



**Sun 18 Feb
4 – 6pm**

**What is the best gift
God could give you?**

**Messy Activities
Short DVD
Messy Meal**



Please let Claire know by Fri 16 Feb 12:00 if you will be coming. Messy Church Extra is an RSVP only event

Messy Church Extra is FREE however £ contributions towards the Meal are appreciated

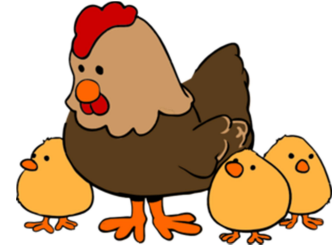
Contact Claire Johnson Tel: 01489 579669 Email: children@lhfc.org.uk



**Sun 4 Mar
4pm – 6pm**

**Lots of Messy Fun for all
the Family**

**Messy Activities
Messy Celebration
Messy Meal**



**Everyone welcome to
come and join us**

Adults need to bring a child with them

Messy Church is FREE however £ contributions towards the Messy Meal are appreciated

Tel: 01489 579669 or Email: children@lhfc.org.uk



Mon 30th July to Fri 3rd August

10am – 12 noon @ LHFC

For children age 0 to School Year 6

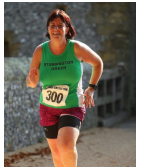


Children's Registration open from 1 Feb

Cost: £7.50 per child to a maximum of 3 or £25 for 4+ children (includes Parent / Carer)

Claire's Crazy Marathon

It all began summer 2013 - the day we got planning permission. From the safety of my sofa, whilst watching the Great North Run on TV, I had a thought. What if I ran the Great South Run (10 miles) and tried to raise £500 for the BUILD project?



This was a crazy idea because 9 years earlier I naively agreed to run 10km to raise money for Roma kids in Serbia to go to a summer camp. My run was not pretty – I wanted to pull out after a dozen paces into the run, generated much blood, sweat and tears, and a long, long time later I fell across the finish line in a spectacular last place. "Never, ever again!" I declared!

But this time would be different. Fitted with new running gear and a positive attitude I set out confidently on my first training run. A few paces in and it all flooded back - what was I thinking? But I persevered and 13 months later, exhausted and elated I crossed the Great South Run finish line in just under 2 hours – raising over £500. A proud achievement, job done.

Shockingly, 8 weeks later, at a weak moment I found myself agreeing to run the first Southampton Half Marathon (April 2015). Unbelievably I did that too! Definitely job done.

Laziness then welcomed me back and my sofa lovingly soaked me into its care. A friend however had different ideas. She nagged and nudged, pressured and pursued me into joining Stubbington Green Runners. This was such a good move. I made new friends, was helped and coached to run better and I actually developed a passion for running.

And then it happened. In February 2017 the Church Meeting made the courageous decision to proceed with the BUILD project. Despite not having all the money we decided to step out in faith. As I sat in this meeting, wondering how God was going to bridge the financial gap, I felt God's challenge to be part of the solution. Courageously, fearfully, crazily I decided to enter the ballot for the 2018 London Marathon and raise money for the BUILD project.

The chances of getting a place were not high. I told myself I probably wouldn't have to run the 26.2 miles, but as I waited for the ballot announcement God's call to be courageous continued. It wasn't actually all about running the London Marathon, but running to raise money to make a real difference. So I decided that if London came back as a 'no' (which it did), then I would definitely run the Southampton Marathon for the BUILD project. (gulp!)

Interestingly, my first prompt to start running was when we got planning permission and the date of the Southampton Marathon is when we are expecting work to begin building. Coincidence?

As I entered 2018 my marathon place was booked and my 18 week training plan underway and is going well so far.

I am writing a weekly blog on how my training is going, I am also highlighting our BUILD project along the way because this is why I am running. My initial fundraising target is £2,620 (to match the 26.2 mile marathon). Please follow my blog, spread the word, sponsor me and pray that I survive!

Blog: clairescrazymarathon.wordpress.com
Donations: <https://mydonate.bt.com/fundraisers/clairejohnson2018>
Marathon date to cheer me on: 22 April 2018