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Please get your contributions for the August magazine to the editor by **Friday 22nd July**.

Please make every effort to get your contributions in on time, as failure to do so can hold up the entire editing and printing process. We cannot guarantee to include items submitted after the deadline.

*Many thanks,
Ed.*

Christ Church on the Internet

Visit our website at www.lichfield.anglican.org/stoke/stone/stonecc

E-mail the Parish Office at christchurchcentre@pgen.net

Send your contributions for this magazine to christchurch_mag@yahoo.co.uk

July

*Behold how good and how lovely it is:
When brothers live together in unity*
Psalm 133:1

2005

Fr 1 7.00 pm Rock Café for young people

Su 3 Trinity 6
9.15 am **Parish Communion**
Sermon Text: Judges 16
6.00 pm **Evening Prayer at St John's, Oulton**
Sermon Text: John14: 1-21

Mo 4 9.00 am Prayer Group in Christ Church to pray for children and young people

1.10 pm Assembly at Alleyne's Y10

Tu 5 11.30 am Churches Together in Stone Fraternal Meeting in the centre

We 6 9.10am Assembly at Oulton First School

12noon Chapter meeting

2.00 pm Mothers Union

Th 7 12.30 pm Christ Church Middle School Lunchtime Club

1.30 pm Assembly at Christ Church Middle School

7.30 pm The Shed' 20's group (All 18-30s welcome see p12)

Fr 8 7.00 pm Rock Café for young people

Sa 9 Oulton Village Fete

Su 10 Trinity 7
9.15 am **Morning Prayer**
Sermon Text: Psalm 33
3.00 pm **Service in town to commemorate the 60th**
Anniversary of the end of World War II
6.00 pm **Parish Communion at St John's, Oulton**
Sermon Text: Genesis 1

Mo 11 9.00 am Prayer Group in Christ Church to pray for children and young people

1.10 pm Assembly at Alleyne's Y9

Tu 12 9.30 am Assembly at Christ Church First School

We 13 8.00 pm Reader Team Meeting

Th 14 10.30 am Holy Communion in church

11.30 am Holy Communion at St Mary's Home

Fr 15 7.00 pm Rock Café for young people

Su 17 Trinity 8
9.15 am **Parish Communion**
Sermon Text: Romans 4:16
6.00 pm **Parish Communion at St John's, Oulton**
Sermon Text: Luke 2:1-14

Mo	18	9.00 am	Prayer Group in Christ Church to pray for children and young people
Tu	19	10.00 am	Causeway Prospects in church
We	20		Men's Fellowship – NO MEETING
Th	21	1.20 pm	Assembly at Christ Church Middle School
		7.30 pm	The Shed' 20's group (All 18-30s welcome see p12)
Fr	22	7.00 pm	Rock Café for young people

Su	24	Trinity 9	
		9.15 am	Family Service
			Sermon Text: Acts 4:1-22
		6.00 pm	Evening Prayer at St John's, Oulton
			Sermon Text: Philippians 2:1-14

Mo	25	9.00 am	Prayer Group in Christ Church to pray for children and young people
Th	28	10.30 am	Holy Communion in church
		11.30 pm	Holy Communion at Oulton Abbey
Fr	29	7.00 pm	Rock Café for young people

Su	31	Trinity 10	
		9.15 am	Morning Prayer
			Sermon Text: 1 Timothy 6:6-10
		7.00 pm	Canal-side Service – Churches Together in Stone

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

4 Wise Words...

The Greatest Achievement

July will be an amazing month. The decision by G8 finance ministers to write-off more than £22.2 billion of African debts owes much to the campaigns that have dominated public awareness. An otherwise dull January saw the actress Dawn French (a.k.a. the Vicar of Dibley) process with 600 women clergy to 10 Downing Street to present a petition on the topic. Many other attempts raised the profile of this issue, building on years of protest.

But other things in life are more important to some, so it would seem. On the radio an interesting comment was reported concerning the G8 summit: 'Bob Geldof's greatest achievement was the reconciliation of the band Pink Floyd after 25 years of separation.' This comment has a greater importance than you'd think for both performers and fans, for which a performance on 2nd July is an exciting prospect. One quote from the band's website illustrates what a long running saga this has been: 'Any squabbles Roger [Waters] and the band have had in the past are so petty in this context, and if re-forming for this concert will help focus attention then it's got to be worthwhile' (David Gilmour, Live8 quote from the band's website). It's clear that we need something greater than ourselves to make differences smaller and bring about reconciliation, even if only temporary in this case.

A more significant event, by far, is the cause for great celebration on 10th July. We will commemorate the 60th anniversary of the cessation of the War on a date that looks back to the end of war in Europe (VE Day) and forward to the anniversary of its end in Japan (VJ Day). Once again a greater event took individuals out of themselves so that differences were put to one side and a common cause was won. What joy it must have been to hear the news and see peace established. How indebted we are to those who laid down their lives to secure peace and reconciliation between nations.

Reconciliation is also the key feature of Christian faith – not primarily the reconciliation of people, or even of nations, but of humanity with God. What Jesus did when he died on the cross – taking the punishment for our wrongdoing and winning God's forgiveness for us – was to reconcile us to our loving heavenly Father and establish a relationship that will last for eternity: *'But now he has reconciled you by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation – if you continue in your faith, established and firm, not moved from the hope held out in the gospel'* (Col 1v22-23). The unthinkable has been achieved. The Son of God paid the immeasurable cost for us to be at peace with God and free to serve His purposes.



Paul Kingman

Thank You

Dave and Jeanette Rowlands thank you for your support during his hospitalisation in March and recovery thereafter.

Your prayers, letters and cards, and the practical help you gave us have been very much appreciated and made a big difference during a very difficult time and we thank God for you.

The hospital tells me I am completely healed and I am back at work. Thank you very much,

Dave Rowlands

A brush with God in the garden

On Saturday June 4th, Audrey and I from Christ Church were collected by Doreen Knight and transported to a day of meditation and painting organised by John Williams. We were pleased to meet up with Esme again, as well as some of John's parishioners.

We were privileged to be able to paint in the garden of Smithy Cottage, opposite John's Mucleston Church, a beautiful garden absolutely bursting with painting potential. The owners of the cottage allowed us access to their kitchen throughout the day and provided numerous cups of tea and coffee. We assembled there at midday to eat our lunches and chat.

The day began with a short prayer and we were directed by John to Bible readings on the theme of gardens, showing us how garden imagery is used in the Bible. We then looked at two very special 'brushes with God in a garden,' the first being the story of Adam and Eve and the second the wonderful meeting of Mary with the risen Lord Jesus.

We were then sent off to paint but the dilemma was what to choose? Eventually everything became still and quiet in the garden as we all found our chosen spot and settled down.

The sky was blue at times but huge banks of cloud, some threatening, were with us most of the day, though on the whole it remained dry throughout. By three-thirty we had all produced something to take home and gathered for a showing and a final prayer.

All in all, a lovely peaceful day. Thank you John for organising it,

Diana Tunstall

Christ Church First School News

Amidst unseasonably cool June weather, an excited Year 4 boarded a Coach bound for Lichfield Cathedral. They had done much preparation in class prior to their keenly anticipated "Open Door" visit and now it was here. "Open Door" takes place annually in June, when Lichfield Cathedral literally opens its doors, welcoming groups of children from schools all over the county. The children then, led by many enthusiastic, multi-talented volunteers, take part in workshops where they can experience such crafts as Cathedral Art, seed mosaic, tapestry and skills such as audio-magazine production, drama, quilling, calligraphy and many more. The day begins and ends with a shared time of Worship. Our children returned, fired with interest and enthusiasm and recounted their visit to the whole school during Worship. Quotes which summed up their feelings were "We were stunned by the size of the Cathedral"--"We enjoyed it so much that we wanted to carry on". It was definitely a day which those children will remember for a long time.

We are thrilled this month to receive news that we have been awarded "Artsmark Status". This is an award which is given to schools who can demonstrate a sustained commitment over a long period of time to Art in all its forms, along with Music, Dance and Drama. We are one of only a small number of schools in the West Midlands to have been granted this status announced this month. At Christ Church First School, we recognize the importance of The Arts in the development of the whole child and we are delighted that the work of a committed Staff Team with enthusiastic children has been recognized in this way. What a super way to end our school year!

The Summer Term is rapidly passing and School continues to be increasingly busy. Events which we are looking forward to are the annual Teddy Bears' Picnic where Year 1 visit Birches Valley with their teddies (staff bring theirs too!) to share a picnic. This is a fun way of developing an awareness of important environmental issues with young children.

We have Stoke City's "Football in the Community" visiting soon to organize a sponsored Penalty Shoot-out Competition, raising money for School funds and also for Stoke City's nominated Charities.

Year 4 children are preparing to transfer to Middle School and are visiting their new classes shortly. Our Leavers' Service will be held in Church on Friday July 22nd at 2.30pm. This is always a special time- both for these children and the Staff who have shared in their education over the last 5 years-as they celebrate their memories of Christ Church First School but also look forward to moving on to their next school. We wish all our children and families well as they begin the next stage of their educational journey.

Finally, our Summer Concerts, which this year take place on Tuesday July 12th at 2.00pm, Wednesday July 13th at 7.00pm and Thursday July 14th also at 7.00pm, will be enhanced by the use of some new music stands—very kindly bought for us by Mrs W. Jones, our previous Year 4 teacher and now a Governor. Our Recorder and Violin Groups certainly feel very professional using these. You are warmly invited to attend one of our performances (tickets from Mrs. Smith in the Office tel.354125). This year we have developed music and entertainment on a Disney Theme. We feel sure that this will send us out on a high note to begin our Summer holidays! Happy holidays everyone!!!

Janet Booth Music Co-ordinator

Kidz Korner!

I've had a problem with my computer this month and the words have got all muddled up. I ran out of time to unscramble this last bit... I'm told it's a very important message but I can't work out what it says... Can you do it for me?

SUSJE SOLVE NVEYEROE OS CHUM

HATA EH DIDE OS EW CLOUD VILE

My friends have all bought me back presents from their holidays but I can't remember where they're all from... Can you help me sort them out (match the present to the country).

A pair of Clogs

A packet of Spaghetti

A cuddly Koala Bear

Some Croissants

A Sari dress

France

India

Italy

Australia

Holland

Looking for a fun way to spend a week this summer?

Why not come along to

Landlubbers Holiday Club

Crafts, games, music, drama, bible teaching, lots of fun!!!

Open to all children aged 4 - 11 years.

Tues 30th August - Sunday 4th September

2pm - 4pm

Christ Church Centre

Phone 07966 632797 for a booking form

POEM OF A RIGHTEOUS MAN

Lord can you hear me,
Lord please be near me,
Just hold me afloat,
When they rocking the boat
And they're dragging me down
Whilst clutching my throat.

Lord please be my eyes,
Lord please mute their lies,
For they're corrupting my sight,
Dragging me into the night
And their words and their bodies
Are blocking the light

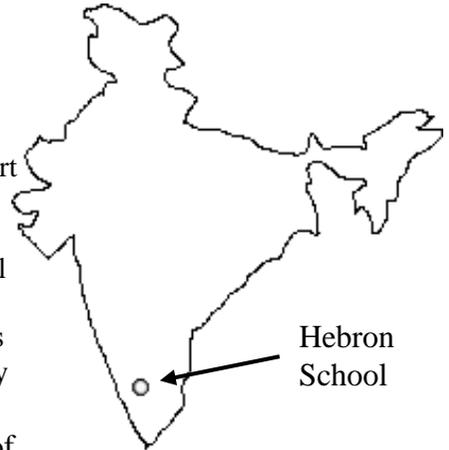
Lord please appease me,
Lord please don't release me
Or I'll be bathed in mistrust,
Lost in greed and in lust.
And my love and compassion,
Left covered in dust.

Lord, open your doors.
Lord, I am yours.
Please God don't pass me by,
For with you I stand by.
From now and beyond
The day that I die

By Jay

The Joscelynes' Mission to India

We are now making our final preparations to go to work in Hebron School in India. For those of you who don't know who we are, I'm Dominic, my wife is Clare and our daughter is Erica of 18 months. We have had a heart for mission for a while now, attending Bible College at Regents Theological College in order to prepare and now feel we are being obedient to God's will for us. Jesus' last command to his disciples resonates with us, "and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."



Our world is in a whirl and our flight date, the 26th July, is approaching with quickening speed. We have a house and garden to prepare for renting, visas to sort, vaccinations to coordinate, medicals for the school and Interserve, and other admin to do with finances etc. Will it get done? Probably not in our strength but with God's help the important bits will.

Many of you have been asking us what our families think about us going. They will find the separation difficult especially grandparents who will be separated from Erica. They are however extremely supportive and Clare's mother is already planning a trip –good for her we know it is not her choice of holiday destination.

If you get round to reading this before 17th July please join us at the morning service where we will be giving thanks for our daughter Erica and in the same service Christ Church will commission us for our work in India with prayer. Also at this service are the Humphreys who work at the school and are

supported by Christ church. They will be talking about their experience at Hebron.

What will we be doing?

Clare will work as a Technology teacher. This will be a challenge as this is her second subject. Prayer will be needed here. The teaching of mathematics has been mentioned. Some Art teaching, which is Clare's primary subject, is also on the cards. We believe that the best way to serve is to be flexible and work with the school in the areas where they have gaps.

I will initially be Erica's primary carer and am looking forward to spending quality time with her. I will also be a dorm parent for one day a week looking after a dorm of boys. Taking on a technical role with the computer network will fit in there somewhere. Exactly what this may in tale is not yet clear but the role of computers is expanding and I am hoping to be involved with the development of on-line learning at the school. I have also been thinking of ways in which my programming skills in web development may be put to communicating information to distant parents. I am sure will certainly be involved with technician work with the machines on site.

Are we going with a missionary organisation?

At the time of writing we are applying to the On Track Programme with Interserve. This will cover part or all of our three year contract at Hebron. We must get down to completing the paperwork associated with this. After the initial three years we will have decisions to make as to where we will be serving and if this is still on the mission field as planned we will be making application to be full Interserve partners or partners with another missionary organisation.

Do you want to know more?

Please contact Cecilia Wilding at the Christ Church centre.

Are you...

Aged 18 - 30?

Looking to learn more about
Christianity and grow in
Christian faith?

Then come along to...

The Shed!*

(*Name subject to confirmation!!!!!!)

Fortnightly on Thursday nights

July 7th & 21st at 27 Oulton Road, Stone

PCC News

The PCC met on Wednesday 15th May 2005 and the following matters were reported on, discussed and/or decided:

- Plans for the **visit of the Boaters' Christian Fellowship** from the evening of Monday 19th September to the morning of Thursday 22nd September 2005 are coming along well, and include visits to schools, a children's picnic, a Men's Fellowship Breakfast, a special evening event on Tuesday, and a number of other events. Look out for more details nearer the time.
- The young man offered the post of **Youth Worker** here declined the post in favour of a position elsewhere. However, we continue to look for the person of God's choice to work with us amongst our young people.
- As a church, we agreed to support **Clare & Dominic Joscelyne** and their 18month-old daughter, **Erica**, both financially and in our prayers, as they go out to work in Hebron School, South India, in July for at least three years.
- We are pleased that **The Rock Drop-in** on Friday evenings is attracting 40+ young people and may attract more in future weeks. The numbers coming mean that we are now needing to consider recruiting more leaders and how many our facilities can safely accommodate.
- In groups, the PCC undertook an exercise analysing the impact of the various activities of our church on the various age-groups. This is background work in preparation for the formulation of our **Mission Action Plan**.
- The church has decided to apply to become a **FAIRTRADE Church**. This means that we agree to use FAIRTRADE tea and coffee for all meetings for which the church has responsibility, to move forward on using other FAIRTRADE products whenever possible, and to promote FAIRTRADE during FAIRTRADE Fortnight in March each year.

The next PCC meeting takes place on **Wednesday 20th July 2005**

Dan's Puzzle Page

What am I?

I'm greater than God,
More evil than the devil,
The poor have me,
The rich want me,
If you eat me you'll die??

See Dan for the answer!!!

Brain Ticklers Answers:

- 1) Ruthless!
- 2) Moses – he broke all 10 commandments at once!
- 3) There's a whole book about it – "He brews!"

Brain Ticklers!

- 1) What kind of man was Boaz before he married?
- 2) Which servant of God was the most flagrant lawbreaker in the Bible?
- 3) Who does the bible direct to make coffee, men or women?

Answers from last month, **find the books**...How did you do?

I once made a **remark** about the hidden books of the Bible. It was a **lulu**. **Kept** people looking **so** hard for **facts** and for others it was a **revelation**. Some were in a **jam**, especially since the names of the books were not capitalized. But the **truth** finally struck home to **numbers** of readers. To others, it was a real **job**. We want it to be **a most** fascinating few moments for you. **Yes, there** will be some really easy ones to spot. Others may require **judges** to help them. I will quickly admit **it usually** takes a minister to find one of them, and there will be loud **lamentations** when it is found. One little lady says **she brews** a cup of tea, so she can concentrate better. See how well you can **compete**. **Relax** now for there are really sixteen names of books of the Bible in this story.

Mark, Luke, Kings, Acts, Revelation, James, Ruth, Numbers, Job, Amos, Esther, Judges, Titus, Lamentations, Hebrews, Peter

Just joking!

Who was the greatest financier in the Bible?

Noah. He was floating his stock while everyone else was in liquidation!!

Christian Aid Week

Once again there was a shortage of collectors for Christian Aid Week and only 22 of the 35 roads in our parish could be covered by the 14 willing (!!!!) volunteers. Many thanks to Ian and Sheila Hawley continuing their super efforts of last year on Whitebridge Manor.

The total amount raised, £1049.11 is a testimony to the generosity of the people in our parish who **could** contribute, and on behalf of the many beneficiaries, whoever or wherever they may be, Thank-you!

Phil Tunstall

PS Stone Rotary gave £100 and of the street collection almost £460 was gift aided.

Streets of Prayer

3rd July

10th July

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

Saltersford Rise
Rolt Close
Millennium Way
Cameron Wharf

The Crescent
End of Granville Terrace
Millers Gate
Harley Drive



17th July

24th July

Albert Street
Alexandra Street
Arthur Street
Berkeley Street

Chestnut Grove
Edward Street
Field Terrace
Field House Court
Kent Grove

16

From the Registers



Baptism

22nd May Josie Louise Watson

Funeral

25th May Eva Clark Aged 49 years

Sidespersons for July

9.15 am

3rd C. Wilding, J. Cooper, M. Holden, G. Holden

10th A. West, D. Wilson, T. MacFarlane, T. Lockett

17th M. Hutchinson, B. Hutchinson, V. Ledward, S. Gerrard

24th P. Hipkiss, D. Pickles, P. Tunstall, S. Hallam

31st C. Wilding, J. Cooper, J. Rowlands, T. Lockett

Flower Rota for July

3rd Mrs. J. Rowlands

10th Mrs. J. Butterworth

17th Mrs. A. Gaskin

24th Mrs. K. Thompson

31st Mrs. M. Mance

