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by **noon** on **11th September** for the October issue
or by hand to:
7 Blythwood Gardens,
Stansted CM24 8HG
by **noon** on **8th September** for the October issue

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EDITORIAL



Stansted has been in the news quite a lot lately; mostly for the wrong reasons. Two violent deaths in the village, both in tragically sad circumstances, were covered by the national media and the vandalism at the new skatepark immediately prior to its grand opening event, featured both on local radio and in local papers (more about the skatepark on page 19). The two incidents were shocking and upsetting, but as always people in our community have pulled together and done everything they could to help. There's some good news on page 4 from Stansted surgery, concerning more much needed doctors joining the practice. After such a long time working in cramped conditions and often under-staffed, everyone at the surgery must be relieved that moving to new purpose-built premises is no longer just a dream but a reality. Fingers crossed that all the building work goes to plan and that this time next year visiting and working at the doctors' surgery will be as pleasant an experience as it can possibly be – providing we can safely negotiate the busy road system and find a parking space of course.

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Stansted network is compiled by Stansted Mountfitchet Parish Council.

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

As recent events in our village have shown, we live in a world where bad things happen. A few days ago someone asked me, "How can you believe in God when children get sick?" The questioner was a distressed father, and in such circumstances answers don't help. People need to be heard, not preached at. I tried to offer an open ear, just for a few minutes. I don't suppose I helped; but like anyone who has such an encounter, I was challenged by the question. The answer that I make to myself is that - at least as an adult - I have never believed in a world in which children didn't get sick. The question sets up the idea that somehow there is the possibility of a perfect world in which bad things don't happen and that in that world believing in God makes sense; but because we don't live in that world believing in God doesn't make sense. I want to say that that perfect world is a figment of our wishful thinking. Not only does such a world not exist, but can't exist. God could no more make such a world than he could make a square triangle. The only world we can have is the one we've got; and in that world there is suffering, pain, abuse, cruelty and death.

In such a world I choose to believe in God. I choose to do so as an act of defiance against the suffering, pain, abuse, cruelty and death. I choose to believe that they do not have the last word even though they appear to do so. I choose to believe that life is more powerful than death; that love is greater than hatred and that hope is greater than despair. And I choose to view the world through the lenses of life and love and hope, believing that one day the suffering will end, the cruelty will be stopped, and death itself will find that it is conquered.



Paul Wilkin
Rector of Stansted



STANSTED FREE CHURCH
Methodist / URC
Chapel Hill, Stansted CM24 8AG
www.stanstedfreechurch.org.uk

Minister Rev'd Roy Fowler
Tel: 814809
minister@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk

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

Preachers for September

6th 10.30am Rev'd David Mullins – Church Anniversary
13th 10.30am Anniversary Service at Saffron Walden URC
no service at Stansted
20th 10.30am Jerry Heyhoe
27th 10.30am Rev'd Roy Fowler – Harvest Communion



www.stanstedfamilychurch.com

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

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

Our @27 meeting this month will be on Wednesday 30th September (including contemporary worship and a Bible-related talk). Refreshments at 7.30pm for a 7.45pm start. All our regular activities (for adults, families and children) resume this month after the summer break – see church website for details.

ROMAN CATHOLIC

St Therese of Lisieux
High Lane

Priest Father John Garrett

Office Tel: 816889
Email: stansted@dioceseofbrentwood.org

Masses Saturday 6.00pm
Sunday 10.00am
Holy Days of Obligation 8.00am and 8.00pm
Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri 9.30am

Confessions
Saturday 10.00am
and by appointment

Baptisms By appointment

THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS)

Quaker Meeting House, 71 Chapel Hill
Stansted CM24 8AE

Clerk Jane Mitchell
Tel: 503024
Email: sjane.mitchell@ntlworld.com

Meeting Sunday, 10.30am every week

Light Group 10.30am-11.15am Saturdays
12th September and 14th November



SHALOM

We resume on Monday 28th September 8.00pm with our 'At Home' at 7 Blythwood Gardens. All are welcome.



Marion Dyer
Tel: 814059



THE FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S CHURCH

St Mary's Church certainly lived up to the Trust's hope that we will be open and welcoming, when, for the whole of July, it gave us immense pleasure to host the Magna Carta Exhibition. Word soon spread throughout towns and villages that this was a stunning community project and not to be missed. Many people came to view two or three times, some with three generation families, others with their summer-time overseas visitors, or, as one visitor said, "because the embroidery and art work are so beautiful, we could not take it all in the first time." Seldom has there been such a gathering to draw on old memories from Paul Embleton's photographs, with any number of tales told to add to my own personal collection! The 1,222 signings in the Visitors' Books can surely be more than doubled as many did not sign in and the Conservation Trust will benefit by over £1,000 from buckets and boxes and 'the very good cuppa' (thank you, Bartram Robinson) the Friends provided. We look forward to seeing many visitors again for the evening of 25th September for an evening of local talent, *The Celebration of Liberty* (see elsewhere in The Link for ticket details). St Mary's is closed for the whole of August and early September in the interest of health and safety, while essential building repairs are carried out. We appeal to all those visiting the churchyard and walking by the church, to keep an eye open for any suspicious vehicles or people who may take advantage of scaffolding or whose business there may not be lawful.

Audrey Rodgers
Chairman
Tel: 812162



Songs of Praise Sunday 13th September at 3.30pm

A reminder of the Songs of Praise which is part of the general Magna Carta Commemorations, to be held in the Memorial Grounds of St John's Church, or inside the church if wet. Bishop's Stortford Brass Band are accompanying the hymns - chosen and introduced by church members. Come along to what promises to be a wonderful afternoon of community praise. Please bring a chair if you can, although a few will be available for those who are not able to do so.

David Morson
Tel: 850209
Email: davidmorson20@gmail.com

FRIENDS OF ESSEX CHURCHES



Saturday 12th September 10.00am-6.00pm

This annual event, a sponsored bike ride or walk discovering beautiful churches, raises money for the Friends of Essex Churches to repair and preserve the buildings in their care. It will be a fine day, so please join in. Half the money you raise will be returned to your own church. Entry forms from the churches or contact me for further information.

John Jaques
Tel: 656645

All enquiries: The Church Office, St John's Hall,
St John's Road, Stansted CM24 8JP
Office hours: Mon 9.00am-11.30am, Wed
9.00am-12 noon, Fri 9.00am-12.30pm
Email: st.johns.church@btinternet.com
Website: www.stanstedstjohns.btik.com

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

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

Church Hall Bookings: Simon Wilson
Tel or text: 07582 856689
Email: stjohs.hallbookings@gmail.com

St John's Diary

Sunday

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

Monday-Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday

8.30am Morning Prayer

Tuesday

9.00am St John's Tots

Wednesday

9.00am Morning Prayer
10.00am Holy Communion

Monday-Thursday and Saturday

5.00pm Evening Prayer

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

From the Registers

July

Baptisms

19th Henry Paul Stevens
26th Jessica Laura Rena Billett

Funerals

7th John Strain - at Cambridge Crematorium
29th Richard David Robinson, age 70 -
at St Mary's

ST JOHN'S 300 CLUB

Many congratulations to the winners of the bumper July draws, who were:

£200 No 78 Ruby Hollis
£100 No 156 Ann Lee
£ 50 No 258 Clare Arnold
£ 25 No 189 Roland Pelly

The draws for September will be held on Sunday 27th September in St John's Church following the 9.30am service. Numbers are still available 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



STANSTED SURGERY

New Surgery

The development of the new premises in Stansted continues at pace and the practice are looking forward to moving in some time between April and June next year. The move to modern premises is long overdue and will provide up to 14 consulting rooms in a more central accessible location.

Staffing

Our first new GP started on 12th August; Dr Harriet Fox will be working three days a week. We have also appointed a new primary care practitioner, Sally Kaemer, who starts at the end of September. Further recruitment is in hand and we are confident that one more GP will be starting later in the year.

Patient Appointments

In the coming months we will be making more appointments available to book on the day, including online. They will be available from 8.30am and split between online, telephone and turn up at the practice, so as not to disadvantage those without internet access. Coupled with the additional staffing, this should provide a better service for patients. In order to improve telephone access first thing in the morning, from 1st September we are going to trial prescription queries (815051) and lab test results (813200) to be dealt with after 11.00am and before 4.30pm. This will free up time to handle appointment bookings. In July we lost around 43 hours of appointment time through patients failing to attend their appointments and we would like to take this opportunity to remind patients that they can both book and cancel appointments online. Internet registration forms are available from the practice.

Patient Participation Group

We welcome the enthusiasm of our patients and welcome those who would be interested in joining the Patient Participation Group to come to our re-launch meeting on 10th September 7.30pm for 7.45pm at the Free Church Hall, ending at 9.15pm.

Barry Chandler
Practice Manager

SHOE BOXES



It is time to think about Christmas, or at least those special Christmas boxes that Stansted sends to children, who would otherwise not have a present. The good news is that we already have some wrapped boxes left from last year. Please put the following dates in your diary:

Saturday 31st October 10am-noon you can bring items for the boxes to Stansted Free Church. If this date is not convenient, please contact any of us and we will collect from you. A list of suitable items will be in the October Link.

Thursday 12th November 7.00pm we will pack the shoe boxes in the Free Church Hall (behind the church). This is another opportunity to bring any more items for the boxes. Donations of money for postage are also very welcome.

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

IN MEMORIAM

CATHERINE SARA HEAD 'SALLY'

7th June 1938 – 4th July 2015

During the time that Sally lived in Park Road in Stansted she formed lasting friendships with many people in the village. Some residents may remember her as Practice Manager at



The Stansted Surgery; a job she loved, where her organisational skills and calm and caring attitude were greatly valued. After moving to Harston near Cambridge she travelled back to Stansted daily to continue her work at the surgery, sometimes leaving quite late for the journey home to George her husband, and two daughters Sarah and Julia. After George, died Sally carried on working for a while before retiring. She now had the

time to follow her interests and spend happy times with her six grandchildren and in her garden. She was a member of a book club; belonged to a bird watching group; sewed some beautiful quilts and sang with a choir. She also did voluntary work at the church where she worshipped in Cambridge, including working in the garden there. She faced her final months with typical calm bravery, lovingly cared for by her daughters. She was loved by all who knew her and will be sadly missed.

Lesley Hawkes

DID YOU KNOW THAT?

George Fox, along with many dissenting Christian groups, emerged during the English Civil War (1642-1651), dissatisfied with the teachings of the Church of England and non-conformists. Official persecution followed with the Quaker Act of 1662. Fox related that when brought before the magistrates for his beliefs, it was the magistrate who called him a Quaker because Fox had bade him "tremble at the word of the Lord". Rich Young of Stansted Mountfitchet, yeoman, was summoned to appear at Easter Court Sessions 18th April 1663, in the meantime "not to suffer any more unlawful meetings or assemblies at his house, also to abide to such further order as the court shall award". On 18th March 1666, 20 local people were brought before the magistrates having, "being taken at a meeting at the house of Thomas Leeds of Stansted Mountfitchet, under the pretence of serving God". Those charged included Ann, wife of Rich Young. The Acts against the Society of Friends were not wholly rescinded until the Act of Toleration in 1689. The most prominent local Quakers were the Days and Greens. John Day was founder of the grocery and drapery business in Stansted that opened in 1687. His second wife's father, Samuel Cater, was a founder member of the Society of Friends, who walked 150 miles from Nottinghamshire to Carlisle Castle to see George Fox incarcerated there. Returning home, he was thrown into jail at Coggeshall for distributing leaflets and preaching and also fined £40, which being a Quaker, he refused to pay. The book 'Piety Promoted' dated 1789 states Cater, "was at divers times imprisoned for his testimony to the truth". Joshua Green, 1813-1894 was sixth in descent from John Green of Livarsedge who died in York Castle for non-conformity to the established religion in 1676.

Ralph Phillips



Stansted Cricket Club

QUIZ EVENING

7.30 pm Sat 5th Sept
St John's Hall

*Tickets £10 (incl fish & chips)
Please book in advance from
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Stort Valley Rotary

8 pm Sat 5th Sept
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Magna Carta
800

7.30 pm Fri 11th Sept
St Theresa's Parish Centre
Medieval Music and Drama
by Trouvère
Tickets £10

7.30 pm Wed 16th Sept
St Theresa's Parish Centre
Talk on The Early Montfichets
by Peter Sanders
Tickets £7

7.30 pm Fri 25th Sept
St Mary's Church
Celebration of Liberty
The Grand Finale
featuring Local Talent
Tickets £10

Tickets for all events from
Sheila on 814973 or
Steve Golding Greengrocer, Chapel Hill

WHAT'S ON IN SEPTEMBER

2	Wed	Mountfitchet Seniors Mountfitchet Garden Club	Day Centre 2 - 4 pm Day Centre 7.30 for 8 pm
3	Thu	Stansted History Society	Day Centre 8 pm
4	Fri	Stansted Business Forum	Linden House 7 for 7.30 am
5	Sat	Cricket Club Quiz Night Rotary Concert	St John's Hall 7.30 pm U R Church, B Stortford 8 pm
6	Sun	Skatepark Jam Windmill Open	Lower St Skatepark 11 am - 4 pm 1.30 - 5.30 pm
13 & 27	Sun	Skips	Lower Street Car Park 9 am - 1 pm
10	Thu	Patient Participation Group WI	Free Church Hall 7.30 for 7.45 pm Day Centre 7.45 pm
11	Fri	Link copy due in today Trouvère Music and Drama	before 12 noon St Theresa's Parish Centre 7.30 pm
12	Sat	Ride and Stride	Essex Churches 10 am - 6 pm
13	Sun & 26	Sat Family Café Songs of Praise	Day Centre 9.30 - 11 am Memorial Grounds 3.30 pm
14	Tue	Dementia Café	Quaker Meeting Hse 10 am - noon
16	Wed	Talk by Peter Sanders	St Theresa's Parish Centre 7.30 pm
17	Thu	Stansted U3A	St John's Hall 1.30 for 2 pm
24	Thu	Macmillan Coffee Morning	Old Lane Hse 10.30 am - 12.30 pm
25	Fri	Fish & Chip Lunch Celebration of Liberty	Day Centre 12.30 pm St Mary's Church 7.30 pm
26	Sat	Hospital Cup Tournament	Tennis Club 10.30 am - 5 pm
27	Sun	Charity Concert for Danny	Social Club 2 pm
28	Mon	Shalom at Home	7 Blythwood Gardens 8 pm
30	Wed	The Place Harvest Event W I Strawberry Cream Tea	Free Church 10 - 11.30 am Day Centre 2.30 - 4.30 pm



Sponsored Cycle Ride / Walk

Sat 12th September
10 am - 6 pm

Forms available from St John's
Church or John tel 656645

*In aid of local churches and
Essex Churches Trust*



Centenary Celebrations

Stansted WI

STRAWBERRY CREAM TEA

2.30 - 4.30 pm Wed 30th Sept
Day Centre

Part of the National WI
'World's Biggest Tea Party'
Proceeds to Day Centre Refurbishment
Entry £3.50 ~ All welcome

Stansted Tennis Club



Hospital Cup Tennis Tournament

10.30 am - 5 pm Sat 26th Sept

Superb Tennis

Delicious Homemade Refreshments
All Proceeds to Avocet Ward
Saffron Walden Community Hospital
Everyone welcome to all or part of the day



Magna
Carta



Songs of Praise

3.30 pm Sunday 13th Sept

Memorial Gardens, Chapel Hill
(in St John's Church if wet)

Hymns chosen by members of
Stansted Churches

All Welcome - Tickets not required

*Please bring a chair if you can
Tel 850209*

STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET
SOCIAL CLUB

CHARITY CONCERT

2 pm Sun 27th Sept

HELP DANNY HEAR

Songs from
Darren Bardoe, Just Donna,
Wesley Pressley & Ray Orbison
Non-members welcome - Tel 812992

Macmillan Cancer Support

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And Associates

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FOOTGOLF STANSTED

Footgolf – have you heard of it? A year ago you may have been completely oblivious of its potential for fun, entertainment and competition, given there were only around 30 courses in the country that were offering the game. Now however, with nearly 160 courses nationwide and its title of ‘fastest growing sport in the UK’, Footgolf is attaining cult status fast.

What is it?

Well take golf, then remove the clubs, the tiny ball, and the little hole, and replace them with your foot, a size 5 football, and a 21 inch diameter hole, and you’ve got it. The rules are practically identical and it is such a simple game, people the world over are kicking themselves that they hadn’t formalised it themselves much earlier.

Why are we telling you about this?

Because Footgolf Stansted has arrived. Based at Elsenham Golf & Leisure Club, Footgolf Stansted are offering the sport on their academy course seven days a week. It was officially opened on 19th July and people have been playing there every day since.



Who can play the sport?

Toni Ann Wayne, who plays in goal for Tottenham Hotspur Ladies and also plays for her local women’s cricket club came along on opening day with some of her cricket playing friends, and thoroughly enjoyed the experience. Although the sport is currently played by an overwhelming majority of men, there is no reason why women cannot play. Children too can enjoy the experience – in fact we would encourage as many as possible to play it now, because with the way the sport is going, it could be professional before you know it and we want the best players in the world to be from the UK! In short, Footgolf is a wonderfully addictive, surprising game with scarcely any barriers to anyone. You can book a round at Footgolf Stansted by calling 812865 or email: info@elsenhamsportandleisure.co.uk

Dan Ferretti
Business Development Manager

MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING



Please come to our Coffee Morning in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support 10.30am-12.30pm on Thursday 24th September, at Old Lane House, Church Road. There will be a raffle and a cake stall. All welcome.

Christine and Bill Stiles
Tel: 813172

THE CRAFTON ROOM

You may have noticed that I have not written in recent months - this is not because nothing has been happening at the Crafton Room! On the contrary, we have been as busy as ever, but a shortage of volunteers has meant that we have been short on time to compile an article. We are glad to say that we now have a few more wonderful volunteers and normality is restored! In fact, by the time you read this article, we will also have been freshly decorated - many thanks go to Trevor and Ruth at the Parish Council for making this possible. On Friday 4th September we are pleased to announce that Daniel Robinson and Sons will be providing free musical entertainment in the form of a Ukulele Band!! This musical extravaganza (!) will take place during and after lunchtime, and after lunch Robinsons will be providing complimentary tea and cakes. If you have never been to the Crafton Room before, why not join us for this day for what is bound to be a fun and sociable afternoon? We would like to take this opportunity to offer our heartfelt thanks to Daniel Robinson and Sons for their ongoing support of the Crafton Room.

Uttlesford District Council will be hosting their ever-popular and informative Safer Living event at the Crafton Room at 10.00am on Tuesday 6th October. This will be followed by a delicious *free* roast beef lunch followed by sherry trifle. Please book in advance for this very popular event as places are limited and go very quickly. Please note that unfortunately we can no longer offer transport to and from the Crafton Room but Uttlesford Community Transport ‘Book-a-ride’ offers a fantastic pick up and drop off service at a reasonable cost (see article elsewhere in this month’s Link for more details). Their drivers are DBS checked and the minibus is fully equipped for wheelchairs. Please email: info@uttlesfordcommunitytravel.org or call 01371 875787. You will be happy to hear that our ever popular Fish and Chip Fridays will resume on Friday 25th September; lunch is served at 12.30pm but you are welcome to join us from 10.00am for tea, coffee and homemade scones. For more information or to book for any of the above events please do not hesitate to contact either myself or Jo. We look forward to seeing you soon.



Julie Beck
Manager
Tel: 815091

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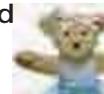
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STANSTED MESSY CHURCH

www.stanstedchurches.com/messychurch

Sunday 4th October 3.30pm-5.00pm at St Mary's School

What is Stansted Messy Church?

New to Stansted, (but already very popular elsewhere in the country) it is an **exciting** and **informal** style of church for families, with activities, celebration and food, and an emphasis on **FUN!**

What sort of activities?

Making things, drawing, painting, colouring, working with food, plus lots of other themed activities, some of which may be 'messy' and which you probably would not want to do at home!

What is the celebration?

We explore the theme together, using some of the things from the activities session.

Then there is food?

After the celebration, everyone has tea - sandwiches, drinks, cakes, crisps, snacks, and fruit.

Who is it for?

We welcome families, particularly those with children aged under 12. However, older children are also welcome as long as they come with an adult.

The event is arranged by Churches Together in Stansted and there is no charge. We are planning six events throughout the year and there will be more information in next month's Link. For general information about Messy Church visit www.messychurch.org.uk.



Marion Dyer Tel: 814059
Richenda Whitehead Tel: 813875
Publicity Team



Harvest Event Wednesday 30th September

Following the success of our Christmas and Easter events we are holding a **Harvest Special**. The Place will be open as usual from 9.30am, with planned activities between 10.00am and 11.30am. There will be an opportunity to 'be creative', followed by simple games - all connected to the theme of Harvest. Some of the craftwork made will be the focus for a short time of reflection about creation and why we celebrate Harvest.

The Place on the Hill is a free drop-in held at and organised by Stansted Free Church, Chapel Hill, which is open every Wednesday and Friday 9.30am – 12.30pm. Do come and join us - all ages are welcome. For more information or if you need transport, please contact us.



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



INNER WHEEL

Members organised a fun-packed day at Hatfield Forest for 13 young children from Belarus. It is the ninth year that the Club has supported the charity – Friends of Chernobyl's Children - which arranges for a group of underprivileged children aged nine to 12 to be brought from Belarus to south Cambridgeshire, where the children stay with host families for a month, and enjoy fun days out around East Anglia as well as practising their English.



The disaster at Chernobyl nuclear power plant happened in 1986, but the effects will be felt for many years to come, and the children's UK stay proves to be very beneficial for their health and well-being. After fun in the Forest playing games, making dens and pond-dipping, members provided a fantastic picnic for everyone, followed by ice-creams, and each child was given a hand-crafted gift on their departure, which had been lovingly made by one of the members. A beautiful day which was enjoyed by all. Just before their departure, the children and their leaders staged a 'Thank You' concert for their host families and supporters, with the children performing in their native language as well as English; a humbling and very moving tribute from these lovely children. Inner Wheel meets on the 4th Tuesday evening of each month at the Day Centre. New members warmly welcomed.



Brenda Cox
Tel: 812191
Email: brenda@coxco.demon.co.uk



Investigators is a group for children running most Fridays from 6.15pm-7.45pm at the Free Church Hall. Investigators sessions include a regular mix of games, Bible stories, creative activities and fun challenges. Recent activities included a visit from some parrots and (separately!) snakes, as well making a life-size picture of Joseph and his 'technicolour dreamcoat', along with drama to some of the songs from the musical of the same name. The group is for primary school children aged 7-11 years but there is some flexibility over the age-range, particularly for younger siblings, as long as they are of school age and confident enough to mix with a group which is predominantly 7-11 year olds. All sessions are free of charge and children are welcome to try out a session any Friday when we are running. There are a few spaces for new children from 11th September - please contact me ASAP if your child would like to come.



Ros Page
Tel: 813810
Email: contactstanfam@yahoo.com

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TICKS

Monday can often be a hectic day, and this Monday was proving just so when I noticed Wendy, our receptionist, had squeezed in an extra morning surgery. The computer entry said 'Dotty - emergency tick'. Interesting I thought; I have dealt with many emergencies in my time often involving over-enthusiastic dogs and sticks, or cats and cars, but never ticks, so it was with a degree of anticipation that I called in Dotty, who turned out to be a whippet with a more anxious than usual look on her face (those who know whippets, will know that their usual demeanour is one of mild anxiety)! Mrs Smith, Dotty's owner, was in a state of even higher anxiety, telling me that her weekend had been an "absolute nightmare". Not only had she found this "vile parasite" on her beloved Dotty, but she had spent the weekend looking for removal methods on the Internet. One site had told her to burn it off with a cigarette; another had told her to dab the tick with gin; and a third had told her to cover it with Vaseline. The poor lady did not know where to go first, the officience or the chemists! Luckily I was able to remove the parasite in less than 10 seconds with a handy device called a tick hook - a piece of curved plastic that slides between the tick and the skin, neatly and painlessly removing the tick. I was able to give Mrs Smith advice on the best anti-parasite product to use, as most of the commonly available flea products do not kill ticks very well, and sell her a tick hook. Mrs Smith was overjoyed and I swear Dotty shrugged her shoulders and gave me a look that said "Owners, huh" as she walked out of the door! I guess the moral of the story is that the Internet is a wonderful thing, but anybody can write anything on it and we vets have gone through many years of training and are constantly updating our knowledge, so for matters involving animals we might be the people to ring first. Telephone advice is free and if we don't know the answer to something, I bet we know someone that does!



Ilse Pedler
Mercer & Hughes Veterinary Surgeons



STANSTED'S COMMUNITY CARE SCHEME

Are you recently retired? Are the children going off to university or leaving the nest? Do you have an odd hour or two that you would like to fill with something really worthwhile? If so, Helpline would love to hear from you! We are looking for more volunteer drivers to take the less able to eg doctors' surgery, hospital or other appointments, shopping, etc. There is no regular commitment and, if at any time you were contacted and you chose, for whatever reason, not to undertake that particular request, you simply decline and someone else will be contacted. This service is a lifeline to many people in the village who would otherwise struggle considerably or even be unable to attend appointments, etc, so that odd hour or two of your spare time could be invaluable to them. You also get to meet some lovely people who often have some great tales to tell! If you think you could help, please contact our Organiser, Yvonne Ayres, on 814706, who will be happy to explain things further. **NB** If you happen to be available at any time on Thursdays, that would be particularly valuable as that day happens to be difficult for a lot of our volunteers!

Francine Cope
Chairman

Meet the neighbours ...

New Farm (Elsenham Road) has new tenants!

They are known as New Farm Stud. You may have seen some of the team out and about in their black and white uniform, headed by myself, a 43 year old Shire horse lover. The team are well on their way to converting the 13.5 acres back to its former glory - lots of grass! The land was originally bought to keep animals, so the owners want the farm to revert to a place of beauty, keeping within the governance of the deeds, the law of the land and obviously the planning authorities! We want it to be accessible to the local community including walkers, Scouts and the local schools. The land has seen many tenants and sadly this has taken its toll, as it was left in a bad state. I am working with all the local farmers, disposal and aggregate companies. There is a private road to be completed in the very near future. The planning was activated back in 1988, and now with sponsorship and help from local builders, preparations for the works can begin. Part of the farm is going through planning to become an equestrian site, and hopefully stretching to a breeding programme. After WWII the Shire horse numbers fell from well over a million to just a few thousand, and by the 1960s, the Shire breed was in serious trouble. Thanks to a few dedicated breeders, we now see this beautiful breed still being used as a working horse, and also now ridden. I am not intending to run a charity, rehoming programme or any sort of business, just a place where people can come along, picnic and learn about these magnificent horses, and hopefully one day New Farm will become a registered and approved Shire home! The owners are hoping that this will be a free site for people to access. It is all rather exciting! New Farm is certainly not building any houses; we simply love the open space and countryside too much! If you would like to meet the team or visit the land please contact me.

Claire Barzilay-Smith
Email: newfarmstansted@gmail.com



We are holding a fundraising lunch on Friday 23rd October noon-2.30pm (lunch served at 1.00pm) in Manuden Village Hall. The menu is chicken breasts filled with spinach and tomato (or a vegetarian option), lemon cheesecake, coffee and chocolates, supplied by Anna Shutes Catering. Raffle and stalls. All welcome. Tickets £20 from me.

Peter Heap
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STANSTED PUBS

THE ASH

The Ash Pub is a picturesque and historic 17th century thatched building with traditional beams and a roaring open fire in the winter. It is situated in Burton End, just a stone's throw from the airport, but in a lovely rural setting surrounded by open fields. Andrew and I only took over last year as landlords and we plan to ensure The Ash keeps its quintessentially English character with no pretensions. This photograph shows the Ash in 1942.



We have discovered some of the pub's history in the short time we've been here. We know that it was in the same family for 100 years during the time of Trafalgar, from 1805 to 1905, and that Bill Turner was the landlord from 1906-1934. Bill seems to have been a bit of a character. During WWI he apparently used to collect swill from Hargrave Park, the local army camp at that time, to feed his pigs. As he also fed them stale beer, it is said that it was quite common to find drunken pigs stumbling around the bar! We don't get pigs in the bar now - drunk or otherwise - but dogs are always welcomed at this family-friendly pub.

When the famous United States Air Force 344 Bomber Squadron were based here during the campaigns of WWII, The Ash became a firm favourite with the men, and the Squadron retain links with the pub to this day. As can be seen from the black and white photo, the pub has grown somewhat since 1942 with an extension to the side. Both the bar and restaurant are decorated with all sorts of aviation memorabilia including modern aeroplanes donated by the airlines over the last 50 years.



Years ago, before Burton End became part of Stansted, The Ash would have been central to the life of the small hamlet. Our ambition now is to put the pub back into the heart of the community for the community.

Tanya Wicks

STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET EVENING WI



We all enjoyed the July flower demonstration by Julie Pollard, who replaced the proposed speaker, despite spending the previous day taking a mock demonstrators' exam. She said she did much better at our WI meeting than when faced with her examiners, so let's hope we gave her the encouragement she needs to pass! She called her talk 'Where did that come from?' as each choice of flower arrangement reminded her of something in her past - the amazing one in a very tall wine glass looking like an ice-cream sundae was in memory of a wet holiday in Wales! She created a beautiful Native American design using sunflowers, which are worshipped by the Aztecs, and the seeds of which surprisingly produce a purple dye, and they can also be used for snake bites. Her third arrangement, using gladioli and green chrysanthemums in a tall basket, was called 'birthday bunch'. She donated all three arrangements for our raffle. Marion Pretty told members about the course she and I attended at Denman College, on the life of Ingrid Bergman. We really enjoyed it, especially the evening of watching one of her films accompanied by popcorn and a glass of wine - pity neither of us could remember what the film was called!

Several of our members contributed to the wonderful Magna Carta Embroidery, which has been on show in St Mary's Church, and we are very proud of their efforts and all who helped produce such a memorable work of art. Our WI tablecloth was on display too; this is now 50 years old and we are quite proud of that! I was pleased to be present at the unveiling of the stained glass window in the Day Centre, another wonderful Magna Carta tribute.

Future Events

A reminder of our fundraising **Strawberry Cream Tea** on Wednesday 30th September 2.30pm-4.30pm in the Day Centre for their refurbishment fund. This is part of our WI 'biggest tea-party' centenary celebrations. Entry £3.50. We will be holding a **Jumble Sale** in St John's Hall on Saturday 10th October; anyone who has unwanted items please contact me or any Committee member. As usual, we welcome new members and visitors to our meetings, 2nd Thursday each month 7.45pm at the Day Centre. At our next meeting on 10th September, Margaret Rogers is talking about the Silk Road.



Judy Colliver
President
Tel: 812470

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5

1 Stansted Free Church 2 Quaker Meeting House 3 St Mary's 4 St John's 5 St Teresa's

We have now updated our website thanks to Fintan Lambe at Popcorn Web Design. Please take a look at it if you need any local services. Why don't you make this your first port of call if, for example, you need an estate agent, plumber, painter, chiropractor or stationery? Come to us first, we will always be pleased to help you. We have over 55 members who are keen to do business with you. This month our spotlight is on Martin Budzinsky, a member of the Forum, who is Treasurer for the 494 (Stansted Airport) Squadron Air Training Corps (which became a Squadron in February 1998). He and his wife also have a franchise for Voucher Packs. The number 494 was chosen from one of the US Bomber groups currently operating from RAF Lakenheath. Cadets are involved in a really wide range of activities. July was a very busy month as they helped out as marshals for the SBF Summer Fayre, raising funds for the Squadron with their tombola stall. Visits then followed to the new Aerozone at Stansted Airport where cadets gave an interesting talk on the airport's history. They were also busy helping out as marshals at the Race for Life at North Weald airfield. Don't forget that the cadets help out at the fireworks evening in the village and also take part in our Remembrance celebrations in November.



Voucher Packs are becoming really popular, and are distributed over a 15 mile area around Bishop's Stortford with a mailing of 10,000 homes. They consist of discount vouchers for businesses and restaurants. The feedback from customers has been very positive. Martin says that the Voucher Packs concept is fantastic as it helps keep people informed about what is happening in their area and everyone likes a great offer and discount! So watch out for the pack through your door and make sure you use them.

Our next meeting is on Friday 4th September at Linden House and it promises to be a lively meeting. Email: peter.james@murdochspropertyshop.co.uk or telephone 813318 if you would like a stall or are interested in becoming a member of the Stansted Business Forum. If you are aged between 12 and 17 and interested in joining please contact Flt Lt Gemma Martin on email: oc.494@aircadets.org or visit the Squadron premises at 2nd Avenue, Stansted Business Park CM24 1RY on Mondays or Thursdays 7.30pm-9.30pm.



Iris Evans
Treasurer

STANSTED FOOTBALL CLUB



With the new season now well under way, September brings together a number of varied competitive fixtures in not only the League but also various cup competitions whether they be League, County or National. It is also the time when we are able to play home fixtures at Hargrave Park thus giving the opportunity for our supporters to see the changes the Club has made to both the management structure and playing squad for this season. The Committee are totally focused on trying to attract more local supporters to our home games which is why we have modified our pricing structure for the season. Firstly, entrance to home games for adults remains at £5, ages 16-21 including concessions remains at £3, but all under 16s will be allowed free entry, and we are introducing a family entrance ticket whereby only one adult would pay; secondly our home tie against Stanway Rovers in the Essex Senior Cup will be free entry for all. Although our operating costs continue to increase as each season comes round in terms of recompensing match officials and meeting new FA directives on the ground, we are once again grateful to our Club sponsors who have again generously supported us with new playing kit, match balls and medical staff and equipment. We would also like to say thank you to the Stansted Sports Association for funding the maintenance to our floodlights and new spectator barriers. Our upcoming home fixtures are below and, we hope to see as many local people as possible come and watch football played at Level 5 in the National League structure.

2nd September vs Stanway Rovers Essex Senior Cup Kick Off 7.45pm (free entry for all)

15th September vs Eton Manor ESL Premier Division Kick Off 7.45pm

19th September vs Southend Manor ESL Premier Division Kick Off 3.00pm



Tom Williams
Secretary
Tel: 07921 403842

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION



Poppy Appeal 24th October-8th November

It was a wonderful year in 2014 for the appeal in Stansted and District. We managed an increase of 47% on the previous year. The Anniversary of the start of WWI and the most memorable display of poppies at the Tower of London undoubtedly helped in achieving such a good result. Although this year we have commemorated the 70th Anniversary of both VE and VJ Day, they have not had the same impact as last year's event. Despite all that, the Legion continues to assist ex-service men and women and the bereaved families of more recent conflicts. The more funds we can raise the more we can help. We hope to visit many houses in the District with the poppies but, should we miss you, they will be in many outlets in the village, such as schools, pubs, shops and offices, and we hope that you will get yours there. We are still seeking assistance in the Foresthall Park area, so if you can help please let me know. Claire Dent has started the collection there but would love others to join her.

John L Segar
Honorary Poppy Appeal Organiser
Tel: 813289

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UGLEY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Our July meeting opened with a moving tribute to one of our former members and President, Miss Patience Maule-Horne, who had recently died. Edna Wright explained how she, with her sisters and a very small group of members played a major role in saving our Institute from closure two decades ago. Despite having to move to the Cambridge area, they attended every meeting, travelling by taxi and often bringing the speaker with them! Thanks to them and those few stalwart members, we can enjoy our monthly meetings to this day. Our speaker was Jean Reay of Ugley - her subject 'The confessions of a cookery demonstrator'. She very entertainingly explained how, as a cookery demonstrator for Stork margarine, she travelled the country transporting all her kit with her, not easy when she had to travel by train! She had demonstrated in some quite unusual settings, Holloway Prison being the most unusual! She had appeared at Magic Circle conferences, agricultural shows, the Ideal Home Exhibition and at Butlin's as part of the 'cooking is fun' competition in which the audience had to participate. Our audience participation involved the bringing of a cookery book for her to judge. So ended another entertaining afternoon for our members. Other highlights on the horizon include a talk on porcelain jewellery in October, the landscape and wildlife of Scotland in November and the 'Sound of instruments' for our festive finale in December - a lot to look forward to for our members. If this sounds appealing why not come and join us? Visitors are most welcome! We meet in Ugley Village Hall on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 2.15pm.

Andrea Fitt
Tel: 815922

MAGNA CARTA EXHIBITION

I was showing a friend the Magna Carta embroidery in St Mary's Church when Sir Alan Haselhurst came in. I took the opportunity of a taking a photo of Sir Alan, Leila Riddell and a visitor from Saffron Walden, Major Ron Etherington (aged 98) with the embroidery.



On the penultimate day of the exhibition at the end of July the church was heaving with people, which was very gratifying. The way it was mounted was superb and the booklet has been so well produced. Thank you to all those involved.

Jenny Allaway

MAGNA CARTA BARONS ASSOCIATION



This has been quite a year for the Stansted Magna Carta Barons Association (SMBA). The year started with the stitchers furiously getting on with the buildings and figures for the panels. The pace didn't slacken through the spring, and the stitched bits became a montage in three sections, then assembled and framed. Thereafter followed the unveiling on 23rd June, and four days later the Medieval Fayre took place on a sunny Saturday at Stansted Hall. Then as planned, we moved into St Mary's Church for the whole month of July to show the embroidery. This was augmented by the fabulous photographic exhibition, postcards from Paul Embleton, Irving Sanders and Alan Bowles, displayed by Paul, Alan, Roy Smith, Peter Brown and Ralph Phillips. Alan, using his skills as a graphics technician, enhanced the images so they were clearly defined. Nigel Collingwood showed his Magna Carta facsimile, and the Friends of St Mary's offered tea. We had many visitors - it was a great success - thank you! We hope that you will continue to support us at the following events:

Friday 11th September 7.30pm St Theresa's Parish Centre
An Evening of Medieval Music and Drama by the duo Trouvère - be entertained by the sights and sounds of times gone by. Tickets £10.

Sunday 13th September 3.30pm Memorial Gardens
Songs of Praise organised by Churches Together in Stansted (if possible please bring a chair - see page 2 for details).

Wednesday 16th September 7.30pm St Theresa's Parish Centre.
A Talk on The Early Montfichets of Stansted by Peter Sanders. Tickets £7.

Friday 25th September 7.30pm St Mary's Church
Celebration of Liberty - the grand finale, featuring local talent Emily Yarrow, James Priest, The Stansted Players, U3A Choir, The Manuden Singers, Richard Carr and David Morson. Tickets £10.

Tickets from Sheila on 814973 or Steve Golding Green-grocer, Chapel Hill. We would like to thank him for being our ticket agent. Details of the answers to the Quiz Sheet will be in next month's Link.

Leila Riddell
SMBA Committee

CORRECTION

In last month's issue, page 15 - Magna Carta 800 'Cyclists Arrival' the article mistakenly stated that Nigel Collingwood brought the 1215 Facsimile. It should have said that Simon Collingwood and two outriders accompanied Lance Allan. Apologies to both Nigel and Simon for the error.

Editor



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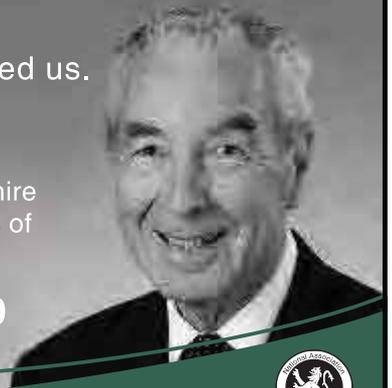
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Stansted Network

NEWS FROM YOUR LOCAL COUNCILS

Highs and Lows of the Skatepark Official Opening



Planning for the official opening was thrown into disarray when it was discovered that vandals had poured oil over the ramps and a small group of despondent volunteers attempted to start some kind of clean up. Social media however proved its worth as people



quickly picked up on what had happened and started to arrive at the park with clean up equipment and a fantastic community effort started to take place. Amazingly one parent was part of the team that deal with oil spillages at Hayters Lawn Mowers in Spellbrook and he was able to secure a supply of specialist oil-absorbent material that proved very effective.



Remarkably the opening formalities were only delayed by 15 minutes and at 11.15am Parish Council Chairman Maureen Caton and Councillor John Aldridge, Vice Chairman of Essex County Council, along with star skater Matt King cut the ribbon and invited the local skaters to join Matt and demonstrate their tricks.



Photographs by Ady Wilkins

SKATEPARK JAM

The Skatepark User Group are organising a Jam on Sunday 6 September. This is an opportunity for skateboarders, BMX riders, inline skaters and scooter riders of all ages and abilities to show off their skills. The action kicks off at 11.00am. For full details of the timings on the day please look out for details on their Facebook page.



NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Following last month's article on Highways, we are pleased to report some interesting responses from parishioners. Next month will feature Landscape Character, but in the meantime here is a reminder of the themes being covered with some pointers as to the type of things to think about. If you have any input, please contact the relevant member of the Strategy Group.

1 POPULATION AND HOUSING - Peter Jones

peter@lowerstreet.com

- Complying with the Local Plan
- Does Stansted Mountfitchet need further development?
- Identify development limits, landscape setting and character
- Potential community gains – what and where?

2 HOUSING – Peter Jones

- What are local needs?
- Design

3 PREVENTION OF FLOODING - Ray Woodcock

raymond.woodcock@btinternet.com

- Current position
- Impact of any further development

4 LOCAL ECONOMY - SUPPORTING BUSINESS -

Geoffrey Sell and Alan Dean

cllrSell@uttlesford.gov.uk cllrdean@uttlesford.gov.uk

- Availability of industrial and commercial premises - 14 Cambridge Road
- Sustaining retail businesses
- parking on-street and off-street
- promotion and marketing
- Encouraging home businesses – risks and reward
- high quality broadband

5 HIGHWAYS AND PARKING – Peter Jones, John O'Brien

peter@lowerstreet.com

johnedobrien@gmail.com

- Review traffic flows and congestion on main roads in centre
- Analyse ways of mitigating problems
- Analyse traffic speeds – assess speed limits and calming
- Parking – what needs should be met – short term/commuters

6 LEISURE – David South, Maureen Caton, Samantha Dunn

david.south@pb.com, m.caton@hotmail.co.uk, cllrsamanthadunn@stansted.net

- Provision of, or improvement to, facilities – swimming pool, junior football and others
- Day Centre
- Cycling

7 SUPPORTING YOUNG PEOPLE – David South, Maureen Caton, Samantha Dunn

- Understand their aspirations
- Then consider where and how
- Can Crafton Green be an asset?

8 LANDSCAPE CHARACTER – Liz Lake

liz.lake@centagri.com

- What should be protected and enhanced?
- Footpath/bridlepath network
- Land usage and landowners
- Open Space - purposes to be served - identify sites
- protecting Stansted Park/Grippers

9 EDUCATION AND HEALTH – Simon Thompson

simon.thompson@notleyhigh.com

WELCOME PACKS

A Welcome Pack should have been delivered to every house at Forest Hall Park. These packs are for any new residents of Stansted, so if you have recently moved to the village, or you are the neighbour of new residents, please let the Parish Council office know or phone Cllr Catherine Dean on 813579, who will deliver one. If any organisation would like to put information in to the A4 packs, please give to the Parish Council.

FOOTPATH OBSTRUCTIONS

One of the fairly frequent complaints made to the Parish Council is vegetation from out of control hedges and trees overhanging pavements and footpaths and obscuring street-lights. This is an impediment to walkers, and sometimes obscures sight lines for vehicles. If we get a complaint we do write an official letter from the council to the householder concerned but we would much rather avoid this so please make sure any hedges are cut back so that they don't cause a problem.

KEY WORKERS HOUSING SURVEY

Uttlesford District Council is conducting a piece of research to understand the economic and housing decisions taken by Key Workers, who are defined as 'any person who directly provides services that are essential for the balanced and sustainable development of the local community and local economy'.

Your responses will provide valuable evidence on housing need within the District, and guide future housing policies within the Housing Strategy and Local Plan.

All responses are anonymous and will take around 5-10 minutes to complete.

The survey can be found at www.uttlesford.gov.uk/keyworker

Deadline for entries is Wednesday 30th September

The Council is offering a £25 gift voucher prize draw which will be announced at the close of the survey.

UTTLESFORD COMMUNITY TRAVEL

Uttlesford Community Travel is here to help you get out and about and make the most of this lovely part of Essex.

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To register and book a ride ring one of the following numbers 01371 875787, 01799 519008 or 01245 279052. Alternatively you can book on line at <http://uttlesfordcommunitytravel.org/>

They also need Volunteer Hospital Car Drivers to assist with transporting our members to medical appointments. If you would like to volunteer for this vital service please phone 01245 279052 or make contact via their website.

For details of prices and hospital car service see page 25.

NEWS FROM UTTLESFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL

Cllr Alan Dean writes

Planning continues to dominate the new council with the outstanding need to produce a Local Plan since the last attempt was abandoned in January.

There were two meetings of the planning working group in July. It continues to meet in public and is broadcast for the public to hear.

If you would like to read the papers for the July 13th meeting online, go online to this URL: <http://bit.ly/1eMVOPn>. You will find there a description of the fresh methodology being used.

Papers for the July 27th meeting can be found online at <http://bit.ly/1JH2ATJ>. You can read there about the method for deciding how many new homes are needed over the next 15 or so years. There are maps showing the areas to be investigated in searching out which locations are best suited for housing growth.

Recordings of these meetings can be found on this web page: <http://www.audiominutes.com/p/udc/>

Private meetings steering the process behind closed doors have been abolished. So far the approach being followed is more deliberative, taking a step-by-step approach that Geoffrey Sell and I discovered at a meeting of East Herts Council over two years ago.

The July 27th paper "Preparing a Justified Local Plan" and in particular the map at Appendix A Initial Areas of Search will probably be of most interest to Link readers. As someone said at the meeting, this is what "will set hares running across Uttlesford". It is a district map showing very tentative but potential broad areas where the council will search to assess whether they are suitable for new development. Later on some will be dropped and others may be added. Stansted is included as a Key Village along with Elsenham, Great Chesterford, Hatfield Heath, Newport, Takeley and Thaxted. Smaller villages like Birchanger, Farnham, Manuden and Quendon & Rickling will also be assessed. Some locations around places like Birchanger, Elsenham, Great Chesterford, Takeley/Little Easton and east of Dunmow will be assessed for so-called strategic developments, meaning possible new settlements or larger scale extensions to towns and villages. The potential for town extensions for Dunmow and Saffron Walden will be investigated.

Until the analysis of these broad areas of search has been done there will be no talk – I am assured – of specific locations and no jumping the gun as took place over NE Elsenham in 2007. Members have been assured, and cabinet members have vowed, that this plan will be led by the Council and not by developers and landowners. The public will judge whether that was the case in around two years' time.

Will there be a new settlement(s)? It's too early to say. Do we know the final number of homes to be planned? No! So this first stage of work is to look at what the district looks like at the present and to get some measure of what options there are.

The Council will be running a public consultation soon. That is bound to set hares running; but that's what the Council wants. Better hares a'running than rabbits out of hats!! There should be no 'done deals' that fall at the final hurdle this time round!

DATES OF POLICE COMMUNITY MEETINGS

Saturday 19 September- Street Meet .
PCSO Stranger will be at Stansted library 9.30-10.30am, please come and speak to him regarding any issues you may have, he will be pleased to help.

Tuesday 22 September - a senior police officer will be available in the Day Centre between 3.00 and 4.00pm if you have any issues you want to raise.

DATES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

September

2nd Open Spaces
16th Full Council

October

7th Full Council
12th Civil Protection
14th Open Spaces
21st Highways 7.00pm & F&GP 8.15pm (budget)
28th Windmill 7 pm & Full Council 8.00pm

CONTACT DETAILS

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Assistant to the Parish Clerk-Trevor Lloyd
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Beavers Age 6-8	Wayne Browning Tel: 079764 41468 Email: mrwbrowning@googlemail.com	Rainbow Pre-School	Gill Pursglove (Administrator) Tel: 814242/07966 506997 Email: admin@rainbowpreschool.net
Bowls Club	Doreen Scraggs, Hon Secretary Tel: 815036 Email: doreenscraggs@talktalk.net	Rainbow Tots (age 1½-rising 3)	Tina South Tel: 814371
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@uwclub.net
Corkers Netball	Lisa Menzella Tel: 07827 988732	Royal British Legion	John Segar Tel: 813289
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Cricket Club (adults) (juniors)	David Hedge Tel: 812509 Keith Ayres Tel: 814471	Shotokan Karate Ryu	Donna Ring Tel: 731752 Email: skr@skr.org.uk Tel: 812348
Cub Scouts Age 8-10½	Roger Musgrove Tel: 07736 616665/01799 543466	Spangles Children's Centre	Ros Page Tel: 810813 Email: contactstanfam@yahoo.com
Day Centre	Tel: 815091	Stansted Family Café	Tom Williams Tel: 07921 403842
Explorer Scouts	Fintan Lambe Tel: 817937	Stansted Football Club	David Brown Tel: 831011/07788 999663 Email: david.r.brown1@btinternet.com
Friends of St Mary's Church	Audrey Rodgers Tel: 812162	Stansted Hall and Elsenham Cricket Club	Gemma Snelling Tel: 07894 944242 Email: gemmasnelling@me.com
Garden Club	Maralyn Harris, Chairman Tel: 07919 478144	Stansted Sparks Netball	Olly Pocknell Tel: 07875 391701
Grove Cottage	David Scott Tel: 656085	Stansted Supers Handball Club	Daphne Lunnon Tel: 817574 Email: drlunnon@gmail.com
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History Society	Peter Brown, Chairman Tel: 812816	Thornbury Badminton Club	Helen, Chair Tel: 812946
Huw Johnson Club	Katharine Collis Tel: 461270 Email: kat_collis@hotmail.com	U3A	Judy Colliver, President Tel: 812470
Inner Wheel Club	June Milne, President Tel: 01371 875370 Email: june.milne@ymail.com	Women's Institute (Stansted)	Dorothy Wallace, President Tel: 850215
Investigators	Ros Page Tel 810813 Email: contactstanfam@yahoo.com	Women's Institute (Ugley)	Helen and Peter Nash Tel: 817453
Little Scrummers	Andrew Poyser Tel: 07738 591232	Whoosh Explore Canoe Club	Linda Barnes Tel: 07947 548051
Magna Carta 800th Celebrations	Nigel Collingwood Tel: 813428	Youth Centre	
Millers (Windmill)	Derek Honour Tel: 647213		
Mountfitchet Club	John Robinson Tel: 812755		
music@stansted - classical concerts	Sonia Levy Tel: 815282 Email: contactus@musicatstansted.co.uk		
Neighbourhood Watch	Valerie Trundle Tel: 813433		

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

BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES or SPECIAL OCCASIONS

If you would like to mark any occasion that is special to you or someone you know, by announcing it in 'The Link', please email a short message together with your name address and telephone number to: announcements@stanstedlink.org.uk or send the details to 7 Blythwood Gardens, Stansted CM24 8HG. Details must be submitted by the 8th of the month for publication the following month.

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Reeling from recent separation? Divorced some time but not feeling quite sorted? Have you lost your home or children, your job, financial security, friends, and pets, as well as your status as a wife, husband or partner? Wanting to 'move on'? Unless they have experienced separation or divorce themselves, it is hard for family and friends to understand. Some feel they must not 'take sides'. Others just don't know what to say. Perhaps couples who were once good friends now perceive you, a newly single person, as a threat? Do you sense that those who were once supportive now keep away, exhausted by your emotional upset and need to offload? Where do you go when your heart is totally broken and life is falling apart? Divorce Recovery Workshop (DRW) helps people to work through the emotional upset caused by the ending of a significant relationship. Consisting of six evening meetings, each based around a DVD session and small group discussion, the workshop is a proven self-help model followed in many locations across the country. Established in the 1990s, DRW will be running its first Bishop's Stortford workshop this autumn. Led by volunteers who have all experienced the breakdown of a relationship, DRW helps you to understand what you are going through and to adjust to your new life. The workshop, which starts on 1st October 7.45pm-10.00pm at Bishop's Stortford Baptist Church, costs £60, and is complementary to any professional support you may be receiving. For further information or to register, please call Lara on 07549 495983 or myself, email: bishopsstortford@drw.org.uk or visit www.drw.org.uk/our-workshops/local-workshops/bishops-stortford-workshop. The DRW national helpline number is 0700 078 1889.

Michael Renouf
Tel: 07883 439498



STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET WINDMILL

I am pleased to report it has been all good news this month! Our visit from SPAB was very successful. We had 29 visitors and they were all very impressed with our Mill and purchased many of our souvenirs. Next came our Afternoon Tea at The Mill. For the third year running the weather was very kind to us and it was lovely to see all our faithful followers supporting us along with young mothers with their beautiful babies and older children too. We thank them all for their support. At the time of writing the annual Windmill Fête is our next priority on Bank Holiday Monday 31st August 2.00pm- 5.00pm. We now have a firm date for our Race Night which is Saturday 24th October at The Day Centre, 7.30pm for 8.00pm. Please put this date in your diary. Tickets £10, including a very nice fish and chip supper, from me or Committee members. Bring your own drinks.

Windmill open

Sundays 6th September and 4th October 1.30pm-5.30pm.



Molly Clark
Co-Trustee
Tel: 816768



SAY GOODBYE TO TRAVEL TROUBLES

Uttlesford Community Travel provides services to the residents of Uttlesford who find it difficult to access normal public transport, the over 60s, the disabled and those who are rurally isolated. All drivers are DBS checked. Registration costs £10 per year for individuals.

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You will pay the driver – all of them are volunteers – 45p per mile for each journey, which is measured from his/her home address.

Group Booking

Groups are able to hire our buses (maximum 15 seats) for all sorts of outings with one of our drivers, or you may choose to use your own driver who would need to be trained by us. Group registration costs just £20 per year. Outings regularly undertaken by our groups include trips to the coast, theatre, garden centres and places of interest, lunches and afternoon tea, regular group meetings and school trips

Buses are also available for hire at weekends and evenings. To register and book your journeys for any of the above services call 01371 875787, 01799 519008 or 01245 279052.

Gary Matthews

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STANSTED HALL & ELSENHAM CRICKET CLUB

The Club has been very busy over the summer. We entertained St Elizabeth's and The Home Farm Trust for our disabled cricket days, run by the Club in conjunction with Pat Ward at the Essex CCC. These were very entertaining and fun was had by all, with excellent buffet lunches served to our guests; very rewarding days for everyone and part of the Club's Work in the Community programme. The junior section has been very active all season with Ed Catton (U12) and Anna Snelling (U10) representing Essex CCC. Numerous boys played for West Essex in representative matches and all performed well. Three excellent performances came from Tom Snelling (180 runs in 3 innings only out once), Sam Robinson (2-21) and Archie Racey (3-12).



The U11s played in the Mini-Matchplay on 5th August at the County Ground, Chelmsford, under floodlights – what a thrill for the young players. The junior cricket camp was very successful with 24 children enjoying two days of excellent coaching and fun all the way. The U15s have reached the final of 'The Hugh Craig Bardfield Cup'. In this competition they have been unbeaten all season. The Club entered 'The Peter Coe Cup' at U13 again this year – results were mixed but this is the premier competition in Essex at this age group. Next season the Club will enter the Matchplay competition at U16 level.

The seniors had a very successful tour of Norfolk playing against Overstrand, Aldeburgh, and Cromer. Two matches were lost and one won but a great time was had by all especially in the evenings at the Sheringham Carnival. Australian cricketer, Emily Smith, the Club's girls' coach joined the lads on tour and kept wicket superbly against Aldeburgh, took 2-40 and scored 48 not out against Cromer. Two seasons ago the Club's girls' coach was Kristen Beams who is playing for Australia against England at the moment. The tour has already been booked for next season!!!

Congratulations to England for regaining 'The Ashes' just the shot in the arm that the sport needed - not heard very much from Piers Morgan about Alastair Cook's success!!! The club would like to congratulate Farnham Cricket Club on its 150th anniversary and also in winning the Davies Cup.



David Brown
Hon Secretary
Tel: 812509



THE HUNDRED PARISHES SOCIETY

If you enjoyed the old postcard of Barkway mentioned in our article last month, you may like to try the three mile walk around Stansted that can be downloaded from the Walks section of our website www.hundredparishes.org.uk. The description of walk no 3 is illustrated with postcard images of 100 years ago. Each location can be readily identified today. The Stansted walk, like each of the 20 on our website, starts and finishes at a railway station on the line from Cambridge to London Liverpool Street or on the spur to Hertford East. Fifty years ago, there would have been far greater scope for walks between stations. More than 20 parishes had a train station then, compared with just seven today. A spate of line closures in the 1960s followed the recommendations of British Rail's chairman, Dr Richard Beeching. A third of Britain's rail track was deemed uneconomic because passengers and freight were migrating from rail to road. It may be hard for younger people today to imagine that before the 1960s only one household in ten had a car. Our area was particularly affected by rail closures: in the north the line from Cambridge via Linton to Haverhill and the branch line from Audley End through Saffron Walden to Bartlow; in the west, the Buntingford line; and in the east the route between Bishop's Stortford, Dunmow and Braintree. The closure of so many stations probably constrained expansion and thereby helped the Hundred Parishes retain its rural characteristics. Whilst the rails have been removed, the routes are still largely visible on maps and on the ground, with the Dunmow track finding new life as the Flitch Way for people on foot, cycle or horseback.

Ken McDonald
Secretary
Tel: 813226

Email: hundredparishes@btinternet.com



RSPB STORT VALLEY GROUP

www.rspb.org.uk/groups/stortvalley

We are a friendly and informal group who meet on the second Tuesday of the month, September to June. Each evening there are illustrated talks and the occasional video show on a range of bird and wildlife topics. Refreshments are available free at the start of each meeting. Doors open at 7.00pm for a 7.30pm start. Visitors £3.50, or join the Stort Valley RSPB Local Group for an annual subscription of £10 per year and pay £2 each meeting. You do not have to be a RSPB member to join or visit us. Meetings are held at Bishops Park Community Centre, 2, Lancaster Way, Bishop's Stortford CM23 4DA. On 8th September the talk will be Barry Kaufman-Wright on Coastal Wildlife. Our guided bird watching walks take place most months. These are free except for parking or entry fees/donations. Our Field Trip Co-ordinator takes us to a wide variety of places over the year, near and far. We are holding a **quiz night** on 10th October 7.00pm for 7.30pm, Charis Centre, Water Lane, Bishop's Stortford. If you would like a table (max 8 people) please email Linda Perry on perrylinda65@gmail.com. Tickets £12 to include fish, chicken or vegetarian and chip supper. Questions are not all 'birdy' so don't let the title of our group put you off!

Sheila Bowles
Tel: 814973

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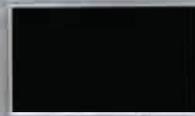
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www.birchangerwoodtrust.org

September, and a great time to walk in the ancient woodland of Birchanger Wood, whether this be in the smaller woodland on the Birchanger/Standed side of the wood which is accessed from Birchanger, or, in the larger woodland accessed from Heath Row on the Bishop's Stortford side. Our lovely paths will enable you, your children and your dogs to enjoy the woodland without becoming embroiled in mud. Whichever part of the wood you are walking in and if the day is warm and damp, look down on the woodland floor and you should see some of the many fungi just waiting to be photographed. Alternatively, look upwards and listen and you may hear our local buzzards in flight calling to one another. On approaching the wood from Birchanger, they can often be seen as well as heard owing to the open farmland all around. Our volunteer Warden is looking for other volunteers to assist in the wood maintenance - be a lumberjack for a couple of hours on a Saturday; help lay a path for the tractor in the Compound (we need to get this down before the winter rains arrive); or sell some wood. Our woodland needs you!! Take the footpath off Heath Row which leads to the Water Tower and the woodland main entrance on Saturdays 9.00am-10.00am and 2.00pm-3.00pm and meet Pat Forrest our volunteer warden. Buy your firewood from the Compound at the same times - £10 per wheelbarrow load or £70 per cubic metre. Meet the sanctuary hedgehogs.



Daphne Wallace-Jarvis
Email: secretary@birchangerwoodtrust.org



STANDED MOUNTFITCHET
LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

September Meeting

3rd September 8.00pm in the day Centre
Jeremy Collingwood 'The Gibson Family of Saffron Walden'

Programme of Speakers 2015-16

1st October Tony Kirby 'The Coming of the Railways to Essex'
5th November Martyn Lockwood 'Victorian Murders in Essex'
3rd December Christmas Quiz
7th January Members' Evening
4th February Dr Richard Nunn 'Early General Practice'
3rd March Tony Morton 'Uttlesford Woodland'
7th April Colin Oakes 'London under the Streets'
5th May AGM followed by a presentation

Do come along to our forthcoming season - you will be warmly welcomed. Entrance is Two Whole English Pounds which will give you two hours of "I didn't know that" with tea/coffee and biscuits. Have a look at our programme, choose one and give us a try, you may be pleasantly surprised.



Stephen Leaney
Tel: 647177
Email: stephenleaney@gmail.com



STANDED MOUNTFITCHET U3A

www.stanstedu3a.org

Bus Pass Group

On a warm sunny July day, the group met in Harlow with bus passes at the ready. Thirty minutes later in Hertford, after coffee and cake we sauntered for an hour or so along the river footpath to Ware. After lunch and some shopping, we journeyed home after a very enjoyable sociable time. Thanks to Jenny Wraith for organising.



The Bure Railway and River Trip

On 22nd July a coach party went on The Bure Valley Steam Railway from Aylsham to Wroxham on the Norfolk Broads. The train and carriages are half size, run by volunteers. In the afternoon everyone enjoyed a leisurely river boat trip from Horning before returning home. Thanks to Maggie and Jan for organising.

Saturday Seminar

The July Saturday Seminar saw Professor Wayne Martin discussing autonomy in care settings with an audience of over 30. Using real-life cases, he spoke of the legal and ethical difficulties facing health professionals, when dealing with suicides who did not want to be resuscitated and the issue of whether or not to force feed acute sufferers of anorexia. We had opportunities to join in the discussions and many requested a return visit from Professor Martin. The next seminar is **In The Tracks of Brunel - Building Cross-rail London's New Rail Gateway** on Saturday 17th October 9.30am-12.30pm in the Free Church Hall. Tickets £4 members, £5 non-members from Alan Wheeler on 07790 213510 or email: stanstedseminars@gmail.com.

Next Meeting

Thursday 17th September St John's Church Hall 1.30pm for 2.00pm. Speaker Ian Currie 'Weather Lore - Fact or Fiction'.

Halloween Dance Saturday 31st October Forest Hall School

with 60s/70s live music and fish and chip supper (bring your own drink). Tickets £13.50 on sale at the monthly meeting or from Maggie on 503848.

Contact details Standed Mountfitchet U3A, c/o Standed Free Church, Chapel Hill, Standed CM24 8AG Email: stanstedu3a@live.co.uk Telephone: Helen (Chair) 812945 Liz (Secretary) 813270.



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STANSTED SCOUTS THETFORD CAMP

Early on a Friday evening we travelled to the Scout campsite at Two Mile Bottom, by the river in Thetford Forest. We set up the tents and dining area and had camp stoves running by 9.30pm, just as it got dark. A fire was soon ablaze which we sat around, eating sausage rolls and soup to see us through the night. Tom had everyone singing and dancing and surprisingly, everyone had settled down by midnight. Saturday and the sun shone allowing us to eat breakfast al fresco. After flag break we should have been kayaking but due to instructor withdrawal, we went instead to the Two Tyre Ravine, using thinking skills and strength to traverse the ravine with planks and suspended tyres.



We then had a session on Zorbing, which more resembled padded dodgems! Everyone looked rather hot when emerging from the zorbs. After lunch it was abseiling, and everyone had a go, even some of the adults for their first time. Our evening meal was chicken, with 'roast' potatoes and veg followed by rice pudding with fresh plum coulis. After the meal, several Scouts went to archery whilst the others amused themselves with the water bomb catapults. One pair did the orienteering course thereby winning the prize by default. A few adults had a brief kayak session whilst a few Scouts went fishing. It was soon time for the evening fire and this time we had hot chocolate with toasted crumpets and marshmallows to finish the evening.

Sunday, and we awoke to the sound of gentle rain on our tents! A large light-weight tarp was pitched above the cooking area and it was service as normal. No need for fancy



event shelters just 'Be Prepared'. After breakfast the drizzle stopped, the sun came out and it was time for the climbing tower. With only two climbing at any time some played rounders and swapped to climbing later. Most Scouts managed to get to the top. The weather was being kind and by the time lunch was finished we were able to take down all the sleeping tents, well dried by the sun. The dining shelter we left until last as the sky turned black and that was

our kit shelter. We loaded the trailer and dropped the dining shelter and were covering with the tarp when the rain appeared. Planned to perfection! A quick flag down and we left an hour early, so avoiding the adults v Scouts rounders

match. We would have won anyway! Thanks to all the Leaders for an excellent weekend camp.

Competition win

Our winning streak has to end at some point, but we have not reached it yet! We won our District air rifle shooting competition, retaining the trophy by a massive 161 points. Excellent shooting guys.

Mike Byrne
Scout Leader
Tel: 812780

NHS Best of West Awards

People in West Essex can now nominate their local health and care champions for the first ever Best of West Awards from NHS West Essex Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) which recognise the outstanding contributions to health and care by community members, groups, volunteers, teachers, pharmacists, frontline health and care professionals and healthcare leaders. Two awards will be decided by public vote: the People's Professional Award and Best #selfcareselfie Award, a look back to the CCG's self-care campaign that took place in winter. Nominations can be made via the CCG website www.westessexccg.nhs.uk or by calling 01992 566140. You can also join the conversation on Twitter by using #BestofWestAwards and following @nhswestessex. Nominations close on Friday 4th September and winners will be announced at the CCG's AGM in Harlow on 24th September to which all are invited. Categories are below with criteria detailed on the CCG website.

- Best #selfcareselfie - PUBLIC VOTE
- People's professional award - PUBLIC VOTE
- Volunteer of the year
- Best community project
- Patient ambassador of the year
- Best health education
- Primary care award
- Pharmaceutical care award
- Best joined-up care award
- Leading with Compassion (Quality)
- CCG's Unsung Hero
- Commissioning with engagement award

Nathan Harrison
Communications Executive

STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET SOCIAL CLUB

We are holding another charity fund raiser for Danny on Sunday 27th September. Danny is profoundly deaf, and had an Auditory Brain Stem Implant, for which we helped to raise money last year. We are now raising money to help with the after care costs of Danny's operation. There will be live entertainment from Wesley Pressley, Just Donna, Ray Orbison, and Darren Bardoe. Events will be starting around 2.00pm, and if any local businesses would like to donate a prize for the raffle, it would be gratefully received – please contact me. For more information on Danny and his condition please go to www.helpmehear.info. Many thanks.

Darren Burford
Tel: 812992

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CAR HIRE CHANGES

Important changes for UK driving licence holders!

As a nation we love travelling and taking our holidays abroad. Hiring a car overseas gives the holiday maker or business traveller the maximum flexibility and freedom to manage their time away. The drive down Highway 101 on the west coast of America from San Francisco through Carmel and Santa Barbara to Los Angeles in California is one of the most spectacular and popular in the world, while the hill top roads of the Amalfi coast in Italy from Positano to Sorrento boast hairpin bends and breathtaking views.



However, British travellers should be aware of recent changes to regulations and take note of the following advice: since the DVLA abolished the paper counterpart of the UK driving licence earlier in the summer, all customers hiring a car may now be required to present a one off passcode when collecting their vehicles. The passcode needs to be obtained in advance from the DVLA at www.gov.uk/view-driving-licence and you will need your driving licence number, post code and National Insurance number in order to complete the process. Fortunately it is quick and easy to organise and once obtained, the code is valid for 21 days. Pass codes are for one time use only though, so you should complete this task every time you hire a vehicle. Of course, you also need to ensure that you have the appropriate insurance in place. It is a good idea to consider taking a Supermax excess insurance in advance which prevents any confusion or additional fees when collecting your vehicle abroad and you should check the vehicle carefully to report any existing damage or faults before setting off – oh, and drive carefully of course; even the most experienced driver can find it disorienting on the wrong side of the road!

Ashley Gowing
Absolute Travel and Tours
Tel: 648900
www.absolutetravel.co.uk



STORT VALLEY ROTARY CLUB

We are holding a concert on Saturday 5th September at 8.00pm in the United Reformed Church, Water Lane, Bishop's Stortford. This will be 'A Right Royal Celebration' with music by Ware Brass to celebrate the Queen becoming the longest serving British Monarch. Tickets £15, including a glass of wine to toast Her Majesty, are available from Gwenda Deal email: gwendadeal@ntlworld.com or tel 863194, or from Bishop's Stortford Tourist Information Office. All proceeds will go to Isabel Hospice.

Jan Durkin



www.eastonlodge.co.uk

Our September open day on Sunday 20th sees a first visit from Bishop's Stortford Ukulele Society (BSUS). They meet at the British Legion in Bishop's Stortford every Wednesday evening and sometimes they have as many as 35 people turn up. They gig at local festivals, clubs and fêtes, private parties and weddings and we are delighted that they are going to be playing for our visitors. They will do two 30 minute sets at 1.30pm and 3.00pm - so come and enjoy one or both of these and when they are not playing, enjoy everything else we have on offer. There are guided tours at 12.30pm and 2.30pm which cover all aspects of the gardens' history and there will be a selection of craft stalls on site to browse, as well as our Archive Building and the Italian Garden to explore. For children there will be a range of craft and nature activities, and there is plenty of space to run around, not to mention croquet on the lawn. Bacon rolls and cheese rolls will be on sale at *Daisy's* until 2.15pm with hot and cold drinks and delicious homemade cakes available until 4.30pm. Gates open at 11.30am and the gardens close at 5.00pm with last entry at 4.00pm. Entrance is only £3.50 adults, children free. Dog lovers are reminded that their pets are more than welcome as long as they are kept on a lead and poop scooped! For further information please email: enquiries@eastonlodge.co.uk telephone 01371 876979 (recorded information but you can leave a message), or visit our website.

Helen Carter



www.musicatstansted.co.uk

The new season of concerts begins on **Saturday 17th October** when **Trio Isimsiz** will be performing at 7.30pm in St John's Church. Each season consists of four concerts October to March: **Sunday 22nd November 3.00pm Sean Shibe** will be giving a guitar recital, **Sunday 24th January 3.00pm** viola player, **Ugne Tiskute** is accompanied by **Alexandra Vaduva**, and to end the season, and to coincide with the Club's 20th birthday, we shall be hosting a visit by the **Wells Virtuosi**, outstanding players from Wells Cathedral School. This is on **Saturday 5th March at 6.00pm** and will be an evening not to miss!

We always welcome new members and now, before the start of a new season, is the ideal time to join. While tickets for each concert will be £15 (£60 for the four concerts), season ticket prices are: Individual £45, Concessions £40. We encourage young people to come by offering free entry to under-18s. To join or renew, please send a cheque payable to Music at Stansted, together with name(s), address, telephone number and email address to: The Membership Secretary, c/o 25 Chantry Road, Bishop's Stortford CM23 2SD. Tickets for individual concerts, adults £15, (under 18s free) from Absolute Travel; Nockolds, Bishop's Stortford; Sonia Levy (815282) or at the door. Check out our website for general information, or if you have a specific enquiry please email: contactus@musicatstansted.co.uk.

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Stansted Tennis Club



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Wilby Tournament

On 9th August, 16 members participated in this popular adult doubles tournament. The round robin stage involved two groups playing three matches, each of seven games, with and against different pairings. Individuals were then seeded with their opposite number for the knockout draw. The final was won by Rick Lim and Lisa King who defeated Ed Wombwell and Daphne Lunnon 6-2. Prizes were presented by Angela Wilby, who presented the elegant shield to the Club in memory of her late husband, Eddie. Amazingly, this is the 31st year that the trophy has been competed



for and the first in its history that a pair has retained their title. So many congratulations to Rick and Lisa!

Ladies' Night

Monday 14th September from 7.00pm. All lady members (especially new ones) are welcome to come along and play.

Diary dates

Club Finals' Day Sunday 13th September.

Hospital Cup Finals Saturday 26th September (see below).

Cardio Tennis lessons

There are sessions on Monday and Thursday. Please contact me if you would like to be added to the waiting list.

Tennis balls

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

Contacts

Felicity Shakespeare (Secretary) 831771, Daphne Lunnon (Chairman) 817574. Visit the website for more information.



Chris Hollis
Tel: 319155

Email: chris.hollis2@btinternet.com

Hospital Cup Tournament

This is a charity event to raise funds for the League of Friends of Saffron Walden Community Hospital. The tournament dates back to the 1940s and the trophies are something to behold! Nine local clubs are taking part this year in singles (ladies' and men's) and doubles (ladies', men's and mixed) competitions, running on a knockout basis throughout the summer. The clubs involved take it in turns to run the tournament and this year it is our turn to host Finals' Day on Saturday 26th September. If past Finals' Days have been anything to go by, the standard of tennis will be very high and the matches very entertaining. Please feel free to come along and watch any time during the day 10.30am-5.00pm – there is no entry fee, and there will be plenty of chairs available. We can't guarantee the weather but we'll be providing delicious homemade refreshments throughout the day, and maybe even cream teas! At the time of writing, Stansted has representatives in all of the competitions. Whether we can prevail to the

finals, only time will tell (we won the Men's Doubles and the Mixed Doubles events last year, so we have form). Either way, there will be some excellent tennis on display. The League of Friends particularly supports Avocet Ward, a rehabilitation unit that provides services such as physiotherapy and occupational therapy, which enhance patients' stays in the hospital and potentially enables them to return home earlier than normal. The unit provides dedicated facilities such as a bathroom and kitchen which assist patients in coping with daily life before returning home. All monies raised by the tournament will therefore benefit future patients.

Daphne Lunnon
Tournament Organiser
Email: drlunnon@gmail.com



Stansted
Cricket
Club

In the President's 45-over match played on 19th July, the home side made 348-5 with Ben Baker making 100, Phil Devoti 75 and Charlie Kirby 54. In reply the President's XI scored 349-6 off 41.3 overs to win by four wickets with Josh Monk making 154 and Jack Palfreman 104 not out. With nearly 700 runs scored on the day, it would be inappropriate to give details of anyone's bowling analysis! There was an exhibition junior match during the lunch interval, plus a presentation to Blair Gardiner of the Bob Stoddart Cup for the Most Promising Junior of 2015. Our thanks go to Christine Monk and her helpers for the excellent catering, and to all who attended the Open Day sponsored by Waitrose. Donations and proceeds from the raffle resulted in the Club making a donation of £200 to Support 4 Sight. (Anyone wishing to make a separate donation to Support 4 Sight can contact Natalie on 01799 523700. More details can be found at www.support4sight.org.uk.) After 15 rounds of matches the 1st XI are fourth in Division 1 with 10 wins. The 2nd XI are fourth in Division 4 with nine wins. The Sunday XI has played 10 matches (winning five and drawing three). As bad weather washed out Finals Day on 26th July, the Club will now play Birchanger at Bishop's Stortford CC in the HECL Cup semi-final at 10.30am on Monday 31st August; if successful, we play in the final at 2.00pm that same afternoon. Outstanding batting performances have come from M Allen (134), F Kirby (102 no, 62, 56), B Sammons (101, 86), M Johnson (97, 70, 62), C Kirby (93 no, 84, 57, 53), P Devoti (70), J Monk (68, 59), and R Lawson (56). There are no senior home or away fixtures in September. The Club would like to invite anyone interested in scoring next season on a regular basis to contact me. Adults wishing to join the Club should contact me; juniors should contact Head Coach Keith Ayres on 814471.

Quiz Night

Saturday 5th September at 7.30pm in St John's Hall. Advance tickets £10 are available from Matt Cope on 07583 106408 and all are welcome. The price includes a fish and chip supper and there will be a licensed bar.



David Hedge
Hon. Secretary
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Email: dchedge49@gmail.com

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Two very different gardens were visited this year. The first in Buckden, a small village near St Neots, was a private garden of one acre described by the owners as quirky. It was full of surprises - a maze of paths going in every direction that led you from one themed garden to the next. On the site of a former nursery, the owners have built walls, arches, rills, and ponds with semi-hidden gardens that you could see but had to find the route to! Unusual plants, trees and shrubs - some trained into arches or clipped into topiary shapes - could be found everywhere; an old greenhouse had been converted to a 'desert' housing cacti and succulents from all over the world. Our two hours there flew by with some wondering if they had seen everything and everyone agreed it was certainly a 'quirky garden'!!

Our second stop was at Coton Manor Gardens in Northamptonshire – a large 10 acre country estate garden full of 'garden rooms', ponds and water features. Set in unspoilt countryside this was a tranquil, traditional English garden with a wild flower meadow, rose gardens, herb parterres and herbaceous borders. On a slope, the natural springs are channelled through rills and ponds forming a peaceful water garden. Long horned cattle, Kune Kune pigs from New Zealand and pink flamingoes can be found in the garden too. Once again we were lucky with the weather and were able to sit and relax in beautiful surroundings. The stabling cafe, shops and nursery proved popular too - with plants of every description wending their way back to Stansted.

Maralyn Harris

August Meeting

By the time members gathered at Alswick Hall near Buntingford, the heavy rain had stopped and an enjoyable evening was spent wandering around the five acres of landscaped gardens. Adjacent to the drive, which led to the listed Tudor house, was a wide herbaceous border bursting with colour. Although it looked very established, members were surprised to learn that it was only a few years old. All the flowerbeds were colour schemed, each growing a wide variety of plants but 'tied together' with dahlias, daylilies, salvias and alstromerias of the appropriate hue. Other areas included a wild flower meadow, woodland walk, a rose walk, a well-established orchard full of ripening fruit, small kitchen garden and two natural ponds with rockeries. Seats and tables were placed to give vistas over the garden to the unspoilt countryside beyond and unobstructed views of the sunset. After viewing the gardens, members were welcomed into the house and Mr and Mrs Johnson answered questions about the garden, history of the house and land. The garden is open to the public on 13th September for a Plant Fair in aid of the British Red Cross.

September Meeting - Wednesday 2nd September

This meeting will be back at the Day Centre adjacent to the Library and Chapel Hill car park. Guest speaker is Jacqueline Aviolet of Rosies Garden Plants. Her talk is entitled "I am a Tulip – What Are You?" Everyone is welcome - membership is available at £12/£20 single/double or come as a day visitor at £2.50. Refreshments are available prior to the meeting. Doors open 7.30pm for 8.00pm start.

Maralyn Harris
Chairman

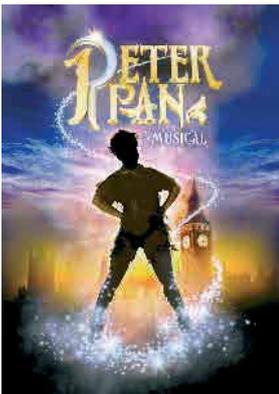
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RHODES CENTRE THEATRE



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For the first time at Rhodes, *Peter Pan*, the boy who refuses to grow up, will fly Wendy and her brothers John and Michael from their Edwardian bedroom to the magical world of Neverland. There they will meet the Lost Boys, befriend the Indians and eventually come face to face with the most famous villain of them all - Captain Hook! Brought to vivid life by Rhodes resident production company Phoenix Theatre Arts, this promises to be an unmissable treat for the whole family. Tickets £15-£17.



Colin Fry and the 6th Sense 5th September

Being one of the world's most recognised spiritualist mediums and healers, Colin's TV series 6th Sense has now been broadcast worldwide for 14 years making his public performances an international demand. This show sees Colin Fry bring his own unique form of comfort to ordinary people living ordinary lives, proving once again he IS very much the People's Medium. Tickets £18.50.

Tickets for both events from 01279 710200 or
www.rhodesbishopsstortford.org.uk.



**STANSTED
BOWLING
CLUB**

Charles Wilson (Club Competition) Competitive evening game; congratulations to the worthy winner Yvonne Sharp (Ladies Captain leading by example!!)

Golden Charter Inter-village Cup

Stansted hosted this event, which was won by Elsenham with Duxford second and Stansted third. Many thanks to the willing helpers at this event from early morning and through to the evening, lovely meal enjoyed by all.

St Chads (Cowan Cup)

We retained the Cup – well done to all those who took part.

During September we have three home games:

- 12th Finals Day
- 13th Stock Exchange
- 19th Last Bowl

Please feel free to come and watch any of these games - you will be made more than welcome. For further information please contact me.

Doreen Scraggs
Hon Secretary

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GARDENING TIPS

Alas evenings are becoming shorter, as the nights creep inwards, but the garden will still be going strong, and September is a great time for renovating the lawn, so if you have lots of dead material (thatch), moss and weeds, then follow the six point renovation plan:



1. Mow the grass collecting clippings.
2. Rake or scarify out moss, weeds and thatch.
3. Mow the grass again collecting the clippings, this will pick up plants lifted by the rake/scarify process.
4. Spike the lawn with a fork (to at least 8-10cm) or tined aerator (hollow or solid); this encourages air into the soil profile.
5. Feed the lawn with a low nitrogen autumn lawn fertiliser (not a spring or summer fertiliser)
6. Top dress patchy areas with seed, sown typically at around 35g per square metre, cover the seed very lightly with some fine loam or topsoil. You can even cover with some fine netting or germination sheet for 4-6 days to encourage faster establishment.

Keep on top of deadheading; whilst it will not extend the flowering period to any great extent, it will keep the garden looking neater, as deadheads start to become more abundant through the month. If your climbing roses have finished flowering and are looking a little tatty, rejuvenate them by pruning out any dead, damaged or diseased stems, and look for new shoots appearing from near the base that you can gently tie in the direction that you will ultimately require them to grow towards. Clear the remainder of the existing framework of side shoots back to around three buds from the main stem. If you have any very old knurled main stems, prune no more than a third of these back to the ground, to further encourage fresh new shoots from the base.

Paul the Gardener



The Club re-starts on Thursday 24th September after the summer break. We urgently need more helpers at our Club on Thursday evenings. We are looking for:

Volunteers to help run activities on Thursdays 7.00pm-8.45pm. We would also welcome school/sixth form students aged 15 and over.

Drivers for our fully-accessible mini-bus bus, to and from Saffron Walden approximately once a month, between 6.00pm and 10.00pm. Full training provided.

Mini-bus escorts, to support the driver, ideally one Thursday a month.

Car drivers, to take members either to or from Saffron Walden and Stansted, one journey a month.

For more information, please contact either Sandra Embleton on 812627 or myself.



Katharine Collis
Tel: 461270

NEWS FROM BSDFA

www.walksaroundstortford.org.uk

Walks for September/October:

6th September: 5/6 miles 10.00am Hadham Ford.

Grid Ref: TL435218. SatNav: SG11 2AX

20th September: 5/6 miles 10.00am BS Tescos C/Pk(Top Left).

G/Ref: TL471218. SatNav: CM23 4DD

4th October: 5/6 miles 10.00am Twyford Lock C/Pk Pig Lane.

G/Ref: TL493193. SatNav: CM22 7PA

18th October: 5/6 miles 10.00am Newport Railway Stn C/Pk.

G/Ref: TL522335. SatNav: CB11 3PL

BSDFA have just jumped into the 21st century and now have a Facebook page. Are you already on Facebook? Then search for Bishop's Stortford and District Footpath Association in the 'find friends' box; otherwise, click on the 'follow us on Facebook' link from our website. If you think Facebook is just for younger people to keep in contact with each other, have a look at our page. You will find information about BSDFA, our aims, dates of our forthcoming walks and some really brilliant photographs taken on past walks. Please have a look, follow us, and comment. You can keep up to date, and we can reach a good target of likes! Perhaps you would like to preserve and maintain the public Rights of Way network and rural verges of Hertfordshire and Essex? Join BSDFA; walk with us; go to our website and complete a membership form.



We are always looking for new members and would love to have you on board, helping in this worthy cause whilst 'walking yourselves healthy'. The BSDFA also has a new booklet of walks containing detailed instructions and route map for each of the 21 walks; distances vary from three to nine miles. It costs £6 and may be obtained from the Tourist Information Office at Bishop's Stortford.

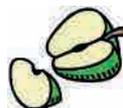


Daphne Wallace-Jarvis
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Email: secretary@walksaroundstortford.org.uk

ST ELIZABETH'S APPLE DAY

On Saturday 26th October 11.00am-4.00pm, we are holding one of our regular apple picking days to raise funds for the St Elizabeth's Centre. There will be refreshments, craft stalls, games and activities for all and you can either buy the apples you pick or donate them to St Elizabeth's Apple Juice project. This will be a great family day out with free entry to the beautiful three acre Old English Orchard at Perry Green.



Wendy Smith,
PA to Chief Executive
Tel: 843451

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