

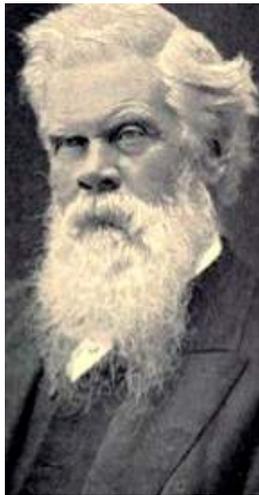
Sir Henry Parkes

May 27th 1815 - April 27th 1896

A Service of Celebration

on the occasion of the bicentenary of his baptism

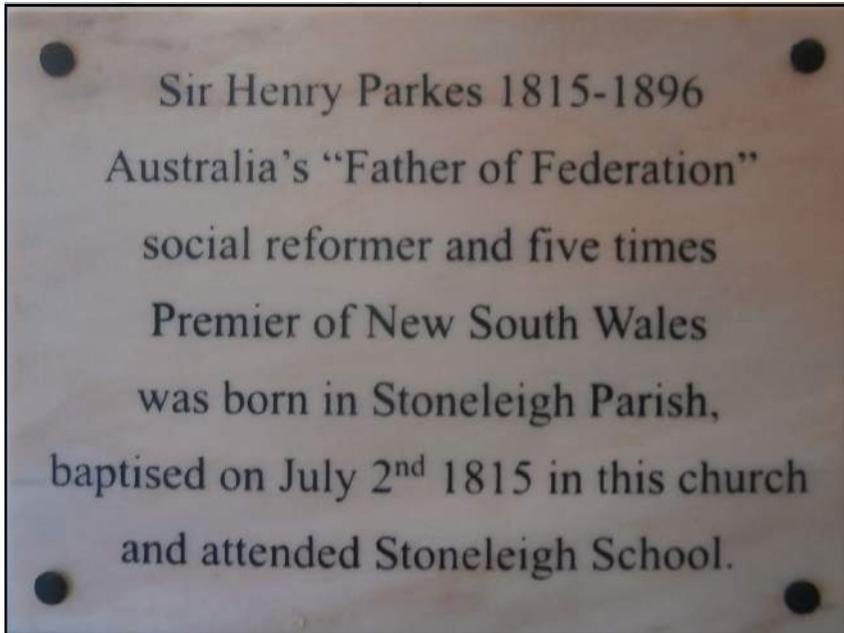
on July 2nd 1815



at St Mary the Virgin Church, Stoneleigh

11am

Sunday July 5th 2015



**During the service the plaque will be unveiled by Ian Thom,
great-great-grandson of Sir Henry Parkes**

Organ music before the service:
Sonata in C minor, Mendelssohn.
After the service *Spitfire Prelude*, Walton

Organist: Ron Binnie

Welcome by Reverend Sharon Goble

Welcome to St. Mary the Virgin, Stoneleigh, where 200 years ago Sir Henry Parkes was Baptised.

The introduction to the Anglican Baptism service in the Church of England today explains how “baptism marks the beginning of a journey with God which continues for the rest of our lives, the first step in response to God’s love [...] the service paints many vivid pictures of what happens on the Christian way. There is a sign of the cross, the badge of faith in the Christian journey, which reminds us of Jesus’ death for us. Our ‘drowning’ in the water of baptism, where we believe we die to sin and are raised to new life, unites us to Christ’s dying and rising, a picture that can be brought home vividly by the way baptism is administered. Water is also a sign of new life, as we are born again by water and the Spirit, as Jesus was at his baptism. And as a sign of that new life, there may be a lighted candle, a picture of the light of Christ conquering the darkness of evil. Everyone who is baptised walks in that light for the rest of their lives.”

We still baptise in Stoneleigh font today and pray for all with whom we share life’s journey. We also recognise that people respond to God’s love in different ways and that this Christian act of worship and prayer may not resonate with everyone’s understanding of the essence of life’s journey and purpose. However, we hope that you will be at ease to join in with hymns and prayers as much as you feel appropriate. Our way of responding to the love of God welcomes and embraces you as we remember and celebrate the remarkable journey that was taken by Sir Henry Parkes from this rural English village to make a difference to the lives of Australian people on the other side of the world.

When we come to unveil the plaque, we will invite you to move out of your pews and closer to the font, where there is plenty of standing room. This will enable you not only to see the unveiling but also to mix with others here today, with whom we will invite you to share the peace in greeting one another when it is time to return to our pews. If you do not know the words to both national anthems, please bring your Order of Service with you!

Father of all, Creator of eternity and time.

Be with us in this time.

Saviour of the world, Healer of the nations.

Be with us in this place.

Breath of all that lives, of people near and far:

Be present within us.

Father, Son and Spirit, God of here and now.

Be present in our worship,

That we may find new ways

To be present in your world.

Hymn

Praise, my soul, the King of Heaven,
To His feet thy tribute bring;
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
Who like me his praise should sing?
Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise the everlasting King.

Praise Him for His grace and favour
To our fathers in distress;
Praise Him still the same as ever,
Slow to chide, and swift to bless.
Praise Him, praise Him, alleluia!
Glorious in His faithfulness.

Fatherlike He tends and spares us,
Well our feeble frame He knows;
In His hands He gently bears us,
Rescues us from all our foes.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Widely yet His mercy flows.

Angels, help us to adore Him,
Ye behold Him face to face;
Sun and moon, bow down before Him;
Dwellers all in time and space,
Praise Him, praise Him, alleluia!
Praise with us the God of grace.

Tribute: Sir Henry Parkes, the man from Stoneleigh
Presented by Sheila Woolf, Chair of Stoneleigh History Society

Bible Reading from the King James' Authorised Version: Psalm 1
Introduced and read by Ian Thom, great-great-grandson of Sir Henry Parkes

Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly,
nor standeth in the way of sinners,
nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.
2 But his delight is in the law of the LORD;
and in his law doth he meditate day and night.
3 And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water,
that bringeth forth his fruit in his season;
his leaf also shall not wither;
and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.
4 The ungodly *are* not so:
but *are* like the chaff which the wind driveth away.
5 Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment,
nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous.
6 For the LORD knoweth the way of the righteous:
but the way of the ungodly shall perish.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Prayer

Gracious God, Good Father to us all,
You made us and you love us with an everlasting love;
You designed us to live together in community.
We thank you for Sir Henry Parkes,
and all your children who have been filled with your vision for our lives
and who have worked to bring your vision into reality.
Fill us with your Spirit;
Guide us to live for the common good,
Working to build community on love,

Where everyone is welcomed,
All are valued,
Power is shared,
Privilege is no more,
and all your children know freedom and support,
wholeness and well-being.
Through Jesus Christ we pray. **Amen.**

My Native Land, a poem by Sir Henry Parkes

Read by Ciara Hancox, young resident of Stoneleigh

The moonlight of a milder clime
Is round me pour'd o'er scenes sublime;
But I would fly from all earth's light
And grandeur to behold to-night
My native land!

To-morrow's sun will beauteous rise
In Australasia's summer skies;
But more than beautiful to me
Would winter's wildest morning be
In that dear land!

'Twould almost seem that peace and love
Here reign as o'er those realms above;
But, oh! The counter-charm of home
Is found not yet, where'er I roam,
O'er sea or land!

And greenwoods wave which ne'er are sere
In this December summer here;
But I would turn from Eden's bloom
To hail, in winter's waste and gloom,
My native land!

Hymn

I vow to thee, my country, all earthly things above,
Entire and whole and perfect, the service of my love;
The love that asks no question, the love that stands the test,
That lays upon the altar the dearest and the best;
The love that never falters, the love that pays the price,
The love that makes undaunted the final sacrifice.

And there's another country, I've heard of long ago,
Most dear to them that love her, most great to them that know;
We may not count her armies, we may not see her King;
Her fortress is a faithful heart, her pride is suffering;
And soul by soul and silently her shining bounds increase,
And her ways are ways of gentleness, and all her paths are peace.

Tribute: Sir Henry Parkes, Statesman and Social Reformer, his achievements
Presented by Kenneth Wallis, Member of Stoneleigh History Society

Bible Reading from New International Version: Ephesians 4 v. 1 – 6

Read by Ian Smith, Churchwarden

...I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. ² Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. ³ Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. ⁴ There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; ⁵ one Lord, one faith, one baptism; ⁶ one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Address by Reverend Sharon Goble, Priest-in-charge of Stoneleigh and Ashow

Hymn

The Church's one foundation
Is Jesus Christ her Lord,
She is His new creation
By water and the Word.
From heaven He came and sought her
To be His holy bride;
With His own blood He bought her
And for her life He died.

Elect from every nation,
Yet one o'er all the earth;
Her charter of salvation,
One Lord, one faith, one birth;
One holy Name she blesses,
Partakes one Holy Food,
And to one Hope she presses,
With every grace endued.

'Mid toil and tribulation,
And tumult of her war,
She waits the consummation
Of peace forevermore;
'Til, with the vision glorious,
Her longing eyes are blest,
And the great Church victorious
Shall be the Church at rest.

Yet she on earth hath union
With God the Three in One,
And mystic sweet communion
With those whose rest is won,
O happy ones and holy!
Lord, give us grace that we
Like them, the meek and lowly,
On high may dwell with Thee.

Excerpt from speech given by Sir Henry Parkes on his return visit to Stoneleigh
Read by Anthony Bianco, Member of Stoneleigh History Society

Prayers

Lead by members of Stoneleigh congregation

God of Love and Justice,
we thank you that you are forever working within us and among us,
in our hearts and in our world,
to create wholeness and freedom,
community and connection,
responsibility and reconciliation;
As we remember Henry Parkes baptised in this rural village church,
we pray for the parish of Stoneleigh, and all who are baptised in this font,
in words from the baptism service,
that “within the company of Christ’s pilgrim people,
we may daily be renewed by his anointing Spirit
and come to the inheritance of the saints in glory.”
Lord in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

We pray for the ancient parish of Stoneleigh,
which includes Canley, where Henry was born,
And we pray for the young people of our area,
That they may be inspired by the good example of others
who make such contribution to our world and leave it a better place.
May they also have eyes open to opportunity, and the courage to make a difference.
Lord in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

As we recall the trials and tribulations of Henry’s life,
We pray for those who are without employment,
For immigrants looking for a welcome,
For those who have known personal loss
And who face dark times of despair.
May they know your presence and be assured of your plan,
That they too may be people of indomitable spirit.
Lord in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

As we share the recognition of a man who became known as the Australian Colossus,
We pray for Australia,
and for all who work in our nations and across borders for the common good.
As we remember the “Father of Federation,”

we pray for all who seek to bring people together for support and sharing,
and let us pray for the coming of God's kingdom in the words Jesus taught us, praying:

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

Unveiling the plaque

By Ian Thom, great-great-grandson of Sir Henry Parkes

Advance Australia Fair! - the Australian National Anthem

**Australians all let us rejoice,
For we are young and free;
We've golden soil and wealth for toil,
Our home is girt by sea;
Our land abounds in Nature's gifts
Of beauty rich and rare;
In history's page, let every stage
Advance Australia fair!
In joyful strains then let us sing,
"Advance Australia fair!"**

God Save the Queen - the National Anthem

**God save our gracious Queen!
Long live our noble Queen!
God save the Queen!
Send her victorious,
Happy and glorious,
Long to reign over us,
God save our Queen!**

The Peace

We are all one in Christ Jesus.
We belong to him through faith,
Heirs of the promise of the Spirit of peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you
And also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of God's peace by greeting those around.

Hymn

He who would valiant be 'gainst all disaster,
Let him in constancy follow the Master.
There's no discouragement shall make him once relent
His first avowed intent to be a pilgrim.

Who so beset him round with dismal stories
Do but themselves confound - his strength the more is.
No foes shall stay his might; though he with giants fight,
He will make good his right to be a pilgrim.

Since, Lord, Thou dost defend us with Thy Spirit,
We know we at the end, shall life inherit.
Then fancies flee away! I'll fear not what men say,
I'll labour night and day to be a pilgrim.

Blessing

Now may the blessing of God the Father,
Who made from one every nation that occupies the earth;
Of God the Son who bought us for God
From every tribe and language and people and nation;
And of God the Spirit who brings us together in unity,
Be with us and remain with us always,

Amen.

Go in the light and peace of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

The Stoneleigh History Society would like to thank all those many individuals and organisations who have contributed to our celebration of the bicentenary of Sir Henry Parkes.

In particular we thank:

Ian and Valerie Thom
the Reverend Sharon Goble, Ian Smith, Sarah Ballinger
and the congregation of St Mary the Virgin Church
Amanda Gibbs and her team of church florists
Janet Parham and the Stoneleigh church bellringers
Rory O'Connor and Keith Walker
Marilyn and Laurie Clarke
Coventry City Council
the staff and trustees of Stoneleigh Abbey
the staff at Warwick County Record Office and the Shakespeare Birthplace Trust
The Henry Parkes Foundation
Jane Reynolds and "Foundation 1901"
Random House Australia, for permission to quote from
Stephen Dando-Collins' *Sir Henry Parkes the Australian Colossus*
Paul Smith and Stoneleigh Cricket Club
Stoneleigh Village Club
Stoneleigh Meadows Society
and Robin Bussell for flying the flag!

**All are welcome to join in the canapes and drinks
provided and served in the
churchyard by members of Stoneleigh congregation.**

**An extensive display about the life of Sir Henry Parkes may be seen in the
Leigh Chapel**

The logo for the Stoneleigh History Society is a decorative, horizontally-oriented banner with a light beige background and a dark brown border. The text "Stoneleigh History Society" is written in a dark red, serif font, centered within the banner.

Stoneleigh History Society

CCLI number 531042