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Front cover photo:

Cupola (before
re-development)
Bentfield Road
by Graham Cross
(see page 14)

Stansted Mountfitchet Village Magazine

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Printers:

Copyzone
01279 657769

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The Link is delivered free to over 3000 homes and businesses in Stansted Mountfitchet. Further copies may be purchased for £1 each or £10.00 for the year, plus postage.

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CM24 8AH

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

The Link is produced by Stansted Mountfitchet Magazine Community Interest Company and supported by local churches, businesses and the Parish Council. Each edition is also available online at www.stanstedlink.org.uk.

EDITORIAL

Autumn's here so it's goodbye summer and time for the Parish Litter Pick and Stansted's famous (or should that be infamous) highly entertaining Harvest Supper - details on page 5. At the end of October the clocks go back and soon the gritting lorries will be replacing the combine harvesters and tractors that were about only a week or two ago, or so it seems! Information regarding winter gritting and how to volunteer and help keep footpaths clear is on page 20. Before we know it the festive season will be upon us yet again. It's never too early to prepare for Christmas, so calling all organisers of quizzes, fayres and other local events planned for the coming months, please enter the details in the Village Diary at Stansted Library to avoid clashing dates. (Only works if everyone does it!) Please also note that to get your events included on The Link diary page, we need the details by the 11th of the previous month, eg November dates by 11th October.

Your feedback is always welcome, be it complimentary or otherwise, and we received one or two comments about last month's front cover photo including, "it's a bit 50 shades of grey!" Now is that meant to be complimentary or not??!

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Stansted network is compiled by Stansted Mountfitchet Parish Council.

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

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

How quickly the long summer days seem to have passed. It seems only a short time since the fields were just beginning to sprout and now the harvest has been gathered in and the fields ploughed and made ready for the sowing of next year's crops. In the churches and schools we are celebrating the harvest festival; giving thanks for all that is "safely gathered in". Of course, the harvest of the field in this land is, while still significant, only a proportion of the work which goes on to meet the needs of our people. Even industrial manufacturing, which was once the bedrock of our nation's wealth, is now less significant than it used to be. Today it is the work of minds, rather than hands, which leads the way.

When agriculture was the leading industry it was easy to see how reliant we are both on nature and our neighbours. Harvest festivals were a genuine thanksgiving and community celebration because a bad harvest could mean real hunger, even starvation. Today things are different for us; though not - of course - for much of the world. It is easy for us to think that food comes from Tesco's, but it doesn't. It's grown in the earth and brought to us by the labour of our neighbours. We still rely on nature and neighbour. We still rely on God. And we still need to celebrate the harvest. "Come ye thankful people come, raise the song of harvest home".



Paul Wilkin
Rector of St John's Church, Stansted



STANSTED FREE CHURCH

Methodist / URC
Chapel Hill
www.stanstedfreechurch.org.uk

Minister	Rev'd David Keeble Tel: 01799 522037 minister@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk
Lettings	Marion and Mike Dyer 7 Blythwood Gardens, Stansted CM24 8HG Tel :814059 lettings@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk

Preachers for October

- 6th 10.30am Don McGregor
13th 10.30am Rev'd David Keeble - Communion
20th 10.30am Peter Dawe
27th 10.30am Maureen Kendall

The Place on the Hill – every Wednesday and Friday 9.30am-12.30pm

Our Friday drop-in is proving very popular, with Art for All on the first Friday, and storytime on the third Friday of each month. Come and join us - all ages are welcome.



Shalom

Our meeting on Monday 14th October is at 7 Blythwood Gardens, when Rev'd Stuart Veitch is leading a bible study entitled 'The Unmerciful Servant' based on Matthew 18 verses 21-25. Our At Home on Monday 28th October is at 13 Blackbushe, Bishop's Stortford. Both meetings start at 8.00pm and all are welcome.

Marion Dyer
Tel: 814059

SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

Quaker Meeting House, Chapel Hill

Clerk	Mrs Anthea Lee 24 Lea Close Bishop's Stortford Tel: 656707
Meeting	Sunday, 10.30am

ROMAN CATHOLIC

St Therese of Lisieux
High Lane

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

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

Confessions	Saturday	10.00am and by appointment
-------------	----------	-------------------------------

Baptisms	By appointment
----------	----------------



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

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

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

Church Hall Bookings: Susie Ball
Tel or text: 07972 373994
Email: stjohns.hallbookings@gmail.com

St John's Diary **Sunday**

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

Monday-Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday

8.30am Morning Prayer There are services of Holy Communion on the first Tuesdays and Wednesdays of the month in Norman Court, Hargrave House and Broome End Nursing Homes.
Tuesday
9.00am St John's Tots
Wednesday
9.00am Morning Prayer
10.00am Holy Communion

Monday-Thursday and Saturday

5.00pm Evening Prayer

FROM THE REGISTERS - AUGUST

Funerals

1st Alan Moss, age 69 - at Parndon Wood
2nd Alan Lewell - at St Mary's
19th Elsie Dukes, age 84 - at St Mary's, buried in Stansted Cemetery
21st Jean Fuller, age 80 - at Parndon Wood
No baptisms or weddings in August



A FINE PAIR WITH A CROSS TO BEAR!

Kathy West and Stuart Ayres snapped by Malcolm Lloyd during the great furniture moving day in St John's in preparation for the new floor to be laid.

ST JOHN'S 300 CLUB

Once again, the draws held at the end of August, produced the unusual situation of one very lucky member winning two of the prizes with two different numbers - well done Anthony! The results were as follows:

£100	No 42	Anthony Minshull
£ 50	No 44	Anthony Minshull
£ 25	No 62	Pamela Jackson

In case you are wondering, all the higher numbers were in the pot too and it does get a very good shake-up! The draws for October will be held on Sunday 27th October in St John's Church/Hall following the 9.30am service. Numbers are still available at a cost of £2 per month per number. Please contact me if you would like to be in with a chance of winning whilst supporting the work of St John's Church.

Francine Cope
Tel: 814562



Harvest Supper Sunday 13th October St John's Hall

This is the date of our annual Village Harvest Supper followed by light entertainment provided by all the churches. As last year, we are providing a hot meal: fish, chicken or veggie burger and chips, followed by ice cream. The supper starts at 6.00pm and tickets priced £6, with accompanied children £5, are available from St John's Office, (815243 Mon, Wed, Fri 9.00 am-noon), Marion Dyer (814059), from me or any of the churches. **As we have to order the food from outside caterers, advance booking is required and tickets will not be available on the day.** Please bring your own drink and glasses. All are welcome and any surplus money raised will go to Care Network (Uttlesford) which is the umbrella organisation for a number of small voluntary groups, including Stansted Helpline.

Helen Baker
Tel: 814865



SHOE BOXES

Our packing evening is on Thursday 7th November from 7.00pm-9.00pm at Stansted Free Church Hall. On Saturdays 12th and 26th October, from 10.00am-noon the Free Church foyer will be open to receive any contributions for the boxes. We would also be very pleased to have any shoe boxes, covered with Christmas paper if possible. To see what can and can't go into the shoe boxes please see the leaflets in the churches and around the village. Unfortunately we are not able to include home stuffed toys, but would love to have puppets, hats (not too small), scarves and mitts, so please get out the knitting needles and get busy. If you wish to know more about Shoe Boxes and Operation Christmas Child please contact one of the names below.

Catherine Dean 813579
Helen Baker 814865
Eileen Quinn 812109

SPECIAL TREAT FOR ST JOHN'S CHILDREN

On Sunday 4th August the children who attend St John's Church were treated to an afternoon of go-karting at Rye House, Hoddesdon. The afternoon was organised in recognition of the hard work that the junior choir had put in and a bit of fun for those children who attend church regularly on a Sunday morning. It was a lovely sunny day and everyone arrived at 12.45pm for a safety briefing and to be fitted with a helmet and proper clothing. Then at 1.30pm our first two racers, Thomas West and Sophie Robinson, set off round the junior track in the electric cars; aged only three and four years old they gave quite a show.



Then it was the turn of Finley and Georgia Hartmann in the smaller 'Bambino' petrol cars; their Mum, Samantha, definitely got into the racing spirit and could be heard cheering them on from the other side of the park.



Finally it was the turn of the older children in the bigger 'cadet' cars. Keira and Eleanor Jessup, Lark Gneiting, Lucy and Emma Robinson, Jessica Bassick, Niamh and Alfie Madigan all had their goes racing around the junior circuit.



There were a few bumps and bruises but after tea everyone left for home having had a hugely exciting day.



Next year though I think we will do something safer; bungee jumping perhaps?!

Matthew Jessup

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY FOR CHILDREN

All children have a very important job to do. They have to grow, learn, socialise and play. When they are successful, children develop and thrive and this sense of achievement makes them happy. However, if children have learning, emotional, psychological or physical difficulties, this can hinder their ability to grow, learn, socialise and play, resulting in them not coping with basic activities such as getting dressed, brushing their teeth, concentrating in class, lacking confidence in the playground. This will affect their ability to learn, participate in school activities and make friends, which can be difficult, see www.cot.co.uk. Occupational therapists (OTs) work with the child, parents and teachers to find solutions to minimise the difficulties children face, helping them get the most from life. An OT will for example:

- Use games to improve finger skills to enable a child to dress.
- Enable a child who has a touch or sound sensitivity to cope with these sensations in daily life
- Recommend a specialist seat to a severely disabled child to enable them to sit upright
- Develop activities to improve hand strength and handwriting
- Help a child who is hyperactive to concentrate in class.
- Provide a slanted desktop for a child with coordination difficulties to support their posture to complete their work
- Show the parents of a six-month old baby with poor head control, the positioning to enable their baby to play on her tummy
- Identify appropriate sensory toys for a child with autism, for them to be able to 'self-regulate'/calm themselves

I have recently moved into the area and provide Private Occupational Therapy for children. Do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions with regard to the services I provide.

Lizelle Keyser
Tel: 07866 341659
Email: lizelle@qualityindependence.co.uk
www.qualityindependence.co.uk



**Friends of
St Mary's Church**

COFFEE MORNING

Wednesday 2nd October

10 am - noon

Day Centre

Raffle ~ Bric-à-Brac

Craft Stalls ~ Homemade Cakes

All Welcome Tel 812418

**British Red Cross
AUTUMN GIFT FAIR**

Wed 9th October

10 am - 3.30 pm

Parklands, Quendon CB11 3XN

Entry £5 incl coffee & biscuits

Lunches available

**Shoe Boxes for
Operation Christmas Child**

*Collection mornings for shoe
box items and empty shoe boxes
10 am - noon Sat 12 & 26 Oct
Free Church Foyer*



For more information tel
813579, 814865 or 812109
or see Link article and
posters around the village

Shoe Box Packing Thur 7th Nov 7 pm

VILLAGE EVENTS

October

2	Wed	Friends of St Mary's Coffee	Day Centre 10 am – noon
		Mountfitchet Club	Day Centre 2 - 4 pm
		Mountfitchet Garden Club	Day Centre 7.30 for 8 pm
3	Thu	History Society	Day Centre 8 pm
4	Fri	Business Forum	Linden House 7 am
6	Sun	Dogs' Winter Walkies starts	Dog & Duck 11 am
		Windmill Open	1.30 – 5.30 pm
9	Wed	British Red Cross Gift Fair	Parklands, Quendon 10 am – 3.30 pm
10	Thu	Business Forum Big Brew	Murdoch's, Station Road 10.30 am
		WI	Day Centre 7.45 pm
11	Fri	Link copy due in today	before 12 noon
11/18/25 Fri		Investigators	Free Church Hall 6.15 - 7.45 pm
12 & 26 Sat		Skips	Lower St Car Park 9 am – 3 pm
12 & 26 Sat		Shoe Box Collection	Free Church Foyer 10 am – noon
12	Sat	Village Quiz for Defibrillator	Day Centre 7 for 7.30 pm
13, 19 & 27	Sat/Sun	Stansted Family Café	Day Centre 9.30 - 11 am
13	Sun	Village Harvest Supper	St John's Hall 6 pm
14	Mon	Shalom	7 Blythwood Gardens 8 pm
17	Thu	U3A	St John's Hall 1.30 for 2 pm
18	Fri	Quiz Night	Grove Cottage, B Stortford 7 pm
		St Clare Magic Night	Clavering Village Hall 7 pm
		Autumn Litter Pick	Council Offices 10 am
		ATC Barbecue & Open Day	2 nd Ave, Stansted Airport 10 am – 2 pm
		music@stansted Concert	St John's Church 7.30 pm
20	Sun	NCT Nearly New Sale	Forest Hall School 11.30 am
25	Fri	Fish and Chip Friday	Day Centre 12.30 pm
28	Mon	Shalom At Home	13 Blackbushe, B Stortford 8 pm

Quiz Night

7.00 for 7.30 pm Sat 12th Oct

Day Centre

*In aid of funds to purchase a
defibrillator for village use
(to be kept at the Kings Arms)*

*Tickets £6 incl ploughman's from
815486 or 813938*

Tables of 6 ~ BYO drink & nibbles



**Village Harvest Supper
& Entertainment**

Fish/Chicken/Veggie & Chips

6 - 8.30 pm Sun 13th Oct

St John's Church Hall

*Tickets: Adults £6 schoolchildren £5 from
814059, 813579, 814865*

or St John's Church Office 815243

Bring your own drink & glass

All Welcome but advance booking required

Proceeds to Care Network (Uttesford)

Stansted & District NCT

Nearly New Sale

Clothes 0 - 11 years ~ Toys

Equipment ~ Books ~ Games

11.30 - 1 pm Sun 20th Oct

Forest Hall School, Stansted

Entry: suggested £1 donation
Tel Anna 812257



**STANSTED AUTUMN
LITTER PICK**

Saturday 19th October

Meet 10 am at the
Parish Council Offices
Crafton Green, Chapel Hill

Bring strong gloves - waste bags provided

Organised by Stansted Parish Council
All Welcome ~ tel 813214 (mornings)

Quiz

7.00 pm Fri 18th Oct

Grove Cottage,

London Road, B Stortford

*Tickets £10 incl fish & chip supper
from 712563*

Tables of 6 - 8 ~ BYO drink

*Hosted by Bishop's Stortford Chamber of
Commerce raising funds for Grove Cottage*

The Alberni String Quartet

play Beethoven, Janacek & Borodin

7.30 pm Sat 19th Oct
St John's Church

*Tickets £15 adults, children free
from Nockolds, Bishop's Stortford;
Stansted Carpets; Sonia Levy 815282
or at the door*

**UGLEY FARMERS'
MARKET**

10.00 am - Noon Sat 19th Oct

Ugley Village Hall

*Meat ~ Poultry ~ Eggs ~ Honey
Bread ~ Home Baking ~ Preserves
Fruit & Veg ~ Skincare
Crafts ~ Cards*

Refreshments with cake and bacon rolls

MAGIC NIGHT

with local magician Martin Cox

7 pm Fri 18th October

Clavering Village Hall

Tickets £12.50 from 659562,

01799 550758 or 07528 520016

Bar ~ Raffle ~ All Welcome

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Marcel Morelli MSc (Chiro), DC.

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FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S CHURCH

Models in the Pews

31st August brought a good number of exhibitors to St Mary's Church for this, the third Model in the Pews exhibition. The Moorhen Model Boat Club members were joined by enthusiasts from other clubs with their model cars, aeroplanes and tanks, and this year some wonderful model train layouts. Along with the models, a delightful display of patchwork and crafts were on display. With the teas, cakes etc along with wonderful weather, everything was set for a great day. It was a shame that with so much to see, numbers attending this year were down on last year. As one organiser put it "You'd go a long way to see a display such as this". Undeterred helpers and visitors were treated to the sights and sounds of model lorries, cars and trains. I'm sure, for many, the three youngsters who were pursued by a model tank around the church pews was one of the highlights! All funds raised go to the Friends to help towards St Mary's Church. A big thank you to all the exhibitors and to all the organisers and helpers, and of course to those visitors who did come and made the day worthwhile.



Photo by Sean Clark

Roger Barrett
Tel: 814216

The Friends are holding a coffee morning at the Day Centre on 2nd October from 10.00am-noon. All welcome.



*Stansted
Cricket
Club*

After completion of the HECL league season, the 1st XI finished 6th in Div 1 with eight wins and three no-results. The 2nd XI finished 4th in Div 5 with eight wins and one no-result. (This is the team's highest finishing position since 2003!) The Sunday XI have had six wins, six defeats and five draws from 17 matches. We have one remaining away fixture at Takeley. Recent outstanding individual batting performances have come from C Kirby (100 no, 65, 64), B Baker (89 no), P Armitage (71, 61 no), M Burgoine (68), H Kirby (61 no, 50), F Kirby (52) and D Hedge (51). Best bowling returns have come from D Powter (6-30) and C Kirby (5-26). The new paths to the pavilion and mower shed have now been completed. Anyone interested in scoring, or any adults wishing to join please contact me; juniors please contact Head Coach Keith Ayres on 814471.

David Hedge
Hon Secretary
Tel: 812509

AUTUMN APPLES

Autumn, Keats's season of 'mellow fruitfulness' when the hedgerows and orchards are full of ripening pomes, drupes, berries and hips - all botanical terms for different fruits in rich, inviting colours and often aromatic and juicy - to attract animals to eat them up and effect seed dispersal. Apples have inspired not only scientists - think of Sir Isaac Newton and the falling apple said to have inspired his theory of gravity - but also storytellers, and feature in mythology. But perhaps the most remarkable story is the slow journey of the orchard apple from its wild home in the Tien Shan mountains of Central Asia eastwards to China and westwards through Turkey to Europe, diversifying over the centuries into the 7,500 cultivars grown today.

At the Botanic Garden, we will be presenting just a fraction of this rich diversity at Apple Day on Sunday 27th October 10.00am-4.00pm. There'll be a try before you buy apple tasting tent, apple craft, locally produced goodies, trails, tours and storytelling. The Apple Day costs £3, plus normal admission of £4.50, Giftaid £4.95, children 16 and under free. Fast track entry to Apple Day via tickets purchased in advance. Garden is open in October 10.00am-5.00pm, November and December 10.00am-4.00pm.

Juliet Day
Development Officer
Cambridge University Botanic Garden



We were glad to welcome the children back after the summer holidays. The last weeks of the summer term were very busy, with the children enjoying a wonderful day out at Audley End miniature railway and a picnic in the sunshine. We also held a leavers' performance in which our older group performed nursery rhymes such as Five Little Monkeys, Five Currant Buns and Ten Fat Sausages to their very proud parents. The children also enjoyed taking our class bear, Barnaby, home for an adventure. Barnaby is becoming very well-travelled, with trips so far to Sydney, Barcelona, Paris and the Latitude festival! He has even been on the Eurostar and in a helicopter. We are always sad to see our older group leave at the end of the year but wish them lots of luck at their new schools and we're pleased to be welcoming our new starters. The topic for this half term is Autumn. The children will be learning about the changes in the weather, the turning of the leaves and other seasonal differences. We will be collecting pinecones, conkers and leaves to help the children learn about numbers and making natural collages with the things we find. Later in the term we will be learning about people and communities around the world and in particular the Hindu festival of Diwali. Birchanger Nursery Unit is a highly respected local preschool facility. In our own beautiful rural setting and well-equipped building we provide a safe, caring and stimulating learning environment for children aged 2½ to 5. Our nursery staff encourage creativity, independence and confidence to enable each individual child to reach their own potential. For more information please see our website at www.birchangernursery.org or contact us.

Carol Bullock
Nursery Manager
Tel: 810800
Email: admin@birchangernursery.org

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OUR ROAD

CAWKELL CLOSE

Cawkell Close is a quiet cul-de-sac off Bentfield Gardens. It is sandwiched between Cooper's Alley to the south and Hargrave Park to the north with some houses (ours included) backing directly onto the football pitch and 'grandstand', so we get free garden lighting during floodlit football matches in the winter months!



Both Bentfield Gardens and Cawkell Close were built on the grounds of the former Bentfield Hall, which stood roughly where the Esso petrol station is now. The two roads were initially known collectively as the 'Bentfield Hall Estate' before being given their current names. Bentfield Hall, also known as 'Reed Cottage' because of its reed-thatched roof, was the home of Major Edmund and Mrs Winifred Cawkell during the 20s and 30s. Major Cawkell was a well-respected local dignitary being a County Councillor, a JP and chief of the local fire brigade. He was born in 1890 and served in both world wars. In 1919, on the death of his uncle, Edmund Rochford, he inherited Rochfords Nurseries where he was considered to have been an excellent employer. Rochfords Nurseries closed down in 1970 and the site in Forest Hall Road remained derelict for many years until it became part of the Foresthall Park housing development which is why many of the roads there are named after former employees of the nurseries. Around 1937, the Cawkells sold Bentfield Hall and moved to Burton End, whereupon Bentfield Hall was turned into a hotel = the Bentfield Hall Hotel. The thatched roof was badly damaged by fire in 1940 but it was repaired and the house re-opened as the 'British Restaurant' between 1941 and 1945. Afterwards it continued as a restaurant and venue for functions (eg wedding receptions) into the 1960s when it was demolished after further fire damage.

There was a row of older houses in an unmade road that pre-existed the building of Bentfield Gardens and these were integrated into the new Bentfield Gardens development. They can be seen on the left hand side a short way into the estate with completely different and clearly older designs amidst the more modern other houses. Both Bentfield Gardens and Cawkell Close were built in the mid-1970s. Cawkell Close consists of 23 houses and was completed, we believe, around 1976-77. The names of the two roads are clearly derived from the original house grounds (Bentfield Gardens) and the Cawkell family name. Indeed, a friend who lives in Bentfield Gardens remembers Mrs Cawkell telling them that "your houses are built on my

orchard". Major Cawkell died in 1974 not long before building started. It is believed that two building companies went into liquidation during the construction of Cawkell Close and that it was completed by a third builder. To economise, the final contractor reduced the specification of the houses. That is why none except No 1 (which was bought by the site foreman, Mr Van Dock) have chimneys. Mr Van Dock, however, made sure **his** house had its chimney! Nos 12 and 12A (there is no 13) were bought before completion by the Hawkins brothers who were local builders and they completed their two houses to their own specifications making them different internally.

Many of the houses have had extensions - mostly to the back or side (where a side was available) and front in some cases. Most of the houses would be nearly unrecognisable to their original owners now. It is a pleasant and quiet close with a fairly low turnover of residents. There are still three of the original residents living here and a few more who have been here for more than 20 years. We ourselves are not far from being original residents having bought our house in 1978 ... and we are still there now nearly 35 years later - so we must like it!

One big advantage is that despite being a cul-de-sac, it has a direct footpath connection onto Cooper's Alley (which joins the Cambridge Road directly opposite the Co-Op), so we have easy access to the local shops, the bank and bus stops within just a few minutes' walk - close enough that when, on occasion, we have sat down for a meal and found that we were out of (for example) mint sauce, we could get to the Co-Op and back in less than five minutes, so we sometimes call it 'the larder'!



Cawkell Close is a sociable place to live. We have had two street parties over the years (for the wedding of Prince Charles and Princess Diana in 1981 and for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee in 2012) and another in August this year to celebrate the birth of Prince George.

Joy and Richard Thomas

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STANSTED EVENING WOMEN'S INSTITUTE



We were pleased to take part in the Windmill Fête on Bank Holiday Monday and rejoiced with everyone else at the good weather. We were in our usual role of dispensing tea and cakes in the tea tent, all of which were homemade of course! WI members could also be spotted on various other stalls around the field. I took time off to climb with my grandson to the top of the Mill, which he thoroughly enjoyed and I rather wished I'd remembered how hot it is once you get there and that you have to get down again!

This year we are organising the mince pie and flower arrangement competitions for the Christmas Market in December. You can find an entry form on page 22 of this copy of The Link in the Parish Council Section. The rules are very simple - in fact there aren't really any rules only simple instructions and although we can't get Mary Berry to judge - well perhaps that is an incentive to enter - we will be giving two prizes in each category. Do give it a go this year and if you do a Christmas table decoration it will be ready for you in good time.

It is sad to record the death of Jean Fuller, a long-time member of our Institute. Jean served on our WI Committee for 30 years from 1977 until 2008 when she became unable to attend our meetings any more. Jean was a very good cook and was always on hand helping at all the various activities that we did. She loved the WI and we still miss her. Our October Meeting in the Day Centre is on 10th at 7.45pm when the Speaker is Dudley Chigna - 'Beatrix Potter and the Lake District' - why not wander along?



Judy Collier
President
Tel: 812470

UGLEY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

The venue for our August meeting was the delightful grounds of 'Bycullah', home of our President Mrs Dorothy Wallace, where we all enjoyed a lovely traditional afternoon tea - dainty sandwiches and tiny cakes beautifully arranged on cake stands, the tables laid with white damask table cloths. The weather played its part too and the sun shone down on us all arrayed in our finery. A quiz based on the Royal family and the coronation was enjoyed by us all and we had two competitions instead of our usual one; one for the best hat - won by Mrs Mary McKean, and one for the best cup and saucer. Both competitions were judged by Derek Collier who was not only a very able judge, he helped with car parking too! A raffle, the prizes for which were generously donated by Mrs Collier, rounded off a perfect afternoon. Other highlights on the horizon for our members include: a talk on Fairtrade by Stuart Veitch in October, a musical afternoon with Woodwinds of Bishop's Stortford in November, and a magical afternoon in December with Peter Gardini. Why not come and join us? We meet on the 3rd Wednesday of the month in Ugley Village Hall at 2.30pm.

Andrea Fitt
Tel: 815922



Our new season opens on Saturday 19th October at 7.30pm in St John's Church, when The Alberni String Quartet, who played at the Club's inaugural concert in 1996, will be making a welcome return.



Karin Leishman (violin), Peter Pople (violin), Matthew Souter (viola) and David Smith (cello) will be playing three great works of the quartet repertoire: Beethoven's Quartet opus 135, Janacek's 'Intimate

letters' and Borodin's second quartet from which some of the luscious melodies in the musical 'Kismet' were taken. Tickets, adults £15, are available from Stansted Carpets; Nockolds Solicitors, Bishop's Stortford; Sonia Levy, tel 815282; or at the door. In a change of admission policy children and students under 18 are free of charge.

Future concerts

Sunday 15th December, Cambridge Chorale (making a return visit); Sunday 26th January, Louise Alder (soprano) and John Paul Ekins (piano); Saturday 22nd March, Kammerphilharmonie Europa, the famous chamber orchestra, founded in Cologne, comprising young musicians from 18 European countries. Check out our website

www.musicatstansted.com for general information, or if you have a specific enquiry, please email us on info@musicatstansted.com.

Alan Corbishley

THE CRAFTON ROOM

www.stansteddaycentre.org.uk

The autumn seems to be well and truly here with its damp dark mornings, overcast days and chilly evenings, summer but a distant memory and Christmas still months away (even though the shops will have us believe we should now be embracing Yuletide spirit in October). However, it is not all doom and gloom, as now is the time of year to enjoy some good old fashioned home cooking: casseroles, pies, roasts, bread and butter pudding, fruit crumbles and other delicious treats. Here the menu changes weekly and there is always something new. Due to the huge success of our new garden we are enjoying the benefits of home grown potatoes, onions, runner beans, fresh herbs, apples, plums and damsons. For those looking for a change we are introducing 'the choice is yours' on the second Friday of each month (11th October). As well as our traditional fayre we will be offering something a little more adventurous; this month Moroccan Tangine with Cous Cous - still £5.00 for two courses, come by yourself or bring a friend - everyone is ensured a warm welcome. Don't forget Friday 25th October is fish and chips £7.50 all inclusive (please book).

Julie Beck
Centre Manager
Tel: 815091

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**STANSTED
MOUNTFITCHET
WINDMILL**

A tea party arranged by three ladies in August was well supported by both visitors and the Clerk of the Weather, so perhaps this innovation may become an annual event.



This was followed by the Annual Bank Holiday Fête which was also blessed with a sunny day. Stansted folk turned out en masse to make for a lively afternoon's activity and a refilling of our modest coffers. Whilst the sum raised (almost £2,400) was slightly less than last year, we are expecting our maintenance costs to be correspondingly lower now that the principal improvements have been almost completed. The Fête is as much about village enjoyment as finance, and on this the unanimous verdict was that it proved to be another splendid occasion with something for everyone. The tea tent was especially popular, closely rivalled by bric-à-brac and books. Pony rides on the Recreation Ground were well supported, as were cakes, tombola, china smashing and the numerous other stalls. The Mill itself received a good succession of visitors with the wind enabling the sails to turn. What has become a village-wide event owes much of its success to the numerous helpers who unstintingly gave of their time and energy. Our immense thanks go to them with special mention of Mike Byrne and the Scouts, Simon and Geoff for collecting and returning the tables, Richard and Luke for the sound system, the singers, Terry for his patent teddy bear elevator, and of course Sheila, Molly, and Bridget who masterminded the day.

Tasks within the Mill which have recently been undertaken by Steve, Richard and Tudor include fitting wedges to the shades which have resulted in the sails turning at lower wind speeds. These three enthusiasts have also achieved a lot of unspectacular but essential work. Our Windmill is now in better condition than at any time since its working days thanks to the legion of stalwarts beginning with Mr Ladbroke and Irving Sanders who began the restoration in the 50s. Exposed to all that the weather can throw at it the good work has to go on. If you would like to be part of the team you just ring Molly on 816768. The final opening of the season is on Sunday 6th October from 1.30pm-5.30pm.

Derek Honour

Photos by Sean Clark



The National Childbirth Trust
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you want to be

What a fun packed month Stansted NCT has planned this October! Our Nearly New Sale on Sunday 20th October 11.00am for NCT card holders, 11.30am for non-members is at the newly branded Forest Hall School, formerly MMCC, bringing the sale back into central Stansted and providing ample free parking. Excellent quality toys, books, games plus clothes for children 0-11 years old will be for sale plus prams, stair gates, cots etc at bargain prices. Entry is £1 donation to the NCT, and there will still be spaces to sell so please contact me.

Thinking ahead for Christmas presents, Yvonne Lorraine is coming to St John's Hall on Saturday 5th October to take family photos, sitting is free and the shots are individually priced, with no pressure to buy. Please book with me in advance. Half-term's messy play is for all children to make Halloween decorations, and to reserve tickets for the popular Audley End Halloween train ride, please call to reserve tickets. All our activities are open for members and non-members, and are on our Facebook page with information about all classes. Our coffee mornings are informal and held in a member's house; a great way of making new friends. Mondays are for toddlers from walking till 3 years and Wednesdays are for pregnant bumps and babies up to walking age. This month's events:



- Friday 4th October 10.00am-11.30am St John's Church Hall**
Pre-schoolers Tea and Toys
- Saturday 5th October 10.00am-11.30am St John's Church Hall** Yvonne Lorraine portrait photographer
- Sunday 20th October 11.30am -1.00pm Forest Hall School**
Nearly New Sale. Entry 11.00am for NCT card holders
- Monday 28th October 10.00am-11.30am St John's Church Hall** All pre-schoolers and KS1 children. Halloween Messy Play
- Wednesday 30th October 10.00am-11.30am Coconuts, Dunmow** All children - soft play
- Thursday 31st October 3.00pm Audley End Halloween train ride** All children. Must book with me in advance.

Anna Sedgbeer
Tel: 812257

LADIES OFF AT A TANGENT!!!

We are a group (formerly Ladies Circle) whose husbands were members of Bishop's Stortford and District Round Table. Unfortunately like so many service organisations the Bishop's Stortford branch of the Round Table has ceased to exist, although the movement is still very active in the UK, Saffron Walden, Epping and Harlow being the nearest. As a group we have a fundraising event every year. Last year we supported the VIP Club for visibly impaired people and the year before that Help for Heroes. This year we are having another 'Flog It' in aid of the Multiple Sclerosis Society on Wednesday 13th November 7.00pm for 7.30pm at the Day Centre, entrance £3 to include refreshments. Please come and support this worthwhile charity and have some fun at the same time!!

Sue Hitchmough

OLD BOILER HOUSE

Hargrave House Residential Care Home, built in 1777, was once a private residence, with houses later constructed in the grounds for the purpose of serving it. These included The Laundry Cottage, The Dairy, the boiler-generator house, East Lodge and West Lodge, all on Bentfield Road. The boiler house was built in 1875 by C R Pritchett to accommodate the generator for the Hargrave Estate, and although absent from the Ordnance Survey map of 1876 (it was common for buildings to be missed when maps took a few years to construct) it appears on the 1921 map.

The building is single storey and constructed of brick with gable roofs covered in slate; similar in architectural style to the main house with high vaulted ceilings. It was built on a cruciform plan with an addition at the south west corner and to the south east of one arm. The floor originally had an intricate pattern of black and white ceramic tiles. The plant room contained the generating equipment that was removed in the 1930s. At the centre of the roof is a cupola, which had a decorative metal finial above it (as pictured on the front cover). It's believed to have once housed a wind-driven extractor to remove gases released during the charging of accumulators in the building.



The property is a Grade II listed building and was previously 70 Bentfield Road, home to a tack room, part of Norman's Ginger Beer Brewery, Stansted Fluid Power Ltd and CMC Fabrications, to name a few of the businesses previously based there. CMC Fabrications applied for a preservation order on the structure but it was turned down on the grounds that the finial was not stably attached. The present owners, the Murdochs, have the metal finial as an ornament, one of the stunning features of the rear garden. (The developers had decided it was a leak risk to re-attach, after having removed it during re-development.)



The 'old boiler house' is now extended and part of the newly-named Bentfield Close. Norman Quarter or Norman Court were proposed names, but the Post Office rejected them due to potential confusion with Norman's Way, near Croasdale Road. The building is a relatively late example of small generator buildings constructed in the Victorian era, and although extensively modernised, still retains its historical charm.



Anna Nolan



MOUNTFITCHET GARDEN CLUB

September Meeting

Combining two of his hobbies, growing alpine plants and photography, our September guest, Mr Douglas Joyce, spoke about 'The Diversity and Growing of Alpine Plants'. As a member of the Alpine Garden Society he travels around the country to the regional shows photographing new arrivals and old favourites. Using the alphabet, members were shown examples from A to Z, accompanied with anecdotes about the growers and their 'roadie lifestyle' (many of them follow the shows around the country), the plant's location in the wild, its discovery etc with humorous slides to fill the photographic gaps when plants were not available - the funniest being 'O' which showed a long line of people waiting patiently!! At the moment many of the new arrivals are coming from South America and the seeds are being keenly sought by collectors. Mr Joyce explained that one of the largest shows was held locally to us - The Early Spring Show was held at Mark Hall School in Harlow. The next show will be held in March. At this show both exhibitors and specialist nurseries have plants to sell if you are looking for that special plant to fill a gap.

Future Meetings

- | | |
|--------------------------|---|
| 2 nd October | Mrs Sue Buckingham
'The Plants and Scenery of Costa Rica' |
| 6 th November | Mr Peter Jackson of Scotsdales
'The World of the Houseplant' |

Our meetings are held at The Day Centre, adjacent to the car park at the top of Chapel Hill. Doors open at 7.30pm for 8.00pm start. Refreshments are available prior to the meeting. Everyone is welcome – day visitors £2.50. Membership is also available.

Maralyn Harris
Contact via Website or tel 07919 478144

BRIAN AND EILEEN QUINN – GOLDEN WEDDING

The Golden Wedding Anniversary of Brian and Eileen Quinn was on 31st August, and they celebrated the occasion on the following day, Sunday 1st September. At the 10.00am Mass at St Theresa's, Father Joe White surprised everyone by presenting them with a Papal Blessing from the new Holy

Father, Pope Francis I. Brian and Eileen, who do so much for others, were very moved by this wonderful tribute. It was well deserved and resulted in spontaneous applause from the congregation. An emotional Brian thanked Father Joe and everyone present for their support and good wishes. It was such a fitting reflection of the love and esteem that Brian and Eileen are held in the Parish.

Later that day, over 80 guests sat down to a delicious lunch in the church hall and were able to look at Eileen's original wedding dress and shoes, photographs taken over the last 60 years and other memorabilia. It was a lovely occasion.

David Morson



Photo by Tony Aldridge



HuwJohnson Club

The Huw Johnson Club restarted with a games evening on 19th September after our summer break. Whilst we haven't had Club evenings over summer, we have been busy. A few weeks ago, over 40 members and helpers went to see the Buddy Holly Story musical at the Harlow Playhouse on a Saturday afternoon, which we all thoroughly enjoyed. By the end, many of us were standing in the aisles dancing and singing along, and many of the helpers in particular were reliving their youth! On a sunny Sunday in August, Hannah and Chris Ropkins hosted their annual 'Lunch on the Lawn' fundraiser for the Club. Over 50 people attended, and were treated to a delicious lunch in their garden near Dunmow. Entrance tickets, plus raffle ticket sales, meant that we raised over £1,000 for the Club, which will fund our annual New Year's Dinner in January. Huge thanks to the Ropkins once again for their fantastic support. In addition, we've just heard from Waitrose in Bishop's Stortford, that the Huw Johnson Club raised £260 from their Community Matters scheme, so thanks to everyone who put their green token in our box - it will help to support our Christmas Pantomime trip. We are also looking forward to a wine-tasting fundraising event on 16th November in Stansted ... more details next time! We've got a busy timetable over the next few weeks ... from dance displays to musical evenings with some special guests, and we are looking forward to catching up with everyone after our summer apart. If you want to learn more about the Club or

would like to come along, do get in contact with Sandra on 812627 or myself.

Katharine Collis
Tel: 461270



**STANSTED
BOWLING
CLUB**

Finals Day Saturday 17th August

Well done to all finalists and winners . All games were played within the sporting spirit with very close results. Many thanks to all the spectators, markers, catering and bar. To round it off we all had a great meal at The Chequers.

Results

Dolly Thompson
Eleanor Irwin
Ladies Challenge
Newman
Novices
Buck
Fletcher
Alcock
Brett

Winners

Ann Conroy and Patricia Perry
Ann Conroy
Doreen Scraggs
Peter Brown
Brian Quinn
John Scraggs and Mike Shewry
John Scraggs
Stephen Hill
Stephen Hill

Cooper Cup 19th August - second leg which we lost to Bishop's Stortford.

President's Day 25th August hosted by John Hollis - a most enjoyable day with the jack off centre etc. a real challenge for some and great fun for all - followed by a buffet - winner of the day was Ann Owen.

Windmill Fete 26th August - many thanks to John Pullin for running a stall on behalf of the Bowls Club at this event.

Daniel Robinson Cup 1st September - this was the second leg at Elsenham where we came second. Well done to Elsenham in retaining the cup. Our thanks must go to Bart Robinson for sponsoring this game.

Ladies Friendlies 5th September against Elsenham - a very decisive win by Stansted ably led by skips Ann Conroy and Patricia Perry with their teams of Lynda Foster and Stella Rodgers, Yvonne Sharp and Suzanne Page.

Emerson Cup A good afternoon of bowling - great to see Suzanne Bush coming to watch us. Lots of banter on all rinks. Results were very close on this game - winner was Alan Sparrow with 30 shots and second Doug Stephenson with 31 shots.

Carpet Bowls re-starts after 21st September (which is our Last Bowl) - please contact below for details.

Doreen Scraggs
Hon Secretary

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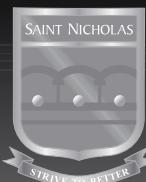
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STANSTED HALL CRICKET CLUB

The Club had four objectives for the 2013 season which were all achieved: to raise funds for the new nets, to increase the girls' section, to have a coaching session with a disabled group, and to enjoy the season. The photo shows Pat Clower and Jim Ward, two Club Vice Presidents, opening the new nets with some of the Club's young players.



The winter months will be busy for both junior and senior sections. The juniors will be playing indoors at HECC (U11 and U13) and at the Chelmsford Indoor Cricket School at the County ground (U15). The seniors have a Golf Day, Music Quiz, Presentation evening and Christmas Draw, and the very popular General Knowledge Quiz. If you would like to join the juniors playing indoors or join the senior section in any of the above activities please contact me.

David Brown
Chairman
Tel: 831011



We had a wonderful summer - lots of fun on our many outings to places such as Hatfield Forest and Paradise Wildlife Park, to name a couple ... a big thank you to all our volunteers and staff. We had a lot of improvements to our building including a new kitchen and new windows. As always, there are lots of people still fundraising and supporting us, including Stansted's Catherine Hattee with a half marathon and Elsenham's Stuart Lucas in the Great North Run. Thank you so much for your support! We are already busy planning our next Vintage Tea Party for 2014 and are in the process of trying to collect our own china to save on the hefty cost of hiring it again, so if you have any old cups, saucers, plates, tea pots etc (they don't need to match) please contact me - I can collect! The Bishop's Stortford Chamber of Commerce is hosting a **Quiz Night** for Grove Cottage on 18th October at 7.00pm at Grove Cottage. For tickets please contact Francesca Cozens on 712563.

On Fridays 10.00am-11.30am we now have a new playgroup for pre-school children with special needs and their siblings. If you or anyone you know would benefit from meeting up with other parents while your children play, please do give me a call. We would love to meet you. Many thanks.

Claire Cook
Trustee
Tel: 814782 Mobile: 07947 319471

NEWS FROM THE VET

As the nights draw in and we settle into autumn routines of bringing in wood for the wood burner and wiping the dog's feet when they come back from a walk, it seems hardly possible that only a few weeks ago we were wearing shorts and sandals and worrying about whether we'd put enough sun cream on. What a summer we had; from an animal's point of view I'm not sure they enjoyed it quite as much as we did - we certainly had some very hot and bothered dogs and even a cat with heat stroke, which is very unusual. This particular cat had perfected the art of sun bathing over several years but fell asleep on a hot windowsill for just a bit too long this time and came over 'all funny' when it tried to get up. I've also never removed as many grass seeds from dogs before; they got up noses, in ears and eyes, in between toes and even into armpits! That, together with an outbreak of kennel cough in the area and an increase in flea infestations, meant we were so busy I didn't even have time to write a Link article last month. We've also been busy at the surgery with our programme of additional events. I'm sure you know by now that we run puppy parties in the evening which are organised by the nurses and are a great opportunity for vaccinated puppies to socialise in a safe environment while the nurses chat about popular puppy problems like house training and flea and worm prevention; they're great fun and each owner gets a free goody bag as well. Last month we also held evening talks on elderly cat problems and feline behaviour and we had our autumn tortoise evening giving lots of useful hints on how to hibernate your tortoise. Over the next couple of months we are participating in an equine information evening organised by Saffron Walden Rugby Club to raise funds for a new pitch and also hoping to run a first aid talk for dog and cat owners. Keep checking our website www.mercerandhughes.co.uk for more information or our Facebook page.

Finally a bit of brilliant news: as part of National Pet Month this year we organised a series of fundraising events including guess the number of dog biscuits in a jar, cake baking, sponsoring local poo bins and free microchips for dogs in the Uttlesford area. As a result of all these efforts we have won the competition for the best event held across the UK! So well done to all our staff for their hard work and for doing that little bit extra, and thank you also for joining in and supporting us in our efforts.

Ilse Pedler
Mercer & Hughes Veterinary Surgeons

YOU DON'T WANT TO GO THERE

The award for the foulest footpath in Stansted goes to the one from Stoney Common to Pesterford Bridge through the land known as Grippers. This is in spite of two new dog bins in addition to the existing two. Footpaths are for the enjoyment of everyone, and even dog walkers can't enjoy stepping in it. Of course those who don't pick up are the minority, but they spoil it for the rest of us. So this appeal is to those few dog walkers who haven't yet got the message. **Bag and bin the poo!** The litterers have also been out in force at Grippers. Take your litter home or drop it in a bin, not on the path. Keep Stansted clean!

Catherine Dean
On behalf of Stansted Mountfitchet Parish Council

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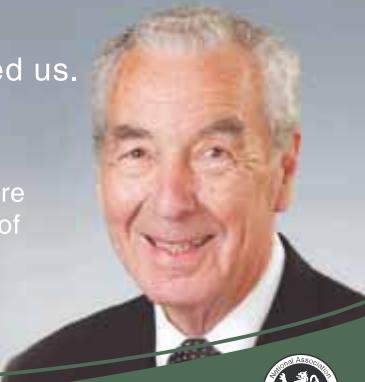
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Stansted Network

NEWS FROM YOUR LOCAL COUNCILS

PLAN FOR 14 CAMBRIDGE ROAD REFUSED

On 28 August the Planning Committee refused, by a very substantial majority, the application for 14 residential houses and a commercial building. The committee considered that there was over-development, that the parking provision for both the commercial unit and houses was below requirement and that many of the houses failed to meet County and District standards. The Parish Council opposed the application on these grounds.

PLAN FOR 10 CAMBRIDGE ROAD APPROVED

A new tyre and exhaust workshop, together with a small additional showroom with offices over the top, was overwhelmingly approved at the same meeting. The Parish Council made no objection.

LOWER STREET CAR PARK - GOOD NEWS

Uttlesford District Council has agreed to clear the bins and banks from the end of the car park. Not only will this remove an eyesore, it will stop damage, rubbish and scavenging. More importantly it will open up the opportunity to use this end of the car park for additional parking which should help to relieve expected pressure once the Health Centre complex is developed.

CCTV - NEW SYSTEM COULD HAPPEN!

Once the last issue relating to the positioning of a pole in the vicinity of the Recreation Ground is resolved (perhaps on 25 September), then the scheme should receive the go-ahead and hopefully will be operational during the autumn. The quality of the cameras should enable the police to use the system to much greater effect. Cross your fingers.

PARKING ON OUR STREETS

By the time you read this edition of the Link, you should have received a report discussing the

problems of on-street parking and indicating some possible solutions. However, simply moving the problem from one road to somewhere nearby would not be satisfactory. There is no easy answer but please let us have your views or proposals which may help.

BENTFIELD PLAY AREA - RESPONDING TO YOUR IDEAS

Following consultation a number of changes are being considered to prevent undue nuisance and to benefit less able children. Revised plans are being prepared and we shall consult with some of the people who responded to the first consultation prior to any final decisions being taken.

FOREST HALL ROAD - A NEW FOOTPATH

Hopefully work will have commenced, or even finished, by the time you read this edition. A new footpath is being constructed from the end of Peachey Walk to Forest Hall School and the Leisure Centre. This should, at last, provide a safe walking route on a busy stretch of road. At the same time, Essex County Highways intend to undertake some improvements to the drainage in the area to lessen the flooding which can occur at the corner by the leisure centre.

FLOODING - REDUCING THE RISK

On 16 August after a short heavy downpour of rain, limited flooding occurred in Lower Street towards the junction with Chapel Hill. The cause was blocked drains which prevented the water flowing away. It would be helpful if all parishioners, including councillors, could keep an eye on drains and, if you see cause for concern, please let the Parish Council know. Hopefully preventative action can be taken (telephone 01279 813214).

PROGRAMME FOR WINTER GRITTING

Although, as these words are being written, it is warm and the sun is shining, the autumn is looming with winter possibly not far behind. The County Council, which is already preparing, should cover the major roads. The Parish Council, subject to the availability of labour/voluntary help, will clear the footpaths in the following order: Cambridge Road, Norman's Way, Chapel Hill, Lower Street and Cooper's Alley, followed by other well-used paths if resources permit.

If you are willing to help on a voluntary basis subject to your availability at the time, please call the Clerk on 813214 or email to parishcouncil@stansted.net

25th SEPTEMBER COULD PROVE A CRITICAL DAY FOR THE PARISH

It is likely, but not certain, that the Planning Committee at Uttlesford District Council will decide on three important planning applications:

- *Development of land at Walpole Farm* to provide 160 houses and commercial buildings. Currently there are over 700 objections, including the Parish Council, to this proposal. If UDC approves this application, then the road North will have been opened to more development proposals, and the landscape will be blighted.
- *Development at Elms Farm* - the proposal for 53 houses is supported by the Parish Council provided that a legal agreement confirms that Stansted Park cannot be developed in any way unless the Parish Council agrees. This guarantee, coupled with the opening up of the park, would be of great benefit to the parish.
- *Crafton Green development* - the proposal to redevelop the library site into a larger, welcoming building incorporating the Parish Council, Library, District community information, Citizens' Advice Bureau, the Police and a public toilet will be pursued subject to planning permission, a lease with Essex County Council and confirmation of funding.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES - EARLY WARNING

- 2 November - Bonfire Night
- 10 November - Remembrance Sunday which this year will incorporate a short service around the War Memorial

Although very different these are major and memorable village occasions.

FROM ESSEX POLICE

A man has been charged in connection with a series of burglaries in Uttlesford. Neil Newling, 41, was arrested on August 31 at his home at Meredith Court, Stansted Mountfitchet.

He was later charged with four burglaries in the village between July 9 and August 31. In one of the burglaries a BMW car was taken.

Officers continuing to investigate other burglaries which have occurred within the Stansted area.

OUR DOG FOULING CAMPAIGN

We would like to place on record our grateful thanks to Mercer and Hughes Veterinary Surgeons who have sponsored the purchase of three new dog bins in the village. One is located on Cambridge Road just beyond the veterinary surgery, and two have been placed along "Grippers" footpath leading from Stoney Common Road to Pesterford Bridge.

STANSTED ALTERNATIVE YOUTHIE - SAY

Thanks to the support of Stansted Parish Council we are managing to keep the Youth Centre in Lower Street open 2 evenings a week after Essex County Council reduced the opening times due to cutbacks.

We are open Tuesdays and Thursdays, 7-9.30 pm throughout the year only closing for half terms and Christmas. It is supervised by a professionally qualified youth worker with 25 years experience and supported by a Level 2 qualified youth worker and three very good local volunteers. The young people have already succeeded in achieving second place in the Stansted in Bloom planted area competition which was a huge

achievement considering the young people didn't know a weed from a flower when they first started on the area in the spring.

They have also had a very enjoyable trip to Adrenaline Alley Skatepark in Corby in August. Fifteen young people with boards, bmx's and inline skates spent four hours at the park. They are now planning lots of fundraising over the autumn/winter months to help raise money to replace the deteriorating skate ramps in Stansted and also to visit our friends at the two youth centres we have forged friendships with in Belfast, Northern Ireland.

If anyone would like to volunteer at the youth centre with us or help with our fundraising please contact Linda Barnes - 07947548051. It's lots of fun and very rewarding!

CHRISTMAS FAYRE

Planning is now in earnest for the Fayre on 7 and 8 December on the Lower Street Car Park. Stalls are being booked through the Parish Council office at £35 per day. The increase in price this year is due to having overnight security - so no need to pack up stalls on Saturday night. A second marquee offering a variety of refreshments and free entertainment will be available for people to relax and enjoy the festivities. Charities will have a reduced price of £20 for one day, £35 for both days; the organisations Charity No. etc will be required for the reduction.

The WI are organising two competitions - Best Mince Pie and Best Table Decoration. Entries cost just 50p and the entry forms are on page 22.

GRASS CUTTING

Various reports have been received in the office that grass cuttings have been dumped in the following locations: Left hand side of the Memorial Gardens - nearest the Church, Coopers Alley and on the corner of the play area at Bentfield Upper Green. Littering in this way is an offence and as such the Parish Council have notified our Community Police Officer.

DATES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

2 October	Full Council
9 October	Windmill - 7 pm followed by Open Spaces
19 October	Autumn Litter Pick, meet 10am at the Parish Council Offices
23 October	Full Council
30 October	Highways - 7 pm followed by Finance

CONTACT DETAILS

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

PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Margaret Ambrose	814675
	maggielincoln@aol.com
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Geoffrey Sell (Chairman)	815925
	sellgeoffrey@yahoo.co.uk
Valerie Trundle	813433
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Uttlesford District Council Members

Alan Dean	813579 cllrdean@uttlesford.gov.uk
Iris Evans	815848 cllrevans@uttlesford.gov.uk
John Salmon	814789 cllrsalmon@uttlesford.gov.uk
Joe Rich	813112 cllrrich@uttlesford.gov.uk

Essex County Council Member

Ray Gooding	813103 cllr.ray.gooding@essexcc.gov.uk
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alan.haselhurst.mp@parliament.uk

Police - PC Tom Bastendorff
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Neighbourhood Watch

www.stanstednhw.org.uk

Parish Public Transport Representatives

Valerie Trundle - 813433
Joy Thomas - 813871

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Beavers Age 6-8	David South Tel: 814371	Pilots (age 5-18)	Valerie Trundle Tel: 813433
Bowls Club	Doreen Scraggs Hon Secretary Tel: 815036 Email: doreenscraggs@talktalk.net	Rainbow Pre-School	Gill Pursglove (Administrator) Tel: 814242/07966 506997 Email: admin@rainbowpreschool.net
Brownies/Guides	Glynis Prothero District Administrator Tel: 814145	Rainbow Tots (age 1½-rising 3)	Tina South Tel: 814371
CAB	Tel: 08444 775986	Rainbows	Sue Pollard Tel: 813734
Corkers Netball	Lisa Menzella Tel: 07827 988732	Rotary Club	Peter Latham Tel: 507294 Email: yp.latham@tiscali.co.uk
Cricket Club (adults) (juniors)	David Hedge Tel: 812509 Keith Ayres Tel: 814471	Royal British Legion	John Segar Tel: 813289
Cub Scouts Age 8-10½	Roger Musgrove Tel: 816172	Scouts (age 10½ -14)	Mike Byrne Tel: 812780
Day Centre	Tel: 815091	Shotokan Karate Ryu	Donna Ring Tel: 731752 Email: skr@skr.org.uk
Explorer Scouts	Fintan Lambe Tel: 817937	Spangles Children's Centre	Tel: 812348
Friends of St Mary's Church	Audrey Rodgers Tel: 812162	Stansted Family Café	Ros Page Tel: 810813 Email: rospagemusic@yahoo.com
Garden Club	Maralyn Harris Chairman Tel: 07919 478144	Stansted Football Club	Tom Williams Tel: 07921 403842
Grove Cottage	David Scott Tel: 656085	Stansted Sparks Netball	Gemma Snelling Tel: 07894 944242 Email: gemmasnelling@me.com
Helpline	Tel: 07704 553727	Tennis Club	Daphne Lunnon Tel: 817574 Email: drlunnon@gmail.com
History Society	Peter Brown Chairman Tel: 812816	Thornbury Badminton Club	Marion or Shirley Tel: 869896 or 815871
Huw Johnson Club	Katharine Collis Tel: 461270 Email: kat_collis@hotmail.com	U3A	Christine Chair Tel: 817587
Inner Wheel Club	Lynn Rutt, President Tel: 654537	Women's Institute (Stansted)	Judy Colliver President Tel: 812470
Investigators	Ros Page Tel 810813 Email: rospagemusic@yahoo.com	Women's Institute (Ugley)	Dorothy Wallace President Tel: 850215
Little Scrummers	Andrew Poyer Tel: 07738 591232	Whoosh Explore Canoe Club	Helen and Peter Nash Tel: 817453
Millers (Windmill)	Derek Honour Tel: 647213	Youth Centre	Linda Barnes Tel: 01371 873156/ 07920 466923
Mountfitchet Club	John Robinson Tel: 812755		
Music Club	Sonia Levy Tel: 815282 Email: info@musicatstansted.com		
NCT	Anna Sedgbeer Tel: 812257		
Neighbourhood Watch	Valerie Trundle Tel: 813433		

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

BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES or SPECIAL OCCASIONS

If you would like to mark any occasion that is special to you or someone you know, by announcing it in 'The Link', please email a short message together with your name address and telephone number to: announcements@stanstedlink.org.uk or send the details to 7 Blythwood Gardens, Stansted CM24 8HG. Details must be submitted by the 11th of the month for publication the following month.



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STANSTED SURGERY UPDATE



On-Line Access

We are pleased to announce that we are now able to offer on-line appointment booking. If you would like to take advantage of this system please bring some photo ID into the surgery and we will provide instructions as how to register. Once you have registered you will then be able to book and cancel appointments on line and also request repeat prescriptions. For those patients that currently use our Practice website to order your repeat prescriptions, please note that you will need to re-register for the new system as the website will no longer support this facility.

Vaccination Programmes

There have been several new vaccination campaigns introduced this year which are keeping our nursing team busier than usual and have necessitated purchasing a new vaccine fridge to increase our storage capacity!

Whooping Cough Vaccine

We are offering the whooping cough vaccine to all of our pregnant ladies after their 27th week of pregnancy. This vaccine boosts the mother's antibodies which are then passed from the mother to her baby. This protects the infant from whooping cough until we can offer routine immunisation when the baby is eight weeks old.

Flu Campaign

I know it's hard to believe but the Practice team are now preparing for this year's flu campaign! We will be offering the usual flu vaccine to all of our patients in the 'at risk' groups starting from late September/early October. In addition this year there is a vaccine available for all children aged two or three years old on 1st September. We will be writing to all parents who have children in this age group to offer you an appointment with your child. The children's vaccine is in the form of a nasal spray that is easily and painlessly administered.

Shingles Vaccine

In September we will be offering a vaccine against shingles to certain groups of our patients. This is a Government led scheme and initially we will be vaccinating all of our patients who are 70 years old as at 1st September.

Rotavirus Vaccine

In addition we will be giving a new oral vaccine against rotavirus infection for babies. Rotavirus is a common cause of diarrhoea and sickness, and the vaccine is now available for babies as part of the NHS childhood vaccination programme. The rotavirus vaccine is given as two doses alongside their other routine childhood vaccinations. The vaccine, called Rotarix, is given as a liquid from a dropper straight into the baby's mouth for them to swallow.

Anabel Howard
Practice Manager
Tel: 813200

My job is taking me overseas so I will, with some sadness, be leaving Foresthall Park and handing over the reins of the Residents' Association to Henry Willetts, an active member of the Committee over the past year. I know our group has limited powers but I do believe it continues to be useful as a source of information, whilst the development is still growing. We have achieved a lot in the last few years - some minor (pushing for bins and noticeboards, organising litter picks and a few social events) and some more significant (trying to ensure that due process is followed with regards to the potential shop in Foresthall Park). I have perhaps had most fun meeting new friends through the social activities such as tag rugby, now grown into more of a village-wide activity, which I hope will continue.

I think that Foresthall Park is beginning to feel like a real community and more importantly, part of the village of Stansted. In July St Mary's Primary School had one of its most successful summer fayres, in part due to the weather, but also the support of the residents of Foresthall Park. I hope that St Mary's will flourish and also wish the new Forest Hall School (formerly MMCC) every success too. The freshly turfed area (Rochford Square) will give the development a much needed green space and lung. That said, there is still much to do and plenty going on:

- The proposed shop
- What will happen to the site earmarked for the health centre (on a personal note, I hope that the local authorities find some way of acquiring this land for St Mary's School to ensure all residents can get a place at the nearest school for their children)
- Highways improvements (Church Road safety, path to the Romeera, Forest Hall Road speed limit etc)
- Community investment (where to spend the approx £250k ring fenced for the residents of Foresthall Park from the S.106 agreement)

I would like to thank everyone who has helped me over the last few years. Please give the new Chairman your support and if you wish to be more involved then do get in touch with any of the Committee members - fresh faces and ideas are always welcome. I believe that a general meeting for all residents will be set up in the not too distant future to discuss these and other issues/concerns – please keep an eye on the website for details.

Stephen Berry (ex-Chairman!)
Tel: 647652
Email: s.berry@mac.com

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STANSTED QUAKER MEETING HOUSE

www.quaker.org.uk/stansted



There was a time when things were made to last, including Quaker meeting houses. The first one, built on Chapel Hill in 1703, served local Friends for 262 years before it was demolished in 1965. Sadly, its factory-made timber replacement with seating for 85 people and costing £6,000 lasted no more than 28 years before needing major repair and improvement. This effectively amounted to a rebuild with the original timber frame being encased in a brick and tile skin. Along with extensive internal alterations, the meeting house was transformed thanks to a tireless fundraising campaign to meet costs of £62,000. The original meeting house was built at a time when Quakerism was flourishing in communities across the country. It was built of lath and plaster on a timber frame with a cellar and tiled roof. A brick and slate extension was added in 1850 and a brick porch was added at another time, replacing a very fine original entrance doorway.

Quaker meeting house expert Hubert Lidbetter described the meeting house in about 1955 as "a perfect little building in the best local tradition, ruined by a Victorian extension." We do not know what Hubert Lidbetter would make of today's meeting house in architectural terms, but we do know that it still stands "in the best local tradition" as a focus for both religious worship and various community activities ranging from yoga to children's dance classes.



The Quaker garden is an oasis of peace where the graves of Friends long departed line part of the garden perimeter.

We have a complete record of all the graves, some of which are now badly weather worn. They record the lives of Quakers who worshipped in the meeting house, including the Day family for which there is a tablet recording family burials from 1712 to 1784.

While the Chapel Hill site was always intended for Quakers, it has also been, at times, an important home for local Methodists, especially when the Quaker meeting closed in 1929 and the building became the Methodists' place of worship. The Quaker meeting was revived in 1957 but Methodists continued to worship at the meeting house until seven years ago when they joined with the United Reformed Church to form Stansted Free Church.

The meeting house provides an ideal location for local groups to meet and the income generated enables the Quaker meeting to maintain the building to a high standard and to support various charities whose work broadly reflects our Quaker testimonies to peace, truth, equality, and simplicity.



Today's meeting house is disability friendly with an access ramp and a disabled toilet. There is also a hearing loop in the main room where Quakers meet for worship, looking out on our secluded garden. A large entrance lobby displays information and houses the meeting's library while a smaller meeting room adjoins a kitchen overlooking the meeting house car park. We are committed to reviewing how the building works to help ensure we continue to meet people's different needs. We are also well-equipped to cater for the needs of children and we hope that with the growth of homes in the area, young families might like to visit us to see what their local Quaker meeting has to offer them.

Jonathan Morrell

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Stansted Tennis Club



Finals' Day Sunday 8th September:

The first final of the day saw Sandra Ayres retaining her Ladies' Singles title with a 6-1 6-2 victory over Daphne Lunnon. The Mens' Singles Final was a brotherly contest, with older brother Joe Hollis (19) proving too strong for 14 year old brother Matt. Matt battled hard in the second set before going down 6-0 6-4. The Ladies' doubles was a repeat of the 2012 final, but this year Sandra Ayres and Ruby Hollis got their revenge over Daphne Lunnon and Fiona Pye in the only three set final of the day. Daphne and Fiona ran away with the first set 6-1 only for Sandra and Ruby to match them by winning the second set by the same score 6-1. At this point rain stopped play for half an hour. On resumption Sandra and Ruby clinched the 3rd set 6-3 with some very exciting rallies. The Men's Doubles final was a one-sided affair with singles finalists Joe and Matt Hollis teaming up to

beat Phil Berry and Howard Buckley without the loss of a game, 6-0 6-0. The highlight of the afternoon was the victory of Joe Hollis (now winner of all three titles) and grandmother, Jan Hollis, winning the Mixed Doubles title with a highly entertaining straight sets victory over Chris Hollis and Daphne Lunnon 6-4 6-4. Unbelievably, Jan first won this title back in 1965 with David Kitson and then again in

1988 with John Eyre. It was Jan's consistent ground-stroke cross courts which proved decisive in thwarting the volleying efforts of Chris and Daphne. This was a Club record to have an amazing 48 year gap between winning titles in an event. The final award of the day, the Roger Loveday trophy for the most improved player of the year, was awarded to Lisa King. This award was voted for by the Committee. The trophies were awarded to the winners jointly by Club President Jan Hollis and Chairman Daphne Lunnon. The day was well supported by a steady flow of spectating Club members.

Bishop's Stortford One Day Tournament 25th August

Five local teams, from Stebbing, Dunmow, Henham, Bishop's Stortford and Stansted competed for this annual tournament. Each team put out a Ladies' Doubles pair, a Men's Doubles pair and a Mixed Doubles pair. Stansted were the overall winners and were presented with the trophy by organiser, Norman Elson. The victorious Stansted team comprised Daphne Lunnon, Joe, Ruby, Matt, Sarah and Chris Hollis.

Ladies' Night Monday 14th October from 7.00pm.

Cayless Chilli Tournament Sunday 13th October 10.00am.

Contacts

Felicity Shakespeare (Secretary) 831771, Daphne Lunnon (Chairman) 817574. For more information about the Club, please visit the website www.stanstedtennisclub.co.uk.

Chris Hollis

BIRCHANGER WOOD

www.birchangerwoodtrust.org

Thank you all for using Birchanger Wood so much recently; however, there are still some people who are not picking up their dog poo - no-one wants youngsters and others becoming ill through infection that this so often carries. You can put poo in your rubbish bin at home and there are poo-bins at the Water Tower entrance to the Wood, the Birchwood School end, and the field at Northolt. Please take your litter home for disposal as it spoils the beauty of the Wood and is dangerous if eaten by animals. Cycling is not promoted in the Wood, but it is permitted so long as cyclists ensure they understand that walkers, children, the elderly and otherwise disabled have priority - the paths were not constructed for cycle-racing purposes - cycling can be enjoyed without the necessity to race along.

What's New

Many of you will have seen the art work on the side of the store; this was provided by a group of youngsters, currently part of the Girton Project, and they will be back to complete similar artwork on the front of the new store. We have a new volunteer working from the compound (Water Tower entrance) who is providing tea on those Saturdays when she is at the Water Tower Site. Two of the big signs for the Wood provided by Stort Valley Rotary are now in situ and the QR signs will be going in later this year. St Elizabeth's School are now enjoying working with the Warden in the Wood on a regular basis.

Next Event

Art in the Wood is due to take place on the weekend of 19th-20th October. These are paintings submitted from pupils from the local primary schools and this year it will be combined with the official opening on 19th October (time to be advised) of the final woodland path, and the new compound. The person carrying out the opening will be chosen from one of the participating young artists.

If you would like to volunteer yourself, your group or school by offering support for the Wood in administration, publicity, woodland maintenance or an event do not hesitate to contact me or see our voluntary Warden, Pat Forrest, at the Compound or around in the Wood.

Daphne Wallace-Jarvis
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FOREST HALL SCHOOL



The key to successful transition between primary and secondary school for any school child is often based on the relationship the two schools have. In the local community, the relationship between all the primary schools and Forest Hall School continues to develop. The new academic year offers lots of exciting opportunities for primary students to work with secondary staff and students: the new sports partnership has been launched; there are enrichment days for all Year 6 students; outreach work in Art and Food, extra-curricular classes for Level 6 students in English and Maths; a joint Christmas celebration in the school hall; the ongoing development of Mission X for Year 5 students; and an invitation to the matinée of this year's musical production: 'We Will Rock You'. The year ahead will be extremely busy, but we hope that all the schools continue to develop the links and benefit from additional opportunities.



During the Summer term, a group of gifted and talented art students from Years 7-9 attended an after school club to create teacher portraits on a very large canvas; ten students each chose one member of staff. Several different techniques and styles were used, including using palette knives with acrylic paints. The end results were fantastic and a true reflection of the talent that there is at the school. The canvases were entered into an annual national competition run by The Royal Society of British Artists (RBA). A panel from the RBA selected a number of pieces entered from different schools nationwide for the National Students' Art exhibition, which was open to the public at The Mall Galleries in London from 9th-13th July. We were absolutely delighted to have Findlay Tait's portrait of Mr Rowlands selected to be exhibited. The whole group of students with Ms Spring, Mr Rowlands, Ms Anderson and Mrs Allan attended the opening of the gallery. It was a super exhibition and we were all very proud of the students and Miss Spring's hard work. The canvases are now displayed in the school hall.

Ms C Anderson and Mrs S Allan
Forest Hall School
Tel: 813384

A LITTLE MORE CULTURE

Many readers will remember the occasion in 2011 when David Morson and Julie Moss gave a presentation on the Spanish Civil War. This was deservedly popular and is now to be followed by two Saturday morning talks on Pre- and Post-Revolutionary Russia, the first being from 9.30am-1.00pm on Saturday 9th November in the Free Church Hall. Admission is £6 including coffee. Please book in advance by calling Dave on 850209 or myself. It is hoped that this too will attract a good attendance, and the second talk will follow in the New Year.

Derek Honour
Tel: 647213



STANSTED FOOTBALL CLUB

After completing a run of league games away from Hargrave Park it was nice to get back to playing on 'home turf' again and thankfully after two league defeats and a disappointing exit from the FA Cup at the first hurdle, the team has managed to turn the form around with a comfortable 4-0 win over Ilford in the Essex Senior County Cup, followed by an impressive battling performance to come from behind and beat a strong Basildon United side 2-1, the winner coming in extra time. This game being a FA Vase 1st Round tie it now sets us up nicely for a next round trip to play Diss Town, unfortunately away. Dare I say that on the 30th anniversary of the Club going to the final of the Vase competition we are on our way!

The work that took place over the summer on the surrounding grounds and pitch have certainly drawn a number of comments regarding how well the place is looking, and with thanks to the Sports Association who supplied the funds to hire skips, we feel in a much better position to present the Club in the future to any visiting FA official. October is a busy month for the team with matches scheduled for both Saturdays and Tuesdays at home so please note below the dates and kick off times. Remember entrance to all our home games is only £5 adults, £3 concessions and under 16s; your support is always valued.

Upcoming Home October Fixtures:

Tue 1st v Halstead Town - Essex Senior Cup 2nd Rd KO 7.45pm
Sat 5th v Clapton – League KO 3.00pm
Tue 8th v Haringey Borough – League KO 7.45pm
Sat 12th v Great Wakering Rovers – League KO 3.00pm
Tue 15th v Takeley – League KO 7.45pm
Sat 26th v Sawbridgeworth – League KO 3.00pm

Tom Williams
Secretary
Tel: 07921 403842



PILOTS

Pilots, the children's club of Stansted Free Church, meets one Monday every month from 6.00pm to 7.30pm at the Free Church Hall for a variety of activities. Children are now excited about staging a Christmas production that will include a dramatisation of the story of Jonah and the Whale. The presentation of this well-known bible story includes a specially written song, a sailor's hornpipe dance and musical accompaniment from some of the children led by one of the leaders. The script will be devised largely by the children and there will be opportunities to become a boat, a roaring wind and even the whale itself! Children aged five years and above are welcome to join Pilots and take part in the show. The autumn term dates are 7th October, 11th November and 9th December. The date for the final show is yet to be confirmed. Regular updates of the Club activities are also found on <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Stansted-Pilots> If you are interested please email me or contact Valerie on 813433.

Sanjukta Ghosh
Email: sanjukta@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk

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A Fight for Fairness

Lawyers acting for SSE have served formal notice on the Secretary of State for Transport requiring the removal of Mr Geoff Muirhead from the Airports Commission on the grounds of apparent bias. This is the first formal legal step towards judicial review proceedings which will commence with an application to the High Court in early September if Mr Muirhead continues to serve on the Airports Commission. Mr Muirhead is the former Chief Executive of the Manchester Airports Group (MAG), the company that now owns Stansted Airport. His biography, as published by the Airports Commission, states that he retired from his role as Chief Executive of MAG in October 2010, after 22 years with the Group. However, it fails to point out that, after retiring as Group Chief Executive, and indeed, after being appointed to the Airports Commission, Mr Muirhead continued to work for MAG in a highly paid role until January 2013.

SSE discovered these facts only after its own investigations and until recently, was pursuing this matter behind the scenes with Sir Howard Davies, the Chairman of the Airports Commission, and the Secretary of State for Transport. We had hoped Mr Muirhead would have voluntarily stood down from the Commission so as to avoid bringing into question the Commission's independence and impartiality. However, that has not been the case. Now that MAG is directly lobbying the Airports Commission for major expansion at Stansted, we believe there is far too much at stake to allow Mr Muirhead's role as a Commissioner to go unchallenged. Legal proceedings are expensive and funded from donations. The initial response has been very encouraging, indicating that the community supports this action.

Peter Sanders

Tel: 01799 520411 Mob: 07814 581463
Email: petersanders77@talktalk.net

Campaigners Unite

The Airports Commission is due to produce an interim report at the end of this year and, if it concludes that the UK needs more airport capacity, it will publish a short-list of options. The Commission's final report won't be published until mid-2015, after the next general election and it will then be for the Government of the day to take any final decisions. We know from past experience that every single area on a short-list suffers with residents experiencing stress, anxiety and immediate difficulties in selling their homes. The aviation industry mostly agrees that the UK could justify only one additional runway over the next 25 years. Thus, if a handful of options are short-listed, most of the affected areas will have been blighted unnecessarily.

SSE is one of seven airport campaign groups who have joined forces in writing to Sir Howard Davies, Chairman of the Airports Commission, calling upon him to safeguard local residents against airport-related blight. The letter asks him to make it a pre-condition of being short-listed, for the promoter of an airport development proposal to undertake to introduce fair and reasonable arrangements addressing the problem of generalised blight arising from their proposal

within three months of being short-listed, and to operate such arrangements for a minimum period of two years. Promoters of airport expansion projects must take some responsibility for the consequences. They cannot be allowed to dine out for free on their expansion dreams, leaving local residents to pick up the tab.

Brian Ross
SSE Economics Adviser
Tel: 814961 Mobile: 07850 937143
Email: brian.ross@lineone.net

ST CLARE HOSPICE

Calling all dog lovers! We are extremely grateful to Griff Evans at the Dog and Duck in Lower Street who will be hosting the start and finish of our new event, 'Winter Walkies' on Sunday 6th October at 11.00am. That said, the event would not be happening without the wonderful Linda Deavey of Stansted Dogs who is organising the two mile walk (ably assisted by Gill Robinson) and also a fun Doggy Fashion Show run by Ladies with Leads which will take place once walkers have returned at around 1.30pm! Entry fee is £10 adults, £5 children and registration can be done on-line via the St Clare Hospice website www.stclarehospice.org.uk. Entrants will receive a commemorative medal for their dog, and a bacon roll from the Dog and Duck before embarking on their invigorating stroll, and a certificate at the end. There will also be a doggy-themed raffle and lots of canine-friendly activities! Another date for your diary is a night of magical entertainment down the road in Clavering Village Hall on 18th October. Tickets are £12.50 each and there will be a pay bar with nibbles available and also a charity raffle, all raising funds for St Clare Hospice. Local magician Martin Cox will be bringing his Magic Noir show to town and he will be joined by two fellow magicians who will be performing their acts along with some table magic during the interval. Tickets are available from me, Jean Wilson (01799 550758) or Martin Cox (659562). Please support these great local events and help us raise money for our local Hospice.



Sarah Calder
Community Fundraiser
Tel: 07528 520016
Email: sarah.calder@stclarehospice.org.uk

GOOD NEWS, BAD NEWS

The **good news** is that at the Bishop's Stortford U3A's annual show Mr Stoneham (of 'Cyril's Gardening Tips' fame) was awarded the John Moses Cup for his fruit and vegetables. Congratulations Cyril. The **bad news** is that Cyril is retiring; not from gardening but from writing his popular monthly tips for The Link. Stansted's amateur horticulturists will undoubtedly miss his useful and timely tips. Thank you for sharing your extensive gardening knowledge with us Cyril, and enjoy your retirement!

Is there anyone up to the challenge of taking over Cyril's Gardening Tips? Please contact me for details.

Editor
Tel: 814706



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ROTARY CLUB OF STANSTED STORT VALLEY

After a thorough rest from taxing activity during August, our first meeting in September got off to a lively start. Members and a few guests, including our new Assistant District Governor Alan Clark, were given an enthusiastic presentation of the work of the Council for Voluntary Services (CVS) for Broxbourne and East Herts. Ian Richardson, Chief Officer, with Services Manager Fay Turner, briefed us on their diverse range of activities to develop, enhance and empower voluntary and community groups to effectively serve their communities. Activities include: monthly free E-bulletins; training workshops for volunteers and paid staff; a funding and governance support service; networking and consultation events; management of local resources; representation of local groups on cross-sector partnerships and community project development. Our Club had first-hand experience of the help provided by CVS when the food bank in Bishop's Stortford was set up. The CVS acted as facilitators with Ian personally providing professional administrative support, particularly in the area of record keeping. When the food bank needed to employ a coordinator, but did not have the legal structure to do so, CVS employed the person on their books. It is probably axiomatic that the CVS while facilitating and promoting other charitable ventures is less lavish at promoting itself. The comprehensive and valuable support it offers in the district is however outstanding and Ian and his restless team deserve greater recognition and acclaim.



Ian Richardson is standing left and Fay is second left sitting with members of the team outside their headquarters.

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

Peter Latham
Tel: 507294
Email: yp.latham@uwclub.net



Quiz Night 7.00pm for 7.30pm Saturday 9th November, Day Centre. Tickets £10 (£5 concessions) from Rory on 07849 131934. Licensed bar, food, raffle! All welcome.



STANSTED MAINTENANCE LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Downing Street and its inhabitants by Colin Oakes

The first, well attended, meeting of this season was something that I was very much looking forward to, as we had the pleasure of Colin Oakes, an archaeologist who has been guiding in London since 1982, and whose knowledge of London's history and superb delivery skills are both second to none. Colin gave us a presentation on Downing Street and its inhabitants, but for the space available to me I will focus on the Downing Street history rather than the inhabitants. The street was built in the 1680s by an American named George Downing, 1st Baronet (1632–1689). He was a soldier and diplomat, who served under Oliver Cromwell and King Charles II. The land originally was known to the Saxons as 'Thorney', that is, the place of thorns. Thorney, it appears, was at that time an island, formed by an arm of the Tyburn River, called 'The Long Ditch', and the brooks which flowed down from Hampstead and Kilburn rose up slightly in the centre of this marshy spot which ultimately developed into the noble Abbey or Minster of the West, now known as Westminster. Due to the buildings being built on marsh land, they have always been known to fall down, and need constant maintenance due to movement. In 1735 Wimpole was given No 10 by George II and since then it has become the residence of the Prime Minister (Official title is First Lord of the Treasury), with No 11 being the residence of the Chancellor of the Exchequer and No 12 being the residence of the Chief Whip. Today No 10 has over 200 rooms on five levels. It has three kitchens and a garden in the centre which holds the pet cemetery. How many Prime Ministers' animals can you name?

Forthcoming programme

3rd October - The Blitz Spirit - Brian Williams
7th November - Unseen Stortford - Wally Wright
5th December - Hoax. Famous 18/19thc jokes - Jeff Page
All meetings start at 8.00pm at the Day Centre on Chapel Hill. All welcome, £2 per visit with refreshments.

Steve Leaney
Tel: 647177

Email: stephenleaney@gmail.com



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Flight Lieutenant Gemma Martin RAFVR(T)
Commanding Officer
494 (Stansted Airport) Sqn ATC



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Nature Notes

This autumn has been so different from last year's. In 2012, after the cold, wet summer and lack of pollination, there was a scarcity of hedgerow fruit such as sloes and blackberries. Nuts also were in short supply and apple, pear and plum harvests were very poor. This year conditions seem to have been perfect for growth and flowering and, most importantly, for good pollination and therefore there has been a bountiful harvest. At the end of August the rowans or mountain ash trees along High Lane were covered in red berries. These trees are not typical of this area as they prefer more acid soils. They grow widely in the north of England and especially in Scotland where they can be found growing at over 2000ft. Because the tree grows in mountainous areas and has leaves similar to the ash, it was given the name 'mountain ash', but in fact is not related. There is a suggestion it should become the national tree of Scotland. The fruits are known as pomes and can be made into jelly. They are also much liked by thrushes.

Throughout September the hedgerows have been bright with deep red haws from the hawthorn trees. These also can be eaten or used for making jelly. They taste like miniature avocados. Flocks of redwing arriving from northern Europe are also attracted to the berries. The leaves are edible and were known to country people as bread and cheese. Blackthorns, brambles and elders have also had an abundance of fruit this autumn. Blackthorns, which were covered in white flowers in spring, produce small dark purple sloe berries which are very astringent. However, they can make a wonderful gin. Wine, cordials, jelly and jam and puddings can all be made from blackberries. Elderberries are rich in vitamin C and can be used on their own or combined with other berries to make jelly. They grow where the soil is rich in phosphates, especially where people or animals have lived or died, near abandoned buildings and farms, in churchyards and around badger setts and rabbit warrens.

Rosina Kirkwood

CHILDREN'S RECIPE

Bubble & Squeak (Makes 8-16 cakes)

Ingredients

- 1 onion sliced
- 1 leek thinly sliced
- Olive oil for frying
- 1.5kg potatoes
- 1 small Savoy cabbage
- Small bunch of spinach
- 4 tbsp seasoned flour

Method

Peel and cook the potatoes until soft.

Drain, season and mash.

Meanwhile, cut cabbage into ribbons and boil for three minutes in salted water.

Cook spinach for five minutes and coarsely chop.

Fry leek and onion.

Combine everything together well and shape into palm-sized cakes. Roll in seasoned flour.

Fry gently in olive oil until golden brown.

Simone Teese
Harlow Kiddy Cook
Tel: 07837 008715

STANSTED BUSINESS FORUM

www.stanstedbusinessforum.co.uk

Members of the Forum enjoyed a hearty breakfast provided by Linden House on 6th September and this month's presentations to the Group were given by Malcolm Binder, Divisional Secretary of the Uttlesford Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmen's Families Association (SSAFA), and by Simon Jackson, Uttlesford District Council's Economic Development Officer, who advised the group of the Council's work in encouraging shoppers into the local area. Attendees were informed by Mr Binder of the charitable work undertaken by SSAFA, who have provided lifelong support for the three Forces and their families for more than 125 years. One of their annual fund-raising events, 'The Big Brew', encourages volunteers to invite friends for a cup of tea and slice of cake to raise funds for SSAFA's continued work. Murdoch's Solicitors and Property Shop in Station Road will be having their own 'Big Brew' at 10.30am on Thursday 10th October. Everyone is welcome so please support SSAFA by popping along for a cup of tea and a slice of cake! With the change in weather, thoughts are already turning towards Christmas and members were asked if their businesses would support this year's Stansted Christmas Fayre. The first SBF Social Event was held at The Cork House Bar and Bistro in August and members were treated to drinks and an array of tapas. If you run a business locally, no matter how large or small, and are interested in finding out about the Forum, please contact Peter James at Murdoch's. The breakfast meetings are held on the first Friday of the month and the next one is 7.00am on 4th October at Linden House.

Geraldine Allars
Tel: 813747

STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET SOCIAL CLUB CHARITY WEEKEND

A charity weekend was on the August Bank Holiday for the Essex Air Ambulance and the local Cubs and Scouts. A 24-dart marathon was held and there was also a raffle, to which all local businesses donated.



Photo by Sean Clark

The dart players who took part in the marathon (as shown in the photo) were Wayne Wright, Marley Wright, Freddie Boyton, Trevor Patmore, Darren Burford, Ben Harper, Chad Wright, Mark Fields and Kerry Scanners. Many thanks to them all. The sponsorship money is still being collected but the current amount is in the region of £1,500! Well done everyone.

Emily Bye
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GUESS WHO I AM

I was born in Scotland but spent my childhood in the sub-tropics amongst lantana and frangipani with a banana tree at the bottom of the garden. I grew up on a horse, as stables and fields were just over the hill, and it was inexpensive to go off riding for the day. I loved sport and represented my all-girls' school at athletics and basketball. At 19 I travelled to New South Wales to do an Outward Bound Course, spending a night completely alone in the bush, pitching a tent and building a proper cooking fire, before joining the rest of the group next morning for a day's march. Through challenging activities I formed life-long friendships and a love of hiking and the great outdoors.

My first job was working in a department store during school holidays. In my last job I was surrounded by books and driven by schedules. I spent a number of years working in France and attended evening classes at a language school passing the Certificate of Spoken French and Diploma of the French Language. I also joined a French theatre group - a wonderful way to learn the language.

I have lived in Stansted for 27 years and am married with two grown up children. When they were small I belonged to a baby-sitting circle where baby-sitters received points rather than cash. I looked after the rota for the Sunday morning crèche held in the kitchen of the church hall for children too young to attend Sunday School. I have sung in St John's Choir and belong to the Stansted U3A.

Claim to Fame? Ethelbert Goodchild, Anglican Vicar in Stansted from about 1915 to 1921, whose photograph hangs in the Vestry of St Mary's Church, is my great uncle. Guess Who I Am!



STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET U3A

The U3A had an Open Day in August where groups such as Art, Photography, Poetry, Arts & Crafts, Knitting, Crochet and many others exhibited their work. The standard was extremely good and gave everyone who attended an insight into what could be achieved. Also in August was a trip to Bexhill-on-Sea and Eastbourne. On arrival at Bexhill, our guide enlightened us about Bexhill and its history; it was the birthplace of British Motor Racing in 1902. The De La Warr Pavilion was an impressive sight on the seafront with a wonderful arrangement of beach apartments, some costing as much as £250,000! On to Eastbourne with lunch in one of the hotels and free time to wander along the promenade and venture into a fort on the front, the pier providing a great view of the beach and seafront. August Bank Holiday brought wonderful warm weather and a big crowd to the Windmill Fête. The U3A stall had a busy afternoon with lots of customers of all ages taking part in our games. The August outing for the Bus Pass group was the best ever attended. Members travelled to Broxbourne and enjoyed lunch in the garden of a riverside pub followed by a cruise on the River Lea. There was time afterwards to explore the area around the river and have a cup of tea before returning home. The group have a trip in all but the worst months of the year. October will be a leisurely walk along the river

between Ware and Hertford. November will find us Christmas shopping at the Galleria in Hatfield.

Future events

The October meeting will be on Thursday 17th in St John's Church Hall at 2.00pm. The speaker is Sally Brewer talking about the Essex Witch Hunts. On 5th October the Stansted U3A Singers will be performing at Stansted Free Church. No tickets will be available at the door. Also in October, trips to the Tchaikovsky Symphony Orchestra in Cambridge and *Phantom of the Opera* in London. 'Happy Days' is the theme for the yearly dance at St John's Church Hall in November. Visit our website for full details www.stanstedu3a.org or please contact Chris (Chair) on 817587 or Sandra (Secretary) on 814304.

Chris Loveday



BRITISH BEEKEEPING ASSOCIATION

As there is not much going on in the bee keeping world this month, I thought I would share a recipe with you, which involves honey – a Honey Lemon Cake:

Ingredients

3 cups plain flour
1½ tsp of baking powder & 1 tsp baking soda
Pinch salt
250g softened butter
300g sugar
4 eggs
2tbsp of grated lemon rind
190g sour cream

For the glaze

3 tbsp honey
50g icing sugar
2 tbsp lemon juice

Method

Heat oven to 325°F grease and flour the tin.
In medium bowl combine flour, baking powder, baking soda and salt; set aside.
In large bowl, beat butter and sugar until blended, and light and fluffy. Add eggs and beat until well blended.
Add flour mixture, cream and lemon rind, and blend, scraping bowl often.
Spoon into prepared pan and bake for 45-55 minutes or until inserted toothpick becomes clean.
Make glaze by heating all ingredients in a small saucepan until sugar dissolves. Invert cake and glaze when cool.
A Nordic honeycomb cake tin can be bought on line from Amazon; it is rather expensive (but good). I make this cake myself, so come on guys give it a go! Enjoy.

John Dockerill

Email: training@stortfordbees.org.uk

GUESS WHO I AM- ANSWER



Liz Johnson

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FC - Front cover

IBC - Inside Back Cover

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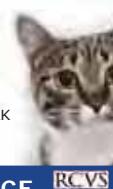
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