



The Stanboroughian

2016-2017

RACHEL GARDNER
"Don't let fear hold you back"

DANCING FLAMENCO
in Valencia

COPENHAGEN
our unforgettable trip to Denmark

RED HOUSE
takes the victory

KISH PODDAR
"Take more risks!"

Editor’s Notes

Do you know that feeling when you finish reading a great book?

That bittersweet sensation that washes over you as you gently close its covers... You are sad that it is over, yet happy that you were blessed enough to somehow be a part of such a fantastic story. Endings and new beginnings; this academic year was marked by them.

After teaching at Stanborough School for an impressive 29 years, our beloved Mr Poddar retired in July 2017. Our cover article is a celebration of his outstanding contribution to our school community. His generosity and moral values, as much as his teaching, left an indelible mark on the lives of hundreds of students and colleagues. “Thank you” seems so inadequate to express our gratitude to you, sir, for your life-long commitment to educating young people. You will be sorely missed! (page 16)

This year we said goodbye to our much-loved colleague, Ms Laverne Byng. Her resilient courage and radiant smile continue to shine in our hearts (page 29).

There were new beginnings too! The Boarding School organised its first overseas trip to Copenhagen, Denmark (page 12). Our students took their journalism skills to the next level by interviewing Rachel Gardner, a youth worker and the founder of Romance Academy, to discover how to develop healthier relationships (page 14). And the international students may have just solved the mystery of Stonehenge (page 18).

I hope you enjoy perusing the story of the 2016-2017 academic year!

*“For last year’s words belong to last year’s language.
And next year’s words await another voice.
And to make an end is to make a beginning.”*
(T. S. Eliot’s, *Little Gidding*)

Vanesa Pizzuto
EDITOR

The views and opinions expressed herein are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the SDA Church.

Back cover: **1** As part of the celebration of Black History Month, the School’s Cafeteria hosted an African and Caribbean Food Fest. **2** Beautiful, handmade Christmas cards on their way to Langley House Rehabilitation Unit. **3** Our Head Boy and Head Girl, Nathanael L. and Zahra B. **4** Christmas Banquet, 14th December 2016. **5** A reading challenge with Ms Hussey. **6** Stanborough Walkathon, 12th March 2017. **7** Draft mural for the Spanish classroom, Room 111, painted by Argentine artist Claudio Jimenez. **8** Gabrielle G. receiving an award at Speech Night, 20th October 2016. **9** RE Trip to the London Central Mosque & Islamic Cultural Centre, Wednesday 28th September 2016. **10** Talent Show, 11th July 2017. **11** “Painting with light”, a special Photography Lesson delivered by Ms Smith. **12** Study Skills Training Session, 14th and 15th September 2016.

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Headteacher’s Message

It is my privilege to introduce this fourth edition of *The Stanboroughian* to you. Within its pages, you will find a story of the school year 2016-2017.

Our motto for the year “Numen” (*Divine Power*), perfectly encapsulates our aim to wholly depend on God for our everyday needs. Heeding the words of the apostle Peter, as recorded in his second epistle, (chapter 1, verse 3), we encouraged our students to develop their trust in God’s abundant provision and supreme calling.

We focused on six values this year: trust, hope, faithfulness, thoughtfulness, justice and mercy. We aimed at providing opportunities for the students to exercise these values through a variety of activities, such as the ADRA gift box appeal, our annual humanitarian trip to India, and even our international night and exchange programmes. All of these encourage our students to look at the world around them with wonder.

The pages of this magazine are a beautiful testimony to the commitment of each student, teacher and member of staff to making 2016-2017 a success. I’d like to take the opportunity to express my profound gratitude to each one of them for their passion and dedication!

Tonight, as we celebrate another Speech Night and bid farewell to the Class of 2017, I’d like to remind you to continue tuning your spiritual ears to hear God’s calling, and your faith – to depend on His power.

Lorraine Dixon
HEADTEACHER



QUE VIVA ESPAÑA

Would you like to improve your Spanish in Spain? That is precisely what our students did during the half-term break! From 30 May to 5 June 2017, a group of seven students and two teachers – Zarah O., Mazvita M., Jude B., Stephany S., Jerome P., Evie M., Ms Pizzuto and Mr Allen – visited Colegio Adventista Sagunto, our sister school in Valencia. Yet, the programme involved much more than taking Spanish lessons. Our students explored the Hope Channel studio and became radio hosts for a day; they learnt to dance flamenco; visited castles and historic towns and, of course, went to the beach! The Spanish Exchange programme was a resounding success. Thanks to all who made it possible, and special thanks go to Mr Juan Antonio Lopez, the Spanish programme coordinator.



“WE WENT TO A THEME PARK, ONE OF THE RIDES REALLY MADE ME SCREAM. IT WAS SO MUCH FUN!” EVIE



“I LIKED THE BEACH AND THEIR CHURCH, BUT I LIKED PORT AVENTURA THE MOST.” JUDE



“THE FUNNIEST THING WAS GOING TO THE BEACH AND PORT AVENTURA. IT WAS SO MUCH FUN!” MAZVITA



“THE FOOD WAS LOVELY. THE THEME PARK WAS THE BEST AND THE BEACH SO SUNNY AND HOT! THE STUDENTS WERE NICE TOO.” ZARAH



“IT WAS A WELL-ORGANISED TRIP. WE VISITED A LOT OF PLACES. I LIKED THE AMUSEMENT PARK.” JEROME



“VISITING SPAIN WAS A GREAT EXPERIENCE. I MET MANY NEW PEOPLE AND DID A LOT OF ACTIVITIES. I ENJOYED THE TRIP TO PORT AVENTURA, A THEME PARK, AND THE DANCING LESSON WE HAD. ON TOP OF THAT, I PRACTISED MY SPANISH THE WHOLE TIME.” DAURIO

from India with love



The Stanborough School experience includes, among many other excellent events, a trip to an orphanage in India. This year a group of eighty-five students and three staff visited the BESSO Children's Home in Hosur, India, to teach at the BESSO Primary School.

It took months of planning, preparation meetings and School Board approval to make this rewarding adventure happen.

The five Year 10 students – Ketsia H., Gabrielle G., Jahmai J., Anthony M. and Khaleel B. – were presented with the BESSO resources for teaching the primary pupils from Kindergarten to Standard 4. The Stanborough students purchased pens, paper, colouring equipment, photocopied worksheets and assignments. They bought gifts of sweets and other rewards for the orphan children in their classes. Some were prepared thoroughly for their experience.

After a long flight from London Heathrow on 12 February, the group arrived safely at Bangalore International Airport on the following day to be met by a pre-arranged minibus to take the group to the SDA campus in Hosur, where the guestrooms would be their home for the next two weeks. Having settled in, freshened up and tidied up, the team made the first visit to the BESSO Primary School. They were greeted with enthusiasm by the Director and the 62 orphan children they would be teaching. They were introduced to their cohorts to get briefly acquainted.



The following day, after an early wake up call, worship and breakfast, the team arrived at BESSO for an outdoor Assembly with the children. Each member of the team was assigned to lead out in an Assembly.

Then, they went into their teaching schedules, some with trepidation and some with great confidence. Teaching primary school pupils a range of subjects from Maths, Science, English and Local Government for a Stanborough Year 10 student with no experience is not without challenges. The challenges included language issues, classroom control, hyper enthusiastic, SEN, gifted and talented pupils. In spite of these challenges, the Stanborough students and staff improvised, seeking creative ways to meet the learning objectives of their Subjects.

For seven days the team taught, tested, disciplined and prayed with their cohorts. Through all this, the Director of the orphanage, Mr Sam Ganesh, and the Principal of the School, Mrs Josephine Ganesh, were assessing the young teachers. On the final day, the BESSO school organised the Annual Sports Day, where the Stanborough team judged the races, track and field events. Mrs Hussey was the Chief Guest who gave an inspiring speech on how to win the race of life, taking the analogy from sport. Other guests, from the local TVS motor cycle company and a member of the local Social Welfare council, were also present. After the prize giving ceremony for the sports awards, the BESSO Director made presentations to the Stanborough team. Each received a plaque for their teaching. Khaleel was awarded the well-deserved Best Teacher award.

The trip was not all work as the team took a two-day break from teaching to travel by train to visit the beautiful city of Mysore and see the Mysore Maharajah's Palace by day and illuminated by night; a boating trip on the lake of the bird sanctuary and a visit to the Chamundi Temple Hill and lots of shopping for gifts for friends and family in England.

On the final day, a member of the team funded a special meal for all the children and special guests, which was the high point of the day.

Some of the activities the Stanborough team got involved with were visiting the lovely children of the STOP sponsored orphanages of Love Home and Way to Life as well as Blessings Children's Home and the Captain Azariah's Children's Home. This is where in 1998 Stanborough School students built a chicken coup which started the Indian Project Programme at the School. This was also the inspiration for the start of Save The Orphans Please International, a UK registered charity. It has been running for nearly 19 years and has been a blessing to many of our students.

This is what our students have to say about their time in India: "This experience has been very beneficial to me, as one of my career options is to become a teacher. I will also now appreciate many of the things that I take for granted." (Gabrielle)

"From this amazing experience I have learnt to appreciate a lot of things I have, such as a family. Being here made me realise that I never want to be a teacher and I will appreciate the hard work of my teachers in England." (Ketsia)

"I had a great time spending time with the amazing kids at BESSO orphanage. I could see how tough their life was and how much they would struggle but yet would never complain. I was so glad when I won the Best Teacher Award and my students were very impressed and proud. I hope one day I will be able to visit the students at BESSO once again and I will forever treasure the priceless memories that were made in India." (Khaleel)

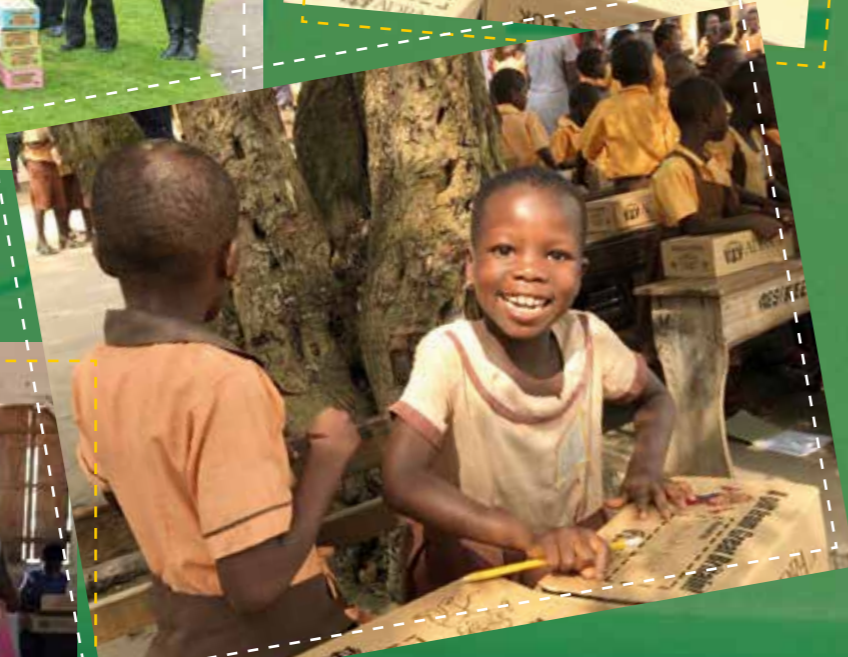
"This trip taught me patience, gratefulness and more. I would come back to India if I were guaranteed not to get sick. However, such guarantee is not possible." (Jahmai)

"The trip in itself was very enjoyable, especially our sight-seeing trip to Mysore and Bangalore. Witnessing the unique, yet interesting culture, also helped to make my visit real fun. In conclusion, my stay in India was an experience I will never forget and I will treasure this opportunity for the rest of my life." (Anthony)

GHANAIAIAN ADVENTURES



These are the boxes we've packed



This is what happiness looks like



Our love parcels made their way to Ghana!
Thank you all for supporting the ADRA Gift Box Appeal 2016.

Together, we packed 93 beautifully-decorated boxes and donated £207.64 towards shipping costs.

Additionally, staff members donated £283.21 to top up all the boxes, making sure they were packed to the rim with toys and school supplies. Each box brought a sparkle of joy to an underprivileged child in Ghana. Thank you for your generous giving!



Why Ghana?

The Republic of Ghana, is a sovereign unitary presidential constitutional democracy, located along the Gulf of Guinea and Atlantic Ocean, in the sub-region of West Africa. Since the mid-1980s, Ghana's impressive development has made the country one of the strongest performers in Africa. While Ghana's overall poverty rate has declined, the three regions in the north have seen only marginal decreases. Small-scale farmers in Ghana's poor rural areas have limited access to the assets that would facilitate a shift from low-productivity subsistence farming to modern, commercial agriculture. This is where ADRA is helping to improve the lives of the poor and where your gift boxes were delivered.

Life as a Boarder



Your most embarrassing moment...

"... was when we were pouring water from upstairs on the boys' window, and one staff member saw us from her window, and we were just cracking up like crazy." ANA

"...was when I was in the cafeteria and I dropped my full plate on the floor." VINICIUS

"...would be how often I keep falling down the stairs." VITOR

"...was when I did not notice that the gate was still open, and as I tried to climb the fence, I ripped my leggings." LUANA

"...was when I was, somehow, locked in the bathroom after I took a shower, and I had to wait 20 minutes until another boarder noticed it and opened the door from the outside." DAURIO

"...happened when I somehow was stuck with my arm in the bedframe and I made a call and two staff members came and covered my arm with soap to get me out." EVIE



The most random thing...

"...was when it was 2:40 am and Ana's alarm went off and she just ran up and down the girls' corridor with her alarm still going off." MARCELA

"... was when I started dancing in the kitchenette and the staff were cracking up watching me on the CCTV cameras in the office." MATHEUS

"... happened when the door between the reception and the stairs got secured with a pin to enter and one student ran downstairs, forgot, and at full speed, head-first, ran into the door." KAZIAH

"... was when two chairs broke in one day. A student was dancing on a chair and it just broke underneath him. Shortly after that, a student just randomly fell on a chair and broke another one." MELINDA

"...was when we were playing a game in school and they locked me in to scare me." SAVANNAH

"...was when Daurio said; 'It is always so dark where the trash-bins are, and the light motion-sensors never go off when I come'." JOAO



Hej Copenhagen



It all began with a conversation in the kitchenette, the boarding school council discussing what they would like to see in the year to come. My personal passion for travelling is well known to the students, my free time is spent flying away to different European destinations. As a volunteer from Australia, I am taking every opportunity I can get. The boarders have asked me to take them on a trip before and on that Wednesday evening, we decided to do it. We researched flight prices and destinations and settled on the capital city of the beautiful Denmark, Copenhagen.

Fast-forward 3 months, a huge risk assessment, numerous permission slips, group visa applications, hundreds of emails and a range of emotions, the day arrived, Sunday 29th January 2017. By 05:15am, 23 tired teenagers and 8 staff boarded the mini-buses on their way to Luton Airport. We made our way through the airport security and onto EZY 2445, with the only hiccup being a hot chocolate being spilt all over the airport floor.



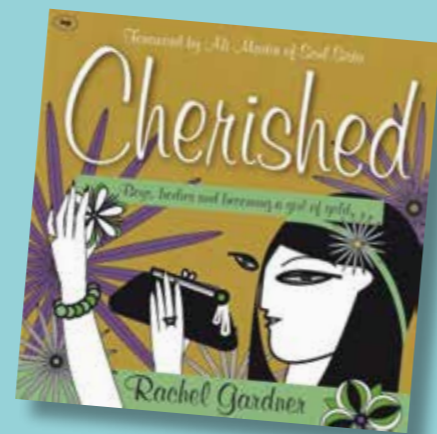
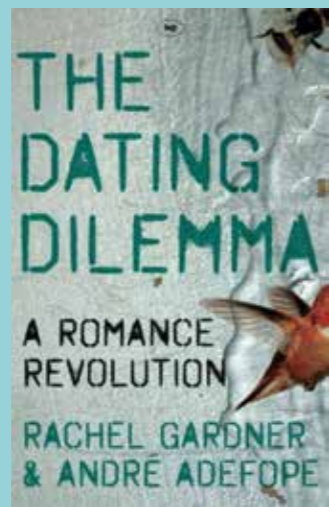
'Ladies and gentlemen, we are now beginning our descent into Copenhagen Airport.' This announcement made the trip a reality, months of planning and hours upon hours of organising, coupled with excitement and dreaming about a trip outside the UK had eventuated! We were finally here and Denmark welcomed us with bleak grey skies and threatening rain. However, regardless of the weather, we carried on, and soon found ourselves standing at the end of Strøget.

We spent the day exploring the main sights of the Danish Capital, relishing in its history and culture. The world famous Nyhavn displayed its vibrant colours through the greyness, the little mermaid sat on her rock for the world to see and Hans Christian Andersen's statue stood proud next to City Hall. The Rundetaarn gave a view over the top of the city and the Strøget provided a few hours of shopping and a variety of local and international foods.

At the end of a long, but wonderful day, we returned to the airport and after a slight delay, arrived safely back in London. All 23 students tiredly walked up the stairs and crawled into bed after an exhausting but exhilarating adventure!

TEXT Taletha Boyd





A conversation with Rachel Gardner

Rachel Gardner is the founder of Romance Academy, a national project that supports youth leaders, parents and teachers in talking with young people about healthy relationships and sexual health. In a Skype interview with Marcela S., Matheus S., Nerea C., João B. and Vinicius B., Rachel shared views on self-esteem and relationships.



The journalists in the making



www.romanceacademy.org

What motivated you to start Romance Academy?

I worked with teenagers all my life. Visiting a school, I met a fourteen-year-old girl who had had sex the week before with a complete stranger. We took her to a hospital to have some tests, and her best friend came along. While we were in the waiting room I said, "You are fourteen, that is quite young to be having sex and under the legal age, what was going through your head?" And she said, "I am the only fourteen-year-old who does not have sex. I hate that, I hate being a virgin". She thought her best friend was having sex too. But it turned out she wasn't, she was lying so people wouldn't think she was a virgin. So, I sat there and thought: I want to do a project that empowers teenagers to make up their own minds, to think for themselves and to know what they are going to do or what they are not going to do. Romance Academy is about empowering teenagers to make their own decisions and to feel confident with their choices.

Who are your role models?

I am really inspired by anybody who is courageous in the face of challenge... I met a woman who works in the Congo, she was sexually abused by a gang, and she now rescues other women. Anybody, men, women, girls who are courageous with the little power they have. I think role models aren't people who have lots of power, but people who use the little bits they have to change the world around them.

Do you have a life motto?

I do have a life motto, but I also have a theme tune in my head. I am a bit old, so my tune is "A walk in the moon", it goes, "Shut up and dance with me... oh, oh, oh...". My life motto is, "Feel the fear but do it anyway". Don't let fear hold you back. When you think, "I can't do this, I am going to look like an idiot. Everybody is going to laugh." Then tell yourself, "OK, I feel scared, but I am going to do it anyway. Everybody gets scared sometimes. What's the worst that could happen?"

How do you develop a healthy self-esteem and learn to become comfortable with who you are?

What I think about myself some days is good, and some days is not. So, self-esteem has to start with how God sees me, with "God-esteem". The Bible tells me that God made me, He loves me, He gives me value; I've got potential. This helps me understand how I can see myself. But I have a little voice in my head that sometimes says, "You are rubbish. You think you are funny, you think you are amazing, but you are not". On those days, I say, "OK, what does God say about me? What do people who love me, say about me?" Over time, this helped me become more comfortable. But I do suffer from anxiety. I do have days when I think, "I can't do this." I don't have it all together. The reality is that I still struggle with confidence. But I think confidence isn't a feeling, it is a decision.



You don't wait to feel confident, you "do" confident; and the people you look at, you think they are so confident, but I bet inside they are panicking. But they made a decision to do it, and as they do it, confidence comes.

What can teenagers do to end gender inequality?

The number one is choosing to spot gender inequality when you see it. Like the way that men and women speak and treat each other. Or the images in music videos, where women are just in tiny knickers and bras and men are fully dressed. They are powerful, whereas women are just being looked at and used. Every time you choose not to go along with that, to say, "Actually, men and women have the right to be seen as more than just bodies," I think you are being radical. You are challenging gender inequality and you are choosing to say, "I am more than just my body!"

How can parents help their children to have healthier relationships?

I am a parent; my daughter is five-years old. I think the most important thing I do for her is to love her and model to her what a good relationship looks like... I think parents need to be honest about things that are difficult in relationships, and demonstrate forgiveness.

My husband and I, if we have an argument, will sometimes say to our daughter, "Mommy and Daddy have said 'sorry' and we have forgiven each other." I want her to know that good relationships are not relationships that don't have problems. Good relationships are relationships where two people can mend things and be forgiving.

If you were fourteen again, what advice would you give yourself?

When I was fourteen, I had railway braces and I had to give a talk to all my year group, about 200 kids. I was so nervous that my lip got stuck above my railway braces. I was so embarrassed! I would say to myself, "One day this will be behind you. Today you looked a bit like an idiot with your lip stuck above your braces, but tomorrow is a new day. You are going to be ok, so don't give up. Get out of bed, it is a new day, go and live your life."



Rachel's workplace at Youthscape



Farewell Mr Poddar

After teaching at Stanborough School for an impressive 29 years, our beloved Mr Poddar has retired. Marcela S., Matheus S., João B. and Vinicius B. celebrated his outstanding contribution to our school community with a special interview.



Left to right: Mr Poddar starring as a magician at Stanborough's Got Talent

The wedding day, 28 December 1980

After running the London Marathon, April 2010

Where were you born?

I was born in India, in a little town called Pune. My life there was wonderful. We lived in a big park with a lot of trees and rivers going through. When the raining season came, we would go fishing in the river, we would climb trees, we would build catapults to shoot down lizards. It was great fun!

How did you decide to move to England?

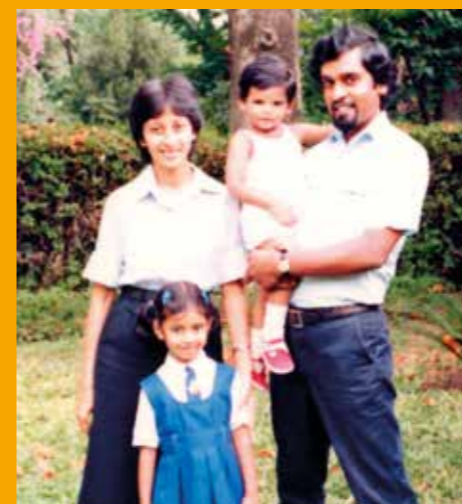
I did not. England was offering employment to international professionals. My father was a professional printer, and they gave him a special permit to come to England to work. He came to work at the Stanborough Press, which was located just here, at Stanborough Park. Once he was established, all of us came to join him.

What was the most shocking thing about the British culture of that time?

I think the most shocking thing was the racism. In those days, it was very, very bad. When I went to school, they would always make fun of my accent, even the teachers used to laugh at my Indian accent. When I sat next to other students, they would pinch their noses. They had this idea that Indians eat garlic and smell of garlic, even though I did not... This was a sad part of my school years.

How did you meet your wife?

I met my wife when I was twelve years old and she was ten. We have been married for 37 years now! We went to the same primary school. She used to sit in front of me. There were only six students in the class. When she first came, I was wondering, "Who is this new girl? She's pretty and I want to get to know her." However, she would not talk to me. She would not say a single word! My friend was sitting there. She would turn around and say something to him. Whenever she turned around I thought, "She's going to talk to me." But she did not. When I came to England, I kept writing to her. I sent her birthday cards, I sent her Christmas cards, but she did not write back. After five years, I gave up. Later on, though, we met again and fell in love. We got married in 1980.



A family portrait in Pune, India



What's the best thing that happened to you at Stanborough?

The best thing – most teachers will tell you this – is when you see your students graduate, go and become professionals. They will come back as doctors, lawyers, medical people, architects; this is the most rewarding part for me. You know they have made a life for themselves and they have got families. Possibly even better than that, is for their children to come to study at Stanborough School! I am now teaching some children of some students that I taught when I first came.

What motivated you to start S.T.O.P. International?

In 1998, we took a group of 14 Stanborough students to India to build a chicken house for an orphanage where my mother-in-law had been helping. We needed about £4,600 to cover the building costs. So, we made a little model and I took it to the church and said, "This is what we are going to build when we go to India. Could you please help us to raise money?" And people started to give money, and we raised the £4,600. When we came back, we gave a talk and said, "This is how we did it and this is the finished project." And they were just so thrilled! In 2000, we took another group of students to build a dormitory for the boys in the same orphanage. We went again the following year. And when I was lying in bed one day, the Holy Spirit just spoke to me and said, "Why don't you have a regular charity? People are interested in doing this work." That thought came into my head, and I pondered, "What name should we give it?" The Holy Spirit spoke to me again and said, "Look, we want you to stop the suffering here in India, for the children particularly." And I said, "S.T.O.P., that's a good name!". What does S.T.O.P. stand for? Save The Orphans Please! Today we have six orphanages and a vocational training centre, and all this had come about by God's help. He chose me to do it. He could choose anybody, it just happened to be me. There are so many other charities that are also supported by God and that's how it all happened. We have been running now for 16 years.

What is the craziest thing you've done to raise funds for S.T.O.P.?

I have done some crazy things indeed! My first big crazy thing was to run the London marathon. It's 26 miles, I am not a runner and have very poor knees. But it is the most thrilling thing I have ever done! God helped us raise about £13,000. Another crazy thing was organising a London to Paris bicycle ride. It is over 260 miles, with hills and downs, it was even harder than the London marathon. But, again, God blessed us to raise funds. However, the craziest thing I have ever done is deciding to shave my hair. I asked someone to take a photograph of myself, then, using Photoshop, they took all my hair off. We printed the picture and put it on the church's notice board. And I said, "We are going to raise funds by me shaving my head." But someone saw the picture and said, "You are not going to do that! I am going to get sponsors for you NOT to shave your head." And you know what? I got more sponsors for not shaving my head than for shaving! I didn't do anything and still got £700.

If you could go back in time, and change one thing in your life, what would it be?

I would try to take more risks. I think God would like us to move forward in faith. I would have liked to have done that more. I used to be very afraid, "Where am I going to get money to do this? How is this going to happen?" But after God showed me to start S.T.O.P. International, I found out that you don't need to worry about all those things. God will provide everything. Once He calls you, He will provide you with the means.



Stonehenge

– a mystery solved?

On 3rd May 2017, our EFL students visited Stonehenge and had a go at solving its mystery.

Caution: continue reading only if you are open-minded! :)



Rafaela

All of this started on a school trip. We were travelling in Stanborough's mini-bus to ... Stonehenge. I remember thinking, WHAT IS THAT? My friends started to laugh because I did not know how to pronounce STONEHENGE. Ok, now I know not only how to pronounce the word, but I've solved its mystery too.

To start with, Ms L explained a few fascinating things about Stonehenge on the bus. I, however, was not influenced by those insights because I was almost sleeping. Please don't tell her this, I am positive the things she said were incredible. When we passed Stonehenge, I was like, "Really? This is Stonehenge? A lot of standing stones?" In the beginning, I was disappointed, because I woke up early, anxious to explore a new place, a pre-historic monument, but there we were and it was just ... stones. Later on, however, we went to a museum and my eyes were opened. I found an answer to the question everyone wants to get to the bottom of, "What was Stonehenge used for?" I discovered it was used as:

- A Sacred Burial Site
- A Site for Celestial or Astronomical Alignments
- A Place for Healing

Fascinating, isn't it? To know things from the past is to be more alive in the present. So, the cat is out of the bag now, the mystery of Stonehenge has been solved. A very productive school trip, I'd say!



Matheus

Greetings ladies and gentlemen, it is with great pleasure that today I present to you how I solved the mystery of Stonehenge. First of all, it wasn't a mystery to me because I always knew it, but that's something I'll explain in more detail later on.

Well, some time ago, 5117 years, to be precise, a mysterious and handsome alien came to earth to fuel his spaceship, but then he realised that this planet wasn't that evolved. So, he met some specimens of your kind (humans) and told them to build a station where he could fuel his spaceship, later it would be called 'a petrol station', but that's not the point; the only problem was that those humans were as intelligent as a rock, so instead of constructing the station, they built a monument made of stone, to worship him. It was a big hall surrounded by giant stones, which they worked hard to put into position, but the alien helped them with a bit of space engineering.

After a long time on earth trying to find the fuel on his own, the alien finally found something called 'water', it was an interesting substance composed of hydrogen and oxygen, and he just needed the hydrogen to make his spaceship fly. When he finally was starting on his way back home, the alien saw a squirrel through the window; he was so amazed with such a cute creature that he didn't see that he was flying directly into the stone monument. After a proper crash, the monument was half-destroyed, and so was the spaceship.

The alien was upset, but he was optimistic, so he said to himself that he would live his life on earth. Nowadays, he is a smart, nice, funny, gentle guy, who lives in Brazil. "But how do you know all of that?" you say. Well, I guess you already know the answer, but in case you want it reiterated, here it comes. I am the alien.

Ana

No one really knows why those stones are there, this mystery hasn't ever been solved. Since I always have been curious to know the real reason for those stones being there, I decided to go and have a look at them myself. I was planning to go see them after the Easter holiday. The days seemed to drag on, but then something that I was not expecting to happen, happened: I got sick and that was the last thing on earth I wanted. Especially when there were only three days left until I went to see the stones. In those three days, all I could do was hope to get better. I took about four different medicines a day, but even with all my effort to get better, I was still sick.

Finally, the three days were gone but not my fever, which meant that I would go whether I was sick or not. So, I got my bag and water bottle, and sooner than I thought possible, I was on my way. When I got to the stones, I noticed something was different, usually Stonehenge is crowded with people, but today there was only me. That was at least weird. "Ugh" I moaned when I felt my headache coming back again. The rays of sunlight were passing through the spaces in the rocks, which meant it was sunset. I decided to get closer to them. I have to say, the view was totally breathtaking. Whilst I was admiring the rocks, a ray of sunlight reached my eyes, almost blinding me, and I fell to the ground.

Suddenly, all the pain I was feeling at that moment disappeared, but why? That's the question that was occupying my mind, so I looked down and noticed that I cut my knee when I fell. And again, a ray of sunlight reached the exact same spot where I had cut it and instantly the cut was healed. I sat down for a moment, thinking about what had just happened. In that instant, I realised that maybe that was the reason those stones were there, in the middle of nowhere. Apparently, it is not a coincidence that the rocks were so well situated, right over where sunlight would pass through them. It turns out that people in 3000 BC constructed those as a way of healing and meditation.



2016-2017 Academic Year Sports Results

CROSS COUNTRY (3 miles)		
GROUP	FIRST PLACE	YEAR
Junior Boys	Kristiyan	8
Junior Girls	Sarah-Jane	8
Intermediate Boys	Gideon	9
Intermediate Girls	Muskah	9
Senior Boys	Jahmai*	10
Senior Girls	Terri	10

*1st to cross the finish line

SPORTS DAY			
EVENT	GROUP	FIRST PLACE	HOUSE
Discus	Junior Girls	Muskah	Grenfell
	Junior Boys	Daurio	Livingstone
	Senior Girls	Ketsia	Shaftesbury
	Senior Boys	Jahmai	Grenfell
High Jump	Junior Girls	Stephanie	Shaftesbury
	Junior Boys	Gideon	Shaftesbury
	Senior Girls	Terri	Livingstone
	Senior Boys	Jahmai	Grenfell
Javelin	Junior Girls	Muskah	Grenfell
	Junior Boys	Samuel G-L	Livingstone
	Senior Girls	Marcela	Shaftesbury
	Senior Boys	Jahmai	Grenfell
Long Jump	Junior Girls	Sarah-Jane	Livingstone
	Junior Boys	Samuel G-L	Livingstone
	Senior Girls	Terri	Livingstone
	Senior Boys	Jahmai	Grenfell
Shot Put	Junior Girls	Gabriella F	Shaftesbury
	Junior Boys	Daurio	Livingstone
	Senior Girls	Ketsia	Shaftesbury
	Senior Boys	Jahmai	Grenfell
100m	Junior Girls	Nyasha K	Shaftesbury
	Junior Boys	Isaiah	Livingstone
	Senior Girls	Kaziah	Shaftesbury
	Senior Boys	Andrew A	Livingstone
200m	Junior Girls	Nyasha K	Shaftesbury
	Junior Boys	Gideon	Shaftesbury
	Senior Girls	Kaziah	Shaftesbury
	Senior Boys	Andrew A	Livingstone
400m	Junior Girls	Sarah-Jane	Livingstone
	Junior Boys	Samuel G-L	Livingstone
	Senior Girls	Kaziah	Shaftesbury
	Senior Boys	Andrew A	Livingstone
800m	Junior Girls	Sarah-Jane	Livingstone
	Junior Boys	Gideon	Shaftesbury
	Senior Girls	Sarah-Jane	Livingstone
	Senior Boys	Jahmai	Grenfell
4 x 100m Relay	Junior Girls	Grenfell	
	Junior Boys	Livingstone	
	Senior Girls	Shaftesbury	
	Senior Boys	Grenfell	

SPORT	RANK	JUNIOR GIRLS	JUNIOR BOYS	SENIOR GIRLS	SENIOR BOYS
Basketball	1st	Grenfell	Shaftesbury	Shaftesbury	Livingstone
Football (Five-a-side)	1st	Grenfell	Shaftesbury	Shaftesbury	Shaftesbury
Badminton	Singles	1st	Muskah	Samuel G-L	Sayaka
	Doubles	1st	Muskah & Mashal	Daurio & Samuel G-L	Zahra B & Ketsia

6330pts
SHAFTSBURY

2nd

6995pts
LIVINGSTONE

1st

OVERALL
HOUSE
POINTS

5975pts
GRENFELL

3rd

music & arts

EUNICE CHIU



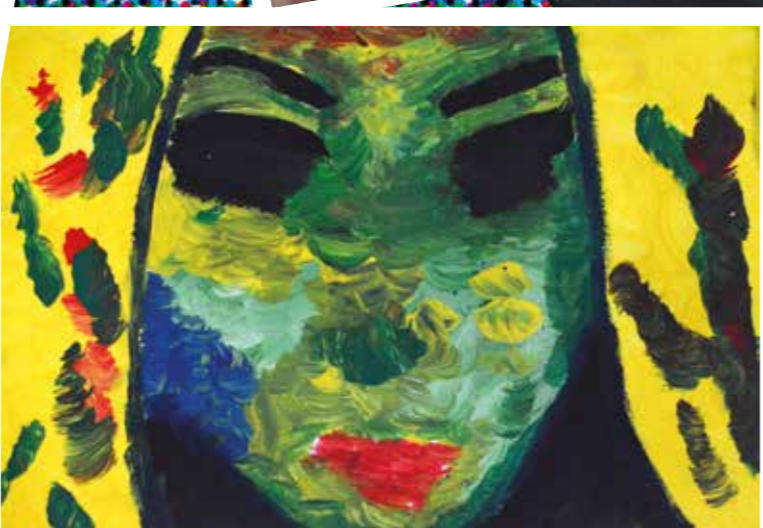
GRACE ADESINA



RANIER PRINCE



SINEAD MCGOVERN



SINEAD MCGOVERN

In their own words



Food!

We all love to eat delicious food,
It makes us smile and changes our mood.
It's an amazing creation.
Which gives us a great sensation!

When there is a great dish, let us savour,
So, we can taste the flavour.
There are so many foods to choose from,
It's hard to choose just one.

You don't know how much I love the smell,
It makes me want to cry and yell.
I just want to keep having more.
Until it hurts my core!

Oh, food! I can't get enough of you!
I can't wait for the barbecue.
I can't wait until I eat again.
Food! Delicious food!

By Gideon U.



God

Everything happens –
In the blink of an eye!
Just know that God is in the sky,
Watching over us, day and night;
To make sure everything is right.

God is the one and only,
Forever with us, closely,
Always there when we need Him,
Ever ready to break a limb.

We look up to Him with gratefulness,
Never really showing thankfulness.
He gives us so much, yet,
Most times, we forget.

So be more like God,
Let your love be warm and true –
Never flawed.
Just remember that God is watching.
And never plans on stopping!

By Muskah M.

Year 9 poems



Pets

Four legged animals,
Some smaller than your ankles,
While others are massive,
But can be so passive.

They are furry,
With hair that is curly,
Others have short stiff hairs,
And some even look like bears!

They can be protectors and hunters,
Guardians or fast-paced runners.
Some are friendly and loving –
And others are fierce like lions!
To some of us,
They are more than just companions.

They fill the silence when you are alone,
Dropping their toys, beneath your feet.
They match your feelings, if you feel upbeat.
And mope around, when you feel blue –
They never have a heart as cold as stone.

By Samuel G. L.



Basketball

Triple threat! It's pass, shoot or dribble,
Just score the ball before you hear the whistle.
It's a passing game, no time to blame,
But if you score a hoop – they'll remember your name!

Should I shoot? Or maybe just do a dribble?
Playing basketball can be such a riddle.
Try and score a goal, maybe an alley-oop,
But don't forget that you really need your group.

Don't carry, don't travel in this game – it's a crime!
And if you do this, you're wasting your time.
When you're defending your side, try man-to-man,
But if this does not work, just stick to your plan.

When you are going to shoot, avoid airball,
Because if you don't, you will run into a wall.
When you release the ball, make sure that you score,
Because if you do – all your fans will roar!

By Carl A.



A MEMORABLE ENGLISH LESSON WITH MS L

INTERNATIONAL FRIENDS

BAGGAGE (STRAP) TAG

PRINTED IN THE U.S.A.

TO
STN
WATFORD, England

ESL PROGRAMMES
4
COUNTRIES
17+
TOTAL NUMBER OF STUDENTS
380

2016-17 was a great year! We thank God for His guidance. Our term programmes for international students – Language and Cultural Tours (L&CT) and Full Immersion Experience (FIE) – continued to grow, and we ran another successful Summer Camp.

Our **L&CT programme** welcomes groups of students from schools around the globe. These short programmes last from 6 to 14 days only and give our international friends the opportunity to have a taste of England. During the academic year 2016-17 we received **9 school** groups from a variety of countries, including: Argentina, Austria, Brazil, China and Spain.

Our **FIE programme** welcomes individual students from all over the world. These are longer programmes that can last from 1 to 6 months, and are great for improving English skills. If you don't speak a word of English, you will when you leave this programme. The academic year 2016-17 saw **37 FIE students**, our largest cohort yet!

Our **Summer Camp** is a 13-days programme that combines intensive English lessons with trips and tons of other fun activities. This summer **58 students** joined us from all over the map to learn English and have fun under the sun!

Thank you all who made it possible!

PSGR'S NAME

BE 27.09.17



CHRISTMAS BANQUET 2016



JAPANESE FIE STUDENTS



ARGENTINEAN FRIENDS
PAY US A VISIT



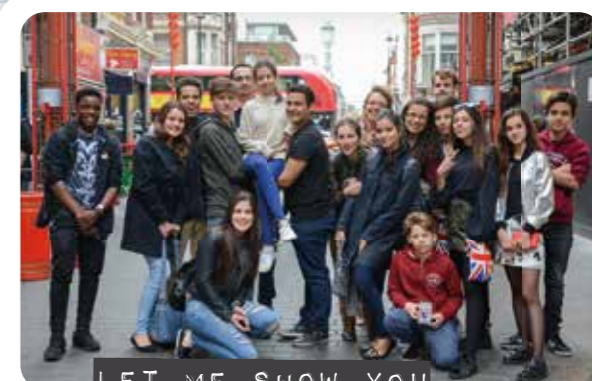
SPANISH VISITORS
ENJOYING THE PARK

Being a foreign student at Stanborough

Since I'm going to university to study medicine this year, I needed to study hard to pass my entrance exam. It was very hard to balance time with friends with time for studying, but I learnt how to do that. I've been taking extra Biology lessons with the year 11 during and after school. I've learned different things in different ways. I also dissected a rat last half-term! It was amazing!

I thought the year 11s would ignore me during the Biology lessons, but they were very kind and friendly and now I have new friends which I want to keep in touch with for a lifetime! Mr. Poddar showed me his prep room with all his books and preserved animals. I won't forget the little tour I had there! I saw a real human brain and a placenta, it amazed me! I'm really happy I had this opportunity to have so many Biology lessons each week, with year 10 and 11, and I'm looking forward to start university and have my own room with those things like Mr. Poddar does. Thank you!

Giovanna



LET ME SHOW YOU
THE WORLD!
A NIGHT AT THE
WEST END



TIME TO SAY GOODBYE,
LAST WEEK OF SCHOOL



SUMMER CAMP 2017

INTERNATIONAL NIGHT



International Night was a resounding success! Thursday 23 March 2017 will go down in history as the day the school saw the Headteacher dance. But that wasn't all, the programme was jam-packed with poetry, music, drama and laughter. The result was a memorable day, in which the rich tapestry of cultures represented at Stanborough Secondary and International Stanborough School was properly celebrated.

Thank you to all performers for making this evening such a remarkable occasion! A special thank you goes to our music teacher, Ms Jieun Ahn, and our art teacher, Ms Sharon Sinclair, for their passion and dedication in running rehearsals with the students.

In Loving Memory of Ms Byng



Laverne Byng (1962-2017) d. 23 February. Laverne was born in Trinidad on the 19th September 1962 to Henry and Gloria Byng. The seventh child of the couple, Laverne learnt early the joys of having a big family. And the family continued to grow until Laverne had five younger siblings too!

Laverne's passion for learning took her from the little village school in Laventille, to Bishops Anstey High School, in Port of Spain, at a time when few children of her upbringing could enter a prestige school. An avid reader, Laverne would stop at the bookstore, on the way home from school, and read half of a Nancy Drew novel. Once at home, she would recall it in detail for the benefit of her younger siblings.

In her early twenties, Laverne's love for learning paid off. After working at the Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago for some time, she won a scholarship to study in England, where she gained a Diploma in Professional Studies in Accounting (ACCA) and then a Masters of Business Administration. Having graduated, Laverne worked for the Allied Irish Bank and then at the BBC as a Financial Controller. Being the only black female manager at the BBC presented some challenges, but Laverne faced them with steadfast kindness.

Years later, Laverne's passion for sharing the gospel led her to get involved with Adventist-Muslim Relations. She worked tirelessly to communicate the hope we have in Jesus, specially to women. Through her ministry, Laverne was blessed with many long-lasting friendships, including her "adopted" sister Mahera.

In 1998, Laverne was diagnosed with a Churg-Strauss Syndrome, a rare autoimmune condition. There were days when her muscles were so weakened that she could not walk, but Laverne found much comfort in prayer and singing. With the support of doctors and friends, Laverne braved the pain and eventually trained as a fitness instructor, a passion she retained till the end.

During the last seven years of her life, Laverne worked at Stanborough Secondary School as a bookkeeper and took every opportunity to serve others. Her office was always filled with music, laughter and students who needed help with Maths assignments. Staff members were blessed with her Tuesday fitness lessons and her smile, which she wore permanently.

TEXT Nigel Byng



THE FLETCHER CUP

The Fletcher Cup was established in memory of alumni Roger and Jeremy Fletcher, who suffered from terminal sickle-cell disease. Despite their illness, Roger and Jeremy were active and exceptional young men. The Fletcher Cup was presented to their parents at Speech Night in October 2000. Ever since, the Fletcher Cup has been awarded to alumni who have overcome life obstacles and excelled.

This year the cup was presented to Jean-Paul Theanne. Jean-Paul was severely injured in a car accident when he was 10 days old, suffering brain injury. He joined Stanborough School in Year 7 in 1995, and was part of the very first group to go to India on a humanitarian trip!

When Jean-Paul left Stanborough, he achieved 5 GCSEs. He then studied Telecommunication Services and travelled internationally, updating his knowledge. He is currently working as an international communication technician, travelling to Asia, in particular, to Manilla, which he would like to one day make his home. Jean-Paul has recently joined a STOP cycling challenge, from London to Paris in four days, to raise funds for 62 orphans in India.

TEXT Kish Poddar

A blast from the past



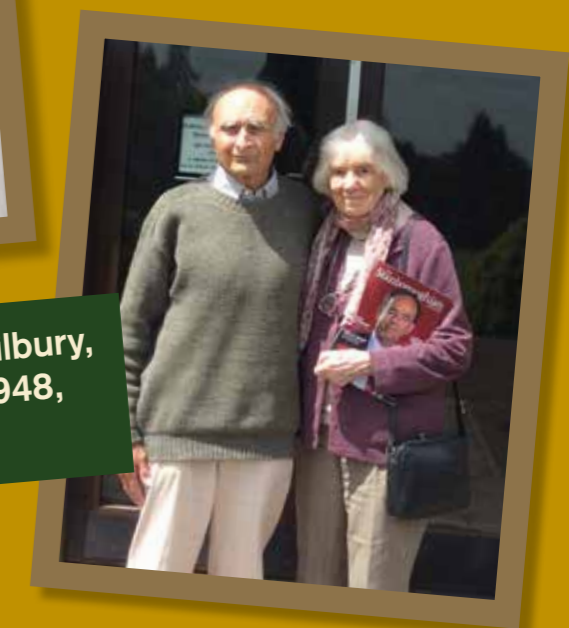
Anju and Takahito, currently studying at Newbold, couldn't resist the opportunity to visit their former school.

CONGRATULATIONS MR AND MRS ZIVANOV!

Aila (née Heck) and Nebojsa Zivanov met at Stanborough School. This super-cute pair fell in love while working at the Boarding School and got married on Monday July 24, 2017 at the beautiful Club Reset, Serbia. Around midnight, when the party was ending, the newlyweds and many of the guests jumped into the club's swimming pool, with gowns and all. It was a perfect ending to a memorable day. We wish them much happiness!



Mr Richard and Mrs Jennifer Tilbury, who last attended school in 1948, walk down memory lane.



CONGRATULATIONS MR AND MRS FUJIMOTO!

Daniela (née Ursulenko) and Stephen Fujimoto met at Southern Adventist University, USA. Daniela, a Stanborough alumna, was studying Graphic Design and Steve – Business, when love struck. This gorgeous pair got married on Sunday May 21, 2017 at Cannons Edge, Spokane. May God bless you abundantly!



Sara Pastor-Ferri (left), one of the first exchange students from C.A.S., is now practising medicine in Valencia, Spain.