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Christ Church



and People

Please get your contributions for the September magazine to the editor by Friday 18th August

We are grateful to Dave Bell for taking care of next month's magazine. Please help him out by working on some good contributions during the holidays!

Ed.

Cover Story

In this series we've looked at streets far and wide around the Parish, but this month the view is right on our doorstep - Radford Street.

Christ Church on the Internet

Parish website: www.churches.lichfield.anglican.org/stone/stonecc

Parish Office email: christchurchcentre@pgen.net

Magazine contributions: christchurch_mag@yahoo.co.uk

August

2006

Sa 5 8.30 am Prayers in church followed by
 9.00 am Breakfast in the Centre
 2.00 pm Wedding of Andrew Best and Rosalind Marriott

Su 6 Trinity 8

9.15 am Parish Communion

Sermon Text: Proverbs 2 "Food for the soul"

6.00 pm Evening Prayer at St John's Oulton

Sermon Text: Psalms 20 & 21 "In trouble and joy"

Tu 8 **10.30 am Holy Communion in church**

We 9 7.30 pm Standing Committee

Sa 12 2.30 pm Wedding of Daniel Guerrard and Becky Cooper

Su 13 Trinity 9

9.15 am Morning Prayer

Sermon text: Proverbs 3 "Whole-heartedness"

6.00 pm Holy Communion at St John's Oulton

Sermon text: Psalm 22 "Desolation"

Mo 14 pm Measurements for the carpet for the Centre

Sa 19 12.30 pm Wedding of John Marsden and Helen Bourne

Su 20 Trinity 10

9.15 am Parish Communion

Sermon text: Proverbs 4 "Lifelong pilgrim"

6.00 pm Evening Prayer at St John's Oulton

Sermon text: Psalms 23 & 24 "Shepherd-king"

Mo 21 Carpet fitting in the Centre

Tu 22 **10.30 am Holy Communion in church**

Carpet fitting in the Centre

We 23 Carpet fitting in the Centre

Th 24 Carpet fitting in the Centre

Fr 25 Carpet fitting in the Centre

Su 27 Trinity 11

9.15 am Family Service

Sermon text: Proverbs 5 "Marriage"

6.00 pm Holy Communion at St John's Oulton

Sermon text: Psalm 25 "Teach me your way"

*I was glad when they said to me
 Let us go to the house of the Lord!*

Psalm 122:1

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

Monday Toddlers	9.30 am
Friday Little Fishes	11.00 am

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



September

Sat 9th Staffordshire Historic Churches Trust - sponsored cycle ride and walk

How about cycling or walking round our area visiting churches and collecting sponsorship for the number of churches you visit? There are churches involved all over the county but a list of those in this area and a map showing locations will be in church nearer the time. The sponsor money is equally divided between the Historic Churches Trust and our own church.

Could you cycle or walk to help fund the project for a youth worker? Maybe the cycle ride could be the start of your autumn stay fit (or keep fit/get fit) programme. Have a look at your bike and talk it into taking you round the village churches! If you'd rather walk, there are plenty of churches in Stafford to walk round.



Sponsor forms will be available soon from **Dorothy Wilson**.

Volunteers will also be needed to spend an hour at our church to welcome visitors and sign forms on Saturday 9th September.

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Do you have something worth boasting about?

During the summer vacation there is a lot to talk about and the time to do it. Holidays give the chance to reflect on a year's achievements and to share news with family and friends. Someone in the family may have sat exams and be awaiting their results nervously knowing that they will determine what they can do next. We may think over the progress made at work and weigh up what is the best move we can now make for the future. Perhaps we've just moved house and it is the home of our dreams. Then again we might have developed our skills for a particular hobby or musical instrument. We love to hear about such things and encourage people to excel. But we tend to shrink back from those who boast.

In the Bible there is a great celebration of human achievement. Just think of the inspirational leaders, the good and godly kings who stood out against evil, the courage shown by otherwise unremarkable people, the deeply loyal friendships, and the artistic or poetic skills to express the glory of God. Yet the Bible discourages boasting about almost anything in this life, as it is a symptom of a self-delusion. Here's what one of the Old Testament prophets said: *'This is what the LORD says: "Let not the wise man boast of his wisdom or the strong man boast of his strength or the rich man boast of his riches, but let him who boasts boast about this: that he understands and knows me, that I am the LORD, who exercises kindness, justice and righteousness on earth, for in these I delight," declares the LORD* (Jer 9v23-24). The words were spoken to people who thought that they would survive come what may, but whose trust was in false and unreliable props. All these things will pass away – our minds become forgetful and the exam certificates are lost, our strength gradually diminishes, our wealth is lost or left behind when we die. There is only one thing to boast about: knowing the Lord God. To know the Lord God is to know the one who shows kindness, who exercises justice and righteousness. The covenant making God is active and involved. We can boast about knowing the God of the Bible because His character is compellingly attractive.



As you enjoy the long summer evenings what fills your mind and conversation? Is your greatest delight the fact that you know the God of the Bible? Is there just a chance that you might say something to family, friends and holidaymakers as to why you worship the Lord? So then, let he who boasts, boast of the Lord!

Paul Kingman

“Thank You”

On behalf of Kathleen and myself I would like to thank you all, for your prayers, cards, thoughts and words of support, at this time of the death of my mother.

Thank you.

Michael

— — —

Iwould like to thank everyone for their prayers, messages of support and visits during my recent illness. They were much appreciated particularly as I took several weeks to recover and there were times when I wondered whether I would ever get there as progress seemed so slow. Any way I am now easing back into work and feeling much stronger. It was good to feel cared for!

Thanks.

Liz Mason

“Women of the Bible”

Friday 8th to Tuesday 12th
September

St Mary's Church, Swynnerton

Admission £3



SU's aim is to use the Bible to inspire children, young people and adults to know God. To achieve this they, we work in a variety of areas - Schools, Churches, Holidays, Missions, Training, Publishing - in obedience to the Lord Jesus Christ and in reliance on the Holy Spirit:

Scripture Union is a non-denominational, Christ-centred, international movement, founded in 1867, working in partnership with individuals and churches across the world.

Read the Bible

Scripture Union published the first systematic Bible reading portions as *The Children's Scripture Union* in 1880 and, five years later, introduced daily readings for adults.

Since then, hundreds of thousands of people of all ages have relied on their Bible reading guides. Through the generations, their writers and contributors have been consistent in their passion to help Christians explore and understand the truth of God's Word.

Bible reading notes produced at present include:

For adults: Daily Bread, Closer to God, Encounter with God

For children and young people: Tiddlywinks (under 5s), Snapshots (age 8+), One Up (age 11+)

For teenagers and young adults: Airlock, DAYZD, Bible Bits to ignite your life

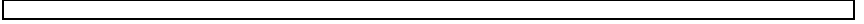
(There are more details available on the web-site)

Evangelism

The summer programme provides over 100 holidays across England and Wales for children and young people and they are always on the look-out for volunteers to help run them (3,000 needed next year). Why not think about it? They also run children's activities at **Spring Harvest** each year.

They run **training events** around the country, from diploma level courses to day events. For more information, see their web-site. Scripture Union also has a **team of evangelists** working with churches in outreach to children, young people and families in England and Wales.

To find out more about the work of Scripture Union, visit
www.scriptureunion.org.uk



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Shallowford House Events

Garden Party



Sat 2nd September
2.00 - 4.30 pm

**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.

Quiet Day "The Ministry of Hospitality"

Led by Rev. Jeff Leonardi
- the bishop's advisor for pastoral care and counselling

Thu 14th September
9.45 am – 3.30 pm

Cost £14, coffee and lunch provided.

Please book with the Warden, Shallowford House.

Tel: 01785 760233

E-mail: warden@shallowfordhouse.freeserve.co.uk

Mission Partners - Rebecca in Pakistan

I teach in a school for girls. They are aged between about 14 and 20, and they are studying for their Matric, the equivalent of a GCSE exam. What are their lives like and what kinds of needs and hopes for the future do they have? Many of them have a home in one of the villages surrounding our city. They are familiar with the work and routine of rural life - the crop harvesting, the planting. Now, while school is closed, many of them are back at home in their villages helping with the daily tasks.

When people use English here, many are functioning in a third or even a fourth language. Their mother tongue is the language of the village. There are at least four or five distinct languages in these areas and many people can function in two or three! Next people learn Urdu, the language of the country. Why is English important in an area like this? Because the school curriculum is in English - without English children can't access the curriculum. However, many don't have the opportunity to talk with fluent speakers - they rely on learning from text books. Rote learning plays a much greater part in learning here than it does in the West.

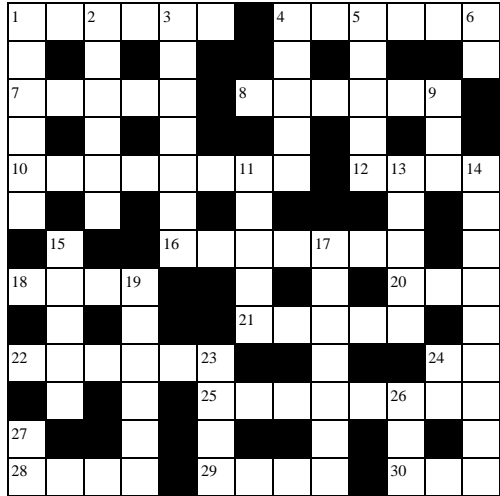
What does the future hold for these girls? To many education is a key and is very important to them. I asked my students recently about what they want to do in the future. Many of them want to have professional jobs: one wants to be a lawyer, another a banker, another a doctor. The profession of choice at the moment is a pilot in the army! Yet despite the rapid changes which are happening because of the improvements in travel and communication, this is still a deeply conservative society. In practice, in the northern areas, the domain of women is the home, and that of men is the outside world.

The girls have their own ideas about the changes they want to see in their society. Recently I asked them to suggest three things which they would change about our city if they were able to. They wanted to have: peace in the city. Improvements in the electricity (which is erratic) and the water supply (also erratic). Rubbish bins in the bazaar. A swimming pool. Some animals to put in the zoo (the city also has a zoo - but alas no animals). A park for ladies.

Most of us would agree that these are good ideas and we'd love to see these changes! There are also many good things here which we wouldn't want to change. However, many women and men are searching for a better future, for themselves and for this area. So we teach English, but more importantly we try to listen, plant some seeds, watch and wait for the unknown future, having the certainty that transformation is possible.

Clues Across

- 1 Beware - spy around the rim is treacherous! (6)
- 4 Look over when agent returns with use. (6)
- 7 Sounds like a change to the place for offerings. (5)
- 8 Upset, with dim for example upset. (6)
- 10 Form an idea from nice confusion held by chap. (8)
- 12 Ms Moss gets confused on the movie shoot! (4)
- 16 Sidetrack when Director General sires new generation. (7)
- 18 Misshapen container for name of the fell. (4)
- 20 Ms Laine gives a sign by dropping an opener. (3)
- 21 Avoid Mr Bell returning a note. (5)
- 22 Silly female judge? (6)
- 24 Sanctimonious relationship. (2)
- 25 How tithe became a burning issue. (5,3)
- 28 Desire that I replace wrecked cars from scratch. (4)
- 29 Precious weight captured by Greeks. (4)
- 30 Fish has no hiding place in garden. (3)



Clues Down

- 1 Holy man with cane out of position. (6)
- 2 Chant in colour? (6)
- 3 Left objective to be significant. (7)
- 4 Use force to give audience a reward. (5)
- 5 Clock runs backwards for orders. (5)
- 6 Not US but us though many think them! (2)
- 9 Talkative highland beast? (3)
- 11 Monitor (no D) with age becomes indistinct. (5)
- 13 You say you will, but will you lead me up it? (5)
- 14 Sex pot or I can become explainer of scripture. (9)
- 15 What is changed for an article in the game. (5)
- 17 Formerly do play without assistant? Spot on! (7)
- 19 Good-looker takes half alternative to spread the word. (6)
- 23 Brain-box kills flies by the sound of it. (4)
- 24 River order. (2)
- 26 Hooligan loses head and gives embrace. (3)
- 27 Posh area where ladies meet? (2)

... and it's Goodbye from him!

A Why "A"? Well this is most certainly an 'indefinite article', and, if you like cryptic clues, it is also 'the end of an era'.

When I stepped down as Editor of this magazine for the second time, I vowed it would be my last. The fact that I am now bowing out for a **third** time is a tribute to my daughter's powers of persuasion. But this - in as much as we can be certain of anything in this life - is it, The Last Goodbye, Finito!

To nip any rumours in the bud, I didn't ask Sue to find a new job to get me away from here. Life means change, and the direction we now find ourselves going is south, and across the Solent. After 27 years in Stone we will take many memories with us, but we are looking forward, not back. Sue has the challenge of that new job, and I may have been officially 'retired' for the last 10 years but I still don't feel like a pensioner; there's life in the old dog yet.

So thank you for the friendship and fellowship that we have enjoyed here; thank you for being you, and for the contributions that you have made to our lives. We will treasure these things.

Jeremy Cooper

Stony Ground!



Streets of Prayer

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

6th August
 Victor Street
 Victoria Street
 Whitebridge Lane
 Alma Street

13th August
 Bromfield Court
 Dominic Court
 Granville Terrace
 King's Avenue



20th August
 Longton Road
 Margaret Street
 Newcastle Road
 Newcastle Street

27th August
 Northesk Street
 Radford Close
 Radford Street
 Station Road

What's He Got Up There?

A Sunday school class was being taught the story of Solomon's wisdom. The children were asked to think what they might ask God to give them if they could ask for whatever they wanted. One little girl just went into a trance as she excitedly pondered the question. Then she looked at the teacher with a little bewilderment and said, "But I don't even know what He's got up there."

Sometimes we are hesitant to ask God for anything specific for the same reason. We are aware that God can do so much more than we ask or think, how do we even begin to know what to ask for?

Our biggest concern is that we ask for something inferior when God has something much greater that He wants to give us. We ask for health; God is offering His strength. We ask for financial assistance; God is offering His riches. We ask for loved ones to live a few days longer; God is offering eternal life. We ask for physical well-being, peace and comfort; God is offering His very presence.

The apostle Paul prayed for the Ephesians:
 "that the glorious Father, the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, would give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know Christ better. Then you will have deeper insight. You will know the confidence that he calls you to have and the glorious wealth that God's people will inherit. You will also know the unlimited greatness of his power as it works with might and strength for us, the believers."
(Ephesians 1:17-19)

Puzzle Solution

S	L	I	P	P	Y	P	E	R	U	S	E
T	N	O				R	E		U		
A	L	T	A	R		D	I	S	M	A	Y
N	O		T		S		I		A		
C	O	N	C	E	I	V	E		T	A	K
E	E		N	A				I	X		
W			D	I	G	R	E	S	S	P	
S	H	A	P			U	X		L	E	O
I	R					E	V	A	D	E	S
A	S	S	E	S	S		C		P	I	
T	A		W	H	I	T	E	H	O	T	
W		C		O			L	U		O	
I	T	C	H		T	R	O	Y		G	A

From the Registers



Funerals

7th July

Henry John Chell

aged 96 years

Baptisms

18th June

Olivia May Hansen

9th July

Henry John Hunt

Weddings

16th July

Wayne Blundred & Faye Baines

Thanksgivings

18th June

Alexander Dennis Hutchinson

Sidespersons for August

9.15 am

6.00 pm

6th

P. Tunstall, S. Hallam
M. Holden, G. Holden

Oulton

13th

D. Wilson, C. Wilding
J. Rowlands, D. Pickles

Oulton

20th

B. Hutchinson, M. Hutchinson
T. MacFarlane, A. West

Oulton

27th

P. Hipkiss, P. Tunstall
A. Greer, V. Ledward

Oulton

Flower Rota for August

6th

Ms Price/Freakley

13th

Mrs. S. Cooper

20th

Mrs. B. Bote

27th

Mrs. M. Hutchinson

