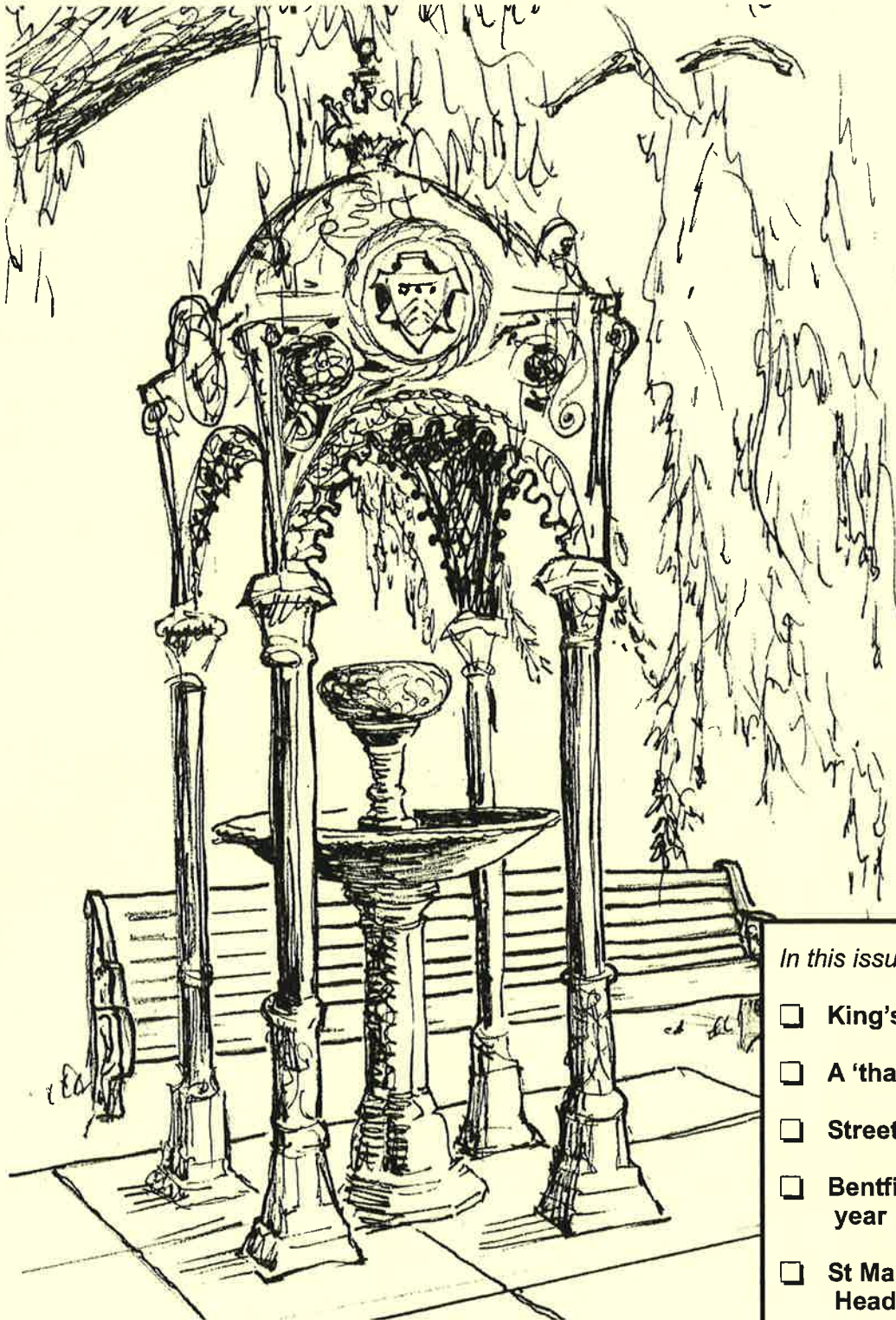


Stansted Mountfitchet

The Link



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By 11th January for publication on 27th January

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Angels and Demons

In the Cathedral at Amiens, close to the site of the Battle of the Somme, during which over 20,000 British troops died on the first day alone, there is a statue of a crying angel. When we visited the Cathedral on holiday, we were told that this statue became particularly significant for the troops who visited the Cathedral in those dark times, because it spoke to their own condition. Surely God himself and the angels were moved to tears by that bloody conflict? At this Remembrance tide, we too might ponder on the ways in which current wars and acts of terrorism and counter terrorism continue to cause grief in the very heart of heaven itself.

But do we still believe in angels, demons or heaven? Angels have been much on my mind recently. Michaelmas – the feast of St Michael and All Angels - at the end of September is no longer a holiday but gives its name to the autumn term in older universities such as Cambridge, and in the Inns of Court. Then we come to All Souls Day at the end of October, when we think – not of angels, but of those who have died and perhaps also of heaven. And Halloween has gained in popularity, if the supermarket shelves are anything to judge by. Here we have images not of angels but of devils and spooks.

It seems that angels and demons are still very much a part of our lives, whatever we

think of them. Popular films such as 'It's a wonderful life' (black and white, often repeated at Christmas and with the unforgettable bumbling angel Clarence) or 'City of Angels' (a much more modern love story with an equally memorable but rather more handsome angel as its hero) still exploit the theme. And indeed, a belief in angels can be found in most cultures and religious faiths. So what is their place for us in the 21st century, and what do you really think about these mythical creatures? Are they just a bit of fun, or do they have a part to play in our lives?

Jane Williams, wife of the current Archbishop of Canterbury and a distinguished theologian and writer in her own right, has just published a beautifully illustrated book on 'Angels', exploring their nature, function and purpose within the Christian tradition. She suggests that reported encounters with angels have not diminished in our secularised world, although perhaps our ability to perceive the spiritual world has withered in many cases. She warns against a cosy view of these heavenly messengers, but points to ways in which they may enable us to express our longings and our grief – as in the Cathedral at Amiens. Acknowledgement of the spiritual world does not lead to protection, but it does give our lives a deeper and bigger meaning.

contact us

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Currently vacant

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rector@stansted.net

Assistant Curate

Revd Dr Caroline Currer

(01279) 815243

curate@stansted.net

Director of Music

Currently vacant

website

www.stansted.net/stjohns

St John's Diary

Sunday

9:30am Choral Eucharist

11:00am Open Door

Service

(all age worship)

1st and 3rd Sundays

9:45pm Night Prayer

Wednesday

10:00am said Holy Com
munion

7:30pm Ecumenical

Prayer group

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.

Junior Church meets each Sunday at 9:30am. *(Children return to church halfway through the service.)*

The Lazer youth group meets on Sunday evenings at 7:30pm

From the Registers - September

Baptisms

17th Lily Grace Mia Evetts
Isabel Georgina Scott
Oliver John Scott

Weddings

2nd Lorna Katherine Ruff to
Matthew James Riley
9th Ruth Palmer to Matthieu
Yves Heuvre Glasson

SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

Quaker Meeting House, Chapel Hill

So what of the demons? Here, too, I find books helpful. If you have not read the 'Screwtape Letters' by C S Lewis, it is well worth it. This is a series of imagined letters from a senior to a junior devil, and shows in a humorous, if now rather dated, way, how we are continually turned away from our own true and best inclinations. Rather more contemporary, the Harry Potter series (especially the later books) has introduced millions of young people to a newer devil personified in the evil Voldemort. The stories encourage us to recognise and identify with a struggle between good and evil that threatens the whole world in which they are set. However we represent it in art or literature, this theme is one that we all need to acknowledge as present as much today as yesterday. And whether we are wizards, 'muggles' or angels, we need to decide where we stand within that struggle.



CMC

Christmas Market

This year's Christmas Market will be in the church on Friday 1st December from 7.00pm - 9.00pm. There will be all the normal well-laden stalls—plus a few extra with the additional space available. This should also provide more room for everyone to circulate whilst looking for their Christmas gifts, crafts, toiletries, candles cakes etc, as well as trying their luck on the numerous raffles and enjoying in comfort the refreshments available.

Hope to see **EVERYONE** there.

Francine Cope

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

Meeting Sunday, 10.30am

At our most recent General Meeting (which represents all the Quaker Meetings in Essex and Suffolk) our Speakers were concerned with Quaker Activism. All of them spoke about particular issues which their Christian faith and Quaker outlook had made them get personally involved in. One of them had been a Conscientious Objector in World War 2 and told of his experiences and the alternative work he did; another was and is an active Peace campaigner - her campaigning having started with the Aldermaston marches. The third speaker is one of the Peace Tax Seven, who want everyone to be allowed to allocate the 10% of their Income Tax which goes on armaments and defence to a charity; following various court appearances in this country they are now waiting to hear whether they may take their case to the European Court of Human Rights. The last speaker told us most movingly of her husband's refusal to use drugs that had been tested on animals during his treatment for cancer and his final illness; both of them had long been involved with animal welfare issues.

They were all controversial subjects, and not all Quakers would agree with their actions, but what struck me very forcibly was the way that each of them presented their story. There was no question of trying to force their views on others, and certainly no question of self-praise. It was just something they felt they had to do, and they got on and did it. The simplicity with which they spoke made me realise that this way of presenting your views and actions is far more likely to make others think deeply about the causes, and about how your own views relate to your Christian faith. Many of us are very good at rationalising doing nothing rather than following an instinctive feeling of what our faith demands.

Katherine Hurford



SHALOM

On 13th November we meet at the Stansted Free Church (formerly the URC) Hall for an entertaining evening of short plays and sketches – some religious and some not! This evening is always great fun – do join us!

On 27th November, Andy Thornton will lead us in an Advent meditation. This meeting will be at 7 Blythwood Gardens.

All meetings start at 8.00pm and we look forward to seeing old faces and new! Join us if you can.

Catherine Dean

STANSTED FREE CHURCH (Methodist / URC)
Chapel Hill
www.stanstedfreechurch.org.uk



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Bishop's Stortford	Bishop's Stortford	Stansted	
CM23 5AF	CM23 3JH	CM24 8AQ	
Tel: 504900	Tel: 654475	Tel: 812593	

Preachers for November

5th	10.30 am	No service
5th	3.30 pm	Celebration Service with Rev'd David Simpson and Rev'd Keith Page (see below)
12th	10.45 am	Village Remembrance Service at St John's
19th	10.30 am	Rev'd David Simpson – Communion
26th	10.30 am	Rev'd Keith Page

Other November activities taking place at the Church

8th	7.00pm	Shoe box packing (see below)
13th	6.00pm	Pilots for children 5-13 years. Tel: 813433
13th	8.00 pm	Shalom
15th	7.45 pm	Stort Valley Schools Trust (see below)
20th	2.30 pm	Monday Club. Tel: 815137
27th	6.00 pm	Pilots for children 5-13 years. Tel: 813433

We are pleased to announce that we now have our own website, where you can find further details about these and other activities taking place at the church. Please visit us on www.stanstedfreechurch.org.uk. We would appreciate your feedback on our site!

Operation Christmas Child

Wednesday 8th November is the date of the Shoe Box Packing Coffee Evening, in the hall from 7.00pm. Come and join in the fun and help to put a smile on a child's face this Christmas. If you cannot come but would like to help in this very worthwhile project, items to fill the boxes, empty shoe boxes or donations to help with the transportation of the boxes, can be left at 58 Chapel Hill anytime. Last year over seven million boxes were distributed world wide to children in over 90 countries who speak 70 languages. The boxes are given regardless of nationality, political background or religious beliefs, requiring nothing from the children, their families or communities in return. 1,153,326 shoe boxes left the UK to 14 different countries, 266,890 going to Romania in 29 lorries alone, and as we have seen recently on our televisions the need there is still very great. In every box we pack, we try to include pens and paper, a ball and a cuddly toy. Toiletries, jewellery, make up and hair bands as well as picture books, small puzzles and toy cars are all well received; but NO glass, liquids, talcum powder or chocolate bars, due to Customs regulations in some of the receiving countries. Fruit sweets are allowed, but must have a sell by date of at least March 2007. For more information go to www.samaritanspurse.uk.com or ring Janet on 812593.

In addition, the music group *Charity* arranges events to raise money for Operation Christmas Child which goes towards transportation costs. Last year a music quiz was held; this year, they are playing at the check-in concourse at Stansted Airport on 2nd December from 2.00-5.00pm. See you there!

Celebration Service

The Celebration Service of the joining together of the Stansted Methodist and the United Reformed Churches is on 5th November at 3.30 pm. The Moderator of the United Reformed Church Rev'd Elizabeth Caswell and the Chairman of the Methodist District Rev'd Anne Brown will be taking part as well as Rev'd David Simpson and Rev'd Keith Page and our own Pilot group. The service will be followed by tea. It has been a long and difficult road we have travelled with many challenges along the way to get to this day, but with prayer and concerns for others we are there and we look forward to working together in the future.

Stort Valley Schools Trust

On Wednesday 15th November the Stort Valley Schools Trust are holding a prayer evening in the church at 7.45pm. The Trust is an independent registered charity formed in 1990 to support Christian schools' work in local secondary schools, and by visiting Year 6 pupils in primary schools in the Summer term, with its 'Your Move' project designed to help the transfer to secondary school. This evening is an opportunity to find out more about the Trust and its work. Each of the school workers, Linda, Ros and Ruth will talk about their work, and each talk will be followed by a short time of prayer. Tea and coffee will be available as you arrive. Please come and support the Trust as they try to raise awareness of the contents of the Bible and show how it relates to modern life.

Janet Townsend

ROMAN CATHOLIC

St Therese of Lisieux
High Lane

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

Masses
Saturday 6.00pm
Sunday 9.00am and 10.30am
Holy Days of Obligation 8.00am and 8.00pm
Tuesday-Saturday 9.30am

Confessions
Saturday 10.00am
and by appointment

Baptisms By appointment

Parish Mission

For two weeks recently, we were lucky to have a Parish Mission in St Therese's led by Father John Trenchard and Father Michael McGreevy both of which have been, in the past, the Parish Priest of St. Joseph's RC Church in Bishop's Stortford. They were well remembered to a great many of us.

What is a Parish Mission? - It is a special event in the Parish through which we celebrate our faith, deepen our faith and share our faith. It gives each one of us a chance, no matter where we are in our lives, to make a fresh start.

Each morning we celebrated Mass, followed in the first week by a workshop with a different theme each day e.g. Faith, the Eucharist, and Bible study. There were also several house Masses held in the evening at all the villages in the Parish, plus a wonderful candlelit Taizé worship in the church.

We were led to examine our conscience and ask forgiveness, but above all we were all encouraged to question without feeling guilty. As Father John always pointed out, we all have a different way of looking at our faith and if we are sincere no way is actually wrong. We were encouraged to feel our self worth as God did make us in his own image and likeness. I was left with the belief that although we make some terrible mistakes we are not that wicked enough not to deserve God's love!

The two weeks culminate in our celebration of the feast day of St Therese of Lisieux, which was a most joyous occasion followed by a shared supper. We at St Therese's do owe a debt of sincere thanks to these two wonderful men of God, who took time with us, discussed our faith with us, shared with us and loved us. Thank you Father Michael and Father John, you are in our hearts.

Mary Warnett

THE KINGS ARMS CHARITY EVENTS

Here at the Kings Arms, we like to do our bit for charity. Every year we organise an event to help towards local charities. This year we are raising money for the Isabel Hospice and The Mountfitchet Seniors Club.

We started back in the summer by arranging a golfing competition between us and The Feathers at Great Hadham Golf Club. Then on August Bank Holiday we held our annual 20 mile bike ride from The Kings Arms around surrounding villages and back again (in time for opening!!), followed by Matt's disco in the evening.

We then held our main event on 3rd October for which we had some great prizes donated from various people and places. Sally organised a marvellous event, so a big thank you to her. We had a selection of Mexican dishes cooked by our very own Chef, Di. Again thank you to her for preparing it all. On the night we had an auction, raising plenty of money, followed by various raffle prizes, all donated. A great night was had by all! The total amount raised from all these events was a superb £2,300. We would like to say a big thank you to those who organised our events; to all our customers who supported them; and to those who donated prizes.

Stephanie Moore



www.villagemusicclub.co.uk

O Duo will be performing in St John's Church, Stansted at 3.00pm on Sunday 3rd December. They are a most exciting duo, with a huge array of marimbas, vibraphones and percussion. Sonia Levy was present at the Wigmore Hall last year when they won the prestigious international Young Concert Artist Trust award. Sonia was completely bowled over by their performance and comments - "They have a fantastic repertoire and their programme in Stansted will include Ravel, Bach, Dizzy Gillespie, Chopin and much more. A pre-Christmas treat not to be missed!!"

Tickets are £10, children £3, and children of members £1, available from Stansted Carpets, Nockolds Solicitors, Bishop's Stortford, Sonia Levy, 31 Chapel Hill (815282) or at the door.

Further concerts in our 2006/7 season, both in St John's Church, are Sunday 28th January at 3.00pm - Anna Stephany, the Kathleen Ferrier award winning mezzo soprano, with Jonathan Beattie, piano; and Saturday 17th March at 7.30pm - The London Concertante Chamber Ensemble.

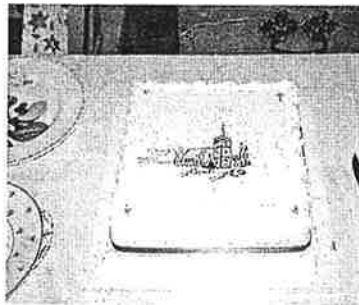
Alan Corbishley

PHYLLIS SABAN AND ST MARY'S CHURCH

Over 70 Stansted people attended a very special service of Choral Evensong on Sunday, 1st October at St Mary's to commemorate and thank Phyllis Saban for her 30 years of hard work caring for the church. Phyllis looked after every aspect of the church from the cleaning to opening for special Heritage Days to accompanying visitors from all over the country. It was lovely that Phyllis's family were able to come to the service as well as many of her friends and those who had close connections with St Mary's in the past.



The service was taken by Canon Roy Tricker, who used to see Phyllis regularly when he worked for The Churches Conservation Trust. The organist was Keith Turner, who now lives near Huntingdon, but for many years was the church organist, and the Benefice Choir led the singing beautifully. Edmund Wilkinson arranged for the bell ringers to be in action while Jean Robinson and her friends created some spectacular flower arrangements, which Phyllis was able to take home afterwards. Janet Hollis and Audrey Rodgers prepared a delicious tea with help from other former parishioners. The highlight was the magnificent cake baked by Melvin Morton and decorated with a picture of St. Mary's to celebrate Phyllis's 87th birthday on the same memorable day.



St Mary's was declared redundant in 1990 and has been in the care of The Churches Conservation Trust ever since. The Trust has carried out major repairs to the church particularly to the roof and tower as well as carrying out regular maintenance to ensure the church remains in good condition. St Mary's is one of 340 churches of outstanding historical and

architectural importance, which have been vested in The Trust and saved for the nation rather than being found an alternative use. The Trust looks after 10 other special churches in Essex including Chickney, which is partly Saxon with a shingled tower and very atmospheric, unspoilt interior. Chickney is open daily and only a few miles from Stansted off the B1051 before you reach Broxted.

The Trust is very keen that St Mary's, which is such an important part of the heritage of Stansted, should be visited and appreciated more by local residents including schools and organisations. In addition to the occasional services, it would also welcome events in the church. There is good lighting and even some heating! Events held in other Trust churches include concerts, flower festivals and art and local history exhibitions. If you would like to visit the church, the keys are still held by Phyllis Saban, tel: 815847 or at the St John's Church Office tel: 815243 (limited opening hours). If you are prepared to help in any way with cleaning, arranging an event, or if you could just spare a couple of hours next year to keep the church open on a weekend afternoon, please contact Audrey Rodgers (tel: 812162) or Janet Hollis (tel: 812073).

For further information about The Churches Conservation Trust or about St. Mary's please contact me.

Chloe Cockerill
Regional Development Manager
The Churches Conservation Trust
Tel: 01223 290439 Email: ccockerill@tcct.org.uk



Royal British Legion

Women's Section

On 25th September we met at 105 Cambridge Road and held our annual Harvest Sale. A good selection of fruit, vegetables, jams, cakes, etc was ably auctioned by Gill Reeve whose entertaining banter and pertinent descriptions of the produce kept us all amused and elicited a generous response from members.

We shall share the profit we have made at our four meetings this year between the Gurkhas and the RBL Poppy Appeal and our thanks to all who have given so generously.

Pat Clower

CALLING ALL PHOTOGRAPHERS

In this issue we are publishing a selection of local views. What The Link wants is not a one-off show but a steady trickle of pictures depicting people and places; they bring a liveliness which words cannot give. What may seem ordinary to you may give pleasure to others, so please send us some of your local photographs. They will be returned.

Ed.



Village Fireworks & Bonfire

Elms Farm - entry by Archway Cottage
(park in Lower Street car park)

Sat 4th November

- 6.30 pm Gates open
- 7.00 pm Bonfire lit
- 7.30 pm Fireworks

Wear wellies if wet!

Adults £3, Children £1 - pay on gate

Refreshments Available

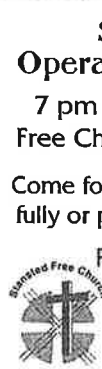


COFFEE MORNING

10 am - 12 noon
Wed 8th November
Day Centre

Bring & Buy (not clothes)
All welcome

Proceeds to the Huw Johnson Club



Shoe Boxes for Operation Christmas Child

7 pm onwards Wed 8th Nov
Free Church (formerly URC) Hall

Come for coffee and bring along your fully or partly completed shoe boxes

For more information tel 812593
or see Free Church article

All welcome

VILLAGE EVENTS

November

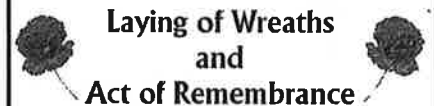
1	Wed	Mountfitchet Garden Club	Day Centre 8 pm
2	Thu	Local History Society	Day Centre 8 pm
4	Sat	Village Fireworks & Bonfire	Elms Farm from 6.30 pm
5	Sun	Inaugural Celebration Service	Free Church 3.30 pm
8	Wed	Huw Johnson Coffee	Day Centre 10 am - noon
		Shoe box packing & coffee	Free Church Hall from 7 pm
9	Thu	WI	St John's Hall 7.45 pm
11	Sat	Lib Dem AGM & Ploughman's	Day Centre 11.30 am - 2 pm
11/12	Sat/Sun	Skips	Lower St Car Park 9 am - 3 pm
12	Sun	Laying of Wreaths	War Memorial 10.45 followed by
		Remembrance Day Service	St John's Church
13	Mon	Shalom Group	Free Church Hall 8 pm
18	Sat	Farmers' Market	Ugley Village Hall 10 am - noon
25/26	Sat/Sun	Skips	Lower St Car Park 9 am - 3 pm
22	Wed	Garden Club Coffee	Day Centre 10 am - noon
23	Thu	South West Area Panel	Free Church Hall 7 pm
25	Sat	SSE Quiz	St John's Hall 7.30 for 8 pm
27	Mon	Shalom Group	7 Blythwood Gardens 8 pm

December

1	Fri	Christmas Market	St John's Church 7 - 9 pm
2	Sat	Christmas Fair	Bentfield School 2 - 5 pm
3	Sun	Afternoon Tea (after service)	Free Church 3.30 pm
		Village Music Club Concert	St. John's Church 3 pm
6	Wed	Mountfitchet Garden Club	Day Centre 8 pm
7	Thu	Local History Society	Manuden Village Hall 8 pm
		(numbers limited)	
9	Sat	Lib Dem Ploughman's	Day Centre noon - 2 pm
9/10	Sat/Sun	Skips	Lower St Car Park 9 am - 3 pm

REMEMBRANCE DAY

10.45 am Sun 12th Nov
War Memorial, Chapel Hill



Laying of Wreaths
and
Act of Remembrance

Followed by service in St John's Church led by Rev Caroline Curren



MOUNTFITCHET GARDEN CLUB

Coffee Morning

Day Centre 10 am - noon
Wed 22nd Nov

Raffle ~ Bring & Buy
Cakes ~ Tombola
Entry 50p to include coffee



QUIZ

7.30 for 8 pm Sat 25th Nov
St John's Church Hall

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Vanessa 01371 831193
vanessa@sfx.co.uk

Remember, remember

The next edition covers December and January

Submit your event by 16th November to

58 Chapel Hill or email to stanstedlink@aol.com



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Bentfield School PTA

Christmas Fair

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Crafts ~ Plants ~ Cakes

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St John's Church Christmas Market

7 - 9 pm Fri 1st December
St John's Church

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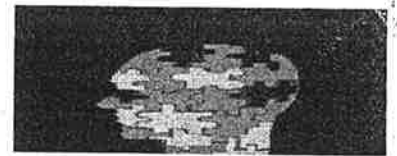
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MOUNTFITCHET MATHEMATICS AND COMPUTING COLLEGE



Since my arrival in September 2005 as Deputy Head teacher of Mountfitchet High School (affectionately known by some as the Forest Hall Road Secondary) I have derived immense pleasure from witnessing the transformation of our educational establishment. In a very short space of time we have made tremendous strides forward. In the summer of 2006 the number of students gaining five or more passes at GCSE A*-Cs rose to 63%; a rise of 23% on 2005! This massive increase has already attracted considerable attention and we have been invited to speak at three national conferences on raising achievements and transforming learning.

In September 2006 we gained specialist college status from the Department of Education and Skills in Mathematics and Computing. Our new status means a change of name and we are now The Mountfitchet Mathematics and Computing College. (For those who prefer abbreviations, m2c2 might be acceptable shorthand, but any references to a secondary school will only serve to confuse!)

With our new status comes great potential but also come great challenges. We are on the verge of something very special. We have the opportunity and the capacity to provide an education that is fit for the 21st century. Our vision is for Information and Communication Technology to be the catalyst for raising standards across our whole school curriculum and within our local community.

We want to work in much closer partnerships with local businesses in a mutually beneficial way. A very good example is the excellent conversation I had with Tim Turner of Sworders at the most recent Lunch Club meeting. Stemming from my personal interest in art and design, Tim and I explored the possibilities of students from the College visiting Sworders and spending part of a day in the expert hands of Tim and his colleagues. What a fabulous enrichment activity for our students! The opportunities are endless and, who knows, they might even become the next generation of Sworders' auctioneers, operating out of the new eco-friendly premises.

I look forward to keeping you updated on further developments at The Mountfitchet Mathematics and Computing College. In the meantime if anyone wishes to discuss partnership work please do not hesitate to email me on: ppresland@mhs.myschools.net.

Paul Presland
Deputy Head

A BAD AIRPORT IDEA

The decision by BAA to charge £1 for collecting and dropping-off passengers is justifiably raising the hackles of local drivers, many of them just doing a good turn for a neighbour or coach passenger. What can we do? For a start write to our MP., copy to BAA.

Ed.



Stansted Evening Women's Institute

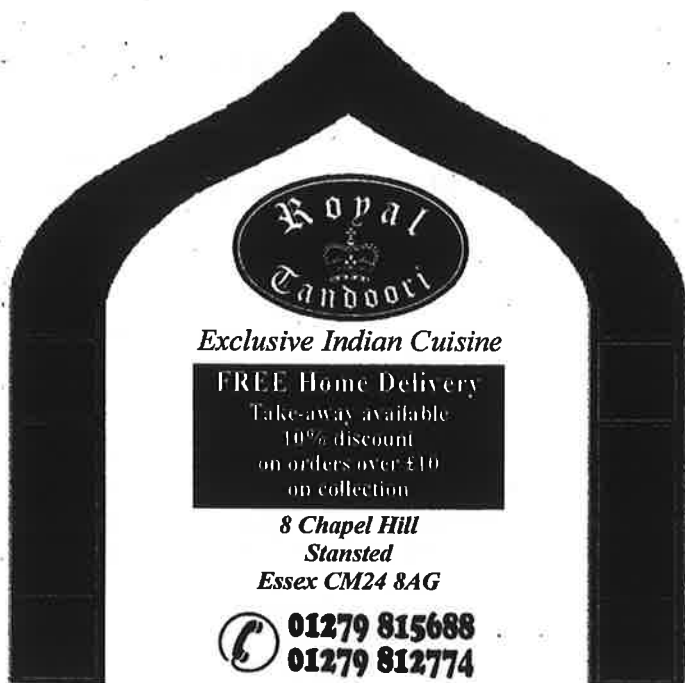
Our meeting for October came after one of those perfect early autumn days when the sun shines and the leaves on the trees glow and every one smiles. Members were back from their holidays and the hall soon filled up, everyone eager to hear our speaker for the evening, Terrence Rockall with his talk on the 'History of Fingerprinting' - and what a fascinating talk it proved to be. Terrence joined the Met as a police cadet and became a constable, but a few years later after an injury, he had to leave and joined the National Fingerprint Office at New Scotland Yard. The training was seven years to qualify as a fingerprint expert and with promotion over the years he eventually retired as Deputy Head of Branch of the National Fingerprint Office at New Scotland Yard. During his career he led teams of fingerprint personnel at major crime scenes including the notorious Dennis Nilsen case and appeared in a television documentary and on radio.

With the aid of slides he showed us the three main types of fingerprints - arches, loops and whorls, and explained how these are formed on our fingers fairly early on in development in the womb and, of course, never change. Each fingerprint is unique so that even the development of DNA has not meant that fingerprinting has become redundant - DNA can be shared by more than one person e.g. twins. By 1898 fingerprinting began to be used for everyone in prison and the first murder case solved by this method was in 1905. The national collection is all on paper at Scotland Yard. During the coffee break he invited us to come up and have our fingerprints taken on a special card which we were allowed to keep - so we won't go in to the collection! He said mine was quite unusual so that I would be very easy to trace - not sure if that is a good thing or not!

Members were reminded that a new committee would be elected in November and were urged to stand. Our Christmas dinner will be held at a new venue this December at The Ash, Burton End to which we are all looking forward. A Carol Service is being held at Chelmsford Cathedral in early December and the Christmas shopping trip is taking place on 25th November, so even though most of us don't want to start thinking about Christmas too soon it is already upon us. Our competition for 'A favourite ring' brought out some really lovely examples, which I gather the speaker's wife found very hard to judge. Before going home we all enjoyed our glass of wine provided by Maisie Bunting, which we drank in her honour and to commemorate our 46th year. Photographs were taken to send to her and we hope she is settling well into her new life in Cornwall.

Our meeting next month will be the Annual Meeting when we look back over the past year and remember some of the things we have done - come along and hear about them and join in the ones planned for next year!

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UTTLESFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL

Anti-Social Behaviour

Following the problems Stansted experienced during the summer, the District Council organised a multi-agency meeting to focus on this topic. Present at Stansted Youth Centre were representatives from Stansted Police, British Transport Police, the Youth Centre, Mountfitchet School, Uttlesford officers, a ONE train driver, and Peter Jones, Ruth Clifford and myself from the Parish Council. I found the meeting encouraging as it was looking at ways forward to combat anti-social behaviour. One of the things that is important at such meetings is the sharing of information. What I found disturbing was the evidence from the British Transport police and the ONE train driver. Clearly some youths, perhaps under the influence of alcohol, are literally taking their lives in their own hands. With overhead pylons and express trains going through Stansted station, going onto the track is a crazy thing to do. I am old enough and realistic enough to know that agencies can only do so much. A lot depends on the support we get from the local community. It also depends on parents taking an interest in the welfare of their children. It also requires dialogue with youngsters themselves.

Stansted Skate Park

The application for £20,000 of funding towards Phase 2 will have been considered by the full Council during October. The Council has already provided £19,000 towards Phase 1 in 2004. We have also supported Saffron Walden Skate Park and Great Dunmow Skate Park has put in a request for funding.

November Area Panel Meeting

The next South West Area Panel meeting of which I am Chairman will be on Thursday 23rd November. It will be held in the Free Church (formerly the URC) Hall, Chapel Hill, and will commence at 7.00pm. The main topic of the meeting will be a presentation from Essex County Highways. Their Area Manager, Davina Millerschip, will be present along with County Councillor Ray Gooding. At the start of each area panel meeting, there is an opportunity for members of the public to raise any issue not on the agenda.

Uttlesford Health Profile

The Department of Health has just published their health profile for the district. Key features are:

- Uttlesford is one of the healthiest places in England
- Life expectancy is higher than the national average.
- Both men and women have low and improving death rates from heart disease and stroke.
- There are low numbers with diabetes.
- Of concern are lifestyle estimates: 1 in 6 smokes, 1 in 6 binge drinks, 1 in 6 are obese and only 1 in 3 eats healthily

Councillor Geoffrey Sell Tel: 815925
Email: cllrSell@uttlesford.gov.uk

Airport Update

The logjam on the airport planning application was unblocked in September. BAA and other organisations have now started to provide the outstanding information that the

Council's officers need to be able to make a recommendation to committee members on whether or not to approve the application for extended use of the runway. The end of November could bring a decision. At the time of writing there has been no announcement from BAA on where they want to build a second runway.

In October I discovered an alternative to flying abroad on holiday. Catherine and I went all the way to Marrakech and the Atlas mountains in Morocco by train and boat. The benefits of rail travel were: far less greenhouse gas emissions; visits to places like Paris, Madrid, Toledo, Gibraltar and Tangier en route; and sleeper train travel overnight that saves on hotel bills. In fact, you get more for your money than by flying. There is a very useful web site where you can find facts about rail travel from the UK at <http://www.seat61.com/>

Street Lighting

The County Council has come up with a plan for switching off streetlights in a handful of side streets in Stansted. They have produced a set of criteria for excluding from the scheme areas like the main roads. The county says it is going to consult on its proposals, though I am in the dark about how this will be done.

Councillor Alan Dean Tel: 813 579
Email: cllrdean@uttlesford.gov.uk



The children have been continuing with their topic about Autumn and have been on many 'Autumn walks' around the village. They enjoyed a trip to Hatfield Forest where they followed 'Tiggy's Hedgehog Trail' and built a hedgehog house. Harvest was celebrated and the children delivered baskets of food donated by themselves to the residents of Norman's Court. The children have also been introduced to cooking, with rice krispie cakes being one of the delicious things they have made.

The pre-school staff have attended a number of courses this term in order to enhance their professional development, including courses on child protection and allergy awareness.

If you are interested in a place at 'Rainbow Tots' (age 18 months to two and a half years), please contact Tina South on 814371. If you are interested in a place at the pre-school, please contact Gill Pursglove on 814701 for further information.

Kate Maginn
Rainbow Committee

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BENTFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL

School News

Children like to be busy, so here at Bentfield we offer a wide range of after school activities ranging from sport (tag rugby, football, hockey, netball) to music (recorder groups, band, choir) to the not so usual (chess, aerobics, Makaton) so there is something for everyone! Our school also offers both a Breakfast Club (from 7.45am) and an After School Kids Club (until 6.00pm).

Classes have been out and about locally. Hatfield Forest was the venue for both Class 1 and Class 2 and, although they did not travel far, they had a wonderful time learning about and making sculptures. Classes 3 and 4 have been finding out about Christianity this term and walked to St John's Church to look at the church building and its interior.

If you are interested in either a Nursery or Reception place in September 2007, and would like to visit the school, please give us a ring and we would be very pleased to arrange one for you. Our wonderful Messy Play started again on 18th September. This is great fun, and runs in the Nursery on Mondays from 1.30pm to 3.00pm. It is open to children 18 months and older. If you are interested contact the school or just turn up!

PTA News

Meanwhile, the PTA has also been very busy organising fundraising events for the children and their parents and friends. On Thursday 12th October we held a very enjoyable Cheese and Wine evening/AGM in school.

On Saturday 14th October Rebecca Carter entertained and challenged us all with another of her legendary Music Quiz nights. This was a hugely popular event as always and we consumed a total of sixteen dishes of delicious moussaka cooked by our own Olly Pocknell. We are very grateful to Rebecca for all the work she put into creating another super evening and enabling us to raise a substantial amount of money for the school at the same time!

On Friday 20th October, the last day of the half term, the children had great fun showing off their moves on the dance floor at the School Disco!

We are very pleased to announce that Ladybird Outdoor Classrooms began work on our outdoor classroom on Monday 23rd October! This really is a very exciting project and we are delighted to be in a position to undertake the funding of such a major development for the school.

This Half Term sees two of our most popular family events, the Sparkler Party and the traditional Christmas Fair. The first event is our annual Sparkler Party this coming Friday 3rd November, from 6.30-8.00pm. As well as sparklers for the children, there will be many of the old favourites including Apple Bobbing, Donut Munching, sweets and drinks, Bat the Rat, Glow sticks and truly revolting Dare Boxes for the very brave! Not to mention hot dogs and delicious home-made soup to keep us all warm! Admission is £2 including sparklers and, as always, there will be a clearly defined, marshalled area, which will be the only place where sparklers are

allowed. The whole school will have a special assembly about safety issues relating to fireworks and all children must wear gloves and bring a responsible adult with them, or they will not be allowed into the sparkler area.

Preparations are well underway for this year's Christmas Fair on the afternoon of Saturday 2nd December – and, looking way ahead to next Summer, Music in the Park has already been booked for Saturday 14th July 2007!

Alison Thompson,
PTA Co-Chairman

Stansted Tennis Club



Tournament Results:

Adult/Child Tournament

This popular tournament, now entering its fourth year of competition, attracted 12 pairs. The groups were divided into three groups of four pairs who played against each other in the round-robin phase. The final was won for the second successive year by Martyn Taplin, who this year teamed up with younger son Thomas to beat father and daughter pair, Chris and Ruby Hollis.

Clower Secondary Doubles

There were 14 entrants taking part in this year's tournament. The shield was won by Ben Taplin and Tim Berry, who defeated Alex Lupton and Charlie Kirby in the final.

Primary Doubles Trophy

Ten players competed for this trophy and this year's winners were Thomas Taplin and Matt Hollis, who beat Henry Kirby and Richard Berry in the final.

Christmas Event

The committee are still in the process of arranging this year's 'Christmas Do'. The venue is still to be decided, but the date for your diaries will be Saturday 9th December.

Coaching

Chris Hollis (Tel: 319155) and Martyn Taplin (Tel: 816386) are available for coaching. Please give either of them a call if you would like to find out more.

Club Sessions

With the nights now drawing in, we are lucky to be able to use the new floodlights. Wednesday evening open club session will now continue throughout the winter months. All members, old and new, old and young are encouraged to come along.

Contacts:

If you would like further information, please contact Richard Mott (Secretary) 466348, Janet Hollis (Chairman) 812073 or Daphne Lunnon (Membership secretary) 817574.

Chris Hollis

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An authentic Italian restaurant, serving freshly cooked, authentic Italian food is what's promised by Bada Bing! in Stansted. Peter Ruggiero saw his dream of opening his own restaurant come true in November last year, when he opened this superb restaurant in Lower Street. Brought up surrounded by his many Italian aunts, cousins and 'Pop', who are all passionate about their food, Peter was very keen to open his own establishment. Together with wife Angie, he takes a great deal of pride in using only the very best fresh local produce and a host of authentic Italian suppliers.

"This has been a dream of mine for many years and to finally see it come to fruition makes me both excited and very proud" exclaimed Peter. Top chef Phil Davies works alongside Peter and Angie, as well as second chef Jason Shimmen. Phil has been enthused by the fabulous Ruggiero family recipes, but has also brought his own innovative style and added dishes and versatility to what is now a superb choice on the Bada Bing menu. The restaurant is already making a name for itself locally, as more and more customers discover the delights of this establishment for themselves. Bada Bing closed for two weeks during September while further work was carried out to expand the restaurant into another part of the building. For a chance to experience the very best of Italian cuisine, right here on your doorstep, call Bada Bing and book a table today. Once you've visited, you're sure to go back time and time again!

Bada Bing! 30 Lower Street, Stansted. Tel: 817177.



A REMINDER



This year we are combining the December and January 'Links' into one issue which is being published in December. The following issue will therefore appear in February 2007. Conversely we are publishing the 'Link' in both August and September next year, ensuring that we still have eleven issues in the year.

This month (November) is the renewal month so we hope that you will re-subscribe as usual. Next year there may be a different story, but do not fear, the 'Link' will carry on!

Editor



STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Once again, we were pleased to welcome Mr Robert Barltrop to our meeting to learn from him about another fascinating slice of life. Having heard previously unusual stories of the London he knew as a boy, he told us, this time, of life in a circus. One of his three sons went to Drama School and, while there, he got married. Having completed his course, he needed an Equity Card before he could get a job. He did, however, see an advertisement for a married couple to work in Hoffman's Circus and having confirmed that such employment would qualify for a Card, he and his wife joined the Circus - and stayed in the life ever since! In fact, his second son was so taken with the idea, he joined as well in later years.

Robert had always loved the circus and could remember the first one he was taken to see at the age of three. It still delights him today as a world apart, always on the move. There are about 30 to 35 circuses in Britain today, some small family ones with three or four largish ones. He described the process of 'pulling down' and 'building up' at every town and explained the sort of personnel employed, including the two types of clowns, the Joeys and the Augustes. The former comes from Joseph Grimaldi and the latter from the knock-about comics, such as Charlie Chaplin. Even the performers - with all their unique ability in their acts - took part in the task of getting the Circus ready at the time of moving and then preparing the Circus. A matter of great pride was leaving the site clean when they moved on.

Although often linked (mistakenly) with the Romans, the circus as we know it was set up in London in 1763 by an ex-cavalryman to display his equestrian tricks. He was soon joined by talented friends and later, through circumstances, was forced to start travelling around the countryside. It was around this time that details like the size of the ring became standardised and eventually the circus became international.

It is a matter of pride also if circus members can claim a connection with an old circus family - newcomers are known as 'Jossers'! Robert also gave some interesting descriptions of the language used by them (parlarly) and the arrangements made for the education of the children. Women have always been paid the same as men and with all his time at the Circus, he had never seen cruelty to animals, even though an Act is going through Parliament banning all wild animals. We were fascinated by all that Robert had to say and look forward to seeing him again. By the way, his third son? He became a policeman!

Next month, Derek Honour will be telling us of 'Capability Brown in Herts and Essex: then and now', and in December, we look forward to joining our friends in Manuden. Hope you can join us to hear Derek.

Ian Seavers

GARDEN TIPS FOR NOVEMBER.

As soon as the frost has blackened the dahlias cut off all growth and lift. Store in a frost free shed or garage upside down and check occasionally for rot.

Plant wallflowers, bellis daisy and polyanthus for spring flowering displays.

Plant new hardy plants such as shrubs, trees, fruit trees and roses while the soil is warm and moist rather than in the spring to get them well established, in case we have another hot summer and save endless watering.



STANSTED & DISTRICT LIBERAL DEMOCRATS

The Branch AGM will be held at 11.30 am on Saturday 11th November at the Stansted Day Centre, followed by the usual ploughman's lunch, 12 noon to 2.00pm.

The December ploughman's will be on Saturday 9th December at the Stansted Day Centre, 12 noon to 2.00pm. All are welcome.

The Constituency Annual Dinner will be held on Saturday 9th December at Elsenham Village Hall, 7.30 for 8.00pm. The cost is £29.50 and the speaker will be Chris Huhne (one of the candidates for the leadership election earlier this year). For further information and menu choices, please ring 814222 or 813432.

Ruth Rawlinson



MOUNTFITCHET GARDEN CLUB

Our next meetings are at 7.30pm at The Day Centre as follows. All meetings begin with coffee at 7.30pm in the Day Centre Crafton Green. Everyone is welcome.

Wednesday 1st November
Ms M Easter 'My garden through the year'
Wednesday 6th December
Mrs S Bowles 'Ecuador and Galapagos Islands'

We are holding a fundraising coffee morning from 10.00am to 12 noon on Wednesday 22nd November in the Day Centre

Raffle, Bring and Buy, Cake and Tombola stalls. Entrance 50p to include coffee.

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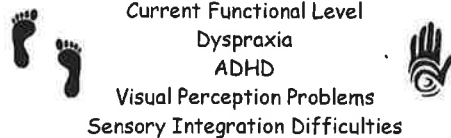
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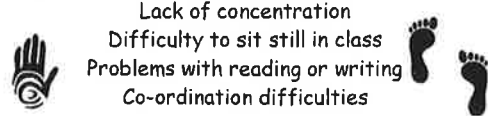
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Nature Notes

**“A woman is like a walnut tree;
The more you beat her, the better she be.”**

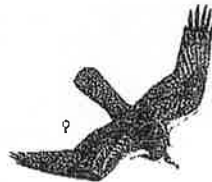
The walnut trees have generally produced a good crop this year, but whether the treatment responsible for this was dished out by the hand of nature or indirectly by the hand of man is a moot point. The abundance of conkers, acorns, sles and many other fruits is apparent when walking the lanes, but the topsy-turvy seasons have not suited all plants. For instance, dogwood is now in blossom, as it was last autumn, and it bears few berries. In days gone by this would have been a worry to those who relied on the dogwood berries to produce lamp oil for the winter.

During the second week in October I was in one of my favourite haunts sitting in the dunes on the Norfolk coast, enjoying the dazzling early morning sun and a balmy breeze. On the beach below about 80 seals were lazing a few yards



from the surf, mostly asleep with a few keeping a watchful eye open, but undisturbed by my presence. This year's pups were about two months old and had grown fast. They all looked well fed and the number of cormorants fishing out to sea indicated that fish were there. Overhead a large kestrel hovered and martins wheeled; the martins round Stansted had departed weeks ago. A hun-

dred yards or so behind me a marsh harrier was patrolling a dyke, every now and then diving into groups of smaller birds to try her luck and getting mobbed in return.



After a while a party of four people turned up and we exchanged views on why the seals always frequented this particular place. As they moved off to find their own vantage point they apologised for disturbing my peace, but considerate people are never an intrusion and one usually learns something new during a conversation. On my way back I reflected on the probability that 20 million people lived within a two hour drive and a 30 minute walk of that spot and yet one rarely sees as many as ten of them at any one time. But the same situation exists much nearer to home. One only has to walk for half an hour out of Stansted to experience solitude and see all sorts of interesting things.

Felix



ST. MARY'S C OF E (FOUNDATION) PRIMARY SCHOOL



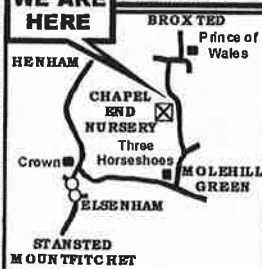
Already the Autumn Term is half way through and some wonderful work has been accomplished in all the classes. Our Year 6 class has had an exciting week in Aylmerton Study Centre in Norfolk, where they took part in team-building and problem-solving activities. They learned orienteering, tested their courage and ingenuity on a Pirates' Assault Course and their sea legs on a visit to a seal colony! All the pupils and the staff had a great week and laid the foundation for a well-bonded and community-minded Year 6.

All the Key Stage 2 classes spent the day at Colne Valley Railway, where all the activities were on a Victorian theme – Music Hall, Punch and Judy, Street Market, the Royal Train and much more. The day was a huge success and many thanks to all the parents who produced such super costumes – all the children dressed the part!

We celebrated harvest with a Harvest Festival on the theme of 'Harvest Home'. Each class presented on an aspect of the local harvest. The collection this year has been donated to Childline.

If you are new to the area, please do call to arrange a visit – we have a friendly village school atmosphere and a dedicated staff. We are always happy to meet prospective parents and their children and to show them around the school. We have a Breakfast Club open from 7.50-8.55 am each weekday. We also have an active and jolly PTFA. They have a new committee who are raring to go for a new year of fundraising for the school. Any parent who wishes to help out in any way is welcome to join in. The next event is a Christmas Shopping evening on 9th November.

Christine Tonkins
Headteacher

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STANSTED CIVIL DEFENCE 1944

Civil defence was a big element in every community's life in WW2. We are fortunate that several of those members illustrated here have been identified by residents, but there are gaps which we hope other readers can fill. It would be of interest to many if an account, however incomplete, can be given of this team, the work they did and where they met. The 'Link' would so like to hear from you.

Editor



Photo by courtesy of Mrs Linda Foster

1 Ernest Bradford	2 - Tabor	3 Ron Waterman	4 Walter Bedlow	5 Percy Smith	6 W Turner	7 - White	8 ?	
9 Laurie Robinson	10 - Carter	11 Joey Watson	12 Jack Mumford	13 Vic Turner	14 ?	15 Tom Levey	16 Eddie Roberts	17 - Hanscomb
18 ?	19 Len Powell	20 ?	21 - Ridgwell	22 ?	23 - Brown	24 ?	25 Hubert Caton	26 Harry Bradford



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DEXA SCANNING AT THE STANSTED CHIROPRACTIC AND BACK PAIN CLINIC

How many of us consider Osteoporosis?

Not many. Most of us think that Osteoporosis is something that happens to other people and won't affect us until we are old and frail. But that's just it - by the time we are 'frail' we could already have had this silent disease for several years.

What is Osteoporosis?

Osteoporosis literally means 'porous bones'. Our bones are made up of a thick outer shell and a strong inner honeycomb mesh of tiny struts of bone. During Osteoporosis some of these struts become thin or break. This makes the bone more fragile and prone to breakage. You cannot see or feel your bones getting thinner. Many people are unaware of any problems until they break a bone or start to lose height. Broken wrists, hips and spinal bones are the most common fractures in people with osteoporosis.

What causes Osteoporosis?

Two types of cells are constantly at work in our bones. One set builds up new bone while another set breaks down old bone. Up to our mid-20s the construction cells work harder building strength into our skeleton. From our 40s onwards, the demolition cells overtake and our bones gradually lose their density as a natural part of ageing. However, other factors influence bone density and there are a number of risk factors to consider. The process is still not fully understood but research continues to build up a picture of the factors that influence our bones.

How common is Osteoporosis?

Osteoporosis is widely considered to be a woman's disease as it affects 1 in 3 women over 50. However, it also affects 1 in 12 men over the age of 50. In fact, up to 20% of fractures of spinal bones (leading to height loss) and 30% of hip fractures occur in men.

Can I be tested for Osteoporosis?

A DEXA scan can be used to determine bone density from which the risk of fracture can be determined. This is a straightforward and safe test using a very low dose of X-ray and gives accurate results.

Dr Gurden and Dr Morelli, who are both members of the National Osteoporosis Society, and all our Chiropractors have to consider the possibility of Osteoporosis when assessing and treating patients. Dr Gurden says "because you cannot see or feel your bones getting thinner you will probably be quite unaware of any problems with your bone health. Osteoporosis is a silent disease and, for most people, the first sign that something is wrong can be when they break a bone or start to suffer with back pain. The good news is that Osteoporosis is not inevitable and is largely both treatable and preventable. The Stansted Chiropractic and Back Pain Clinic offer a DEXA scanning service to assess fracture risk and to aid in the diagnosis of Osteoporosis. The service, which is available at our Stansted Clinic, is carried out by fully trained staff and is quick and painless."

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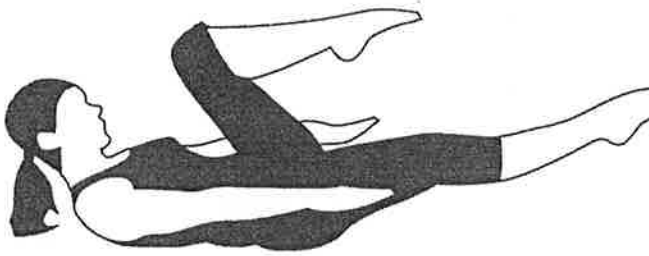
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WHAT'S YOUR POISON ?

As vets we are lucky to have a number of sources of information or organisations available to assist us. One of these organisations is the Veterinary Poisons Information Service. We are able to ring up these wonderful people night or day and ask for details of possible toxic effects and best treatment for the huge and varied types of cases of poisoning of animals that we see in general practice. The VPIS also publishes an annual analysis of all its enquiry data. I was reading their 2005 data the other day and it was fascinating stuff.

The top four enquiries about possible poisonings were for ibuprofen, chocolate, rat poison and paracetamol. There are of course some species differences; dogs are much more sensitive to chocolate poisoning and cats to paracetamol. It was also interesting to note that these top four hadn't changed since 2001, so our animals are still being poisoned by the same old things. Further down the list were several human drugs that seem to crop up every year. Oral contraceptives are one that dogs seem to be able to get hold of and cause much embarrassment to the owner when they have to ring up and ask about possible side effects (usually none, you'll be pleased to hear!). The human anti-inflammatory diclofenac is another one that seems to crop up regularly. There is also one dog anti-inflammatory that a few years ago the manufacturers decided to market in a more palatable tablet and they have in fact proved so palatable that some dogs have sniffed out the bottle and eaten the lot!

Some poisons seem to be reported less frequently such as paraquat, which is welcome as the majority of these cases in the past were thought to result from the malicious action of neighbours. In fact, although clients are often concerned about deliberate poisonings, in our experience these are very rare.

Among the new entries in the data in the last few years are lilies and grapes. It is thought that media coverage has been the source of the increase in enquiries. I have talked about lily poisoning in cats before. It seems that as the flowers are more popular in the home the potential for poisoning in cats has been highlighted and it is now fairly well recognised that lilies have the potential to cause kidney failure in cats. Grapes, raisins and sultanas should be kept out of the way of dogs (along with chocolate, onions and macadamia nuts), as ingestion of large quantities can again cause kidney problems.

Some poisonings have a seasonal incidence. We always get a few cases of slug pellet poisoning in the spring when people are planting out seedlings, and Christmas always brings the odd case of chocolate poisoning. One year I remember a client rushing into the surgery with his dog in his arms shouting that his dog had had a fit or was dying as it couldn't stand up and didn't seem to be aware of its surroundings. As I started to examine the dog lying on the table, it gave a huge sigh and a rather satisfied burp that smelled suspiciously of alcohol. When I asked the owner if there was a possibility that the dog could have had access to alcohol, he looked rather guilty and said they had been giving the dog a little drink of Advocaat as he

really liked it and funnily enough he had noticed that the bottle had been knocked off the table as he picked the dog up to bring it in. One embarrassed owner and one dog with a very big hangover the next day!

Ilse Pedler
Partner
Mercer & Hughes
Veterinary Surgeons



Huw Johnson Club

What a lovely time we all had at the Bowling Centre in Bishop's Stortford. Nick had three strikes and ended up with a score way above everyone else. The staff there give us a warm welcome every time we go and we say a big thank you to them all.

We have had one volunteer to act as an escort for us on the minibus. If you are thinking of helping us in this way do give me a ring on 812284. We would love to hear from you and we promise not to twist your arm if you make an enquiry.

Our next event is our Coffee Morning at Stansted Day Centre on Wednesday 8th November from 10.00am to 12 noon. Gifts for the Bring and Buy stall are welcome but not second hand clothes. Do join us on that morning.

Our concert will take place on Friday 15th December at St Mary's School and we look forward to seeing you there. Please look out for posters.

Marion Johnson

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On Friday 29th September we joined with many other people throughout the country to drink cups of coffee and to support this very worthwhile cause. At 3 St John's Lane, the home of Gill Robinson, there was a large marquee with bric à brac, tombola, and Christmas cards; in the garden, a plant sale and auction; and in the house a huge raffle and a large cake stall. The weather was difficult again but approximately 90 people came along and we raised the magnificent total of £1,023. Grateful thanks must go to those who donated so very generously, to all the helpers and to those who attended and spent their money. It was an excellent example of community spirit – something often missing in this day and age.

Another Macmillan event was a coffee morning at the home of Christine and Bill Stiles which raised well over £300.

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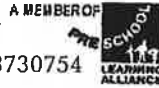
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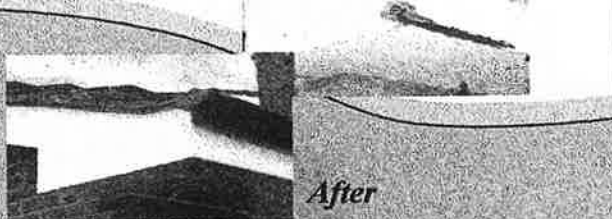
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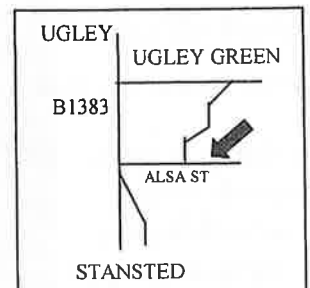
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STANSTED LUNCH CLUB

Future Stansted Lunch Club Lunches and Other Dates

As we enter our 10th year, do not forget to put 29th November firmly in your diaries. We shall be back at the Old Bell, Stansted where Dai Grace of NatWest will be our host and sponsor. Usual time: 1.00pm for 1.30pm.

I am delighted that, since the last issue, Barry Root of Essex Bloodstock, Stephen Mussard of The St James's Place Partnership, Karine McLaren of Hewitsons and Guy Schooling of Sworders, have all agreed to sponsor lunches in 2007. The future programme is (all Wednesdays):

29th November 2006 – NatWest Business Centre

24th January 2007 – Essex Bloodstock

28th March 2007 – The Bishop's Stortford High School

23rd May 2007 – The St. James's Place Partnership

July 2007 – **Sponsor needed**

September 2007 – Hewitsons

November 2007 – G E Sworder & Sons

September Lunch

The September Lunch at Sworders Auction Rooms, attended by well over 50 members, was another hugely interesting and enjoyable occasion with the now familiar backcloth of a sale preview and warm hospitality. We are extremely grateful to Guy and his colleagues for their continuing support and generosity for the fifth time in our nine years history. And more is to come in November 2007 when it is hoped that Sworders will have taken up residence in its new building outside the village. It was interesting to learn of networking successes through the Club: Sworders has already used the training facilities of The Mountfitchet Mathematics and Computing College and now there is talk of visits to Sworders by MM&CC to familiarise students with auctioneering and the joys and interest of antiques (read more about the College below).

New Members

It was good to welcome a number of new faces to our ranks in September:

Steve Eriksen

Julie Lenton

Rupert O'Flynn

Kirk O'Loughlin

Gail Robertson

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G E Sworder & Sons - Evening Viewings

Sworders Fine Art Auctioneers are pleased to announce extended viewing for their regular Wednesday Victoriana and Decorative Auctions, which will now be on view on Tuesdays from 2.00—7.00pm and on the morning of the sale from 9.00am. The auctions commence at 11.00am. Further details from www.sworder.co.uk.

Email: auctions@sworder.co.uk or tel: 817778

The Mountfitchet Mathematics and Computing College

Following the Lunch Club's support for their recent bid for college status, Paul Presland has written to describe the changes. These appear elsewhere in the 'Link' under their M2C2 acronym.

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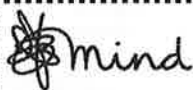
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