farm
- 11 November - Remembrance Sunday

BONFIRE NIGHT

Our annual event will be held at Elms Farm, on Church Road, on Saturday 3 November. This is a really popular village event and attendance grows from year to year. It is a safe and cost-effective way for the whole family to enjoy fireworks at only £10 for a family ticket (two adults and two children) or £4 per adult and £2 for children.

Tell your friends and family about it now and get the date in your diary. Refreshments (burgers and hot dogs) are available to purchase, along with limited soft drinks.

Final details next month.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

The annual parade will leave Crafton Green at around 10.40am and proceed to the Memorial Gardens on Chapel Hill for the annual Remembrance Day service. As is the tradition, wreaths will be laid on the War Memorial and a minutes' silence ob-

served to remember the fallen. Our parishioners always do the village proud with a healthy turnout to this event - please make every effort to join us this year.

PICKING UP LITTER FROM PEOPLE

The new play equipment has increased the use of the Recreation Ground considerably which is good news! However, there has been an increase in the amount of litter which is being dropped, particularly under the un-fenced equipment. It is unlikely that the culprits are reading this magazine, so could we please ask parents to remind their children to use the bins which are provided, or bring their rubbish home with them. Many thanks.

..... AND PETS

Dog mess is on the increase all around the village and we would urge all dog walkers please to clear up the mess. There are plenty of red dog litter bins around the village which are emptied on a regular basis, so there is really no excuse for leaving it. This is the one subject about which we receive most complaints.

NEWS FROM UTTLESFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL

A revised planning application for a health centre with shops and apartments on the Castle Lotus site in Lower Street is provisionally due to be heard by UDC Planning Committee on 19 September but could be deferred until 17 October. The design of the building is now lower and less bulky and is in the style of a maltings. The previous design, which had been linked to the Titanic, has been dropped. There is still a major issue over car parking; there is not enough to cater for the shop(s). The developer has said that a decked car park could increase the size of the car park, but he hasn't included one in the latest plans.

At the start of September, Bellway Homes had still not submitted an appeal against their refused planning applications for a 'housing enclave' behind the Co-op and Tesco. I incorrectly reported in the last edition of Link that an appeal had been lodged. Bellway's intentions remain uncertain.

Readers will not have escaped accounts in the local papers of a growing controversy over Uttlesford's Local Plan. There has been a major backlash from residents in places such as Newport and Saffron Walden to the housing proposals in the recently completed public consultation. Parish and District Councillors in Stansted opposed the proposals here

as being in the wrong location. In August there was fresh controversy over meetings about the plan that were only known about by those invited. Finally evidence came to light that the number of new homes that the council had assumed is well below the likely required number.

This has all added to uncertainty over the final set of proposals that will have to be agreed by next year. I don't want to speculate here about how the situation will be resolved, but it seems increasingly likely that Stansted will have to contemplate in November yet another set of future employment and housing proposals.

(Cllr Alan Dean)

STOP PRESS

Stop Stansted Expansion's Community Calendar 2013 will be on sale from various outlets across the district very soon. Stansted features in the calendar again and with the price being held at £6 we believe these are excellent value! They are available from the Parish Council Offices and YZ Mini Market/Post Office.

DATES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

3 October	Full Council
10 October	Highways/FGP
17 October	Windmill/Open Spaces
24 October	Full Council

MP'S SURGERIES

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

Friday 11 January 5.45-6.30pm

No prior appointments are necessary.

CONTACT DETAILS

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

PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS

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Maureen Caton	813914 m.caton@hotmail.co.uk

Nigel Collingwood	813428 njcollingwood@hotmail.co.uk
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Samantha Dunn	810859 samanthadunn@talktalk.net
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Bridget Gott	814440
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Peter Jones	813252 peter@lowerstreet.com
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Geoffrey Sell (Chairman)	815925 sellgeoffrey@yahoo.co.uk
Valerie Trundle	813433 prtvt@btinternet.com

Uttlesford District Council Members

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Iris Evans	815848 iris.evans9@googlemail.com
John Salmon	814789 cllrsalmon@uttlesford.gov.uk
Joe Rich	813112 cllrrich@uttlesford.gov.uk

Essex County Council Member

Ray Gooding	813103 cllr.ray.gooding@essexcc.gov.uk
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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

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 Non-emergency No. 101
 PCSO (Stuart Stranger) Tel: 07989 174801

Neighbourhood Watch
 www.stanstednhw.org.uk

DIRECTORY OF LOCAL CLUBS AND ORGANISATIONS

Alzheimers Society	Tel: 01371 872519	NCT	Anna Sedgbeer Tel: 812257
Air Training Corps 494 Squadron	Tel: 681559/661929 Email: 494@aircadets.org	Neighbourhood Watch	Valerie Trundle Tel: 813433
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: 07968 347176 Email: admin@rainbowpreschool.net
Brownies/Guides	Glynis Prothero District Administrator Tel: 814145	Rainbows	Sue Pollard Tel: 813734
CAB	Tel: 08444 775986	Rotary Club	Peter Latham Tel: 507294 Email: yp.latham@tiscali.co.uk
Cricket Club (adults) (juniors)	David Hedge Tel: 812509 Keith Ayres Tel: 814471	Royal British Legion	John Segar Tel: 813289
Cub Scouts Age 8-10½	Roger Musgrove Tel: 816172	Scouts (age 10½ -14)	Mike Byrne Tel: 812780
Day Centre	Tel: 815091	Shotokan Karate Ryu	Donna Ring Tel: 731752 Email: skr@skr.org.uk
Explorer Scouts	Fintan Lambe Tel: 817937	Spangles Children's Centre	Tel: 812348
Friends of St Mary's Church	Audrey Rodgers Tel: 812162	Stansted Family Café	Ros Page Tel: 810813 Email: rospagemusic@yahoo.com
Garden Club	Maralyn Harris Chairman Tel: 07919 478144	Stansted Football Club	Tom Williams Tel: 07921 403842
Grove Cottage	David Scott Tel: 656085	Tennis Club	Daphne Lunnon Tel: 817574 Email: drlunnon@gmail.com
Helpline	Tel: 07704 553727	Thornbury Badminton Club	Marion or Shirley Tel: 869896 or 815871
History Society	Peter Brown Chairman Tel: 812816	U3A	Christine Chair Tel: 817587
Huw Johnson Club	Marion and Tom Johnson Tel: 812284	Women's Institute (Stansted)	Judy Colliver President Tel: 812470
Little Scrummers	Andrew Poyser, Tel 07738 591232 Email: info@littlescrummers.com	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: 01371 873156/ 07920 466 923
Music Club	Sonia Levy Tel: 815282 Email: info@musicatstansted.com		

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

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Stansted Tennis Club



Club Tournament Finals' Day

The finals took place on Sunday 9th September and we truly were blessed with scorching sunshine (a little too hot, but we won't complain after such a dismal summer)! Previous rounds for this year's tournament have been competed for over the summer months since the beginning of June. Spectators were entertained by some very exciting tennis and especially a three hour marathon in the case of the Ladies' Singles Final. Also, Matt Hollis became the youngest ever winner of the Men's Singles trophy just one week short of his 14th birthday.

Results: Ladies' Singles Final - Sandra Ayres beat Ruby Hollis 7-5, 4-6, 8-6

Men's Singles Final - Matt Hollis beat Chris Hollis 6-3, 6-2

Ladies' Doubles Final - Daphne Lunnon and Fiona Pye beat Sandra Ayres and Ruby Hollis 6-1, 6-4

Men's Doubles Final - Chris Hollis and Matt Hollis beat Brad Armorgie and Ross Armorgie 6-4, 6-4

Mixed Doubles Final - John Bitten and Ruby Hollis beat Chris Hollis and Daphne Lunnon 3-6, 6-2, 6-3



From left to right - Sandra Ayres, Matt Hollis, Chris Hollis, Ruby Hollis, John Bitten, Fiona Pye, Daphne Lunnon

Dates for your diary

Boyd Adult Doubles Tournament

This will take place on Sunday 7th October - 9.30am for 10.00am start. Please sign up on the notice in the Clubhouse if you would like to enter this tournament.

Clover Girl's Doubles Tournament

This tournament will take place on Sunday 14th October starting at 12.45pm. If you are under 18 and would like to enter, please contact me.

Cayless Chilli Adult Doubles Tournament

This rearranged tournament will take place on Sunday 21st October starting at 9.30am for a 10.00am start. Please sign up on the notice in the Clubhouse if you would like to enter this tournament.

Clover Boys' Doubles Tournament

This tournament will take place on Sunday 28th October starting at 12.45pm. If you would like to enter, please contact me.

Coaching

If you are interested in finding out more about coaching at Stansted Tennis Club, please contact either Chris Hollis or Martyn Taplin 816386 (Monday night adults).

Used tennis balls

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

Club Playing Sessions

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

Contacts

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

Chris Hollis
Tel: 319155



STANSTED FOOTBALL CLUB

With the new football season now well under way for both the first and reserve teams the early signs are that for the majority of those players who are stepping up a level their performances have been most encouraging to the management and coaching staff.

After a difficult league opening game against opposition that had been relegated from the Ryman League, the first team have been able to improve game by game and are currently drawing more than losing in the league. However, a battling victory at Stowmarket Town in the FA Vase has done wonders for their confidence. For the reserve team, their first game, a draw away at local neighbours Takeley was again encouraging given that a young side competed so well.

For those households that received the Club 'flyers' with details of upcoming home games please note that the admission prices are being revised to the following: adults £5, concessions £3 (includes ages 12-18); both include free match day programme. Under 12s free.

On match days there are a number of informal duties that need to be done. We would appreciate any volunteers who have some spare time and are keen supporters of local football. Please contact my mobile number below if you're interested.

As a club we recognise the need for all to enjoy playing football. Under the guidance of our successful under 17s manager John Turner we are looking to introduce coaching classes for children aged between 5-12 on Saturday mornings based at the Football Club. If this is of interest to you and your child please contact me for more information.

Finally we would like to say thanks to the Sports Association for their financial support in assisting us complete two major projects on the ground over the past couple of months.

Upcoming Fixtures at Hargrave Park

Sat urday 29th September Reserves v Bowers & Pitsea
Sat 6th October Firsts v Basildon United

Tom Williams
Secretary

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SKYWATCH

A monthly look at an aspect of the night sky



A bit of a mixture this month, starting with Mars, the Red Planet. You may well have seen pictures from the latest craft to land on Mars. It is also the heaviest vessel to have been sent there, weighing about a ton. Although Mars' gravity is about one third of the earth's, that is a very large item to gently settle on to the solid rocks. It has started to move around and is beginning to see interesting strata never seen before. Yet there will be some weeks or months before the craft will use all of its facilities to dig and analyse the terrain. Even when it sends information, it takes a few hours to get to earth. So we will return to Mars in a few months' time and let us now jump through the solar system to Venus. Readers may remember that earlier this year the planet Venus, along with the moon and Jupiter, and not forgetting clear nights, gave us some spectacular sights. Well Venus slipped away and hid herself, at least from the point of view from earth. But now she is back and in the morning for now and for a few weeks. I have seen her as I walk down Chapel Hill at around 5.45am (to get train tickets, if you were wondering). If the sky is bright, and even if there is some cloud, Venus, bright as always, can be seen even through any haze, quite high up, a glittering gem. The complete cycle of Venus takes about eight years but always appearing soon after dusk or, as now, at sunrise.

Finally, even the first man to walk on the moon had to die sometime. Neil Armstrong's name inevitably became known around the world, though he went against a long tradition. As Captain, Armstrong should have let Buzz Aldrin step on to the moon first because the Captain is always the last person to leave the lunar module ship. But I don't blame him. In total, 12 people walked on the moon over six missions: each being more adventurous than the previous, partly because of the lunar module's demonstrable reliability, although Armstrong did break a switch which armed the rocket to lift off when they left the moon. But an empty pen worked just as well. Armstrong is the fourth moon walker to have died. But the names of Armstrong and Aldrin will be remembered above all. Neil Armstrong: 82 years, 20 days.

Martin West

MAN ON THE MOON

The recent passing of Neil Armstrong brought back all the memories of the space challenge in the 1960s. The emotion and excitement generated during this period was typified by the race to the moon. I'm sure my two daughters aged two and three, didn't really appreciate being taken out of their warm beds at nearly three o'clock in the morning to watch grainy black and white TV pictures of the first human to step on the moon.

In those days, to witness live via television, the countdown and then lift-off of those gigantic Saturn rockets taking the astronauts into orbit was, to use a word popular with Americans, awesome. A few past disasters ensured everyone was always on the edge of their seats until the spacecraft was safely on its way. These astronauts blasted into orbit, left the capsule to float in space and finally landed on the moon. Just before re-entry to Earth there was always the communications blackout for several minutes until they became audible again, to the relief of the world. What brave people!

Their Russian equivalents, the cosmonauts, were equally brave. They had more problems and disasters than the Americans and tended to keep their space programme more covert. One tragedy in 1960 killed up to 150 space technicians and military personnel, but the rest of the world only became aware of the calamity 30 years later.

Yes, it cost a lot of money but its legacy to mankind was more than just non-stick saucepans. It stimulated many areas of technology and much more besides.

When the unassuming Neil Armstrong finally set the lunar module Eagle down on the moon it had only twenty seconds of fuel left. (In case you are wondering, it had a separate ascent engine to rendezvous back with the command capsule, Columbia.) He uttered those famous words on stepping onto the surface but was soon jumping over the dusty landscape as if in slow motion in the manner of many early sci-fi films. They are moments that will live in my memory

and those of the 500 million audience forever.



Piet de Haan



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QUIZ

Our Autumn event will be a Quiz on Saturday 13th October, 7.00pm for 7.30pm at the Stansted Day Centre. The Quiz Master is David Morson, and the cost of £9 (£4.50 for under 18s) includes a ploughman's supper. There will also be a bar and raffle.

For further information, and tickets, please ring 814222.

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A WALK ALONG OUR ROAD



A BOWER is . “a place closed in with foliage, arbour, summerhouse”

They say the 'good old days' are a thing of the past, but not when you walk into the countryside here on the edge of Stansted village. Travelling down Plantation Hill past the duck pond, you'll come upon the crossroads or, as some people say, the 'triangle' because of the small triangular piece of land situated there. You have to decide which way to go – the choice is yours. The left takes you along Limekiln Lane where you'll find a small cottage on the right by the entrance to Hole Farm, distinguished by the geese in the garden to the side. This cottage once had a thatched roof, which was subsequently replaced by tiles after a fire in the 1980s took hold and wrecked the entire roof.

Back at the crossroads straight ahead along the bridleway you will see the farm to the left and Bentfield Cottage (The Nook) to the right. Continuing along this bridleway takes you across the farmer's fields down to the river. In the '60s and part of the '70s this farm was leased by Miss Smith, a local character who farmed livestock. Different from today where the fields that surround Bentfield Bower are mostly arable and are now farmed by the Tinney family.



1928

Back once again to the crossroads where our road, once known as Bower Road, winds round to the right towards Manuden, through a glade of trees that give a feeling of peace and tranquillity (where deer have recently been spotted). As you proceed a three storey house can be viewed on the left-hand side, which is now known as Bentfield House. Records indicate that this building was not there in 1777, but by 1876 was the site of a large house. Documents show that various members of the Woodley family owned both sides of the road and almost certainly built the house. Later in the 19th century it was let to the Spencer family who were farmers, both renting and owning farmland. Both the Woodley and Spencer families were also maltsters.

The house was sold in 1899 to Robert Gosling. Lady Hare, Lawrence Phillips and the Braeckman family all leased the house from the Goslings between 1935 and 1961. Further along the road you come upon a small hamlet. On the right-

hand side you'll find Penrose Cottage, originally two farm cottages, but today it is one large property. Next to this can be found four houses built by the Saffron Walden Rural District Council in the 1920s. On the left of the road there are pink cottages which once housed the staff from Bentfield House (chauffeur and gardener, and a laundry).



2012

Lastly you will see two modern houses, before Our Road carries on into the countryside - along its merry way.

Lynda Foster

Photo of Bower Road in 1928 reproduced with the kind permission of Paul Embleton from 'Around Stansted Mountfitchet'

THANK YOU FROM HARGRAVE HOUSE

I would like to say a big thank you to everyone that attended Hargrave House's Summer Fête on 18th August. The event was a huge success and we raised £1,579.18p for the residents' fund. Again this year the weather was on our side which brought out more of our neighbours in the village. I have had lovely feedback from the residents, their families and from our neighbours in the village. One newcomer to our fête said that she did not know what to expect and was very pleasantly surprised; she described it as being like an old-fashioned village fête, and enjoyed it very much.

I would also like to say a big thank you for the dedication and help of the staff and volunteers, without which such an event would not happen. Also thank you to those who generously gave all the lovely donations for our raffle and tombola stalls. A residents' meeting is planned and we will discuss how to spend the money. Once again, thank you for attending our fête and supporting us, and I look forward to seeing you all next year.

Stella Papworth
Activities Co-Ordinator

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STANSTED SCOUTS

Stansted and Birchanger Scouts joined 7,500 Scouts and Guides from 36 countries at the Essex International Jamboree. This event is held every four years and is the largest county jamboree in this country. Six leaders accompanied 23 Scouts aged 11-15 years. All participants were split into 10 sub-camps, each representing a time zone. We were to be in Pyramids sub-camp for the week.



During the day every Scout had two themed zones to visit, before and after lunch. The different zones included archery, shooting, abseiling, climbing, go-karting, shelter building, backwoods fire starting, tracking, glass engraving, various craft projects from around the world, sweet making (and eating), laser clays, zip line and many more. In the Team zone, teams of mixed nationality were formed and took part in the 'It's a Knock Out' tournament. The green team made up mainly from us, won. Also, each sub-camp had its own activities and games running throughout the day; ours included aerobics at 7.30am. No-one I knew took part!

In the evenings it was decision time again, to listen to one of the live bands, go to the on-site cinema, or the games marquee or to have a go at the circus skills being demonstrated or just relax in the soft rock café. Possibly all, if you timed it right. A few adults at a time were able to relax in 'The Crooked Staff'. Wednesday was the open day, which meant a further 3,000 people on site. The afternoon saw many stalls arranged in 'Greenwich' for the Solidarity challenge fund raiser, to help international participants attend Essex jamborees in the future.



Many scarves and badges were swapped and friendships made and renewed, and far too many cups of tea drunk. Pre-ordered food was collected daily and restaurant grade meals prepared by the leaders! The weather was excellent considering our summer, and two leaders managed to set jelly without a fridge in 30°C heat. You don't see that on Master Chef!

By the end of the week, some very tired Scouts and leaders returned home with memories and souvenirs of a terrific week. Roll on 2016. Check out the week's fun at www.eij.org.uk. Next up, we'll be taking on the rest of our District in the annual shooting competition that we won last year, followed by camping under the stars on our District Backwoods Weekend.

Mike Byrne
Scout Leader



Our sun shade has arrived! Many thanks to all the donations we have received towards it plus all the fundraising the Committee undertook. It has now given the children a shady area to play in on the grass.

A big welcome back to all our rising 4s, and also to all the new children who will be joining pre-school over the next few weeks. Our theme this term is 'Making Friends'. We will be having a harvest service with Reverend Paul and then going to visit the residents at Norman Court. We are continuing to tend our fruit and vegetables, the strawberries tasted fantastic, and it will soon be time for us to try the carrots.



The AGM has been arranged for 25th October 7.30pm for 8.00pm at Pre-school. Refreshments provided.

Rainbow Pre-School takes children from 2.5 years to rising 5. If you are interested in applying for a place for your child please visit our website (www.rainbowpreschool-stansted.co.uk) for details. You need to put your child's name down now, however young, to ensure a place. Places for September 2013 and 2014 are filling up fast!!

Gill Pursglove
Administrator
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MANUDEN GUIDES



On 18th August Manuden Guides set off to the International Essex Jamboree with leaders Glynis, Lesley and Jen. We were all very excited!

When we arrived at about 11.00am, it was already 30 degrees. We set up our tents with a group of guides from Ireland who were camping with us for the week.

The camp was split into 11 sub camps named after different time zones from around the world. We were in the Sub Camp Grand Canyon and the village square was called Greenwich which included a cinema, fast food restaurant, coffee shop, dance tent, and radio station which broadcast daily from Jam FM all about what was happening at the jamboree.

The different activity zones around the jamboree were spread around the activities field and included zones such as Challenge, Survival, Eco, Creative, Team and Skills. My favourite zones were Challenge, where we could try rock climbing, abseiling, crate stacking, caving, laser clay shooting and go-carting; the Water Zone where I went dragon boat sailing and lead the boat being the drummer; and the Creative Zone where we could make things like survival bracelets, wax paintings, dragonfly bead key rings and take part in African drumming.



On the first night we went to the opening ceremony. The Scouts and Guides across the 11 sub camps entered the main stage area called the Arctic Circle. Kicking off with a musical medley of chart topping tunes and terrific dancing, each sub camp was welcomed to the arena in turn, individually celebrating its participants. sub camps competed for the most deafening cheer, while pictures and videos based around sub camp themes were shown on the big screen, set to some really catchy music.

The Opening Ceremony ended with a rousing rendition of the Jamboree song 'Our World, Our future'.

Throughout the week, every day we went to two different zones, one in the morning and one in the afternoon and on Wednesday morning we had a special morning ceremony called the Umoja ceremony with all the sub camps collecting together in the Arctic Circle. Despite the early hour everyone was in a cheery mood as we carried our blankets, chairs, sitters and most importantly our breakfast from the sub camps

to the arena. This was a special moment of 'Umoja' or unity as everyone gathered together.

In the evenings we visited Greenwich where you could 'rave' all night in the dance tent or relax in the 14-17 tent and there was always some good music at the main stage.

The great week ended with a closing ceremony on Friday night with a flourish of energetic dancing and fire-eating.



Overall we had a really exciting week and we were all very sad to leave but we are already looking forward to the next Essex International Jamboree in 2016!

Emmie Gee

CHILDREN'S RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Chorizo con Patatas Serves 4

Try this Mediterranean alternative to sausage and mash to spice up tea-time!

Ingredients

3 large potatoes
1 jar roasted peppers
250g chorizo sausage
3 cloves garlic, crushed
1/2tsp ground cumin
3tbsp olive oil (or use the oil from the jar of peppers)
Salt and pepper
Chopped, fresh coriander to serve

Method

Preheat oven to 190°C. Place potatoes (whole) in a large saucepan full of water and boil for 10 minutes. Drain and cool. Cut into wedges and place in an ovenproof casserole dish. Slice up the chorizo and add to the potatoes along with the peppers, garlic, cumin and olive oil. Season to taste. Cook for 45 minutes, stirring halfway through. Serve with fresh coriander.

For details of cookery classes and parties for 2-11 year olds contact Jane Chate, Kiddy Cook 07796 270068, Stansted@kiddycook.co.uk www.kiddycook.co.uk.

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Nature Notes

A different slant on nature this month from Cambridge Botanic Gardens, looking at popular plant biology.

When we marvel at oranges, reds, yellows and even purples of autumn foliage, we are in fact celebrating decay and chemical change! During the growing season, the green colour of leaves is due to the light-absorbing pigment, chlorophyll, which is very abundant in most leaves. In early autumn, the chlorophyll in deciduous leaves starts to break down and other colours are revealed.



See our website for photo in vibrant colour

The yellow and orange shades which come to the fore are due to carotenoids, the same pigment that makes a carrot orange. The Birch collection at the Cambridge Botanic Garden is particularly rich as the leaves become gold and warm apricot, often perfectly offset by bright white or shiny lacquer-red bark.

The red colours are due to another group of pigments, the anthocyanins. These pigments are produced by trees from sugar left over in the leaves – a sort of technicolour supernova! One of the most vivid autumn sights is the American Sweetgum, *Liquidambar styraciflua* 'Worplesdon'. It has formed a tear-drop shape and the foliage floods deep wine-red in early autumn, against which burst cerise, red, orange and apricot tones through the following weeks. The tree is a mesmerising sight at the height of its autumn colour, ingeniously placed at intersecting sight lines and throwing a spectacular reflection into the millpond surface of the Lake. For a few weeks of the year, the Sweetgum becomes the fiery fulcrum about which the whole Botanic Garden seems to revolve.

Juliet Day
Development Officer
Cambridge University Botanic Garden
Website: www.botanic.cam.ac.uk



MOUNTFITCHET GARDEN CLUB

www.mountfitchetgardenclub.co.uk

For the September meeting the Club welcomed back Mr Richard Thomas who told members about two Scottish Canals – the Crinan and the Caledonian. Using a series of 'Then' and 'Now' slides, members were first 'taken' along the nine mile Crinan Canal in Argyll and then along the 60 mile Caledonian Canal. The Crinan Canal was built to provide a navigable route between the Clyde and the Inner Hebrides. This 'short cut' was designed by John Rennie and was completed in 1801 and alleviated a long sea journey around the Kintyre peninsula and the exposed Mull of Kintyre.

The second canal, the Caledonian, was constructed in the early 19th century by Thomas Telford and links the North Sea at Inverness with the Atlantic Ocean at Corpach near Fort William via the Great Glen, a geological fault in the earth's crust. Only a third of the entire length is man-made, the rest being formed by four natural lochs, the largest of which is Loch Ness. The journey around the north coast of Scotland via Cape Wrath and the Pentland Firth was hazardous and this canal was originally designed to provide a safe passage for wooden sailing ships. However, it was not a commercial success as due to the Industrial Revolution ship-building had evolved from wind-power and wood to steam-driven metal ships that could face the harsh weather conditions. However, the dramatic scenery along the length of the Caledonian Canal - the unspoilt glens, moors and mountains, along with the staircase of eight locks (known as Neptune's Staircase), made it popular with visitors. In 1873 Queen Victoria took a trip along the canal and the subsequent publicity surrounding this trip resulted in a tourist boom. Today it is still one of Scotland's most popular destinations.

Next Meeting – Wednesday, 3rd October Day Centre - 'Ferns & Other Foliage Plants for the Garden'. Speaker: Mrs Nimmo-Smith. Doors open: 7.30pm - refreshments from 7.40pm – Meeting starts 8.00pm. Visitors: £2.50.

Maralyn Harris
Chairman
Tel: 07919 478144
(or contact tab on website)

CYRIL'S GARDENING TIPS

Cyril's taking a hard earned rest, but has promised to return in the spring with more of his invaluable tips.

Editor





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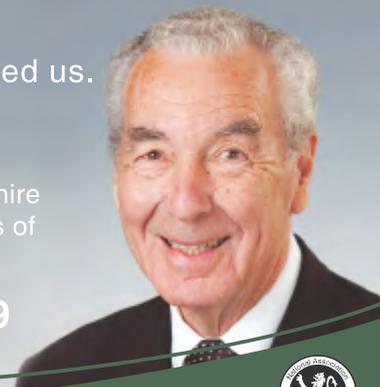
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Olympic Success From The Sidelines

Every reader of this publication will be aware that Ben Maher and his horse 'Triple X', fondly known to Ben as 'Hugo' were part of the Team GB gold winning Equestrian Jumping team which outperformed the Netherlands in the final.



But many may query why our club member James Wallace-Jarvis is seen in the picture exchanging a bunch of gold coloured gladioli with Ben at his Elsenham Stud. Ben's feat earned the additional personal honour of Elsenham Post Office's big red post-box being re-painted golden as a celebratory souvenir, but only after the timely intervention of our James and friends. They discovered the Royal Mail painters incorrectly painting a post-box in Bishop's Stortford and smartly redirected them to the right one in Elsenham.

Our Club had another brush with Olympic success when, at a Rotary party, we met the Zonderman Family, Dutch visitors from the Sneep Rotary Club who were staying with local Rotarians to support their son Epke in the Olympic Gymnastics Event. We were all thrilled when Epke won Gold performing his high bar gymnastic routine. The Guardian effusively commented "the daredevilry of Epke Zonderman will go down as the Comaneci/Korbut moment of these Olympics in a gymnastics feat so unprecedented that there is, as yet, no word for it."

Our third association with the Olympics coupled with our service ethic was fulfilled by our Rotary Club member and Elsenham resident Rob Ainsworth and wife Alison volunteering as unpaid helpers and joining the thousands of 'heroes' smoothing the running of the day to day events.

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

Peter Latham
Tel: 507294

Email: yp.latham@uwclub.net

CMT – What's That Then?

Well it's actually Charcot-Marie-Tooth disease. I'm a Stansted resident trying to raise money for CMT UK. In October I'm undertaking a sponsored back waxing. If you visit my Just Giving page you'll see that the beautician will have her work cut out!

(<http://www.justgiving.com/AJSUTD>)

CMT is a condition that affects the nerves in your legs and arms, known as the peripheral nerves. Our body's system of nerves is similar to a network of electrical wires. Some of them, called sensory nerves, are designed to pass information back to the brain about what you can feel with your fingers, toes, etc. The others are command pathways, telling your muscles to do something, like lift your left foot – and are called motor nerves. Because CMT affects both types of peripheral nerve, you may experience motor problems as the command pathways fail to respond properly, causing weakness and wasting in your muscles and numbness/sensory problems, arising from the problems with the sensory nerves.

In a nutshell, CMT is:-

- Not life threatening
- Affects people very differently, even within the same family
- Slowly gets worse over time (is progressive), causing gradual deterioration of both the motor nerves and the sensory nerves
- This deterioration causes the atrophying of the muscles in the foot, lower leg, hand and forearm
- Can cause foot drop walking gait, foot bone abnormalities (including high arches and hammer toes), problems with hand function and dexterity, balance problems, occasional cramping in the legs and arms and loss of some normal reflexes
- May cause long term pain and chronic tiredness
- Is usually passed on from parent to child, with a 50% chance of the child inheriting the condition
- Is thought to affect approximately 23,000 people in the UK
- Affects all ethnic groups equally throughout the world
- Is the focus of major research, all over the world

Please help me to raise much-needed funds for CMT. Thank you.

Andrew Sharpe
Tel: 816132

DON'T FORGET!

The clocks go back at 2.00am (BST) on
Sunday 28th October



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GET YOUR PETS READY FOR BONFIRE NIGHT

Now I know it may be a little early, but I want you all to start thinking about Bonfire Night. Personally I love it; the bangs, the whistles, the showers of sparks lighting up the sky, jacket potatoes and setting fire to a guy. (Or in our house, newspaper stuffed into last year's school uniform). However, for a lot of pets, including my dog Broccoli, it's the worst night of the year. For those of you who have read my previous articles on the subject, you'll know that Broccoli likes to hide in a wine rack in the kitchen for the duration of the evening. All we can see of him is two furry brown feet sticking out until the last bang of the last rocket and then he wriggles out backwards with a reproachful look and disappears upstairs to spend the rest of the night under the bed!



Life has improved for Broccoli, as his anxiety has been reduced by a combination of herbal and homeopathic treatments over the years; however he is still far from relaxed and the same is true of many pets across the country. There are many ways of treating anxiety in dogs these days. As well as natural remedies such as homeopathy, there are also pheromone products, anti-anxiety supplements, noise desensitising programmes and one of my favourite new products - the Thundershirt. This is a snug fitting dog coat which exerts a constant and reassuring pressure around the dog's body which is supposed to have a calming effect. A couple of clients have already used them and have reported good results. The reason I'd like you to start thinking about Bonfire Night now, is that a lot of these products have to be used well in advance, at least 2-3 weeks before the fireworks start. We have produced a handout at the surgery which tells you all about the different treatments available and how to use them, and you can also ring up and talk to Phillipa, our nurse, or one of the receptionists who can guide you as to what might be the best way forward for your pet. So start thinking about it now for a relaxed and happy Bonfire Night. In fact I'd better start drinking the odd bottle of wine or two, so there's room for Broccoli in the wine rack!

Ilse Pedler



The **AUTUMN GIFT FAIR** will be held on Wednesday 10th October 2012 from 10.00am to 3.30pm at Parklands, Quendon Hall, Quendon, Nr. Saffron Walden. Entrance £5 including coffee and biscuits. Lunches available.

Christine Stiles
Tel: 813172



494 (Stansted Airport) Squadron Air Training Corps

Summer has brought changes to the squadron. Thursdays have replaced Fridays as one of the weekly parade evenings. Also we welcome another two civilian Instructors: Mr Aaron Lee, who used to be a Harlow Air Cadet a few years ago and Liz Franklin who used to be a 494 cadet herself. Hopefully they will get stuck in on our staff team.

A group of cadets has been climbing at the Harlow Outdoor Centre. There is a 14m high wall with varying difficulty sections to challenge all abilities. We are very lucky to have a staff member who is a qualified climbing instructor.

We have just had our inter-squadron swimming competition at the Chelmsford Leisure Centre which was against all the other squadrons in Essex Wing. We won the Junior Girls' category; well done to the girls! It is a great event to see friends from across Essex and also to represent your squadron. Two of our cadets have been selected to represent Essex at regional level against the other counties in London and the South East.

One of our newly promoted Corporals Jake Walker had the privilege this summer of going on a camp to Ramstein US Air Base in Germany. He went with a group of Air cadets from across the whole of England. Whilst there, he visited the bomb disposal and demolition squadron. Cadets had the chance to have a go on some of the bulldozers they use there. They also did some rifle shooting, learned about NATO and visited Luxembourg. He had an amazing time and was an experience which he will not forget!



Recruitment Evening

Friday 1st October, 7.45pm-9.00pm at 494 Squadron HQ, Second Avenue, Stansted Business Park, CM24 1RY. Parents and prospective cadets are invited to come along and see what the ATC can offer for those aged between 13 and 16.

Contacts

Tel: 681559 Mondays and Thursdays 7.15pm-9.30pm (24 hour answerphone); email: 494@aircadets.org.

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SILENCE

by
Meg Morris

So what is Silence?

Is it a soft spring dawn,
Before the sun is up,
And the dew still masks the lawn,
Then a blackbird trills its perfect song?

No, that's not silence!

Is it the Grand Canyon,
Where the air is clean and sweet,
And gentle deer creep past on tiptoed feet,
And God has painted the world with magic
colour and light,
Where haunting voices echo round, out of sight?

No, not silence.

Is it the warmth of the sun on a distant beach,
Where silky waves kiss the sand,
And a cooling drink arrives,
At the lift of a languid hand?

Still not silence!

Then is it that cosy room on a winter's night,
Where snow has blanketed the world in white,
And there's no electricity to make a sound,
So a candle lights the book you read,
While a log fire hisses and crackles in the grate?

Nearly silence!

Is it the empty church that embraces and welcomes
The troubled spirit searching for calm,
And soothes with its magnificence and history,
And on the quarter the soft mellow chime of the
bell,
Comes, as a reminder of time and hell?

Is that silence?

No! Silence is the frustration of Beethoven,
And the vacuum of nothingness.



STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET
LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Stansted History Society's first meeting of the year had a good turnout with a very good talk by William Tyler on: 'Horatio Nelson: England's Hero'. The story of Nelson is well known to everyone, from his relatively humble beginnings in North Norfolk through to his commanding the fleet in the great, and decisive, Battle of Trafalgar.

William Tyler explored both the importance of the battle, the contribution of Nelson himself to that victory through the brilliance of his tactics, and the sheer level of the wave of emotional support from the British people. Every Trafalgar Day the Immortal Memory toast is still raised to the man. William finished the evening with a thought provoking poem by Robert Graves.

Our next meeting will be a presentation on Samuel Pepys by Colin Oakes on 4th October at 8.00pm in the Day Centre. All welcome.

Steve Leaney
Tel: 647177

AMICI CANTATE

"Music Down In My Soul"

Sunday 14th October 7.00pm Thaxted Parish Church

Amici Cantate was founded by Michael Kibblewhite in 2005, and is made up of parents and friends of the Bishop's Stortford based youth choir, *Cantate*. Since its inception, it has developed a reputation for high quality music making, supporting the three Cantate choirs in major events and participating by itself in festivals and charitable concerts, often working with children's choirs.

Following their Gala Concert in October 2010 which raised an outstanding £2,250 for the Carver Barracks Injured Soldiers Fund, Amici Cantate are delighted to have been invited to return to Thaxted Church to present this concert, and to have the opportunity once again to pay tribute to those soldiers injured in recent conflicts and to their families. The concert contains songs of reflection, joy and hope.

Tickets: adults £10 - children £6 are available from Kate Foxwell 506773, katefoxwell@btinternet.com, or on the night on the door.

Alison Thompson
Press Officer

STOP PRESS

St Mary's School would like to make you aware that unfortunately due to the village Christmas/Winter themed event being planned by the Parish Council, St Mary's on Ice will not take place this year. It is hoped, however, that we will reinstate it next year so please keep an eye out and come along for a skate in 2013!

We will be holding something on Wednesday 5th December in our new school building on Foresthall Park so why not come along and support us there.

Nicola Ward
Chair, PTFA

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Janice Rust
Secretary of The Friends

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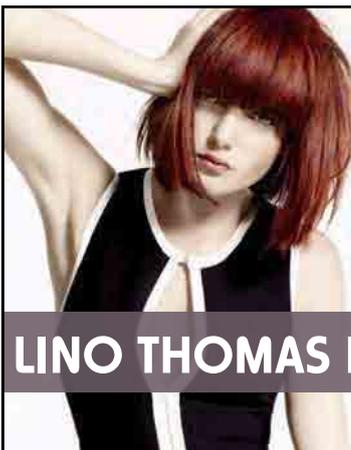
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