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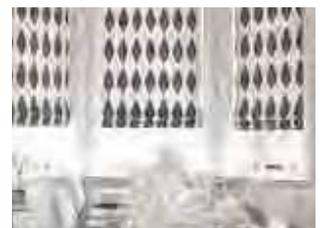
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Stansted and Ugley
by Derek Everett

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by **noon** on **11th October**
for November issue

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

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EDITORIAL



This month British Summer Time ends and thoughts turn to autumn, Harvest Festivals and the ever popular CTS Harvest Supper. The next big event in the Church calendar after Remembrance Sunday will be Christmas, possibly the busiest time of the year socially. To avoid clashing dates in the run up to Christmas, please put the details of any planned local events in the Village Diary, located in Stansted Library, as soon as possible.

We welcome David Horton to The Link's distribution team. David has taken over from Paul Barnes, who we'd like to thank for all he has done for us. The milestone on the front cover this month is a relic of a bygone age (long before sat navs were even thought of) when the mode of transport was much more leisurely and the traveller could pause to take in all the information marked on the stone. The heavy traffic congestion that we experience today causing frequent hold-ups, is perhaps a case for going back to basics and replacing ugly modern signage (easily damaged in bad weather) with sturdier, long-lasting milestones!

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Stansted network is compiled by Stansted Mountfitchet Parish Council.

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

It has been a rather shocking summer with so many terrible things going on in the world. We have seen the devastating conflicts in Gaza and the Ukraine, the awful events which have been happening in Iraq and Syria, and the growing devastation wrought by Ebola in Africa. It is no wonder that one newspaper spoke about a 'Summer of Horrors'. In the midst of this we have had an ongoing discussion about whether Scotland should become an independent country or remain part of the United Kingdom. By the time you read this the vote will have taken place and the issue will be settled. As I write the vote is still in the future and the polls are saying that the outcome is too close to call. I have said elsewhere that if I lived in Scotland I might well vote for independence simply out of frustration at the current state of all the parties in the Westminster Parliament, but in truth I think it will be very damaging for both Scotland and the rest of the UK if Scotland leaves. We are living in a time when the world is faced by so many challenges that we need the support and strength we gain from being together.

That which is true on the large scale is true on the smaller scale too. It is fashionable to think that we can get on by ourselves without the help of others. When troubles come we find that that is not true. Family, friends, neighbours are all needed when the times become dark. Some years ago I used to help out with a Worship Service for people with learning difficulties. There was a song we used to sing and its words have remained with me. It went, "It's me, it's me, it's me who builds community". There were second and third verses which went "It's you" and "It's us". The truth is it is each one of us that builds community. When things are going well independence is a fine idea, but in times like this we need one another.



Paul Wilkin
Rector
St John's Church

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Betty Francis
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info@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk

Lettings Marion and Mike Dyer
7 Blythwood Gardens, Stansted CM24 8HG
Tel: 814059
lettings@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk

Preachers for October

5th 10.30am Andrew Brown - New Directions
12th 10.30am Christine Heyhoe
19th 10.30am Rev'd Roy Fowler - Communion
26th 10.30am Mary Whittle

Church Contacts

At the time of going to press, contact details for Rev'd Roy Fowler are not available. Please contact Betty Francis, church secretary on 813977 for any church related enquiries.

The Place on the Hill – every Wed and Fri 9.30am–12.30pm

Our free drop-in; come and join us – all ages are welcome. For more information telephone Marion and Mike on 814059.



Village Harvest Supper

Sunday 19th October at 6.00pm in St John's Hall, followed by light entertainment provided by all the churches. We are providing fish, chicken or veggie burger and chips, followed by ice cream. Tickets £6, accompanied children £5, available from Marion Dyer (814059), from me or 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.

Helen Baker
Tel: 814865

THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS)

Quaker Meeting House, Chapel Hill

Clerk Sue Moloney
5 Chatter End, Farnham Geen
Bishop's Stortford
Tel: 771405

Meeting Sunday, 10.30am

ROMAN CATHOLIC

St Therese of Lisieux
High Lane

Priest Father John Garrett
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 9.00am

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
Email: st.johns.church@btinternet.com
Website: www.stanstedstjohns.btik.com

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

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

Church Hall Bookings: Rachel and Olly Pocknell
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

Tuesday

9.00am St John's Tots

Wednesday

9.00am Morning Prayer
10.00am Holy Communion

Monday-Thursday and Saturday

5.00pm Evening Prayer

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

From the Registers

August

Baptisms

3rd Alba Angel Newstead
17th Ronnie William Forde Roper
24th Isla May Nash

Weddings

23rd Edward Fitzsimmons and Angela Garwood
30th Thomas Corrigan and Sian Amato

Funeral

14th Bryan Miller - at St John's, followed by cremation at Parndon Wood

ST JOHN'S 300 CLUB

Congratulations to the winners of the August draws:

£100 No 119 - Mrs B Siracusa
£ 50 No 111 - John Overy
£ 25 No 65 - Pamela Jackson

The October draws will be on Sunday 26th October in St John's Church following the 9.30am service. Numbers are still available (£2 per month). Please contact me for an application form.

Francine Cope
Tel: 814562

UNITED SERVICE

On Sunday 19th October there will be no 9.30am service at St John's. Instead there will be a united service at Birchanger led by the new Bishop of Colchester, Bishop Roger Morris. This will be Bishop Roger's first visit to the Benefice. The 8.00am service at St John's will take place as usual.

ST JOHN'S CHRISTMAS MARKET

Saturday 22nd November 12.00-3.00pm in St John's Church. There will be the normal well-laden stalls - gifts, crafts, toiletries, candles, cakes, toys and games, books, bric-à-brac, tombolas and grand raffle etc, plus tempting refreshments to enjoy whilst savouring the festive ambience.



Come along to find some Christmas presents, grab a bargain, have a chance of winning a great prize in our raffle or on one of the tombolas and generally join in the fun. See you there!

Richard Lenton and Ray Smith
Tel: 813270



www.stanstedfamilychurch.com

Contacts

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

Our Christian beliefs are conventional, we are just doing church differently. The next @27 meeting is on Wednesday 1st October at 7.30pm, when we will have a time of contemporary worship and reflection, bible-teaching and discussion. Contact us for more details and venue. We currently have a missionary, Rosana Santos, spending time with us in Stansted for a few months, while on a break from mission work in Africa. She originally comes from Brazil but studied locally for a few years and has been working in Guinea-Bissau for about five years. We are one of three churches who support Rosana's work there, and she will be sharing photos, videos and stories about her work and life in Africa at the Shalom meeting on 13th October.



Ros Page



Shalom

On Monday 13th October 8.00pm at 7 Blythwood Gardens, Rosana Santos, will be giving an illustrated talk about her missionary work in Guinea-Bissau (see above). Our At Home is on Monday 27th October 8.00pm at 49 Recreation Ground. All welcome.



Marion Dyer
Tel: 814059

THE LINK AGM

The AGM of Stansted Link Magazine CIC is at 7.30pm on Tuesday 4th November in the Parish Council Office. All parishioners are welcome, so come along if you have any matter to raise, or have an interest in our operation.

Malcolm Lloyd, Chairman
Tel: 812235

STANSTED SCOUTS



Isle of Wight Camp

One Monday in August 12 Scouts and three Leaders set off to catch the ferry to our campsite on the Isle of Wight. Using Red Funnel ferries, we boarded the 'Red Eagle' and a leisurely hour crossing had us en-route to Corf Scout Campsite. The tents were soon up and the cooking and dining area was soon up ready for business. As the evening BBQ was prepared and cooked most Scouts went off to check out the surroundings. A bit of R&R in the Miller Centre (an enclosed building for evening use) was followed by a session toasting marshmallows on an altar fire. Surprisingly, everyone settled down by midnight.

Tuesday, and the sun rose above the trees on to what would be our outdoor dining area throughout our stay. After a cooked breakfast, it was time for kayaking on the creek, which was delayed by the tide. It was out! Eventually we decided enough water had come in to begin our moderately vigorous session, which was interrupted by several deliberate capsizes! After showering, we ate our evening meal and headed off around the coast to Alum Bay and waited for sunset for a picture or two of the Needles. Choco bananas on the fire finished the evening off.

On Wednesday, it was time for archery. We had the usual target practice followed by a trying to pop a balloon session. Afterwards we headed down to Ryde for our beach day, where a few went paddling but most hit the shops. After chips on the beach we had a quick trip down to Sandown for crazy golf and then returned for our evening meal, hay box beef stew, which was now nine hours old. Mark (Gerber) our 'head chef' had made it that morning before we left. It was delicious, with comments on how tender the meat was. We should have been toasting crumpets that night but after their Miller Centre visit most Scouts began to drift off to bed after 10.00pm.

Thursday dawned and it was time for kayaking again - this time we had a creek full of water. Half the Scouts came onto the water where we even did some fishing from the kayaks. The others built a tyre swing from pioneering poles. After lunch we went down to the south coast, ending up in Freshwater Bay where at least we could sit down and relax. After



our evening meal was devoured, we had a brief sit around the fire and by 11.00pm all were in bed including the adults.

Friday, after breakfast it was time to break camp, and with everything coming down quicker than it went up, we soon left and headed for West Cowes where we had time for sou-



venir shopping and ice cream. We then crossed the river to East Cowes by the chain ferry, which only takes about 12 vehicles at a time, and joined the queue to board 'Red Osprey' our ferry home. During our stay we had to look for wood each day for our fire, which provided constant hot water using our 'boiler'. For those with energy, football and rounders were played in the next field and several played table tennis in the evenings. Regular fishing sessions were also quite popular. The sky was black and stargazing and satellite spotting was easy and it was very quiet with no traffic noise. However, the noisy geese did fly overhead every morning waking us! A fabulous camp, thanks guys.

Mike Byrne, Scout Leader

Tel: 812780

Robert Sadler ASL and Mark Gerber GSL



It was a busy end to the summer term with our annual teddy bears' picnic, sports day and Audley End miniature railway trip, but also a little sad to say goodbye to our fully fledged Birchanger butterflies who were moving on to 'big school'. The children took part in a wonderful leavers' concert attended by parents and carers; we were very proud of how well they performed and wish them all the very best in their new schools. The nursery building has benefited from a little facelift over the summer holidays as we were lucky enough to secure a grant to paint the exterior of the building. Our lovely garden area has also received a spruce up so a big thank you to all the mums and staff who gave up their free time to ensure the children had a clean, welcoming and safe space to come back to. The start of a new year in September means we are excited to welcome many new faces to the nursery - so many in fact, that we are now full until next September. However, should you wish to add your child to our waiting list for a place at the nursery or indeed a place at our very popular caterpillars' session (from two years), please call us for an application form. Birchanger Nursery is a highly respected local preschool facility in the grounds of, but separate from, Birchanger Primary School. In our beautiful rural setting and well-equipped building we provide a safe, caring and stimulating learning environment for children aged 2½ to 5. To arrange a visit telephone our administrator Jen Munton on 810800, email: admin@birchangenursery.org or see our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/BirchangerNursery.

Kirsty Moore

Birchanger Nursery Committee



**Stansted U3A
Singers' Songbook 2014
7.30 pm Sat 4th Oct
St John's Church**

Adults £6 Under 14s £3 from
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Parklands, Quendon CB11 3XN

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10 am - noon Thur 9th Oct

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Decorate them & eat orange snacks

Make lots of orange footprints

Walk along Gall End Lane

£1 per family ~ no need to book ~ just turn up

WHAT'S ON IN OCTOBER

1	Wed	Mountfitchet Seniors	Day Centre 2 - 4 pm
		Mountfitchet Garden Club	Day Centre 7.30 for 8 pm
2	Thu	Stansted History Society	Day Centre 8 pm
4	Sat	Family Café	Day Centre 9.30 - 11 am
		U3A Singers' Concert	St John's Church 7.30 pm
5	Sun	Windmill Open	1.30 - 5.30 pm
8	Wed	Red Cross Autumn Gift Fair	Parklands, Quendon 10 am - 3.30 pm
9	Thu	Stompy Big Welly Walk	Spangles 10 am - noon
		Uttlesford Community Forum	Council Offices, S Walden 7.30 pm
		WI	Day Centre 7.45 pm
11	Sat	Village Litter Pick	Crafton Green 10 am
		Link copy due in today	before 12 noon
		Music@stansted	St John's Church 7.30 pm
12 & 26	Sun	Green Waste Skips	Lower Street Car Park 9 am - 1 pm
13	Mon	Shalom	7 Blythwood Gardens 8 pm
14	Tue	Alzheimer's Dementia Café	Quaker Meeting Hse 10 am - noon
		Neighbourhood Plan Meeting	Day Centre 7.30 pm
		Stansted is Well Read	Dog and Duck 8 pm
16	Thu	Stansted U3A	St John's Hall 1.30 for 2 pm
17	Fri	Windmill Flog It	Day Centre 7 for 7.30 pm
18	Sat	Shoe Box Collection	Free Church Foyer 10 am - noon
		St Clare Quiz	Ugley Village Hall 7.30 pm
19	Sun	Family Café	Day Centre 9.30 - 11 am
		Village Harvest Supper	St John's Hall 6 pm
25	Sat	One World Coffee Morning	Free Church Foyer 10 am - noon
27	Mon	Shalom	49 Recreation Ground 8 pm
28	Tue	Experiencing Dementia	Mountfitchet Hse 11 am - 12.30 pm



**STANSTED AUTUMN
LITTER PICK**

Saturday 11th October

Meet 10 am at

Crafton Green, Chapel Hill

Bring strong gloves - equipment provided

FREE FISH & CHIP LUNCH

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All Welcome ~ tel 813214 (mornings)



7.30 pm Sat 11th Oct

St John's Church

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Mountfitchet House, High Lane**

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Email: sharon.butler@careuk.com



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FLOG IT

7 for 7.30 pm Fri 17th Oct

Stansted Day Centre

Entry £2.50 incl refreshments

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QUIZ NIGHT

**7.30 pm Sat 18th Oct
Ugley Village Hall**

Tickets £10

from Sarah 07528 520016

Bring your own food, drink & glass

Live Music before Quiz starts



Churches Together in Stansted

Collection Morning

for Shoe Box items & Empty Shoeboxes

10 am Sat 18th Oct Free Church



Village Harvest Supper

6 pm Sun 19th Oct St John's Hall

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

All Welcome but advance booking required

**UGLEY FARMERS'
MARKET**

10 am - noon Sat 18th Oct

Ugley Village Hall

Meat ~ Poultry ~ Fish ~ Eggs ~ Honey

Bread ~ Home Baking ~ Knitting

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Refreshments with cake and bacon rolls

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the osteopath

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Registered Doctors of Chiropractic

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Registered with the General Chiropractic Council

www.greatback.co.uk



We have had a fantastic start to the new school year here at Bentfield and already the summer holidays seem a distant memory. It has been most pleasing to see the pupils arrive back looking smart, and demonstrating an enthusiasm and eagerness to learn. All the children have started their new classes and we say a warm welcome to our new reception and nursery cohorts. Of course, it is not long before parents of reception pupils for next September start to think about preliminary visits before the application process begins. We warmly welcome all prospective pupils and parents and would be more than happy for you to come and have a look round and get to know our school. Please feel free to contact the school office to make an appointment. This is a very exciting time for us as we are currently developing our new curriculum. Throughout the year we will be introducing new topics and learning aims in line with the new National Curriculum. Already we have a range of exciting themes to start the year: Nursery are learning about animals, Reception are looking at themselves and The People who Help Us, Class 1's topic is Superheroes, Class 2 are studying Fire, Class 3 are learning about Rainforests, Class 4's theme is Rock of Ages, and Classes 5 and 6 are completing work on the Ancient Greeks. The pupils will be taking an important role in guiding the work for these themes, and I am really looking forward to seeing what they produce and the learning that occurs. If any members of the local community feel that they can offer support or expertise in any of our curriculum areas we would love to hear from you.

David Rogers
 Headteacher
 Tel: 813626

In recent years the seasons have been a bit topsy-turvy which has upset some of the rhythms of nature. Those of you who walk the lanes will have seen autumn fruits like blackberries and sloes appearing in July and August, although often they did not develop fully and were not up to the standard of the same fruits ripening now in mid-September. Our local garden birds have declined in numbers and raised fewer young ones than usual this year. This could be due in part to the lack of insects and grubs in the spring and also to the presence of an increased number of jays, magpies and crows. Walking down the lane the other day the only birds which I noticed were a pair of jays and a buzzard, although yesterday a small flock of goldfinches was feeding on seeds in the hedgerow and along the verges. At the time of writing one or two pigeons think spring has arrived again and are still laying eggs. One of the shrubs to be confused is the dogwood. There was a mass of blossom on the dogwood bushes in the spring which has resulted in a good crop of small black berries. During the last few years, however, conditions did not suit in the spring, and in several cases blossom did not appear until the autumn. This seems to have upset their time clock and there are instances locally where both the flowers and the ripe berries are appearing together on the same bushes as shown below.



Having mentioned the dogwood, it is a good example of one of our hedgerow bushes which had several uses in days gone by. The straight, springy stems were used for skewers, spindles, bobbins and arrow shafts. The berries were used to make ink and the small kernels could be ground to produce a wax which would be refined to provide lamp oil for the winter. Just don't try eating them!

Felix



HATFIELD FOREST HIGHLIGHTS

October brings a change in the weather and a change of work at Hatfield Forest. Now that bird nesting season has passed, we can go back into the woods and begin some conservation tasks. Every year we clear a hectare of scrub, to reinstate the wood pasture (that's the large expanse of grass with the veteran pollard trees which runs through the centre of the Forest, from north to south). Scrubby plants like hawthorn and bramble spread quickly and if not controlled, the precious wood pasture would be lost. This task is done by our Rangers and a team of volunteers. We are looking for more volunteers to join the conservation team. You need to be physically fit with practical skills and a willingness to muck in. If you would like to find out more and come for a taster day, please contact Brian Dunn on 870678 or email: brian.dunn@nationaltrust.org.uk. Autumn is the perfect time for crunching through fallen leaves, picking brambles and playing conkers. While you are visiting, you can tick off a few of the 50 things to do before 11¾. There are lots of opportunities for foraging on the Forest. We would ask that you only pick a small amount for you to eat and that you leave plenty for the Forest's wildlife to ensure they can stock up for the winter.

Fiona Harrower
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FARNHAM SCHOOL

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Welcome back to all our children, staff and parents! Although we were sad to wave goodbye to our wonderful Year 6 last term, we are very proud of all they achieved and are sure they will go on to great success at their new schools. This year we are thrilled to welcome ten new children and a new teacher, Mrs Parker, who joins us from William Martin Infants School in Harlow. She will be working alongside Mrs Hickey in Willow Class. The school had a considerable facelift over the summer holidays thanks to many of our parents who came in to garden, tidy, clean, paint and generally clear up. Our grounds now look amazing! The children have been working hard growing runner beans, potatoes, strawberries and more. In the first week of term our reception children harvested some of the potatoes, which fits in well with our autumn term topic of 'Food and Farming'. We held a potato sale after school so everyone could sample the fruits of our labours and raise some always-needed funds for school! After some uncertainty last year, Farnham is facing a very positive future. Children resident in Stansted and the surrounding villages are eligible to attend the school, which benefits from small class sizes and a high adult to child ratio. We are holding an open day on Thursday 23rd October 9.30am-11.30am which will be a chance to meet the head, staff and parents and get to know our school. If you are looking for a school for your 2015 reception starter then we would love to hear from you. We also have places available in other years. For more information or to arrange an appointment to look round please call reception on 771339, see our website or come along to our friendly and informal playgroup on Thursday during term-time, 9.00am-11.00am in the hall. All children up to school-age are welcome.

Katherine Aiken
Friends of Farnham
Tel: 771339

DID YOU KNOW THAT ...

The Elizabethan Poor Law (1601) was one of the longest-lasting achievements of her reign, left unaltered until 1834. This law made each parish responsible for supporting the legitimately needy in their community. It taxed wealthier citizens of the country to provide basic shelter, food and clothing, though they were not obligated to provide for those outside of their community. Parish responsibility for their own community caused problems because some were more generous than others. This caused the poor to migrate to other parishes that were not their own. In order to counteract this problem, the Poor Relief Act 1662 was enacted. This created many sojourners, people who resided in different settlements that were not their legal one. The settlement act allowed such people to be forcibly removed. (Wikipedia)

In the year of our Lord 1661.

'Upon the reading of [th]e petic[i]on of Thomas Burnett of Stansted Mount Fitchet, setting forth that one of his daughters did Marry with Richard Westborough of Cooton in

Cambridgesheere, Weaver, And that shee with Two of [the]deleted her interlined] Children came to [th]e said Burnetts Houwse to visett him & his wife, beinge her Father & Mother; That th[e s[aid] Westboroughs wife & her Two Children remained att his house some few dayes, And in that time it soe happned that his house was infected w[ith] the plague, and the said Westboroughs wife died of that sicknes, leaving w[ith] hin [th]e said Burnett her Father Two smale Children; And it appearing unto this Co[ur]te upon Oath that the said Westboroughs last place of settlement was att Cooton in Cambridgesheere, It is ordered by this Courte that [th]e a[ai]d Westboroughs Two Children, one beinge of the age of six years and the other of Three, be forthwith sent to Cooton in Cambridgesheere to be p[ro]vided for accordinge to Law'.
SEAX-Catalogue Q/SO 1/773

Ralph Phillips

FOREST HALL SCHOOL



Starting the year on a positive

This summer saw Forest Hall School's GCSE results bounce back from what can only be described as devastating in 2013. Having worked so hard to gain an OFSTED grading for the school of 'Good', English took a real knock. A poor result in either English or Maths has a significant impact on what is known as the 'Headline Figures' – namely five or more GCSE A*-C grades including English and Maths for each student. This meant that there was significant pressure on the school as a whole to turn the results around. We were adamant that this was a 'catastrophic blip' (backed up by national figures for the exam we studied) and that we could bounce back this year. We have done just that and seen our headline figures **increase by 16%**. This is an **improvement** of over 50%. Many of you will have read about the national drop in results this year, so to improve in English and achieve the national average for maths is only testament to the work put in by staff and students alike. Forest Hall School retains its reputation for working with students with special educational needs, but sometimes our really able students are overlooked because of this and we need to celebrate everyone's success. Our top achiever would have held her own quite comfortably against any other student: Jess Hardy gained four A* grades and a further eight A grades as well as a Level 3 qualification. This last qualification is the equivalent in terms of difficulty to A Level work. None of this can be achieved without exceptional levels of hard work and determination, but good teaching is an absolutely crucial factor in this as well. We look forward to another happy and successful year.

Catherine Anderson
Head Teacher
Tel: 813384

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Stansted Cricket Club

STANSTED CRICKET CLUB DO THE TREBLE!

After 18 rounds of matches the 1st XI finished **Champions of Division 1** by a margin of 21 points, having won 14 matches. In a nail-biting finish to the season, Ilford Catholics and Stansted entered the last match level on points, so if Catholics won (having already beaten Stansted twice earlier in the season), Stansted could not overtake them. With Stansted needing 223 to win at Theydon Bois, word came through that Ilford Catholics had unexpectedly lost at home to Birchanger. About 20 minutes later Stansted won with two overs remaining to take the title for the first time in their history! Congratulations go to Skipper Fred Kirby, Vice-Captain Ian Parsons, top run scorer Charlie Kirby, top wicket taker Ben Baker, and all the squad members. The 2nd XI finished **champions of Division 5** by 27 points, having also won 14 matches. They had clinched the title on the previous Saturday at South Loughton, and finished with another comprehensive win over Albury. Congratulations go to Skipper David Powter, Vice-Captains Mike Burgoine and Ben Sammons, top run scorer Mark Johnson, top wicket takers Steve Chambers and Steve Peachey, and all the squad members. An evening with live music and food already planned to mark the Club's **winning of the HECL Cup** earlier in August, turned into a fantastic night as the Club celebrated an unprecedented treble.



The Sunday XI have won four and lost nine of their 13 matches to date. Individual batting achievements in the last month include B Sammons (125, 88), J Baker (120), J Monk (116, 105), M Johnson (96, 55), J Subramaniam (88 no), B Baker (74), P Armitage (73), C Kirby (67 no) and J Chapman (54 no). Best bowling returns were by S Peachey (6-40), D Powter (5-19), P Armitage (5-28) and J Baker (5-51).

A Dads v Juniors match was held on Sunday 25th August to mark the end of the Stansted Junior CC season. In a close finish the Juniors displayed their cricketing prowess to firmly put the Dads (and a Mum) in their place. The Dads had to resort to batting twice and dragging in passing 2nd team captains to try and help their cause ... all to no avail! After the game the Bob Stoddart Cup for the Most Gifted U-15 was presented to Joe Hoult for an all round excellent season, which included his maiden 50, not out. The Coaches

Awards for U-12s and U-15s for the players whom the coaches feel have demonstrated the best attitude throughout the season, worked hard on their games to improve their cricket, and supported their fellow team members, were awarded to Ed Atkinson (U-12) and Blair Gardiner (U-15). Congratulations to all three award winners.

The Club would like to invite anyone interested in scoring on a regular basis next season to contact the Secretary. Any adults wishing to join the Club should contact me; juniors should contact Head Coach Keith Ayres (on 814471).



David Hedge
Hon. Secretary
Tel: 812509
Email: dchedge49@gmail.com

SOME NEW FACES AT THE VETS

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Well, where did that go to? One minute clients were asking me if I had a nice summer holiday and now we seem to be talking about Bonfire night and how to stop dogs climbing the curtains. Soon it'll be treating animals for over-indulgence in turkey and Christmas cake and then it'll be time to start all over again! We've had an interesting couple of months at Stansted. As you may know, Blaise our vet went to work as a rep for a drug company and Ollie our lovely nurse went to work at Dick White Referrals, the local specialist centre that sees our complicated cases, so we now have a new nurse and a new vet. The good news is that Katie, our new nurse, is based completely at Stansted five days a week so you should see a familiar face every time you visit. She will be running the nurse clinics and so will be there for advice on diet, worming and flea treatment, as well as organising the senior well pet clinics and the puppy pre-school classes. A lot of these clinics are free, so if you feel you just need some advice on regular pet preventative care, feel free to give Katie a ring or make an appointment to see her for a chat. Our new vet is Silvia and she worked in general practice in Italy before spending a year as an intern at Cambridge Vet School, so has come to us with lots of good ideas and will be joining me, Signe and Stephen Flood as the regular Stansted veterinary team. We now have the vets rota on our website so you can look up which vet is doing which surgery to book in with who you prefer.

Later in the month we will be holding one of our client information evenings with Malcolm Adler from the Animal Rehabilitation Centre, talking about hydrotherapy and physiotherapy, and I will also be talking about acupuncture. There will be more information about this event on the website and our Facebook page as well as in the surgery. It should be a great opportunity to find out about these different therapies that are being used increasingly frequently in companion animals. Finally, there are a number of ways to stop your dogs climbing the curtains on Bonfire night (or week that it is now). However, most of them need to be started well before the first bangs go off, so pop into the surgery where Wendy, Angela or Katie can give you more information.



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STANSTED BOWLING CLUB

Captain's Day was well-supported, and kindly sponsored by Howdens Joinery, Bishop's Stortford. The winning team of John Scraggs, Dave Perry and Alan Whitehead amassed a very impressive score - well done. Everybody seemed to enjoy the challenge of the roving jack!!



Weekend Friendlies Standon and Puckeridge in the middle of August, we had a good win; likewise our last friendly game of the season against Clavering on 6th September.

Memorial Cup took place on Sunday 24th August at 2.30pm and was played in honour of Chris Bushnell – winner to be announced at Presentation Evening.

Diary Dates

Saturday 22nd November 7.30pm **Club Dinner and Presentation Evening**

Friday 28th November 7.45pm **Club AGM**

Doreen Scraggs
Hon Secretary

Tel: 815036 or 07812483178

Email: doreenscraggs@talktalk.net



Huw Johnson Club

Although the Huw Johnson Club has been on its summer break, we have had a very busy August! On 17th, we hosted a 40th Anniversary Party in St John's Hall for over 100 past and present members, helpers and supporters. A Stansted-based charity, the Club was started back in 1974 by Tom and Marion Johnson, who named it in memory of their son Huw who had died the year before at the age of just 14. It started out as a support and social group for parents of children with special needs, then became a group for both them and their children; and now, as we have all grown older, it is a group for the adult members we have today. Over the years, we have had many different members and helpers come along to the Club, and we were lucky enough to have many of them join us for the party. Some of them have been supporting the Club since we were founded: Derek Honour (our President), Gordon Dockerty (a founding helper) and Val Reavell have all been helping for 40 years, Jean Winder for 35 years and Sandra Embleton for 31 years. It was a perfect opportunity to thank the huge number of people who give up so much of their time to support us - from Committee members and Treasurers, to car drivers and minibus drivers - and to acknowledge the role they play in helping the Club to run smoothly. Guests, including members of the parish and district councils, were treated to lunch, drinks and music from

Peter Baker's Band. The weather was relatively kind to us; we managed to have a few drinks outside before the wind drove us inside for speeches and a toast. Afterwards, we all hit the dance floor to show off our moves honed from years of Club discos! A great day was had by all. We hope to include some photographs in the next edition of The Link.

We have also been on our summer trip to Woburn Safari Park. Generously funded by a grant from the Uttlesford District Council, 45 members and helpers were driven around the park, spotting a huge range of animals from lions and tigers, to black bears and rhinos. A particular highlight was in the monkey zone, when several exuberant monkeys clambered over the bus and entertained us all. After lunch, we went into the reptile house and were able to hold a number of different animals, including a rather slimy giant snail and several snakes. It was a great way to end our 40th celebrations, and we are now looking forward to the new term. As always, we are looking for more drivers or helpers. Please contact either Sandra Embleton on 812627 or myself if you would like more information.



Katharine Collis
Tel: 461270

STANSTED HALL & ELSENHAM CRICKET CLUB

The senior teams finished 3rd and 4th in their respective leagues with the 1st XI winning eight of their last nine matches. Obviously a disappointing start to the season, and three 'no results' due to the weather did not help matters but the Club already looks forward to next season with confidence. The U12s and U15s are due to play in the Bardfield League finals. The U11s played at the Essex County Ground under lights in the Mini Matchplay late in August. They won all three matches against Hutton, Frinton and Clacton. Louis Hannam enjoyed the evening hitting six 6s off six balls! The U11s and U13s continue to play during the winter months at the HECC Cricket Centre. It will also be a busy winter for the seniors at the Club. They too are entering the indoor league. Also arranged are a Golf Day, two General Knowledge quizzes, an Indian meal, the AGM on 11th November, and the Christmas Draw and Presentation evening on 12th December. We are also hoping to arrange a Race Night in March 2015. Finally we would like to congratulate our near neighbours, Stansted Cricket Club, who won Divisions 1 and 5. It has been 13 years since the Division 1 title was won by a Stansted club; let's hope that we don't have to wait until 2027 for it to happen again!



David Brown
Chairman
Tel: 831011

Email: david.r.brown1@btinternet.com

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STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET

LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Stansted Remembers WWI by Roger Barrett and Paul Embleton

Our first meeting of the season on 4th September was well attended and we were treated to a talk by Roger Barrett on Stansted remembers WW1 (being the 100th anniversary). He gave us a concise run through on the influencing factors that contributed to the outbreak of the war and information on things that could be of interest locally and globally, and was supported by Paul Embleton with his vast postcard collection. My notes are going to focus on the parts of the presentation that are pertinent to Stansted and how the war affected our village.



The above picture shows men gathering at the Working Men's Club, to then be transported to Saffron Walden by the cars in the photograph to sign up for the war effort. Stansted drew 60 volunteers in just two days. One interesting fact was that it was found that 40% of volunteers were malnourished. Our own local files tell of Alfred Bunting of Bishop's Stortford who was rejected and told to come back in 12 months. Out of 265 men enlisted in September, 67 were labourers, 47 farm workers, 19 nursery men, 13 gardeners and 11 grooms which tell a story.

The focus for remembrance in our village is, of course, the war memorial in St John's, commissioned in 1919 and unveiled in 1920. The committee was under the chair of William Fuller Maitland whose son is the first name on the memorial due to rank, but coincidentally was the first one from the village who was killed in action. For a complete list of those who fell during the war, please take time to read the war memorial, or the role of honour in St John's church. Alternatively Glyn Warwick has written a detailed book on the men behind the war



memorial 'They Sleep in Heroes Graves', which can still be purchased.



Several houses in Stansted were commandeered to house troops during this period. The picture above, believed to be taken in Woodfields, show troops with local Stansted families.



There were also military camp sites set up in Pump Alley, Church Field and Blythwood.

The next meeting will be at 8.00pm on Thursday 2nd October at the Crafton Centre, when the subject will be 'Newport, A Great and Poor Town' by Anthony Tuck. All welcome



Steve Leaney
Tel: 647177

music@stansted

www.musicatstansted.co.uk

Our new season gets underway on **Saturday 11th October** at 7.30pm in St John's Church, when pianist, Erdem Misirlioglu, will be giving a recital of music by Beethoven, Brahms, Chopin and Debussy. Erdem is a former winner of the prestigious BBC Young Musician of the Year contest and a recent press report on his playing described him thus, "... still only 24, he has a beguiling mixture of youthfulness and maturity and an assured technique that eschews bravura and strikes at the core of the music ..." We look forward to hearing him play. Tickets, adults £15 from Absolute Travel, Chapel Hill; Nockolds Solicitors, Bishop's Stortford; Sonia Levy, tel 815282; or at the door. Check our website for general information, or if you have a specific enquiry please email: contactus@musicatstansted.co.uk.

Alan Corbishley

MANUDEN GUIDES



Norjam 2014

A group of Manuden Guides and Rangers had had a wonderful time at Norjam (Norfolk Jamboree) in 2010, so we were excited to go to the one being held four years later, this summer. Some of those Guides are now Rangers and went as staff, helping with the Go-karts, Climbing, Abseiling and 'It's A Knockout', doing a fantastic job but also having a good time. The Guides took part in these activities plus many, many more including the trapeze, ice-skating and zorbing. We went to Hautbois, a Guide Activity Centre, for water activities when the girls managed to build a raft in record time and sail it without sinking. We also had a great day at Pleasurewood Hills theme park.



The jamboree had a Through-the-Ages theme and our sub-camp was Vikings, many of whom dressed as Vikings for the Closing Ceremony, the most spectacular being a group from the Shetlands who wore the full regalia worn for their Viking ceremonies at home. Other sub-camps were dressed as Stone Agers, Romans, Saxons, Tudors, and Victorians which made a colourful, fun end-of-camp extravaganza.



The Ages theme permeated the jamboree with, for example, an Edwardian tea room and a tribute to the Sixties creative area where you could have your photo taken on a scooter, make music on a beat box or learn a dance routine. There was a wonderful lively atmosphere with plenty of opportunities to meet new people and try new things, all within a safe environment staffed entirely by members of the Scouting and Guiding movements. Another great week. If you are a girl who is over 10, in at least Year 6, who might be interested in joining Guides, then please contact us on 814145 if you are or were a Brownie; or register online at www.girlguiding.org.uk/interested if you are not.

Glynis Prothero



Firstly, a huge thank you to Dunmow resident, Tracy Begley who very kindly nominated St Clare Hospice for a Community Plus grant from Santander – we were awarded £1000 so we are very grateful to both Tracy and, of course, Santander. Do look out for the forms in your local branch and do, please, think about nominating your local Hospice. As the evenings start drawing in, we are getting busier and busier with local people who would like to support the Hospice with events around the area – which is great! I would just like to give you a taste of what is on offer should you, too, fancy supporting St Clare Hospice and you'd like to have some fun at the same time! Firstly, we have a Charity Lunch coming up on Friday 17th October at the beautiful new Manuden Community Centre. The lunch is being catered by the lovely ladies of Manuden WI and is being supported by many local businesses including Cammas Hall Fruit Farm, Mike's of Sawbridgeworth and Waitrose. Tickets are £15 per person so why not get a table together and enjoy a delicious lunch with friends? The following evening (18th October), there will be a very special Quiz Night celebrating what would have been the 50th birthday of a local gentleman who sadly passed away at the Hospice a couple of years ago. The event in Ugley Village Hall is being organised by his daughter Kelly (who runs DC Poulton on Lower Street), and her cousin Laura. Tickets are only £10, available from me, so why not give those brain cells a bit of an airing for a good cause? And finally, the fantastic Amici Cantate choir are holding a concert in aid of the Hospice in Great Sampford Church on 15th November. It promises to be a very special evening so why not join us to appreciate some wonderful singing? Go on – get your coat on, get out and get involved! Do get in touch if you have any queries about any of the above or you would like more information.



Sarah Calder

Tel: 07528 520016

Email: sarah.calder@stclarehospice.org.uk

Stansted Tennis Club



www.stanstedtennisclub.co.uk

Upcoming Tournaments

Wilby Adult Doubles 1.30pm Sun 5th October

Cayless Adult Doubles Chilli 9.30am Sun 19th October; President's Cup Adult Doubles 1.00pm Sun 2nd November

Ladies' Night

Monday 13th October 7.00pm. All lady members welcome.

Club sessions

Sunday mornings, Wednesday mornings and evenings and Friday mornings. All adult members welcome - please use the website to indicate which sessions you will be attending.

Junior coaching

I am continuing my junior and senior coaching groups. Please contact me if you would like more information.

Tennis balls

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

Contacts

Felicity Shakespeare (Secretary) 831771, Daphne Lunnon (Chairman) 817574.



Chris Hollis

Tel: 319155

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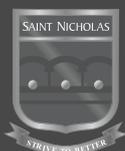
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admissions@saintnicholasschool.net

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01279 429910

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Keith Knight - Headmaster



MEN BEHIND THE NAME (TAKE 2!)

PALMER CLOSE

Following the article on Palmer Close in our June issue another Palmer family, who also had connections with Rochfords Nurseries, contacted us. Hence 'Take 2'

Our Dad Robert Palmer (known as Bob), was born 23rd April 1941 in the Herts and Essex Hospital to Thomas and Hilda Palmer and was one of eight children. His father was a cow man and they moved around a lot as Grandad travelled around to work on different farms. His mother used to pick fruit and vegetables as this job allowed her to take the children with her. The family moved back to Stansted when Dad was 11 years old. They lived at a cottage at Parsonage Farm where Grandad worked for Mr Morten. Dad attended The Mountfitchet School, and when he was 12 the family moved to Mountfitchet Road. At that time his father worked at the airport and his mother was a cook at the Herts and Essex Hospital. Two years running, at the ages of 13 and 14, Dad worked the six weeks of his school summer holidays at Rochford Nurseries where he got £2 a week. When he left school, he continued to work there for a few years full time, and his weekly wage rose to the magnificent sum of £3 and one shilling a week! Next he went into the building trade before lorry driving for the rest of his working career until he retired.



He married a local girl, Rosemary Stock who also lived in Mountfitchet Road, at St Mary's Church, Stansted (on 26th October 2013 they celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary). They had four children Stephan, Susan, Sandra and Sharon and have ten grandchildren who all live locally. Dad and Mum have a joint interest in what used to be called scrambling, now known as moto-

cross. Dad rode back in the 60s and 70s along with Mum's brothers. Now he enjoys going to watch his son Stephan and three of his grandsons.

Dad told us many stories of the days he worked at the nurseries and also of some of the local people he worked with; he still does now and has told the grandchildren too. Our parents have both retired and moved to Norfolk where Dad tends to his own tomatoes in his own greenhouse, and grows many other vegetables. It makes him think back to the days of working at Rochfords as a young man.



On a nice day he goes for a ride on his road bike, just like he would have done in his younger days when he worked at Rochfords.

Susan Palmer
Sandra Parradine

If you know of a road in Stansted that is named after your family, the editor would like to hear from you. Please email: editor@stanstedlink.org.uk or telephone 814706.



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOE BOXES

Packing evening will be on **Thursday 13th November** at 7.30pm in Stansted Free Church Hall. Shoe boxes covered with Christmas paper and any contents can be brought along on the evening or to the Foyer of the Free Church on **Saturday 18th October** from 10.00am-12 noon, or pass them to any of us named below. Here is a reminder of the sort of things that can go into the shoe boxes:

School supplies - pens, pencils, crayons, felt pens, sharpeners, solar calculators, colouring and picture books (no text) etc.

Toys - dolls, toy trucks, stuffed animals (with CE label), harmonicas, yo-yos, skipping ropes, puzzles etc.

Hygiene items - toothbrush and toothpaste, wrapped bar of soap, comb, hairbrush, flannel

Other items - hat, cap, gloves, scarf, sunglasses, hair accessories, jewellery, wind-up torch, wrapped sweets (sell by date at least March 2015 and no chocolates).

The following items **cannot** be included: used or damaged items, war related items such as toy guns, soldiers or knives, liquids and lotions, medicines, hand-made stuffed toys, marbles, glass, mirrors, clothing other than listed above, and anything of a political, racial or religious nature. Please let us have as many shoe boxes, preferably already covered with Christmas paper, as you have. We can only pack them if we have the boxes! Finally, each shoe box costs £3 to ship, so any donations will be gratefully received.

Helen Baker	814865
Catherine Dean	813579
Eileen Quinn	812109



On Thursday October 9th 10.00am-12 noon we will be holding our annual Stompy the Caterpillar 'Big Welly Walk'. This is a fund raising event involving the children wearing their wellies to the Stay and Play session, decorating them, making lots of orange footprints and eating orange snacks. We will also go on a short Wellie Walk along Gall End Lane. A donation of £1 per family is requested. No need to book, just come along.



Lesley Murdoch

Community engagement and volunteer coordinator

Tel: 812348

Email: lmurdoch@spurgeons.org



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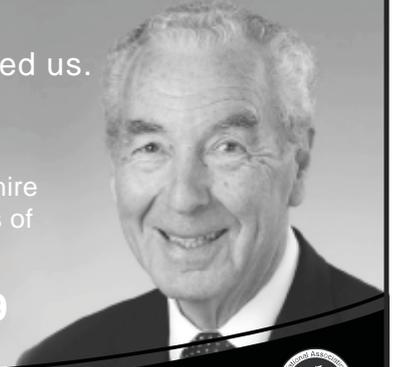
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Stansted Network

NEWS FROM YOUR LOCAL COUNCILS

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

In the last edition of The Link we reported on the Parish Council's decision to move forward with its intention to produce a Neighbourhood Plan. The Neighbourhood Plan will be one of the key factor in determining how Stansted develops over the next 15 years. The Parish Council must establish what the concerns and priorities of the local residents are in order to formulate a plan that is acceptable to the majority of voters. As part of this process we will be holding a public meeting on Tuesday 14 October so that we can explain the process to you and answer any questions you have.

The Neighbourhood Plan will be able to influence local planning policy for the area; if and where any new development takes place, the number of new houses that may be built, the character of new development, the need to improve the infrastructure, including traffic issues, jobs and employment policy, open space and environmental issues.

Many of you supported The Save Stansted Village campaign and were able to exert influence that secured a favourable outcome for our community. You now have the opportunity to have your say in the kind of community you want to see going forward so we hope you come along to the meeting and involve yourselves in the project. We will be establishing a steering group as part of the next phase of producing our plan and we will need volunteers from all areas of village life to make an input to the groups work so please consider volunteering your services. (see Councillor Deans report for an update on the Uttlesford Local Plan)

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN PUBLIC MEETING.

Tuesday 14 October at 7.30 pm

Day Centre, Crafton Green

*Are you interested in shaping the future of
Stansted Mounfitchet?*

This is your chance to find out how the process will work and how you can contribute so please make the effort to attend.

STANSTED IN BLOOM

On Saturday, 5th July, one of the staff from Gorsefield, Mr Paul Irving, joined the Stansted in Bloom team in order to judge our competition for the second year running. Fourteen gardens were entered by local residents and much enthusiasm was shown by everyone who participated, residents and judges alike.

This year we produced a judging criteria so that the competitors knew exactly what the judges were looking for. It was delightful to see how everyone produced their best to include as much of the criteria as possible and the results were very rewarding as the gardens, whether private or communal, were a pleasure to behold, with a great variety of planting and design. We had some newcomers this year and we hope that next year will see even more entries with even more exciting ideas.

Names of 1st prizewinners:

Front Garden----Helen Williams.

Business /Organisation-----Stansted Tennis Club.

Back Garden-----Sarah Pyatt.

Communal Planted Area-----David Mallyon

On Saturday 19th July at Stansted Day Centre, participants were presented with engraved salvers and/or certificates. Photographs were taken, refreshments consumed and everyone enjoyed a pleasant afternoon. Your ideas for Stansted in Bloom are always welcome.



The proud winners display their awards along with Parish Chairman, Maureen Caton.

NEW WEBSITE

We are monitoring activity on our new website and it appears a few people have logged on and had a look at it. We hope more of you will become regular visitors

so you can keep up to date with news from your Parish Council and put www.stansted.net in their favourites. Feedback on the new site has been very positive. One commentator described the photography as "superb" We have used photographs from our gallery which many villagers have contributed to over the years. We want to keep the web site looking up to date and seasonal so we would appreciate some attractive autumnal pictures from the talented amateur photographers in the village. Please send your contributions to trevor.lloyd@stansted.net.

BARCLAYS POP UP BANK CLOSES

After a two month trial with a pop up bank operating from the Day Centre on a Friday morning Barclays have decided not to continue with the service. The average number of customers per session was only four which they felt was uneconomic so sadly this means that the village which once had three banks now has none.

AUTUMN LITTER PICK

The Autumn Litter Pick is scheduled to take place on the morning of Saturday 11 October. Churchill's have kindly agreed to support the event again so all volunteers will receive a voucher for a free lunch. We supply all the equipment although you might like to bring your own gardening gloves. We had a very good turn out in the Spring but it would be good to see some new faces this time. Please meet outside Crafton Green House at 10am.

SENIOR RAILCARDS

If you are over sixty and a resident of the Uttlesford District Council area you are entitled to a Senior Railcard at a discounted rate. For a number of years we have been able to issue cards from the Parish Office but the system is now being changed. You will still need to come into the Parish Office with proof of your age. We will then obtain a promotional code for you which will enable you to get the discounted rate when apply for your card online. or by phone. The card will then be posted to you within five days.

SKATEPARK

Every Monday morning our handyman Steve gives our skatepark a bit of TLC. After a week-end of heavy use there is often a lot of rubbish to clear and inevitably some damage to the ramps that needs to be repaired to make sure it continues to be as safe as we can make it. Unfortunately as the park has got older maintenance has become more challenging and some of the ramps will need more specialist work. We have agreed to spend some of the maintenance budget on getting this work completed so that we can keep the park open until work

starts on the new park. This wasn't an easy decision given the relatively short time span involved but we felt the consequences of closing the park were such that the expenditure was justified.

By the time you read this we should have received design proposals and tenders from companies competing for the contract to build the new park. We will then be consulting with The Skatepark User Group before the appointment of a preferred contractor. You can keep up to date with skatepark news on facebook and we post regular updates on our website.

NEWS FROM UTTLESFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL

From Cllr Alan Dean, Uttlesford District Council

Planning and the Local Plan continued to dominate the council during the summer, with two extraordinary meetings (that's the official term for non-routine meetings) of the council in August. In August's *Link* I wrote that the council had pulled out of defending its decision to refuse the 800-home scheme by Fairfield at Elsenham. The meetings in August saw controversial decisions to pull out of an appeal by a developer in Saffron Walden. The majority of the council decided it doesn't want to defend appeals when application have been refused by its own planning committee on sites which have been put in its controversial but still untested draft local plan.

The inspector who will conduct the inspection of the draft plan in November and December has written to question quite a lot of the plan's content. He has done this because of the numerous representations made which challenge both the underlying assumptions in the plan as well as the details. So it is too early to speculate whether he will declare the plan unsound and whether UDC will have to look again at it. However, I must say that his questions do raise alarm bells. He wants to know how the council went about choosing Elsenham/Henham as the location for a new settlement of 2,100 homes last November and how "Elsenham was judged to be most justified and effective compared with reasonable alternatives". To my knowledge, there was no transparent selection process.

Mr Roy Fowler, the government inspector, has also questioned Uttlesford's selection of 523 homes per annum as the new build target for the next 15 years. He has posed newer forecasts for housing growth than the data used by UDC. This shows rates averaging 25% above the council's chosen target. Needless to say, if the inspector finds that the existing choice of 523 new homes per annum is too low and that the plan is therefore declared unsound, everything will be back in the melting pot and the implications for the whole district, including the Stansted area, would be significant.

The parish council's decision to launch a Neighbourhood Plan project for Stansted in October is very opportune as it will at least allow local people to help plan the future of our community, though that cannot include "pulling up the drawbridge" to more development, or we will simply be done to by others.

UTTLESFORD COMMUNITY FORUMS

Thursday 9th October at Council Offices, London Road, Saffron Walden CB11 4ER and Tuesday 14th October at Helena Romanes School, Parsonage Downs, Dunmow CM6 2AU. Main theme for the evening is Education with Essex County Councillor Ray Gooding, Cabinet Member for Children's Services, attending. Meetings start at 7.30 pm. These are open meetings - everyone welcome. More details from Sue Hayden, Community Development Officer tel 01799 510563 Email: shayden@uttlesford.gov.uk

DATES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

8 October	Full Council
13 October	Civil Protection
15 October	Open Spaces
22 October	Highways 7.00 pm F&GP (Budget) 8.15 pm
29 October	Windmill 7.00 pm FullCouncil 7.45 pm

SIR ALAN HASELHURST SURGERY DATES

October

17th-Parish Council Offices, Stansted 5.45-6.30 pm
17th- The Old Armoury, Saffron Walden 7.00-7.45 pm

November

14th-Village Hall , Writtle 5.15-6.00 pm
14th-Town Council Offices, Great Dunmow 6.30-7.15 pm

CONTACT DETAILS

Clerk - Ruth Clifford. Admin Assist - Anne Court
Assistant to the Parish Clerk-Trevor Lloyd
Email: parishcouncil@stansted.net
Phone/fax: 01279 813214 10am - 1pm
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(Vice Chairman)	Cllrgeoffreysell@stansted.net

Valerie Trundle	813433
	prtvr@btinternet.com

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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
	cldr.ray.gooding@essexcc.gov.uk

Member of Parliament

The Rt Hon Sir Alan Haselhurst MP
Tel: 0207 219 5214/Fax: 0207 219 5600
alan.haselhurst.mp@parliament.uk

Police - PC Tom Bastendorff
Non-emergency 101
PCSO (Stuart Stranger) Tel: 07889 702340

Neighbourhood Watch

www.stanstednhw.org.uk

Parish Public Transport Representatives

Valerie Trundle	-	813433
Joy Thomas	-	813871

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Saturday 8th November



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Gates Open 6.30 pm Bonfire 7.00 pm Fireworks 7.30 pm

Hot Dogs Burgers Hot Drinks

STANSTED'S FROST FAYRE

Friday 5th December 4 - 8 pm and Saturday 6th December 10 am – 4 pm

This year we have changed location to the Crafton Green car park as work is proposed to commence on the new health centre in Lower Street before then. We shall be having real market stalls instead of a marquee!

Penny Thresher is organising the sale of the stalls which vary in price, but see our website for full details and a booking form. Alternatively these can be obtained direct from Penny by email penny_thresher@hotmail.com or by phone 07771 896670.



Father Christmas will be visiting us on the Friday evening along with the Victorian funfair rides we had last year and the steam engine and organ. Come for your gluhwein and hear local school choirs celebrate the coming of Christmas whilst buying your food and present goodies! There is plenty of entertainment lined up for Saturday too,

with Emily Yarrow singing and also the older schools. Capoeira who performed brilliantly last year, will be back showing us some dance moves which we may need to practice after Christmas to get back in trim!

We look forward to seeing the whole village turn out at some point over the two days to support the event and have a great time.

DIRECTORY OF LOCAL CLUBS AND ORGANISATIONS

Alzheimers Society	Tel: 01371 872519	Parkinson's UK	Contact: Kathy West Tel: 816293
Air Training Corps 494 Squadron	Tel: 681559/661929 Email: 494@aircadets.org	Uttlesford Support Group	Email:kewest@btinternet.com
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@uwclub.net
Craft Club	Sam Debbah Tel 07866 185704 Email: tuftydawn@googlemail.com	Royal British Legion	John Segar Tel: 813289
Cricket Club (adults) (juniors)	David Hedge Tel: 812509 Keith Ayres Tel: 814471	Scouts (age 10½ -14)	Mike Byrne Tel: 812780
Cub Scouts Age 8-10½	Roger Musgrove Tel: 07736 616665/01799 543466	Shotokan Karate Ryu	Donna Ring Tel: 731752 Email: skr@skr.org.uk
Day Centre	Tel: 815091	Spangles Children's Centre	Tel: 812348
Explorer Scouts	Fintan Lambe Tel: 817937	Stansted Family Café	Ros Page Tel: 810813 Email: rospagemusic@yahoo.com
Friends of St Mary's Church	Audrey Rodgers Tel: 812162	Stansted Football Club	Tom Williams Tel: 07921 403842
Garden Club	Maralyn Harris Chairman Tel: 07919 478144	Stansted Hall and Elsenham Cricket Club	David Brown Tel: 831011/07788 999663 Email: david.r.brown1 @btinternet.com
Grove Cottage	David Scott Tel: 656085	Stansted Sparks Netball	Gemma Snelling Tel: 07894 944242 Email: gemmasnelling@me.com
Helpline	Tel: 07704 553727	Stansted Supers Handball Club	Olly Pocknell Tel: 07875 391701
History Society	Peter Brown Chairman Tel: 812816	Tennis Club	Daphne Lunnon Tel: 817574 Email: drlunnon@gmail.com
Huw Johnson Club	Katharine Collis Tel: 461270 Email: kat_collis@hotmail.com	Thornbury Badminton Club	Marion or Shirley Tel: 869896 or 815871
Inner Wheel Club	Brenda Cox, President Tel: 812191 Email: brenda@coxco.demon.co.uk	U3A	Christine Chair Tel: 817587
Investigators	Ros Page Tel 810813 Email: rospagemusic@yahoo.com	Women's Institute (Stansted)	Judy Colliver President Tel: 812470
Little Scrummers	Andrew Poyser Tel: 07738 591232	Women's Institute (Ugley)	Dorothy Wallace President Tel: 850215
Millers (Windmill)	Derek Honour Tel: 647213	Whoosh Explore Canoe Club	Helen and Peter Nash Tel: 817453
Mountfitchet Club	John Robinson Tel: 812755	Youth Centre	Linda Barnes Tel: 07947 548051
music@stansted - classical concerts	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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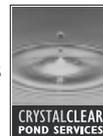
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It is easy to get confused about which emergency number to use with so many different options available. In an urgent need for police, fire, ambulance or coastguard call 999, free on payphone or mobile without money or credit, but be sure you're making the call for the right reason! To contact the local police to report crime or other concerns not requiring an emergency response call 101, available 24/7. The deaf, hard of hearing or speech impaired can register their mobile phone for the emergency SMS service, which allows calls for help by sending SMS messages to 999. See www.emergencysms.org.uk for more information.

Other useful numbers

111 - urgent but non-emergency health issues when GP surgery is closed (available 24/7). Calls are free from landlines and mobile phones.

112 - European emergency phone number available everywhere in the EU free of charge.

0800 111 999 - free gas emergency services line, for reporting suspected gas leaks or concerns regarding possible carbon monoxide fumes escaping from a gas appliance.

0800 783 8838 - contact number for UK power networks in an electrical emergency.

The Uttlesford Citizens Advice Bureau offers a free, impartial and independent service, with a wide range of support available from general advice to specialist help dealing with serious debt problems, employment disputes, housing and family issues. Call or email for an appointment with an experienced and friendly adviser in Stansted (open Thursdays 9.30am to 12.30pm by appointment only), Saffron Walden, Dunmow or Thaxted or Wimbish (soldiers and families only).

General Advice Volunteers Needed

Whether you are retired, working or job-hunting - there could be the ideal role for you at the CAB. Full training and support is given with all roles. Work is challenging but incredibly rewarding and volunteers do really make a difference. We love people with language skills and would dearly like a volunteer who is confident communicating in British Sign Language. We are looking for volunteers to be based at Saffron Walden or especially Great Dunmow. For more information and detailed job descriptions please email volunteer@uttlesfordcab.org.uk or visit www.uttlesfordcab.org.uk.

Citizens Advice Bureau

Tel: 01799 618840

Email: bureau@uttlesfordcab.cabnet.org.uk



The British Red Cross **Autumn Gift Fair** is at Parklands, Quendon on Wednesday 8th October 10.00am-3.30pm. There will be 40 stalls with many lovely gifts. Entry £5 including tea/coffee and homemade biscuits. Lunches will be available.

Christine Stiles
Tel: 813172

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St Mary's has made a good start to what promises to be an exciting new school year. Our latest Reception pupils have had a staged introduction into school and all have settled very well in class and are confident around school. We have changed our approach to transition from pre-school for this year, with visits taking place in September rather than July, and all the signs are that it is an improvement for the children. We have welcomed new pupils into all the other year groups too, as well as four new teaching staff and one member of the catering staff. St. Mary's is now 11 classes strong; our new classroom was finished in time for the children to take it over – just! At time of writing there is outside work still to finish, but we will soon be enjoying the new all-weather playing pitch too!

There was great excitement just before term began, when



our chickens began to lay eggs! We are now collecting several each day from the hens the children raised from eggs hatched in an incubator in the Year 1 classroom. The chickens are the foundation of our ambition to develop our outside space around the wildlife area for growing plants and hands-on learning. As soon as the builders leave, we can make a start.

Running the PE curriculum as well as managing school sports teams and extra-curricular clubs is a busy role. From the beginning of term we are fortunate to have a PE specialist, Miss Chelsey O'Sullivan, on the staff. She will be making sure that St Mary's has a strong PE curriculum and is also fully involved in all the sporting opportunities in the area. She will be supporting the school in developing skills in a wider range of sports and activities as well as enabling us to offer further extra-curricular clubs, including in the morning before school. Miss O'Sullivan, together with the other teachers and some of our Teaching Assistants, are running activity clubs this term to include gymnastics, dance, rugby, netball, girls' soccer, fitness, skipping, multi-skills and even baton-twirling! Mr North runs three football sessions for boys in different age groups. Despite this being the start of the school year, we are looking ahead to next September. Parents who will be applying for places for Reception 2015 are invited to visit the school to see us at work and to ask any questions you may have. Dates and times are:

Mon 29 th September	9.30am-10.30am
Wed 1 st October	1.45pm-2.45pm
Tue 7 th October	9.30am-10.30am
Thu 9 th October	1.45pm-2.45pm

If you are new to the area and would like to have a look at our school, please call us on 812212 to arrange a visit.

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Headteacher

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STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET U3A

www.stanstedu3a.org

The next meeting is Thursday 16th October 1.30pm in St John's Hall, speaker Peter Mockford 'The Life of a JP'.

Flemish Trip

En route to sunny Belgium, we called in at Tyne Cot Cemetery to pay our respects to the soldiers who had laid down their lives one hundred years ago. Onward to the Radisson Park Inn set in the vibrant town of Leuven. After the evening meal the more adventurous went for a walk into the square which proved most enjoyable, with live music everywhere, and the locals dancing the tango between courses in the restaurants. The next day after a huge breakfast, we went to Brussels to see the Flower Carpet - 1,800 square metres of begonias in an amazing range of colours. Free time to see Manneken Pis (very tiny) and ooh the chocolate shops - such choice, and lots of tasting allowed! Sunday the weather changed, out with brollies, we headed to the pretty town of Ghent for a river trip. A boat with the ability to go under the lowest of bridges, caused many a giggle, as we all learnt a new yoga position, and got mighty friendly with anyone in front of us. Onwards to Antwerp, famous for its diamonds, sauntering our way through streets, acting rich and hoping for some samples. Later, back in Leuven, making their own arrangements, moules and frites seemed very popular.



Photo of Bruges by Judy Colliver

Our final day, a visit to Bruges, the hot chocolate capital, we wandered the pretty streets, squares and gardens, visiting the silent and tranquil Begijnhof. Many tempted clutched their purchases. Another wonderful trip for us all - thanks Margaret and Jan for such a great holiday. I'm missing all the fun and chatter already (from your Roving Chocolate Specialist Julie).

U3A Singers Concert 4th October 7.30pm at St Johns Church. Tickets £6 adults (includes a glass of wine / soft drink), £3 children under 14 from Jacqui 817904 or Jenny 815409.

Dirty Rotten Scoundrels is a comedy musical starring Robert Lindsay - matinee performance on Wednesday 29th October. Contact Cherry on 817140 for further details.

Saturday Night Fever - our annual dance - is on Saturday 8th November 7.15pm for 7.30pm at Forest Hall School. Tickets £13.50 includes a fish and chip supper, bring your own drinks and nibbles. Live music from Archive and Vintage

Velvet. Dress in your funkiest outfits! Contact Margaret 503848 or Jan 812481 for further details.

The **Saturday Seminar** on 4th October is sold out. The next one is 29th November, when Richard Epworth will reveal how we learn in his seminar 'How the Outside Get In: the incredible science behind learning, wisdom and prejudice.' Tickets £4 members, £5 non-members from Alan on 07790 213510 or email: stanstedseminars@gmail.com. For general information about the U3A please contact Chris (Chair) 817587 or Sandra (Secretary) 814304 or see the website.



Caroline Bore



UGLEY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Lynne Garner was the speaker at our recent meeting. Her subject, a rather prickly one - hedgehogs! Lynne gave us a lot of information about them. In the 1950s there were 36,000,000 hedgehogs in the UK; now there are only 1,000,000! Lynne houses up to ten hedgehogs at a time and she and her volunteers work with local vets to ensure that our local population doesn't dwindle. Hedgehogs that cannot be released back into the wild are cared for permanently by Lynne and her helpers. We were told that if a hedgehog was spotted during the day, it was a sign that it needed help and she advised taking it to the local vet who would contact her. We were given some useful tips too. The do and don'ts included: **don't** give them bread and cows milk as they are lactose intolerant; goats milk and puppy food is the best thing to feed them on, **don't** use slug pellets as hedgehogs can eat up to 40 slugs per night and the chemicals used in the pellets will poison them, but **do** check long grass before cutting it and check bonfires before lighting them. More practical information can be found by phoning Lynne on 07956 698946 Monday to Friday 9.00am-5.00pm, or email: help@hertshogline.com. Other entertaining talks on the horizon include the appearance of stunt woman Lucy Allen in October, Tales from Beatrix Potter and the Lake District in November and Christmas around the world in December. We meet on the 3rd Wednesday of the month in Ugley Village Hall at 2.15pm. Why not come and join us? You would be most welcome!

Andrea Fitt
Tel: 815922

ONE WORLD WEEK

19th - 26th October

This year the theme is 'Living Differently' and we are being encouraged to think about:

- Sourcing food differently**
- Reducing wastefulness**
- Using money ethically**

There will be a **coffee morning** on **Saturday 25th October** 10.00am-12 noon at Stansted Free Church. Fairly-traded food, cards and gifts will be on sale, together with books and bric-à-brac. There will also be a recycling box for broken and unwanted jewellery, old or foreign banknotes, and stamps. Everyone welcome!



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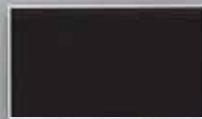
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ALPHA QUIZ

- 1 A favourite fruit
- 2 Lives in a sett
- 3 A green vegetable
- 4 Taken on a lead for a walk
- 5 Holds an artist's painting
- 6 Raised and lowered on poles
- 7 A colour
- 8 Pirate Captain in Peter Pan
- 9 Used in writing
- 10 A wild animal
- 11 Unlocks a door
- 12 Which 'L' doesn't change its spots?
- 13 Female horse
- 14 Middle of the day
- 15 Another fruit
- 16 Son of a king and queen
- 17 One fourth
- 18 Sometimes seen in the sky
- 19 Tool to cut wood
- 20 Not wild
- 21 Opposite beautiful
- 22 Records TV programmes
- 23 You might hang clothes in here
- 24 A musical instrument
- 25 Colour of a banana
- 26 A striped animal

x y z

Answers on page 35

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

Poppy Appeal 25th October-8th November

Remembrance Sunday is on 9th November. After the lavish ceremonies celebrating the D Day Landings on 6th June 1944, our country then reflected on World War I with solemn services both here and on the continent, many of them being televised. Locally the event was marked in St Mary's Church, with music and readings and was a very moving occasion. This leads me on to the Poppy Appeal. Sadly, even today, the work of the Legion is still needed. We not only give help to disabled servicemen and women, but also to families whose loved ones have died in recent conflicts. The Help for Heroes Charity and the Legion are working very closely together for the sake of all concerned, and, for the future, the Legion is committed to maintaining the Special Rehabilitation Centre financed by the Help for Heroes. Locally I am still looking for volunteers from Foresthall Park for the House to House Collections. It can be very hard work, but is very worthwhile as House to House Collections contribute more than 25% of our income. I already have one volunteer who is trying to gather more support, but Forest Hall Park is a large area to cover. If you feel that you can collect in your road, or even part of it I would love to hear from you, so please contact me. Sarah Murdoch, the Stansted co-ordinator, will be contacting the Stansted collectors shortly but more help is always needed, so if you can help please contact Sarah on 810957. May I ask that you give as generously as you are able. Thank you.

John L Segar
Honorary Poppy Appeal Organiser
Tel: 813289

STANSTED EVENING
WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Our August Speaker, Rosemary Carter, came at short notice due to the illness of our planned speaker, fortunately with a similarly themed subject. Fulfilling a lifelong ambition in 2011, Rosemary went with her son on a three week trip to Alaska. Flying to Vancouver they started their tour over Greenland panning for gold in Whitehorse, a gold-rush area in the late 1800s, travelling along the Top of the World highway. One of her most memorable visits was to Chicken – a town (?) with a population of 19. Reason to live there: in summer there are 22 hours sunlight; reason not to: in winter there are 24 hours darkness! The descriptions and pictures of her travels made us want to go too. Interestingly, she has co-written a book called 'Captive in East Anglia' looking at the plight of Italian and German prisoners of WWII; we are buying a copy for our library.



Our Group meeting this year was held in the lovely new hall at Manuden. Members of five local Institutes gathered to hear Matthew Collins talk of his experiences as a young presenter on the BBC Travel Show and as a single parent raising his two small sons. His assignments led to many adventures - in Spain, wearing a plaster cast to test travel for the disabled, and in a French nudist camp where single people and cameras were banned, making things rather difficult for him. An assignment in Russia led to his meeting and marrying a Russian girl, which sadly didn't work out, but led to his travelling across America and Canada with two small boys and a hired Granny! That was his answer to general disapproval of a young man taking along an au-pair.

Jenny Wraith entered the National WI Heirloom competition and has had her embroidered secretary's portfolio accepted for judging in the finals at Denman College. Congratulations to her. We also won the competition cup at the Group meeting this year, so well done Stansted Mountfitchet WI! At our 9th October meeting at 7.45pm in the Day Centre, Brian D'Arcy is talking on 'The Tower of London and its Prisoners'. All welcome.



Judy Colliver
President
Tel: 812470
Email: judycolliver@uwclub.net

MYSTERY DEEPENS!

The mystery photograph featured in our last two issues has caused lots of interest and comment. Latest suggestion is that it shows a bridal couple in the centre, as the 'poles' (pitchforks?) are forming an arch and most of the males appear to be wearing buttonholes. Any more ideas?!

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GUESS WHO I AM

I was born in Chiswick in London and have four half-brothers. Education at 'character-building' boarding schools from the age of nine was great fun to begin with, less so as I got older. But it was okay and it has made me the man I am today. The last school I was at had 800 boys and just two girls; the school discos were interesting!

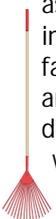
My first job was driving a tractor in the school holidays but on leaving school at the age of 18, I worked for a property company, managing various salubrious establishments in the West End of London and Soho. I met my wife when we both attended the same course at Harlow College. Our first date in 1986 was to a Genesis concert at Wembley. In 1991 we moved to France where I worked for Disneyland in Paris.

I have lived in Stansted since 1996 and have two children. We have always lived in the same road in the village but in two different houses – one opposite the other. So when we moved house we didn't hire a removal lorry, but a sack barrow! As a family we enjoy living in Stansted and are involved in village life. For the last eight years we have been running our own businesses from home. With a young family, life is hectic but when I do get some time to myself I spend it on my greatest passion, my motorcycle. If I'm not riding it then I'm tinkering with it (even when it doesn't need any tinkering!).

Claim To Fame: I've met and spoken to Kevin Costner. Guess who I am.

GARDENING TIPS

October can be a busy month in the garden; borders become untidy, so get in there and pull out any weeds that are making a last effort to grow in the damper weather before winter. Cut back any flowering perennials that are not attractive or beneficial to wildlife over the winter months. It's the last chance to light trim a privet hedge; if major renovation is required, this should be left until next year. Spring bulbs can be planted. Check that hardy plants in containers are not drying out in dry spells. In the pond, keep on top of cutting off dead and dying leaves of lilies and marginal plants to avoid them falling to the bottom of the pond where they will cause a build-up of excessive nutrients (which will cause algae and weed growth next year). Scoop out excess sludge from the bottom of the pond if possible, a long reach dustpan is a useful tool for this. Get into the veg' plot and cut down any remaining asparagus foliage; plant spring cabbages and over-wintering onions, and towards the end of the month you can put in the first batch of garlic. If any leaves on over-wintering cabbage/sprouts or other brassicas are turning yellow, remove them. If you have time for little else, mulch bare areas of soil in the garden with a thick layer of well-rotted horse manure, it is fantastic for improving poor soil, as the worms will eat it over winter and drag it down into your soil. It is cheapest to buy from a good farm/stable, as opposed to DIY stores that tend to be around three times the price. If you haven't already done so, you can still perform lawn renovations, and when mowing, raise the height of the cut to 40mm.



Paul the Gardener

BIRCHANGER WOOD

Hello Everyone!

So we are now into autumn and the time to spot and photograph fungi in Birchanger Wood. Back in June or maybe July, I walked across to Birchanger Wood from Stansted (that is, to Birchanger Wood on the Birchanger side of the A120) and whilst walking the paths I heard the calls of buzzards ... I could not see them ... too many trees! Never mind, upon exiting the Wood at Birchanger, I stood and looked upward and then saw a marvellous sight of two beautiful buzzards circling and calling to one another; they were so low that the colours of their feathers were easy to see and the birds were beautiful. I do not know if the buzzards nested in Birchanger Wood, but at the beginning of September, I was again walking from Foresthall Park across the fields over to Birchanger when suddenly just above me one beautiful buzzard flew up and coursed the fields at a low height and then started to find the thermals. Upon doing so it then circled and spiralled way up into the clouds without any further use of wing power. Gosh it was a wonderful sight.



Tonight, looking out of my window across to Alsa Wood I spied a kestrel, strangely much higher up than I have noticed before, but again coursed the fields for food. I note also that the familiar garden birds will shortly be returning from the fields to our gardens to search for food. The Autumn is a great time to walk in the ancient woodland of Birchanger Wood, whether this be in the smaller woodland on the Birchanger/Stansted side of the Wood, or in the larger woodland situated on the Bishop's Stortford side of the A120. Our lovely paths enable you, your children and your dogs to enjoy the woodland without becoming embroiled in mud. Enjoy autumn!



Daphne Wallace-Jarvis
Tel: 812259

Email: secretary@birchangerwoodtrust.org

GUESS WHO I AM ANSWER



Ollie Pocknell

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www.eastonlodge.co.uk

Sunday 19th October is our last open day of 2014 and we look forward to welcoming visitors to the gardens to enjoy the autumn colours. There will be craft and nature activities available for our younger visitors as well as some Spooky Halloween Fun to keep them busy. There are guided tours at 1.00pm and 3.00pm which cover all aspects of the garden's history and, weather permitting, the Italian Garden will also be open to visitors over 16. Hot food will be on sale until 2.00pm including bacon rolls and homemade soup; hot and cold drinks and homemade cakes will be available until 4.30pm. Gates open at 11.30am and the gardens close at 5.00pm with last entry at 4.00pm. Entrance is only £3.50 for adults and children come in free of charge; dogs are more than welcome as long as they are kept on a lead. Our 2015 calendar at £5.00 and the new edition of 'The History of Easton Lodge' at £3.00 will be on sale at the open day and via the website. The calendars are stunning and make ideal Christmas presents and the book is a brilliant little history of the mansion and its gardens. It takes the reader on a journey from the 16th century, through to when Brian and Diana Creasey started to restore the gardens in the 1970s after their children discovered the remains of the Italian Garden buried in a wood, right up to the splendour being revealed today. Gardening sessions will continue over the closed season and we always welcome new recruits – usually with a hot drink and piece of homemade cake! We also need more volunteers to help on open days, if that sounds more like your thing. If you would like more details about anything to do with the gardens or volunteering either look on the website or contact me.

Helen Carter
Trust Administrator
Tel: 07899 974107
Email: helen@the-old-barn.net



BEEKEEPING

Beekeeping is very much like looking after any other farm animal; it requires good husbandry. If you look after cows or pigs, you need to make sure they keep disease free, are fed and are comfortable. It is the same with bees, and at this time of the year it is important to ensure the colony has sufficient stores to see them through the winter. The average colony will require around 100kgs of honey to sustain it through the year, around 18kgs for the winter period. When you think the average bee will make about half a teaspoon of honey during its lifetime, that is a lot of hard work by the bees. The problem is that humans like honey too, and we extract (actually steal) the bees' honey during the summer season. If we extract too much the bees will starve to death during the winter. So we need to feed the bees, and this is done with ordinary granulated sugar dissolved in water in the ratio of 2:1. At this ratio the syrup remains liquid and doesn't crystallize so the bees can use it.

So how does the bee keeper know there are enough stores? Well they heft the hive, ie lift one corner. The total weight of the hive, the stores, and the bees should be 35kgs, and as every 'O' level student knows, it will take half that to lift a corner. Some people use their own judgement to gauge this, and lift (or heft) the hive by hand; but the other way is to buy an airline luggage weighing gadget, screw a hook into the side of the hive to attach the gadget, and read off the weight required to lift the corner. I was thinking of approaching Ryanair to give away one of these gadgets to every beekeeper who boards one of their planes, but thought Mr O'Leary might have difficulty in understanding the concept (not of the use of the gadget, but of giving something away!).



John Dockerill
Email: training@stortfordbees.org.uk



MAGNA CARTA PROGRESS

Thanks to The Link, a Stansted volunteer has come forward to produce the frames for our embroidery, which will be displayed over three panels. Seasoned oak has been locally sawn and purchased. A second volunteer has offered to produce a wooden cabinet for the permanent display of the facsimile Magna Carta, which we also plan to exhibit with the help of a grant funded by the Magna Carta 800 Committee.



Lindsey and I have just returned from a visit to Montfiquet in Normandy, a pretty little village boasting a 12th century church named Thomas à Becket of Canterbury. We were welcomed on to the site of a château, possibly originally owned by the Gernon family. Third in line Richard, assumed the name Mountfichet,



remembering these origins. Evidence can still be seen in the château grounds of a medieval fort. Interest was expressed in our connections and the 800 celebrations next year, and as I write we are in exchange of correspondence.

Nigel Collingwood
Tel: 813428
Email: njcollingwood@hotmail.co.uk

CORRECTION

In the article about Magna Carta in last month's edition, Nigel Collingwood's telephone number was incorrectly shown as 813248 when it should have read 813428. We offer our apologies both to Nigel and the owner of the other number.

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NEW MEMORIAL UNVEILED

www.arthurfindlaycollege.org

18th July was a very special and historic day in the Arthur Findlay College, Stansted Hall calendar. A beautiful granite memorial was unveiled to pay tribute to the late Arthur Findlay who left his home to allow people from all over the world to study Spiritualism and Psychic Science here in our village. The memorial was erected to honour Arthur Findlay on the 50th anniversary of his passing in 1964 to the spirit world, and can be seen along the side of Church Road. It is in the College meadow with the Hall in the background.



The College team, all employed from the local community, were thrilled with the attendance, many of whom came from local businesses and the Parish Council. The day was blessed with glorious sunshine. Piper McKay played the bagpipes, Minister David Bruton, President of the SNU, the College staff and a large crowd all paid tribute to Scottish-born Arthur Findlay and to show their adoration for his life's work and generosity to spirit and humankind.

Thanks go to the College staff who worked tirelessly for months to ensure the day was perfect for both Arthur, his wife Gertrude and for all who attended. Everything had been planned to the last detail, even flattening the meadow and filling in the holes at the last minute where the rabbits had been digging holes that very morning!

The College is open to the public during Sunday and Wednesday Divine services at 7.30pm, where demonstrations of mediumship are given. The College also has a spiritual healing centre Tuesdays 1.00pm-3.30pm and Saturdays 10.00am-12 noon. Everyone welcome.

Tanya Fernsmith
Tel: 813636

ALPHA QUIZ ANSWERS

- | | | |
|-----------|-------------|--------------|
| 1 Apple | 2 Badger | 3 Cabbage |
| 4 Dog | 5 Easel | 6 Flag |
| 7 Green | 8 Hook | 9 Ink |
| 10 Jaguar | 11 Key | 12 Leopard |
| 13 Mare | 14 Noon | 15 Orange |
| 16 Prince | 17 Quarter | 18 Rainbow |
| 19 Saw | 20 Tame | 21 Ugly |
| 22 Video | 23 Wardrobe | 24 Xylophone |
| 25 Yellow | 26 Zebra | |



www.mountfitchetgardenclub.co.uk

September Meeting

Mr Simon Charlesworth of Dowderry Nursery near Tonbridge was the Club's guest speaker. Established in 1991 and set within a walled garden, Dowderry is home to the National Plant Collections of lavender and rosemary. Lavender is a Mediterranean plant but some varieties can withstand temperatures of -15°. The plants grow best in full sun, with good drainage and can flourish on poor soils. There are 39 species of lavender with over 100 varieties – flowers vary in colour from shades of blue, purple, ink, \bar{O} white and green. Lavender has a multitude of uses. **Cooking:** the lavender should be picked in full coloured bud before the individual flowers open. The budheads can then be added to ingredients while fresh or after being dried. **Medicinally:** it is both an antiseptic and anaesthetic and is used for relieving stress and anxiety. Its oil can be used to soothe burns, bites and stings. It is a sleep aid and it is widely used in aromatherapy. **Decoratively:** the flower heads should be harvested just before full-bloom and hung upside down in a dry dark room. Around the house, the dried lavender, either in bunches, bags or pot pourri, can be used for its scent and as a moth and insect repellent. Members were shown how to prune, take cuttings and generally care for the plants, which if looked after can live for as long as 20 years. Old woody/leggy plants may rejuvenate from hard pruning, but if not, pull up and burn on the bonfire and enjoy the scent – then treat yourself to a new plant and prune it regularly! Hardwood cuttings can be taken in the autumn but semi-ripe cuttings should be taken in spring. Cuttings should always be placed in a gritty compost with good drainage. September is the best month for planting out hardy lavenders as the soil is warm and moist. A lovely selection of lavender plants and toiletries were available for members to purchase.

October Meeting

On 1st October in the Day Centre, Mr Steven Dowbiggen will be talking about 'The History of Capel Manor College'. Everyone is welcome – membership is available or come as a day visitor at £2.50. Refreshments are available prior to the meeting. Doors open at 7.30pm for 8.00pm start.

More Haste – Less Speed

Desperately trying to multi-skill last month (and failing miserably) I made a 'boo-boo' on the posters for the Club's October meeting. The Members' Photographic Competition is to be held at our November meeting when we have a garden photographer as our speaker. The bonus is that members have an extra month to 'snap away' at 'Art in the Garden – anything 'arty' from mobiles to Statues', so I look forward to seeing lots of photographs then!!

Maralyn Harris
Chairman
Tel: 07919 478144



Don't forget!

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STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET WINDMILL

Our big news is, of course, the Fête on Bank Holiday Monday. The day commenced with heavy rain which unfortunately continued throughout the day. Although this was very disappointing, our spirits were not dampened and work soon began collecting tables and erecting gazebos. Whilst it was too wet and dangerous to use the main field, we managed to get most of the children's games under cover around the Windmill and there were soon plenty of young smiling faces and lots of them painted! The tombola, raffle, and bric-à-brac stalls were as popular as ever, and the cake stall was covered with many delicious, high quality cakes and homemade produce, which all sold out! Most surprising of all was - despite the rain - the large number of people who came and supported us. We thank them sincerely for making our efforts worthwhile. A big thank you to all the stall holders and helpers who erected stalls, gazebos, etc and the stewards showing visitors around the Mill and, whilst we were unable to have the Bouncy Castle, our thanks to David Lee for advertising the fête.



Now for some more good news. Peggy Honour, the mainstay of the Windmill for many years is out of hospital and recovering well following major heart surgery and we look forward to seeing her out and about again soon. We have two exciting events coming up. On Friday 17th October in the Day Centre, 7.00pm for 7.30 pm, our 'Flog It' where the effervescent Sue Hitchmough is our Auctioneer. Entrance £2.50 (incl tea/coffee and cake). Our Autumn Coffee Morning is on 12th November. Tea and coffee, mince pies and biscuits plus a raffle and all the usual stalls. Our last Mill opening this year is on Sunday 5th October 1.30pm- 5.30pm.



Molly Clark
Co-Trustee
Tel: 816768



STORT VALLEY ROTARY

www.stortvalleyrotary.com

Readers may find it interesting to visit our website which is primarily to help people contact us and find out about us, and where you can also access the current edition of our lively award winning newsletter to get a flavour of our range of activities and our Club's speaker programme.

As well as community, Rotary is about friendship and having a good time, and during August we enjoyed events in our own Club and with others. Refreshed, we started in September with a diverse range of subjects and speakers: Sara Farnsworth, Branch Manager with Waitrose, talked to us about the John Lewis Partnership and the complexities of managing the store in Bishop's Stortford; Professor Andrew Cockburn, an expert in the field of genetically modified foods, helped us through the minefield of opinions on this controversial subject; Lord Davies of Oldham, as a leading Opposition front bench spokesman, gave us an insider's perspective on the key issues of the day - 'Fracking' was of particular interest. We are hoping that Baroness Shirley Williams can find time to join us following her involvement in the run up to the Scottish Referendum - her topic being the 'Consequences of the First World War'. Stort Valley Rotary meets on Tuesdays, 7.00pm for 7.30pm at the Lemon Tree Restaurant, Water Lane, Bishop's Stortford CM23 2JZ.



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



STANSTED FOOTBALL CLUB

A mixed start to the season for both sides has seen us gain victories in the league competitions. However, defeat in FA Cup at the first hurdle was bitterly disappointing as the players' performance on the day fell short of the standards we had set in earlier games. Our first team manager Paul Attfield was particularly pleased that the team's attitude was first class when back on the training ground. Our reserve side have also competed against opposition who have senior sides playing in the Ryman League and although this is a learning time for manager Eric Foster he has already seen three of his young starlets knocking on the door of first team selection. The month of October sees some real tasty fixtures at Hargrave Park with our first home tie in the FA Vase in over three years; we play London Colney, we know it will be a difficult game but a good test for the players' development. Also the month brings us up against our neighbours Sawbridgeworth Town.

We all appreciate plenty of local support if possible, and remember - the second XI games are free entry for all. With the Clubhouse open after the game you can still catch up with all the Premiership and Football League results.

- 4th Oct Stansted 1st XI v London Colney - FA Vase 2nd Qual Rd
- 18th Oct Stansted 1st XI v Sawbridgeworth - League Fixture
- 25th Oct Stansted 2nd XI v Hullbridge Sports - League Fixture
- 1st Nov Stansted 1st XI v London Bari - League Fixture

Tom Williams
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FOND FAREWELL

On the morning of Saturday 23rd August the Royal Mail sorting office at Stansted closed following the last letters being sorted and delivered from their premises at the old Stansted Post Office.



Photo 1910-20 courtesy of Peter Brown



Photo by Ken McDonald

The two captured photographs may well be approaching 100 years apart, the transport, uniforms, service and numbers of postal staff having kept pace with the demands of modern times. It is thought that the necessary sorting has been transferred to Bishop's Stortford as the sorting requirements have outgrown the Stansted premises' capabilities.

In October 1892 a new Stansted Post Office on Chapel Hill was opened. It was said to be quite spacious and well fitted out with every modern convenience. It is thought that Mrs K White was probably Sub-Postmistress around this time as the service moved from the Central Hall (now the Old Courthouse on Chapel Hill) to the new premises. By 1914 extensive alterations and additions to the Post Office were necessary to meet increasing demands, to ensure the staff could work under more comfortable conditions with a new counter and up-to-date fittings. At the rear, a new telephone instrument room where all exchange work for Stansted and District was to be dealt with. Also included were a large commodious sorting office with all modern fittings, a clerk's and postmen retiring room, and a waiting room with a fire and chairs for the messenger boys. Mr E A Haestier was Postmaster at this time. We must wonder if they ever considered that these facilities would serve the village for the next 100 years! Today our mail must bear a postcode, but in bygone days if the address included the letters RSO, which indicated posting by mid-day in London, the letter would have been delivered in Stansted the same evening. Although the premises have changed, Stansted is very fortunate to still have a Post Office within the village, where we still very much appreciate and give thanks for the valuable service provided by all the Office and postal staff of yesteryear and today.

Peter J Brown

RECYCLING MATTERS

Uttlesford District Council is pleased to be recognised as one of the best performing councils for recycling in the country - but there is still far more we can do. Total waste per household is increasing and recycling rates are reducing. In Uttlesford we put into our black bin, on average 45% of all the waste we produce. Landfill costs are currently £80 a tonne and due to increase further annually, so every tonne that is diverted from landfill delivers a saving.

What can you do to help?

- **Try to buy goods with as little packaging as possible.**
- **Reuse anything you can.** Items such as water bottles and glass jars can be reused for water and jam making. Old t-shirts can be turned into dusters and good clothes/ books/ curtains donated to local charity shops or collections. Your local vet may welcome old towels and sheets.
- **Put peelings, tea bags, coffee grounds, dead pot plants and flowers into the brown kitchen waste bin,** as well as left-over food and bones which are not normally composted. Items such as pizza cardboard boxes which may have some food on them can also go in here.

- **Ensure that the 'largest bin' in your kitchen is the recycling bin,** headed for the green-lidded wheeled bin - into this should go clean glass bottles and jars, paper, newspaper, cardboard, tins and drink cans, plastic bottles and food containers. Additional waste can be left in a cardboard box or *clear* carrier/plastic bag (*not in a black sack*) next to your bin and will be collected. If your bin is always full to overflowing, please contact the Council to discuss additional bin capacity.
- **Plastic film, polystyrene containers and nappies can go into a second small bin** (or under sink bag), and these should go in the black-lidded wheeled bin.
- Finally, if you would like to join the 4,000 households already in our paid-for **garden waste collection scheme**, please get in touch.

Dramatically reducing the amount of waste we send to landfill will help Uttlesford District Council keep its portion of your Council Tax down.



Susan Barker
Cabinet Member for Environment
Email: waste@uttlesford.gov.uk

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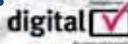
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