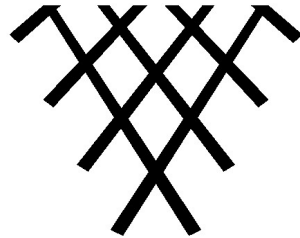




**ST PETER'S**  
CHURCH STANLEY



**May 2019**  
**Parish News**



**Free - please take a copy**

[www.stpeters-stanley.org.uk](http://www.stpeters-stanley.org.uk)



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## Will To Do

### Professional Will Writers

#### Will Writing

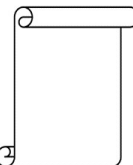
Single Wills, Double Wills, Trust Wills and 'Living Wills' from £50

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## **The Minister writes:**

Easter is now a distant memory for many. Kids are back at school, parents are back at work and the world goes on, except it doesn't for 300+ people who lost their lives in Sri Lanka.

Easter is a time for Christians to celebrate. It is a time when we remember that death is no longer a barrier to us. Christ died on the cross and rose again so that we could live forever. This is what makes Easter a joy and time to celebrate.



A colleague of mine posted on Facebook on Easter Sunday morning “He is risen – and the world changed for good”. A moment that was meant to reflect the joy of the risen Christ. We were in a good mood and joyful until the news hit us full on. Celebration turns into shock and the shock turns in to anger and frustration. Why do some people feel that the way they believe is the only way and that all who have a different opinion, are not only wrong, but deserving of death because of it? On a day when the people of Sri Lanka were celebrating the Christian message of faith and resurrection (or simply enjoying a holiday in the sun) the lives of thousands of people are changed forever. Those who lost a loved one during the bombings know only pain and suffering. Those who escaped the destruction feel blessed for a moment and then begin to share the pain of others. The rest of the world acts with outrage and anger and justifiably so.

The very reason why Jesus gave his life on the cross was so that the world could know change and change that was good. Many people lost their lives on Easter Sunday; many more lives are now changed; but God is still at the centre even during death and destruction. It can be hard for people to believe when such atrocities happen: how can there be a God when he allows things like this? But we all know the truth: God isn't part of the cause of suffering but is with all who suffer. Why people do what they do is hard to fathom but God is always the same today, tomorrow and forever.

*By Rev David Teece, St Peter's church*

## YOUR COMPUTER TOPICS... ...CLEARLY EXPLAINED!

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## **St Peter's Church Services**

*All services are held at St Peter's Church,  
Lake Lock Road, Stanley, WF3 4HW*

**Sunday**      10am      Family Communion *with  
Sunday Gang for children  
and regular parade services.*

**Thursday**      9:15 am      Children's Ark *with songs,  
stories, crafts, playtime and  
refreshments.*

*We do not currently have a mid-week communion  
service. Please contact the church office on 835746 if  
you would like to request a communion visit at home.*

## **Other Christian Worship**

**METHODIST CHURCH:** Lee Mount Chapel

Sunday: 10:30am service

Minister: Revd Barry Owen

email: [barry.owen@methodist.org.uk](mailto:barry.owen@methodist.org.uk), tel: 07753 127681

**ZION CHRISTIAN CENTRE**

466a Aberford Road, Stanley,

[www.zionchurch.co.uk](http://www.zionchurch.co.uk), telephone: 01924 872262

Sunday: 10:30am Service

11:00am Sunday School & crèche

Tuesdays: 7:30pm Prayer meeting

Wednesdays: 7:30pm Bible Study, discussions

Minister: David Dixon, telephone: 01924 872262

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## DATES FOR MAY

<b>Weds 1st May 2pm-4pm</b>	<u>Coffee Afternoon</u> at Mount Road Chapel; see page 10 for more information.
<b>Tues 7th May 10am—2pm</b>	<u>Senior Citizens' Lunch club</u> with activities and a hot meal every Tuesday. See p11 for details.
<b>Thurs 9th May 6pm</b>	<u>Moorhouse community action group meeting:</u> discuss issues specific to Moorhouse, see p10.
<b>Fri 10th May 7.30pm</b>	<u>Film Club—'Bohemian Rhapsody':</u> the recent award winning film about Freddie Mercury and the rock band Queen. See p14 for a review.
<b>Sat 11th May 10.30am-12.30</b>	<u>Coffee morning</u> at St Peter's church with lots of great stalls and refreshments. See page 10.
<b>Mon 13th May 7.30pm-9.30pm</b>	<u>West Riding Watercolour society and art group</u> with a painting demonstration, see page 14.
<b>Wed 15th May 7.30pm</b>	<u>PCC Meeting</u> at St Peter's church.
<b>Sun 2nd June 2pm</b>	<u>Miners' Wheel dedication</u> see page 9 for more information about this special event.
<b>Thurs 6th June 7.30pm</b>	<u>Licensing of Rev Glenn Coggins to the United Benefice</u> at St Paul's, Alverthorpe, see p11.
<b>Sun 9th June 10am</b>	<u>Family communion service with Rev Coggins:</u> first service at St Peter's with our new vicar.
<b>Sun 9th June 3pm</b>	<u>Stanley Community Singers Summer concert:</u> purchase your tickets on the door; see p15.
<b>Sun 16th June 10am</b>	<u>Father's Day parade service</u> with the uniformed organisations.
<b>Sat 29th June 1pm- 4pm</b>	<u>St Peter's church summer gala</u> with lots of stalls and refreshments. Details next month.

## STANLEY LIBRARY

**Stanley Library** offers a wide selection of books, talking books, selected language tapes, newspapers (including the weekly Wakefield Express), selected magazines (including the monthly Which magazine), and an A4 colour photocopier; please enquire for the cost of using the machine. There are also public access computers, offering free internet access, and basic computer programmes (i.e. word processing). The computers are free to use; users just need to have a current library card.

### OPENING HOURS

Monday	9.30am—5pm
Tuesday	9.30am—5pm
Wednesday	Closed all day
Thursday	9.30am—7pm
Friday	9.30am—5pm
Saturday	10am—1pm

**Activities for Children:** There is a Tiny Tots Storytime for under 5's from 11.30am every Monday throughout the year. Other activities for children are organised in most school holidays—please ask for details.

**Crafts and Chat morning:** Every Tuesday from 10am-11.30am: bring your knitting, drawing, crocheting or any other activity and enjoy chat and refreshments.

**Coffee Morning:** There is a coffee morning every Thursday morning, 10am-12 noon. Come and relax with friends over a cuppa.

**Code Club:** Learn how to make your own computer games and animations at Code Club, every Thursday from 3.30pm—6pm.

**Family History:** Would you like help researching your family history? An advisor is available in the library every Saturday from 10.30am who can help navigate Ancestry and other useful sites.

**Reading Groups:** Check with the library for the meeting times and book details of the current reading groups.

**Community Centre rooms:** The community centre rooms are available to hire from Stanley Nursery.

**Stanley Library contact details:** Lake Lock Road, Stanley, Wakefield, WF3 4HU, Telephone number: 01924 303130.



## **Dedication of the Miners' Wheel**

About 3 years ago a small group of retired miners approached the church to ask if a Miners' Wheel could be erected within the church grounds, as a memorial to the mining communities of Stanley and the surrounding areas.

The church felt it was important to support this venture in memory of the local miners, the mine workers, and their families, who had worked, lived and been a very important and integral part of the social history and development of Stanley.

Once a location had been agreed, the formal process of agreement with the Diocese and Planning Department had to take place, hence the long delay. But we are now in the happy position to celebrate the erection of the Wheel and it is with enormous thanks to our local councillors—Jacqui Williams, Matthew Morley and Jack Hemingway—for their incredible support in enabling this project to come to fruition.

A dedication service is to be held on Sunday 2nd June 2019 at 2pm, and all are welcome to attend. People are invited to meet within the church grounds, near the large metal gates opposite the Lake Lock Road/Mount Road junction. The group will process behind a lone piper and colliery banners, stopping at intervals to recognise families buried in the graveyard, to the local mines and to the War Memorial, before finally processing to the Miners' Wheel where the group will be met by a brass band.

The dedication service will then take place and is to be led by Rev Bill Henderson. Bill, who retired last year, has willingly agreed to come along to support the project with which he has been very closely involved right from the beginning.



We hope as many people can come along and support what will be a very memorable event in the history of Stanley.

## Mount Road Methodist Chapel news

- The next Coffee Afternoon will be on Wednesday 1st May from 2pm—4pm with cakes, refreshments and other stalls. Everyone welcome.
- Sunday Services are held every week at 10.30am. The service on Sunday 12th May will be a communion service led by Rev Barry Owen. All welcome.



## Knit and Natter, Sew and Chatter!

At St Peter's Church Centre, every Thursday, 2pm-4pm

Enjoy a cuppa, company and a 'crafty' afternoon!

Please come and join this established group of ladies as they knit, sew, compare ideas and patterns, learn new crafty skills, and share conversation, refreshments and friendship.

**Just turn up: you will be very warmly welcomed**

## Church coffee morning—a *thank you*

Thank you to everyone who supported last month's coffee morning at St Peter's church; it was a lovely morning and raised a fantastic £154. The next coffee morning will be on Saturday 11th May from 10.30am-12.30pm with all the usual great stalls including refreshments, bacon butties, cakes, raffle, jigsaws and more. Come along for a warm welcome and a very pleasant morning.



## Moorhouse Community Action Group

The Moorhouse Community Action Group is now meeting three times a year. The next meeting will be on Thursday 9th May at 6pm at St Peter's Church. Come along and share any issues specific to Moorhouse with local councillors and WDH representatives.

## Welcoming our new vicar!

We are looking forward to welcoming Rev Glenn Coggins as our new vicar at the beginning of June. Rev Coggins has been appointed as the vicar of Stanley, Outwood and Wrenthorpe and priest in charge of Alverthorpe and will be licensed as lead vicar for our United Benefice at 7.30pm on Thursday 6th June at St Paul's, Alverthorpe His first service at St Peter's will be at 10am on Sunday 9th June.

During the past year of interregnum, we have been very fortunate that our fantastic team at St Peter's has kept things going: thank you to Rev David Teece, our readers Vicky Wilson and David Greenwood-Haigh, our churchwardens, the PCC members and all our volunteers.

You will be aware that the sale of the vicarage in Stanley is progressing. The building is not in a great state structurally and due to the high cost of repairs the Diocese took the decision to sell the property. Rev Coggins will be living in Alverthorpe vicarage initially, but there is a commitment to purchase another vicarage in Stanley and St Peter's PCC will continue to push for this.



**St Peter's Senior Citizens'**  
**Lunch Club**



At St Peter's Church, Lake Lock Road  
**Every Tuesday, 10am—2pm**

- Arrive from 10am-10.30 and enjoy tea or coffee and a chat, followed by the activity of the day e.g. crafts, talks, films, games, cookery, reminiscing.
- Lunch served from about 12:15pm: a freshly cooked hot meal followed by dessert, for just £5 per person.
- Ideal for anyone wanting a bit of companionship and something to do! Please come and join our friendly group.

**Phone the church office on 01924 835746 for more info.**

## **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING—a review**

The AGM was held at 12pm on Sunday 7th April. Copies of the 2018 annual report are available in the church or on the church website. Highlights are given below:

**PCC Report:** The PCC would like to thank the clergy team, church wardens, PCC members and volunteers for their dedication and hard work during the past year of interregnum. We look forward to welcoming Rev Glenn Coggins who will be joining us in June, and will help us build on our existing links with the other churches in our benefice. In November, the War Memorial was rededicated by Bishop Tony Robinson in an outdoor ceremony. Thank you to the local councillors and everyone who made this possible. Our links with the local community continue to be strong. Thank you to everyone who supports our church financially which enables us to continue our work both here and in other parts of the world.

**Treasurer's Report:** Income for the year was £79,282; there were reductions in regular giving, collections and grants received although the coffee mornings, pantomime and galas continue to be well supported. Costs for the year were £82,119. This was only a very slight increase on the previous year and we were pleased to meet in full our charitable obligations for the year which included £1,200 to the Cross Project, £1,000 to the Indonesian tsunami appeal and many other donations to local and national charities. The overall financial position has worsened by £2,837 which was better than expected given the year of interregnum and falling collections. However, we are forecasting a difficult financial year ahead, with a parish share of **£45,555** and continuing low collections and grant money. We pray that we will be able to fulfil all our financial obligations as well as realising the many hopes we have for our church and community.

**Church Wardens' report:** Many thanks to our clergy team—Rev David Teece and Readers Vicky Wilson and David Greenwood-Haigh—who have kept our services running smoothly during this past year of interregnum. Also thanks to Barry McCarthy and the local councillors who, through sheer determination and perseverance, were able to get the War Memorial installed and rededicated, and have also worked tirelessly on the miners wheel which will be dedicated in June 2019. The PCC continues to work with the council to secure an asset

transfer from the council for our church building. The vicarage is up for sale, but we have been given a commitment that a new vicarage will be purchased in Stanley for Rev Coggins who is joining us shortly. We continue to be encouraged by the number of groups using the church for Christian worship or other activities which enhance the life of the church.

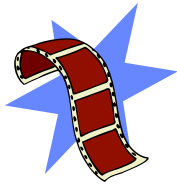
**Young People:** Children's Ark meets on Thursday mornings from 9am for parents and tots, and includes singing, Bible stories, crafts and playtime. Many thanks to the leaders for their enthusiasm and dedication. Sunday Gang numbers have been low this past year, but we hope we may get more families and volunteers during the next year.

**Uniformed Organisations:** The 1st Yorkshire Baden Powell Cubs and Scouts continue to meet on Tuesdays at St Peter's church and the 39th Wakefield Brownies and the 3rd Cardigan Rainbows meet on Mondays at the church. We are very pleased to support these groups.

**Other groups:** The Knit and Natter group continues to flourish; the group enjoys a variety of crafts and continue to contribute items for the various church fairs. The Stanley Community Singers also continues to be well attended and held two very successful charity concerts during the year. The Film Club serves a wide community and shows an eclectic mix of films for all ages from modern to classic. The Tuesday Senior Citizens' lunch club continues to be well attended, with members enjoying a wide variety of games, quizzes, talks, crafts and other activities each Tuesday, followed by a delicious hot meal prepared and served by the excellent Café staff.

**Electoral roll:** We now have 82 names on the St Peter's church electoral roll. This year, all members had to complete a new form to remain on the roll and consequently numbers fell by 20 from last year.

**Vice-Chairman's report** (*written by Barry McCarthy, Vice-Chair of the PCC*): During our first year following the retirement of Rev Bill Henderson, we have broadened our relationships with the other churches in our benefice, made progress in securing an asset transfer for the building and completed the work on the War Memorial and Miners Wheel. Many thanks to everyone involve in the maintenance and organisation of our building, making it such a warm and comfortable place to meet and to everyone whose work, fundraising and personal contributions have enabled us to meet our financial obligations.



St Peter's Church

# Film Club



**Friday evening, 11th May 7:30pm**

## **'Bohemian Rhapsody' (2018)**



A major box-office success, 'Bohemian Rhapsody' follows the life of Queen singer Freddie Mercury (Rami Malek) from 1970 until the band's infamous Live Aid performance at Wembley in 1985. The film won four Oscars including Best Actor for Malek, and a whole host of other awards and nominations. Whether or not you are a Queen fan, this film is an incredible portrayal of the beginnings of one of the greatest bands in the world, and the recreation of the Live Aid concert has to be seen to be believed. Malek is incredible as Mercury, but the whole cast is superb, including Gwilym Lee as an uncannily accurate Brian May. And of course there is a fantastic soundtrack of Queen hits!

**Doors open 7pm, film start 7.30pm**

**Free admission, tea & coffee; bring your own popcorn!**

### *West Riding Watercolour Society & Art Group*

The group meets every month at St Peter's Church for demonstrations by artists, informal painting evenings and to share techniques and knowledge.



Open to everyone; the cost is £3.50 per session including refreshments

Next meeting: Monday 13th May 7.30pm-9.30pm

*.....with a painting demonstration by  
artist Jim Humphries. Everyone welcome.*



For more information telephone 01924 828729

## Stanley Community Singers

The Stanley Community Singers meet every Monday (term-time only) at St Peter's Church, 1pm—2pm, with time afterwards for refreshments and chat. Cost per session = £2.50

### **Come and join our friendly group of singers!**

No previous experience required, just a love of singing!  
We sing a variety of different music including pop, musicals, spirituals and modern classics.

**Come and make some new friends and enjoy a good sing!**  
*Many of the singers meet in the church café beforehand for a delicious lunch e.g. hot meal, sandwiches, soup etc.*

---

**The Stanley Community Singers  
Summer charity concert will be on  
Sunday 9th June at 3pm at St Peter's Church**

## **Hopes & Dreams: 5th, 6th & 7th July** *The Lord's Prayer in music, dance and drama....*

St Peter's Church will be staging three performances of the musical 'Hopes & Dreams' on Friday 5th July, Saturday 6th July and Sunday 7th July 2019. The musical features 'The Millennium Prayer' which was a number one hit single for Cliff Richard in 1999.

The musical is based on the Lord's Prayer, and uses the themes of creation, forgiveness, temptation among others as the inspiration for the songs, poems, dances and drama. We have a brilliant team of people busy rehearsing for three performances in the summer. Details of ticket sales will be released nearer the time.



## **Edith Cavell – faith before the firing squad**

Nurse Edith Cavell gave her life to others – and was executed as a result. This year is the centenary of her state funeral at Westminster Abbey which was held three years after her death in May 1919.

The daughter of a Norfolk vicar, Edith trained as a nurse, and because she could speak French fluently, she was invited to start a nurses' training school in Belgium. When war was declared in 1914 she was in England on holiday but went straight back to Brussels where she cared for Belgians and invading German troops alike. When English soldiers were trying to escape back to England, she gave them shelter – and when she was betrayed, her only defence was that if she had not helped them to escape, they would have been shot.

She had confessed to the crime of 'conducting soldiers to the enemy' – helping soldiers escape who could potentially return to the battlefield. Guilty, she was sentenced to death in a German military court in occupied Belgium. But Edith's last words were not of revenge or recrimination. On the night before she was executed, she met with her local priest Revd H. Stirling Gahan. She told him, "I thank God for this ten weeks' quiet before the end. Life has always been hurried and full of difficulty. This time of rest has been a great mercy."

She then said words that have become her memorial around the world: "But this I would say, standing as I do in view of God and eternity, I realise that patriotism is not enough. I must have no hatred or bitterness towards anyone."

Edith knew that people who had been close to her had played a part in her betrayal. She knew patriotism was not enough for these final hours. She knew that to enter into God's presence she needed to be forgiven for her own shortcomings. And just as Jesus' death had bought her forgiveness, she needed to forgive any and all who had wronged her.

After celebrating Holy Communion, the Rev Stirling Gahan began to say the words of the hymn "Abide with me" and Edith joined him in repeating 'when other helpers fail and comforts flee, help of the helpless, O abide with me.'





She then gave the priest the letters she had written to friends and family and when they came to say goodbye she smiled at him and said, “We shall meet again.” She was confident that death was not the end and they would meet again in God’s presence. She was 49 years old.

Edith was executed in Brussels on 12th October 1915 and at the end of World War 1 her body was repatriated. After a state funeral at Westminster Abbey, her body was reburied outside Norwich Cathedral on 19th May 1919. Her body was returned to England on the same ship that carried the body of the Unknown Soldier in 1919.

In the biography ‘Edith Cavell – Faith Before the Firing Squad’, Catherine Butcher explores Edith’s life and faith, in particular considering how she could be so confident in the face of death.

---

### **Roger Bannister and the four-minute mile**

The first person to run a mile in under four minutes was Roger Bannister, who did it 65 years ago, on 6th May 1954, at the Iffley Road track in Oxford. His time was 3:59.4 – the announcement drowned out by wild applause from the crowd after announcer Norris McWhirter said the word “three”.

Bannister was born in 1929: his father was a Methodist and his mother a Unitarian Sunday school teacher.

His world record lasted for only a few weeks, but because he was the first to achieve what many had thought impossible, he remains a household name. He himself always believed his successful 40-year career practising medicine – he was a neurologist – was a far greater achievement.

He was knighted in 1975 and was Master of Pembroke College, Oxford, from 1985 to 1993. After his marriage to Swedish artist Moyra Elver Jacobsson in 1955 he became friends with the Rector of All Souls’, Langham Place, the Rev Dr John Stott. He was baptised at All Souls: his sponsors were his two friends who had helped him to the four-minute mile – Chris Chataway and Chris Brasher.

One of his four children is the Rev Charlotte Bannister-Parker, an associate priest in Oxford.



## Foster Care Fortnight: 13th to 26th May

This fortnight is the Fostering network's annual big push to raise the profile of fostering, and to show how foster care can transform children's lives. It also serves as the UK's biggest foster carer recruitment campaign. The need is huge: thousands of new foster families are needed every year to care for children in need. These include older children, sibling groups, disabled children and even unaccompanied asylum-seeking children.

Do you have what it takes to be a foster carer? An experienced fosterer says: "It's not about age, marital status, sexuality, experience, cultural or religious beliefs and practices; it's about wanting and being able to respond to a child and help them develop and thrive."

Time and energy are the greatest commitments. One foster carer says that it is all worthwhile "in the quiet moments when a child has been out and tells you they are glad to be home again, or in watching a child who has never bathed before play in a bath of bubbles. Their giggles and happiness are a gift that's priceless." For more details see [www.thefosteringnetwork.org.uk](http://www.thefosteringnetwork.org.uk).

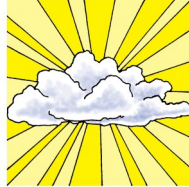
### Cartoon Corner



The procession had taken  
the scenic route.....

"...and then, as the organist hits us  
with a cool hip-hop riff, you kick off the  
wedding vows in a smokin' rap style..."

## *Prayers for May*



### **God's Creation**

God's creation, what a sensation  
Myriads of stars all known by name,  
Each constellation telling their story,  
Bursting with glory, God's power to proclaim.

Beautiful Pleiades, The Bear with its Cubs,  
Orion's Belt, all set in the sky  
Our planet of blue transfixed in the heavens  
Touched with the finger of God from on high.

The sun like a bridegroom rejoices on rising  
His course devising from east to west  
As he leaves his pavilion in golden splendour  
With warmth and light on our earth to bless.

Light from darkness, order from chaos  
Land and oceans come into view,  
Magnificent Artist, Architect, Builder,  
Not only Creator - but a Saviour too.  
*By Megan Carter*

### **A prayer at Ascension**

To complete your seamless robe, and so to complete  
our faith, you ascended through the air into the  
heavens, before the very eyes of the apostles. In this  
way you showed that you are Lord of all, and are the  
fulfilment of all Creation. Thus, from that moment  
every human and every living creature should bow at  
your name. And, in the eyes of faith, we can see that  
all creation proclaims your greatness.

*A prayer of Bernard of Clairvaux (1090 – 1153). He was the main  
inspiration of the Cistercian Order of Monks.*



### **Ascension**

Scriptures fulfilled,  
Minds opened,  
We followed him  
to Bethany.  
And there was joy  
in the blessing  
Of our risen Lord,  
Jesus,  
God on earth.

And in the blessing  
Was the leaving,  
And in the leaving  
Was the blessing –  
His Spirit of life  
and power  
To witness to  
the world  
Of our ascended  
Lord, Jesus,  
Man in heaven.

*By Daphne Kitching*

*Please contact the editor, Eleanor Plant, with items for the next magazine on  
01924 835746, or by email: [churchoffice@stpeters-stanley.org.uk](mailto:churchoffice@stpeters-stanley.org.uk)*



## The Monty Python phenomenon

The Monty Python comedy group was formed 50 years ago, on 11th May 1969. They pioneered a type of stream-of-consciousness television sketch show, 'Monty Python's Flying Circus', whose influence on comedy has been compared with the Beatles' influence on music.

45 episodes were made over four series and broadcast by the BBC between 1969 and 1974. It was written and performed by the Python members themselves: John Cleese, Michael Palin, Eric Idle, Graham Chapman, Terry Jones and Terry Gilliam. Loosely structured as a sketch show, and aided by Gilliam's surreal animation, it pushed the boundaries of what was acceptable in style and content

Over the years, the Python phenomenon developed into stage shows, films, albums, books and musicals. Being iconoclastic and anti-establishment, the Pythons were inevitably controversial and made many Christians uneasy, especially after the release of their Life of Brian film in 1979, which seemed to poke fun at Jesus, though they denied that this was the intention.

Ironically, by 1994, the point was being made that they had "begun to occupy an institutional position in the edifice of British social culture that they had once had so much fun trying to demolish."

Seven asteroids are named after Monty Python or its members. The word 'spam' referring to unsolicited e-mail is derived from their TV 'Spam' sketch in 1970 and the term 'pythonesque' appears in standard dictionaries as a definition for a particular type of surreal humour.

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