



inside
stanborough

spring 2017



Just living is not enough,
one must have sunshine,
freedom and a little flower.
Hans Christian Anderson

The Joys of Spring

Spring is a wake-up call in so many ways. Everything in nature is doing something – singing or displaying or flowering or mating or hatching or hunting. Living things are vividly alive, and observing them gives us the most intense pleasure.

Nature itself seems to be a living parable of renewal of dormant life. Simon Jenkins writing for the Guardian said “Most religions are smart enough to use spring as a metaphor for reincarnation. Only a misanthrope would deny the stirring of springtime juices and not dream of resurrection. Can atheism and religion find some accommodation at Easter?”

Perhaps it can, but then Simon Jenkins is “... like many atheists who love churches ...”, indecisive. Barbara Mertz may speak more honestly for the sceptic when she said “Spring is always cruel, with its false promise of resurrection” which seems to me to express a pitiless sadness. Hope seems to be in short supply in a secular society.

Spring is the natural season for Christians to contemplate the significance of Christ’s death and resurrection. Saint Paul did not pull his punches when

he wrote ‘... if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile..’. But if He was raised then Easter signals a glorious hope.

The story of Jesus is history not mythology and although it seems offensive that a just man was put to death in that way, we are in fact very familiar with stories of ordinary people who made the ultimate sacrifice to save the life of someone else. To die is the decisive proof of the highest love. What else could a loving God have done? We invite you to see the Easter story as the triumph of God’s love, the joyous proof that we are supremely loved by Him. His resurrection gives us hope that we may live again one day, as ourselves, as He does. If you want faith but lack it listen to the story - faith comes by hearing.

The happiest story teller Hans Christian Anderson said “Just living is not enough we must have sunshine, freedom and a little flower” and I would add a lot of hope.

Pete Walton (editor)

Stanborough Park Church 90th Anniversary



It was a long time ago that the disciple Simon Peter blurted out "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God" and Jesus answered that on that rock He would build His Church and nothing would defeat it. So here we are now at Stanborough still part of His church but a mere 90 years since the foundation stone of this building was laid. We're proud that four generations here have carried on with the building of His church.

To celebrate the anniversary we are planning some special events. The church is open to everyone who wishes to come for worship, friendship, community service, bible study or any of our many activities. Some of those activities are outlined below and we hope that they may be just what you need. Please come and make yourself known to us.

Celebration Flower Festival Weekend

A Flower Festival will take place between 14-16 July. Flower Arrangers from local churches will be joined by flower arranging clubs from near and far. The standard will be high to reflect the title - Soli Deo Gloria (To God Alone Be The Glory).

There will be a ticket only Preview Evening on Thursday 13 July which will commence with an opening ceremony followed by an opportunity to view the exhibits, with canapés and soft drinks being served.

The church will be open for viewing at the following times Friday 14 July 11am - 5pm, Saturday 2pm-5pm and Sunday 11am - 5pm.



A wonderfully varied musical concert will take place on Saturday evening 15 July. Entrance is free. A voluntary collection will be taken in aid of the Peace Hospice and the Church Refurbishment Fund.

A Gala dinner will round off the weekend on Sunday 16 July.

Tickets for the Preview Evening and for the Gala Dinner can be obtained from Audrey 01923 260270. We look forward to showing you around our newly extended and refurbished church in which the floral displays will reflect our praise and thanks to God for the way in which He has blessed our church over the past 90 years.

Music

Stanborough Church Concerts has a very lively musical agenda providing opportunities and training for all age groups and regularly hosting internationally experienced performers. It is founded on the calling of Christian witness. See Diary Dates for The Spring Programme

Parallel Worship Opens Doors

Saturday afternoon, April 1, 4:30-6pm, The Parallel Church invites you all to join for inspiring worship, safe fellowship, lively music, warm drinks and creative thoughts! Doors open and drinks served from 4pm. Open to all ages. Looking forward to meeting you on April 1st (And no....it's not a joke :-)

Music Activities

26 Mar at 3pm The Wind-Up Penguin Theatre is back. A musical workshop for Children aged 6-12. To book for free email info@spcm.org.uk ASAP - limited spaces. Junior Choir (age 9-13) meets for rehearsal every Thur at 5.30pm during term time. To join email info@spcm.org.uk. Angel Voices (Children's Choir age up to 9) Rehearsal every Saturday at 12.30pm. To join email to music@stanboroughpark.org

Boots and Roots

Boots and Roots provides therapeutic gardening and growing activity at an allotment at Garston Manor site off Horseshoe lane. Please come and join in, bring family and friends and stay for as little or as long as you wish. For full details contact khubbardmobile@gmail.com or txt 07771859912.

Diary Dates

- 11 March at 7.30pm The 6th Children's Concert in aid of ADRA
- 13 March Senior's Club - Topic History of Capel Manor Roger Sygrave
- 14 March The Experience – Ps. Sam Gungaloo
- 18 March Messy Church: Trees / Plants / Flowers / Grass.
- 26 March at 3pm Sunday Afternoon Tea Time Concert followed by Tea and Cakes
- 27 March Senior's Club - Topic Life and Times of a BBC Journalist Bill Hamilton

March

- 1 April Parallel Afternoon Worship Doors Open 4pm
- 2 April Pat's Sale 12-2 Usual stalls and light lunches. Fund raising for ADRA
- 10 April Senior's Club - Easter Programme
- 11 April The Experience
- 22 April Messy Church: The Easter Story and Mother's Day
- 24 April Senior's Club - Topic V&A Costume Susan Clark
- 23 April at 3pm Sunday Afternoon Tea Time Concert followed by Tea and Cakes

April

- 6 May Parallel Afternoon Worship Doors Open 4pm
- 8 May Senior's Club - Spring Outing
- 9 May The Experience
- 13 May Spring Concert 7.30pm
- 20 May Messy Church: Sun / Moon / Stars
- 22 May Senior's Club - Bring and Buy
- 28 May at 3pm Sunday Afternoon Tea Time Concert followed by Tea and Cakes

May

Regular Events

Soup Run & Welfare

Soup run into London every Friday at 8:30pm. Contact Pat 01923 672500 for more details
Welfare Centre open by appointment contact Pat 01923 672500 or Norma on 01923 449584

The Experience

At The Experience you can meet guests, national and international, sharing their creative skills and hear their inspiring stories. Free evening meal at 7:30pm. Dates above.

Messy Church

Messy Church Is very popular at Stanborough Church: book early by emailing stanboroughparkmessychurch@gmail.com. The topic for the Spring season is Creation. Dates above.

Every Saturday

9:45am Sabbath School - Bible Study | 11am Traditional Family Service | 11am Contemporary Parallel Service

Pastoral Office - 01923 679494 | Bookings for Stanborough Centre: 01923 894 664 or stanboroughcentre@gmail.com | Church Website: www.stanboroughchurch.org | Church Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/groups/2405836644 | Parallel Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/groups/61120750538