



inside
stanborough

Autumn

2016

Stanborough Park Church | 609 St. Albans Road | Watford | WD24 9JL
Stanborough News | info@stanboroughpark.org | www.stanboroughpark.org



THE OLYMPIC SPIRIT

The Pastor's Piece

During the past months we have experienced some of the highs and lows of human behaviour. The changes in the political and social landscape of Europe and uncertainty caused by the dramatic Brexit vote have highlighted the sharp division of opinion in different parts of our country. All sense of the shared values that underpin community gave way to a totally unexpected public display of personal insults and even vilification in social-media of people who disagreed with the opinions of those who felt themselves more enlightened. I was shocked to hear the millions of less well-off people condemned as bigots and racists. It was a sobering example of Jesus' prophecy that in time, people's love for each other would grow cold.

In complete contrast to the negativity surrounding the Brexit debate the whole world was presented with a wonderful example of unselfish love publicly displayed by Nikki Hamblin and Abbey D'Agostino in the Olympic Games. After a collision in their semi-final heat of the 5000m D'Agostino fell a second time and was in severe pain. Hamblin stopped running and turned to her, reaching out with open arms to help her finish the race – Olympic glory forgotten. It was more remarkable because they had not met until that moment. Both finished the race in last place but the incident was so inspiring to watch that they were later presented with the rarely given Olympic Fair Play Award.

When we place our love for one another above our love for ourselves, we will not only exemplify the spirit of the Olympics, but we will also allow a little bit of heaven to break into the reality of our everyday lives in here and now.

I hope that we will not allow the obvious bad feelings engendered by Brexit to define our lives here in Watford. Rather, that we will foster the quality of compassion shown by Nikki Hamblin. I believe that Watford Mayor Dorothy Thornhill is successfully working to foster the spirit of a community of compassion in Watford and we at Stanborough Park Church intend to do all we can to help bring that about. Despite the tattered reputation of parts of the Christian church I believe that society at large is still guided by its cardinal virtues, derived from Antiquity:

wisdom, courage, temperance (healthy-minded), justice and liberality; to which is added faith, hope and charity. I believe this makes church an ideal focal point for all who wish to find an entry point into helping in the community.

The coming winter months often cause additional stress to families and we are here to serve you as a community, helping with your needs as best we can which is important for us. We believe that we have been called by Jesus to be his hands and heart to carry out his calling to love each other.



Hamblin tends to D'Agostino after the pair fell during the 5,000 metre qualifier.

Jesus was unique in His declaration: "This is how everybody will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for each other." And He was unique in answering the question "Why should I?" in the central message of Christianity: because we are loved by God and by providing the ultimate example Himself.



Ps Jacques Venter



SEP 17: RUTH AND NAOMI

OCT 15: JOSEPH

NOV 19: MARY AND JESUS (CHRISTMAS)

Come and join us!

TO BOOK YOUR PLACE, CONTACT:

stanboroughparkmessychurch@gmail.com

www.stanboroughpark.org

609, St. Albans Road, Watford WD25 9JL

NEWS HIGHLIGHTS



NO ROOM FOR PASSENGERS

In August the Soup Run minibus was given the unusual task of acting as go-between for the affluent classes and the have-nots. Usually laden with bare essentials for the down and outs in London's Southbank, it was stuffed to the roof with comfy-cosy, tog inspired duvets recently used by the people at the opposite end of the financial spectrum. The unlikely link between the haves and the have-nots came about as a result of an offer from Harrow School to supply over two hundred barely-used duvets, no

longer required by its summer school short courses, for charitable use. The picture shows Pat Walton - Community Services Leader at Stanborough Church, contemplating the bulging contents of the minibus and the benefits for the local needy especially as the winter approaches.



Pat Walton takes comfort!



THE HOLIDAY MUSIC FUN SUCCESS

The Holiday Music Fun 2016 was held between 25-29 July it provided five days of stimulating, fun, musical learning experience for very young beginners right through to older students already taking grades. Coached by music professionals and talented teachers the children were engaged in improving their musical skills, creative musical games, puzzles and even simple instrument making.

Every student was able to demonstrate their skills to parents and friends in a grand concert on the closing day. Certificates were presented by Roslyn Guenin

and an orchestra comprising all the students played Elgar's Pomp and Circumstance March.

My seven year old granddaughter became familiar with many classical composer's names and could be heard humming Pomp and Circumstance for days afterwards.



Plans are already being made for a new Holiday Music Fun event in July next year.

Children making their own maracas

COMING EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

We invite to you join us in the activities and worship of the church for more details see the Dairy and events on the back page.



CHICKS GALORE

Plans are in the making to run chicken-keeping community groups at local allotments. These community groups are specifically for single mothers (even if your children have grown up and fled the nest) and widows.

Please make contact with **CHICKS GALORE** initially by emailing on roostercallkh@gmail.com or by phone on 01923 663497.

If you have mobility problems caused by obesity, backache or disability then you may be interested in the GROWING TALL allotment community group. They are hoping to build raised vegetable beds that are easily accessible. For more information please call to leave a message on 01923 663497



DIARY DATES

Advance Notice!
Annual Toy Service
is on Saturday 10
December at 11am

Friday 2nd September	8:30pm	Soup Run
Monday 5th September	2:00pm	Seniors Club – musical programme
Saturday 10 September	7:30pm	Music Concert
Tuesday 13 September	7:00pm	The Experience
Saturday 17 September	3:45pm	Messy Church – topic Ruth and Naomi
Monday 19 September	2:00pm	Seniors Club – Alan Copeland – presentation on New Zealand
Friday 23 September	3:00pm	MacMillan Afternoon Tea (3pm-4:30pm)
Sunday 25 September	12-2pm	Pat's Sunday Sale
Monday 3 October	2:00pm	Seniors – Chris Ward – The Bird Man
Saturday 8 October	7:30pm	Music Concert
Tuesday 11 October	7:00pm	The Experience
Saturday 15 October	3:45pm	Messy Church - topic Joseph
Monday 17 October	2:00pm	Seniors Club - Autumn outing – Bletchley Park
Sunday 23 October	3:00pm	Sunday Teatime Music Concert
Monday 31 October	2:00pm	Seniors Club - Len Little – Former Police Dog Handler
Saturday 12 November	7:30pm	Music Concert
Monday 14 November	2:00pm	Seniors Club – Bring and Buy Sale and Watford and Three Rivers Community Trust
Tuesday 15 November	7:00pm	The Experience
Saturday 19 November	3:45pm	Messy Church – Theme Mary and Jesus (Christmas)
Sunday 27 November	3:00pm	Sunday Teatime Concert
Monday 28 November	2:00pm	Seniors Club – Alison Eskriett Clothes of the 18th century
Monday 12 December	1:00pm	Seniors Club – Christmas Party (1-5 pm)

REGULAR EVENTS

Seniors Club

The Seniors Club meet in the Cedar/Sycamore Room in the Stanborough Centre alternate Mondays 2-4pm. New members are always welcome – come to the seniors club on one of the above dates and see if it's something you would enjoy. There is no fee to join the club and members only pay for the meetings they attend. It costs £1.50 to attend each meeting this includes tea, coffee or a cold drink and a delicious slice of homemade cake.

Creative Crafts every Wednesday 1-3 pm in the Stanborough Centre

Soup Run into London every Friday evening contact Pat 01923 672500

Welfare Centre open by appointment contact Pat 01923 672500 or Norma on 01923 449584

Toddler Club Wednesdays and Thursdays contact editor for details

Every Saturday:

9:45am Sabbath School - Bible Groups

11am Traditional Family Service

11am Contemporary Parallel Service

Pastoral Office | 01923 67 94 94
Bookings for Stanborough Centre:
01923 894 664 | stanboroughcentre@gmail.com

Church Website: www.stanboroughchurch.org
Church Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/groups/2405836644

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

Stanborough News Editor:
editor@stanboroughnews.co.uk

design: design@defero.co.uk