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Front cover:
View from a Permissive
Path by Alan Wheeler
enhanced by
Paul Burt Photography

Stansted Mountfitchet Village Magazine
The Link
www.stanstedlink.org.uk

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CONTRIBUTIONS *Up to 300 words in Word format. Photographs to be sent as separate attachments (jpeg).*
By email (preferred) to editor@stanstedlink.org.uk by noon on 9th September for the October issue or by hand/post by noon on 7th September to 7 Blythwood Gardens, Stansted CM24 8HG.

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EDITORIAL



This issue of The Link is awash with lovely pictures to cheer you all. Some of these photographs are really old and we are so privileged to be able to see them; our thanks to John Salmon for these.

You will barely recognise the picture of the junction of Chapel Hill and Cambridge Road, with the cows munching serenely near the fountain. Thanks also to Alan Dean for drawing our attention to the beautiful new permissive paths system, and to Alan Wheeler for sending us his lovely photograph from the paths, which you see on this month's cover. The map is on page 4. There is a very important article from Stansted Surgery on page 3, and our thanks for this most helpful information.

In view of the fact that there are so few upcoming events, you will see that there is no 'What's On' page. While COVID-19 continues to sabotage everything on the planet, it does mean that this is a really good opportunity to enable you, our readers, to submit articles that we might perhaps not always have space for: Krishna's View from the Bench being an outstanding example of this. So, if you have a burning desire to write about something you feel strongly about (an adventure perhaps, or a holiday), or you have taken some great photos and would love to see them in print, do send them to us at editor@stanstedlink.org.uk.



DAISY MAY'S FARM

www.daisymaysfarm.org

WE ARE OPEN and boy, our animals are so enjoying seeing all our lovely visitors! They are all having such a super time being fed and having a fuss made of them, so please keep on coming. We are open every day except Wednesdays and Sundays 10.00am-4.00pm and we are operating on a first come, first served basis, so make sure you get to us in plenty of time so you don't miss out on anything. See our website or Facebook page for more information. Once you have paid, you will be given some animal food and you can visit and feed our animals and see how much they have grown. You can also view the small animals' enclosure, have fun on the play equipment, have a picnic (you will need to bring your own), play in our new den building area and have a splash in the stream. You can visit our old friends the horses and explore our brand-new woodland walk that is simply duckitastic; there is an awful lot to do, so make sure you are not late. You will see that our lambs and Gertrude, the kid goat, have really grown and we are eagerly waiting the imminent arrival of piglets! We have a variety of chickens, ducks, geese, guinea fowl, quails and bantams.

As you can imagine, the past few months have been really tough for us financially so if you would like to help, you can



do this in two ways. We have an **Amazon Wish List** with all sorts of things on it; nothing is terribly expensive, but everything is much needed. Please go to: www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/1B5UNRLQREZDL?ref=cm_sw_sm_r_wl_mw_jrTk174ecxfGq. We also have a **Crowd Funding page**: www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/alison-thomson-5 to donate to this appeal. Anything you can give is massively appreciated. The farm is in Hall Road, Elsenham CM22 6DN.

Elaine Terry
Tel: 07747 787973

**WE ARE
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www.macmillan.org.uk

Virtual Coffee

Our first Virtual Coffee to raise money for Macmillan Cancer Support will take place on **Saturday 26th September** at 3.00pm via Zoom. We have been holding an annual coffee morning at our home for the last 18 years, but this year we will be going online with help from our daughter Lucy. If you would like to join in with online activities such as recipe ideas or a raffle, join us as described above. Please visit Lucy's blog to find out more over the next few weeks: <https://stileslucy.wixsite.com/coffee>.

If you would like to contribute to Macmillan Cancer Support but will not be able to join us online, there are various ways to do this. You can make a cheque payable to Macmillan Cancer Support and drop into or post to us at Old Lane House, Church Road CM24 8PY on or after Saturday 26th September; or you can donate online at www.macmillan.org.uk/coffee or telephone 0330 102 7890 and use your credit or debit card. We do hope you will be able to help Macmillan Cancer Support this year. Thanking everyone for their generosity.

Chris and Bill Stiles
Tel 813172

Thank you to all our patients for their continued understanding and support while we weather the storm of COVID-19. We share your frustration and wish to be able to return our service to normal but we have to keep following the guidance, to protect patients and our staff. This means our front door is still locked, and access to our premises is limited to invited patients only. If you have any enquiries for the surgery, please telephone, or email us in the first instance. To help us deal with the morning time demand on our phone lines, please call for test results after 2.00pm. Please ring the buzzer downstairs to gain access to the surgery if you have been asked to attend in person. The intercom system is not designed for long conversations, just to screen for access control, so please telephone or email the surgery with all enquiries. We ask all visitors to the surgery to wear a face covering when attending the surgery in person (except children aged under 11).

Our plans for Flu 2020

Delivering the flu campaign this year will significantly impact our workload, and we ask for patients' continued support to get this done as safely as possible.

1. All those patients who **were advised to shield** during the pandemic will be vaccinated **first. The nursing team will run a separate clinic for these patients on Wednesday 23rd September**, and we will be contacting this group directly with instructions.
2. We will be using the **three Saturday clinics** (26th September, 3rd October and 17th October) to vaccinate the bulk of our **at risk group**, ie **all** those aged 65 and over, and those with an ongoing chronic condition aged 18 to 64; those who are usually invited annually for a flu vaccination. Patients will be invited in a staggered way, by letters of the alphabet. Entry will be on a one-in-one-out basis, and all queueing will be outside the surgery, with social distancing in place. We have many clinicians and support staff to help, and we hope that these clinics will run quickly and efficiently. You **do not** need to book an appointment if you are able to attend in your allocated timeframe.

** to see the definition of the *at risk group*, please go to our website, flu 2020 page

Saturday 26th September

TIME to attend Surname starting with letter

9.00am to 10.00am	A and E
10.00am to 12noon	B
12noon to 1.00pm	CLOSED FOR LUNCH
1.00pm to 3.00pm	C
3.00pm to 4.00pm	D, I and J

Saturday 3rd October

TIME to attend Surname starting with letter

9.00am to 10.00am	F, K and O
10.00am to 11.00am	G
11.00am to 12noon	H
12noon to 1.00pm	CLOSED FOR LUNCH
1.00pm to 2.00pm	L,N
2.00pm to 3.00pm	M
3.00pm to 4.00pm	P

Saturday 17th October

TIME to attend Surname starting with letter

9.00am to 10.00am	Q,R
10.00am to 11.00am	S
11.00am to 12noon	T,U,V, X,Y Z
12noon to 1.00pm	CLOSED FOR LUNCH
1.00pm to 2.00pm	W
2.00pm to 4.00pm	Reserved only for those who absolutely cannot attend in their allocated timeframe – by appt only.

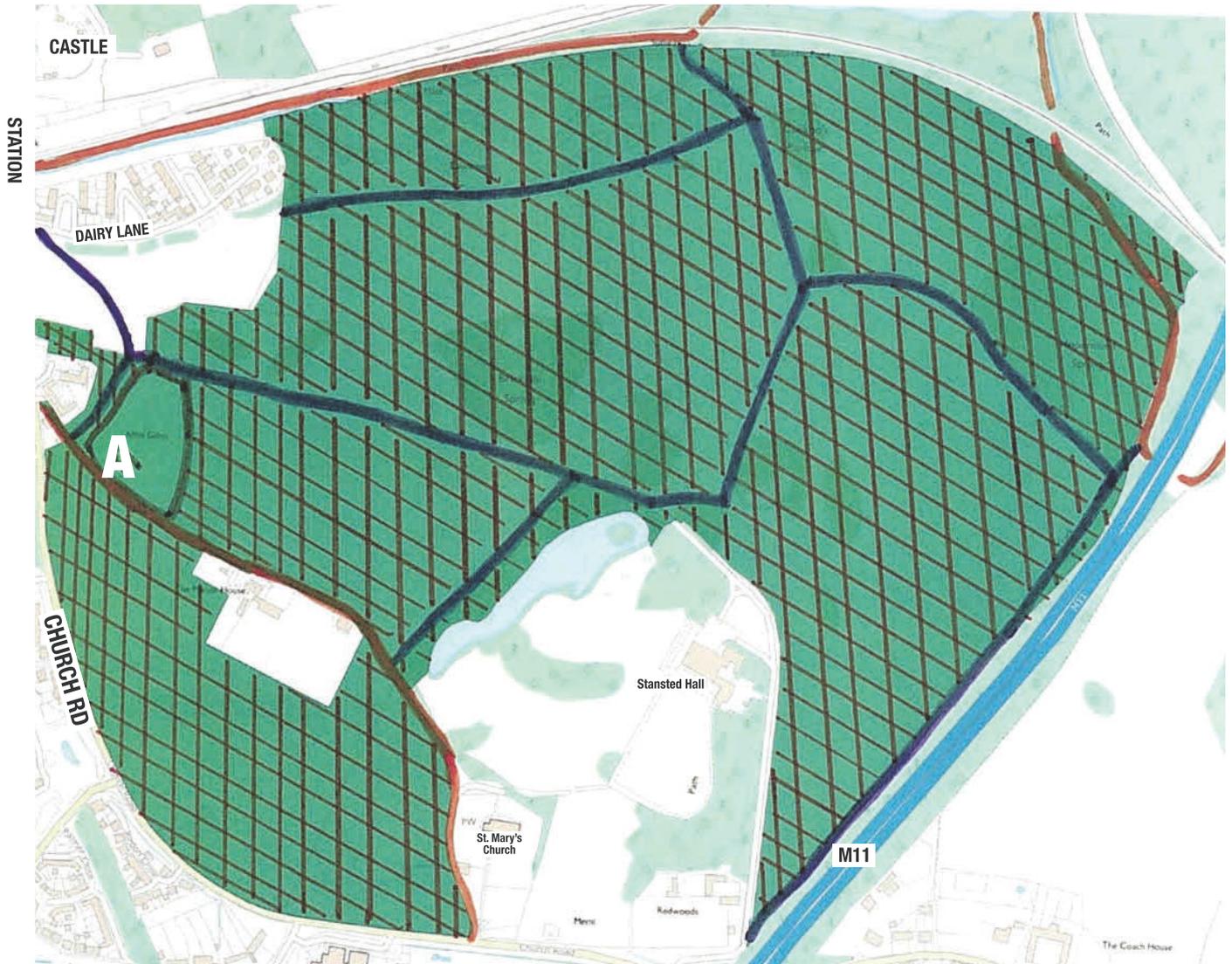
3. All children **UNDER THE AGE OF 18** will be vaccinated on a different day and we will be in touch with those parents and/or guardians once we know when the childhood flu vaccination will be available to us.
4. Patients who are housebound should contact the surgery if they wish to have a flu jab this year. We will arrange a date/dates for home visits once we have an idea of the number of patients requiring a home visit.
5. The new cohort announced this year will be done during November and December but we will endeavour to get this done as soon as we are advised how to source the additional vaccination required. This cohort includes healthy patients aged 50 to 64, who did not qualify for a flu jab in the past, as well as the household members of shielding patients. Currently, this cohort has not been confirmed by NHS England; we await further guidance

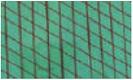
We have created a **FLU 2020** page on our website, which we will keep updated as and when updated guidelines are received from NHS England and Public Health England.

Teresa Buglass
Practice Manager
Tel: 813200

Elms Farm

Permissive Path Routes



-  **Permissive Path**
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VIEWS AND WALKS ACROSS STANSTED PARK



RSPB STORT VALLEY LOCAL GROUP

www.rspb.org.uk/groups/stortvalley

A growing village, remains of a Norman castle, an 18th century landscape by Humphry Repton, an 1840s railway line and a brook newly bridged and widened to attract ducks, geese and herons. These are just some of the sights that can be enjoyed from the permissive path network opened during the COVID-19 lockdown. The new network of footpaths, with their many connections to places far and wide are part of the community benefits that came with the Elms Farm development.

Alan Dean
Tel: 813579

(See p. 21 of Stansted Network pages)

STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET EVENING WI



We held a gathering in July on the Recreation Ground; more than 30 members came with chairs and sat suitably apart. It was good just to see each other and know that we were all still around. The longer hair may be a different colour and made it difficult to recognise some! We hope to do this again this month; many of us have been to the hairdressers, so probably more back to normal. We are unable to meet in the Day Centre yet, so meetings with a speaker are not possible. The Committee have decided to hold our Annual Meeting in October via Zoom – hurrah for Zoom! – so most people can participate. We should be celebrating our 60th Anniversary soon as our Institute was formed in October 1960; we still have three founder members! We will have a proper celebration party next year. Some of us have been able to meet in our gardens; they look beautiful this summer, and the flowers seem brighter somehow.

It is very sad that our Denman College is under the threat of complete closure. It is just a proposal at present, but they have had no income this year so it is unlikely that they can raise enough money to continue. We give two bursaries a year towards the cost of attending a course and many members have been going for years. I first went in the '70s. The range of things you could do there was enormous and it is poignant to read stories of Denman being the place to learn cookery or knit a hat! Denman is holding online courses. Virtual netball is available too; I think that might suit me better than actual. So, we have some things to look forward to; but I cannot invite you to our next meeting so here's hoping we can all resume our normal activities soon.



Judy Colliver
Tel: 812470



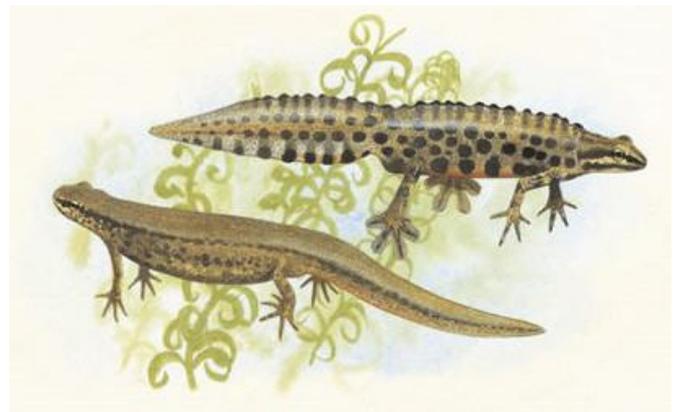
FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S CHURCH

St Mary's is still open even during these very strange times: 8.00am-5.00pm daily during the summer months. Do come and see our beautiful St Mary's roses blooming for the third time this year. They smell absolutely amazing! Please remember to wear a face covering when you are inside the church.



Lynda Dale
Chairman
Tel: 07716 099474

I wonder how many of you have looked out of the window, stood in a lane or sat on a bench and noticed some event which you would have missed if you had not timed it right. In my garden I have seen some amazing sights just because I looked at the right time. Years ago, I saw a turquoise flash of colour flying away from the pond. Surely not ... but ... it could only have been a kingfisher! Other pond events include a heron which flew the minute I saw it. A few times I have seen a grey wagtail bobbing around the pond usually the same time of year. I see frogs and spawn a-plenty and have had toads but sadly, for no obvious reason, no more. There are newts but they are elusive. Once during lockdown, I saw Mrs Blackbird tossing a long wiggly creature onto the path; pick it up, stab it, and hit it back down again. I thought she had a worm until I saw the bright orange and black spots underneath. She had caught a newt in fine breeding colour and was despatching it for food. Over the following days I saw her looking into the pond around the same time of day and yes, she got another two. At first my instinct was to shoo her away but then I reflected on the likely outcome: Mrs Blackbird and maybe her chicks with no dinner. I decided to let nature take its course and not intervene. I have not mentioned the damselflies, the pied wagtail pre-dating the dragonflies, a squirrel eating my strawberries, a tawny owl, a sparrowhawk, and, another highlight, a few visits from a hedgehog or two! Keep looking out of your window; you never know what you might see.



(Photo of newt from RSPB website)

You will not be surprised to know that our walks and talks are suspended until 31st December.

Sheila Bowles
Tel: 814973

THANK YOU

I would like to thank the many people who have sent sympathy cards, emails, letters and texts on the death of my dear wife Stella Rodgers (née Jordan). Thank you for your support and kindness.

James Rodgers (Jim)



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STANSTED VILLAGE 1940-1950

Starting at the Chapel Hill junction with Cambridge Road, going north on the left-hand side, was Frank Bull's garage. Next was Reed Cottage which became an engineering works and a restaurant, then a large open space followed by two cottages, one where the district nurse lived but unfortunately it fell down whilst being repaired! The next shop was Milton's greengrocers, now Yummies. The fish and chip shop was a butcher. Dorringtons was Miss Kitson's, a toy shop and haberdashery. Next to the alley was The Dorothy hairdressers, more recently David Lee. The next building along was Bedlows, a wheelwright. Past Hargrave Park was the army camp then the doctors' surgery. Crossing over the road was the Three Colts public house. Coming along Cambridge Road on the east side was Levy the Builder, then the Co-op; at the arch was Clarkes garage, and then Mayhews garage with petrol pumps that swung out over the pavement.



London and Stansted Furniture, an electrical store and Barclays Bank were next; Greens Stores building, which still stands, was a first-class general store.



Turning east into Chapel Hill, first was the fire station. Ecclestone's the Chemist stood on the corner of St John's Road. At the bottom of the hill was Lloyds Bank, then Matthews bike repair shop. LCM Butchers was next, Mr Wenn's gents' barbers was where Goldings now stands. The long building next door was Barret's Café. Miss Stacey came next: a vegetable and sweet shop.



The first shop in Lower Street was the Off Licence, then Robinson's wood yard (now Glasscocks). Next was Ben Turner's dairy and grocery store; in the middle on the triangle was Rawlings Café. On the other side the Dog and Duck pub and on the junction with Grove Hill stood Mumford's fish shop. Next was Stringer's Store. Dewbury the barber, Hicks corn merchants' office, the library and council office followed by Smith watch and clock repair. Then there were the butchers and Buntings the greengrocers. On the corner of Station Road was Kevil Jackson radio shop. Next was R C Johnson watch and clock repair, the next building was an old green wooden café; at the end was Mayhew's garage repair shop. On Stansted Station stood W H Smith paper shop.

John Salmon
Tel: 814789



(John had been meaning to write a recent history of the village for several years; lockdown gave him the chance to do so and he has kindly shared this with us – part 2 to follow in October. This should evoke memories for long-term residents. The pictures are from John's collection of postcards; we thank him so very much for the loan thereof. The photo above was taken around 1900, and shows the fountain as it was at the junction of Chapel Hill and Cambridge Road.)





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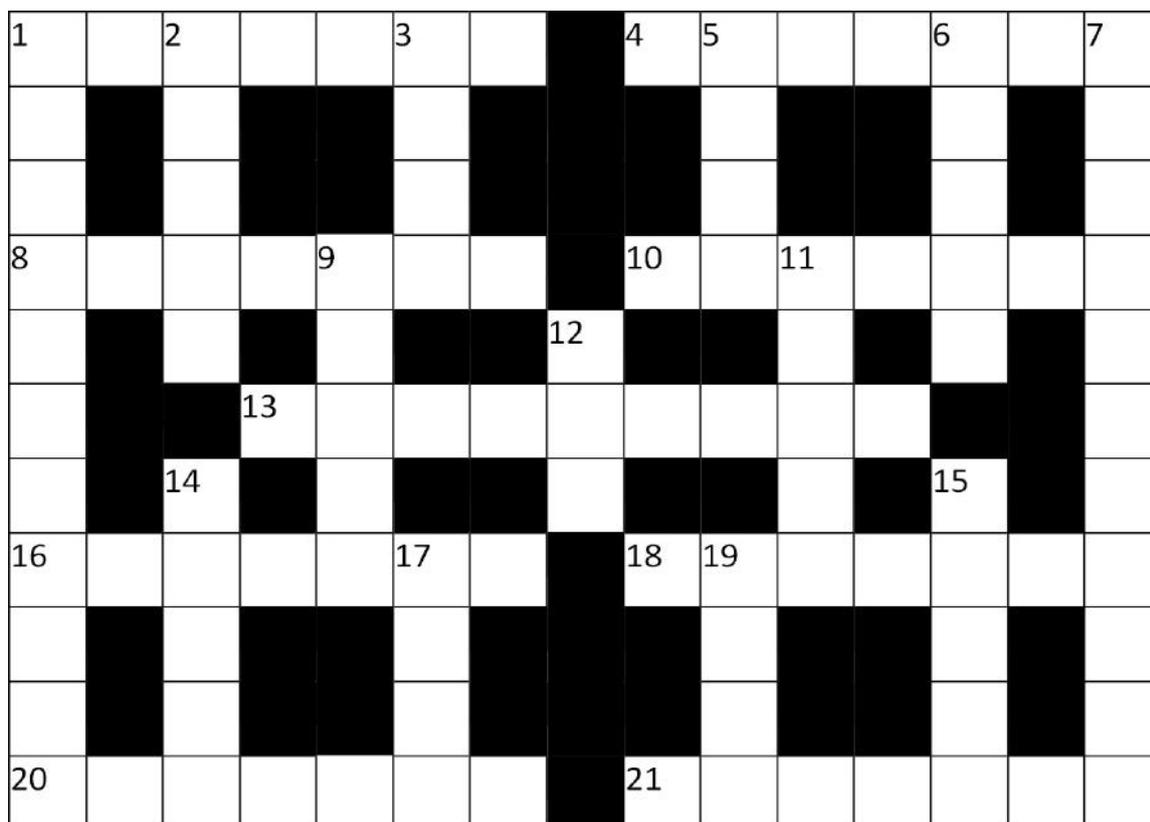
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FUN AND GAMES PUZZLE TIME



Compiled by Roger Wardle. Answers on page 33

ACROSS

- 1 Useless, appalling , awful (7)
- 4 Eye make-up (7)
- 8 For smoker's butts (7)
- 10 Breakdown of the system (7)
- 13 Insistently (9)
- 16 Jumble the letters around (7)
- 18 Jack Tar used this to haul the ropes (7)
- 20 US State (7)
- 21 Mr. Electricity and his cage (7)

DOWN

- 1 Magician's mantra (11)
- 2 Posh boat (5)
- 3 Pop group (4)
- 5 Mr. Sugar or Titchmarsh (4)
- 6 Taken by surprise (5)
- 7 Large Forces store on Victoria St (4,3,4)
- 9 Wartime detection system (5)
- 11 Didn't they do well! Give 'em this (1,4)
- 12 Crack forces unit (1,1,1)
- 14 A ray of Greek letter (5)
- 15 Be upright, arise (5)
- 17 The first man (4)
- 19 Ladies' name (4)

TREE NAMES QUIZ

The name of each person described has the name of a tree somewhere within it:

- 1 Multi-talented jazz musician, founder of the Jazz Warriors
- 2 TV sports presenter, notably for major snooker tournaments
- 3 Award winning actor for his role as Sir Humphrey Appleby
- 4 Composer of many film scores including those for The Magnificent Seven and The Age of Innocence
- 5 Founder of the Royal Philharmonic and noted for his controversial quotes
- 6 Actress playing Bianca Jackson in Eastenders
- 7 Managed the GB football team for the 2012 Olympic Games
- 8 104th Archbishop of Canterbury
- 9 Oscar winning actor remembered for a wet shirt and a stammering king
- 10 English food writer for the Guardian and the New Statesman
- 11 Prolific singer-songwriter called The Man in Black, who Walked the Line
- 12 Musical director and conductor for the Hallé Orchestra
- 13 American fashion designer and founder of a large fashion corporation
- 14 Oscar winner for her performance in The Piano

Compiled by Cliff Gilbert. Answers on page 29

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A VIEW FROM THE BENCH

Part 2

My time here has been a series of heart-warming vignettes. A gentleman new to the area pulled up in his car and having often seen me sitting here asked if I might be a local author or artist. I explained that I sat here to alleviate my mental health issues and he empathised with my situation. He always stops for a chat or beeps me from his car. His comment about me being an author was prophetic as here I am writing! Sir, I humbly salute you! I thank all these lovely people:

The lady who moved in recently and always makes time for a chat. Ian, who hosts that delightful B and B Chimneys always says hello. On VE Day he decked Chimneys in glorious bunting and I gave him a CD of 1940s music which was wonderful to hear and enhanced that locked down commemoration. The lady in the lovely big house with the elderly dog and delightful grandchild, who always says hello and offers me coffee. The joggers who say hi before zipping nippily into the woods. Always a pleasure to see them. The special horticultural artisans of the village whose happy planting of the area behind the bench was a joy to behold. Also, the hanging baskets, which so enhance the village, put up by a cheerful couple of chaps who took time for a brief chat. The friendly builders in the village, one of whom enjoys chatting with me about his faith. The workers at the Dog and Duck including the singing painter. It has been wonderful watching their efforts come to fruition, as I sit here on this day of grand re-opening. Two of the letters fell down once and for a while it was *The Dog and uc*, bringing merriment to all who passed. Lucy who tirelessly works litter picking, emptying bins and brightening everybody's day with her delightful conversation. Our bubbly and charming Postie, friendly and efficient, offering to deliver my parcel to the bench if necessary. All who beep me from their vehicles even if you pass too quickly for me to recognise you (ooh a little tear came to my eye). Father Lee and Deacon Des from St Thérèse of Lisieux have been live-streaming Mass every Sunday and I have enjoyed the Masses from the bench and refreshed my faith.

All the fabulous people who run our local hostelries and café now coming out of lockdown after refurbishing, painting and renovation. Kam and Craig from Yeoman's and Mix always stopped to say hello after their morning jog and it is a pleasure to be able to partake of their great double espressos. Steve and Catherine from The Queen's Head are very supportive, always stopping for a chat as they painted the frontage and renovated the windows. Stacy from The Rose and Crown who beeps me or stops for a chat; your ceaseless work during lockdown was as legendary as your scrumptious delivered Sunday lunch (not to the bench, I hasten to add). A heartfelt thanks to all the bar staff past and present, who stopped to chat at the bench. To Stevie, Emma, Emma, Jacquie, Anna and Carol might I say being surrounded by such glamour really made my day and I felt very special! I also had the pleasure of chatting with Paul from The King's Arms. Such a great personality.



The weather has been fabulous and my tan has boldly gone where no tan has gone before. One blazing hot day, the bench was being repainted by a charming gentleman. I thanked him and said how much I treasured the bench. He had been told there was usually a chap sat on there and checked the dryness of the bench and proclaimed it 'sittable'. What an honour to be the first bottom on the newly painted bench! As lockdown eases and the traffic increases, I will return to my job at the library to serve my wonderful community. It has been a poignant and bitter-sweet experience sitting here during lockdown but I have been consoled and warmed by the many kind comments made about me. I have been described as The Bench Keeper, Rain man (I sit here rain or shine), Cowboy because of my hat, a lucky charm for the weather and finally a Stansted Feature. I have been photographed; I have even been an aid for directions: "pass the man on the bench and turn right"! So, lovely people of Stansted thank you for making lockdown a much brighter place than it could have been. Wishing you all well and a brighter future.



Krishna Mukhoty



Although the church will be opening for Sunday worship, *The Place* will not re-open in the near future. The nature of a drop-in facility is that people just turn up, which would make it very difficult for us to adhere to the Government's social distancing measures and limits on numbers. Hopefully the restrictions will be lifted by the end of the year so that we can look forward to opening in January.



Mike Dyer
Tel: 814059

Email: theplace@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk




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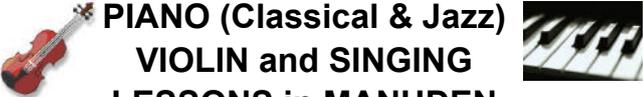
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Much of my childhood was spent on my grandparents' farm in Chigwell and at school in nearby Buckhurst Hill. My teenage years were spent in Woodford Green and after school I went to secretarial college in London. After I was married, we lived for five years in Epping and then moved to Stansted in 1970. Initially I commuted to Buckhurst Hill to work for a building and civil engineering contractor – but that was before the M11, and I soon got tired of all the driving, so I got a job as a PA for an airline at Stansted Airport and then in a similar role for an aircraft maintenance company.



I joined The Link team in 2012 as Minutes Secretary. We hold four meetings per year and I take the minutes, type these up and distribute them to the rest of The Link Committee. Nowadays I am also the first recipient of the majority of the articles that we receive; putting them into the right 'house style' typeface, adjusting the spacing and editing. Then I turn them into columnar format to go to other members of the team who produce a version which is ready to go to the printers. I would like to take this opportunity to make a plea to all contributors not to wait until the last minute to send in your articles; apart from anything else you run the risk that we might not have room for your item! In my spare time (and there has been a lot of that recently) I enjoy gardening, singing in a couple of local choirs, reading and walking our lovely local footpaths. I thoroughly enjoy working with The Link team and have the advantage of knowing what events are going to happen in the village well in advance of everyone else!

August Meeting Like other village organisations, the Club is still in lockdown. However, everyone can still enjoy their hobby either in their own gardens or by visiting the many beautiful gardens that have recently re-opened, although a visit on the spur of the moment is not possible due to social distancing rules, and visits have to be pre-booked. But the bonus is that there are less people around so that you can linger a little longer to view the flower borders and enjoy the vistas in a leisurely manner.

Future Meetings Unfortunately, we are unable to advise when Club meetings will resume, but as soon as we get the go-ahead to hold them we will let everyone know. In the meantime, we hope you are enjoying the summer and have found a comfy seat in the shade to enjoy the results of your labours and make plans for next year's garden and, if you are going/gone away, you have been able to make arrangements for your pots, greenhouse and garden to be watered. With August temperatures reaching over 36 degrees we hope you remembered that it is not only the plants that need watering and nurturing; make sure you drink enough water yourself, and use plenty of sun cream!!

Maralyn Harris
Chairman

Tel: 07919 478144



www.stopstanstedexpansion.com

SSE renews Call for Airport to accept Planning Refusal

In an email sent on 28th July, Stop Stansted Expansion (SSE) congratulated Steve Griffiths on his appointment as Managing Director of Stansted Airport, but urged him to listen to the local community and to reconsider the Airport's proposed appeal against the unanimous rejection of its planning application by Uttlesford District Council. In the email, Peter Sanders (SSE's Chairman) said an appeal would be costly and time-consuming for all parties at a time when they are hard pressed by other important issues. The wording of the letter sent to Steve Griffiths is as follows:

"On behalf of Stop Stansted Expansion, may I congratulate you on your appointment as Managing Director. I also take this opportunity to express the hope that you will be more responsive to the local community than STAL's former CEO. In particular I urge you not to proceed with the proposed appeal against Uttlesford District Council's unanimous decision to reject MAG's planning application to increase the throughput of passengers and planes on the existing runway. Such an appeal would inevitably be costly and time-consuming for all parties at a time when they are hard pressed by other important issues."

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THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

It has been a strange summer. The lifting of some of the COVID-19 restrictions has led to greater freedom for some and increased fear for others. Local lockdowns, the need to wear face coverings in enclosed spaces including churches re-opening for worship, and the imposition of quarantine periods on some returning from holidays abroad have all reminded us that the virus is still active. There has been a delicate balance needed to be struck between keeping us safe, allowing us to get on with our lives, sustaining our children's and young people's education, and trying to regenerate economic activity. We all have difficult decisions to make about our own living as do all levels of government about our life together. It is hard to know what this autumn and winter will bring for us. There are things that we can hope for: that the virus will continue to be contained and that the early promise shown for an effective vaccine will bear fruit. We do not know and uncertainty is one of the hardest things to live with. Many of us are in for a difficult ride in the next few months – the uncertainty about employment with its own anxieties being perhaps the most obvious. The plans we make will always be tentative at present.

What might living with God mean for us in the immediate future? What I think I have learnt most in the past few months is that we need to live a day at a time and trust that God will give us the resources to do that: strength to get through each day, hope to encourage us, love and concern for those around us, and gratitude for the daily gifts of goodness and love we discover, however small. I pray that God will uphold us all in these still unsettling times.



Roy Fowler
Minister
Stansted Free Church



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

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

Sunday worship at 10.30am

It was a real joy and privilege to be part of the first service in the church after lockdown. The church had been closed for five months, and although many of us had been following Sunday worship on Zoom with the other churches in our URC Pastorate, we had missed the fellowship of actually worshipping with others in the church. There were 18 of us in total – the same as our average weekly attendance before lockdown! We welcome visitors to our services, and as we have limited space, it is preferable that you contact us in advance to let us know you are coming. However, you can turn up on a Sunday and we will always endeavour to find you a seat. In line with current legislation, all worshippers must wear a face covering. The Zoom services will continue for the foreseeable future for those who are not yet ready to return to church; please contact me for details as the login changes each week. If you are not online, you can telephone in.



Marion Dyer
Tel: 814059

ROMAN CATHOLIC

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www.sttheresastansted.org



Priest Father Lee Bennett
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Email: frleebennett@dioceseofbrentwood.org

Parish Deacon Rev'd Deacon Des Connors
Tel: 07748 464101
Email: desconnors@dioceseofbrentwood.org

Masses

Saturday 5.15pm Confessions 6.00pm Mass
Sunday 8.30am and 10.00am Mass
9.15am Confessions
Monday 9.00am Confessions 9.30am Mass
Tuesday 7.15pm Confessions
8.00pm Latin Mass (Extraordinary Form)
Wednesday 12.00pm Confessions 12.30pm Mass
Thursday/Friday 9.00am Confessions 9.30am Mass

Baptism By appointment

Face Coverings

Following the Government's announcement at the end of July, anyone attending church is required to wear a face covering.

Livestream Mass

We are also continuing with our livestream of the Masses via our YouTube channel, the link can be found on our website <https://www.sttheresastansted.org/live-mass/>.

Website and Facebook Page

Our website and Facebook page are updated on a regular basis, along with our weekly Newsletter, so please remember to take a look every now and then.

Website: <https://www.sttheresastansted.org/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/StTheresaStansted>

Clair Rava
Parish Administrator
E-mail: stansted@dioceseofbrentwood.org



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

Assistant Curate: Rev'd Helen Flack
Email: revhelenstn@gmail.com

Pastoral Assistant: Kathryn West
Email: kewest@btinternet.com

Everywhere I go I hear people saying that we are living in strange times. When the lockdown began and we suspended services in church my expectation was that this would be for a few weeks at most. I would never have guessed that we would still be taking precautions five months later, but things are moving a little. Our best attended service is still the Zoom communion service on Sundays at 9.30am. All are welcome; go to <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/109066258>. Holding this has been a steep learning experience but I am sure there is much that we will value about it and learn from when the new normal becomes established. We also have online Morning Prayer (Monday-Saturday 9.00am); <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/459441774>.

St John's is open for private prayer on Wednesdays 9.00am-1.00pm and Saturdays from 1.00pm. Also on Saturdays is a socially distanced service of Holy Communion at 4.00pm. All are welcome, but those who are over 70 or vulnerable for other reasons are advised not to attend for the present. We are able to hold baptisms, weddings and funerals in church (though with restrictions) and have held our first 'socially distanced' baptism. Two weddings are booked and, if all goes well, will have happened by the time you read this.

We are constantly monitoring the situation and hope to make more moves back to normality, but only when it is safe to do so. God bless you all with peace, health and safety,



Paul Wilkin
Rector of St Johns

ST JOHN'S 300 CLUB

Many congratulations to the winners of the July draw:

- £200 No 223 Ann Conroy
- £100 No 97 Sarah Ludlow-Elston
- £ 50 No 112 James Pettinelli
- £ 25 No 32 Charlie Salmon

The draw for September will be held on **27th September** either in St. John's Church or from my home, in the presence of the online congregation, following the 9.30am service. Numbers at £2 each month are still available for anyone who may wish to join the Club and be in with a chance of winning one of the 38 prizes totalling £2,500 given away each year. The Club raises vital money to help cover the heavy maintenance costs and work of St John's Church.

Jean Newson
Tel: 819062

From St John's Registers

July

Funeral
28th Maurice Cartwright, age 88 -
at Cam Valley Crematorium



Like everyone else, all of our face-to-face group activities have been cancelled over the last few months, although some weekday evening and Sunday meetings have continued online. By the time The Link goes to press, things may have changed again. Please email or ring us for the latest updates on what is running and when. If you have a prayer-request, please contact us. If you are looking for Christians with a contemporary outlook, a desire to grow in our faith, and a vision to benefit our community, why not get in touch?

Ros and Howard Page

Tel: 810813

Email: contactstanfam@yahoo.com



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Clerk and Lettings Jane Mitchell
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Email: sjane.mitchell@ntlworld.com

Stansted Quakers are continuing to hold a Meeting for Worship each Sunday, by each being silent at the same time in our own homes. We have a strong sense of all worshipping together by doing this. Afterwards, we have our coffee or tea and a biscuit and email any ministry, thoughts or news to each other. There has been some moving ministry.

Jane Mitchell





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We continue to add circular walk routes to the Society's website so I would like to repeat last month's encouragement for people to go and try them. There is no need to travel far. The walks range in distance from 1 mile to 10 miles. The routes have been chosen for the quality of scenery or heritage, or both, and the route descriptions seek to add to your knowledge of the places you pass. Each route description can easily be downloaded and printed from the *Other Walks* section of the website. We try to make the route description as easy as possible to follow and we have a small team of volunteers who check them. We welcome feedback and comment.



These are just some examples to give you a flavour and to whet your appetite. We are regularly adding new walks, in case your favourite walk has not yet been mentioned. Even if you think you know your local area, I assure you that, not far away, there is more to be found and enjoyed!



Shorter walks tend to focus on a single interesting town or village; for example Bartlow, Clavering, Great Dunmow, Hatfield Broad Oak, Hildersham, Much Hadham, Sawbridgeworth, Stebbing or Thaxted. Some routes combine town and countryside; for example from Buntingford, Saffron Walden or Standon. Others are mainly countryside routes, such as those starting from Broxton (see above), Henham, Little Hadham, Matching or Wareside. Some routes range over two or more parishes; for example seven miles between Pleshey and Great Waltham or eight miles between Albury, Braughing and Furneux Pelham. Two different routes run between Finchingfield and Great Bardfield. An 8-miler starting from Chrishall (see below) passes through four parishes and offers extensive views from upland paths in the Essex/Cambridgeshire border area.



Ken McDonald
Secretary
Tel: 813226



RECYCLE INK CARTRIDGES AND STAMPS



We are still able to send cartridges for recycling. Although the churches where our collecting boxes are situated are still closed during the week, you can leave items in the box outside the blue main door of the Free Church at the bottom of Chapel Hill. For health reasons, we would prefer not to receive dental products at this time but you can still leave stamps and original (not remanufactured or own brand) ink cartridges. Alternatively please leave items in the porch of 7 Blythwood Gardens. Thank you.



Marion and Mike Dyer
Tel: 814059
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Stansted Network

NEWS FROM YOUR LOCAL COUNCILS

BUSINESS - ALMOST AS USUAL!

The new rules for easing out of lockdown have not changed the way we are working. Physical meetings of Councils are still not permitted except under certain criteria. We will continue to hold meetings via Zoom or Teams as required and appropriate and in line with guidance/current regulations. Virtual Council Meetings will resume in September and are likely to be held monthly or as and when decisions are required to be made.

ENVIRONMENTAL RANGERS AND HANDYMAN

As usual, Lucy, Levi and Lee continue to work their usual hours; thankfully all three remain well and busy. Sadly Lucy and Levi have noticed an increase in dropped litter – primarily disposable face masks.

OFFICE

Office-wise all regular duties continue to be undertaken. The Chairman and Clerk continue to attend regular virtual forums organised by the Essex Association of Local Councils with Chairs and Clerks of other councils. Staff have completed a number of training courses as well. A recent meeting with Cty Cllr Ray Gooding has confirmed that officers at Essex Highways are reviewing our main routes through the village, particularly Grove Hill, and he will be in touch with us when there is a viable proposal to consider. Our Crisis Management Team meets regularly to review everything in line with the latest Government advice which, as we all know, can change quite swiftly!

We recently advertised a vacancy for the role of Receptionist/Media Co-ordinator and were pleased to have received a number of applications. We hope to be able to introduce a new member of the team shortly.

NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN

The final draft of our Plan is not perfect, but without a District Local Plan in place, is about as far as we can take it at the moment. We think it is therefore probably good to start a consultation soon to invite comments. Whether we like it or not, Stansted is likely to have to accommodate more additional homes than originally notified (60) so amongst other things we'll be seeking your views on WHERE these homes should be located IF we have to have them and what kind of COMMUNITY BENEFITS you consider we should aim for.

Watch for full details of the consultation on our website, social media, noticeboards and the NDP website www.stanstedneighbourhoodplan.com.

RESPONDING TO PLANNING APPLICATIONS

You may be aware that the Government has introduced new planning legislation. Without the Local Plan in place, and with the Government push for more homes, we believe that we shall see an increase in the number of large-scale planning applications. To this end, the Council is considering establishing a sub-committee to undertake thorough reviews of such applications and how they affect the community, to assist the Parish Council in providing a more robust response to the District Council during the consultation process.

STANSTED IN BLOOM

At one time it looked like Stansted in Bloom 2020 would suffer the same fate as the Chelsea Flower Show but following relaxation of the Covid-19 lockdown rules it was agreed that the competition could be judged without breaking social distancing guidelines and the organisers were given the green light to go ahead. The lockdown meant that entries from care homes were not possible and the business section was also a non-starter. The closing date for entries and the judging day were set for slightly later in the season which was an additional challenge for the entrants but on the plus side it gave them a few more weeks to get their gardens in pristine condition.



Our photograph, taken outside Paris Legore's shop in Lower Street, shows from left to right: judge Paris Legore, Sue Cohen (Front Garden Winner), Alison Browne (Tubs and Hanging Baskets Winner) Penny Reeve (Garden Winner) and judge Tin-Tin Azure, Landscape Architect with Liz Lake Associates, Station Road.

The judging day of Sunday 12 July proved to be a beautiful summer's day which meant that the gardens looked their very best and the judges were certainly impressed with all the gardens they saw.

All entrants received a plant donated by the Parish Council's gardening contractor, GWB Horticulture Ltd.

SECOND PHARMACY FOR THE VILLAGE

Regular readers will be aware that we have been trying to secure a second dispensing pharmacy to serve our community. The process is long and complicated but starts with a review of the Essex County Council Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment. We requested a review of the previous document as we didn't think it painted an accurate picture in terms of population etc, but that was refused.

We did not consider that it was appropriate to push the matter in the middle of a global pandemic, and ECC had informed us that the next review was likely to be postponed for a year. This has now been confirmed and the review will take place in 2022, with consultation commencing in late 2021. We'll be stating our case loud and clear then.

OUR YOUNGER COMMUNITY

We are delighted to report that Gemini Youth Support, who run the youth centre on our behalf, were able to start some outreach work around the village towards the end of July. They chatted with a number of youngsters, many of whom were not members of the youth club – but hopefully some of them may join now! We have been liaising with Uttlesford District and Essex County Councils to ensure appropriate safety measures are in place. Sadly it may be some time before the youth club is actually able to meet again in their usual home.

Just before "lockdown" we had started some work on establishing a Youth Forum to gain representative views of young people. We hope to resume contact with our secondary schools in September to try to reach as many of our teenagers as possible.

If you have any children, nieces, nephews or grandchildren who you think may be interested, please ask them to contact us either by email parishcouncil@stansted.net or through the Contact Us form on our website www.stansted.net.

SKATEPARK JAM

This year's Jam is scheduled to take place on Sunday 13 September. For those of you who are not fully up on skatepark culture, a Jam is more like a festival than a competition and although there are elements of competition it is more about competing with yourself rather than trying to prove you are better than someone else!



Covid-19 protocols mean that the organisation of the Jam will be different from previous years and, unfortunately, we will have to be a bit stricter about enforcing the safety guidelines, in particular limiting the number of people in the skatepark at any one time. In order to achieve this we will be starting earlier and having more sessions over a longer period. We will also need more volunteers to act as marshals. Please email Sean Tompson at sean.tompson@gmail.com if you are willing to help.

There will be sessions for scooter riders, skateboarders, BMX riders and inline skaters. Sessions for younger and less experienced participants will be scheduled for the start of the day so the older riders can enjoy a Sunday lie in. Please make sure you know the time of the session that is most appropriate for your age and experience and arrive 30 minutes before the session starts so you can sign in and collect your wristband. Final details of timings will be posted at the skatepark and on social media at the beginning of September.

There are no entry fees but donations for the skatepark's maintenance budget are always welcome.

This is the sixth Jam since we rebuilt the skatepark and we always attract a lot of support from riders across the district, plus the occasional visitors from further afield who have heard good things about our events. We are supported by a number of generous sponsors so there are always good prizes on offer.

PUBLIC OPEN SPACES

Elms Farm – the seven acres of land is still some way from being officially transferred to us but a working group is considering how to manage and make the best use of this community space. Sadly, there are many issues for the developers to put right before we will accept the handover.

Walpole Meadows – The allotments and play areas are progressing but not quite ready yet.

At each area, the developers have to undertake maintenance of all public areas for one year after the handover period.

NEWS FROM ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

Cllr Ray Gooding writes:

Clearly the Covid-19 issues have been the major items that we at ECC have been presented with over the last few months and the following is a snapshot of the challenges faced.

The school term has now finished, and children are at home officially without the need for parents to “Home Educate”. However, the majority of our schools in Essex have been open throughout and as the weeks have gone by increasing numbers of children have returned to school.

When the government announced that schools will re-open, the professionalism and desire to make the school environment a safe place so that children could return to learning was fantastic. We had an amazing response from schools, and I thank all those teachers and support staff who not only continued to teach key worker and vulnerable children throughout the pandemic but were instrumental when the schools reopened to wider cohorts.

Adult Community Learning has been supporting residents, communities, and businesses across Essex to quickly and easily access new learning and upskilling opportunities during this time. Impressively, as well as sustaining its apprenticeship training provision, it has also attracted new apprentices.

The Youth Service has been running an extensive programme of activities including holding a weekly timetable of Zoom sessions that young people can access for help and advice including mental health and well-being. Our Young Carers team have maintained support to their caseload, as well as keeping in contact with all young carers that have been referred to the service to reduce social isolation.

We have very recently been awarded £56,000.00 from the Youth Endowment Fund. This will enable us to extend our early help offer with online Prison No Way, Sisters in Strength and the Goodman projects for 10 – 14 year olds.

NEWS FROM UTTLESFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL

Cllr Alan Dean writes:

A bright spot during lockdown has been the opening of the permissive footpath network from the new bridge across Stansted Brook and around Stansted Park (see pages 4 and 5). I have spent many an hour walking by the widened brook observing ducks, geese, herons and other wildlife. The walks from the Elms Farm/Stansted Park network to St. Mary’s Church, Burton End and Elsenham are a pleasurable adventure. One Sunday in July, I had lunch on the steps of the bridge before I set off to the Gardens of Easton Lodge near Dunmow.

Whilst on the subject of personal exercise and wellbeing, here is a link to Uttlesford’s resources for staying physically and mentally well during the pandemic (and beyond, I hope) <https://bit.ly/3i7uJaM>

The Uttlesford Community Response Hub for the pandemic continues to offer a contact service to residents for the foreseeable future. The number **03333 408 218** is available Monday to Friday, 9am to 4pm, which will enable people to access support for shopping and prescription pick-ups. People can also email communityresponse@uttlesford.gov.uk. In addition, the Hub will offer support to those who are feeling lonely or isolated, as well as those affected by redundancy or needing advice on mental health, domestic violence, debt, benefits or housing.

Redundancy and unemployment are of concern to many people, including from the loss of jobs at our main employment location, Stansted Airport. As someone who is retired and with a steady pension income, I feel a great sadness for all those mainly younger people whose livelihood is now less certain than my own.

The collapse in air travel is affecting many local people and businesses. On the other side of the equation, the reduction in pollution from both air and road transport has brought health benefits to many people. Balancing life, environment and economy is never straight forward.

I am puzzled why the Manchester Airport Group needs to appeal Uttlesford’s refusal of planning permission to grow air traffic beyond 35 million passengers each year; for better or worse, throughput in 2020 is likely to be below half the present cap.

With that appeal now live, together with Local Plan Mark 3 just getting underway, and central government twisting the arms of Essex County Council and all districts to merge into bigger, unitary authorities, it is clear that pandemics and lockdowns have not stopped local government. It has, however, slowed down; but you can't get much slower than almost 20 years to agree a Local Plan, can you?

UPDATE FROM PCSO NIKKI MORRIS

I have been in the village a lot since the start of the Covid-19 pandemic, either alone or with colleagues, helping to enforce the Government's rules.

With more people out and about taking their daily exercise, I had the opportunity to meet more people than I usually would!

Whilst in the Police world every day is different, an average week would find me on foot patrol around many different parts of Stansted - some obvious and others not quite so much. We have been called out to neighbour issues as well as to emergencies.

I have assisted colleagues on special operations around the district, undertaken speed checks at numerous locations and searched for missing people. I have also undertaken some online training courses, dealt with cases of anti-social behaviour and viewed CCTV recordings for evidence.

DATES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

All scheduled physical meetings are cancelled. Virtual meetings will be held as and when required and published on our website and noticeboard.

CONTACT DETAILS

Clerk - Ruth Clifford
 Administration Assistant - Emma Philbrick
 Email: parishcouncil@stansted.net
 Phone/fax: 01279 813214 Mon, Tue, Thurs, Fri 9.00am-4.00pm, Wed 9.00am-1.00pm
 Website: www.stansted.net

PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS

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Geoffrey SELL	815925 sellgeoffrey@yahoo.co.uk

ESSEX COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Ray GOODING	813103 cllr.ray.gooding@essex.gov.uk
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MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT

Kemi Badenoch MP, House of Commons, London SW1A
 OAA Tel 0207 219 1943 (House of Commons) Email
 kemi.badenoch.mp@parliament.uk

POLICE

PCSO Nikki Morris email: nikki.morris@essex.police.uk
 Non-emergency 101 The Community Policing Team has its own email address:
 braintreeanduttlesfordcpt@essex.pnn.police.uk

LIBRARY

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It was so lovely to welcome visitors back to the Gardens in July. The open Thursdays for walkers and cyclists have been really appreciated by those who have come: mostly locals but also a few from further afield, seeking a different day out. Our ticketing, catering, payment and queue management arrangements worked beautifully for the July open day, so we are allowing more visitors in August. We will review the arrangements and numbers allowed again in time for **Sunday 13th September** (apples and bees day) and make sure we have suitable distancing and safety measures in place to allow as many activities as possible.



In August we have been doing summer pruning of the smaller trees in the gardens, which should help keep them healthy. Neil of the East of England Apples and Orchards Project gave our volunteers a masterclass on fan pruning of the peach and nectarine trees against the walls of the kitchen garden. We have labelled our nine special apple trees, which due to their height and/or girth, are regional champions. We have been harvesting lavender, as well as fruit and vegetables for jams and chutneys for the Tombola stall. Please do come and see what we have been up to. Tickets for open days are being sold through Eventbrite; there are links from our website and Facebook pages. If you decide on the day, there will be some limited availability without tickets. There is no need to book for our open Thursdays.

Jill Goldsmith
Tel: 07947 183439

It does not seem possible that we are about to start a new academic year and that finally all children will be able to return to full time schooling. While the last six months has been challenging for everyone, as we have all adapted to new and safe ways of working and living, we were able to end the last school year with all children returning to school for some time, which will hopefully enable us to make the full-time return to school as smooth as possible. However, whilst it has been a different and at times difficult time, what has not changed is how incredible the children, parents and staff have been and how hard everyone has worked to support each other whether learning from home or at school, in some truly imaginative and creative ways. We all have new memories and skills, and ones that we would never have thought we would have, but we hope that throughout all of this, our children will be able to hold their heads up high and be proud of all the different things they have done and achieved during lockdown. We have loved finding out what children have been doing at home, sharing their learning and home activities in our newsletters and we plan to share and build on these talents and interests on our return to school.

As we begin a new academic year, we already have many exciting plans in place, with learning experiences throughout the Autumn Term to include *Inside the Titanic*, *Viking Settlements* and an *Ugly Bug Ball*. We cannot wait to see everyone back in September as well as welcoming our new Reception children as they start their school journey with us.



Marnie Tait
Deputy Headteacher
Tel: 813370

Email: admin@manuden.essex.sch.uk



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Come and support your local Arts Venue! Our cinema, *thescreen* is open again. We have specially redesigned our seating plan so that our audiences are able to enjoy safe and socially distanced screenings, and tickets may be booked in singles or in groups for safety and comfort. We will be screening *Andre Rieu Magical Maastricht: Together In Music*, as well as dementia-friendly screenings and new releases. Keep an eye on our website and social media for upcoming announcements for when these are on sale. We are excited to keep welcoming our movie-going audiences back to *thescreen*!

Liz Murphy
Tel: 710200

(Please note that the Rhodes Arts Complex is being renamed and from Monday 24th August will be called South Mill Arts. Ed)

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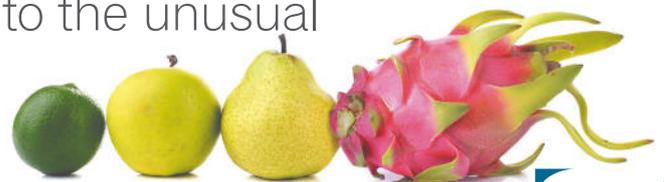
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Sock Fun!

In July 2018 I introduced the huge drill letter ball, in which we merrily toss a ball with letters written on it to a partner, calling out the letter we see as we catch the ball. In these dreadful COVID days, classic letter ball can only be played by those in bubbles. However, solo letter ball has huge benefits and here are two simple drills to have fun with:

You need a projectile - a ball with letters written around it, or nearly as good, a balled-up sock or juggle ball – at least these two won't roll away and so can be done if seated.

First drill: watching the projectile fly up and over to the other hand. Toss your chosen missile from hand to hand, watching it throughout the flight path. It is very important to see it leave your hand as well as land in the other hand. This will require concentration since it is common to look towards the flight path and not the throwing hand.

Having mastered that, now keep your head still and use your eyeballs to watch your sock fly. You may have to remove glasses – both from your nose and from nearby tables. This is a magnificent eye exercise along with hand-eye coordination. Instead of really using our eye muscles to track things, we turn our heads to do this. Since the eye muscles are innervated in the brain stem, it is critical to keep them active!



Second drill: using the peripheral vision. Just the same as above, only this time look straight ahead and see the sock fly in your peripheral vision, throwing and catching without looking directly at your hands. Good peripheral vision is vital for safe driving and for night vision.

Clare Harding
Z-Health Master Practitioner
Tel: 07802 872919

RANDOM JOTTINGS

Walking on the Right Side

It is great to see so many more people out walking and jogging around the village during the lockdown. We are very fortunate to have access to a variety of public footpaths and bridleways in and around Stansted (including some new permissive footpaths, as shown on the cover of this issue). However, in order to reach some of these paths it is often necessary to walk along narrow roads or lanes that lack pavements. I had it drummed into me from a very early age that whenever possible pedestrians should face the oncoming traffic when walking along a road that has no pavements; that means walking on the right-hand side of the road, not the left as I have noticed many people doing.

As a youngster I did not see why I should obey this rule, thinking it was another stupid rule devised by adults just for the sake of it, but now it makes sense. With your back to oncoming traffic, it may be possible to hear a fast-approaching vehicle in time to get out of the way (even when 'plugged in' to some sort of device) but this may not be the case when a silent but speedy bike is involved. Please keep on walking but keep safe. Don't walk on the 'wild' side - walk on the right side.

Loki



CO-OP WINES

Lockdown has meant that many of us bought wines online over recent months; as a result the wine trade did quite well out of it. Now we can get out and about more it is time to look to other sources and one of the supermarkets getting really good reviews of its wines at the moment is the Co-op, which of course is right on our doorstep. As I write this article, the Co-op in Stansted is selling a good white NZ Sauvignon Blanc from Yealands and their 2019 at £9.50 is a grassy mineral wine punching well above its weight. Other Co-op white wines to seek out include a 2019 Marsanne du Languedoc, a bold nutty white wine with apricot flavours at £8, and the Terre Madre Catarratto from Sicily, a natural citrusy wine at £6.50. Neither of these is currently in stock locally but worth keeping an eye out for in future should they appear.

The Stansted Co-op currently has many of the reds recommended so here are some suggestions. If it is a lighter red you are after the 2019 Co-op irresistible Pinot Noir from Chile at £8 is impressive for the price with light raspberry aromas and pleasant cherry and red fruit palette. They also stock the 2018 Côtes du Rhone La Grange St Martin, a silky-smooth damson and plum red that would go well with bangers or a late summer barbecue. Something with a little more weight is the 2019 Aussie old vine Grenache from Firebrand at £9.50 from 80-year-old bush vines and thus a serious concentrated palate of darker fruit and fruit cake spice. Good as the evenings draw in. Keep it local I say; well done the Co-op.



Paul Wilkinson

business networking

If you are a business in Uttlesford or North Essex then come and join the Stansted Business Forum.

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 34 The Street, Manuden CM23 1DQ



Support 4 Sight is a sight loss charity and a member of our Forum. Times have been difficult during the pandemic, but they have now been able to organise 'pop up' Resource Centres for blind and partially sighted people; this started in early August at the Saffron Walden Town Hall Court Room. People with sight loss can access vital equipment to help with everyday living. Visits to the Resource Centre are by appointment only, due to social distancing measures, at 10.00am-4.00pm every Thursday. The service is much needed and has been extremely popular. Please contact 01799 588897 to make an appointment. Support 4 Sight has offered services to the visually impaired community in Saffron Walden and surrounding areas for over 25 years, and has recently won the Queen's Award for Voluntary Services, the charity equivalent to an MBE, for their hard and groundbreaking work provided by the charity for visually impaired people in Essex.

It is now six months since Coronavirus became the watchword on everyone's lips. I hope and trust that you are all fit and well and enjoying this current period of sunny days. We had our socially distanced committee meeting in the grounds of the Windmill in mid-July, where top of the agenda was whether we would be able to hold our annual Fête this year? However, due to COVID restrictions it was, sadly, clear that we would not be able to do so. We are still hopeful of being able to arrange our Christmas event, which has been quite successful in previous years and one which children particularly look forward to. We hope to include more attractions this year. I am sure you will all come along and support us. Stay safe and stay well.



Molly Clark
Co-trustee
Tel: 816768



James Garrett of HNE Media is on the SBF committee and has been working with Uttlesford who commissioned a video fund from the European Regional Development to reach out to the business community to re-open Stansted safely. This has now been completed and you can access it on <https://youtu.be/7skOy2AcgmU>. The SBF provides good opportunities for businesses to work together. Managers from CZ Design and Print and from Leaflet Delivery UK/Voucher Packs met at the Business Forum in 2015 and have been collaborating to print and deliver goods such as menus and leaflets to local businesses. This demonstrates the benefits of being part of the Business Forum to promote each other's services. It has resulted in more business for both companies. Please contact Peter James on 813318 or email: Peter.James@murdochsestateagents.co.uk if you would like more information about the business forum.



Iris Evans

STANSTED DAY AND COMMUNITY CENTRE

We will be holding this year's AGM on **Wednesday 2nd September** at 2.00pm by Zoom. This meeting can be joined on a computer, i-pad or i-phone, or can be listened to on a landline. Please contact me if you wish to 'attend'.



Catherine Dean
Tel: 07803 299683
Email: catherinemarydean@btinternet.com

THANK YOU FROM MS-UK

www.ms-uk.org

Did you know that MS-UK was established in Stansted in 1993, with its offices above Steve Golding in Chapel Hill? Now based in Colchester, it is a national charity which supports those living with multiple sclerosis (MS), a disease of the central nervous system. You may have seen the purple pots at the tills in the Co-op and Steve Golding. You have generously raised over £700 in a year with your small change. Thank you. Do you like homemade marmalade? If you are passing our house in St John's Crescent, please enjoy a fundraising pot. Your donations for each jar have so far raised an amazing £1,000 in three years. Thank you. Recently we were given some plants to find new homes for. You generously donated £100 in return for those. Thank you. There are other fundraising initiatives planned in the future but for now, thank you everybody for your ongoing support.



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THE KING'S AND I (OR RATHER US)

Having a pub of my own was a long-held dream. The King's Arms in my home village of Stansted Mountfitchet became a possibility. With my partner Alex and friends' and families' encouragement I progressed with my application. Having years of experience on both sides of a bar and enjoying the village social scene we thought this would stand us in good stead. It was confirmed that the King's Arms was indeed up for grabs but there was plenty of interest; we were not the only couple to want the mid-19th century watering hole. Three years of negotiations, regularly changing business plans, figures being reassessed and criteria to be met; finally the King's Arms was ours! Now the total renovation and refurbishment could begin.



Contracts were signed early 2020, building works began in earnest. Notices were given with employers and Alex and I prepared ourselves for our new lives, the future was bright and exciting.



COVID-19 hit with a force nobody could have predicted and the country ground to a halt. Would this be the end of our dream before it had even begun? On the announcement I joked "only I could get closed before I opened". We sat and waited; it was all anyone could do. Slowly ... very slowly the country began to open up again. Building works resumed, slowly the King's Arms was given its much needed facelift. Our doors opened officially on 9th August and a new chapter for Alex and me and our beautiful pub has begun. The support on opening has been fantastic, and we would like to thank all who have supported us and their lovely comments. Daily I enjoy peoples' reactions to the amazing refurbishment. Come see us!

Fay Frostick
Tel: 07406 123331



STORT VALLEY ROTARY

www.stortvalleyrotary.com

Can I help my Community through Rotary?

In the August edition of The Link, we referred to the launch of our promotional and recruiting initiative. Many wished to know more about the projects we are involved with and how their skills sets could be useful. Here is a sample of what we are involved with which we hope is helpful.

- We want to promote the Club through our website, social media and printed media. We need media savvy individuals to keep our media up-to-date
- We have an established speaker network which now operates exclusively using Zoom. We require members to expand and improve this successful network
- We expect to promote four major events per annum for Bishop's Stortford. The first will be the Christmas Food and Drinks Festival (Government regulations permitting). These events require organisers for a variety of events from a quiz night to an annual ball. We have regular Club outings. We feel we should be extending these from about four to maybe six
- With Rotary International projects we maintain contact with the wider world. There is a range of interest here from the Stop Polio Now campaign to the latest international disaster, which might entail rebuilding and equipping hospitals
- We get involved with charitable trusts and foundations, supporting local charities to make applications
- We need those versed in administration from the efficient management of our Club to planning our fortnightly dinners
- Importantly, we offer reading support at local schools
- We believe that more care for carers in our community is needed.

We invite our members to follow their dreams. We are sure there are potential new members who would like to join us to deliver their dreams. We look to generate a stronger community spirit in the Stort Valley area, while having fun, meeting new friends and raising badly needed support for local causes.



Peter Latham
Tel: 507294
Email: stortvalleyrotary@gmail.com

TREE NAMES QUIZ ANSWERS

1. Courtney Pine
2. Hazel Irvine
3. Sir Nigel Hawthorn
4. Elmer Bernstein
5. Sir Thomas Beecham
6. Patsy Palmer
7. Stuart Pearce
8. Rowan Williams
9. Colin Firth
10. Felicity Cloake
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Nature Notes

It is a lovely time of the year. I went for a short walk along Pennington Lane in the late afternoon sunshine and marvelled at the rich assortment of late summer fruits on the more than 20 different trees and shrubs which grow down the lane. Already there is a bountiful crop of ripe blackberries and plenty more to come. There are the red hips and haws mixed with the blue sloes and damsons and the green crab apples, hazel nuts and acorns.



Quite a few of the acorns have been infected by the little gall wasp maggots which act like a cancer in the acorn which becomes deformed into grotesque shapes. The verges contain a lot of dried seed heads and there are not many flowers at the moment but the pink mallow flowers are worth a close look and some of the burrs are impressive.



There is colour in the rose galls and the bright red berries of woody nightshade which stand out against the golden background of corn stubble. The presence of hops reminds one that there were breweries in Stansted and the osiers may have provided withies for basket makers. There is still a guelder rose almost overwhelmed by larger trees. Its red berries can be boiled up to make a sauce but can be fatal if eaten raw. There's a happy thought to finish on.



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STANSTED FOOTBALL CLUB

www.essexseniorleague.co.uk/club/stansted-football-club

The Club still awaits confirmation of whether and when competitive football will be returning to Hargrave Park. Despite many dates talked about on social media, the Government directive regarding a ban on crowd gatherings at outside sports events has a major impact on non-league football; this is because gate money forms a major part of our income. The earliest date of October is the best we can work to at the moment. Interestingly the FA have now deemed that this season's FA Cup Competition will start on Tuesday 1st September; whilst compiling this article the draw has yet to be made so please keep an eye out on our social media platforms for details. If we are drawn at home then the tie will have to be played behind closed doors!

As a club we are working hard to ensure that all the correct measures are put in place to ensure everyone who comes to the games is safe; this means temperature checks, contact details and various social distance areas within the ground and Clubhouse. Hopefully the players will be able to see all our supporters soon. Paul and John are building a good squad for the season with new additions to complement those who have remained.



Tom Williams
Secretary
Tel: 07921 403842



STANSTED BOWLS CLUB

With all league and inter club matches being cancelled this season due to the COVID-19 issues, the Club needed to put something on for its members. The decision was made to run a mixed pairs competition for members only called the *Covid Cup* with 13 pairs taking part. Alas, like the football league we have to run all matches behind closed doors. We shall be playing right through August and September, so if you are passing the Club and you hear some cheering, it will be the victors doing their lap of honour, but at a gentle walking pace.

We are looking towards the future and the 2021 season, and we are going to need more players, both ladies and men. It is an ideal way of getting out in the sun, or rain, for an evening or a weekend afternoon, coupled to a lively amount of banter, as well as tea and cakes. If you think that bowling might suit you and you are keen to get involved in helping with the gardens and surroundings plus have a decent broom, then please get in contact, we shall be happy to show you around. If you are thinking about joining a bowls club then please give Stansted a try; we are a smaller club than many of those around us but we do try to ensure that all members get to play competitive bowling on a top-class bowling green. We look forward to welcoming you.



Peter Beattie
Hon Secretary
Tel: 07850 329192
Email: peterdavidbeattie@gmail.com



Stansted Tennis Club

Founded 1889

www.stanstedtennisclub.co.uk

Club Sessions restarted

These social tennis sessions, open to all members and guests (paying a £3 visitor fee) are now able to take place. They are held on Wednesdays and Fridays 9.30am–noon, Wednesdays 7.00pm–10.00pm and Sundays 10.00am–1.00pm. There is also a ladies' night which is held on the third Monday of every month from 6.30pm–10.00pm.

Junior coaching

Coaching for junior members and non-members continues with Ollie Toms, please contact him on 07917 652014 or email olliestennis@gmail.com for further details. Please go to our website for more information about the Club and details of how to join.

Fiona Kelly
Publicity Officer
Tel: 07949 623484
Email: fiona1.kelly@btinternet.com

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

Across

1. Abysmal 4. Mascara 8. Ashtray 10. Anarchy
13. Adamantly 16. Anagram 18. Capstan 20. Alabama
21. Faraday

Down

1. Abracadabra 2. Yacht 3. Abba 5. Alan 6. Aback
7. Army and Navy 9. Radar 11. A clap 14. Gamma
15. Stand 17. Adam 19. Anna

UGLEY FARMERS' MARKET



Ugley Village Hall



Saturday 19th September

10.00am-12 noon

We hope to have a market in the car park and the Hall, COVID-19 and weather permitting.

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meat fish eggs and honey bread and home baking
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Beaver Scouts Age 6-8	Angela Madigan Tel: 01371 513028	St John's Road and Area Association	Leila Riddell Tel: 07770 955830
Bowls Club	Peter Beattie, Hon Secretary Tel: 07850 329192 Email: peterdavidbeattie@gmail.com	Scouts (age 10½ -14)	Mike Byrne Tel: 812780
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Brownies (Wed)	Susan Scott Tel: 810955	Spangles Family Hub	Tel: 812348 Email: vcl.essexwest- uttlesfordadminhub@nhs.net
CAB	Tel: 01799 618840	Stansted and District Past Rotarians Club	Geoff Lay Email: geoff.lay@ntlworld.com
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Cricket Club (Adults) (Juniors)	David Hedge Tel: 812509 Keith Ayres Tel: 814471	Stansted Business Forum	Iris Evans Email: iris.evans9@gmail.com
Cub Scouts Age 8-10½	Nic Devine Email: kinglouie.huskies@gmail.com	Stansted Family Café	Ros Page Tel: 810813 Email: contactstanfam@yahoo.com
Day Centre	Tel: 815091	Stansted Football Club	Tom Williams Tel: 07921 403842
Explorer Scouts	Paul Thorneycroft Tel: 01371 876784	Stansted Hall and Elsenham Cricket Club	David Brown Tel: 831011/07788 999663 Email: david1.r.brown@gmail.com
Friends of St Mary's Church	Lynda Dale Tel: 07716 099474 Email: lynnydale@hotmail.com	Stansted Sparks Netball	Gemma Snelling Tel: 07894 944242 Email: gemmasnelling@me.com
Garden Club	Maralyn Harris Tel: 07919 478144	Stansted Speed Watch	Warren Vickers Tel: 813996 Email: vickersw@aol.com
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History Society	Roger Barrett Tel: 814216 Email: rbarrett54@gmail.com	U3A	Ray Smith Tel: 813270
Huw Johnson Club	Katharine Collis Tel: 07759 157620 Email: kat_collis@hotmail.com	W I Stansted)	Anne Watson Tel: 898693
Investigators Age 7-11	Ros Page Tel 810813 Email: contactstanfam@yahoo.com	W I (Ugley)	Dorothy Wallace Tel: 850215
Little Scrummers	Andrew Poyser Tel: 07738 591232	Whoosh Explore Canoe Club	Helen and Peter Nash Tel: 817453
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Parkinson's UK Uttlesford Support Group	Vivian Falk Tel: 01799 513128 Email: vivian@brackendalehouse.co.uk		
Rainbow Pre-School 506997	Gill Pursglove Tel: 814242/07966 Email: admin@rainbowpreschool.net		
Rainbows (Wed)	Rachel Roberts Tel: 078648 21905		

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

BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES or SPECIAL OCCASIONS

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

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Chiropody	Gillson Carpentry & Joinery	34	SDS Aerials 30
	R Handford	10	Sygma Security Systems 30
Cleaning	Julie Golden	10	Ironing Dunmow Ironing Parlour 18
	Clear Ovens	18	Jeweller John Wilson 10
Community & Care	Go-Jo Quality Cleaning	18	Legal Herts and Essex Wills 26
	Broome End Care Home	8	Lever & Co Solicitors 26
	Hargrave House Care Home	8	Leisure American Re-enactment Group 18
	Hearing Help	10	Golf World IFC
	Helpline	10	Stansted Social Club 16
Computing & Office	Human Roots	12	Motor Repairs D Bonney & Sons 26
	Mountfitchet House Care Home	8	Essex Autospray 26
	Ross Nursing Services	10	Music Lessons Carr (Piano, Organ, Singing) 12
	MCM Computer Services	10	Priest (Piano, Violin, Singing) 12
	Taylor Computer Service	10	Hamilton (Singing) 12
Dance	Witts End Business Services	34	Networking Stansted Business Forum 26
	Graham School of Dance	12	Osteopathy & Physiotherapy Quendon Osteopathy 6
Dental	Castle Dental	6	Williams (Osteopath) 6
	Chapel Hill Dental	6	Painting, Decorating & Plastering Ada Decorating 32
Education & Children	Birchanger Butterflies Nursery	12	Brown's Painting & Decorating 32
	Howe Green House School	12	David Duncan Decorating 32
	Rainbow Pre-School	12	Lesley Anne (Painting) 32
	Tuition (ages 4 - 11)	12	MWR Interiors 32
	Albury Electrical Services	24	Prime Decor 32
Electrical	CK Electrical	24	Ray on the Hill 32
	Stansted Electric	24	T F Plastering 32
	Murdochs	IBC	Personal Services Fresh Leaf (Hypnotherapy) 10
Estate Agent	Mansell & Co Accountants	IBC	Glynis Cheers (Hypnotherapy) 10
	DT Bedroom & Kitchen Designs	IFC	Stansted Psychotherapy 10
Furniture & Restoration	Furniture by Design	34	Plumbing & Heating Harpers Plumbing & Heating OBC
	Peter Worby Antiques Restoration	34	JDW Gas Heating Specialist 24
	Flexible Strength	6	Jones (Plumbing & Heating) 24
Fitness	Back to Basics (Pilates)	6	M Lloyd and Son 24
	Stansted Yoga Lounge	6	Newman's Home Services 24
	Hadham Brewery	OBC	Orion Heating 24
Food & Drink	Lams Chinese Takeaway	IBC	P Knight Plumbing 24
	Mayflower Chinese Takeaway	IBC	Stansted Gas Services 24
	The Dog & Duck	28	Printing Chogou Printing & Embroidery 24
	D Honour & Son (Landscapes)	OBC	CZ Design & Print 24
	Illuminating Gardens	30	Property Maintenance Do-It-4U 32
Garden Services	Gill Owen & Colin Frost	28	Fairweather Windows IFC
	Greenscroft Fencing	30	Finch and Son OBC
	Langthorns Plantery	28	Herts & Essex Window Doctor 32
	Mowtivated	28	Retailers Paris Legore (Flowers & Gifts) IFC
	The Secret Gardener	28	Squires (Gifts, Plants and Cards) IBC
	Daniel Robinson & Sons	26	Soft Furnishings & Sewing Stort Blinds IFC
Funeral Services	J Day & Son (Stonemason)	26	Teach me to Sew 12
			Tree Surgeons All Aspects Tree Services 28
			Tree Management Company 28
		Uppercut Trees 28	

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