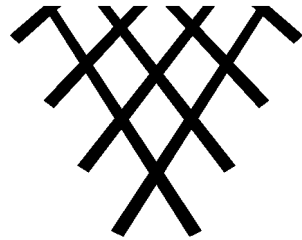


**ST PETER'S**  
CHURCH STANLEY



**Dec '15 / Jan '16**  
**Parish News**



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**T:** 01924 824 862

**M:** 07432 625452

**E:** [mrsjanedover@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:mrsjanedover@yahoo.co.uk)



**Tel:** 07586 369147 **Email:** [GFrostHandyman@gmail.com](mailto:GFrostHandyman@gmail.com)

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**The Minister writes:**

## Christmas starts with Christ

I find this slogan or challenge really helpful at this time of year. It was used last year and has been appropriately resurrected. With all the rush and bustle of Christmas, it is sometimes hard to keep the focus on Jesus.

The commercial pressure seems to get stronger every year. So we now have 'Black Friday' when there are bargains to be had, and there is pressure to 'shop while you can'. I was interested to find out why this day got its name. It is of course tied into Thanksgiving in America, being the day after. One theory is that because of the great celebrations on Thanksgiving Thursday, record number of people called in sick, hence employers called it 'Black Friday'.

Most people appreciate a bargain, but when you see the crowds fighting to get into stores and then arguing who got to the bargain first, it is a black day; when selfishness comes to the fore rather than a generosity that is about finding appropriate gifts for others. Another pressure on us is targeted advertising. Don't you find it uncomfortable if after you have researched something, adverts for it keep popping up on our computer screens?

We have a number of good traditions that make this a special time; such as giving and receiving presents to show that we care. On the 6th December we have our St Nicholas day service when we bring presents for children who do not otherwise receive much, which are distributed by Barnardo's. Another tradition is singing carols, old and new that tell the story and encourage us. There are a number of occasions to join in with that advertised in this magazine. There are some for all different ages and at different times so that at least one should be convenient. Coming together at this time will help us think about not only receiving the gift of Christ afresh for ourselves but also being willing to share the good news and spirit of goodwill. Please take the opportunity to come and join us.

*Rev Bill Henderson*

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## Blades Hairdressers

**58 Lake Lock Road, Stanley, Tel: 822133**

*Lindsey & Amy would like to introduce our junior stylist, Beth.  
Appointments now available. Welcome to all customers, old and new.*

New to Blades: Wednesday  
is now Pensioner day:

- Perms £25
- Shampoo & set £10
- Colour, cut & dry £30

New to Blades: Prom and wedding hair day a  
speciality! Up do's, curling etc. We also now  
offer hair extension. Call in for a consultation.

Now offering home visits to housebound and  
disabled customers. Please give us a ring.

## **St Peter's Church Services**

*All services are held at St Peter's Church,  
Lake Lock Road, Stanley, WF3 4HW*

<b>Sunday</b>	10am	Family Communion
	7.30pm	Holy Space <i>(3rd Sun of month)</i>
<b>Tuesday</b>	2pm	Prayers
<b>Wednesday</b>	9.30 am	Holy Communion
	7.30pm	Taize <i>(1st Weds of month)</i>
<b>Thursday</b>	9:15 am	Children's Ark

## **Other Christian Worship**

**METHODIST CHURCH:** Lee Mount Chapel

Sunday: 10:30am service

Minister: Revd Barry Owen

email: [barry.owen@Methodist.org.uk](mailto:barry.owen@Methodist.org.uk), tel: 07753 127681

Steward: Mrs Doreen Abson, telephone: 01924 824577

**ZION CHRISTIAN CENTRE**

466a Aberford Road, Stanley,

[www.zionchurch.co.uk](http://www.zionchurch.co.uk), telephone: 01924 872262

Sunday:	10:30am Service
	11:00am Sunday School & crèche
Tuesdays:	7:30pm Prayer meeting
Wednesdays:	7:30pm Bible Study, discussions

Minister: David Dixon, telephone: 01924 872262

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## DATES FOR DECEMBER and JANUARY

- Sun 29th Nov-  
Sat 5th Dec** Snow White and the Magnificent Seven pantomime. See page 11 for performances and tickets.
- Tues 1st Dec  
10am—2pm** Senior Citizens' Lunch club with activities and a hot meal, every Tuesday. See p12 for details.
- Weds 2nd Dec  
2pm—4pm** Coffee Afternoon at Mount Road Chapel with cakes, refreshments etc. See p10 for details.
- Weds 2nd Dec  
3.30pm-5pm** Christmas Fair at St Peter's School with lots of trade and other stalls, activities and games, p13.
- Weds 2nd Dec  
5pm-7.30pm** Santa visit to Stanley at the Community Centre. See page 13 for information.
- Weds 2nd Dec** Taize service with meditative music, 7.30pm
- Sun 6th Dec  
10am** St Nicholas parade service: bring a gift for a child in need this Christmas, see page 13.
- Thurs 10th Dec  
6pm** Moorhouse Action Group meeting: come and share any issues about Moorhouse. See p11.
- Fri 11th Dec  
7.30pm** Film Club: 'Nativity 3' with Martin Clunes and Catherine Tate. See p16 for a review.
- Sat 12th Dec  
10am-12pm** Coffee morning at the Community Centre with tombola, cake stall, and much more, see p10.
- Sat 12th Dec  
6pm** Torchlight Procession & Carol singing: from Mount Road Methodist church, see p13 for info.
- Sun 13th Dec  
3pm** Stanley Community Singers Christmas Concert with lots of great songs, and refreshments, p9.
- Weds 16th Dec** PCC Meeting at the church, 7.30pm.
- Sun 20th Dec  
6pm** Traditional Carol Service by candlelight: at St Peter's Church, with Bible readings and carols.
- Xmas Eve &  
Xmas Day** See centre pages, p14-15, for details of all our Christmas services.
- Sat 9th Jan** Coffee morning, 10am-12pm, Community centre
- Sun 10th Jan  
4pm & 6:30pm** Christingle services: celebrating Jesus as Light of the World. See page 17 for details.

## STANLEY LIBRARY AND COMMUNITY CENTRE

**Stanley Library** offers a wide selection of books, talking books, selected language tapes, DVDs for hire, as well as a photocopier/A4 colour photocopier, fax machine, newspapers and selected magazines. There are also public access computers, offering free internet access, and basic computer programs (i.e. word processing). There are also free UK Online computer courses available offering internet training and Introduction to Computers —please ask in the library.

### OPENING HOURS

Monday	9am—5pm
Tuesday	9am—5pm
Wednesday	Closed all day
Thursday	9am—7pm
Friday	9am—5pm
Saturday	9am—1pm

**Reading Groups:** There are two Reading groups: one meets in the morning of the first Monday of every month, and the second meets in the evening of the first Thursday of every month. Check with the library for times and book details.

**Activities for Children:** There is a Tiny Tots Storytime for under 5's, 11:30-12pm on certain Mondays: check with the Library for dates. Other activities for children are organised in most school holidays—please ask for details.

**Family History Group:** Family history sessions take place in the library on Saturday mornings from 10am-12pm.

**Coffee Morning:** There is a coffee morning every Thursday morning, 10am-12 noon. Come and relax with friends over a cuppa.

**The Community Centre:** The hall, two rooms and well equipped kitchen are available for hire. Contact the Librarian on 01924 303130 to book in advance.



Stanley Community Singers



## Christmas Concert

With a varied programme of festive songs and carols, and featuring some special guest singers and performers



**Sunday 13th December, 3pm**



St Peter's Church, Lake Lock Road, Stanley

**Tickets on the door: £2.50 adults, 50p children**

*Also with a raffle and refreshments*

In aid of: **The Salvation Army**, working with vulnerable people across the UK, and also



**Move Ahead**—a local charity based in Outwood that supports people who have suffered a brain injury

### Christmas Fair — a review

Many thanks to everyone who organised and supported the Christmas Fair at the Community Centre on Saturday 21st November. The event raised approximately £800 which was a great result.

There were lots of stalls, including toys, bottle stall, bric-a-brac, children's tombola, cakes, books, jewellery, tombola, handmade craft items, greetings cards, and a raffle. There were also very popular bacon sandwiches, and tea and coffee.

Many thanks to the organisers, the stallholders and everyone who helped beforehand and on the day to make it such an enjoyable, happy and successful event. Particular thanks of course to everyone who came along on the day to support the event. *(Please note all winners of raffle prizes and 'Name the Doll' has been notified).*

**Mount Road Methodist Chapel: *Christmas Events***



- The next Coffee Afternoons will be on Wednesday 2nd December and then on Wednesday 6th January, from 2pm—4pm with cakes, refreshments and other stalls. Everyone welcome.
- The 20th Wakefield Beaver Scouts will be holding a Carol Service at the chapel on Tuesday 8th December from 6.30pm—7.30pm.
- The Christmas Eve Service on Thursday 24th December is at 7:30pm. Join us as we welcome the start of Christmas Day with a communion service by candlelight.
- There will be a Covenant Service with sacrament led by Rev Barry Owen at 10am on Sunday 3rd January.



**2016 Coffee Morning dates**

Thank you everyone who supported last month's coffee morning on 14th November; a fantastic total of £216 was raised. The next coffee morning will be on Saturday 12th December at the Community Centre from 10am—12pm with lots of great stalls: a superb cake stall, handmade greetings cards, tombola, raffle, children's tombola, jigsaws, books and toys, and more!



The coffee mornings have already been planned for next year, and as usual, will take place on the 2nd Saturday of each month from 10am-12pm at Stanley Community Centre. See below for the dates:

9 January	9 April	9 July	8 October
13 February	14 May	11 August	12 November
12 March	11 June	10 September	10 December



***Prayer Meeting—every Tuesday from 2pm-3pm***

The weekly prayer meeting at St Peter's Church continues to meet every Tuesday from 2pm-3pm, led by Calli McKenna. Call in to pray for those in trouble, sorrow, sickness or need; for family, friends, the community and the world. Everyone is very welcome; please come along.

St Peter's Church proudly presents:

## SNOW WHITE *and the* MAGNIFICENT SEVEN

It may not be too late to see our pantomime, but hurry! as there are only tickets left for the performances at 7.15pm on Monday 30th November and Thursday 1st December. The well-known fairy story is given a bit of a twist, with some additional characters and the most unusual 'seven dwarves' you would ever expect to see. Thank you to everyone who has worked so hard back-stage and on-stage to prepare the pantomime for our audiences. We hope you enjoy the show, and look forward to seeing you all again next year!

Contact the Church Office for tickets: tel: 835746  
or email: [churchoffice@stpeters-stanley.org.uk](mailto:churchoffice@stpeters-stanley.org.uk)



### **Moorhouse Community Action Group**

The next meeting of the Moorhouse Community Action Group will be on Thursday 12th November at 6pm at St Peter's Church. Please come along and raise any issues specific to Moorhouse with local councillors and WDH representatives.

### **Knit and Natter, Sew and Chatter!**

At St Peter's Church Centre, every Thursday, 2pm-4pm  
Enjoy a cuppa, company and a 'crafty' afternoon!

Please come and join this established group of ladies as they knit, sew, compare ideas and patterns, learn new crafty skills, and share conversation, refreshments and friendship.

**Just turn up: you will be very warmly welcomed**

*From the Stanley Parish Register*



***Funerals***

Joyce Frost	10 September 2015
Nora Butler	15 October 2015
Margaret Crossling	19 October 2015
Roy Bedford	22 October 2015
Doreen Smith	5 November 2015
Mary Wright	12 November 2015
David Derry	19 November 2015
Stephen Briggs	19 November 2015

***Baptisms***

Harry Jacob Laird Whittell	13 September 2015
Sebastian Charlie Farrant	3 October 2015
Maggie Jean Hawkins	11 October 2015

\*\*\*\*\*

 **Senior Citizens' Lunch Club** 

St Peter's Church, Tuesdays, 10am—2pm

The St Peter's church Senior Citizens' lunch group continues to meet every Tuesday with a varied programme of talks, activities, and films. Arrive from 10am-10.30 and enjoy tea or coffee and a chat, followed by the activity of the day. Lunch is served from about 12.30pm: a freshly cooked hot meal followed by dessert. See below for the activities booked for the next few weeks:

Tues 1st Dec	Healthy eating cookery
Tues 8th Dec	Internet and iPad demonstration
Tues 15th Dec	Christmas lunch and carols
Tues 22nd Dec & 29th Dec	Open for anyone who wants to come along for lunch—maybe bring some games or a film to share

The lunch club is ideal for anyone wanting a bit of companionship

\*\*\*\*\*

## **Santa to visit Stanley Community Centre!**

*Wednesday 2nd December, 5pm—7.30pm*

This wonderful community awareness and fundraising event is running again this year, with free Santa visit and present, children's roundabout, and bags of free candyfloss. Santa will be arriving by sleigh at 6pm bringing free gifts! Please come along and support your local groups and enjoy a special community event.



## **St Peter's School Christmas Fair**

*Wednesday 2nd December, 3.30pm—5.30pm*

With cake stall, craft and gift stalls, tombola, refreshments, Santa's grotto, fun activities, trade stalls, and a raffle with some incredible prizes.

**Please come along and support this event!!**

## **St Nicholas Parade service, Sunday 6th December, 10am**



The St Nicholas family and parade service is an opportunity to donate a wrapped gift for a child who might otherwise not receive much this Christmas. The gifts will be handed over to the Barnados charity to be distributed. Please bring a wrapped gift, labelled with a suggested age and gender.

## **Torchlight Procession & Carol singing, Sat 12th Dec**

On Saturday 12th December, everyone is invited to meet at Mount Road Methodist Church at 6pm. We then plan to walk to Stanley Lane









Ends for carol singing before finishing at St Peter's Church Centre for mulled wine and mince pies. In previous years this evening has been great fun; so please wrap up warm and join us!



# CHRISTMAS EVENTS 2015

*At St Peter's Church, Lake Lock Road  
and at Mount Road Methodist Church*

<p><b>Sunday 29th November, 10am</b></p>	<p><u>Advent Sunday Service</u> at St Peter's to celebrate the start of advent.</p>
<p><b>Sun 29th November - Sat 5th December</b></p> 	<p><u>'Snow White and the Magnificent Seven'</u> pantomime. Both matinees and some evening shows are sold out, but there are tickets available for 7.15pm performances on Mon 30th Nov, Tues 1st, and Thurs 3rd December. Contact the office on 835746 for tickets.</p>
<p><b>Wednesday 2nd December 2pm-4pm</b></p>	<p><u>Coffee Afternoon</u> at Mount Road Chapel with various stalls and refreshments. Please call in for a coffee, cake and a friendly chat.</p> 
<p><b>Wednesday 2nd December 5pm-8pm</b></p>	<p><u>Visit by Santa</u> to Stanley Community Centre. With activities and displays by community groups. Santa will arrive by sleigh at 6pm; free admission and free Santa visit.</p> 
<p><b>Sunday 6th December 10am</b></p> 	<p><u>St Nicholas Parade Service</u> at St Peter's Church. Bring a wrapped gift for a boy or a girl and label with the suggested age. Barnardos will distribute the gifts to children who might not receive much this Christmas.</p>
<p><b>Friday 11th December 7:30pm</b></p> 	<p><u>Free Film Club: 'Nativity 3: Dude, Where's My Donkey?!'</u> at St Peter's Church; festive silliness for all the family with Martin Clunes, Catherine Tate and Marc Wootton. Doors open 7pm, free tea &amp; coffee, bring your own popcorn!</p>
<p><b>Saturday 12th December 10am-12pm</b></p>	<p><u>Coffee morning</u> at Stanley Community Centre with refreshments, cake stall, raffle, tombola, greetings cards, etc. Everyone welcome!</p> 

<p><b>Sat 12th December 6pm</b></p> 	<p><u>Torchlight Procession and Carol singing:</u> Meet at Mount Road Methodist Church then walk to Stanley Lane Ends for carols, and finish at St Peter's Church for refreshments. Everyone welcome.</p>
<p><b>Sun 13th December 3pm</b></p> 	<p><u>Stanley Community Singers Christmas Concert</u> at St Peter's Church. Join our local choir for an enjoyable afternoon concert of festive songs and carols, followed by refreshments. <i>In aid of the Salvation Army and local charity Move Ahead. Please buy your tickets on the door.</i></p>
<p><b>Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December 6pm</b></p>	<p><u>Carol Service:</u> a service by candlelight at St Peter's Church featuring traditional Bible readings and carols. Please join us.</p> 
<p><b>Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> December 2pm</b></p>	<p><u>Christmas Eve Crib service:</u> at St Peter's Church for all ages, with popular carols, the telling of the Christmas story, crafts and refreshments.</p> 
<p><b>Thurs 24<sup>th</sup> December 7:30pm (Mount Road) or 11pm (St Peter's)</b></p>	<p><u>Christmas Eve Communion Services:</u> join us at 7:30pm at Mount Road Methodist Church or at 11pm at St Peter's Church for traditional communion services to welcome Christmas Day.</p>
<p><b>Friday 25<sup>th</sup> December 10am</b></p>	<p><u>Christmas Day family service</u> to celebrate the birth of Jesus.</p> 
<p><b>Saturday 9th Jan 10am-12pm</b></p>	<p><u>Coffee Morning</u> at the Community Centre. Details as before: lots of stalls, cakes and refreshments.</p>
<p><b>Sunday 10th January 4pm &amp; 6:30pm</b></p> 	<p><u>Christingle Services:</u> special all-age services at St Peter's Church in conjunction with the Children's Society to celebrate Jesus as the Light of the World.</p>

See our website for further details of these events, or follow us on Facebook and Twitter:



[facebook.com/stpeters.stanley](https://facebook.com/stpeters.stanley)

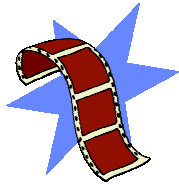


[www.stpeters-stanley.org.uk](http://www.stpeters-stanley.org.uk)



[@stpeters](https://twitter.com/stpeters)






St Peter's Church  
**Film Club**



**Friday evening, 11th December 7:30pm**

**‘Nativity 3: Dude, where’s my donkey?!’ (2015)** 

This Christmas the pupils of St Bernadette’s and their much-loved, madcap teacher Mr Poppy (Marc Wootton) are back for their biggest adventure yet involving fantastic flashmobs, excitable elves, Christmas carols and of course Archie the donkey. When their new teacher Mr Shepherd (Martin Clunes) loses his memory and forgets all about Christmas, his fiancée Sophie (Catherine Tate) and the whereabouts of the beloved Archie, it’s up to the pupils of St Bernadette’s to save the day. Led by the ever enthusiastic Mr Poppy, they embark on a Christmas journey like never before - but time is against them if they are to help Mr Shepherd get to New York in time for his magical yuletide wedding. Come and see this if you want to enjoy some madcap family fun to get you in the mood for Christmas!

**Doors open 7pm, film start 7.30pm**

**Free admission, tea & coffee; bring your own popcorn!**

*West Riding Watercolour Society  
& Art Group*



The group will be continuing to meet every month at St Peter’s Church during 2016 for demonstrations by artists, or to share techniques and knowledge.

Open to everyone; the cost is £3 per session.

Next meeting: Monday 18th January, 7pm-9pm



## What is Christingle all about?

The word Christingle means the Christ-light, and the tradition of Christingle goes back to 1747, when the pastor of a church in Germany, John de Watteville, wanted to help his congregation understand about God's love for the world. He came up with the Christingle, which became popular within Germany before spreading to other countries.

Today the Christingle has been adopted by The Children's Society as a way of reminding the churches in this country of their responsibility before God for the well-being of our nation's children.



The Christingle is an orange which has a red ribbon around it. Also mounted in the orange are four cocktail sticks, each carrying some sweets. The orange represents the world, and the sweets remind us of all the wonderful gifts that God has given us in our beautiful World: He gave us these gifts because He loves us.

On top of the Christingle there is a candle which stands for Jesus: God sent Jesus into the world to light our way back to God. Finally, the red ribbon stands for the blood of Christ. He came into the world for a purpose: to die in order to take the pain and the sin of the world upon himself. This means that when we do something wrong and feel bad about it, we can go to God and know that we are forgiven.

So therefore, all the things that make up the Christingle remind us of what Jesus did in coming to earth over 2000 years ago.

*St Peter's Christingle services will be held on  
Sunday 10th January 2016 at 4pm and 6:30pm.*

## CHRISTMAS FAIR

**Friday 11th December, 12pm-5pm, at St Peter's Church**

Join us for a fantastic festive event, with 'Frozen' grotto,  
photo-booth, workshops, raffle, cakes, tombola, gifts,  
handmade goods and activities.

*Organised by Alternative Care Ltd—working with disabled adults*

### **‘Good King Wenceslas’: *the story behind the hymn***

Each year at Christmas we sing about good King Wenceslas looking on the Feast of Stephen. But have you ever wondered who on earth he was? Three of the five verses go like this:

*Good King Wenceslas looked on the Feast of Stephen  
When the snow lay round about, deep and crisp and even.  
Brightly shone the moon that night, tho' the frost was cruel  
When the poor man came sight, gathering winter fuel...*

*Bring me flesh and bring me wine; bring me pine logs hither;  
Thou and I will see him dine when we bear them thither.  
Page and monarch forth they went, forth they went together,  
Through the rude winds' wild lament, and the bitter weather...*

*In his master's step he trod where the snow lay dinted;  
Heat was in the very sod which the saint had printed.  
Therefore Christian men, be sure wealth of rank possessing,  
Ye who now will bless the poor, shall yourself find blessing.*

This carol was 900 years in the making, it all started with a brutal murder in Bohemia. For Wenceslas was a real person—the Duke of Bohemia—who lived in the early 10th century. He seems to have been a rare ruler, in that he was just and had compassion for the poor. His goodness made him enemies, and when he was only 22, he was assassinated on the steps of a church in Prague in 935.

But that was not the end of Wenceslas. Deeply mourned by the common people, he was soon considered a martyr and a saint. A cult of Wenceslas grew up in Bohemia, influencing the High Middle Ages idea of the rex Justus—or ‘righteous king’ - that is, a monarch whose power stems mainly from his great piety.

The story of Wenceslas came to England sometime before 1853, when Queen Victoria's envoy to Stockholm sent some rare books to a friend, John Mason Neale, Warden of Sackville College, East Grinstead. Here Neale found the story of Wenceslas in an ancient poem by Czech poet Václav Alois Svoboda. Neale published his translation as a carol in 1853. He made the ‘Duke’ into a ‘King’, as a later Pope had conferred the regal title on Wenceslas.

The carol tells the poignant story of a young king and his page braving harsh winter weather in order to bring food, wine and fuel to a poor peasant on the Feast of St Stephen (26th December). The journey is terrible, and the page only gets through by following in the king's



footprints, step by step, through deep snow. There are themes here of following Christ, through suffering, to do good to the poor.

If the story is ancient, so is the melody that Neale chose for his carol - it goes back to Finland in 1582.

Good King Wenceslas is still remembered today, a millennium after his brutal murder, in Prague, where a statue of him stands tall in the middle of Wenceslas Square. His goodness is not forgotten.

---

### **Wakefield Hospice: “Light up a Life”**

*Various dedication services at churches across Wakefield*

At Christmas we often wish to remember those who are special to us. Wakefield Hospice invites you to honour a loved one who may have passed away or be absent during the Christmas season. You can honour this special person by sponsoring a light on the Tree of Lights, which will be illuminated at the dedication services.

For each dedication you will be sent a personalised Light up a Life card and each name will be added to the book of Christmas Blessings which will be available to view at each church service.



Dedication services are being held at:

- Wakefield Hospice (outdoor service; standing only; note: limited places for this service), 6:30pm on Friday 4th December.
- Wakefield Cathedral at 2pm on Saturday 5th December; 2pm and 5pm on Sunday 6th December.

During each service, the Tree of Lights will be lit with white lights, each representing someone for whom a light has been dedicated. Sponsorship forms are available from Wakefield Hospice and from St Peter's church, or visit the website [www.wakefieldhospice.org](http://www.wakefieldhospice.org).

## Celebrating the Queen's 90th Birthday

In her 2014 Christmas broadcast the Queen said: 'For me, the life of Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace, whose birth we celebrate today, is an inspiration and an anchor in my life. A role-model of reconciliation and forgiveness, He stretched out his hands in love, acceptance and healing. Christ's example has taught me to seek to respect and value all people of whatever faith or none.' It is the most recent of many references the Queen has made to her Christian faith.

In 2016 people around the county and throughout the Commonwealth will gather in their communities to celebrate the Queen's 90th birthday. Her actual birthday on 21st April will be celebrated with four days of celebrations in Windsor from 12th-15th May; a service of thanksgiving at St Paul's Cathedral on Friday 10th June; the traditional Trooping the Colour ceremony—the Queen's birthday parade—on Saturday 11th June on Horse Guards Parade, and a massive street party for 10,000 people on The Mall on Sunday 12th June.



The whole country will be invited to join in with the celebrations in their villages, towns or cities. HOPE is working in partnership with the Bible Society to publish a very special illustrated book focusing on the Queen's Christian faith. It will tell the story of the Queen's service to her people as she follows the servant King—Jesus Christ.

Just like the Diamond Jubilee celebrations in 2012, HOPE will be supporting churches with ideas and resources to bring communities together. HOPE will be also be providing street-party planners; posters, invitations, bunting all with the Queen's 90th birthday theme; school assembly ideas and lesson plans; church service ideas and liturgy to mark this special milestone.

We could all start planning our local events now by working with others to bring our communities together, and using the opportunity to start conversations about what it means to be a follower of Jesus. We could join with the Queen in praying for our communities, as she said in 2012: 'that his example and teaching will continue to bring people together to give the best of themselves in the service of others'. Visit [www.hopetogether.org.uk](http://www.hopetogether.org.uk) for resources and ideas.

## Report from Stanley Grove School

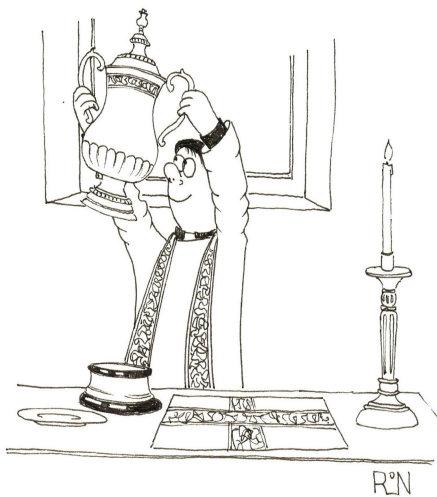
Aberford Road, Stanley, Wakefield, WF3 4NT, Tel: 01924 303805

Website: [www.stanleygroveprimary.co.uk](http://www.stanleygroveprimary.co.uk), Headteacher: Mrs J Frost

At the beginning of this half term, we had a visit from a local astrophysicist who brought a mobile planetarium and shared their knowledge about space. Also, all children in the school were encouraged to build their own rocket at home or create a poster. An incredible array of home-made rockets were brought into school and we had enormous fun launching them into the sky, along with their egg astronauts! It was fantastic that everyone got so involved in this project and worked so hard to create some amazing rockets.

We are very busy with our preparations for Christmas. Parents were invited to come into school to help decorate the tree and the hall, and will also be helping their children to make Christmas cards and decorations. We are looking forward to our Christmas performances and parties, and also our Christmas fair which will be on Wednesday 9th December from 3.30pm-5pm. We would like to wish all our children, families and staff a very happy Christmas and New Year.

### Cartoon Corner



The special silverware only came out once a year



"I'm sorry Michael - even if you HAVE changed your ring-tone to 'Away In-A-Manger', it's still ALL mobiles OFF!"



## Farewell to Dad's Army – 70 years on

'Dad's Army' has been one of the BBC's most popular sit-coms, its characters' catch-phrases universally known: 'Don't panic!', 'You stupid boy!', 'We're doomed!' It means that generations of TV viewers feel they know all about the Home Guard. This month marks the date of its final disbandment, on December 31st 1945, seventy years ago.

The Home Guard—originally the 'Local Defence Volunteers' - came into being in the summer of 1940, when the Nazi forces were encamped across the Channel, waiting for orders to invade Britain. People were understandably nervous. Civilians clamoured to be given weapons so that they could defend their towns and villages.

In response, the Government began recruiting local volunteers—men who already possessed weapons (farmers with shot-guns, typically) and others who could make and use 'Molotov cocktails' - petrol bombs. The new prime minister, Winston Churchill, wanted something more recognisably military, and at his insistence these volunteers were mobilised into a 'citizen army' which he called the Home Guard. The Government expected about 150,000 volunteers – within a month there were 750,000.

Over the war years these men (and later a few women) who were either too young or too old for military service or deemed unfit for it, guarded air fields and strategic buildings, manned coastal look-outs, and watched for enemy parachutists, freeing regular soldiers for combat duties. Even so, 1206 members of the Home Guard were killed 'in action', mostly by bombs or rockets. Dubbed 'Dad's Army' at the time, their contribution to final victory was certainly no joke.



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### *A few quotes.....*

- The Christian story is precisely the story of one grand miracle. *C S Lewis*
- There are few wild beasts more to be dreaded than a talking man having nothing to say. *Jonathan Swift*
- The family is the place where the most ridiculous and least respectable things in the world go on. *Ugo Betti*
- Loneliness is to endure the presence of one who does not understand. *Elbert Hubbard*

## *Prayers for this month*

### **Christmas Trees**

Norway sent a Christmas tree  
It marks the Saviour's birth,  
The incarnation manifest  
As God came down to earth

A babe born to a virgin  
Would grow up as a man,  
Yet still divine, such mystery,  
To implement God's plan.

Another tree was put in place  
A sacrifice was made,  
As on that cross He gave His life  
That all men could be saved.

So celebrate that wondrous day  
When Jesus left His home,  
To bring salvation down to man,  
And claim us as His own.  
*By Megan Carter*

### **Christmas Prayer 2015**

Loving, giving Father,  
Thank you for Jesus, Emmanuel. Thank you that he came at Christmas  
and is alive and just as relevant today as he was all those years ago, and  
will be forever.

As many of us celebrate your coming to us, with our families, in warm,  
safe homes, in a democratic country, we pray for everyone who has left  
their homeland because of persecution, for everyone who is without  
shelter, or food, or family. Give us compassionate hearts, like yours,  
Lord. Help us, as Christ's body here on earth, to love and serve and  
make room for each other this Christmas.

In Jesus' name. Amen  
*By Daphne Kitching*



### **Welcome**

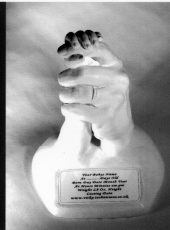
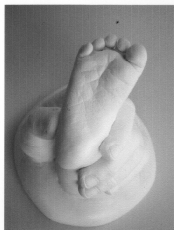
Welcome, Jesus baby  
To a world that is waiting,  
Welcome, Jesus baby  
To a world needing joy,  
Thank you for the presents  
That you bring us  
on your birth day,  
Peace, love and hope  
Wrapped in one baby boy.  
*By Daphne Kitching*



Please contact the editor, Eleanor Plant, with items for the next magazine on  
01924 835746, or by email: [churchoffice@stpeters-stanley.org.uk](mailto:churchoffice@stpeters-stanley.org.uk)

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## Councillors Surgeries



**Cllr Clive Hudson**  
Tel: 01924 220710  
Email: [chudson@wakefield.gov.uk](mailto:chudson@wakefield.gov.uk)



**Cllr Jacqui Williams**  
Tel: 01924 278007  
Email: [jacquelinewilliams](mailto:jacquelinewilliams)



**Cllr Matthew Morley**  
Tel: 07719 904085  
Email: [mmorley@wakefield.gov.uk](mailto:mmorley@wakefield.gov.uk)

1st & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month	6pm—7pm	Stanley Community Centre
2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Saturday of each month	9:30—10:45am	Stanley Community Centre
2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Saturday of each month	11am—12 noon	Bevin Close Community Centre, Outwood

Excludes bank holidays, no appointment necessary, home visits can be arranged

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Vicar	Rev W Henderson	822143
	379 Aberford Road, Stanley	
Assistant Minister	Rev David Teece	
Readers	Vicky Wilson	
	Calli McKenna	
Lay Pastoral Ministers	Ray Rushworth	07906 882433
	Margaret Woffendin	
Church Wardens	Barry McCarthy	
	David Sunderland	
Church Office	Eleanor Plant	835746
	churchoffice@stpeters-stanley.org.uk	
Treasurer	Contact Rev Henderson	
Church Flowers	Angie Daniel	376343
Musical Director	Julie West	829098
Electoral Roll	Eleanor Plant	835746
Prayer Chain	Glenda Oakes	820222
House Groups	Rev W Henderson	822143
Ladies Society	Contact Church Office	835746
Magazine Editor	Eleanor Plant	835746
Safeguarding Co-ordinator	Calli McKenna	07557 735610

## YOUTH GROUPS

Children's Ark	Viv Henderson	822143
Creche	Rev W Henderson	822143
Sunday Gang & Explorers	Viv Henderson	822143

## UNIFORMED ORGANISATIONS

Cubs/Scouts (boys & girls)	Mark Pringle	07450 953744
	firstyorkshire@gmail.com	
Brownies	Via Church Office	835746
Rainbows	Via Church Office	835746

For information regarding weddings and baptisms please contact the Vicar after any church service or by telephone on 01924 822143.

Contact the Church Office on 835746 (answer phone out of office hours) or by email: churchoffice@stpeters-stanley.org.uk

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