

For you,

inside
stanborough
Winter Edition
2016

from us

Hidden History



David Olusoga by Hadrian's Wall

There has been a great surge of beautifully made history programmes on TV recently. It began with a series called Secret Histories on ITV, which has now done 128 programmes, then BBC Four did a series on a History of Christianity. And of course - CBBC's Horrible Histories. I was intrigued by the current BBC series Black and British: An Almost Forgotten History in which historian David Olusoga explores the enduring relationship between Britain and people whose origins lie in Africa.

He travels across continents visiting the historically significant places and talking to people with ties to them. He reveals a fascinating history that sinks to the depths of human depravity but also soars to reveal the heights of human goodness. It is almost forgotten because it scrutinizes Britain's intimate involvement with slavery. David Olusoga refreshingly does not rush to judgement but tells us of salient events and their consequences without embellishment. And they were shocking. In stark contrast to the brutality an almost surreal atmosphere was generated at times on hearing that finally freed slaves did not rise up and take their expected revenge on their owners and hearing interviews with relatives who spoke words of reconciliation and forgiveness.

Tragically, the Victorian Moral Project, got stuck at the point of abolition. The Victorians could never really view Africans as equal in every way and they proceeded to fuel the cotton industry and sweeten their food on the backs of slaves in America and the West Indies. David Olusoga hints at one reason for their willingness to overlook the abuse of people of African origin and it was 'certain scientific ideas'. What those ideas were was not revealed in that episode.

The new scientific ideas of mankind's origins had a profound effect on the Western world's vision of what it means to be human. Gone was the

belief that mankind was made in God's image and was therefore equal in His sight, man was now described as a 'naked ape' and no longer even a privileged species of animal. The Victorians rather liked Darwin's idea of being a favoured race and easily imagined the African races as to be destined for natural de-selection and they embraced these 'certain scientific ideas' with enthusiasm. They preferred not to have God troubling their consciences and declared Him dead and any remaining authority of the church went with Him.

What was to follow was the most monstrously violent century in human history, during which the secular order, having been freed from all religious authority, showed itself willing to kill on an unprecedented scale and with an ease of conscience worse than merely depraved. It is ironic that it is religion that is now cheerfully declared to be the cause of all wars. The true history of Christianity has been consciously distorted and very well hidden. It is the true history we invite you to discover.

Christmas is the traditional time when the true beginning of the history of Jesus is briefly read and sung in churches in familiar lessons and carols. It is a fascinating and inspiring occasion and we wholeheartedly invite you join us in our celebration here at Stanborough church at 6:00 on Christmas Eve. We believe that the truth about Christianity will surprise you and bring that peace of mind that knowing the truth always does.

If you want to take a closer look at the genuine recorded history surrounding life of Jesus to 'unhide' its hidden history I seriously urge you join us one Saturday morning at 9:45 and join in a small informally led discussion group learning from that history. We will be ready to appreciate your company and listen to your points of view.

Coming Events and Activities

You are especially invited to come to any of our regular church services that take place every Saturday: Bible Groups 9:45, Family Worship 11:00, Parallel Family Worship (modern music) 11:00. Bible study guides are available to cover each Bible topic or download from <http://ssnet.org/study-guides/>

90th Anniversary

The church's foundation stone was laid on 14th November 1927. At that time Stanborough Park was at least three times its current size and was home to a printing works, food factory, theological college, a sanitarium and denominational offices and farm where the students could work to earn their fees. We are planning to celebrate its 90th year beginning with a Flower Festival on the 14 – 16th July 2017.

Stanborough School Carol Concert

in the church, Tuesday 06 December, 7:00pm

Art Competition - Prize giving ceremony

Prize giving ceremony for winners of the art Competition for local schools organized by the Coop and the Community Chaplaincy Service will take place on Thursday 8th December at 4.30pm at The Stanborough Centre.

My Christmas Story

An Evening of personal testimonies and song, 10 December at 6.00pm

The Experience

The last in the Our Creative God series, Tuesday 13 December.

We start the new year under the title of 'Our Amazing God' on January 10th and February 14th.

Carols by Candlelight

Christmas Eve Programme 24th December 6pm. Come and enjoy a taste of the real meaning of Christmas.

Creative Crafts

Every Wednesday 1-3 pm in the Stanborough Centre

Pat's Sunday Sale

Fund raising for the Soup Run, 29 January 12-2pm

Evensong

A Musical New Year Concert by the Stanborough Park Choir and Orchestra Saturday 14th January at 7:30pm

Pathfindingering

Life Skills training for boys and girls is built on six levels of achievement with a choice of approximately 350 specialized skill development topics covering arts and crafts, aquatics, nature, household arts, recreation, spiritual development, health, and vocational training. Enlarging their windows on the world and building a relationship with God are the dual objectives of this club, which is designed for children Ages 6- 9 (Adventurers) and

ages 10-15 (Pathfinders). With nearly 2 million members around the world, this Seventh-day Adventist Church-sponsored club accepts any youth who promises to abide by the Pathfinder Pledge and Law regardless of their church affiliation. - **Registration opens on January 8th 10am. Contact Paula at spcadventurersandpathfinders@gmail.com for further information.**

Diary Dates

December
January '17
February '17

Tuesday 6 December
Thursday 8 December
Friday 9 December
Tuesday 13 December
Friday 16 December
Saturday 24 December

Friday 6 January
Tuesday 10 January
Friday 13 January
Monday 16 January
Friday 20 January
Friday 27 January
Sunday 29 January
Monday 30 January

Friday 3 February
Friday 10 February
Monday 13 February
Tuesday 14 February
Friday 17 February
Saturday 18 February
Friday 24 February
Monday 27 February

Stanborough School Carol Concert
Art Competition Prize giving
Soup Run Into London departs 8:30pm
The Experience
Soup Run Into London departs 8:30pm
Carols by Candlelight 6:00pm

Soup Run Into London departs 8:30pm
The Experience - Our Creator God
Soup Run Into London departs 8:30pm
Seniors Club Angela Hadwin: North Watford Library
Soup Run Into London departs 8:30pm
Soup Run Into London departs 8:30pm
Sunday Sale fund raising for the Soup Run
Seniors Club John Tyler: Naturalist - The Seasons

Soup Run Into London departs 8:30pm
Soup Run Into London departs 8:30pm
Seniors Club Memories of Childhood
The Experience - Our Amazing God
Soup Run Into London departs 8:30pm
Messy Church 3:45pm - Creation Light/Earth/Sea
Soup Run Into London departs 8:30pm
Seniors Club Kirsty Stickland: The History of Chocolate

Regular events

Welfare Activities You are welcome to come and help with any of our welfare activities.

The Soup Run goes to London's Lincolns Inn Square and Waterloo Station railway arches every Friday evening. The Soup Run operates entirely on voluntary contributions.

Enquiries to Pat Walton 01923 672500

Welfare Centre - by appointment – contact Pat Walton 01923 672500 or Norma Lewis on 01923 449584

Creative Crafts every Wednesday 1-3 pm in the Stanborough Centre

Soup Run into London every Friday evening
contact Pat 01923 672500

Welfare Centre open by appointment contact Pat 01923 672500 or Norma on 01923 449584

Toddler Club Wednesdays and Thursdays
contact editor for details

Every Saturday:

9:45am Sabbath School - Bible Groups

11am Traditional Family Service

11am Contemporary Parallel Service

Pastoral Office | 01923 67 94 94

Bookings for Stanborough Centre:

01923 894 664 | stanboroughcentre@gmail.com

Church Website: www.stanboroughchurch.org

Church Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/groups/2405836644

Parallel Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/groups/61120750538

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