

Keeping in Touch K.I.T.

Our Aim: To know Christ and make him known No 73: Spring 2013



IN THE photograph by Kirsten Oster - Lundqvist are the current ministerial team at Stanborough Park church - Pastors Ivana Mendez, Jacques Venter and Karin Wieczorek. KIT readers have met Ivana and Karin before. Pastor Jacques joined us in January.

He grew up in the coal-mining country-side of Mpumalanga, South Africa. He obtained his BA Theology degree from Andrews University via Heiderberg College, and he is about to complete an MA in Youth Ministry (with a specific focus on children) from Newbold College. In 2000 he married Lara Simplicio and they have two beautiful young daughters - Layken and Jaymee.

After serving for seven years in South Africa they came to England in 2007. Since then they have pastured churches in Hemel Hempstead and Welwyn Garden City. In 2010 St Albans was added to their responsibility.

Pastor Jacques wrote, *'The Lord has blessed us so far with a wonderful Spiritual journey in England. We look forward with great excitement to joining the Pastoral Staff, Church Leadership team and members of Stanborough Park Church. To be part of the vibrant life of the Stanborough Centre excites us and we also hope that God will work through us as we minister His love and care to the citizens of Garston and the wider community of Watford.'*

I'm sure we are glad to have this hard-working trio among us.

'AS THE TIME approached for him to be taken up to heaven, Jesus resolutely set out for Jerusalem' Luke 9: 51 NIV.

KIT Editorial - Going to Jerusalem

THE GOSPEL of Matthew is neatly divided into three sections. In his introduction, Matthew sets out to convince his Jewish readers of Jesus Christ's Messiahship. If you like, we could call this section the **Person of the King**.

The second theme of Matthew is the **proclamation of the King**. See Matthew 16:21:

From that time on Jesus began to explain to His disciples that He must go to Jerusalem And suffer many things at the hands of the elders, chief priests and teachers of the law, and that He must be killed and on the third day be raised to life.

So we have the **Person**, the **Proclamation** and now the **persecution (& glorification) of the King**.

It is Jesus trying to get through to His uncomprehending disciples that He was going to die, it was part of the divine plan.

How terrible for the Creator of the Worlds, that at long last, the disciples finally have recognised Him as the Messiah; but only on their limited understanding of what the Messiah meant. So besides suffering the agonies to come, He has to re-live it again and again so that their dulled minds could grasp that being the Messiah really meant - *going to Jerusalem*.

Rejoice with me that the Saviour of the World was not to be deflected. *He must go to Jerusalem* His mission was clear. He had come to show the world a better way; and to die for your sin and mine. Thank God for Jesus! He was not to be swayed. He was going to die for a purpose, and that was for you and for me.

Let's be very clear: Jesus Christ's death was not an option found in the Plan of Salvation; it was key to it. Without His death there was absolutely no hope. *He must go to Jerusalem* But this was something alien to the disciples. They had been brought up with the concept of a Messiah with an earthly kingdom, and they had a great deal to gain from being members of the cabinet, the 12 highest ranking officials in this new kingdom Jesus had **not** come to set up.

Could it be that Jesus had no desire to exit the world in a cruel crucifixion? Would it not have been a great temptation to see a political messiahship was a much better option?

Surely the temptation to do His own will by avoiding the Cross was the greatest temptation He had to face daily.

It came to a head in Gethsemane; come with me to Matthew 26:42:

He went away a second time and prayed, 'My Father, if it is not possible for this cup to be taken away unless I drink it, may Your will be done.'

What about each one of us? Just because we **follow Jesus** it does not mean we are always on safe ground. Listen to Paul's advice in 1 Corinthians 10:12:

So, if you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don't fall!

Here in this story is further challenging news for each one of us, who claims the name of Jesus.

Then Jesus said to His disciples, "If anyone would come after Me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me (Matthew 16: 24).

We can only hope to live if we take up the Cross. It may be the very opposite of glamorous, it may be a hard road, it may be a distasteful demand of our Lord.

There was no other way for Jesus, *He must go to Jerusalem*. There is no other way for us. Down through the years, comes the cry of our Saviour: *follow Me* and through His grace, His presence, His example, I can do so. I can follow Him. I can walk hand in hand with Him, be it to a cross and a crown.

How do I achieve this? By following Him to deny myself. I seek to know Him better day by day. I will take Him into me; so that my will becomes His will. my thoughts, His thoughts, my joy secondary to His will.

Why would I do all this? Because, this is the only true path to happiness.

So what of your future? Worldly fame and comparative ease? Or the challenge of the unknown, perhaps the uncomfortable, the pleadings of Him Who *must go to Jerusalem*?

How do we respond to His appeal to *follow Me*?

Are you, prepared, like Him to *go to Jerusalem*?

Adapted from a sermon by Pastor Paul Clee

'I COULD EAT A HORSE' by Richard J B Willis MA MSc FRSPH

THE HUNGRY souls who have said this, when they have missed a meal, may well have done so over the past little while. Throw in the odd bit of donkey and they have really had a pick-'n'-mix. There is nothing harmful *per se* in eating horse-meat, it is a staple of many cultures. Concerns have been raised about a drug - phenylbutazone - used to treat inflammation in horses. The assurance has been given that vast quantities of contaminated horse-meat would be required to reach even a single, let alone a dangerous, dose of the drug.

There is no room for complacency if you don't eat any of the suspected meat products. The underlying problem is one of truth and purity. Legitimate food 'fraud' is rife when it is understood that even items we may not usually eat are used up to certain defined percentages in foods we might eat, such as pork in other meat products, or the use of GM material where we would not want to use these items. Antibiotics are already eaten through both eggs and chickens as they are used to control salmonella. Even the finest basmati rice is frequently adulterated with inferior rice varieties. So hold your horses. If you want something to beef about then campaign for real food. You can't trust the labels, so trust common sense.

NEWS, NEWS, NEWS!

SADLY we have to start with the news of the deaths of five of our number. The funeral of **Betty Coombs** took place on January 22, followed by that of **Maureen Young** on January 30, followed a day later by that of **Joyce Littlejohns**, **Betty Allen** on February 7 and **Pastor Peter Stearman** on February 14. In some cases we heard of long illnesses bravely borne and of course all five will be sorely missed by their families and close friends to whom we send our condolences. Limiting myself to two quotations, both about Pastor Stearman, his obituary notice in today's Watford Observer dated February 22 was entitled, '*Pastor Peter a Role Model to Ministers*)', and at his funeral someone whom Peter had once pastored had written to **Sister Vera Stearman**, '*I have always appreciated Peter's kind words of encouragement and wisdom, not to mention his integritybrought about surely by his prayerfulness and close walking with the one who knows our every need.*'

Lovely events have happened too since we were last in touch starting with the baptisms of **Joanne Gentle** and **Sharon Sinclair** on November 17. Sharon has taught art at Stanborough Secondary School for many years. It has taken her more than a decade to arrive at this point. Joanne's journey was even longer. Mistakes in her life led to depression, then about a year ago she attended a Communion Service at our church with her niece and nephew. On that day her life changed completely. Both were baptised by **Pastor Karin Wiczorek**. The photo by **Johnson Wong** shows Karin with Sharon and Joanne.

We celebrated another baptism on December 29. That was of **Stephen Allcock**. Stephen is the son of **Pastor Graham Allcock** and his wife, known to many of us as the former **Pauline Southcott**. It was a truly family affair because Stephen was baptised by his father, his mother read the Scripture reading and his sister Lynette shared some of his favourite verses. Speaking from the baptistery Stephen explained why he had delayed making a commitment to God until the age of 20. He said, '*I have tried what the world has to offer...that shiny box that life gets presented in -it's empty.*'

The photo by **Ann Smith** shows Stephen with his father. Of course we welcome our three new members.



December was an incredibly busy month starting with a **Pathfinder and Adventurer Investiture Day** on **December 1** taking as its theme '**Stand Fast**' **Director Florence Allen** stated that in spite of all the Red Seas, they stood fast and were celebrating the triumphs. 41 Pathfinders and 15 Adventurers were invested. **Pathfinder Area Coordinator Waran O'Hara** presented the awards. **Aarinola Ayo-Ipaye** received the award for '**Outstanding Pathfinder of the Year**' and obtained 21 honours. The award for '**Outstanding Adventurer of the Year**' went to **Ron Bernados. Johnson** took this photo too.



This was followed by the annual **Toy Service** on **December 15**. A delightful addition to the service was the dedication of **Joshua** the second son of **Pastor Sam and Amy Neves**. Photos by **June Coombs and Daniel Sabatier**



More good news followed on **December 15** when we heard of the birth of **Aasha Elizabeth Kharkongor Evers** the little daughter of **Joanna and Andrew**. Later we heard of the **January 4** marriage in **Grantham** of two people who are very popular here in **Watford** - **Pastor Douglas Sinclair and Sheila Bell**. Of course we congratulate the parents and grandparents of **Joshua** and **Aasha**, and wish **Doug and Sheila** every happiness up there in **Crieff**.

The Indian Meal and Auction Of Promises held on **January 26** raised over **£2000** for **STOP INDIA**.

We welcome **Enoch and Nishtha Karangaraj** who have transferred their membership from **Tamil Nadu, India**.

More congratulations are due to **Jacques Vitry** who reached his eighteenth birthday In **February**.

Directory Enquiries

Caller: "I'd like the number of the Argoed Fish Bar in Cardiff please".

Operator: "I'm sorry, there's no listing. Is the spelling correct?"

Caller: "Well, it used to be called the Bargoad Fish Bar but the 'B' fell off".

Then there was the caller who asked for a knitwear company in Woven.

Operator: "Woven? Are you sure?"

Caller: "Yes. That's what it says on the label; Woven in Scotland".

On another occasion, a man making heavy breathing sounds from a phone box told a worried operator:

"I haven't got a pen, so I'm steaming up the window to write the number on".

Tech Support: "I need you to right-click on the Open Desktop".

Customer: "OK".

Tech Support: "Did you get a pop-up menu?"

Customer: "No".

Tech Support: "OK. Right-Click again. Do you see a pop-up menu?"

Customer: "No".

Tech Support: "OK, sir. Can you tell me what you have done up until this point?"

Customer: "Sure. You told me to write 'click' and I wrote 'click'".

Forthcoming Events -

April 27 at 7.30pm - **Children's Concert** in aid of **ADRA**.

May 12 from mid-day to 4.00pm - **Garden Party** at 200 Toms Lane, Kings Langley including light lunches and delicious afternoon teas with a range of sales tables. All in aid of the **Peace Hospice** and the church's **Development Fund**.

May 25 at 7.30pm - **Family Concert and Sale**.

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Junior Kit

Enjoy colouring
this Spring picture

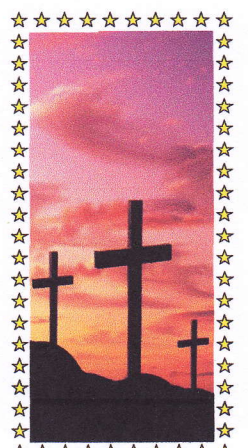


Remember
Jesus loved you
enough
to give His life for you

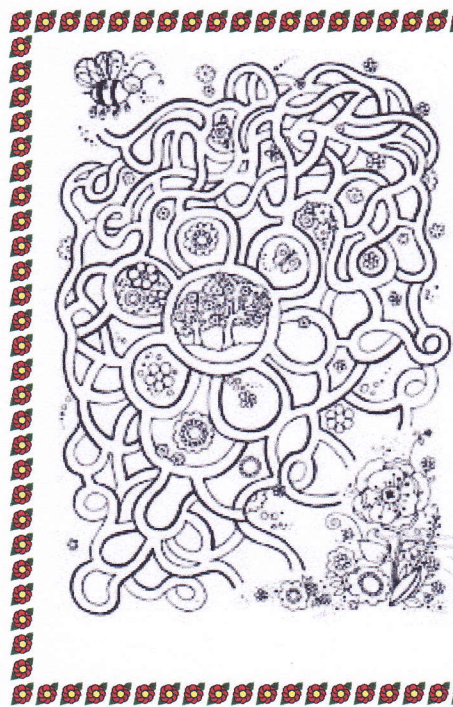
AN EASTER WORD SEARCH

B	M	A	L	M	H	B	B	K	I	N	G	R	N	R
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X	C	R	U	C	I	F	I	X	I	O	N	N	K	Q

- ★ Apostles
- ★ Christ
- ★ Cross
- ★ Crown
- ★ Crucifixion
- ★ Holy
- ★ Jesus
- ★ King
- ★ Lamb
- ★ Love
- ★ Mary
- ★ Redemption
- ★ Resurrection
- ★ Risen
- ★ Romans
- ★ Rooster
- ★ Sacrifice
- ★ Salvation
- ★ Saviour
- ★ Thorns



We celebrate Easter
because
Jesus died to save



Now spring is here
Can you find
a route
to the flowers
for the bee,
There are
four to find.



Can you colour this
and turn it into an Easter card?

Teen Page

THE NEXT TIME you feel you are not worth much, just remember....

Noah was a drunk
Abraham was too old
Isaac was a daydreamer
Jacob was a liar
Leah was ugly
Joseph was abused
Moses had a stuttering problem
Gideon was afraid
Samson had long hair and was a womanizer
Jeremiah and Timothy were too young
David had an affair and was a murderer
Elijah was suicidal
Isaiah preached naked
Jonah ran from God
Job went bankrupt
Peter denied Christ (3 times!)
The Disciples fell asleep while praying
Martha worried about everything
Zacchaeus was too small
Timothy had an ulcer.....
AND
Lazarus was dead!

Now! No more excuses!
God can use you to your full potential.
Besides, you aren't the message, you are just the messenger. In the Circle of God's love, God is waiting to use your full potential..

Have a think about the following:

- 1. God wants spiritual fruits, not religious nuts.**
- 2. "Dear God : I have a problem. It's me**
"My Dear Child: I have the solution. It's Me! !"

The main thing is, you are very valuable because Jesus died for you which makes you of tremendous value

Do have a lovely Easter holiday.