

Diary Dates



Badminton

Every Monday and Wednesday
5:30pm to 7:30 pm

Toddler Club

Meets every Wednesday
9.30am- 11.30am | Afternoon 1pm - 3pm
And every Thursday 9.30am - 11.30am
There are no toddler club meetings during school holidays. 13 Dec to 3 January

Christmas Programmes

14 December

11am Toy Service with the Children's Orchestra and the Junior Choir.

21 December

11am Church Choir with the Junior Choir and Angel Voices plus the church Orchestra. Jacques Venter, topic: "It's Time".

24 December

7:00pm Tuesday, Christmas Eve service

25 December

11am Wednesday, Christmas Day service

Seniors Club

Meet in the Cedar Sycamore room

6 January

Paul Rabbitts - History of Parks and Gardens

20 January

Liz Areadt & dog - Hearing Dogs for Deaf People

10 February

Janet Honour & Patricia Theiron - "Gardens, Designs and our work at the Chelsea Flower Show"

Pat's Sales

19 January 2014 Sunday Sale 12 - 2:00pm

Health Talks

30 January 8:00pm

Reducing pain & Inflammation Through Diet
by Karen Hubbard

27 February 8:00pm

How To Achieve Life-Long Pain Free Dentistry!
by Dr Christian Guenin

Tuesday Talks Reunion

10 December & 14 January 2014

8 pm - Jacques Venter will be the speaker.
Light supper at 7 pm

Music Training Programme

Children's orchestra – and Children's Choir.
Stanborough Park College of Music

The first orchestra class will start on the
17th January at 5:30pm Children aged up to 18 years old can join. Minimum standard is grade 2 or equivalent level. More info - info@spcm.org.uk

Junior choir Classes on every **Thursday at 5:30pm**. Aged 10 to 16 only. Any level can join. More info- info@spcm.org.uk

Stanborough Park College of Music New term begins on the **13th January**. All age and levels available for individual or group lessons on instrumental/singing/composition, musicianship and GCSE Music. For more detail, send an email to info@spcm.org.uk

Stanborough News



Winter Edition '13

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

Pastoral Office | 01923 67 94 94

Bookings for Stanborough Centre:
01923 894 664
stanboroughcentre@googlemail.com

Church Website:
www.stanboroughchurch.org

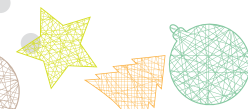
Parallel Service:
www.parallelservice.com
Parallel Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/groups/61120750538

Stanborough News Editor:
editor@stanboroughnews.co.uk

Contact Us

defero media
designed by
design@deferomedia.co.uk

Report: An Ode to Joy



The Flower Festival held at Stanborough Park Church during the weekend of 13th -15th September raised just over,

£11,000 for charity to be shared between Keech Cottage Children's Hospice in Luton and the church's Development Fund. Entitled

'Ode to Joy' it featured 40 floral arrangements interpreting well-known hymns which were created by the members of local flower arranging societies and church members. The Flower festival was organized by Audrey Balderstone, pictured, the main display was arranged by visiting floral artist Reverend William McMillan and the festival was officially opened by the Chairman of Watford Borough Council, Cllr. Steve Rackett.



Toys for the Needy



You are invited to our Toy Service Saturday 14 December

NEEDY children in our area will enjoy new toys on Christmas thanks to the special Toy Service at Stanborough Park Seventh-day Adventist Church. Literally hundreds of new toys are expected to be donated by people who come to the service. The Toy Service is an annual tradition which was started in 1962 by the late Alf Kelly MBE and is now run by his daughter Pat Walton and her friends. Hundreds of people will attend the Toy Service on Saturday 14 December at 11 a.m.. It is the beginning of Christmas celebrations in our church – the Christmas tree goes up, the windowsills are

decorated and the candles are lit for the first time this year. A big part of the Christmas story is about GIVING – the children will be giving their toys this morning so that other children can have a toy to open on Christmas morning. The adults will be giving because they enjoy the pleasure of knowing the joy it will bring to children who may otherwise not have a present. The Toy Service is very much for children and those who love children. They are encouraged to bring a toy to share with needy children. A highlight in the service is the moment when children are invited to bring the toys onto the platform. For some it may be a toy of their own and for a few it will be the first time they have put to the test the saying 'It is better to give than to receive'. Other highlights will be provided by the Children's Orchestra and the Junior Choir.

The toys will be presented to the Mayor of Watford Dorothy Thornhill for the benefit of needy children. They will be distributed by various organisations in our locality including Social Services, Women's Refuge and Children's centres.

children between 0 – 13. We invite you to come along and join us for messy crafts, action songs, Bible stories and yummy food all based on the monthly theme. The next Messy Church is on 16 February 2014, turn up for registration at 15:45. We will be looking at the Women of the Bible during 2014. Book on our web page and reduce the queue at registration <http://stanboroughparkmessy.wix.com/messy-church>.

See us in action on Youtube <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5X8UW-9-rE>
Messy Church events planned for the first half of 2014 are **15 February, 15 March, 19 April, 17 May and 21 June.**



Messy Church

Messy Church is ... a new thing.
Messy Church is ... a way of being church for families involving fun.
Messy Church is ... about being Christ-centred, for all ages, based on creativity, hospitality and celebration.
Messy Church is ... a global phenomenon that Stanborough Church is thrilled to be part of.

At Stanborough Park Church, Messy Church is a free monthly afternoon programme for local families with



Soup Run Christmas Edition



Do you know that we have a Christmas edition of the Soup Run? Volunteers hand out special bags containing a Christmas card with a personal message, roast chicken or turkey sandwiches (or veg. option), mince pie, plus some personal grooming items. For some the Christmas card is the most valued item. Several helpers disappear into the fringes and beyond, of the little knot of people surrounding the van to exchange greetings with old friends, make new ones and to try and bring a little hope into their lives. Suddenly the plight of the 'down and outs' becomes very personal as someone desperate for understanding gets my attention "I always take all my clothes off before I go to bed and put on a different set, so that they don't smell, you see - that's the only way, do you understand? You mustn't sleep in the same clothes you wear all day". This is the careful explanation of how to keep your dignity by a man about to lie down to

sleep on a piece of cardboard on the pavement outside the Royalty Theatre. What does he want of me? The statistics of homelessness disappear and the human tragedy is starkly revealed.



- The Soup Run operates entirely from gifts of clothes and money from church members and friends. If you have items you wish to donate, the Soup Run can be contacted by phoning 01923 672500.

Editorial



The Value of Community



I had the privilege of travelling recently to both South Africa and the United States. During those travels I had the opportunity of seeing things from a different perspective and was reminded of how valuable our own community is, here in Garston. All over the world it seems people are feeling the pinch of the economic downturn that has been plaguing us since 2008. This pinch is made worse when natural disaster strikes as it did the Philippines and when war continues to bring destruction.

The Festive Season

The anticipated joy of the festive season prompts us as a community to draw closer to each other as we see neighbours and friends who are anxiously anticipating crippling gas and electricity bills. Others are facing loneliness,

loss of work or family disconnectedness. We at Stanborough Park Church wish to live the life that Christ lived by serving our community. Jesus shared the joys and heartaches, the good and the bad times of his contemporaries and we try to do the same.

We want to celebrate with you during this festive season and in the year that is to come both in our church programme and by sharing our blessings with you wherever possible if you have any needs.

Joining In

We operate community welfare services as well as many inspiring worship, study, musical training and concert events. We invite you to contact us about any of those services and if you can to take the time to suggest other ways to support you in your need.

May the hope of the soon return of Christ uplift you during the coming months.
God Bless, Pastor Jacques Venter