

# In This Issue...

Diary for August.....	2
Wise Words .....	4
Thank You .....	5
Landlubbers .....	5
Youth Outreach Worker.....	6
Shallowford Garden Party.....	7
Kidz Korner .....	8
PCC News.....	9
Who are those missionaries? .....	10
Dan's Puzzle Page .....	12
Feba Radio .....	13
Streets of Prayer .....	15
Puzzle Answers .....	15
From the Registers.....	16



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Please get your contributions for the September magazine to the editor by Friday 19<sup>th</sup> August.

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*We hope you enjoy the holidays, and don't forget to tell us about anything exciting that happens!*

*Ed.*

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**Exciting News about Youth Work this Month!**  
**See page 6**

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## Christ Church on the Internet

Visit our website at [www.lichfield.anglican.org/stoke/stone/stonecc](http://www.lichfield.anglican.org/stoke/stone/stonecc)

E-mail the Parish Office at [christchurchcentre@pgen.net](mailto:christchurchcentre@pgen.net)

Send your contributions for this magazine to [christchurch\\_mag@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:christchurch_mag@yahoo.co.uk)

# August

*Let everything that has breath  
Praise the Lord!*

*Psalm 150:6*

**2005**

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We 3 2.00 pm Mothers' Union – Do-it-Yourself "Favourite Bible passages and why"  
7.30 pm Standing Committee  
Fr 5 7.00 pm Rock Café for young people

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Su 7 **Trinity 11**  
9.15 am **Parish Communion**  
**Sermon Text: Mark 9:23 "All things are possible to him who believes"**  
6.00 pm **Evening Prayer at St John's, Oulton**  
**Sermon Text: 1Cor 15:1-28 "He rose again"**

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Th 11 10.30 am Holy Communion in church  
11.30 am Holy Communion at St Mary's Home  
Fr 12 7.00 pm Rock Café for young people

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Su 14 **Trinity 12**  
9.15 am **Morning Prayer**  
**Sermon Text: Popular misquotes Isaiah 53: 4-6**  
**"He heals all our diseases"**  
6.00 pm **Parish Communion at St John's, Oulton**  
**Sermon Text: Acts 1:1-11 "He ascended into heaven"**

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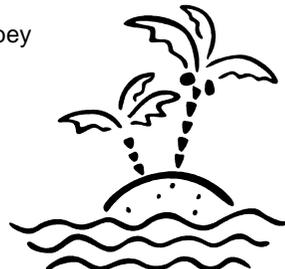
We 17 Men's Fellowship – **NO MEETING**  
Fr 19 7.00 pm Rock Café for young people in the Centre

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Su 21 **Trinity 13**  
9.15 am **Parish Communion**  
**Sermon Text: Popular misquotes Matthew 5:43-48**  
**"God sends sunshine on the righteous"**  
6.00 pm **Evening Prayer at St John's, Oulton**  
**Sermon Text: Matthew 25:31-46 "He will come again"**

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Th 25 10.30 am Holy Communion in church  
11.30 pm Holy Communion at Oulton Abbey  
Fr 26 7.00 pm Rock Café for young people



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Su 28 **Trinity 14**  
 9.15 am **Morning Prayer**  
**Sermon Text: Acts 3:1-26 "The name of Jesus"**  
 6.00 pm **Evening Prayer at St John's, Oulton**  
**Sermon Text: John 16:1-15 "The Holy Spirit"**

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Tu 30 2.00-4.00 pm "Landlubbers Holiday Club"  
 We 31 2.00-4.00 pm "Landlubbers Holiday Club"

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## September

Th 1 2.00-4.00 pm "Landlubbers Holiday Club"  
 Fr 2 2.00-4.00 pm "Landlubbers Holiday Club"

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Su 3 **Trinity 15**  
 9.15 am **Holiday Club Service**  
 6.00 pm **Commissioning of Youth Worker, Thomas Nash  
 at Christ Church**

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The following Activities take place every week in the centre during school term time:

<b>Monday Toddlers</b>	<b>9.30 am</b>
<b>Friday Little Fishes</b>	<b>11.00 am</b>

Activities for children and young people take place in the centre during the Sunday morning service each Sunday (except on the fourth Sunday of the month, which is family service):

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

All children are welcome

# Wise Words...

**You will be my witnesses.**

The holiday season for families sees the scattering of people to the four corners of the earth. You may think that I exaggerate, until I tell you that a brief survey of holiday destinations at school assemblies confirms this time and time again. We have unrivalled freedom to travel to exotic locations and explore a fascinating world. The price of air travel has revolutionised where we consider as a suitable location for a time of 'R & R'.

One interesting facet of taking a vacation is the sort of people you meet. Holidays are great for meeting people from all walks of life. Of course you never know when you might get the chance to share your faith. This may be sitting next to a talkative traveller on the plane, a friendly waiter in your hotel dining room, the family next door on the camp-site, meeting someone who is a tourist from a country where talking freely is really rather difficult, the person who is emigrating to 'make a fresh start'.

We sometimes think that we have to hold special events or be specially licensed for service in order to do this. But in fact all Christians have been commissioned for service. Jesus said to his disciples: *'you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth'* (Acts 1v8). The power for service and the plan of action has been given. Each and every Christian is given the gift of the Spirit and so they are included in this commissioning. Sharing what is precious is an everyday activity and not just for special seasons.

So, if you're heading off on holiday why not pack a few helpful resources along with your other travel essentials? Take your Bible and read through a whole book asking: 'what does this teach me about God?' Why not buy and read the thought provoking *'Road to Reality – finding meaning in a meaningless world'* (Melvin Tinker, Christian Focus) and then hand it on? Get familiar with *'Basic Christianity'* (John Stott, IVP). Raise your awareness of a rapidly expanding world religion using *'A Christian's Pocket Guide to Islam'* (Patrick Sookhdeo, Christian Focus).



Wherever you travel, remember that you are an ambassador for Christ. It won't get you into First Class accommodation, but it is a great privilege!

Paul Kingman

# Thank You

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Thank you for your prayers,  
get well cards and good  
wishes during my  
hospitalization. It kept me  
cheerful.

Glad to be back with you all.

*Eva McNulty*

Margaret, Barry and family  
would like to thank  
everyone at Christ Church  
for their love, support and  
prayers during Margaret's  
father's recent illness and  
death.

*Margaret Hutchinson*

v v v v v

Music



HOLIDAY CLUB 2005



Fun +  
Games

LANDLUBBERS

Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> August - Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> September  
2 - 4pm

Bible  
Teaching

Christ Church Centre

Crafts

To book your place call **07966 632797**



JOIN THE FUN!!!



# 6

## Youth Outreach Worker

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### Worker Appointed

We are delighted that **Thomas Nash** will be joining us in September as our youth outreach worker. Thomas is marrying Clare during August and so they will be starting a new phase of life here in the Midlands. They have both been students in Durham, although Thomas has also had a further year in Durham as a ministry apprentice.

### Commissioning Service

There will be a commissioning service at 6.00 p.m. on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> September in *Christ Church*, Stone. The Revd Barry Brewer, the Rural Dean of the Stone Deanery, will be our guest speaker. All are welcome to come and celebrate this significant development in the life of our benefice.

*Paul Kingman.*

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### Financial Support

If you wish to contribute to the Youth Outreach ministry there is an account set up specifically for it. The details are:

Account name: Rock Youth Ministry  
Account no: 71460617  
Sort Code: 40-43-14

If you would rather join the `£1 a week` scheme, you can get envelopes from **Sue Cooper**. You are asked to put your money in each week and then give them once a month.

If you are a UK taxpayer you can increase the value of your donations by filling in a Gift Aid form. We are then able to claim back the tax on your contributions, so that £1 becomes £1.28.

Gift Aid forms are also available from **Sue Cooper**.

The Friends of Shallowford  
**Garden Party**

**Saturday 6th August 2005**

**2.00pm to 4.30pm**

**Stalls -- Bring and Buy, Cakes, Plants,  
Records, CDs and Videos, Tombola  
Many Games and Competitions**

**REFRESHMENTS**

**Cream Teas and home-made cakes**

**GUIDED TOURS**

**See the House and the recent improvements**

**PRAYER**

**Use the Chapel for a time of quiet prayer**

Please Bring Contributions for the  
**Bring and Buy, Cake and Plant stalls.**

Received from 1.00pm.

# Kidz Korner!

## Prize Riddle

*solutions on page 15*

Last month we sadly received no entries, but why not have a go this month. Let Becky have your answer (or send it to the Parish Office) by August 21<sup>st</sup> and see if you can win a prize!

I'm at the end of a love letter,  
I'm a teacher's bad mark,  
I'm not very happy,  
And I mark the spot.  
Jesus tells you to carry me  
And on me he died for you.



## What am I?

## Travelling

This month a lot of people will be heading off on holiday, but can you match these Biblical characters to their travels?

- 1) Paul
  - 2) Jonah
  - 3) Mary and Joseph
  - 4) Moses
  - 5) Joseph
- a) Bethlehem
  - b) Rome
  - c) Egypt
  - d) Nineveh
  - e) Through the Red Sea

## Wet Puzzle

It's nice to sit by a lake or the sea in this hot weather, but can you unscramble the names of these Biblical waters?

- 1) ETH ASE FO LAGILEE
- 2) DRE EAS
- 3) VERIR NORADJ
- 4) LINE
- 5) EDDA SAE



## PCC News

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- **Boaters' Christian Fellowship**

Plans for the visit (from the evening of 19<sup>th</sup> to the morning of 22<sup>nd</sup> September) are progressing well. A prayer card is to be produced giving the programme for the visit together with prayer items and specific times to pray.

*The PCC met on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2005 and the following matters were dealt with.*

- **Youth Worker** The Vicar reported that Thomas Nash has accepted our invitation to become our Youth Worker from the beginning of September. His commissioning service will take place in the evening of Sunday, 4<sup>th</sup> September 2005.
- **Rock Café** This continues to attract 30-40 young people on a Friday evening. The young people have requested that it should stay open over the summer holidays and this was agreed provided that it can be adequately and appropriately staffed. An operational policy is being drawn up for the Café.
- **FAIRTRADE** Christ Church is now registered as a FAIRTRADE Church which means that we are committed to using Fairtrade tea and coffee for all church meetings, and to moving towards using other Fairtrade products as we are able, such as sugar, biscuits and fruit. Fairtrade products are marketed in such a way that producers are paid a fair price for the produce they grow,
- **Church roof** This needs urgent repair as louvres from the belfry have damaged tiles and more might fall soon and do further damage. The PCC agreed that this work should be put in hand in the very near future. Scaffolding will be erected to do this work.
- The PCC is continuing preparatory work towards defining our **Mission Action Plan** – that is, defining what God would have us do as a church to reach out to those around who don't yet know Him.

Next PCC meeting: Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2005.

# Who are those missionaries...?

Almost as soon as Stephen became a Christian, he felt that God was calling him to go to a place where people had not heard the gospel. At the time (early 1980s), the most atheist country in the world was Albania. To be known as a Christian in Albania at the time was to invite certain imprisonment, if not worse.

**Stephen Bell** is the brother of our Reader, Dave Bell, who here tells us about the work that Stephen has been doing

Enver Hoxha, the leader of the country, was paranoid about contact with the west, and had built 10,000 pill-boxes to defend the country. All churches, mosques and monasteries had been closed, emptied and converted to museums to Enver Hoxha himself. Stephen prayed for a sign that this was really the place where God wanted him - the next morning he heard the news that Enver Hoxha had died in the night!

Stephen joined European Christian Mission and went to Yugoslavia in 1986 to learn Albanian. At the end of 1990, Albania was in a sorry state with extreme poverty due to the refusal of the government to have any outside contact. ECM sent in food parcels and other gifts (although still not allowed into the country), and eventually a government official came to ask how they could express their thanks. ECM asked whether they could come to Tirana (the capital city) and teach about Christianity. The surprising answer was an invitation to use the football stadium for an enormous Christian meeting.

About 10 Albanian-speakers, including Stephen, travelled to Tirana and spoke to thousands in a huge meeting. After that, they formed the "God loves Albania" organisation and were allowed free entry into the country. Soon, the government collapsed amid chaos and looting. Albania became bandit country. ECM continued their work, starting 3 churches and doing what they could to help. For a few years ECM ran an orphanage and for a few weeks, Stephen ran a refugee camp for 1000 exiles from Yugoslavia. The church initially grew very rapidly despite problems with gun-runners and other criminals. Later, the churches struggled amid disillusionment with the west and inroads by other faiths. However there are still thousands of new Christians worshipping in the new churches.

Stephen met Tabita Sijanta, a young christian volunteer who lived in Stuttgart, in Germany and they were married in 1992. They rented a house in Fier and carried on the work in Albania. Stephen looked after 3 churches near Fier, all in rented or borrowed premises (one church used the Communist Party headquarters). Due to problems with local authorities, it became necessary to construct their own church building, and this became Stephen's ambition. After some years raising money, work began in 1999 and the opening of the church in 2000 was a great day. The building incorporated a teaching area, a store and a church. Local Christians did much of the work.

In 2000, Stephen and Tabita left Albania for the birth of their third child Benjamin, and while they were in England ECM decided they should not return but should move to Zagreb in Croatia. Due to the gun-law still operating in Albania, it had been hard to keep their house and family safe, so the move, while a surprise, did make life easier. In 2001 Stephen, Tabita, Sheona, Joshua and Benjamin moved to Zagreb. They joined a group of Baptist churches and earlier this year, they started a new church in Sesvete with two other Christian workers John and Lynn Lehn. The first church service in February attracted 190 worshippers in rented premises and attendance has settled down at 50 adults.

Stephen and Tabita are now searching for a house close to the new church. As I was writing this, I received a phone call saying they have found a house and hope to put in an offer depending upon a loan they hope to get from the HSBC. They hope that in September the children will be able to attend schools in Sesvete. Stephen has been learning to speak Croatian (Tabita already knew the language because her grandparents live in Croatia) and can now preach in Croatian. The children also are all learning Croatian. If you would like to receive regular news from Stephen and Tabita by email or by letter, please let me know.

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Animal  
Cracker

What happened to  
the frog who  
double-parked?

He got  
food  
away!

# Dan's Puzzle Page

## Bird Search!

*solutions on page 15*

Where in the Bible would you find the following birds?

- |              |                   |
|--------------|-------------------|
| 1) Doves     | 7) Owls           |
| 2) Eagles    | 8) Hawk           |
| 3) Raven     | 9) Osprey         |
| 4) Sparrow   | 10) Speckled Bird |
| 5) Quail     | 11) Stork         |
| 6) Partridge | 12) Ostrich       |

*Note: The names of some creatures are different in different versions of the Bible, we have taken all these from the NIV.*

## Quotable Quotes

Can you find where in the Bible these familiar sayings come from?

- "Let there be light"
- "How are the mighty fallen"
- "To everything there is a time"
- "You are the salt of the earth"
- "I will not believe it until I see it"

## Find the Link

Messiah's birth

Murder prevention

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Road block

Fiery deliverance

## **Feba Radio – talking people’s language**

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**Why is radio such an effective means of spreading the Gospel? *Anthea McNeil* explains.**

A man in southern Sudan was going to visit a friend when he “suddenly heard the radio talking in Dinka.” He was so excited at discovering the radio could “talk” in his own language that he rushed to sell a cow and buy a radio.

When was the last time you were excited because your radio “talks in English”? Probably never – we take it for granted, as we do all the means of communication available to us.

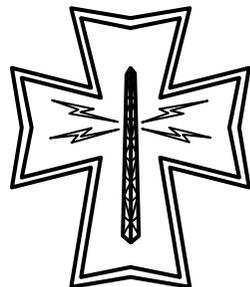
Now contrast our attitude to radio with that of so many Feba listeners. Way out of reach of other means of communication, they see radio as a prized possession – a link with the wider world.

### **Prized Possession**

I talked with colleagues working closely with listeners and asked why radio’s important. Norman Brierley, Development Director for Eastern Africa, says, “Radio is a good medium for talking to one person and many individuals at the same time.” This one-to-one intimacy, broadcaster to listener, means people respond – and can therefore be counselled – personally. Norman also mentioned the radio’s value in overcoming geographical, religious and other barriers.

Reaching unreached people and getting the message into inaccessible places are among many common reasons for using radio.

Developmental Director Johnny Pierre: “In the Middle East – except for a few countries – people do not have access to churches, Bibles or missionaries. In such a ‘closed’ region, radio can share the Gospel in a non-threatening, secure, and



# 14

personal way.” Johnny also refers to people listening “in families and larger groups”. A listener in Yemen confirmed that about 250 people from his tribe listen to Feba’s programmes.

We’ve been thinking about radio’s immeasurable value to rural listeners, but what about the vast number of people in the world’s cities, where millions live untouched by the Gospel? Here the impact of community radio, with its emphasis on public access and listener involvement, is a tremendous vehicle for Christian outreach.

## New community stations

The ethos of community radio is entirely in line with our aim of staying close to the listener’s world. We are already involved in community-based ministry in India and south Africa and through Feba Kenya’s station, *Baraka FM*, and our involvement with *Power FM* in Uganda.

Through radio, Feba can reach millions of lost people, whether they live in cities or remote villages. This listener in the Middle East thinks it’s doing a good job: “I want to express my appreciation for the wonderful programmes which make the Arabic listeners satisfied and not want to listen to other stations, or even watch TV or Satellite.”

*(Christ Church supports the work of Feba Radio both in prayer and giving. If you would like to know more about Feba, there is a recent Feba magazine on top of the cupboard below the Overseas Mission notice board in the Centre, or have a word with Cecilia.)*

v v v v v

Animal  
Cracker

Why do some  
seabirds fly  
around in pairs?

Because  
one good  
tern  
deserves  
another!

## Streets of Prayer

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*Please pray this month for all the people living in these streets in our Parish.*

### 7<sup>th</sup> August

Mount Street  
Old Road  
Stonefield Court  
Stonefield Square

### 14<sup>th</sup> August

Victor Street  
Victoria Street  
Whitebridge Lane  
Alma Street



### 21<sup>st</sup> August

Bromfield Court  
Dominic Court  
Granville Terrace  
King's Avenue

### 28<sup>th</sup> August

Longton Road  
Margaret Street  
Newcastle Road  
Newcastle Street

v v v v v

The **Boaters Christian Fellowship** will be bringing their narrow boats to Stone from **19<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> September**. Watch out for details soon.

v v v v v

## Puzzle Solutions

### Kidz Korner

**Travelling:** 1 - b; 2 - d; 3 - a; 4 - e; 5 - c

**Wet Puzzle:** 1 THE SEA OF GALILEE; 2 RED SEA; 3 RIVER JORDAN; 4 NILE; 5 DEAD SEA

### Dan's Puzzles

**Bird Search** - our list reads as follows (but you may have found some alternatives): Matthew 3:16; Isaiah 40:31; Leviticus 11:15; Matthew 10:29; Exodus 16:13; Jeremiah 17:11, Psalm 102:6; Job 28:7; Leviticus 11:13; Jeremiah 12:9; Psalm 104:17; Lamentations 4:3

**Quotable Quotes** - Genesis 1:3; 2 Samuel 1:19; Ecclesiastes 3:1; Matthew 5:13; John 20:25

**Missing Link** - "Angel"

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# From the Registers

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## Funerals

14<sup>th</sup> July

Anthony John Underwood

Aged 52 yrs

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## Thanksgiving Service

17<sup>th</sup> July

Erica Joscelyne

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## Sidespersons for August

**9.15 am**

7<sup>th</sup> M. Holden, G. Holden, A. West, D. Wilson

14<sup>th</sup> T. MacFarlane, V. Ledward, M. Hutchinson, B. Hutchinson

21<sup>st</sup> S. Gerrard, D. Pickles, P. Tunstall, S. Hallam

28<sup>th</sup> C. Wilding, J. Cooper, J. Rowlands, T. Lockett

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## Flower Rota for August

7<sup>th</sup> Ms Price/Freakley

14<sup>th</sup> Mrs. G. Banks

17<sup>th</sup> Mrs. D. Wilson

21<sup>st</sup> Mrs. M. Hutchinson

28<sup>th</sup> Mrs. M. Mance

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