



E-NEWS



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Bournemouth New Year Church Party

Judith Wilson reports:

Very nearly 40 people of all ages enjoyed our party and shared lunch last weekend. We've been holding it for many years and young people came home from University to attend. It was a joy to have so many younger people. We forgot to take pictures - yet again - but have a lovely one of Lara singing her song.



Upcoming Youth Events

Activity day at Billingham Forum 23rd Feb

Still a few places for ice skating and climbing followed by a film and pizza evening at Seaburn Church, followed by a sleepover and service led by the young people the following morning.

Spring Rally 29th - 31st March

At Purley Chase (year 8 and above).

Bookings now being taken for:

Family weekend at Purley Chase 24th - 27th May

A crèche for younger children will also be available if required.

International Summer Camp:

At Purley Chase where we will be welcoming a group of young people from Canada and the USA.

“This year’s Church Party was really fun. Lunch was delicious and all the games were exciting, the songs and quizzes were amazing, the organisers should be very proud of themselves. My favourite part was when Lara got up to sing ‘Hallelujah’ and I don’t have a least favourite part! The games were fun because we all joined in together. Next year, I would love the chocolate game!”
- Xavier

“I think the church party this year was very well organised, and the two people who arranged it thought very carefully about what to include and what not. I think the games were chosen well because any ages could be included, and the quiz questions needed a team that included different generations, which was fun to see which era different people knew most about. I enjoyed the line dancing especially, it was very funny.” - Lara

How Did You Celebrate Children’s Day?

Carolyn Kennion reports:

The NCYA hope that you enjoyed celebrating and praying for children on 20th January. At Kearsley we used the suggestions in the NCYA leaflet as part of the morning service.

For Sunday school I adapted the pass-the-parcel activity which Lynne Griffiths shared in E-news a few weeks ago. We talked about presents and why we give them. A mystery gift had appeared in our Sunday school room addressed to us all but not saying who it was from.

We decided to unwrap it to see if that helped us to find out who had given it. We did this ‘pass-the parcel’ style. In between the wrappings were mini chocolate shapes and laminated cards bearing the names of ‘gifts’ we receive such as ‘life’, ‘each new day’, ‘family’, ‘forgiveness’.

After discovering a few of these the children correctly guessed that the parcel must be from the Lord because

these are gifts He gives to us. We discussed how the chocolates had soon disappeared but God's gifts last.



In the centre of the parcel was a red heart-shaped envelope containing decorated cards with the message 'God loves you ' followed by the names of the people in Sunday school. We each had one to take and keep in our pockets. Thank you, Lynne, for sharing your idea which developed into this activity. Let's have more sharing of good ideas, please.



Purley Updates from Revd Alison Southcombe

Painting Purley Update:

A huge thank you to everyone who has generously donated to the Painting Purley Fund. Thanks to your donations our total raised to date is £4020.67. This means that the Library, Olive Room, Little Conservatory, Beech Room, the Hive along with the ground floor corridor in the old building has been painted. We would really appreciate further donations in order to continue the next phase of painting. Every small amount counts! It is worth remembering that if you are a taxpayer your donation can attract an additional 25p from HMRC per £1 received through gift aid. If you would like to make a donation, please complete the donation form (link below) and return it to Sally Field at the address on the form. Many thanks.

gnc.org.uk/downloads/purleydonate.pdf

Games Room Progress:

Work on the Purley Games Room refurbishment continues and we are getting towards the exciting and artistic part of the project. The Purley Working Party have applied a base coat to the walls to be ready for our artist to make a start on the Swedenborgian mural. £450 was raised from the Grand Christmas Raffle and we are also hugely grateful for the very generous donation received from the NCYA. We will share progress pictures soon!

Purley Fairy Trail

We want to encourage more young people to 'discover' Purley from the local area. So we are creating a fairy trail through the woods in the Purley grounds and are promoting this as an afternoon out for families during the Easter holidays. We will be offering a 'what can you spot' observation sheet to fill in on the trail along with providing a trail map. We are hoping that the trail, along with the adventure playground and a zip wire should be an attraction for the young and the young at heart and make Purley a destination during the school break.

Well Done to One Early Bird!

Carolyn Kennion reports:

At the beginning of February The New Church Youth Association posted entry sheets to families and church groups for their annual exhibition. This year it will be on the theme of 'Faith', and exhibition sheets offer children the choice of colouring pictures, re-telling a Bible story or learning the New Church Faith. All entries will be exhibited at the NCYA AGM day in June at Kearsley and at Conference in July at The Hayes. Pauline Grimshaw had a pleasant surprise when some completed sheets arrived in the post only a few days after they had been sent out! One enthusiastic young person had completed three activities herself and returned them straight away. Pauline is looking forward to receiving more entries before the closing date of 30th April. So don't delay in encouraging children and teenagers to take part - all entrants will receive a small 'prize'.