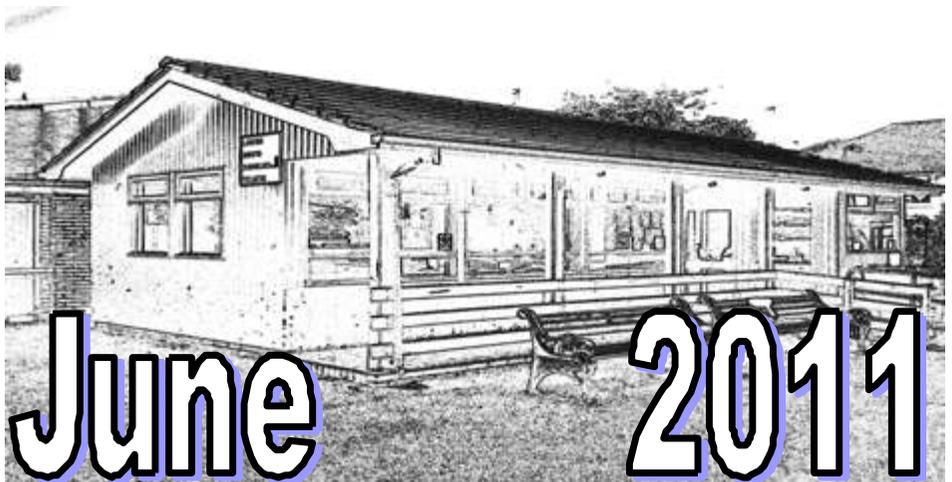


Christ Church and People

Parish Magazine of
Christ Church Stone

40p



June

2011

PARISH DIRECTORY

SUNDAY SERVICES

Details of our services are given on pages 2 and 3.

Young people's activities take place in the Centre at 9.15 am
(see inside back page for details)

THE PARISH TEAM

Vicar	Paul Kingman The Vicarage, Bromfield Court	812669
Youth and Children's Worker	Kieran McKnight 30 Oulton Road	600734 07814624107
Electoral Roll Officer	Irene Gassor	814871
Parish Office	Christ Church Centre, Christ Church Way, Stone, Staffs ST15 8ZB Email christchurch.centre1@btinternet.com	811990
Deaconess (Retired)	Ann Butler	818160
Readers	Dave Bell John Butterworth David Rowlands Michael Thompson Cecilia Wilding	815775 817465 816713 813712 817987
Music Co-ordinators	Peter Mason Jeff Challinor	815854 819665
Wardens	Andy Stone David Rowlands	816713
Deputy Wardens	Phil Tunstall, Arthur Foulkes, Tim Saxton	

CHRIST CHURCH CENTRE

Booking Secretary	Kate or Irene	(Office)	811990
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CHURCH SCHOOLS

Christ Church C.E.(Controlled) First School, Northesk Street. Head: Mrs Lynne Croxall B.Ed.(Hons)	354125
Christ Church C.E.(Aided) Middle School, Old Road Head: C. Waghorn B.Ed(Hons),DPSE,ACP,FRSA	354047

IN THIS ISSUE

Diary for June	2, 3
Record Royal Reign	4
Sermon series in June	5
Welcome to a new Curate	5
Giving Review June 26th	5
Rediscovering the pearl of great price	6, 7
Fairtrade	7
Berti Dosti in Keswick	8
Stone in Bloom 2011	9
Shallowford House	9
Jack's Plant Sale	9
This Risen Experience-The Spirit of Easter	10
Bible 400	11
Why your television is like the Trinity	12, 13
Church Commissioners' results	13
ECM Dubrava Church Building project 2011	14
News from the Beesigomwes	14
Trains for Jigsaw Kids	15
Rotas and From the Registers	15, 16
Groups and Activities	17

Subscriptions

If you would like this magazine delivered to you regularly, please contact:
Mrs Marylyn Hillman, Park Lodge, Beech Court, Stone. Tel 815936

Christ Church



and People

Please get your contributions for the July magazine to us by 15th

Reminder

The magazine costs 40p per month or £4 for a whole year

**Cover Story:-
Building,
Stonefield
Park**

June 2011

Wed	1		
Thu	2	7:30pm	Deanery Ascension Day service - Swynnerton
Fri	3		
Sat	4	8:30pm	Prayer meeting followed by breakfast
Sun	5	9:15am 6:00pm	Communion. Romans 3:21-31 "How to be righteous" Evening Prayer at Oulton Psalm 30 "The joy of deliverance"
Mon	6		
Tue	7	9:30am 10:00am 12:30pm 3:45pm 6:00pm 7:00pm	Christ Church First School assembly Coffee before midweek service; service at 10:30am Seekers Club Lighthouse years 3-5 Christ Church Middle School governors meeting Christ Church Youth Club years 9-13
Wed	8	6:30pm	Breathe years 6-8
Thu	9	1:20pm	Christ Church Middle School assembly
Fri	10	7:00pm	Wedding Rehearsal
Sat	11	3:00pm	Wedding - Andrew Mitchell and Emma Hodgkiss
Sun	12	9:15am 3:00pm 6:00pm 7:30pm	Morning Prayer - Humphreys visiting Romans 4 "Trust in God who justifies" Church wardens - County Showground Communion at Oulton Luke 10:1-24 "A privileged group" Pentecost Praise at County Showground
Mon	13	7:30pm	Crosslinks Mission Consultancy with Craig Pye at St John's Oulton
Tue	14	9:30am 10:00am 12:30pm 3:45pm 6:30pm 7:00pm	Christ Church First School assembly Coffee before midweek service; service at 10:30am Seekers Club Lighthouse years 3-5 Christ Church First School governors meeting Christ Church Youth Club years 9-13
Wed	15	6:30pm	Breathe years 6-8

June 2011

Thu	16	1:20pm	Christ Church Middle School assembly
Fri	17	7:30pm	“What shall we sing?” (in church)
Sat	18	2:00pm 5:00pm	Cream Teas at Moddershall House Bible Mini-Convention St Bartholemew’s, Wednesbury
Sun	19	9:15am 2:30pm 6:00pm	Communion Romans 5:1-11 “God’s work in his people” Autumn House service Evening Prayer at Oulton Luke 10:25-37 “A general principle”
Mon	20	7:30pm	Standing Committee
Tue	21	9:30am 10:00am 12:30pm 1:00pm 3:45pm 7:00pm	Christ Church First School assembly Coffee before midweek service; service at 10:30am Seekers Club Fraternal Lighthouse years 3-5 Christ Church Youth Club years 9-13
Wed	22	6:30pm	Breathe years 6-8
Thu	23	1:20pm 6:30pm	Christ Church Middle School assembly Diocesan Synod
Fri	24		
Sat	25	6:00pm	Ordination of Andy Cranston in Lichfield Cathedral
Sun	26	9:15am 6:00pm	Family service (giving review) Romans 5:12-21 “God’s generosity” Communion at Oulton Luke 11:1-13 “A model for prayer”
Mon	27		
Tue	28	9:30am 10:00am 12:30pm 3:45pm 7:00pm	Christ Church First School assembly Coffee before midweek service; service at 10:30am Seekers Club Lighthouse years 3-5 Christ Church Youth Club years 9-13
Wed	29	6:30pm	Breathe years 6-8
Thu	30	1:20pm 7:30pm	Christ Church Middle School assembly Stone Choral Society- St John’s Oulton

Record Royal Reign

The Queen has just become the second-longest reigning monarch in 1,000 years of British history. On 12th May Queen Elizabeth II overtook George III's reign of 59 years (21,644 days when you account for the leap years). The record holder is Queen Victoria who reigned for 63 years! So, February 2012 will mark the Queen's diamond jubilee.

The Queen's popularity stems from the respect she has earned, quite apart from the honour she has by virtue of her royal status. It is a great blessing to have a good monarch using their powers and responsibilities to further the wellbeing of others. This is to be acknowledged with gratitude, but it is not to be taken for granted.

A monarch is one description given from the Bible for the promised Messiah, Jesus Christ. But there is a significant difference from monarchs in our own experience. Whereas all human monarchs are mortal and can't reign forever, the Messiah king would be immortal and so reign forever. That means his ministry of reconciliation and comfort will never end.

The New Testament draws a parallel with Melchizedek the priest-king from Jerusalem who came and met Abraham and received gifts from him. He had neither beginning nor end of days that anyone knew of and disappeared into a mysterious fog of history. But he helps us to understand Jesus' role as priest and king. The writer to the Hebrews states that Jesus Christ was the one who acts as the divine go-between: *'You are a priest forever, in the order of Melchizedek'* (Heb 5v6 = Psalm 110v4). Later we discover the significance of his name: *'First, his name means "king of righteousness"; then also, "king of Salem" means "king of peace"'* (Heb 7v2). Here is a High Priest that is of a different order altogether, because it is an office based on *'the power of an indestructible life'*. Here we have a better hope by which we draw near to God.

At the start of June we remember that the risen Jesus ascended to heaven and so returned home to be with the Father. After this the Holy Spirit was sent to be his presence with us now. Jesus is in heaven and acts as our High Priest (there are no other priests for us). He can and will continue to fulfil his ministry to us forever. His is a record royal reign! Yours in Christ, *Paul Kingman*



Sermon series in June

Mornings at Christ Church and Oulton: *Romans – the way of Jesus Christ.* What we call Romans has proven to be a life changer in many people's lives. Think of Augustine who was a great intellect and his life was turned around when he read it. Think of Luther the devoted monk who had no assurance about how to be at peace with God and his life was transformed when he read Romans. So, hang on to your seats as we look at this letter to the church in Rome. It's good news!

Moddershall & evenings: we begin a new series in *Luke 10-12 Jesus' identity, mission and call* which will enable us to explore what genuine discipleship involves.

Paul Kingman

Welcome to a new curate

We extend a welcome to our new curate Andy Cranston with his wife Lydia and daughters Joanna and Phoebe.

Andy will be ordained as deacon in Lichfield Cathedral on Sat 25th June at 6pm. Attendance requires a ticket and a first come first served basis will be operated for congregation members who would like to go. Enquiries are to be made via the benefice office.

Paul Kingman

Giving Review: Sun 26th June

Thank you for any financial support that you have given to continue the life and ministry of the local parish churches in our benefice. A proportion of this is used to contribute to Christian mission both at home and overseas.

Once a year we provide an opportunity to consider what we will give to further the Lord's work of Christian ministry through our local churches. All such offerings are valuable to God, who is glorified when we are involved in self-sacrificial giving just as he has shown to us in Christ. There should be information available on how the collection has been used over the last year and how to give for the forthcoming year.

Rediscovering the pearl of great price

The BBC's 'Human Planet' series, which focussed on how communities adapt to living in extreme environments, threw up many unforgettable images and told some amazing stories. It also produced endless source material for spiritual and sociological reflection through enabling the viewer to glimpse the values and priorities of what might be regarded as 'primitive' communities. One consistent theme that governed the lifestyle of each community, whether they lived in a desert, forest, mountain or Arctic environment, was that of living in harmony with nature. Such co-existence often involved a partnership with animals, but where animals were prey it was striking how the human hunters just killed what they needed and made sure they put every facet of the carcass to some worthwhile use. There was no exploitation of the natural environment, everything was taken for a purpose and nothing was wasted.

As we saw aerial shots of a 'non-contacted' tribe, deep in the Amazonian rainforest, who had evidently been living in a sustainable way within their immediate environment for thousands of years, it was impossible not to contrast the harmony and balance of their existence with the unsustainability of our economic order and way of life. Were everyone in the world to enjoy the standard of living of those of us in the UK, we would need the resources of two and a half planet earths to make that possible. And of course we all aspire to ever higher standards, fuelled by incessant economic growth, made possible largely by the exploitation of finite resources. We cannot continue in this way and the 'credit card economics' partly responsible for our present difficulties have to be replaced by a more realistic and responsible attitude to our stewardship of the earth's resources. The greed, over-consumption and tolerance of waste, which are absent from indigenous societies but omnipresent in developed ones, are hallmarks of a spiritual malaise which runs counter to the Judaeo-Christian message of reverence for God's Creation and Jesus' radical teaching about the need for dependence on God rather than on material possessions (eg Luke 12: 22-34).

(continued on next page)

7 **Rediscovering the pearl of great price** *(continued)*

When resources are scarce or hard to acquire they become very precious. An enduring image from 'Human Planet' was of a man shinning up a colossal tree to prise a honeycomb from a swarm of bees. There, high in the forest canopy, he was risking his life to obtain for his family a coveted delicacy but also a rare source of sugar. For that man a honeycomb was 'the pearl of great price'; for nomads in the desert it was a brackish, but life-giving, pool of water. Jesus said 'where your treasure is, there your heart will be also'. Perhaps part of our problem as a society has been that, surrounded by so much wealth and so many choices, we have lost sight of what is really important; our relationship with God and his creation, and the way we live together in community.

The experience of living with less is one that most people are now trying to adjust to. Parishes are also having to face a future of living with less, in terms of financial assistance from the wider Church and stipendiary clergy resources. But is it just possible that, in this corner of the 'Human Planet', 'less' could even mean 'more' if the resources we have become more precious to us and if we learn to value most the sharing of them rather than the owning of them? The example of radical Christian communities, from the early church onwards, as well as indigenous groups in the present, suggests that this is the truth we have to rediscover if we are to be restored to a right and sustainable relationship with God's creation.

Clive Wulfrun (Bishop of Wolverhampton)

FAIRTRADE

Fairtrade Sales for the year (April 2010 – March 2011) at Oulton and Christ Church were £3,729 – this is £200 more than last year. Thank you for all your support.

Ruth has been able to donate £450 to **Traidcraft Exchange** – Traidcraft's own charity. This is the UK's only development charity specialising in making trade work for the poor. *Sheila*

Berti Dosti in Keswick

Many at Christ Church were impressed to hear the story of Albanian pastor Berti Dosti when he visited Stone last November.

Those who are going to the Keswick Convention this summer will now be able to hear more about the former army captain.

Berti will be interviewed at the main evening meeting in week one on Thursday, July 21 and on Sunday, July 24 in week two plus a lunchtime meeting on Wednesday, July 20 where he will be signing copies of God's Secret Listener, the story of his journey to faith. The church leader and school principal will also be on the European Christian Mission stand in the Earthworks exhibition area to meet some of the 3,000 visitors expected each week.

The former signals and radio expert, who stumbled across a Christian radio station in atheistic Albania, will be talking about how the Christian church is now thriving in this former Stalinist dictatorship after the country was cut off from the rest of the world for 47 years.

The book, which was written by John Butterworth and published by Lion/Hudson/Monarch last October, has now been published in America. Last month John handed over a cheque for £2,000 as the first part of the profits from the book's net sales to Berti and the Albanian church.

Incidentally, John's fifth book will be published next month. Entitled *Four Centuries at The Lion Hotel, Shrewsbury*, it tells the history of the inn through the many people who have stayed there including King William IV, Charles Darwin, Charles Dickens and Benjamin Disraeli, and in more modern times, the Beatles, Morecambe and Wise, and Cliff Richard, plus many more.

Gerald Dickens, who is the great, great grandson of author Charles, has written the foreword and will launch the book, priced £6.99, at a press conference at the Lion Hotel on Friday, July 1.

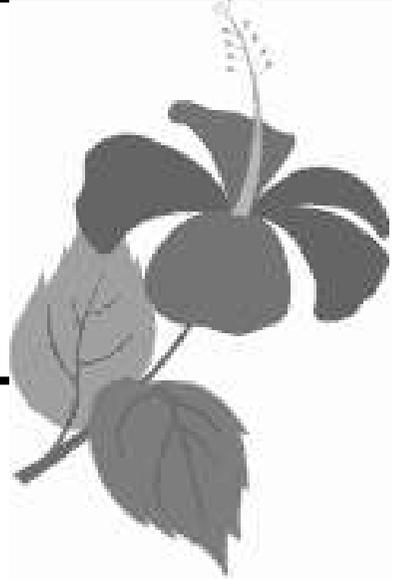
Members of Christ Church can buy signed copies of the book at the discounted price of £5.99 with £1 from every sale going to Stephen Bell's new Balkans project to plant more churches in Croatia with the help of missionaries from Brazil and the Ukraine.

John

Stone in Bloom 2011

As Christ Church is in a prominent site in Stone we should get the church grounds as well maintained as possible before the judging day on 8th July. If you can help in any way speak to Arthur Foulkes, Rob Brandon or Dorothy Wilson. Some tidy up sessions will be planned. Watch the notice sheet!

Dorothy



Shallowford House

Shallowford House is the Lichfield Diocesan Retreat and Conference Centre near Norton Bridge.

Here are some of the events on the new programme -

Friday 3-Sunday 5th June -

Ladies Weekend

Tuesday 14th June -

Summer Quiet Garden Day:
The Prayer Labyrinth

Saturday 3rd September -

Open Day and Art Exhibition

12 -16th September -

Martha and Mary,
Creative and Quiet Retreat

Friday 30th September -

Autumn Quiet Garden Day

More information at www.shallowfordhouse.org.uk or contact info@shallowfordhouse.org or telephone 01785 760233

Jack's Plant Sale

Jack's Plant Sale took place on Saturday 14th May, and was very well attended, as usual. Over £700 was raised, which will be sent to Jigsaw Ministries in Manila.

“THIS RISEN EXPERIENCE - The Spirit of Easter”

By Paula Gooder

During Lent I was able to go and hear Paula Gooder speaking on the King James Bible and modern Bible translations. Paula is a freelance theologian, Biblical scholar and writer and I found her talk excellent - good biblical content, thoughtfully and simply expressed. So, on the strength of hearing her talk, I bought one of her books:

“The Risen Experience - The Spirit of Easter”.

In the book she takes us on a journey through Easter to Ascension Day and Pentecost. She explores the themes of Eastertide in each of the four Gospels, Acts and the Epistles.

If we believe in resurrection, then nothing can ever be the same again. This book encourages us to think more deeply and seriously about what resurrection means for us and for the way in which we live our lives today. I would thoroughly recommend the book - it is deceptively easy to read - but well worth it!

What is more - YOU have the opportunity to go and hear Paula for yourself on Pentecost Sunday (June 12th) in the Ingestre Suite at the Staffordshire Showground. There will be an afternoon session from 3.00p.m. onwards which includes Bible Teaching by Paula (“The Bible in the Parish”) and the commissioning of churchwardens.

Then the evening programme is a special **Celebration for Pentecost** open to all:

Gather from 7.00pm. The evening runs from 7.30p.m. and will finish soon after 9.00p.m.

- * Worship and Praise
- * Bible Teaching by Paula Gooder - “The Bible at Pentecost”
- * Personal and collective Response.

An evening not to be missed!

Sally Vaughan

BIBLE 400



An Exhibition to Celebrate the 400th Anniversary of the Publication of the Authorized King James Version of the Bible

A display of Bibles old and new

as well as other displays
featuring

Biblical Stories, Herbs and Plants, Gem Stones, Angels,
The Passover and The Holy Communion
and the story of Mary Jones and her Bible.

Refreshments available

Free Admission

The celebration will conclude with a service of Sung Evensong at 6.30pm on Sunday

Where?

**St Saviour's Church
Church Lane
Aston-by-Stone
ST15 0BJ**
(Turn left off the A34 between
Stone and Stafford)

When?

**Friday & Saturday
24th and 25th June
11am – 5pm
& Sunday 26th June
12pm- 5pm**

Why your Television is like The Trinity

Here is a trick question. How many colours does your television use? Answer. Just three; red, green and blue. And in that order, just like a rainbow (where reds are at one side, blues at the opposite side, green in the middle). This is known as “RGB”.

These are TV’s three primary colours which, when their luminescence is fired at your eyes, give all the colours of the visible spectrum. These are all “additive” colours. In fact, mix these three together in different proportions, and your screen can offer you 16 million colours.

You thought the sequence was red/yellow/blue? No, that's for painted or printed colours. A TV set positively gives out light in three different colours, whereas paint daubed on paper absorbs and removes some colours to reflect back merely a small part of the light falling on it the colour that you see.

You’ll soon call out the repair man if your television loses one of its three colours and all the presenters look as though they came from Mars. But change the intensity of any one colour (red, green or blue) even slightly and you change the overall colour.

Switch them all off, and you are left with black, let all three of them shine at full brightness, at the same point - and then as if by magic you have a totally different colour: WHITE!

It's a parable which illustrates the Holy Trinity. Three completely distinct persons (Father, Son and Holy Spirit), just as your TV set has three quite separate colours: red, green, blue.

Take away any One member of the Trinity, and you slip into theological error; take away any one of the three colours, and you call out the TV repair engineer!

Take away any One member of the Trinity, and you slip into theological error; take away any one of the three colours, and you call out the TV repair engineer! It DOES matter that God is our Creator and Father - Otherwise your whole life is merely a meaningless illusion.

It DOES matter that Jesus is God the Son, for otherwise his death is simply a human tragedy, with no promise of salvation or eternal life.

(continued on next page)

It DOES matter that the Holy Spirit is with us here and now, otherwise we are disconnected from God. Yes it really does matter! Just as it is essential that a TV set can produce white by the equal intensity of all of its three colours. In fact, the more you think about it, the more it seems that the doctrine of the Trinity is far from being a complicated bit of theological nonsense, but is a sort of theological test-card, to make sure that we've got the right picture of God, without distortion.

“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.”

Roman 15:13-15

(reprinted with permission from parish magazine of St. James the Least, Valley, where it was seen by Dilys)

Church Commissioners' results confirm long-term growth

The Church Commissioners have announced a 15.2 per cent return on their investments during 2010. Their fund has now outperformed its comparator group over the past 10 and 15 years.

Despite challenging economic times for both the Church and wider society, the Commissioners - who contributed more than £200 million in 2010 towards the cost of maintaining the mission of the Church of England - grew their fund to £5.3 billion (from £4.8 billion at December 31, 2009).

Although most of the costs of the Church's mission are met by the generous giving of today's parishioners, the Commissioners contribute around 17p in the pound towards the total. The Commissioners' contribution is biased towards supporting poorer dioceses.

Today's results show that the Commissioners are able to distribute £26 million more *each year* to the Church than if their investments had performed only at the industry average over the last ten years, while pursuing their policy of maintaining the real value of the fund.

(A full report is available on the internet. I can give you a copy (Dave Bell))

ECM Dubrava Church Building Project 2011

The Building

Essentially two huge “hanger-type” rooms – 14m x 10m and 8mx10m, it has great potential. On both sides there are also smaller rooms .

The Land

700m² right in the centre of Dubrava, make it real value for money.

Location

It doesn't get better! Right across from the brand new mega big shopping centre “Garden Mall”, itself the size of 4 football pitches with multi-storey car park, serving the 250,000 people of eastern Zagreb... our parish!

The Financial Plan

- By July 1st we intend to renovate the main hall and pay the purchase price. TOTAL £200,000 - The church members have saved £60,000
 - We aim to give another £25,000 by June 6th
 - What we don't collect by June 6th we must take out on a 5 year credit.
 - At a later stage we will renovate the other area. *Stephen and Tabita*
-

News from the Beesigomwes in Botswana

Greetings in the precious Name of our Risen Lord and Saviour. Forgive our late news and update. We praise the Lord who has used you to take us through the rainy and shiny days in the mission field. Your financial and prayer support have made a lot of difference.

The Lord gave us an opportunity to partner with teachers and school heads of 12 Primary and 5 Junior Secondary Schools. This is a partnership between parents and teachers willing to change their ways in order to impact their children. The program covers Marriage enrichment, parenting in the era of HIV and AIDS, Child and Youth Empowerment through character development and family life education. These schools have over 12,000 children. We pray they will become responsible and godly children, wives, husbands, mothers and fathers in the future.

With three children at university, we prayed that God would provide funds. As we waited, we felt the Lord leading us to mortgage our house at a rate we can only pay by faith. *Jonathan*

PRAYERS AND PRAISE

1. School fees and schooling expenses from partners who can contribute at least US\$ 10 a month.
2. Couples holiday and retreat in August 2011 in Durban.
3. For Joel to get an affordable university soon.
4. Ministry and ministry funding and staff salaries.

ROADS FOR PRAYER

5th June

Alma Street
Bromfield Court
Dominic Court
Granville Terrace
King's Avenue

12th June

Longton Road
Margaret Street
Newcastle Road
Newcatle Street

19th June

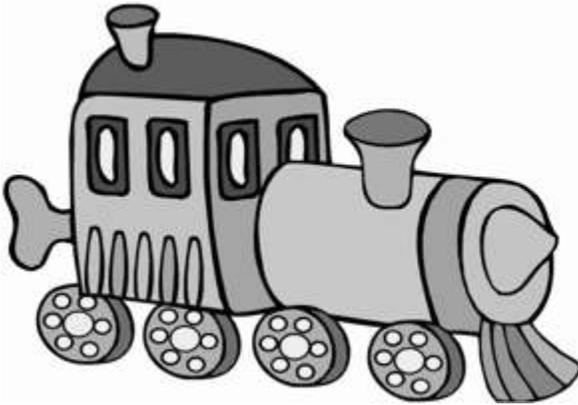
Northesk Street
Radford Close
Radford Street
Station Road

26th June

The Avenue
Trent Road
Tunley Street
Trinity Drive



Trains for Jigsaw Kids



Monday 2nd May

Over £500 was raised for Jigsaw Kids. Well done to Pete, Liz and all their helpers. Thank you to all who contributed

Jigsaw Ministries does great work in Manila, helping street children. They provide meals, schooling and where possible, shelter.

Christ Church on the Internet

Parish website

www.christchurchstone.org

Parish office email

christchurch.centre1@btinternet.com

Magazine contributions

christchurch_mag@yahoo.co.uk

FROM THE REGISTERS

FUNERAL

12th April Kathleen Margaret McNeal Age 88

BAPTISM

27th March Finley Joseph Ashton

SIDESPERSIONS ROTÆ

AM

5th June	D. Davies A. West	J. Rowlands K. Thompson
12th June	V. Ledward D. Pickles	J. Abrahams T. MacFarlane
19th June	D. Wilson C. Wilding	G. Holden J. Rowlands
26th June	P. Hipkiss A. West	D. Davies K. Thompson

FLOWER ROTÆ

5th June	Mrs I. Gassor
12th June	Mrs L. Mason
19th June	Mrs S. Morray
26th June	Miss A. Butler

PRAYER REQUESTS

A prayer circle of individuals (in touch by telephone) is ready to respond to requests for prayer, in confidence, at any time; please ask or ring Ann Butler 818160 or Jeanette Rowlands 816713.

Deanery Synod Reps Mrs S Hallam, Mr D. Rowlands, Mr R. Brandon
P.C.C. Members Mrs I. Gassor, Mr D. Beauchamp, Mr G. Donaldson
 Mrs S. Sanders, Mrs D. Wilson, Mrs J. Abrahams
 Mrs K. Latham, Mr P. Mason, Mrs D. Hazlehurst
 Mrs A. Burton, Mrs M. Hillman, Mrs C. Snaith
 Mrs L. Kelly, Mr K. Reynolds, Mrs E. Woodhead

Secretary Jacqueline Abrahams 817020
Treasurer Kevin Reynolds.....851595
Envelopes, Gift Aid Richard Latos

GROUPS AND ACTIVITIES

Climbers 3-7 years Sandra Morray.....286093
Explorers 7-11 years Estella Woodhead.....761659
Pathfinders 11-14 years Enid Bell.....815775
Banner Group Jeanette Rowlands.....816713
Church Missionary Boxes Cecilia Wilding.....817987
Flower Guild Marylyn Hillman.....815936
Men's Fellowship Mike Thompson.....813712
Missions Secretary Cecilia Wilding.....817987
Prayer Requests Jeanette Rowlands.....816713
Parents & Toddlers Sandra Morray.....286093
 (Mon 9.30 – 11.15am)
3rd Stone Brownies Janet Smith.....815939
 (Mo 6:00-7:30pm, First School)

Young People's Activities take place in the Centre during the Sunday morning service except on the fourth Sunday in the month, which is the family service.

Climbers 3-7 years *Explorers* 7-11 years *Pathfinders* 11-14 years

The following activities take place every week week in the Centre during term time.

Monday Toddlers 9.30 am

THE MAGAZINE TEAM

Mission News& Prayer Diary Cecilia Wilding 817987

Please send material for the magazine to

Dave Bell, c/o Christ Church Parish Office, Christ Church Way,
 Staffs ST15 8ZB or by email to christchurch_mag@yahoo.co.uk

Christ Church welcomes you!

Whether you are new to the Stone area or have been living here for some time you are welcome to come to this church. The church is made up of adults and children who want to know more about the living God, who has supremely revealed Himself in Jesus Christ and continues to speak to us through His Spirit-inspired word, the Holy Bible (which can be read online at www.biblegateway.com and we recommend a modern translation e.g. the New International Version or English Standard Version).

We are a Christian church, because at the heart of what we believe is the fact that to know God personally we must put our trust in Jesus' death for our forgiveness so that we can be reconciled to God. We are part of the Anglican church, the basis of its Trinitarian belief is summarised in the Book of Common Prayer with its 39 articles, though we unite in Christ irrespective of denomination. We are an Evangelical church, as we see that the Bible is God's word for us and so is to inspire all that we do. This church was established with the help of the renowned Charles Simeon.

Our church meetings help us to grow in our understanding of what the Bible tells us about God, and this is something that we encourage others to investigate especially through our *Christianity Explored* course (see details on the national website www.christianityexplored.com). If you would like details of when the next local course is starting then please contact the church office.

We have children's and youth activities running during the Sunday meetings and also during the week, such as our Tuesday evening youth club. Adults may be further involved through small groups which meet for Bible study and prayer, a midweek communion service and a monthly prayer meeting.

Our community involvement includes links with the local schools: Christ Church First, Oulton First, Christ Church Middle and Alleyne's High.

We also have links with the Church in India, The Philippines, Croatia, Botswana and Pakistan.

This magazine and the church website concern Christ Church in Stone, but we are linked with the churches in Oulton and Moddershall (see separate magazine and website).

Subscriptions

If you would like this magazine delivered to you regularly, please contact: Mrs Marylyn Hillman, Park Lodge, Beech Court, Stone. Tel 815936