

Christ Church and People

Parish Magazine of
Christ Church Stone

40p



August 2014

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 page 17 for details)

THE PARISH TEAM

Vicar	Paul Kingman The Vicarage, Bromfield Court	812669
Curate	Andy Cranston 1 Navigation Loop	818983
Youth and Children's Worker	Kieran McKnight	600734 07731984755
Electoral Roll Officer	Irene Gassor	814871
Parish Office	Christ Church Centre, Christ Church Way, Stone, Staffs ST15 8ZB Email office@christchurchstone.org	811990
Deaconess (Retired)	Ann Butler	818160
Readers	Dave Bell David Rowlands Michael Thompson Cecilia Wilding	815775 816713 813712 817987
Music Co-ordinators	Pete Mason Sue Kingman	815854
Wardens	Andy Stone David Beauchamp	286526
Deputy Wardens	Phil Tunstall,	817028

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: Mr N. Chesters	354125
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Christ Church Academy, Old Road

Principal: Mr C. Wright MAEd	354047
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Christ Church



and People

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

Cover Picture:-
Longton Road

The magazine costs 40p per issue or £4 for a full year.

Subscriptions

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

August 2014

Fri	1		
Sat	2	8:30am	Prayer meeting followed by breakfast
Sun	3	9:15am 3:00pm 6:00pm	Communion - service in Church Centre Luke 6:17-26 "Life now and not yet" Drumhead service, Stonefield Park Evening Prayer - Moddershall Mark 4:1-25 "Take heed of his word"
Mon	4		
Tue	5	10:00am	Coffee before midweek service Service at 10:30
Wed	6		
Thu	7		
Fri	8		
Sat	9	All Day	Clearing/cleaning party for church - volunteers required
Sun	10	9:15am 2:30pm 6:00pm	Morning Prayer Luke 6:27-36 "Love your enemies" Autumn House service Communion - Moddershall Mark 4:26-41 "The power of his word"
Mon	11		Centre closed - carpet cleaning
Tue	12	10:30am	Centre closed - carpet cleaning Midweek service
Wed	13		Centre closed - carpet cleaning
Thu	14		

Fairtrade goods will be on sale after the service on August 24th

Fri	15		
Sat	16		
Sun	17	9:15am 6:00pm	Communion Luke 6:37-45 "Wise judgements" Evening Prayer - Moddershall Mark 5:1-20 "Jesus is awesome"
Mon	18		
Tue	19	10:00am	Coffee before midweek service Service at 10:30
Wed	20		
Thu	21		
Fri	22		
Sat	23		
Sun	24	9:15am 4:00pm	Morning Prayer Luke 6:46-49 "What is your life built on?" Cranstons' Valedictory service Midfield KA Education Academy Oulton Heath, Old Road
Mon	25		Centre Closed
Tue	26	10:00am	Coffee before midweek service Service at 10:30
Wed	27		
Thu	28		
Fri	29		
Sat	30		
Sun	31	9:15am	Communion Luke 7:1-17 "Life-giving words" No evening service

The mystery revealed

We like it when mysteries are solved. It's another matter when mysteries are spoiled. Fans of the long running television series 'Dr Who' got excited last year when the identity of the next Doctor was revealed. It turned out to be Peter Capaldi who apparently has been a lifelong fan of the show. Since then, most people would have assumed that not much would happen until the BBC publicized the next series in the autumn. But, speculation has picked up as a result of leaks. First there were five leaked scripts posted online marked 'private and confidential,' with television producers expressing disappointment and making a plea that fans avoid leaking details. Then we heard of the leaking of video footage – unedited, black and white, missing special effects and heavily water-marked. There has been a spoiling of the mystery as to Who? What? Why? When? Where? And How? Could the preview take away from the autumn viewing when the Doctor returns to our screens?

The idea of a mystery being revealed is central to the good news of Jesus Christ. The phrase 'mystery' is used not for something obscure or a secret ritual, but an unfolding plan for the world. The Apostle Paul used the word when describing how he was sent by God to make known the full message of how: *'the mystery that has been kept hidden for ages and generations, but is now disclosed to the saints'* (Colossians 1v26). The plan referred to and anticipated over centuries was the plan of redemption (rescue), which had now come through Jesus Christ. Jesus' appearing in the world, his suffering and once for all sacrifice on the cross was how a new way of approach to God had been made. The cross provides the basis of forgiveness and makes reconciliation to the holy and almighty God possible. Although there were certain aspects that the Old Testament prophets spoke about, there were also essential details, which could only be known once revealed by God. What God had revealed was the hallmark of the new covenant: *'to them God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery which is Christ in you, the hope of glory'* (Colossians 1v27). God himself will be personally present in the lives of His people and his presence assures them of future life with Him when He returns. *(continued)*



The mystery revealed *(cont)*

Many people have dismissed this message, but readily admit that they have never truly engaged with it before. During the holiday season can I encourage you to pick up a copy of the New Testament and read what Jesus really did and said? You can select one of the Gospel accounts online at Bible Gateway or even pick up a copy from one of our churches to discover great news.

Paul Kingman

Drumhead Service

A Drumhead service will take place in Stonefield Park on August 3rd, at 3pm. This is a Churches Together in Stone event to commemorate the beginning of the First World War.

A Drumhead service is a religious service attended by members of a military unit while in the field

Take Time

Take time to read - it is the foundation of wisdom

Take time to play - it is the secret of staying young

Take time to be quiet - it is the moment to seek God

Take time to be aware - it is the opportunity to help others

Take time to love and be loved - it is God's greatest gift

Take time to laugh - it is the music of the soul

Take time to be friendly - it is the road to happiness

Take time to dream - it is what the future is made of

Take time to pray - it is the greatest power on Earth

The Stone the builders rejected!

It's three and a half years since I got down the file of available curacies at theological college. After looking at two possibilities in the Salisbury diocese and failing in an attempt to look at another, I was given permission to extend my search nationwide. So in between lectures and essay deadlines I stole a couple of hours to look through the file. I was overwhelmed! From Carlisle to Canterbury, Plymouth to Peterborough there were dozens of Parishes looking for curates. In no time I filled my page with contact details including a certain Rev P. Kingman of Stone, Staffordshire. However, with so many possibilities and with essay deadlines looming, I took the pragmatic approach to bide my time!

By the beginning of March the number of us who were still unplaced was diminishing rapidly. I returned to the now slimmed down file and after careful reading I had a hit list of six contacts to try. The benefice of Christ Church Stone and Oulton with Moddershall was still there and Paul's details were duly noted down for the 2nd time! He was 4th on my hit list! But as I began to make my enquiries, Psalm 118:22 kept coming to mind: *"The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone; the LORD has done this and it is marvellous in our eyes."*

In Matthew 21, Jesus indicates he's the stone being talked about here, as the one appointed by God but rejected by Israel's authorities. But at that moment I saw it as a sign to elevate the benefice of Christ Church Stone and Oulton with Moddershall in my pecking order. And three and a half years on I'm so glad I did!

It has been a real privilege to have served my curacy here and although we're excited to be moving to Oswestry this month for me to become Chaplain to The Oswestry School, we will be very sad to leave Stone. We've met some wonderful people, made some special friends and had a host of memorable times over the last 3 years and all because I was encouraged, by God's gentle prompting, not to reject Stone!

My hope and prayer as we leave is that you will embrace 'The Stone' – the Lord Jesus, who by his death and resurrection has made it possible for us to enjoy the most wonderful relationship ever – a relationship with the God who made, loves and sustains us. It's a decision you'll be glad you made. We certainly are!

Andy

Remembrance : When and Why?

What's in a number? Is the 21st birthday the one to make a fuss of or the 18th? Do you have to wait until your 25th wedding anniversary to have a party or can you legitimately celebrate the 10th or the 20th, especially as many marriages don't last beyond single figures...

This summer we have had high profile events commemorating the 70th anniversary of the D Day Landings and we are being encouraged to mark the 100th anniversary of the outbreak of WWI. And yet 2014 also marks the 75th anniversary of the outbreak of WWII, which doesn't seem to be attracting much attention at all.

Perhaps the wisdom to be drawn from all of this is that we should be clearer about our reasons for commemorations and acts of remembrance, and invest our time and energy in those which have real meaning and resonance for us as individuals, and for our churches and communities. This approach should fall on receptive ears among Anglicans for we have always placed at the heart, not only of our worship, but of our life together, the act of remembrance at the centre of the communion service. Our remembrance of Jesus, as we share the bread and wine, sustains our life as both individual members of the Body of Christ and of the Body of Christ itself. It is integral to our self-understanding as Christians and as Christian congregations, just as it has been ever since Jesus' first followers met in each other's homes to share a meal together. We come together because we were told to by Jesus at the Last Supper ('do this in remembrance of me'), because we need to ('Lord, I am not worthy to receive you but only say the word and I shall be healed') and because we want to ('It is right to give thanks and praise'). The convergence of those three reasons provides ample justification for the centrality of the Eucharist in Anglican worship. Equal justification could be made for this act of remembrance on the basis of the effect that it has on those who participate through, we believe, the transformational power of the Holy Spirit.

The act of Remembrance that most non-church goers look to churches to help commemorate is Remembrance Sunday, and the use of our time and resources to do this is easily justified by the criteria I have just applied to the reasons for celebrating the Eucharist. It is something that, in a very real sense, we have been *told to* do by previous generations ('we will remember them').

(continued on next page)

Remembrance : When and Why? *(cont)*

It is something that we need to do, both to perpetuate and honour the memory of the dead and to express our commitment to peace-making, and it is, self-evident from the growing numbers of people who attend, something we want to do. Furthermore, there is a palpable effect on those who come together on Remembrance Sunday. Within our great diversity, there seems to be a stronger sense of unity, not unlike that which binds us together around the Communion table.

I am not sure that the encouragement given to the Churches to hold special events to commemorate the outbreak of WWI and no doubt other centenary related events over the next four years is so easily justified. Isn't Remembrance Sunday enough to encompass our need and desire to recollect and honour? Couldn't the rest be left to schools and museums to mark with history projects and special exhibitions?

When it comes to acts of commemoration, being told to remember may be part of our reason for so doing but it cannot be sufficient in itself. So, whether it is a birthday or anniversary or act of remembrance, my suggestion would be, don't be dictated to by the tyranny of numerical digits, but if you have a need to and a desire to commemorate or celebrate, go ahead and do so. And yes, diary permitting, I would be very happy to attend a church's 33rd anniversary celebrations! And as for communion services, wedded though we are to the regularity of our worship patterns, might there not be a place for occasional spontaneity? Army Chaplains are used to setting up an altar wherever, whenever, the desire and the need arises. Perhaps that's how Jesus wanted us to remember Him...

Clive Gregory, Bishop of Wolverhampton

Prom Praise

You may be familiar with The Proms, but have you heard about 'Prom Praise'? 'Prom Praise' is a truly great occasion! We once had this at the Victoria Hall, in Stoke, which was packed out with people attending. An opportunity to in will be when it comes to Lichfield Cathedral on September 27, bringing a blend of sacred and concert music, performance and worship, by the All Souls, Langham Place, Orchestra under Noel Treddinick. Tickets on 01543 412121.

Suarez, England and World Cup Glory

Glory! Outside church, you only normally hear people use the word 'glory' when talking or singing about football. I love football, but I love God much more, and I'm fascinated and uneasy by the price I seem prepared to pay for a tiny share in World Cup glory.

Others struggle too. Luis Suarez' bite looked an open and shut case of the inglorious. Yet Uruguay manager, Oscar Tabarez said: "This is a football World Cup, not about cheap morality. If we believe people are attacking him, then we're going to defend him."

At the last World Cup, Suarez saved his team by handling on the goal line. Looking back this year, he said: "I didn't do anything wrong. I sacrificed playing in a World cup semi-final for my team-mates to have a chance to play in that game."

Wayne Rooney, whose England side were knocked out by two Suarez goals, reflected: "Look at teams who have won the tournament over previous years and you can see that nastiness in them. I think we need to get that in us. I got kicked 10 times and I don't think there was a yellow card given to an opponent. Maybe we're too honest, as a team. I want to win the game."

Is it better to be England out or Uruguay through? My childhood was football. My memories are tied to football seasons, retired players' names and big results. So my heart, like Wayne Rooney's, says I'd rather be in Uruguayan boots, because I'm desperate for England to win.

But I know that winning at all costs is wrong. So, like Tabarez, Suarez, and Rooney, I cloak the desire to win in the language of morality: "I am defending my player. I sacrificed for my team. I was kicked 10 times." We are brilliant at finding justifications for what we know to be indefensible. It is when we care most for glory that our powers of moral self-deception are at their strongest. When we most want glory, we have to watch ourselves closest.

A football that is all about the three points and game management isn't worth watching. Football is more than its results. If Peter Reid had brought down Maradona on the halfway line in 1986, he'd have denied the world one of the greatest ever goals. Should he have 'taken a yellow'? If winning itself is the only value, then why not save time and just run penalty shoot-outs? *(continued on next page)*

Or get the latest celebrity octopus to pick a flag? Winning at football is satisfying because we love the game - the precision of a long pass, a delicate lob, a curling shot into the top corner, the bruised centre half soldiering on, the dribbles and tricks of a brilliant winger.

It's just a game, but we invest it with meaning, and it shapes us. Like any activity we care about, it moulds us morally. The single biggest topic of conversation on our planet is the World Cup. The loss we feel when our national team is knocked out is genuine. We learn lessons about conduct from seeing who gets rewards. Football reveals something in us. We want a piece of glory. We want it enough to sing, to shout, and sometimes to cry.

So before we embrace win-at-all-costs, we need to pause and ask: what are we glorifying? We can easily lose sight of what we love in the desire to grab it. Jesus warned us about these moments of yearning, and our tragic loss of perspective. What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, yet lose his soul?

Neill Harvey-Smith, Director of Communications for the Diocese of Lichfield. Twitter @nhs999

Facebook and Twitter

Did you know that we are on Facebook? Like our page to keep up to date with all that is going on in and around our church. Please pass this on to your contacts who live in the Stone area:

<https://www.facebook.com/ChristChurchStone>

Kieran

On Twitter, @CChurchStone

Latest tweet:-

Do you have children in first school? We have a group for them! Visit our site for more info.

11 **Lichfield to the final for 4th time in 5 years**

(Well done Andy)

The Lichfield Diocese Cricket Team has once again made it to the Final of the Church Times Cup, to be held in Southgate, London on Thursday 4th September 2014. As with last year, their opponents will be London Diocese and Lichfield will be hoping to get revenge after last year's thrashing!

Progress to the final has been emphatic! After the shocking and sad news of captain Jeff Reynold's unexpected death just before Easter, Lichfield progressed to the quarter-final having played only 1 group game against Coventry. Frustratingly, Worcester and Gloucester withdrew from the tournament and the match against Birmingham twice fell victim to the weather. However, the sun shone brightly as Lichfield took on Coventry at Ragley Hall, just north of Evesham.

Batting first, Lichfield amassed 263 for 4 from their 40 overs with Mark Rylands (105 no) and Andy Cranston (101) doing the bulk of the damage. Coventry in reply were bowled out for 51, with the bowlers sharing the wickets between them. Coventry then beat Birmingham to secure Lichfield's progress and the draw for the quarter-final saw Lichfield take on Manchester at Warrington on a hot cloudless day.

Once again Lichfield won the toss and elected to bat, scoring 275 for 7 from their 50 overs with Andy Cranston (89), Arthur Hack (56), Mark Rylands (45) and Simon Taylor (31) all providing valuable contributions. In reply Manchester were bowled out for 118 with Peter Hart taking 4 for 26.

The draw for the semi-final paired Lichfield with Leicester and on a fine day at Tamworth, Lichfield again won the toss and chose to bat. An opening stand of 170 between Andy Cranston (140) and Arthur Hack (48) followed by some good hitting from Mark Rylands (47 no) and Paul Darlington (38) saw Lichfield reach an imposing 316 for 4 off 50 overs. Leicester in reply struggled to cope with the Lichfield bowling attack and were finally dismissed for 108 with Peter Hart taking 4 for 2 and Simon Taylor 3 for 21.

And so it is that Lichfield march on to Southgate in September for a repeat of last year's final - though hopefully not a repeat of the result!

(Lichfield Diocese website reports)

Ride and Stride

Saturday 13th September 2014

It's that time again. For years Sandra and Chris Morray have ridden round the churches of Staffordshire. While I hope they will continue to do so for many more years, there must be some others who have bikes!

How about cycling or walking round our area visiting churches? Collect sponsorship for the number of churches you visit. There are churches involved all over the county. The sponsor money is equally divided between the Historic Churches Trust and our own church.

Will you walk or cycle or stay at Christ Church on the morning to welcome visitors to our church?

Nearer the time Sponsor forms will be available from Dorothy Wilson who also knows a walking route round Stafford taking in ten churches.

Saturday 13th September will soon come round - so make a note of the date now and put it on your calendar!

Dorothy

Jigsaw news and prayers

To all our friends at Christ Church Stone:

We praise God for answering our prayers over the last months; for the amazing and miraculous healing of Jenny, for the way he kept and returned the group of street children who disappeared from Visayas avenue. They had been moved by the police about ten miles to the outskirts of Manila, amazingly they walked back to find Jigsaw. They are all safe and well. For the amazing provision God keeps Jigsaw with each month, for all the gifts from all the friends of jigsaw that fund the work. For the continued transformation of so many children's lives through the love of Jesus.

Please pray for God to lead and guide us to find a new treasurer for the board in the Philippines. Udo who was our treasurer and did a wonderful job for 5 years is moving on in his job and life and is no longer able to do the position. It is a key position in the Jigsaw organisation so we need your prayers.

(continued on page 14)

Visit of Mags Vaughan - 20th June

Mags Vaughan is the Chief Executive of Traidcraft, the company which supplies our fairtrade goods. Her talk was entitled 'Fairtrade - Where Next?' First of all, she outlined the development of Traidcraft. The company began in 1979 when it started to sell a small range of jute products bought on fairtrade terms from just 10 producers in Bangladesh. This was the idea of a group of post graduate students from Durham University. This solved the problem of aid planes flying back to the UK empty and also provided work for war widows.

Later Traidcraft set up Café Direct to sell fairtrade coffee to supermarkets. Other products followed e.g. tea, sugar, chocolate and honey. Then composite products were developed - the Geobar was the first in 1999. Traidcraft now works with 50 producer groups.

The company is still based in Gateshead, providing valuable employment in a deprived area, still in recession. It has a policy of narrow pay bands and pays the living wage both in the UK and abroad. They also insist that their outside contractors e.g. cleaners pay the living wage. Customers should receive their online orders in 3 days (not the next day), so the packers do not have to work overtime.

Fairtrade - where next? It is with natural products such as rubber. Traidcraft are selling rubber gloves and gardening gloves made of natural rubber from Sri Lanka. Palm oil is one of the top 5 traded products. Traidcraft are taking it back to the small farmers and processors in Ghana where the palms grow between cocoa plants. Palm oil was first exported from Ghana in the 1900s, before they were priced out of the market by plantations in the Far East. Coconut oil from India is also used in the new range of cleaning products 'Clean and Fair'. In Germany the fairtrade movement is working towards fair milk.

It was a very enjoyable evening and we all learned a lot more about fair trade and the pioneering work of Traidcraft. Thanks to Mags for an excellent presentation and giving up her time to visit Christ Church.

Sheila Hawley

Please pray for Erikson a Jigsaw kids worker whose house has been demolished in this week's typhoon. Lendhel said although there was much damage all the Jigsaw staff and children were safe and their houses intact, except for Erikson's house which was destroyed. Please pray for the resources the family needs to re-build their house and for peace in this time of trauma.

Please pray for guidance regarding a building for our 'children exposed to street life project.' We have found a wonderful building which would enable a safe place for this work; however it is £130 a month to rent which we don't have. Please pray for guidance whether it is the right place and for signs and wonders from God whether we should go ahead and rent it.

Please pray for Jenalyn our social worker and programs and activities manager who is due to give birth in August that all will go safe and well.

We Praise God that Lendhel was able to start his Masters course in Holistic Child Development in Penang in June, we praise God for the scholarship miraculously provided by Compassion International to fund the fees. Please pray for him as he continues to direct Jigsaw's work on a daily basis that he will be able to balance this with completing his assignments. Pray also that the significant things he is learning may be sown in the work of Jigsaw.

Finally continue to pray for all the staff and children in Jigsaw that love may continue to grow and lives are rescued.

Thank you for your transforming prayers, in Jesus' name.

Tim and Kate and all in Jigsaw.

P.S. it was so good to see you at 'Trains in the Garden' it was a wonderful event.

Lichfield Diocese Income and Expenditure

<u>Income 2013</u>	<u>M£</u>
Parish Share	11.08
Church Commissioners	2.21
Investment Income	1.27
Activities	1.83
Grants	0.49
Other	1.10

TOTAL INCOME	17.98
EXPENDITURE	18.09
SHORTFALL	(0.11)

(The £110,000 shortfall was taken from investments, reducing their value by £110,000)

Notable Points

- Overall Share collection of 95.48%
- 371 out of 448 Parishes paid their 2013 share in full
- Church Commissioners support of £1.948m towards stipends (5th highest in the country)
- Ecclesiastical Fees received £1.122m
- Investment Income £1.267m
- Surplus on sale of Property £1.108m
- Increase in Investment Valuations £3.471m
- Admin Costs remained at £0.67m
- Net Deficit before revaluations £0.103m
- Liquidity increased by £2.229m

The Church Commissioners have agreed to allow some of the Ministry Allocation to be used towards specific Mission Orientated Projects across the Diocese over the forthcoming three year period

1. Messy Church
2. Stafford Street Church Plant
3. Mission and Growth Partners

REGISTERS AND ROTAS

BAPTISM

22nd June Joshua Arthur Mutalama

SIDESPERSIONS ROTA

AM

3rd August	J. Abrahams	D. Shemilt
	J. Rowlands	K. McKnight
10th August	G. Holden	C. Wilding
	J. Bowes	P. Tunstall
17th August	V. Ledward	K. Thompson
	D. Davies	K. Woodward
24th August	P. Hipkiss	P. Roberts
	D. Wilson	D. Pickles
31st August	J. Abrahams	D. Shemilt
	J. Rowlands	J. Bowes



FLOWER ROTA

3rd August	Mrs A. Brandon
10th August	Mrs B. Boote
17th August	Miss C. Wilding
24th August	Mrs C. Stone
31st August	Flower Guild

ROADS FOR PRAYER

3rd August

The Crescent
End of Granville Terrace
Millers Gate
Hartley Drive

24th August

Kent Grove
Meaford Avenue
Mount Avenue
Mount Crescent

10th August

Albert Street
Alexandra Street
Arthur Street
Berkeley Street

31st August

Mount Road
Mount Street
Old Road
Stonefield Court

17th August

Chestnut Grove
Edward Street
Field Terrace
Field House Court



Groups and Activities

Deanery Synod Reps	Mr R. Brandon	
P.C.C. Members	Mrs I. Gassor, Mr G. Donaldson, Mrs K. Latham Mrs S. Sanders, Mr P. Mason, Mr G. Holden Mrs A. Burton, Mrs M. Hillman, Mr K. Reynolds, Mrs E. Woodhead	
Secretary	Shelagh Sanders	
Treasurer	Kevin Reynolds	850135
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
Missions Secretary	Cecilia Wilding.....	817987
Prayer Group	Jeanette Rowlands.....	816713
Parents & Toddlers (Mon 9.30 – 11.15am)	Sandra Morray.....	286093
3rd Stone Brownies (Mon 6:00-7:30pm, First School)	Janet Smith.....	815939

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 in the Centre during term time.
Monday Toddlers 9.30 am **Breathe** (years 5-8) Monday 6:30 pm
Youth Club (years 9-13) Tuesday 7:00 pm **Kingzone** (years 2-4) Wednesday 6:00 pm

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 on the Internet

Parish website	www.christchurchstone.org
Parish office email	office@christchurchstone.org
Magazine contributions	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.org). 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 and Botswana.

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).