

In This Issue...

Diary for July	2
Christians in a consumer culture ...	4
First School news	5
Noticeboard	6
Youth Club	7
Who are . . . Church Army?.....	8
Kidz Korner	9
News from the Bells	10
Mission Partners.....	12
Crossword	13
PCC News.....	14
Streets of Prayer	15
Solutions - and apology!.....	15
From the Registers.....	16
Our master's voice	Back

Christ Church



and People

Please get your contributions for the August magazine to the editor by Friday 21st July

Cover Story

In case you're wondering after last month, no, we don't come from a family of bricklayers, and we don't have a fetish about rounded windows - we just thought this was an interesting view of Granville Terrace!

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

Sa 1 8.30 am Prayers in church followed by
9.00 am Breakfast in the Centre

Su 2 Trinity 3

9.15 am Parish Communion
Sermon Text: 2 Corinthians 3:1-18 "The unveiling"

6.00 pm Evening Prayer at St John's Oulton
Sermon Text: Matthew 7:24-29 "Jesus' authority"

Mo 3 9.00 am Prayers for the schools and young people
6.30 pm Cornerstone for teenagers at 13 Queen's Square

Tu 4 9.30 am Christ Church First School Assembly
12.30 pm Seekers Club at Christ Church Middle School

We 5 6.30 pm Explore Teenage Enquirers Group at 13 Queens Square

Th 6 1.10 pm Assembly at Alleyne's
8.00 pm 20's Group at 27 Oulton Road

Su 9 Trinity 4

9.15 am Morning Prayer
Sermon text: 2 Corinthians 4:1-6 "Gospel light"

6.00 pm Holy Communion at St John's Oulton
Sermon text: Psalm 14 & 15 "Atheists are fools"

Mo 10 9.00 am Prayers for the schools and young people
6.30 pm Cornerstone for teenagers at 13 Queen's Square

Tu 11 **10.30 am Holy Communion in church**
12.30 pm Seekers Club at Christ Church Middle School

We 12 6.30 pm Explore Teenage Enquirers Group at 13 Queens Square
7.30 pm PCC Meeting

Th 13 6.00 pm 20's Group BBQ at 27 Oulton Road

Su 16 Trinity 5

9.15 am Parish Communion
Sermon text: 2 Corinthians 4:7-18 "Treasure in clay pots"

6.00 pm Songs of Praise service at St John's Oulton
Sermon text: Psalm 16 & 17 "David's confidence"

Mo 17 9.00 am Prayers for the schools and young people
6.30 pm Cornerstone for teenagers at 13 Queen's Square

*The heavens declare the glory of God;
and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.*

Psalm 19:1

Tu	18	12.30 pm	Seekers Club at Christ Church Middle School
We	19	6.30 pm	Explore Teenage Enquirers Group at 13 Queens Square
Th	20	9.30 am 8.00 pm	Oulton First School leavers' service 20's Study Group at 27 Oulton Road
Fr	21	11.00 am 2.00 pm	Christ Church Middle School service Christ Church First School service

Su 23 Trinity 6
9.15 am Family Service

Sermon text: 2 Corinthians 5:1-10 "Home and away"

6.00 pm Holy Communion at St John's Oulton

Sermon text: Psalm 18 "My deliverer"

Mo	24	9.00 am 6.30 pm	Prayers for the schools and young people Cornerstone for teenagers, at 13 Queen's Square
----	----	--------------------	---

Tu	25	10.30 am	Holy Communion in church
----	----	-----------------	---------------------------------

We	26	8.00 pm	Readers' meeting
----	----	---------	------------------

Su 30 Trinity 7
9.15 am Morning Prayer

Sermon text: Proverbs 1 "Wisdom starts here"

4.00 pm Churches Together on Westbridge Park - open air service with a barbecue

Mo	31	9.00 am	Prayers for the schools and young people
----	----	---------	--

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

Christians in a consumer culture

Here's a shocking statistic. In the last decade in Britain, the total land space given over to retailing has increased by a fifth! Shopping now appears to be the national pastime. Christians are under pressure to conform to this surrounding culture.

In the UK we are faced by the cult of 'choice' invading our lives. As part of the Western world we are vastly wealthier than the rest of the world. But we are also vastly more targeted! Targeted, that is, by the hidden persuaders who constantly bombard us with advertising in order to relieve us of the burden of full wallets and large credit limits. We are persuaded to satisfy our senses with entertainment and material goods: they promise us happiness and security through our own home, owning a second holiday home, good pensions and a health plan. There are many good things to enjoy in the world and these are not simply to be despised. But on the other hand we so easily drop out of things if they are not according to our taste, and move on to find something that satisfies us. So, ultimately consumerism offers us the power and pleasure of personal choice, but we often find the pleasure is short lived or doesn't quite meet our expectations.

This is where we have to remember the Gospel, as consumerism is hostile to gospel principles of discipline, obedience and the delaying of self-gratification. Gospel principles stem from the fact that material blessings cannot compare to spiritual blessings which are ours in Christ. The apostle Paul teaches us that God wants to share his joy with us: *'command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant or to place their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything'* (1 Tim 6v17). Earthly wealth is not eternal wealth. So often wealth seems to drive people away from God as they increasingly trust in their self-made world. To guard against this temptation Paul adds: *'command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life'* (v18-19). When we start to use the material things of this world in the light of the world to come then we will be amassing treasures in heaven and be a powerful witness to those around us.



May God inspire us to be great witnesses to the gospel that liberates us from the shopping centre!

Paul Kingman

Christ Church First School News

Our term draws to a close with many exciting activities planned.



We have already enjoyed a splendid sports morning – when the sun shone, and many parents and visitors came to watch the fantastic effort made by all our children. Mums' and Dads' races were also well subscribed with a keen enthusiasm shown by all! Toddlers not to be left out showed great promise too!!

Year 1 children have just enjoyed a sunny teddy bears picnic at Birches Valley Outdoor Education Centre. Children and teachers (!) all took teddy bears, and the emphasis was on making shelters, providing food with plenty of fun and team work too of course.

Our year draws to a close with a 'Caribbean' week. During this week we will welcome visiting artists who will share with us their expertise in several areas – including Caribbean crafts and music (particularly drums!) The children will spend most of the week out of their usual classroom setting – working with children from other classes, and different teachers. We look forward to an exiting week of celebration, before everyone takes a well earned holiday!

We wish all our friends a happy peaceful holiday.

Janet Booth
Music Co-ordinator

6

Noticeboard

Thank You

Jack and Barbara Sutcliffe would like to thank all who supported their recent plant sale. A sum of **£465** was raised. The Clifford Project, Christ Church Youth Fund and Christian Aid will receive £155 each.

We trust your gardens will look beautiful this summer!



Oulton Village Fete Saturday 15th July 2 pm Oulton Abbey

Exhibition of vintage cars ∩ model traction engine rides (for children) ∩ Paramedics from Staffordshire Ambulance Service ∩ Decorated Wellies competition ∩ archery ∩ penalty shoot out ∩ games ∩ tombola ∩ wheel of fortune ∩ playgroup games ∩ face painting ∩ tea and cakes ∩ stalls ∩ raffle.

Tour of the Abbey at end of the afternoon courtesy of Dame Benedicta.

Contributions of goods for the stalls and raffle prizes will be welcome - cakes and produce on the day preferably before 1 pm at the Abbey.

Barbara Palmer
01785 816121



FAIRTRADE

Our next sale of goods will be on **Sunday 23rd July** in the Centre, following the morning service.

Guarantees a **better deal** for Third World Producers

Sheila

Christ Church Youth Club

Some of you may be aware that something new is afoot with the youth work. On the **27th June** Christ Church Youth Club kicks off in the **Christ Church Centre at 8pm.**

We are very excited about starting this new venture and the opportunities it will hopefully bring for the good news of Jesus Christ to be made known to the young people of Stone.

Activities

The youth club will be open to anyone between years 9 and upper sixth (age **13 to 18**) and there will be a range of activities available. There will be a full size table tennis table, an X-box on a large screen, table football and a pool table for people to enjoy.

There will also be organised activities and games for all to enjoy. During each evening a short talk will be given explaining a part of the Bible and the amazing news of Jesus Christ. This will be followed by a discussion time and an opportunity to ask any questions.

Our Aims

Christ Church Youth Club will be running till the 1st August but then stopping for the rest of the summer. The reason that this youth club is starting up is to make Jesus Christ known to young people in Stone in a fun and welcoming environment that they will want to keep coming back to and invite their friends to. Please do join us in praying for this venture as we start up. Please pray that young people would hear of it and come and be challenged to submit to Jesus as King.

If you or someone you know would be interested in coming along then please do turn up on the 27th or if you would like more information then please contact **Thomas Nash**, the youth worker, on **01785 286551.**

Su Doku

1				2		6	5
		6	9	3	7		4
2	4	7		8			1
	8						2
		5			1	3	
3						5	
	7			4	6		
		3		2	6	8	
9		8	5				7

Solution on Page 15

Who are . . . Church Army?

The Church Army is a society of evangelists linked to the Anglican Church but working outside church buildings to enable people to come to a living faith in Jesus Christ. They work in partnership with other people in local churches and community groups to share the Christian message of words and action in relevant and sensitive ways.

People and projects More people than ever before are seeking answers to spiritual questions, yet they don't expect to find them in church, which they see as irrelevant. God has called Church Army evangelists to breath new life into people and astonish the church with the need for urgency in sharing the Gospel in everyday situations with everyday people.

An evangelist in focus – Alan Dodd Alan's role as an area evangelist in the Calder Deanery has certainly kept him on the move. "After almost a year in post it still feels as though I am beginning work. I have six rural benefices to get round so by the end of this year I hope to have a clearer picture of how things stand with all the churches", says Alan.

By leading a Lent course, a four week "sharing your faith course", and some preaching, the diocese already has a feel for how Alan has used his gifts to put mission and evangelism at the heart of the church agenda in Cumbria. He has not been slow to get things moving and establish the sort of relationships appropriate to a tightly-formed rural community.



Alan has begun a lunch club in the local secondary school and is helping out as a scout leader. Believing that much of the "real work" is done out in the community, he has joined the Egremont Town Band as a tenor horn player and is a member of the Old Captain's House team in the Whitehaven pool league. "As well as testing out my pool skills in a pressurised setting, the opportunities to talk with people about my work and faith have been better than anywhere else in my time here so far. A reasonable bit of banter flies around about how I get help from "Him upstairs", but it's just great to be there as a witness, and to realise that I am being looked at to see if my life and actions measure up to what I profess to believe in. I am trusting in God to do some great things here."

Find out more about Church Army at www.churcharmy.org.uk

Kidz Korner!

R

After Jesus had gone up to heaven he sent the Holy Spirit to help the disciples to live as he had told them to. If you choose to follow Jesus the Holy Spirit will come into your life too and help you to behave as Jesus wants. In the bible it tells us how we will behave if we let the Holy Spirit help us. Galatians 5 v 22-23 tell us of the "fruit" that the Holy Spirit will produce in our lives. Can you find seven of the fruits of the spirit hidden in the grid below (Taken from a NIV Bible).

x

S	S	E	N	L	U	F	H	T	I	A	F	G
Q	R	O	E	P	B	G	S	S	E	O	Y	E
O	S	V	V	T	L	O	V	E	A	P	X	N
Y	P	I	N	K	E	O	R	F	E	H	W	T
E	O	P	E	O	I	D	Y	A	T	O	J	L
S	A	J	X	W	D	N	C	F	T	H	I	E
S	O	Z	T	S	S	E	N	D	N	I	K	N
K	T	I	A	K	Y	S	T	R	E	L	O	E
W	A	S	H	H	Y	S	I	C	O	U	Y	S
S	R	N	N	I	O	N	T	P	E	S	O	S

M

9

Which two are missing?

%

SENCOLLFORT and ICENPATE

Why not choose to follow Jesus and ask the Holy Spirit into your life today?

||

Dear Jesus,

Thank-you that you died for me so that I could be forgiven. I'm sorry for all the wrong things I've done in my life. Please help me to follow you today and send the Holy Spirit to help me to live as you want.

Amen



Although this page is designed for children it would do us all some good to stop and consider what fruit the spirit is producing in our lives today.

Stephen & Tabita's latest news

Zagreb ProChrist was good in March and a great encouragement for the church, quickly followed by the children's musical 'Mjuzikids', including our three children Sheona, Joshua and Benjamin. Then we went on to our ECM Biennial Conference, held in Spain, where we had great fellowship catching up with other missionaries from all over Europe whom we see every 2 years! The kids really enjoyed themselves using the outdoor swimming pool, playing with the other 30 or so 'mish-kids' and using their English to their heart's content. We (Stephen & Tabita) enjoyed the bible teaching from Charles Price and the many seminars and talking over meal tables and around the hotel concourse with the 300 or so missionaries and guests. Also we had this time added duties, namely conferencing with leadership and the newly developed Balkan Team, for which Stephen is now responsible.

Balkan Team We are quite excited at being involved with such a group and are already planning towards holding the first 'Balkan Rendezvous' in our house in Zagreb in early November. We don't have a great deal of room for such a team, but Tabita said to me, as she saw the enthusiasm of the 3 groups from **Bosnia** - Pastor and his two sons, one a pastor, **Kosova** - Gani Smolica and Primrose (Irish missionary) and **Serbia** - Pastor and his missionary son-in-law, "Just you invite who you want, I'll manage to sleep them somewhere!" Dangerous words! For 2 full days and 3 nights in early November we will have the eight guests plus Johan Lukasse, veteran Belgian missionary who has seen over 80 new churches planted during his 35-year ministry in Roman Catholic Belgium (he's also ECM's international chairman), who will lead the seminars with me held at our local church plant hall. The Croatia church-planting team will also attend... but they have their own houses!

Our vision for the 4 Balkan teams of Bosnia, Croatia, Kosova and Serbia includes:

1. Developing the existing churches
2. Planting clusters of churches on each field
3. Enabling ECM teams to flourish (& be fruitful)
4. Opening new opportunities for new workers

As I travelled to Bosnia and Kosova last November I was struck by the isolation our workers minister in and saw the need to bring these missionaries together twice a year for training and encouragement.

One factor we would like to work on especially is that we find from God what God would like to do through these ministries these next 5-10 years and then work towards spreading the vision and need to prospective missionaries and prayer partners. These teams are exclusively made up of local 'nationals', with the exception of Irish missionary Primrose in Kosova and German missionaries Ullrike and Tabita and myself (UK) in Zagreb.

Balkan Visit to Serbia May 8-9 and Kosova May 10-12 Please pray for us as I visit Branko and Rada, Serbian missionary couple with their daughters and sons-in-law (missionaries also) and the church-planting team in Zaječar, Serbia. I will then travel onto Kosova by train and bus to visit Gani and Adile Smolica and Primrose Leahy (N.I.) and the established church in Peja. Albanian pastor Berti Dosti (ECM) will also accompany me from Lushnja, Albania as we seek to encourage the team in Kosova.

(Pray for Stephen on such trips as this – that he may be an encouragement there and that Tabita and the children will be okay in his absence.)

Much love to you all,

Stephen, Tabita, Sheona, Joshua and Benjamin

PS They have since had a very encouraging evangelistic concert mission in a large tent on their 'front lawn', a large grassed area by the Dubrava church building. Despite rain and temperatures of 10-15 °C, 100 came to the first evening and 150 to the second. Some 230-ish, together with congregations from their mother-church, came to a special Pentecost Service in the tent on the Sunday morning, where there was much joy and re-commitment to the Lord.

There was a Muzikids concert on the Sunday afternoon in which their three children took part. Around 70 people came, mostly non-church-goers and many new contacts were made.

New Address:

Stephen & Tabita Bell, Ciklama 33, 10360 Sesvete, Zagreb,
CROATIA

Tel 00385-1-2012781

tabita.bell@zg.t-com.hr

stephen.bell@ecmi.org

Mission Partners - the Lee family

Tim & Kate Lee and their three children, Rebekah, James and baby Grace are our Church Mission Society (CMS) Link Partners. On 11th June we had the joy of welcoming Tim Lee with two of the children, Rebekah & James, to our church. (Kate and Grace would have come but Grace was recovering from a severe infection and Kate seemed to have succumbed to it too).

We learnt something of their work among street children in Manila through a drama during the Morning Service, and more of the amazing work God is doing there through Jigsaw Kids Ministries, during their presentation after coffee. We are sad that more people didn't come to the presentation as this is such a good example of a gospel work in a very different social setting. Tim is going to send us a copy of the video he showed so that those unable to come have a chance to see it.

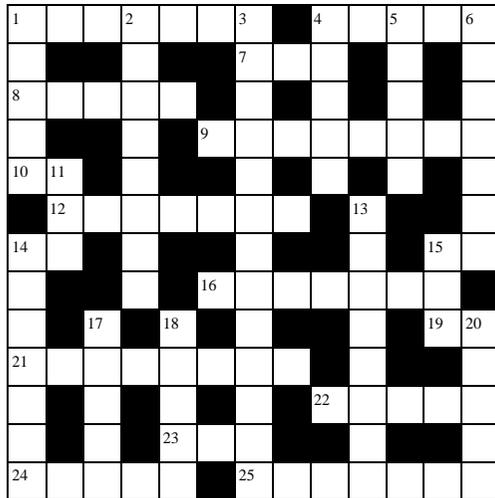
Later, we learnt of their financial situation as a family, and of our responsibility as a Link church to support them. Money raised for CMS was previously pooled and individuals and families were supported financially via this pool to which we contributed. However, in early 2005 this policy changed and Mission Partners became responsible, with the help of CMS, for raising their own support. This applied to new Partners and to Partners coming home and expecting to return, like the Lees. This policy actually brings CMS in line with most other mission agencies.

Partners have ten Link churches such as ourselves and we need to play our part in helping to raise their support. As a family, the Lees need to raise £30,000 pa. This would include one-off gifts and promised ongoing support. The Mission Task Group, together with Paul our Vicar, and Kevin our Treasurer, have reviewed our giving to the Lee family and we are able to increase our regular annual giving to some extent. Some already give to CMS and now that they are aware of the new policy, might be willing to designate what they give for Lee family support. We hope that others might consider giving a regular amount, or a one-off gift. Cecilia has some cards indicating how individuals could support the family in the very valuable work that they are doing.

If you want more information or feel you should help financially, please speak to Cecilia Wilding – Tel.817987.

Clues Across

- 1 Stock mistake in the field? (6)
 4 Silly, so ego gets the bird! (5)
 7 Hear jumper defines a bitter herb. (3)
 8 Alternatively cut off the lower deck. (5)
 9 Work model about it on the contrary. (8)
 10 Pointless legume on the Tannoy? (2)
 12 Ring around after me, note its coming together. (7)
 14 Representative chart loses article. (2)
 15 A note from Lawrence? (2)
 16 Give mineral a break, put it back. (7)
 19 Non-U adhesive has been tampered with. (2)
 21 Subtract food supplier. (8)
 22 Make a bid to remove headless queen. (5)
 23 "Not quite ill?" That's what he wrote! (3)
 24 First lady books an occasion. (5)
 25 Vote for the artist? She killed her mother! (7)

**Clues Down**

- 1 Roughly pour about childhood illness. (5)
 2 "Now prods in confusion the Herald of the Spring." (8)
 3 Prance about direction to think what has greatest weight. (13)
 4 Note, note about to make an advance. (3,2)
 5 Drink dispenser, work with twitch. (5)
 6 A little of this sounds like what you will be! (7)
 11 Enough - without the French - to measure the current. (3)
 13 I clip, for it's growing profusely. (8)
 14 Motorway investment is an error. (7)
 15 Get back a sheep. (3)
 17 Glide along to Caribbean music (with 15A). (5)
 18 Go hungry, about turn for one who made a bad bargain. (5)
 20 Many a song about her. (5)

CHAIN GANG

Find a word to link each pair of words.

Door - Press

Last - Hand

Rice - Tiger

Stair - Bag

Stage - Frame

- The special meeting of the PCC to work on **Mission Action Plans** will now take place on Monday 26 June 2009 at 7:30pm. The Bishop of Stafford will be talking to us at this event.

The PCC met on Wednesday 24 May 2006 and the following matters were reported on, discussed and/or decided.

- The three options to review the parish share were considered. After much discussion the PCC decided to choose to stay with the existing formula for calculating how much parish share we should pay.
- Various people were elected to serve the PCC in the role of specific officers. A full list of names of the new PCC can be found inside the back cover of this magazine.
- The Centre Management Task Group are considering options to replace the carpet in the Church Centre. A preferred option is to be presented at the next meeting of the PCC.
- The Rock Café was temporarily closed on 5 May. The wardens and Rock Café helpers have reviewed its format and will be relaunching this Youth work venture on Tuesday 27 June for a 6-week pilot providing a 1½ hour evening from 8:00 to 9:30pm.
- Churches Together in Stone will be holding a summer praise and barbeque in Westbridge Park on Sunday 30 July 2006.

The next PCC Meeting is on
Wednesday 12th July 2006 at 7.30pm



Streets of Prayer

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



2nd July

The Crescent
End of Granville Terrace
Millers Gate
Harley Drive

9th July

Albert Street
Alexandra Street
Arthur Street
Berkeley Street

16th July

Chestnut Grove
Edward Street
Field Terrace
Field House Court
Kent Grove

23rd July

Meaford Avenue
Mount Avenue
Mount Crescent
Mount Road

30th July

Mount Street
Stonefield Court
Old Road
Stonefield Square

Puzzle Solutions



Sudoku

1	3	9	4	7	2	8	6	5
8	5	6	1	9	3	7	2	4
2	4	7	6	5	8	3	9	1
6	8	4	3	1	5	9	7	2
7	2	5	8	4	9	1	3	6
3	9	1	2	6	7	4	5	8
5	7	2	9	8	4	6	1	3
4	1	3	7	2	6	5	8	9
9	6	8	5	3	1	2	4	7

Chain Gang

Door/STOP/Press
Last/MINUTE/Hand
Rice/PAPER/Tiger
Stair/CARPET/Bag
Stage/DOOR/Frame

You can't get the staff!

For those of you who were bemused by the blank space on this page last month, this is what should have been in it.



Chain Gang

Air/PORT/Able
Angelic/CHOIR/Stalls
Soda/FOUNTAIN/Pen
Training/SHOE/Horn
Silver/SERVICE/Charge

16

From the Registers



Baptisms

18th June

Olivia Hanson

Weddings

16th July

Wayne Blundred & Faye Baines

Sidespersons for July

	9.15 am	6.00 pm
2nd	V. Ledward, J. Rowlands T. MacFarlane, A. West	<i>Oulton</i>
9th	S. Hallam, D. Wilson M. Holden, G. Holden	<i>Oulton</i>
16th	C. Wilding, J. Rowlands P. Tunstall, D. Pickles	<i>Oulton</i>
23rd	P. Hipkiss, J. Rowlands A. Greer, V. Ledward	<i>Oulton</i>
30th	B. Hutchinson, M. Hutchinson T. MacFarlane, A. West	<i>Oulton</i>

Flower Rota for July

2nd	Mrs. J. Rowlands
9th	Mrs. J. Butterworth
16th	Mrs. A. Gaskin
23rd	Mrs. K. Thompson
30th	Mrs. M. Mance

