

The Back Page

STANBOROUGH SCHOOLS

School has Lesson in Kindness

On Friday 30th September regular lessons were cancelled at Stanborough School in order for students and staff to take time to serve the local community through a variety of acts of kindness. These included music entertainment for Residential Homes, bag-packing at Supermarkets, car washing, clothes collection for charity, gardening, painting the school fence and working for Watford Borough Parks Department. One of the teachers coordinating this activity, commented: "The shoppers responded positively and often offered 'tips' to the students who graciously refused and explained that the school was not 'fundraising' but offering a free service to the community."

Primary School Jumble Sale

Sunday 26 February 12 noon to 2pm. Refreshments on sale.

Enrolment

Stanborough School is based on a Christian culture of a caring environment and high moral standards. It offers places from Nursery through to Secondary school and boarding school. Contact: Stanborough Park, Watford, Hertfordshire, WD25 9JT +44 (0) 1923 673268 / fax 1923 893943. Via the web: http://www.spsch.org/contact_us.php

The Grand Design - Is God Redundant At Last?

God is a popular topic among a branch of scientists who seem very keen to talk about God by publishing book after book on the subject. Stephen Hawking, possibly the world's most widely known and admired physicist, recently published a book titled The Grand Design. In it he claims to finally dispense with God. Well not quite. He concludes that the universe inevitably created itself from nothing which turns out to be something and our creator is in fact 'gravity'. Presumably gravity is the grand designer.

When scientists who are defined by their atheism venture into philosophy the results can be embarrassingly self-contradictory. Of course scientists or anyone else can philosophise but let's remember the fruits of science that we enjoy today grew out the heritage of the greatest scientists who took it for granted that the universe they studied was the work of an intelligence far greater than theirs. After Quantum theory and Einstein's General Relativity, the scientific establishment was high-jacked by the New Atheists and there have been no more 'quantum leaps' in physics only recycled ideas and added details.

P L Walton

design by dan@sabasamedia.com

Regular Events

Monday

Senior Club

Meetings on 12 December; 9, 23 January; 6, 20 February
Come, Be Still 2 – 3 pm
 19 December; 16, 30 January; 13, 27 February

Tuesday

Tuesday Talks

7p.m. light Supper, 8:00pm
 13 December
 10 January
 14 February

Wednesday

Toddler Club for 0-3s, 9.30am - 11.30am & 1pm - 3pm
 7, 14 December; 4, 11, 18, 25 January; 1, 8, 22 February;
 14, 21, 28 March.
 Tel Elaine: 01923 672204.

Prayer Meeting 7.30pm–8.30pm. Prayer and Bible study

Thursday

Toddler Club 0-3s 9.30am-11.30am.
 1, 8, 15 December; 5, 12, 19, 26 January; 2, 9, 23 February;
 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 March.
 To book contact Elaine: 01923 672204

Health Lectures 7p.m. light Supper, 8:00pm.
 26 January; 23 February.

Friday

Youth United – for teens and youth. 7.30pm-9pm
Soup Run leaves 8.30pm Contact Pat: 01923 672500

Saturday Morning Programmes

Bible Study and discussion all ages 9:45am-11am.
Family Service 11am–12.15pm Traditional family worship
Parallel Service Contemporary Worship 11am–12.15pm
 in the Stanborough Centre. Great singing, house band
 21, 28 January; 11, 18, 26 February.

Saturday Afternoon Prayer & Reflection

Once a month from 3:30 pm to 4:30 pm
 2 December; 7 January; 4 February.

Stanborough News

Winter 2011



photo by Victor Hulbert (hulbert.co.uk)

Stanborough Park Church & The Stanborough Centre
 609 St. Albans Road | Garston | Watford | WD25 9JL
www.stanboroughchurch.org

Stanborough News - Winter

Welcome again to Stanborough News!

Christmas is more than an opportunity to over eat; it is a chance to reflect on the real reason for the season. New Year is about making new beginnings and having those resolutions really "stick" for the whole year.

So to help you, we have programmes to make you think on a variety of topics: healthy lifestyle, programmes for senior citizens and young people, tiny and not so tiny children, music lovers of several styles, Tuesday Talks, food, feeding the homeless, and even a chance to simply come and be still; or just to talk! What's missing? Just you! I know you will be glad if you come and join one of our programmes. For more details read on or contact us.



Happy Christmas, and a blessed New Year,

Paul R Clee, Pastor

Amazing Facts

Did you know that Stanborough Church baptizes people the same way Jesus was baptized? If you want to see an authentic baptism come on Saturday 3 December at 11:00 a.m.

We look upon baptism as a symbol of a 'new beginning': leaving one life behind and starting a new one as a follower of Jesus.

Church Organist Honoured

Stanborough Park Church has an inspiring history of musical accomplishment, praise and enjoyment. A distinguished strand of that history was bestowed by the steadfast service of the head organist Brian Combridge who has achieved a remarkable 50 years at the organ console. He is seen here receiving a commendation from our minister Paul Clee. Both Brian and his wife Romola have made distinguished contributions to the church music as soloists in their own right as well as accompanists for worship, choir and other artists.



Highlights of the Winter Season

The Toy Service Golden Jubilee Year

The Toy Service has become one of those traditions that brings a warm glow to everyone who takes part. It's more about giving than receiving and giving a toy can make everyone part of a much larger family. Toys are not just for children! They can knit our society together with bonds of love.



It is traditional for the Mayor of Watford to attend the service to witness the generous gifts of toys on display and receive them on behalf of the Social Services of Watford to be distributed to children who will really enjoy them. This year we welcome Mayor Dorothy Thornhill Chairman and Councillor Lindsey Scudder.

A highlight of the occasion is the procession of children bringing their gifts of toys. Some will be giving up one of their own treasured toys and maybe learning that great lesson 'it is more blessed to give than to receive' – it puts a bigger smile on your face. You are warmly invited to come to the Toy Service on Saturday 10 December at 11:00am.



Christmas Parcel Wrapping for Charity

Bring your parcels to the Stanborough Centre on Sunday 18 December to be wrapped and make a donation to charity. Open from 2pm to 6pm. Refreshments will be on sale and a warm welcome awaits you.



Christmas Eve Services

Saturday morning worship at 11:00 am

Service of Lessons and Carols at 7:00 pm with an international flavour.

Forthcoming Events

Messy Church

More Messy Church on 18th February. The whole family is invited to enjoy Messy Church time relaxing, eating, creating and learning together from 3.45pm to 6.30pm. For more information please contact stanboroughparkmessychurch@gmail.com or call 01923 894664



Pat's Sale for January

Tabletop Sale 29 January, 12.00 to 2.00pm. Clothes, china, toys, linen, cakes, bric-a-brac and more. Plus refreshments and light lunches. The Soup Run will benefit.

Stanborough Park Church Music Department

We are privileged to hear many accomplished musicians at Stanborough Church. Be prepared to enjoy music for violin, cello, piano, voice and more at the Classical concerts that are planned for January onwards. Admission is free.

If you require professional tuition in the musical sphere for ages 6-18 years the newly established Stanborough Park College of Music may be just what you need. See their web site at <http://www.spcm.org.uk>

The Parallel Service

Parallel Service at Stanborough Park Church has been running for 3 years now and is loved by all ages. It is a church where people feel at home and find that special place where they can belong. But most of all it is a place where you can meet Jesus and start the most amazing relationship with your best friend. There is something for everyone at this church service why not join us on Saturday mornings at 11.00am, you don't know until you try it! Find us at Stanborough Park Church at www.parallelservice.com

Regular Diary Events to Look out For

Tuesday Talks a light supper is served at 7:00 an informal Talk at 8:00pm.

Occasional health lectures on Thursdays
Times for prayer and reflection

The Parallel Service Saturday mornings,
Youth United for teens and youth Fridays

The Toddler Club Thursdays

The Seniors Club Mondays

The Soup Run Fridays – late