

# S\*ParkLife 17

Aka Lockdown News 34

Stanborough Park Church Newsletter  
June 2023  
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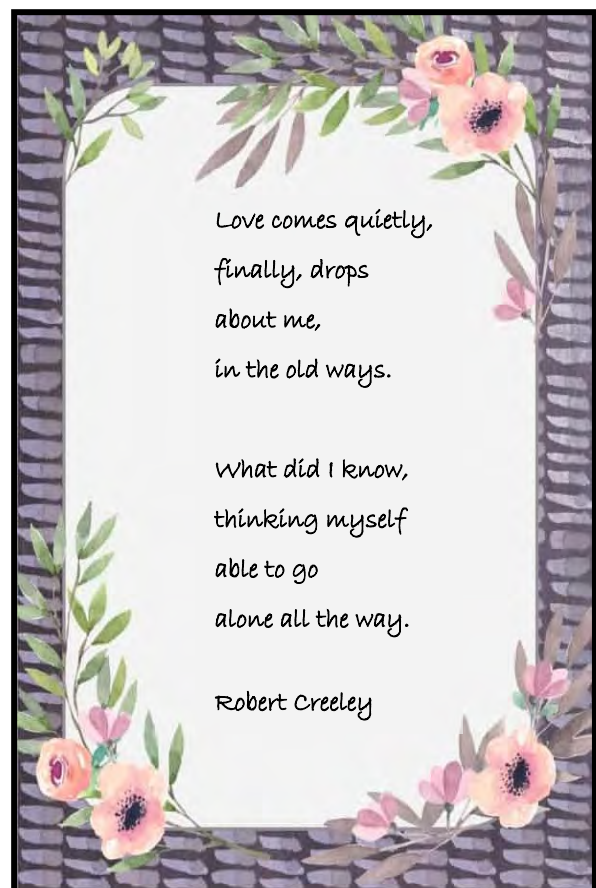


## ◆ EMBARKING ON A NEW ADVENTURE!



A year or so ago the psychiatrist Dr. Max Pemberton dealt with the topic of ageing in his Daily Mail column, advising those of more mature years to 'keep believing that for all the years in the rear view mirror, new pleasures and adventures may yet still lie ahead.' This has certainly proved true for this couple!

The wedding of Audrey Balderstone and Pastor Jim Huzzey took place in the church on Sunday, 4th June. This was an event which nobody could have predicted just two years ago, demonstrating that life can give some surprises even for those who have long-since given up on big changes occurring in their lives!



◆ **AUDREY SAYS IT WITH FLOWERS — OF COURSE!**

It was clear from the outset that this was going to be a wedding with a difference. Family members, friends old and new, and the wider church family all gathered together to witness a special event in the lives of Audrey and Jim, two long-standing members who had anticipated spending their remaining years as widowers. The average age of the congregation was certainly higher than normal for a wedding, reflecting the ages of the bride and groom! Many others at home and abroad tuned in to watch the livestreamed service.



It was also very much a family affair with Audrey escorted down the aisle by three of her four grandchildren (the other one served as an usher) and the entire assembled families asserting that they were 'giving her away' in unison. Family members and friends participated in the service with the best man travelling over from Australia to perform his duties. Other family members served as ushers.



For Audrey, often referred to as 'The Flower Lady', it was obvious that flowers were to be an important part of the wedding but a big surprise came as she walked down the aisle, not to a traditional march, but to Delibes' Flower Duet, a tune normally associated with British Airways adverts, getting the wedding off to a flying start!



Various shades of purple was the order of the day with the colour reflected in clothing and the flowers as well which, naturally, formed a very important part of the occasion and were arranged by friends. The large displays on the platform were arranged by Audrey's talented friend, Yolanda. They have won many competitions with their joint collaborations.

For both parties it was clearly a very emotional experience with their voices faltering during the vows. For

both, having lost a previous life partner, the words 'till death us do part' must have taken on a very deep (and poignant) meaning: David (Balderstone) died in 2010 and Gill (Huzzey) in 2016.

Readings from the Bible and secular sources on the topic of the meaning of love were read by various family members.





After the ceremony everyone gathered outside as it was such a lovely day to chat and enjoy the refreshments prepared by Edwige and Joelle Turner and other friends. The Pathfinders, based in the Cedar/Sycamore Room did an excellent job organising themselves to serve them, demonstrating what a capable group of teens we have at SPC. They always seem to be willing to help out.

At times the groom could be seen searching for his bride who could be found discussing Yolanda's floral craft with fellow members of the local flower arranging society and catching up with old friends. Yolanda is pictured left clutching a box of flowers almost as big as herself She is possibly even smaller than Audrey!



Later the couple and their guests left for the reception which was described as being 'great fun' by one guest!

The day before the wedding the couple hosted a special pre-wedding lunch; the guest list included many of the seniors who regularly attend the Fellowship Lunches along with a few other special guests and was much enjoyed by all who attended.



As for the next adventure? After the wedding they embarked on a cruise along the Norwegian fjords and beyond. What further adventures await them?



The church family sends congratulations and best wishes to them both, with much love.

## ◆ CHURCH MATTERS: ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Wednesday Night Prayer Meeting** is being held in the Armstrong Hall as well as on Zoom at 7pm. Meeting ID: 721 857 1482; Passcode: pray3r or [click here](#)

**Let's Talk About Jesus.** (He Restores my Soul). Bring your Bible, favourite text, favourite hymn or story so we can share and talk about our best friend Jesus. Every other Tuesday at 2pm. The next one is July 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Baptismal Class:** A new baptismal class has begun. This is for those who wish to explore the Christian Faith. The class runs from 10-10:45am on Sabbath in Pastor James' Office (The Willows – on the first floor). Please register your interest with the pastoral team.

**Women's Ministry** every Friday at 7:30 pm. Meeting ID - 83109855863 & Passcode - Fprayer

**Audrey has opened a JustGiving Page** for 2023/4. Go to [www.justgiving.com/page/audrey](http://www.justgiving.com/page/audrey)

**Therese Valsin** has been admitted to St Paul's Nursing Home in Hemel Hempstead. Visitors are welcome but it has been requested that visits should be of no longer than 1 hour duration.

**Our condolences to the family of Curtis Chang** who died suddenly on 25<sup>th</sup> May during a visit to his younger son, Ian and his family in Spain. Our sympathy to his wife Celia and sons Michael and Ian and their families.

**It is with sadness** of heart that we have to announce the passing of Becky De Oliveira who died peacefully at her home on 21<sup>st</sup> June.

**Stanborough Secondary School is seeking volunteers**, who wish to give 12-24 months in missionary service. This is the only SDA secondary school in the British Union Conference. For more information, [click here](#).

**Gabriel Colins**, our missionary, has been accepted to study Theology at Newbold College this September. Many congratulations to him! We wish to thank him for his hard work and dedication to our church over the past 18 months. He has to find £11,000 to pay for his first year. The Church Board has made the decision for the church to give a donation of £1500. If you would like to make a private donation please do so through the treasury marking it "Gabriel Fees" and, if you can, please gift aid it. **Account Number:** 40650561 **Sort Code:** 60-00-08 **Account Name:** Stanborough Pk Church Seventh **Account Type:** Business

**The May Teatime Concert** featuring church musicians, Sangbin Jung and Yui Hanada, was highly acclaimed and well appreciated raising approximately £800 towards the Church Redevelopment Fund.

**The June Teatime Concert** was held on Sunday, 25<sup>th</sup> June featuring the talented mezzo-soprano Mia Serracino with a programme composed by Handel, Ravel, Schubert, and more.

**My Favourite Hymn:** Come and join us for 'My Favourite Hymn' on Saturday, 8<sup>th</sup> July at 7:30pm. We will unite in praise with a diverse array of ensembles, including handbells, chimes, orchestra, and choirs.

**Pamela Rohlach** who lives in Bushey has not been able to travel to church but wishes to move into rented accommodation in Watford to be nearer the

church so that she can start attending. If anyone knows of any available accommodation, please contact the pastoral team.

**The minibus** used for the Soup Run now needs replacing especially as it attracts the ULEZ charge every time it goes into London. The price for a good second-hand vehicle would be in the region of £21,000. The Church Board has voted £3000 towards this. An additional £4000 has been secured from the SEC; £2000 from ADRA. The TED Mission Board, BUC, ARM and Area 7 have also been approached. Please pray that a suitable vehicle can be found soon.

**The flowers on Sabbath, 24<sup>th</sup> June** were donated in recognition of Pat's Walton's birthday with the dedication, *'With her empathetic nature, Pat is a friend to all. She cares deeply for all, from those who are homeless to those in our community as well as church members. We are blessed beyond measure to have Pat as a member of our church and send her our love on this special day.'*

**The Recommendations Committee has been formed and is as follows**

Alix Roberts, Audrey Huzzey, Roger Murphy, Pat Walton, Dave Burgess, Bernell Bussue, Amanda Powell, Richard Gayle, Rachel Ntata, Brian Davison, Mick Lilley, Florence Allen, Clinton Quarshie, Christopher Levy, Yetunde Bright, Bheki Moyo. Let us continue to pray for the process of the election of officers for 2024/25

**Transfers IN:**

Alessandra & Emerson Ferraz from Central London Portuguese  
Ana & Diamantino Rolo from Central London Portuguese  
Hélia Mateus from Cheltenham  
Sarah, Joanna and Naomi Shepley from Cheltenham  
Iuliana Ana Popa from Watford Romanian  
Joao Gabriel Colins Silva from Conjunto Sao Raimundo, Brazil

## ◆ PRAYER CORNER

**PLEASE PRAY FOR**

- Esther's Mum, Janet, Carlton's Dad, the close relatives of the Molteni family with their ongoing health issues, Therese Valsin, Pastor Cecil Perry and his wife Alma, Morgan Charles and also Roy and Bronwen Atkinson, Terry Menkens, Diane Johnson, Rosemary Boyle, Jacqueline Deane, Leopold Johnson
- Families who are facing challenges from cancer, Severe Flu, COVID, Depression and recent bereavement..
- Our Young people as they seek employment after completing their studies.
- The Requests in the Prayer Box.



**Remember you can place private Prayer Requests in the Prayer Box or email**

[STANBOROUGHPRAYS@GMAIL.COM](mailto:STANBOROUGHPRAYS@GMAIL.COM)

◆ **NEWS: BAPTISMAL CANDIDATES: 17<sup>th</sup> June, 2023**



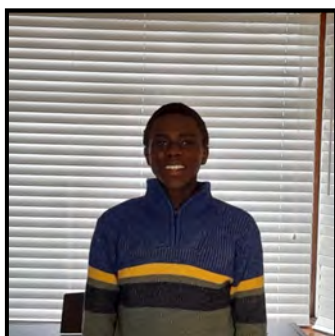
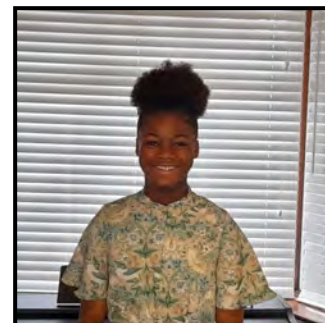
**Daniella Adwoa Amoako-Atta, left**

"I have always wanted to be baptised and I'm thankful to God this special day has finally come. My love for and understanding of Jesus have deepened during Bible studies. My choice to be baptised allows me to die to sin/self while publicly declaring my faith in Christ's atoning death, resurrection and intercessory work. Also, to take the wonderful opportunity to be part of God's Kingdom, to lead others to Him and serve as an example for my lovely younger sister Maka. Every day, I pray to God for courage so that He leads me on the right path and to make the right choices."

**Temí Ademuyiwa, right**

I want to be baptized because:

- 1) I have given my life to Jesus and I want my friends and family to know that I want to commit to serving God.
- 2) I want to go to heaven so I can be part of the family of God.
- 3) I know my sins are forgiven each time I ask God for forgiveness but I also want to experience a new life in Christ Jesus So all the sins that I ever committed can be washed away by me giving my life to God.



**Timi Ademuyiwa, left**

The reason why I want to be baptised is because:

- 1) I want the world to know that I'm going to live for Jesus and that I want to go to heaven
- 2) I sometimes think that if I get baptized there's less chance I would do wrong because the holy spirit would be more concerned about me now that I would be baptised.
- 3) I also want to be baptised now so I can serve God as a young person and I don't have to worry about being baptised later in life.

**Tobi Ademuyiwa, right**

I want to get baptised, to show I have given my life to Jesus.  
I want to walk on the straight path and live with Him in Heaven when He comes.  
I enjoy praying to Him and I know he answers all my prayers.  
I pray for my friends at school and I know He will answer all my prayers.



◆ **MORE NEWS:**

- **Parallel's Retreat:** Parallel held a retreat beginning on Sabbath 24<sup>th</sup> June with a fellowship meal in the Cedar/Sycamore Room before moving up to the boarding school for more fellowship, a night in the boarding department and fellowship activities on Sunday morning.
- **The Young Adults** also enjoyed a potluck lunch in the Williams Hall on Sabbath 24<sup>th</sup> June before joining the Parallel Retreat at the school. The group is still looking for a secretary, social media lead and social secretary. Also a reminder to save the date: 16<sup>th</sup> September which has been designated 'Young Adults Day'.
- **Editorial Note:** the editor regrets the **delays receiving the May newsletter** caused by problems at the distribution stage. Those on the private ex-pat list were sent copies on 3<sup>rd</sup> June! The **June newsletter** is planned for early July and then there will be a combined July/August issue.
- **The award received from TED** recognising nearly three decades of work in Communications was gratefully received on 24<sup>th</sup> June by a rather embarrassed newsletter editor who prefers to stay in the



background!

**Many thanks to Bronwen Atkinson** for her excellent initial training all those years ago!

◆ **CHURCH HISTORY:  
THE ESTATE HALL -  
continued  
(The Beginning)**

The Estate Hall was featured in a recent newsletter. Whilst searching through the archives an account of its opening was discovered.

The quality of reproduction of the original is poor, especially the photos, and was spread over two consecutive pages so it has been copied and reproduced below.

**STANBOROUGH PARK'S  
COMMUNITY HALL  
BY E. A. WARREN**

(Messenger: Vol. 54 No 24, 02/12/1949)

To celebrate the opening of Stanborough Park's new Community Hall an inspiring series of meetings was planned, beginning with the formal opening on Monday night, October 24<sup>th</sup>.

This new hall is the realization of hopes and plans extending back a number of years. It has long been felt that a hall of this kind was vital to the social life of young and old but many difficulties had first of all to be surmounted.

Indeed, as Pastor E. B. Rudge remarked on the opening night, in these post-war years the acquisition of such a hall as we now have, is nothing short of a miracle. Over a year ago the young people—some very young, and others not so young—began work on the foundations of the hall. In this way voluntary labour equivalent to nearly £1,000 has been supplied.

The hall is of prefabricated

aluminium construction with a seating capacity of about 600.

From such an excellent series of meetings it is impossible and undesirable to single out individual programmes for special comment but Tuesday night's programme was undoubtedly one of the outstanding events of the week.

This was the School Night and Brother A. J. Woodfield had been very fortunate in borrowing two excellent films, "God of the Atom," and "God of Creation". The first film showed the actual explosion of the atom bombs at Bikini and explained simply something of the structure of the atom.

The second film dealt first with the vastness of the universe and the wonders of the heavens. Then, to illustrate how God's care extends to the more familiar things of nature, we were shown how individual kinds of flowers have their own characteristic way of opening into bloom. These and other 'speeded-up' pictures, including those showing the growth of a bean, were indeed marvellous.

We were all sorry that the Stanborough Male Voice Choir, who were listed on the programme for Wednesday night, could not sing due to the indisposition of Brother I. Owen. However, an alternative film programme was arranged at short notice.

First there was a film depicting a trip through Wales, and the beautiful scenery helped us to understand more fully why Welshmen generally are very proud of their lovely country. The next film was entitled: "The

Great Mr. Handel," and whenever we hear any of that composer's music again it will take on a new meaning. Especially touching were the scenes showing the composer at work on his immortal "Messiah."

The Hydro, the Granose, and the Press were all represented in Thursday night's programme. We were both entertained and amused and also impressed with the talent to be found here on Stanborough Park.

The weekend meetings were all held in the new hall and at these services our minds were directed back to the early days of our movement. For instance, on Friday evening we had depicted William Miller's decision to preach the message. We saw also Hiram Edson and his companion as, disappointed that Jesus had not come at the expected time, they walked across the cornfield. Then, suddenly, the truth came to Edson; the "sanctuary" was in heaven.

An enjoyable Sabbath-School programme was presented on Sabbath morning, including a solo sung by Mrs. Watson, the review by Pastor R. D. Vine, and the lesson study by Pastor W. L. Emerson.

Pastor E. B. Rudge preached in the morning service, when many of the pioneers in the British Isles occupied seats of honour and at the close of the service several spoke of the great privilege they had enjoyed in their association with this glorious Advent movement through the years. Some of those present had been connected with this denomination for upward of fifty years.



On Sabbath afternoon the story of the pioneers was re-summed with some interesting scenes from the story of young Brother Loughborough and Brother Joseph Bates and his wife.

The evening meeting was a replica of an old-time camp meeting and both at this service and during the afternoon meeting we sang again some of the old Advent melodies which so deeply stirred the early believers. Every movement, said Pastor T. J. Bradley, has its own particular kind of music, and it was not the classical type of hymn that fitted into the Advent movement. There was a typical kind of Advent hymn, which expressed the deep conviction of

the hope of the imminent return of Jesus.

To close this thrilling meeting, we joined hands in the traditional camp-meeting style, and sang that old favourite, "What? Never part again? No, never part again!"

On Monday night the final meeting was held in the hall - an inspiring evening of recitation, story, and films.

We here at Stanborough Park are very fortunate in having such a splendid hall at our disposal and we pray that it may be a source of blessing to all in this community and that it may bind

our hearts together in the blessed hope of the soon return of our Lord and Master.

**\*British Advent Messenger: Vol 54 no 24, Dec 2 1949**

*This story demonstrates a much less sophisticated time! Sadly, a building recorded in such glowing terms was within a generation considered to be not fit for purpose and three church halls were constructed behind the church. (This has also been dealt with in a previous newsletter.) The Estate Hall was subsequently handed over to the school for its exclusive use.*

*Indicative of the closed nature of the Park community at the time, the author of this article was married to the aunt of this newsletter's editor!*



STANBOROUGH MALE CHOIR



This photo of the Stanborough Park Male Choir from the BUC Archive was taken around the same time as the opening of the Estate Hall.

The editor recognises both her grandfather and father-in-law, also Roland Hamblin and George Norris at the far right end of the front row and far right of the back row is former Park groundsman Wilf Proudley whose wedding was the first one to take place in the newly-built church.

The photo of the building on the right was found amongst Agnes Poulton's photos. It appears to be on the same site as the Estate Hall but is certainly not the building described in the article as this is definitely not a prefabricated aluminium structure nor does it resemble the building many of us can recall.

However, it fits the description found elsewhere of the first school situated in an old World

War 1 army hut alongside the college building. So this may well be a photo of the first Stanborough School — before it moved into Sheepcote Villa which served as a nurses' home at that time.



● **A LOVELY CHRISTMAS PRESENT!**



◆ **MORE NEWS**

**Naomi (nee Burgess) and Michael Phillips with baby Elijah who was born last Boxing Day. He shares the same birthday as great grandma Sheila!**

**Belated birthday wishes to great grandfather Pastor Roy Burgess who celebrated his 97<sup>th</sup> birthday in June.**

● **BARBARA HANKIN CELEBRATED A SPECIAL BIRTHDAY IN JUNE.** It seems that the entire family turned out to celebrate her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday.



◆ **THE LAST WORD:**

**A Seventeenth Century Nun’s Prayer (Anonymous)**

Lord, Thou knowest better than I know myself that I am growing older and will someday be old. Keep me from the fatal habit of thinking I must say something on every subject and on every occasion. Release me from craving to straighten out everybody’s affairs. Make me thoughtful but not moody, helpful but not bossy. With my vast store of wisdom, it seems a pity not to use it all, but Thou knowest Lord that I want a few friends in the end.

Keep my mind free from the recital of endless details; give me wings to get to the point. Seal my lips on my aches and pains. They are increasing, and love of rehearsing them is becoming sweeter as the

years go by. I dare not ask for grace enough to enjoy the tales of others’ pains but help me to endure them with patience.

I dare not ask for improved memory but for a growing humility and a lessening cocksureness when my memory seems to clash with the memories of others. Teach me the glorious lesson that occasionally I may be mistaken.

Keep me reasonably sweet, I do not want to be a saint – some of them are so hard to live with – but a sour old person is one of the crowning works of the Devil. Give me the ability to see good things in unexpected places, and talents in unexpected people. And give me, O Lord, the grace to tell them so.

**AMEN**