

# Keeping in Touch K.I.T.

Our Aim: To know Christ and make him known No 78: Summer 2014



## IS GOD LOST?

**JOB 23:3 READS, *If only I knew where to find Him; if only I could go to His dwelling!***

Is it difficult to find God? Well not everyone will do so, for Jesus (Matt 7:13,14) speaks of a **broad and a narrow path**. However Jeremiah 29:13 tells us that we can find God:

***You will seek Me and find Me when you seek Me with all your heart.***

Jesus told 3 stories that show God's efforts to find us far surpass our puny attempts to find him:

The 1<sup>st</sup> story is in Luke 15:4 – 7. just notice, the Good Shepherd leaves 99 safe sheep. He is so anxious to find the missing one. When he does find it, he puts it on his shoulders, not expecting it to find its own way back, and he never scolds it. Like the sheep, we may actually know we are far from God, but not know how to find him. Notice this: It is God who goes looking for us.

Our 2<sup>nd</sup> story is found in v 8 – 10. It is about the woman who lost a coin. Some will tell you that these were special coins worn by ladies on their forehead. It was their dowry. Losing them was a serious matter. So in a dark house, like looking for *a needle in a haystack*, she takes a broom and begins the sweeping action. This coin was lost in the house of God, and unlike the sheep, it did not know it.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> story is that of the lost son in Luke 15: 10 – 24. Came the day when he went through all his pockets, and finally there was absolutely nothing. Then ***when he came to his senses*** in a place no self-respecting Jew would ever find himself, he remembered all the love his father had given him, and that love was drawing him back like a magnet and he said to himself, ***I will set out and go back.***

The son did not know his father very well. He was going to try to ingratiate himself into his father's good books for the wrong reasons. He wanted to eat. He was going to work for his forgiveness. Oh thank God, He does not operate like that! To me the great joy of this story is that our marvellous God loves me even when I come to him for the wrong reasons.

Even though we know the way back, God is still out there, at the front gate, looking for us with binoculars.

In these 3 moving stories, Jesus demonstrates the goodness of the Father. God is there, helping us when we don't know it. Guiding us when we feel we don't need it. Loving us with a love that will not let us go; until we shake Him off.

Look at this comment from Desire of Ages p300:

*The Lord can do nothing toward the recovery of man until, convinced of his own weakness, and stripped of all self-sufficiency, he yields himself to the control of God.*

Here is one last quote, from the same author: Christ's Object Lessons, p 206:

*Never a prayer is offered, however faltering, never a tear is shed, however secret, never a sincere desire after God is cherished, however feeble, but the Spirit of God goes forth to meet it..*

I am so glad that I serve a God that picks me up and brings me back to the fold rejoicing, aren't you?

I am so glad that He throws a party when the one lost in His house is found again, aren't you?

I am so glad that He stands at the gate, anxiously searching for me to return, aren't you?

That is the God who says, **Come**

Excerpts from a sermon by Pastor Paul Clee.

***The LORD has appeared to us from afar, saying: I have loved you with an everlasting love; I have drawn you with loving-kindness.*** Jer 31:3 NIV

## **DOUBLE VISION - Richard J B Willis MA MSc FRSPH**

**WE ARE probably** familiar with the expression *What you see, is what you get*. However, seeing and *getting* may be two different things. Take the following: *GODISNOWHERE*. If you are like the majority of readers you will have read this as *God is Nowhere*. We do the same with other words and phrases. Most people, for example, seeing the words *SHOP FITTER* on the side of a van, will automatically read *SHOP LIFTER*. In other words, we are primed by a host of influences to see what we want to see. Our brain takes what it sees and renders it into the more familiar. This is the basis of all those little optical illusions presented to us by psychologists who ask us to find the *hidden* in the material before us.

We try to make pictures where none exist, be it in flames, smoke or clouds. We want to impose order on the world around us. What is of interest is that once we *get* what was intended we cannot not see it when viewed subsequently. Our vision is changed. Sometimes we need a little outside help to see what should be seen, as we read in 2 Kings 6:17 where the servant sees the previously unseen. Or again, when a donkey sees more than its rider as with Balaam and the ass! By now you will have realised that our original *word* above reads:

***God is now here***, where He has been all along! The change is in us, not in Him. May ***the eyes of your understanding be enlightened*** [Eph.1:18].

## **KIT Flashback**

**A GOOD FRIEND** of the church who used to help at Pat's Sales, **Tom Dixon**, died on February 6. At one period of his life, Tom played for West Ham F.C. A former neighbour of ours, Tom was a very friendly person. If one was gardening in front of one's house, one was likely to get a visit from Tom preceded by his Yorkshire Terrier Gemma Two. Their visit a welcome excuse to stop work and have a natter. Then one could watch them visit all the other neighbours as well. I'm sure he's missed not only by his friends at church, but by many others as well. We send our condolences to Joyce and other close family members and friends.

## **Coming over the Horizon - The Bible Academy.**

**THE BIBLE** Academy runs on a regular basis at Stanborough Park Church. It is an interactive way of discovering the truths of the Bible and appeals to all ages. It is suitable for Christians and non-Christians. The next one will start on the first Friday in September. The theme is the story and significance of Jesus - who he was and what was the impact of his life. We shall be discovering this through the books of John and Revelation. The academy will last for seven weeks and will be very interactive. For further details please contact Pastor Sam Neves online at [samneves@mac.com](mailto:samneves@mac.com) or ring 07522 088 007

## **Points worth pondering**, taken from a Messenger article by Pastor Julian Hibbert (used with permission).

GILBERT Keith Chesterton (1874 - 1936) was an English writer. Below are some of his thoughts:

- Art, like morality, consists of drawing the line somewhere.
- Hope is the power of being cheerful in circumstances that we know to be desperate.
- The way to love anything is to realise that it may be lost
- Jesus promised his disciples three things - that
- They would be completely fearless, absurdly happy, and in constant trouble
- Religious liberty might be supposed to mean that everybody is free to discuss religion. In practice it means that hardly anyone is allowed to mention it

## NEWS, NEWS, NEWS!

**MORE SAD NEWS** came to us on March 29 when we learned that Sister **Margaret Shields** had died after a very long illness. Our sympathy goes to Lascelles and all who loved her.

Happier things have happened, on April 5, we celebrated the baptisms of three young people. **Daniella Bernard** is a student at Stanborough School. She had Bible studies with **Pastor Mary Barrett**, and was baptized by Pastor **Jacques Venter**.

**Simeon Beckford-Tongs**, baptized by **Pastor Sam Gungaloo**, also attends Stanborough School. **Dr Susan Moser** decided to invite neighbours to her home. As a result, Simeon started Bible studies with her.

**Gabriel Severi**, an IT college student had taken Bible studies many years ago and made a firm decision after studying more with **Pastor Jacques Venter**, who baptized him.



The photo by **Dan Sabatier** shows (left to right) **Daniella with Gabriel and Simeon**.

Another baptism miles away in Vejle in Denmark is of interest. It was on May 10 and was of **Kieran Taylor** who was baptized by his grandfather **Pastor Michael Taylor**. Kieran is the son of **Adrian and Susanne Taylor** who are known to many of us.

On May 3, young Josiah **Aiden Samuel** was **dedicated**. A new tradition at our church is for a member of the baby's family to serenade them after the dedication. This time it was Josiah's father and older brother who did the honours.



The photo by **Anne Smith** shows **Josiah** with his family.

On May 18, **Anastasia Semenova** married **Philippe Morais**. The day before, Pastor Venter invited them both onto the platform and said a prayer for their marriage and future happiness. We have known Philippe for many years which made that May 18 a Red Letter Day.



The photo by **June Coombs** shows Philippe and Anastasia with their parents.

Something very exciting is happening in the lives of **Carolyn Guenin, nee Cooper, and her husband Etienne**. They married last year. Also last year they accepted a call from Adventist Frontier Missions to serve as missionaries on the Dendi Project in Benin, Africa. They will teach at a local school as well as help with an Inter- Faith Dialogue Centre serving the local Muslim community. They are leaving behind friends, family and jobs as they volunteer their time and financial resources to help with this project. To follow their story visit <http://guenin.blogspot.com>



Lasc Shields celebrated his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday on May 31. We congratulate him on becoming a "noughty" as a young friend of mine would put it.



More congratulations are due. This time to **Joellyn Sheehy** on graduating Summa Cum Laude at Lincoln, USA with a B.Sc degree in International Rescue and Relief.

Joellyn is being presented with her diploma by **Dr Wagner** - the President of the local Union.

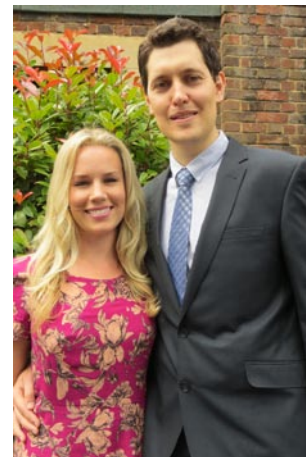
We welcome Carolyn Guenin back to Stanborough Park Church and new members **Roy and Fay Christie** from Hampstead Church and **George and Emanuela Plesea** from London Romanian Church. They joined us on April 19.

More new members joined us on May 24. They are **Pastor John Sanches and his wife Clair Sanches**-

### Stop Press!

**THREE** more teen-agers were baptised on July 5. They were **Estee Vitry; Semira Fletcher-Brian** and **Tiwa Adebayo**. More about them in the next KIT. Estee was baptised by her uncle, newly ordained **Pastor Daniel Thompson**; Semira by **Pastor Des Boldeau**; and Tiwa by **Pastor Sam Neves**. We congratulate our three new members on their wise choices and Daniel on his ordination. Another newly ordained pastor, known to many of us, is **Pastor Paul King-Brown**.

Warmest congratulations too to **Pastor Sam** and his wife **Amy** on the safe arrival, at 3.00am on Sunday July 6, of baby **Neves**. Rumour has it that he has red hair just like his two big brothers.

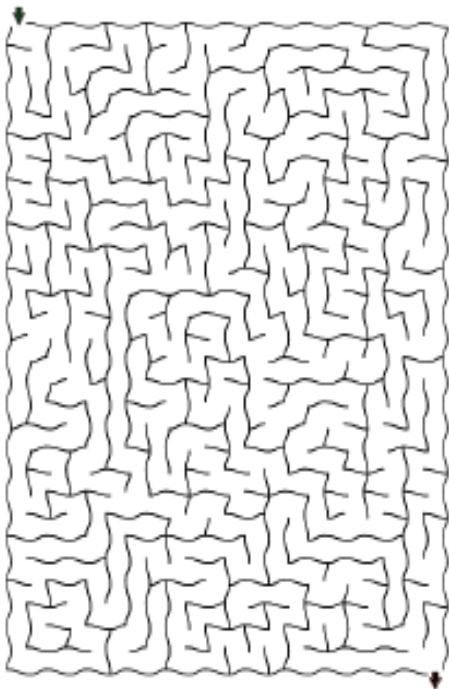


Daniel Sabatier's photo shows (left to right) Estee, Semira and Tiwa.

Pastor Daniel Thompson is shown with his wife **Hilary** on July 5. Photo by **June Coombs**.

**KIT Summer 2014.** KIT is published quarterly and authorized by the church board at Stanborough Park Seventh-day Adventist Church. Bronwen Atkinson (editor) - new address [bet@roybron.plus.com](mailto:bet@roybron.plus.com) Audrey Wolfram (design and layout) and Mary Kapon (secretary). Others to whom we are grateful are Pastors Paul Clew and Richard Willis; Pastor Mary Barrett; Pastor Julian Hibbert; Lorna Annable, who produced Junior Page; June Coombs; Billie Dragojevic; Greta Poulton; Daniel Sabatier; Anne Smith; Sheila Stickland and Pete Walton, who produced Teen Page; Gwen Olney and the deaconesses helped with distribution. KIT was printed by John Browne of 24 Hour Printline of Rochester, Kent

# Ki # Page



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 L U V T N S T D J H N S G H U O S G

Find your way through the maze to bring the lost son home



No matter where you live  
 or who you are  
 Jesus loves you  
 no matter what you do.  
 He wants you to love Him  
 and follow Him always.

Here is a list of the countries to find in the word search

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| Argentina | Norway    | France   | Chile   | Singapore |
| Brazil    | Spain     | Ireland  | England | Belgium   |
| Denmark   | Australia | Portugal | Germany | Egypt     |
| Fiji      | Canada    | Turkey   | Spain   | India     |



The Prodigal Son was lost but the father forgave him and welcomed him home

When we disobey and do wrong things Jesus will always forgive us  
 And welcome us home



# TEEN PAGE SUMMER KIT 2014

Teen Page editor [pete.walton.kit@stanboroughchurch.org](mailto:pete.walton.kit@stanboroughchurch.org)

## FREEDOM *are you free*

Free to do what you want to? Free from rules? Free to live your life your way? Free to choose? Free to die? Free to shop? Freedom just got hijacked. It used to mean no prison bars, nothing stopping you fulfilling your greatest potential.

It's such a fashionable idea that to be truly free you must do exactly what you want to all the time. It doesn't take long to find out that it does not turn out well. You've been cheated of your freedom! 'What I want' turns out to be a lot more controlling than mum, dad, teacher or your best friend. And for most people it's a tyrant.

If you cannot rely on your own desires to fulfil your potential to be truly free, what can you trust? Throughout the millennia people have searched for an answer, in religions, rituals, wise sayings and now the sciences, but at their core they have all failed to fulfil our quest for freedom. Except one. Only one story tells that it was God who made people to be like Him and that He made everything very good. That knowledge gives us a true basis for action, better than our own feelings. It reveals to us that we must treat everybody always with equal respect; all people, men, women, the strong, the weak, the beautiful, the unattractive, children and ourselves. It was a revolution against all the other stories! The same story tells that when we go wrong, and we will, this God has given us a cure that will turn hate into love so we can love ourselves, love our neighbours and love God. That's Truth, that's True Freedom.



## STANBOROUGH HEROES

### ANJALI'S HAIRCUT

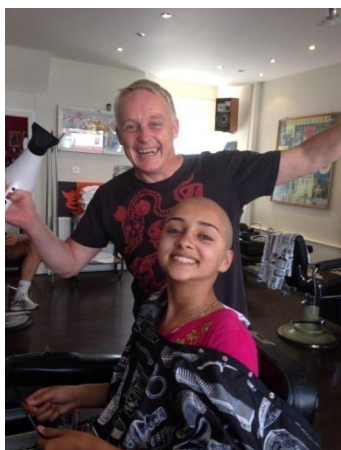
I hate having my hair cut. It's the next worst thing to the dentist. So I was having nightmares when I heard about Anjali's haircut. I was ready for a heartbreaker. Anjali you really know how to make a big impact! But Anjali's attitude was "It's just hair, it would be worse if I had cancer! It's a big thing, it's a small thing" and gives a big grin. That made me feel a whole lot better. If she can smile about it so can I. Anjali Moser is thirteen years old, she does not have cancer, does not know anyone with cancer, but chose to do a head shave for charity, for no other reason than to do something good for the world. Seventy two centimetres of gorgeous, long, thick beautiful brown hair. First there was a cut to make wigs for children suffering from cancer, then, the next day as the school term finished, the shaving process was completed.

Anjali's mum says "We have been overwhelmed by the response to her project. She originally set a target of raising £1,000, and she has now blown that out of the water and it is today nearing £5,000!"

Anjali commented "It was exciting to get it cut. It's really different now. " I thought little children who don't have hair would enjoy having my hair more than I do." "It made me very proud that people have donated so much."

It's a great way to announce yourself to the world and say 'this is me and I'm not afraid to show it!'

The financial proceeds of her shave are going to the Children's Cancer & Leukaemia Group and her hair is being donated to the Little Princess Trust, a charity that donates wigs to children with hair loss.



## NEW MISSIONARIES

### CAROLYN AND ETIENNE

Carolyn has grown up in Stanborough Park Church and she will always be one of our 'Youth'. She has that special spark of enthusiasm that won't give in. Carolyn recently married Etienne Guenin and after a



lot of prayer and many wonderful answers from God, they accepted a call from AFM to serve the Dendi people of Benin along with the Bade family. Etienne will be working in the area of IT and Carolyn will be teaching English to secondary school students. They will also assist the Bade family in reaching out to this predominantly Muslim tribe with the love of Jesus and the abundant life that He offers. <http://guenin.blogspot.co.uk>



## RIGHT TO BE FORGOTTEN BY GOOGLE

The European Union court agreed that if someone asked for a piece of history about themselves to be taken out of search engines – effectively erasing it from history – then Google had to comply. Actually its practically impossible to get all the stuff you put on social media erased. It just goes too far



too fast. So think twice before you upload photos of yourself to the internet. What seemed funny at a party can be embarrassing in the cold light of dawn. You may think only your friend can see it. Wrong! Ever posted anything you're ashamed of? Google social media may not be able to forget but God can!

*Once again you will have compassion on us.  
You will tread our sins beneath your feet;  
you will throw them into the depths of the ocean!  
Micah 7:19 Living Bible (TLB)*

## LOOM BAND MANIA!

### COULD LOOM BANDS CRAZE THREATEN FISH IN WATERS OFF PLYMOUTH?

That was posted by the Plymouth Herald. Some schools have banned them for being 'distracting' or causing fights and in the last month, UK doctors are worried about the potential health risks of loom bands, after one child was



temporarily blinded by one, and another lost blood circulation to his fingers from wearing a tightly wrapped band while asleep. So if you are a loom band fanatic congratulations on still being alive!



### CAN YOU EVER BE TOO OLD FOR LOOM BAND BRACELETS?

Not according to Prince William, second in line to the throne, here is a picture of him wearing one at the war memorial in Coventry. "I gave it to him and he said he's got about 200 at home. He put it on straight away" said an 11-year-old Tamara.

