



## Lanterns 2012



It's time to get creative and make your lantern ready for the Lantern Procession at this year's Christmas Lights Switch-On Fun Day on Saturday 1 December. If you've been watching the procession for years but have never taken part then maybe this is the year for you to join in? There will be plenty of Volunteers on hand to guide you through the lantern making process so don't worry if you think you're not artistic - just get stuck in!

Join us at the York House sessions:  
Saturday 17 & Sunday 18 November  
Saturday 24 & Sunday 25 November

Sessions run from 10am to 4pm and a cafe will be available throughout for snacks, drinks and light lunches.

The theme for this year's project is **Christmas Under the Sea** so get your thinking caps on for some amazing underwater creatures!

"Pre-book" your lantern(s). This doesn't guarantee you a time-slot at any particular session but it does ensure that you will be able to take part. Cost is £5 per lantern. Please contact us at the address below.

And we welcome new volunteers to help run the project. If you have some time to spare even just a few hours and fancy donning one of our lovely purple t-shirts then please contact Fiona as below.

## Alzheimer's Art



York House was delighted to be approached by the Alzheimer's Society based at Vicarage Road, Stony Stratford to display their stunning collage of a dragon. The artwork was designed by local artist Freda Purcell and "lovingly put together" by the Alzheimer's Society Art & Craft Group for people living with dementia and their carers. The group meets every Tuesday and Friday mornings - Phone 01908 261750 for more information.

The dragon is in the middle floor meeting room at York House so plenty of people will get a chance to see it over the next few months as it adds a splash of colour and raises awareness of the vital services provided by your local branch of the Alzheimer's Society.

## Open Gardens

2013

at York House

Saturday 15 and Sunday 16 June  
9.00 am to 6.00 pm

## Dinosaurs & Aliens

The Big Draw Ginormous Battle of Dinosaurs v Aliens and Mutant Fluffy Kittens on Saturday 06 October was a huge success! Hundreds and hundreds of people flocked to York House and drew amazing creatures from their imaginations!

There was an Alien Zoo with special mutating attendant, Alien Hat making, a 15 foot high T Rex to colour, a world to illustrate, tee shirts and bags to design, colouring, making, designing and much much more all happening in an excited and cheerful buzz.

The Mayor was enthralled with the event and found herself involved in many of the activities.



You can view a set of photos of the day at:

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set>

London Road Stony Stratford Milton Keynes MK11 1JQ

01908 563361

[www.york-house.org.uk](http://www.york-house.org.uk)

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## Orchard clearing

Thanks to about 30 people who turned up to help clear the overgrown rear of the rear grounds of elder trees, ivies, brambles, vengeful hawthorns and debris.



It was a tremendous effort by a mixed group of hard-working volunteers, aged between 10 and 100 (the latter being how some of us felt after felling trees, hacking branches and weeds, and feeding the bonfire). Thanks, too, to the refreshment-providers for the VERY welcome hot drinks and fresh burgers.



If you want to get involved in any aspect of the Community Gardens, then please contact us as below.

## StonyBreakdown!

Bluegrass & Old-Timey American Music Celebration. WARNING: there WILL be banjos! Friday, October 26<sup>th</sup>, from 8.00pm to 11.00pm. York House Centre, London Road, Stony Stratford, MK11 1JQ

Entry is a mere £3 for which you get Foxchase Bluegrass, The Old Grey Dogs, The Reverse Cowgirls, The Band of Brothers, and The Blisworth Tunnel Rats. Your host for the evening will be "Uncle Eck" Daniels. PLUS access to a good bar with real ale and cider, with proceeds to York House Centre.

Pay on the door or buy a ticket from "Well Past It" in Timor Court, Stony Stratford. For more information, email [clayton@cockanbull.org.uk](mailto:clayton@cockanbull.org.uk).

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## Rear extension

We received tenders for our building work. However they were higher than we hoped and we did not succeed in persuading Milton Keynes council to give us the extra £50,000 that had been ring fenced for the Russell Street day nursery until 15 September. Maybe next year? We await the outcome of an application to Garfield Weston for the same amount. Nevertheless after much thought, discussion etc we have decided to try to agree a scheme and a price with one of the tenderers. Phase 1 includes the new kitchen, meeting room and bar with the store rooms in phase 2. If we can agree the scheme and price by December then we should start work in January 2013.



## StonyWords! 9

19 to 27 January 2013

York House Centre will be joining in the 9th StonyWords! Festival of Literary Stuff.

York House Centre will mark Stony's position as almost as far from the sea as you can get in England, by including "S.S.Shanty!" - a celebration of sea shanties and other maritime music, plus a REAL lifeboat! Proceeds will go to RNLI.

Would you like to put something on in 2013? Then leave a message with "Well Past It" in Timor Court, Stony Stratford or email [clayton@cockandbull.org.uk](mailto:clayton@cockandbull.org.uk)

## Santander

In July, York House Centre was very lucky to be chosen by a team from Santander as part of their Community Days Scheme. We welcomed a team of 10 keen and able Volunteers who split into 2 groups. One group gave the ladies toilet a much-needed bright and modern makeover in a funky new colour, painted the woodwork and re-tiled around the basins. The second group gave our top floor meeting room walls and woodwork a welcome coat of paint.



A big THANK YOU to Santander!

