

## The Inside Page

### The Missing Ingredient...

I am sitting in my conservatory flipping through the pages of the many cookbooks I have gathered over time trying to find the perfect recipe to suit my mood right now. I am at page 214 out of 250 and still searching. I don't even know if I am in the mood for savoury or sweet. You might say...It would help if you knew what you wanted! I think I am just hoping the pictures, the ingredients, or the time involved would do the thinking and decision for me.

Hmmm, isn't this the same way we treat church? We search for the perfect church to suit our moods, maybe our personality, our needs, our wishes, somehow even our unspoken dreams. And out of the many churches that are on offer and that push fliers and leaflets through our doors we still can't find the right one. In most cases, it is so much easier to just give up and continue our lives with that space still empty. [At this point I have the choice to flip the page to the next recipe or continue reading...]

How many times have we found the winning recipe that will please our taste buds continuously? How many of us have found that winning church that will fulfil our needs and fill the emptiness once and for all? I haven't. What I found is a group of people gathered under one roof, with many needs but one purpose: to know God...because knowing God changes you, makes your heart come alive, gives your life purpose. Knowing God gives meaning to your empty space, gives reasons and solutions to your needs, gives you love to fellowship and disciple. So my idea of "the perfect church" changes because my needy, searching self found somebody in that gathering of people that went through the same desert I did and was able to encourage me through. My idea of the perfect church changes because my outspoken, brash personality found a gathering of people that can use it to make chaos more organised. My idea of the perfect church changes because my hurt heart can join into singing about God's healing love with the rest of the people, who, just like me, were searching and found...me. They found me and my experience and the God I didn't really know before who used my need, empty space, hurt heart to encourage someone else.

Together we formed OUR church, of people from all walks of life, you and me, not perfect, but with the same purpose. So before you move on to the next potential best recipe ever, take a moment and think..."what do I possess that I have not yet added to the mixture"? It might just make church the best one.

**Diana Sabatier**

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## Regular Events

### PAT'S SALE

Don't miss the next sale on **17<sup>th</sup> June 12-2 pm**. There are many stalls to browse and a snack bar – quality clothes, linen, toys, books, china and glass, bric-a-brac and a plant stall.

### TAKE A CLOSER LOOK AT THE BIBLE

Life needs not be all doom and gloom. The Bible has a convincing narrative of the past, the present and the world to come. If you think it's time you took a closer look at what the Bible actually says we invite you to a modern, dynamic multimedia seminar that does just that. We are sure you will find good news and confidence for your future. Designed for busy people, you can just drop in as you are. The seminar is being presented on Tuesday evenings by a popular speaker Brian Davison. The next two seminars are being held on **12<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> June, at 19:30**.

### SENIOR CLUB DATES FOR 2012

**11<sup>th</sup> June** Father's Day Programme

**25<sup>th</sup> June** Anne-Marie Woodfield — Experiences in a POW Camp

**09<sup>th</sup> July** Mrs Lillies Bignell — Tales out of School

**23<sup>th</sup> July** Summer Outing - Seaside

### HEALTHY LIVING

More Thursday talks and demonstrations in this popular series.

**28<sup>th</sup> June** Healthy eating advice and a demonstration from a health professional and vegetarian chef.

**26<sup>th</sup> July** a doctor speaks on the influence of body weight on Health.

### MESSY CHURCH

Messy Church will take a break over the summer so make sure you don't miss the last one, on **16<sup>th</sup> June @ 15:45!** The Workers in the Vineyard is the theme, with the usual fun filled crafts, songs and food!

### SOUP RUN

The soup run, filled with food and clothing items, goes to London **every Friday, from 8 pm until 11 pm**. If you would like to volunteer your time, meet us in front of the church before 8. We'd love for you to be part of our team!



# Stanborough News



## Summer 2012

Stanborough Park Church & The Stanborough Centre  
609 St. Albans Road | Garston | Watford | WD25 9JL  
[www.stanboroughchurch.org](http://www.stanboroughchurch.org)



**Dear Reader**

As I write this, it is raining hard, so summer must be on its way!

We have a busy summer period planned for the Church and Centre, so do make sure that you read this News, and that you regularly check the notice boards as you pass us.

The ever popular Pat's Sale, for instance is on Sunday June 17th; and once again, all proceeds go to a worthy cause. Our monthly series on health matters by experts who put things so anyone can understand, attract lots of questions. Upcoming topics include healthy eating for families, obesity, and, long before Christmas, healthy Christmas recipes. But as you read on, you will see there is so much more!

Happy reading; and come and see us (even in the rain!)

**Paul R Clee**

**AND THE WINNER IS....**



The Spring photography walk was a success with some interesting photography discussions and pictures taken... but after much deliberation the winning photo was this shot by Bob Stickland. Congratulations - You're a celebrity in Garston now! For more pictures please continue reading.



**STANBOROUGH SCHOOL SUMMER FÊTE**

This fun-packed event will be held on Sunday, July 8<sup>th</sup> from 12noon onwards, in the beautiful grounds of Stanborough Park (WD25 9JT). Delicious food from around the world, games and activities, face-painting, and much more will be on offer! Adults and kids alike can get some brilliant bargains in the books, clothing, toys and bric-a-brac stalls. Come and enjoy it!

**GARDEN PARTY AND CLASSICAL MUSIC IN STANBOROUGH PARK!**

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> June 3-6 pm Stanborough School celebrates the inauguration of its new concert piano. There will be music in the school hall followed by cream teas and music in the park! Tickets available in advance from Stanborough Secondary School: 01923 673 268.

**HOLIDAY MUSIC SCHOOL**

A five-day fun music course for 5 to 18 year-olds will take place 23<sup>rd</sup> July to 27<sup>th</sup> July. This is the event's second year. For details visit the Stanborough Park School of Music web site: [www.spcm.org.uk](http://www.spcm.org.uk)

**PARALLEL SERVICE**

Most Saturdays we run a contemporary service in the Cedar/Sycamore room. We incorporate music as well as drama to make a vibrant service. So if you need some church... or feel a little bit lost in the world... then come to Parallel. Make some new friends or find some old ones! :) But most importantly come and be in the presence of *Jesus*.

**STANBOROUGH SOCIAL AT KNOLL BEACH**

On 15<sup>th</sup> July 2012 Stanborough Park are planning to take their annual visit to Knoll Beach to soak up some sun and inevitably get burnt. Please turn up at 7.30am to start the journey to the south coast! (bring your packed lunch!)

**CHARITY APPEAL!**

For all of you who welcomed our collectors at your doors and generously gave to ADRA, we are pleased to announce that we were able to raise £10,996.19 (preliminary final total), including donations. We would just like to thank all of you who gave. [www.adrauk.org](http://www.adrauk.org)

Scan Here to get to the Stanborough Park Website



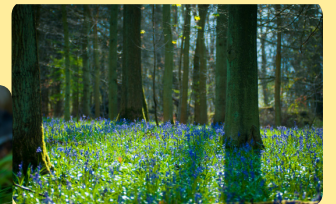
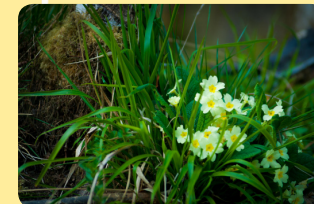
Left: Kirsty Hart (photograph)

Right: Kevin Murphy (photograph)

**STANBOROUGH PARK SOCIAL CLUB SPRING PHOTOGRAPHY WALK**

The weather was very temperamental that day, but as soon as we arrived at Ashridge we were met with blue skies and a lot of smiling people. The walk allowed the group to get to know each other and talk about photography, and as you can see, take some great shots.

While we were a bit too early to see the bluebells in full bloom we did see the start of them but we still managed to capture some amazing shots.



We think it was such a great time that we are planning another walk towards the end of Summer. Please come and join us. Contact anyone at Stanborough for further details. All Welcome!