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### THE LINK

The Link is published monthly by the Stansted Association of Christian Churches. Annual subscription is £1.20. To order a copy please telephone Mrs. Margaret Booker 812684.

Items for publication (news, letters, articles, etc.) should be delivered to Mrs. Mair Muir, 48 St. John's Road. Tel: 812289.

Opinions expressed in this magazine are given freely end do not necessarily represent those of the SACC, its member churches, village organisations or advertisers.

### CHURCH OF ENGLAND

The Rev'd, Barry Rose, The Vicarage, Clergy:

Tel: 812203. St. John's Road.

The Rev'd. Andrew Proud, 43 Gilbey Crescent.

Tel: 814463.

Services: At St. Mary's, Church Road.

Holy Communion - 8 a.m. (2nd Sunday) Matins - 11 a.m. (not 1st or 3rd Sunday) Choral Communion — 11 a.m. (3rd Sunday) Evensong — 6 30 p.m. (summer months)

At St. John's, St. John's Road.

Holy Communion – 8 a.m. (not 1st or 2nd Sunday)

Parish Communion - 9.30 a.m. Evensong - 4 p.m. (winter months)

### METHODIST CHURCH

Meets in Quaker Meeting House, Chapel Hill.

Minister: The Rev'd, Harold Fisher, 2 South Road,

Bishop's Stortford. Tel; 54475.

Services: Morning Service and Sunday School - 9.15 a.m.

### ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

St. Theresa's Church, Millside.

The Rev'd. Joe Tuohey, 12 Millside,

(flat above Church). Tel: 814349.

Services: Sunday Masses - 8 a.m. and 10 30 a.m.

and at Henham - 9.15 a.m. Holy Days — 9.15 a.m. and 8 p.m.

Confessions on Saturday after 10.30 a.m. Mass

### SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

Ouaker Meeting House, Chapel Hill.

Mrs. Mair Muir, 48 St. John's Road. Local Contact:

Tel: 812289.

Meeting for worship: 10.45 a.m.

### UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

Chapel Hill.

Minister: The Rev'd. Eric Mollwain, 18 Cambanks,

Union Lane, Cambridge. Tel: (0223) 313152.

Group Secretary:

Priest!

Miss Dorothy Oswald, 29 Bentfield Causeway.

Tel: 814758.

Services: Morning Service with Junior Church - 11 a.m.

For details of services at Clavering, Newport and Widdington please ring the Group Secretary.

## United Reformed

### LOCAL DIMENSIONS HAVE GLOBAL POSSIBILITIES

E.A. McIlwain

I was struck by a statement made at the U.R.C. District meeting the other evening at Fenstanton. A Ghensian visitor said "Local dimensions have global possibilities." That little spot on which you stand, is, in fact, a spot on a meridian or line of longitude which extends around the world. I remember well the excitement with which I stood on that Prime Meridian Line at the Greenwich Observatory, the beginning of the modern systems of world geography and nevigation. Greenwich may not be the centre of the world in any real sense but think of the global dimensions which begin there:

Any line, even the boundary lines of your small plot on earth, can be extended into infinity. When my wife and I visited Hampshire recently we saw Jane Austen's House in the once-remote village of Chawton. We saw the small "pis-crust" writing-table on which this tiny lady wrote novels which have indeed gone from local dimensions to global acceptance and appreciation. One might speculate also on the fact that her novels dealt with very homely themes and characters.

Think of the son of a village carpenter who never wrote a book, never ren for office, but in three years told some simple tales of nameless travellers, fermers, housewives, fishermen and the like. These stories are now known to the whole world, east, west, north, south, developed, undeveloped and the man who told them is, beyond question, the most influential Person of history.

"Local dimensions have global possibilities."

One of the commonest beliefs (Oh yes, we all have BELIEFS!) held by folk today is that "There's nothing I can do about it.". The world seems too complex, too far beyond our power to change or to control. THE FACIS ARE COMPLETELY OTHERWISE. On the one hand you have an obscure Aussian emigre named Marx, working in the library of the British Museum, or an sx-corporal named Adolph working amongst the disaffected German workers while on the other hand you have a few monks on the small and desolate Isls of Iona, Cranmer writing a prayer-book, Wesley on horseback, Robert Reikes (we'd forgotten him rather, hadn't we?) and his ragged school in Gloucester, Wilberforce and Shaftesbury against the British establishment, down through William Carey, Livingstone, Granfell right through to Barnardo and Sue Ryder and the ten pence and pounds given for Oxfom or Christian Aid. It is clear that we all DO have

power to change and to direct the course of world affairs even though we remain "ordinary" citizens while some become "extre-ordinary" citizens.

"You say that the little afforts that I make
Will do no good;
They never will prevail
To tip the hovering scale
Where justice hangs in the balance.
I don't think I ever thought they would,
But 1 am prejudiced beyond debate
In favour of my right to choose which side
Shall feel the stubborn ounces of my weight." (Bonaro Overstreet)

"Local dimensions have global possibilities." (Ghanaian Pastor)

### PILUTS

What is Pilots?

Pilots is a non-uniformed organisation eponeored by the United Reformed Church.

It is for both boys and girls aged 7 - 14 approximately and began in 1936 as a joint venture of the Congregational Union of England and Wales and the London Missionary Society. Most children in Congregational Churches then supported the missionary ship "John Williams V" which sailed among the islands of the South Pacific. It was natural to build a children's organisation around the idea of a ship. Pilots retains the nautical image to provide a framework within which the activities can take place, and to link children with the whole Church and its mission in the world.

Children become 'Deck Hands' as soon as they join the company.
Upon completing certain requirements they are enrolled and become
Ordinary Seamen. Upon enrolment a Pilot is given the Pilot Badge,
which carries the emblem of the World Council of Churches. Before
enrolment they learn the significance of the emblem.

Pilots meet in the Stensted U.R.C. Lecture Hall as follows:

Age 7 - 12 on Monday evening from 5.30 pm to 6.45 pm

Age 13 - 15 on alternate Friday evenings from 6.45 pm.

THE UNITED REFORMED CHURCH GUILD has been in existence for a number of yeers. It is a social gathering and is open to all. The session starts in October and meets on the first and third Mondays until April. Talks, film shows and musical evenings are held with a cup of tea or coffee in a friendly atmosphere.

The first meeting on October 6th took the form of a "Canadian Holiday" when we had a very welcome visit from our friend MRS. E. CLARKE.

### UNITED REFORMED CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Saturday	1st November	Autumn Fayra U.R.C. Lecture Hall . 10.30 am - 3.00 pm.
Monday	3rd November	Stansted Guild - "The Bishop's Stortford and Newport Extension Railway 1845". A talk by MR R PHILLIPS.
Monday	17th November	Stansted Guild - Flower Arranging by MHS 3 TOWNSEND and MRS 8 BUNTING.
Saturday	22nd November	Annual Christmes Sale by Newport URC in Newport Village Hall 3.00 pm.
Friday/ Sunday	28th - 30th November	DISTRICT YOUTH WEEKEND "Together at Bishop's Stortford". Theme centres on national "Together" project.
Sunday	30th November	ADVENT SUNDAYS begin this year on 30th November. Just a 'timely' reminder for you and your family to join in ALL of the pre-Christmas and Christmas Worship.
Sunday	7th December	The second Sunday in Advent is BIBLE SUNDAY. Please remember the work of the Bible Society in your prayers and by your generous contributions.
Sunday	14th December	11 am Christmas Gift Service followed by coffee and mince pies in the Lecture Hall.
Sunday	21st December	6.30 pm. Festival of lessons and carols.

## NATIONWIDE INITIATIVE IN EVANGELISM - NATIONAL ASSEMBLY - September 22nd to 27th, Nottinghem.

A lengthy report on this conference would not be in order but a simple listing of the mein speakers to this recent assembly of Christians from a very wide range of the churches should show how much "togetherness" we now have:

The Archbishop of York, the Most Rev. Stuart Blanch; The Rev. John Newton, West London Methodist Mission;

Fr. Henry Wensborough, Ampleford College;

Dr. Roy Clements, Eden Baptist Chapel, Cembridge;

The Bishop of Pontefract, the Right Rev. Richard Hare;

Mr. Roger Forster, Evangelical Alliance;

Fr. Ian Petit, Catholic National Service Committee of the Charismetic Renewal.

## Church of England

### FROM THE VICAR

### Mourning and Grief

In all of us there Time heals, they say, and so it does for many. is a natural desire to mourn, to express grief for those we love and who have died. How sad it is when people feel guilty about these natural desires and how damaging it can be to suppress grief. So my advice is always to let the tears flow and let the work of mourning bring healing; never insist that the bereaved be brave. The Church has known all this for centuries which is why Christians have remembered before God their departed loved ones and why services of Holy Communion have been calebrated for the dead. We call these On Tuesday 4th November we will be having a services Requiems. Requiem in St. John's Church at 7.30 pm and you are invited to hand in the names of those you want remembered during the service. I would also like to remind you that you may ask for a Requiem at any time to pray for your departed loved ones.



A few months ago I wrote about the Alternative Service Book which is to be published in November and offered to order copies. I am glad that over 40 copies have been ordered, as this means that they will cost only £3.60 each instead of the published price of £4.50. If, when the book is evailable, others wish to purchese a copy, please see me before buying in a shop as it may be possible to obtain a quantity discount.

CHRISTMAS MARKET
St. Johns Church Mail
Saturday 22nd November
(0-30 am to 4-30pm
Bargains Galors
Not to be Missed



### TUESDAY CLUB

Every 2nd Tweeday of the worth a group meets in the Vicarage at 6 pm. They plan and sort out the work to be attempted during the next four weaks. The work is smaling, Anatting or any kind of needlecreft and it is all in preparation for the Christnes Merket. The ledies concerned are of all ages and they are always wanting to welcome a new pair of hands. Why not come along and join thes?

### SMEET, SMEETER, SMEETEST!

Once egain 1 am making for contributions for the Sewet Stall at the Christmas Parket. Ingredients such as dates, Kakebrand chocolate, would be very explains so also would boxes of Golly Mixture, bearing and Jellytots for the stockings. Would those who normally make sweets please price them and give them either to Mrs J Bugg, 1 St John's Lame or to sea 4 9 St John's Crescent.

Margaret Arnold

### BISHOPS GALORE

### BEING A CHRISTIAN

John Trillo, Bishop of Cheissford, is coming to St John's on Vednozday, 20th November, at 8 pm. He plane to speak about 'Geing a Christian' and of Jourse Will answer questions and be angaged in a dobate. Here is the opportunity for us to meet the bishop and discover what he thinks it means to be a Christian today. Plasse accept this as an open invitation.

### CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALITY

A great interest is being shown by young people in preyer and the spiritual life. Some have turned to Eastern Religions and yet the Christian Religion has also a lot to offer these who are serious in their attempts to find God in prayer.

The Hishops of Chalmsford and Bradwell are coming to Stansted on 14th, 21st and 28th January to apask on these things and these seetings are open to averyons.

### STANSTED YOUNG WIVES

As we explained in last month's link, although we are affiliated to the Church, we wollcome anyone who wants to come to our meetings. We balise that there is a need for an organisation like cure especially with young mothers coming into our village. If you would like to come along but are a bit shy and would like someone to come with, then please ring Kerry Brice on 813539 or lamet Rose on 813539.

No meet fat and 3rd Tuesdays in the Church Hell. At 1.30 pe twa is surved and we have a chet together. Our apeakers usually begin at 2 pm and there is a croche for the children.

/continued

On 4th November we will be preparing for our stall at the Christmas Market. As we have a Pocket Money Stall, it means we all try and make something.

On 18th November Kathy Selwood from K.C. Sawing Machines will demonstrate their machines and answer questions on home sewing techniques.

On Saturday; 8th November, we have a Jumble Sale in aid of club funds in the Church Hall at 2 pm. Jumble may be left at the Vicarage and we invite you to come along and prepare the stalls at 10 am.

As yet we have to plan our programme for 2nd December but no doubt it will have something to do with preparing for Christmas.



## Saturday 8th November 2pm St Johns Hall



### YOUTHSCOPE

### Horizons Broadened

Our youth leaders have now completed the series of consultations with the Rev'd Geoffrey Colman who is the Archdeaconry Youth Officer. As well as enjoying these consultations they have derived great benefit from them and horizons have been broadened. We hope that our Youth Club will be taking to new grounds in the coming months.

### Older Youth

We are also in the process of discussing another youth group for the older youth. On 2nd October some young people went to the Harlow Pleyhouse to see 'Joseph and his Amazing Technicolour Oreamcost'. It was an excellent production with the set being hired from the West End. The music was exciting and the audience was encouraged to participate. Now we want to get down to thinking about the exact basis for a new group. We want our young people to have fun and enjoy each other's company and also encourage them to think about the Ehristian Faith. The sort of subjects we could consider are: the Church and the way it could be going in the future; the Bible's authority; living the Christian life in the world today.

If you are interested in joining such a group, please contact Fr. Andrew at 43 Gilbey Crescent. BS 814453.

### FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

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Ba	Oι	.1	S	m	3

21st September	Lea Donna Rushmore Daniel John Rushmore	7 Queens Close 7 Queens Close
		21 Cambridge Road
	Adam Bradley Stewart	I campiringe wear
28th September	Tracey May Ann Stock	21 Mountfitchet Road
	Christopher James Robert	
2 5	Stock	
	Jasmine Ann Stock	21 Mountfitchet Road
	Mark lan Hobson	2 Queens Close
	Michelle Hobson	2 Queens Close
5th October	Elizabeth Mary Adams	65 Brook Road
Marriages	- 4	
9746 Caubaabaa	Anthony Gerard Burke	5 Hawthorn Close, Chapatow ar
27th September	Judith Mary Pinn	5 Loates pasture
	Thomas Edwin Makepeace	104 Perry Springs, Harlow and
	Kim Maxine Elsom	52 Sunnyside
11th October	David Alan Clark	3 West Road, Bishop's Stortfo
, run goodaa	Linda Ruth Smith	16 Rainsford Road
ac my L		
Departed		
19th September	Percy Harold Pettitt	88 Cambridge Road. 82 years
·		3
26th September	Andrew Findley Young	29 Cannons Mead. 63 years
6th October	Frederick George Turner	53 Woodfields 73 years
	Manage Control of the	

### CONGRATULATIONS

to Clare and Tim Guyer on the birth of son, Christopher Paul. Clare has had a lot to do with the planning of The Link and Christopher arrived as our magazine was being launched.

### FRED'S ARMY

"Fings ain't what they used to be." That is often a true statement but in the case of St Mary's Churchyard there has been a big improvement since Fred's Army moved in. They are not equipped with tanks and guns — just a few gardening tools and plenty of energy, enthusiasm and time. Their target has been the many long-neglected graves and they have done a grand job. Why not go and have a look one autumn afternoon and give them a word of encouragement or, better still, give them a hand.

Thank you, Fred Sanders, Ken Turner and Joe Frost. The village should be proud of you.

### CALENDAR AND DIARY

Holy Communion is celebrated on Tuesday & 7.30 pm, Wednesday at 10 sm, Thursday at 7.30 am and Friday at 8 am unless otherwise stated below.

### November

- 1st All Saints' Day Holy Communion 9 am in St John's.
- 2nd 8th Sunday before Christmas Preacher at 9.30 am Parish Communion is the Rev'd Patrick Rosheuval, Area Secretary for the United Society for the Propagation of the Gospel.
- 4th All Souls Day Requiem at 7.30 pm.
- 8th Academy of St Nicholas Concert in St John's at 7.30 pm. Conductor David Adems.
- 9th 7th Sunday Before Christmas No Evensong. United Service at St Therese's 6.30 pm.
- 16th 6th Sunday Before Christmas
- 17th Meeting on Alternative Services Book to be held in St John's Church at 8 pm. Organisad by the Diocesan Liturgical Committee.
- 22nd Christmas Market in St John's Church Hell 10.30 am to 4.30 pm.
- 23rd 5th Sunday Before Christmas
- 26th Bishop of Chelmsford's Gathering in St John's Church 8 pm. All welcome.
- 28th Barn Dance in St Mary's School 8 pm.
- 30th Advent Sunday

### December

2nd St Andrew, Apostle Holy Communion 7.30 pm

### PARISH BARN DANCE

On Friday, November 28th, we are having a Barn Dance in 9t Mary's School. Tickets are on sale at National Westminster Bank or the Vicerage and cost £2 which includes a supper. Music will be by Tom and Don and there will be a licensed bar. Hope to see you there.

### "ESSEX CHURCHMAN" - HAVE YOU MISSED IT?

Reeders who used to take Monthly News will have realised that The Link does not have the Chelmsford Diocesan Magazine, Essex Churchman, enclosed with it. Free copies may be picked up in St Mary's or St John's but we note that so far few people have availed themselves of this offer. Some have asked if they may pay for Essex Churchman so if you really do not want a free copy, put a few pence in the 'Magazine' slot of the wall safes.

## Roman Catholic

### LITURGY GROUP

This was formed in 1975, the year that Father Tuchey became our parish priest. Its purpose was to involve lay men and women in the planning of the liturgy instead of leaving it all to the priest.

The special services that have been arranged have been many and varied — Children's Masses, Healing Masses, services to renew our marriage vows and a successful Youth Mass.

father Tuohey encourages our newest members to be baptised into our parish family during our family Mass at 10.30 am. Our Folk Masses have been a regular feature over the past few years and are held always on the last Sunday of the month at the 10.30 am. Mass.

Because of the enormous success of our Healing Service last May, when we invited surrounding parishes to attend, another is planned for 14th November at 8 pm with Fr. Peter Cullen from St Helen's Cathedral, Brentwood, taking the service.

### Diary

1st November - All Saints Day - Masses at 10.30 am and 8 pm and at 7 pm at St Anthony's, Henham

2nd November - All Souls Day - Masses at usual Sunday times.

9th November - United Service at 6.30 pm for Remembrance Day

22nd November - Day of Renewal at St Helen's Cathedral, Brentwood, starting with Mass at 12 noon, the celebrant being Bishop McMahon.

23rd November - Feast of Christ the King. Folk Mass 10.30 am

30th November - 1st Sunday in Advent. Folk Mass 10.30 em

November

9.30 and 22nd — Catechics 1981 first Communion Preparation
Group will meet at St Theresa's on these two
Saturdays. This includes parents and children.
The sessions will end with a cup of coffee and informal chat, when we get to know each other

better.

A Youth Mass is being planned for early December.

For further information about the above services please contact Fr Tuohey (814349) or Mrs Jan King (850469)

Every Wednesday at 8.15 pm a PRAYER GROUP meets in different homes; all are welcome. If you are interested, please 'phone Anne Webb (812088).

### ST EDMUND'S FAMILY DAYS

As October has arrived again, we welcome another year's series of St Edmund's Family Days, so named because, when they started eleven years ago, they were held at St Edmund's College in Ware. During term time, on the first Sunday of every month, families congregate together for a sociable and informative day. People start arriving at 10.30 am, to be welcomed with coffee and biscuits. At 11.00 the children all go off to be cared for and entertained while their parents attend a stimulating session with an invited speaker. A committee of lay people, with Fr Tim Firth, the Diocesan Secretary, and some nuns to help, choose subjects of interest to the parents, and then "press gang" experts in the field to come and talk to us. We have welcomed many well-known speakers, including Bishops, Rabbis, Trade Union leaders and others of widely disparate vocations.

At about half past twelve a buffet meal which has been provided by the parents is supplemented by hot soup and coffee provided by the nuns - friendships are renewed, the morning's session is discussed and so on. The lunch break flies by, and then the children go back with their minders, whilst discussion continues for their elders.

The day culminates in a lovely friendly Mass which, in summer, is held out of doors. There is lots of singing and our local pair, Mary Warnett and Jan King, provide a superb guitar backing! Usually the children dramatise the day's gospel story very convincingly.

Many couples look forward to a day which they can share with other adults on a mature level, confident that their children are also enjoying themselves. Several families from Stansted join the others who converge on the mellow buildings, lovely parklands and warm hospitality of the Convent at Hertingfordbury for these popular monthly occasions.

The theme for the next Family Day on the 9th November is 'God and the Washing-up Bowl' with Fr Tim Firth as the speaker.

### YOUTH

Disco - Disco crazy youngsters between the ages of 10 and 16 years will have a ball at our monthly held discos at St Theresa's with 'Pete' our resident disc jockey. November 8th is our next date - 7 - 9 pm.

We are a small and fairly newly formed group and have a long way to go so come and join us. Any further information can be obtained from Tony on BS 815083.

NEW OFFERTORY ENVELOPES are now out; if you have not yet received yours, please contact Fr Tuchay.

WEDDING - Congratulations to Trevor John Martin and Frances Sarah Carter who were married at St Theresa's on 25th October.

### (H.C., cont'd) HELPING MOTHER TERESA OF CALCUTTA

I expect nearly everyone has heard of Mother Teresa of Calcutta and her Missionaries of Charity. How they run leper colonies, homes for ebendoned babies or children in need and a hospice for the dying, where people who may be picked up from the streets are brought to end their days with dignity and love. Most people have heard of the Co-workers of Mother Teresa, who through their works and prayers do what they can to help Mother's work.

But how many people know that there is in Stansted a collecting centre at 43 Silver Street where people can bring the things that Mother Teresa asks for? Such things as children's light-weight clothing (particularly baby clothes): old tights and stockings (which are used to fill pillows and as bandages); used stamps that are trimmed, sorted and sold; old sheets that can be torn up and rolled into bandages or made into cot sheets or nappies; and oddments of wool or jumpers that can be unravelled and knitted into squares to make blankets.

And perhaps not many people know that, for those who would like to help, there is a working coffee morning on the first Monday of every month from 10 am to 12 noon at 43 Silver Street where we sort the things that have been brought to the collecting centre and make them ready to send away.

## Methodists

### METHODIST NEWS

Stansted Methodist Church is one of the nine churches comprising the Bishop's Stortford Methodist Circuit, which extends from Bishop's Stortford in the South to Ickleton in the North. One of the benefits of the circuit system is that we see a large variety of preachers in our pulpit. Of course, this could be seen as a disadventage as far as pastoral oversight is concerned but it does mean that our times of worship are always being injected with fresh ideas and teaching; although it is sometimes rather difficult for us to feel so fresh at 9.15 on a Sunday morning!

Another advantage of the circuit system is that joint activities can be arranged which would not be viable on a single church basis. Thus on 3rd October, three of our girls, ALEX LAW, ISOBEL HAWLINSON and JULIA WRIGHT, were able to join over thirty other young people for a week-end at the Rock retreat centre at Bradwell on Sea. The thema of the weekend was 'Commitment', and this was illustrated by means of discussion, drama and worship. Naturally, the girls enjoyed being away from parental constraints, and managed to prove that staying awake half the night does leave one very tired the next morning. Uf course, it does not help when a budding flautist decides to start practising at 6 am.

The weekend was well filled except for Saturday afternoon which was free; that is, you either went for a walk over the

(Methodists, cont'd)

cliffs (strangely, that was not very popular!) or you went shopping in Maldon. The intrepid trio took the latter option, and ALEX is still wendering who talked her into buying an impossible Airfix kit. Saturday evening seems to have been a constant round of eating; first a barbacue followed by a star performance by ISOBEL (and others) on the recorder, and then the obligatory midnight feast. JULIA was at a distinct disadvantage, because she was sleeping on the floor alongside the bunk on which slept the other two girls; she was walked on several times during the fight for Mars bars and other delicacies.

Frivolity spart, the girls learnt a great deal about what commitment should involve. As Christians we believe that Jesus Christ should take the highest priority; if we commit our lives to Him we are assured of His constant love and protection. We demonstrate our commitment to Jesus by the way we treat other people. The Rock weekend was fun, but it was also thought-provoking. Jesus said 'He that is not with me is against me' (Matt. 12;30)

### FORTHCOMING EVENTS

16th November Circuit Prayer Meeting, Clavering Methodist

Church 8 pm.

24th November Fellowship Meeting, 56 Rainsford Road,

8 pm.

28th November Outing to 'Yeoman of the Guard's

8th December Fellowship Meeting at 14 Spencer Close

8 pm

### STANSTED ASSOCIATION OF CHRISTIAN CHURCHES

### Sunday 9 November

A United Service is to be held at St Theresa's Church at 6.30 pm

### November Bible Study Meetings

As a follow-up to the meeting held on 23rd October in "One World Week"

we are holding three Bible Study Meetings on three successive Wednesdays in November

5th, 12th and 19th

at 8.15 pm at 42 Sunnyside

The theme is Justice, Peace and World Development

DO COME - and Please Bring your Bible

## Society of Friends

### THE VEXED QUESTION OF MICROTECHNOLOGY

Report on a One-Day Conference arranged by the Quaker Social Responsibility and Education Committee

The majority of those attending were involved in some way with the application of microtechnology and because there were several facets to be considered were divided into six discussion groups according to their special interest. The following is a summary of the main conclusions and areas of difficulty identified by these six groups.

Employment: While acknowledging the very real problems there was optimism for the future. However, the rate of change will be a crucial factor and it is necessary to differentiate between short term tactics to cope with present difficulties and a long term strategy in order to create the type of society we want. At present the concept of "work" is central to our lives. Before extensive changes can occur education will be necessary to change our attitudes and expectations. Change hurts because our ideas are rigid.

Privacy: There is a tendency to store all information obtained because it is cheap and easy to store but difficult and expensive to collect. Although this has definite benefits there are risks. The risks include misuse of information and the difficulties of correcting inaccuracies. The latter could be helped by individuals being aware of their own record but there is no legislation to prevent the misuse of information except in relation to credit. There is an EEC convention which the UK hasn't signed and it was suggested that we might urge that this be done. It was also suggested that we support the setting up of a Data Protection Agency although one friend did point out that the creation of a government aponsored body with knowledge of all data bases may be the greater danger.

Education: While this group accepted that people must be educated to accept change we have already found this difficult to do and it is impossible to do it quickly. Microtechnology is a good tool but this group was less optimistic about the values held by society and the capacity of human beings to accept rapid change.

Medicine: Microtechnology is not just computers and information gathering. It is now possible to perform operations without a surgeon and there is anormous potential for preventive medicine but advances are resisted by some members of the medical profession. It is very important to understand and reassure those whose jobs are threatened. The changes that are already possible as the result of microtechnology would have massive implications for the organisation of society. Governments, aware that we are not yet ready for

such changes, divert expertise to projects such as space explorations and military equipment. Change will come, however, and we must decide what values we want our society to express.

Attitudes of Labour and Management: Many workers see microchips as a threat but they are marely a tool and there is no evidence that they will cause long term unemployment. It is important that we seize the opportunity they present of doing away the difference between skilled and unskilled work.

Applications and Effects: People think changes are coming too fast and that they are powerless. There are also dangers that modern technology could be used in the political field to introduce instant opinion polls and majority voting. There is a great deal of resistance to change both by the informed and uninformed, but used wisely the benefits of microtechnology could improve the quality of life.

In a general discussion it was agreed that as Christians we believe in the value of each individual and that efforts must be made to ensure that this belief is taken into account when new technology is introduced. Shortly after the conference members of the Committee were meeting with representatives from other Churches working in this area.

This is my unofficial account and if there are any questions I will be glad to help if possible or put people in touch with those who can.

Angela Gough

### STANSTED ASSOCIATION OF CHRISTIAN CHURCHES

### Dates for your Diary

20th December:

Carol Singing in aid of the SAVE THE CHILDREN FUND

We meet at 10.30 am in the Cambridge Road and later move down to Lower Street.

Afterwards there will be coffee and mince pies in the URC Lecture Hall.

Singers and Collectors will be very welcome.

5th January 1981

Our next Association Meeting will be held on this date in The Friends Meeting House at 8 pm.

It will be addressed by Mr Hugh Cross on the work of the British Council of Churches.

## Willage News

Each month the VILLAGE NEWS will provide an opportunity for organisations to make their aims and programme known. We are gratified by the response to date. In addition to news from groups we welcome personal views and reminiscences of general interest. Publication is always subject to limits of space in each issue but items will be kept on file for future use. Perhaps we shall be able to open a letters page, childrens corner, cookery or garden hints, etc., it depends on you. Material for the next (December) issue by Nov. 6th. please. Copy delivered to 48, St. John's Road, please.

### VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS

### STANSTED WOMEN'S OWN

At the end of August, 16 knee rugs in patchwork design (the result of six months hard work) were handed over to the Salvation Army Good Will League.

On 22nd September, instead of holding a meeting, forty members went by coach to the John Groom Foundation workroom at Edgware where the handicapped people make all the artificial flowers.

Ouring the autumn we have been busy knitting caps and scarves for the children in Hargrave House.

Future Meetings: 27th October - Slides of the Holy Land shown by the Rev. Gordon R Snelling. 10th November- 62nd Anniversary Celebrations.

### STANSTED WOMEN'S INSTITUTE (Afternoon)

The September Meeting was Members' Day when MISS H SEYMOUR and her helpers organised the meeting and gave the President and Officers a well earned rest. Members were asked to knit mittens for the children at Hargrave House. MRS BAINES of Thaxted gave an interesting talk about pottery, from her very first efforts to the marvellous display of her talents. MRS DUCKERIL won the game of metching names and faces of well-known people and MRS SCARR the competition for a carving from a tablet of soep.

12 November - THE ANNUAL MEETING and CHRISTMAS STALL

### STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET EVENING WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Say 'Jam and Jerusalem' and what do you think of? The WI, of course. Apart from being proud of our war efforts, which is where the 'Jam' bit comes from, and sometimes singing Jerusalem at meetings, we are in fact a national organisation, very much for today's woman who is looking for friends, new interests and an opportunity to have a say in matters of national interest and importance. We have a varied programme for meetings through the year and there are opportunities for sport (learning and improving), discussion, and acquiring various practical skills. If you want to find out for yourself what the WI is really like, just come along to one of our meetings which are held on the second Thursday of each month in St John's Church Hall at 7.45 pm.

Our next meeting is on Thursday, 13th November. It is our AGM and after the business of the meeting is concluded, our Committee is presenting a 'Magazine' programme of 'Bits and Pieces' for our entertainment.

### ESSEX HOME WORKERS

A Coffee Morning was held at The Chestnuts, Burnell's Way, on 1st October, organised by the Essex Home Workers. This is an organisation run from Chelmsford to sell goods made in the homes of elderly, disabled or blind people. The goods are priced by the makers, who get 90% of the money. About 80 people came and all were impressed by the standard of the work.

The value of the goods sold was £252 and a further £37.50 was raised from the raffle and the door money.

The organisers wish to thank all who so generously supported the effort. It is the first time that the Essex Home Workers have had the opportunity to display their work on this side of the county and they would very much welcome further invitations in this area.

### MOUNTFITCHET SENIOR'S CLUB

MARY SCHOLES

St John's Church Hall, 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month, 2.30 - 4.30 pm 5th November 1980 - A cookery demonstration 'Eat well to keep well'

19th November 1980 -Games - Draughts, Cards, Bingo etc.

### THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

A Remembrance Sunday Service will be held at Elsenham Parish Church on 9th November at 10 am

Transport leaves from the Chapel Hill end of St John's Road at 9.40 am

Wreath laying will take place at Stansted at approximately 11.30 am

### THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION,

We are holding a COFFEE MORNING on Wednesday, 19th November at 10.30 am at the home of MR and MRS HOLLIS, 102, Cambridge Road, Stansted. The proceeds are to help the deserving ex-service personnel of Stansted. There will be a raffle and Bring and Buy Stall.

Admission 20p

### The Royal British Legion Women's Section.

November in the British Legion is a time for remembering. We help by selling poppies - more helpers are always needed.

Six of our members have tickets for the Festival of Remembrance at the Royal Albert Hall this year.

The experience of taking part in this Festival is a very moving one. Seeing the veterans of the two wars, and all the members of the various services marching into the Hall is a wonderful sight. It makes one feel very proud of being British, but also very sad that our world has not learned its lesson, even yet.

In September, the Women's Section helped the Royal British Legion at a Barbecue held at Watermill Farm, home of MAJOR POWER. It was a glorious day and a great success. £71 worth of goods made by Disabled Men were sold.

May we make a plea to all our present members and any new people that might be interested in our movement, to please make an effort to come to our monthly meetings. They are held on the third Thursday of each month. The more members who attend, the more interesting we can make the meetings. We shall welcome you.

MRS S MUMFORD Chairman (812351) MRS C WHALL Secretary (813880)

### CHRISTMAS IS COMING

### Carol Singing in Stansted

We are just three people anxious to see that the long-established tradition of carol singing in the village, by village people for a local charity, does not die out. A small party of singers has turned out for several years for various causes, and the response has enabled sums of over £100 each year to be handed over.

This year we have chosen to set up a Fund for the repair of the local Doctor's Electrocardiograph Machine (not provided by the NHS).

Singers will be needed - but so will non-singers to do the collecting. Please put the dates in your diary now, then join us on one or all of the evenings.

Saturday, 20th December

Around the Christmas Tree in the Memorial Garden, followed by light refreshment in St John's Hall.

Monday 22nd December Tuesday 23rd December

in the streets

Wednesday 24th December

Tour of the Pubs in the village with the emphasis on singing and collecting, not drinking.

Further details of times, meeting places, and the Fund will appear in next month's LINK and on posters around Stansted.

JUDY GODDARD PEGGY HONOUR PETER CLARK

### Christmas Dinners

Will you be on your own at Christmas or do you know of anyone who will be and would like a Christmas dinner delivered? If so, please let me know at BS 812498. (If no reply, messages may be left with BRENDA SCARR at BS 813080). Assuming there are some replies in the affirmative, I shall be looking for people to provide and deliver the dinners. It requires very little effort and earns the gratitude of the recipient. If you can help please let me know (telephone numbers as above). Thank you.

DR BARNARDO'S - CHRISTMAS MARKET - 11.00 am - Wednesday 26th November 1980 at Bentfield House, Bentfield Green

### FOCUS ON YOUTH

### STANSTED SCOUT GROUP

A date to remember - SATURDAY 8th NOVEMBER - This is the day we are holding a "New Book Sale and Mini Bazaar'. Open from 10.30 am at Scout HQ, Water Lane.

Your support for this event will be greatly appreciated.

### 1st STANSTED SCOUTS

This summer a party of Stansted scouts made a most successful visit to the Adirondacks, U.S.A's largest national park, a mountainous region some 9,500 square miles situated just south of the Canadian border. Part of the time was spent climbing and exploring the "High Peaks" area, a beautiful region rich in flora and fauna (including black bears). The remaining time was spent beinghosted by the American troop based at Schroon Lake. We had been forewarned of the scenic delights of the Adirondacks but we were totally unprepared for the overwhelming hospitality and friendliness shown to us by the residents of the small township of Schroon Lake. During the Service at Schroon Lake Community Church we were presented with a British flag in our host's keeping for some 30 years. (acquired via an American ambassador one time at the court of St James). We hope to fly this flag (if we can find a staff large enough to carry it. It measures some 10ft x 5 ft) together with the stars and stripes when the American troop visits us next year.

### THE TORTOISE SCOUT TROOP

One characteristic of the tortoise is that although not one of nature's fastest creations, it usually gets where it wants to in the end. So it is that the handicapped Scout Troop which meets at the Stansted Scout HQ has the tortoise as its scarf badge and is known throughout the County by that name.

Our ten Scouts have a variety of problems but they share a common determination to make the Scout evening one of the high spots of the week. We have a programme which follows that of any other Scout Troop, but we introduce such variations as dominoes, model-car making and forms of football not yet known to the FA. The accent is on constructive actions in a disciplined atmosphere devoid of any 'them and us' overtones. Several of the boys attend the annual County camp (the Agoonex) and we have a regular week-end camp in September. As Hallowe'en approaches we shall be joining the other County Troops in a Ghouls Get-Together at Brentwood.

We meet now on Tuesday evenings from 7.00 to 8.15pm and have a staffing ratio of about 1 leader or helper to 2 boys which we would like to improve upon. If you are interested in our activities - which are not exclusive to Scouters or those already in the Movement - please give me a ring. More important - if you know of any boy in or near Stansted who may benefit from our Troop I would like to know. The Troop is open to boys upwards of nine years old with physical, and all but the most severe, mental handicaps.

DEREK HONOUR BS 813160

### RED CROSS TOY LIBRARY - PETER KIRK SCHOOL CANTEEN

This is now open for handicapped children and their families - every other Tuesday 13th November and 27th November - 4.00 pm - 6.00 pm. Enquiries to SUE REED BS 812461.

### BENTFIELD COUNTY PRIMARY SCHOOL P.T.A. CHRISTMAS FAIR

Bentfield County Primary School PTA Christmas Fair will be held on Saturday 15th November at 2.30 pm in the school.

This is an event for all the family with varied stalls and sideshows including tombola, handicrafts, homemade cakes, pull-a-string etc.

Father Christmas will be in attendance to receive those special requests from the children.

Draw tickets will be on sale with the chance of winning a stereo cassette radio, a clock radio, a Christmas Hamper and many other prizes.

Do come along to do your Christmas shopping, try your luck or just enjoy the festive atmosphere.

### HUW JOHNSON CLUB

On Saturday, 13th September, the Club had its annual picnic in Hatfield Forest and it was all systems go. The scouts, led by JUDY GODDARD, arrived at the crack of dawn to put up tents, get the activities ready and to construct an assault course. The local wild life must have wondered what was happening!

MARION JOHNSON and her kitchen staff started preparations at 10.00 am and when the children arrived at 12.000 a meal was ready. They enjoyed beef and pork with salads and crisps galore, followed by fruit and ice cream. Gallons of orange juice, tea and coffee were drunk.

During the afternoon, the children had a grand choice of activities. They made kites, models and plaster casts; painted pictures and some made collage pictures using materials from the forest. There was one short, sharp shower during the afternoon but spirits were kept up by community singing.

Then a very spectacular fight took place with boys versus girls. The boys had balloons filled with flour with which they defended the treasure. The girls attacked with balloons filled with water and were successful in stealing the treasure. Everyone had a very happy day and went home tired and very sticky.

We are having a Coffee evening on Thursday, 6th November in St John's Hall after Club meeting at approximately 7.30 pm onwards. There will be stalls, including cakes, books and "bring and buy". Please come and support us as the proceeds will go towards the children's Christmas Party. We hope to see many of you there.

BETTY LOCKWOOD

### MEMS FROM ST MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

The school Harvest Festival Service was held in St John's Church on Friday, 3rd October. The service was attended by many parents and friends and was conducted by the Vicar, Barry Rose. During the service the children read prayers and stories on the themes of sowing, growing and harvesting. On the following Monday the harvest produce was auctioned and the proceeds of £30.35 was sent to Famine Relief in Uganda.

The Parent Teacher Association recently held their Annual General Meeting in the school and the following parents were elected to the committee: Messrs BATTSON, MULLINGS, LOYNDS and Mesdames WILSON, OSBORNE, JENKINS, RUSSELL and PIRRIE. Both Secretary, THD LINTON and Treasurer, JOHN ROBINSON, were re-elected for another year.

PETER COMPSON Headmaster

### CHAPEL HILL PLAYGROUP,

Quaker Meeting House, Stansted.

TUESDAY to FRIDAY mornings 9 am to 12 noon, you will find us enthusiastically tackling all kinds of stimulating activities. If you wish to know more, come along and neet us all at the Quaker Meeting House or telephone MADELETNE HART BS 812624 or MAUREEN PEACHEY BS 813400.

We recently held our annual Jumble Sale and are delighted to be able to thank the people of the village for their support through such an informative magazine as The Link.

### RAINBOW PLAYGROUP

Youth Centre, Lower Street, Stansted

Rainbow Playgroup would like a Nanny or Grandad to come and read and talk to the children. Please come any morning between 9.30 am to 11.30 am and see if you like us.

On Friday, the Playgroup took part in the St Mary's School Harvest Festival.

Fireman KEN LIDSTER visited the playgroup on Monday, 6th October. He explained about his work and let the children try on his protective clothing. SIMON LLOYD, GAVIN HOWARTH and JAMES BATESON tried on the fireman hats and EMMA SHAW his coat. The children were disappointed that he was unable to bring a fire engine!

### SIDEWAYS NURSERY SCHOOL

You'll find us in St John's Church Hall every norming from 9.15 an to noon. We have 3-4 year olds on Tuesdays and Thursdays and 4-5 year olds on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Please pop in any time and see what we do or ring JANICE WRAY on 815817 for more details.

Our Annual General Meeting is to be held in the Church Hall on Thursday, 27th November, and all are welcome. We will begin at 8.00 pm and end with a supper.

SPONSORED SLIM - From 1st October to 1st December, fifteen of the Mums, and two of the teachers, are going on a sponsored slim. We are hoping to lose over ten stone between us and raise funds for the Mursery School in the process - so wish us luck (and a lot of willpower!).

### AN APOLOGY

Due to an administrative oversight we failed to include an advertisement sent in by:

LINDEN HOUSE ANTIQUES
3 Silver Street
Stansted

Tel: Bishops Stortford 812372

We are very sorry about this, especially as (to save expense) we had enough covers printed to provide for several future editions of THE LINK, and it is not possible at this stage to insert an extra single advertisement.

In connection with advertisements for later issues, please contact MR J S CLAY, 7 Cross-daile Close, Bishops Stortford 812751

### HOW THE LINK HAS BEEN FINANCED

There have been some enquiries as to whether THE LINK is financed entirely by revenue from advertisements and the payment of subscriptions. It may therefore interest readers to know that the five churches in the village, in various proportions, have contributed a total of £330 toward an annual expense of some £1200.

It will help us greatly to budget for further issues if payment for copies is made promptly; it will be an even greater help if as many as possible would pay a year's subscription.

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