

# Christ Church and People

40p



# January

Parish Magazine of  
Christ Church Stone

# 2008

# PARISH DIRECTORY

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## 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

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## THE PARISH TEAM

<b>Vicar</b>	Paul Kingman The Vicarage, Bromfield Court	812669
<b>Curate</b>	Tim Vasby-Burnie, 1 Navigation Loop	814244
<b>Electoral Roll Officer</b>	Irene Gassor	814871
<b>Parish Office</b>	Christ Church Centre, Christ Church Way, Stone, Staffs ST15 8ZB Tel 811990      Email      christchurch.centre1@btinternet.com	
<b>Deaconess (Retired)</b>	Ann Butler	818160
<b>Readers</b>	David Bell John Butterworth Margaret Massey David Rowlands Michael Thompson Cecilia Wilding	815775 817465 813403 816713 813712 817987
<b>Music Co-ordinators</b>	Peter Mason Jeff Challinor	815854 819665
<b>Wardens</b>	Phil Tunstall David Rowlands	817028 816713
<b>Deputy Wardens</b>	Shirley Hallam, Arthur Foulkes	
<b>Prayer Request List</b>	Barbara Thornicroft	818700

## CHRIST CHURCH CENTRE

**Booking Secretary**      Carole or Irene      (Office)      811990

## CHURCH SCHOOLS

Christ Church C.E.(Controlled) First School, Northesk Street.

Head: Mrs Lynne Croxall B.Ed.(Hons)      354125

Christ Church C.E.(Aided) Middle School, Old Road

Head: C. Waghorn B.Ed(Hons),DPSE,ACP,FRSA      354047

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**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 week in the Centre during term time.

**Monday Toddlers**      9.30 am      **Friday Little Fishes**      11.00 am

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# Christ Church



# and People

Please get your contributions for the February magazine to us by 15th January

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**Cover Story:** Jerry Cooper drew lots of wonderful pictures for this magazine, all of them buildings in our parish. This month the picture is of Princes Street

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## Christ Church on the Internet

Parish website	<a href="http://www.churches.lichfield.anglican.org/stone/stonecc">www.churches.lichfield.anglican.org/stone/stonecc</a>
Parish office email	<a href="mailto:christchurch.centre1@btinternet.com">christchurch.centre1@btinternet.com</a>
Magazine contributions	<a href="mailto:christchurch_mag@yahoo.co.uk">christchurch_mag@yahoo.co.uk</a>

# January 2008

Tue	1		
Wed	2	9:00am 7:30pm	Prayers for schools and young people Standing committee
Thu	3		
Fri	4		
Sat	5	8:30am 9:00am	Prayer meeting in church Breakfast in the Centre
Sun	6	9:15am  6:00pm	Covenant Service - Communion 1 John 5:1-5 "Divine children" Evening Prayer at Christ Church Ephesians 3:1-13 "The mystery solved"
Mon	7	7:00pm	Cornerstone for teenagers
Tue	8	9:30am 10:30am 12:30pm 7:30pm	Christ Church First School assembly Midweek service Seekers Club at Middle School Youth Club in the Centre
Wed	9	9:00am	Prayers for schools and young people
Thu	10	1:20pm	Christ Church Middle School assembly
Fri	11		
Sat	12	8:30am	Ecumenical prayer meeting at Christ Church followed by breakfast (Week of Prayer for Christian Unity)
Sun	13	9:15am 4:30pm 6:00pm	Morning Prayer 1 John 5:13-21 "The true God" Christians Together in Stone AGM CTiS United Service at Christ Church Joshua 1:1-9 "God's people"
Mon	14	9:00am 12:30pm 7:00pm	CTiS prayer meeting at Christ Church CTiS St John's URC prayer lunch Cornerstone for teenagers
Tue	15	9:30am 10:30am 12:30pm 7:30pm	Christ Church First School assembly Midweek service Seekers Club at Middle School Youth Club in the Centre

# January 2008

Wed	16	9:00am 7:30pm 7:30pm	Prayers for schools and young people PCC CTiS Taize worship at St Dominic's Church
Thu	17	10:30am 1:20pm	CTiS Communion at St Michael's Church Christ Church Middle School assembly
Fri	18	7:30pm	A Taste of Keswick evening
Sat	19		
Sun	20	9:15am 6:00pm	Communion Acts 26 "The hound of heaven" Evening Prayer Joshua 2:1-24 "Rahab's faith"
Mon	21	7:00pm 7:30pm	Cornerstone for teenagers Deanery Synod at St Michael's
Tue	22	9:30am 10:30am 12:30pm 7:30pm	Christ Church First School assembly Midweek service Seekers Club at the Middle School Youth Club in the Centre
Wed	23	9:00am	Prayers for schools and young people
Thu	24	1:20pm	Christ Church Middle School assembly
Fri	25		
Sat	26		
Sun	27	9:15am 6:00pm 8:00pm	Family Service John 1:29-42 "Come and see" Communion Joshua 3 "Jordan in sight!" CTiS Late night worship at St John's URC
Mon	28	7:00pm	Cornerstone for teenagers
Tue	29	9:30am 10:30am 12:30am 6:00pm 7:30pm	Christ Church First School assembly Midweek service Seekers Club at Middle School Christ Church First School governors meeting Youth Club in the Centre
Wed	30	9:00am 12:00no	Prayers for schools and young people Clergy Chapter at Fulford
Thu	31	1:20pm	Christ Church Middle School assembly

## A training regime that gives lasting results

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The New Year often leads to making new resolutions, especially about our diet. Having enjoyed new recipes and luxury Christmas items over the last few weeks, we might have a twinge of conscience when we stand on the bathroom scales. Reality hits home as we contemplate the well-known rule of thumb: when we eat more than the energy we burn off, we gain weight. The short winter days make it harder to keep active, so it takes discipline to get fit.

Despite the time and effort invested in caring for our bodies, our physical well being isn't the most important aspect of life. The Bible teaches us to look after ourselves, which involves a certain amount of physical self-care. But something else is even more important, because of its long-term value: our standing with God and growth in godliness. The Bible puts it this way: *'For physical training [lit: gymnasia] is of some value, but godliness has value for all things, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come'* (1 Timothy 4v8). How do you measure up? If you recorded the time spent on looking after your body, which is valuable for this age, how would this compare with the time given to growing in true godliness? To become more like Jesus Christ is of benefit both for now and for the future: its true value and reward will be fully and gloriously realised in heaven.

In January we hold a covenant service where we remember Christ's amazing commitment to His people. It provides us with the opportunity to pledge ourselves to the Lord Jesus and to his work. This is far more than turning over a new leaf as it is about growing in the new life found in Christ. As we meet we will encourage one another to follow Christ, to discover the wonders of his covenant love and to grow in godliness. Do come and start the New Year with the long term in mind.

Paul Kingman.



## Everyone a Marine

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Recently I was reading the story of General Tony Zinni (Ret.), a US Marine who went from a lieutenant during the Vietnam war to Commander-in-Chief of US Central Command, and after that a peace envoy around the world. Half-way through this fascinating book, Zinni lists eight or so qualities of the Marines, qualities and values that make them a force to be admired. Over the coming months I intend to explore what Christians can learn from them.

'One: Our first identity as Marines is to be a Marine. We are not primarily fighter pilots, scuba divers, tank gunners, computer operators, cooks, or whatever. The proper designation for each Marine from privates to generals is "Marine."

(From *Battle Ready* by Tom Clancy with General Tony Zinni and Tony Koltz (Sidgwick & Jackson 2004), p.143)

In common use, the word 'church' means a building we go to on Sundays (and other days if we're especially keen) and 'Christian' describes our private beliefs, simply one of many words that might be used to describe people. On [www.into-stone.co.uk](http://www.into-stone.co.uk) you will find 'Places of Worship' listed in the 'Lifestyle' section (between 'Pets' and 'Pubs & Bars!'). Yet, for Jesus and his early followers, being baptised meant taking on a new identity that eclipsed all others.

"You are all children of God through faith in Christ Jesus, for all of you who were baptised into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus." (Galatians 3:26-28)

Being "in Christ" means that every Christian is a member of God's people, the Church. We don't go to church, we *are* the Church. This doesn't mean going to every meeting that's held, but it does mean our relationship with other Christians must be of primary importance. How many of you are regularly sharing life with other followers of Jesus, studying the Bible and serving *together*? Do we live as a *fellowship* of people united by allegiance to Jesus, the King of Kings and Lord of Lords, or are we merely a *collection* of individuals who opt in and out of varying degrees of commitment?

This is a challenge, but there is also comfort. Sharing Jesus' identity is a glorious privilege! Children of God, brothers of Jesus Christ, saints, a chosen people, the household of God... Let's begin the new year by celebrating what God has made us to be. And let's do it together.

Tim Vasby-Burnie

[timvasbyburnie.blogspot.com](http://timvasbyburnie.blogspot.com)

The PCC met on Wednesday 21 November 2007 and the following matters were reported on, discussed and/or decided.

- The crèche for children under 3 years of age is now in operation during the Sunday morning service
- At a recent meeting of the Governors at Christ Church First School the lack of a nursery class was discussed. The school is unable to extend and has insufficient space inside to make alterations to be able to accommodate a nursery class. The PCC agreed that we approach the school to offer them a room in the centre for this. If they are interested further details will be discussed.
- Production of the accounts is proving easier with the new software package. However there was a plea for more volunteers to be part of the finance task group. Anyone interested should contact Kevin Reynolds or Ian Hawley.
- The centre management task group are to revisit the terms and conditions for booking the centre to establish a clear policy on Saturday evening bookings.
- An expression of interest has been received in the youth worker post. The PCC supported further investigation into this in principle.
- A report on the future of the Stone Deanery was tabled at the meeting of the Deanery Synod on 14 November. The proposal is to merge the Stone and Eccleshall Deaneries. This is to be discussed at the January meeting of the PCC.

The next PCC meeting is on Wednesday 16 January 2008.

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### ***EXPLORE* adult Bible reading notes**

Newly written and redesigned, Explore Bible reading notes will help you discover the riches of God's grace each day. Sample copies £1 or Jan-Mar edition £3 (£12 annual). Available through the vicar or miss out the middle man and contact The Good Book Company [Tel: 0845 225 0880 or online at [www.thegoodbookcompany.co.uk](http://www.thegoodbookcompany.co.uk)

## Humphreys News

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Owen & Tracy Humphreys, with their younger two sons, Steffan and Jonathan, live and work at Hebron School in South India. Hebron is a Christian, co-educational, boarding school situated in the beautiful Nilgiri Hills above the town of Ootacamund, or Ooty as it is known. The School's entrance is just inside the Botanical Gardens where one turns right up a long, steep, windy driveway to the School buildings. One quickly gets out of breath walking up the drive, as the School is 7,500ft above sea level so the oxygen percentage is lower. This affects the children as well as the staff until they get acclimatised!! Ben, Owen and Tracy's oldest son, has stayed in the UK for a 'gap year' before going to university next academic year.

*(The following are edited extracts from Owen & Tracy's latest 'Humphreys News'. A full copy of the News is in the red folder on top of the cupboard under the Overseas Mission notice board in the Centre.)*

Whereas Tracy and the two younger boys, returned to Hebron in August for the beginning of the school term, **Owen** stayed behind in the UK to do deputation work and to help Ben to settle. He returned to Hebron in October and joined the Department of Enhanced Learning. While home in the summer, Owen attended a course on teaching English as a second language, so now he is working with almost a dozen children who have English as a secondary language. He is very much enjoying this role though he feels he has a lot to learn. He is also taking ten lessons of year 7 Maths which is a new experience for him. He asks us to pray that he will be a blessing and encouragement for all the students with whom he is involved in these new roles.

**Ben** is working in a large shop (JJB Sports) selling sportswear and goods. It used to be his favourite shop but that may have changed now!! He is boarding with Christian friends of the family in their home town of Oswaldtwistle. Owen and Tracy ask us to pray for Ben over Christmas. It's not the easiest thing being away from your family at this time of year. Because of him only getting two days off work at Christmas, and being reliant on 'public transport', it will be difficult to visit any family as they all live some distance away. Also living with another family is a time for re-adjustment for all involved, both Ben and the family!

*(continued on page 8)*

**Tracy** is an Art teacher. She has been very busy as more students wished to do Art GCSE and A Level this year and they had lost one part-time member of the Art Department staff. All this has resulted in an increased teaching load. Tracy says of her work that she feels that she is “trying to push an elephant uphill!” with her exam students. Many seem quite distracted and rather too ‘laid back’ about their work. Creating a sense of urgency and managing the necessary deadlines is a fine balancing act, as confidence and motivation are key factors to success. Art students are often so emotional and non-conformist, just like their teachers!! They need **DIVINE HELP & WISDOM**.

**Steffan** is now in year 11. That means exams, exams, exams!! He took his real GCSE Maths exam in November and the result is due out in February. It would impact all his other subjects in a really positive way if he could pass and get this important subject out of the way. He could then use the time to work on his other subjects plus strategies for overcoming his dyslexia.

**Jonathan** has recently captained the Under 14 hockey team and has also represented the School in recent months at football, basketball and cricket. He enjoys his sport. His parents have been encouraged by his recent desire to attend the voluntary student prayer breakfast at 7.20am every Tuesday morning. His new Swedish friend, Lukas, whose parents are medical workers in Bangladesh, is a positive influence in the sphere of Christian activities. Please pray for Jonathan, Lukas and the other Year 9 boys that they would each grow in their faith. A recent scare that a known cyst in Jonathan’s brain may be starting to grow has proved unfounded. A CT scan showed no increase in the size of the cyst.

*(If you would like to know more as to how you could support this family in prayer and/or giving, please have a word with Cecilia Wilding, Missions Secretary.)*

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### **Sun 6<sup>th</sup> January: covenant renewal service**

This year our guest speaker is Revd John Marshall. Previously John graduated from Keele University with a degree in Education and trained as a Teacher. After 22 years working for Christian charities, John joined the Leadership Team of the Church Lane Evangelical Church in Stafford at Easter 2002. His wife is Linda who, before starting a family, worked as a Primary School Teacher in Lichfield and spent 13 years working in a Day Care Centre for Elderly people. They have two adult daughters working in the medical profession.

## Website of the Month

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<http://bethinking.org>

Every one of us has questions. This website has many good answers!

bethinking.org is a website run by UCCF (the Universities and Colleges Christian Fellowship) and is jammed full of articles (both text and audio files) to help Christians think through our faith, explain it to others, and engage with culture. This is often called *apologetics* (but it isn't about saying 'sorry!'). Material is organised in the following categories:

What is apologetics?	Culture and worldview.
History and Jesus	Islam
Other religions	Resurrection and Miracles
Right & Wrong	Science & Christianity
Spirituality	Stories and Illustrations
Suffering	Truth and Intolerance
Who am I?	Who are you God?

To help the user, articles are also divided into Introductory, Intermediate and Advanced levels depending on the level of detail you want.

Articles are written by expert thinkers, and the topics covered will be of interest to many many people. With authors like Richard Dawkins spouting against Christianity, Philip Pullman's anti-Christian books becoming films, and the rise of other religions, all of us have a duty to find answers to these questions, and to “be prepared to give a reason for the hope we have” (1 Peter 3:15).

Tim Vasby-Burnie

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## LENT Course

Easter is early this year. A Lent course will run from February on Wednesday evenings at Christ Church Centre. We hope that any growth groups that usually meet will join this short course and then reconvene once it has ended. Please keep the evenings free to attend

At the time of writing, our term is drawing to a close. Recent events which we have enjoyed are described below.

Last Sunday was our Choir's performance at the Victoria Hall, Hanley, where we sang in support of the Douglas Macmillan Light up a Life ceremony. This as always was an extremely moving but uplifting ceremony and our children gave of their best, singing 2 songs by themselves to a packed Victoria Hall (well over 1000 people!) We have received many messages of congratulation on our performance.

Following this, we visited Lotus Court in Oulton Road to sing for residents, staff and visitors. Here we were able to give them a preview of some parts of our Nativity, and everyone enjoyed the afternoon. The children were very excited as they were treated to sweets and drinks. Entertaining obviously beats being in school for the afternoon!

Also this week, we welcomed our Reception children's families, as the children acted and sang their way through the story of the birth of baby Jesus in a way that only Reception children can. All was going well, until the turn came for the third and final innkeeper to offer the couple accommodation, when, after Joseph's pleas that "my wife is tired and she is having a baby", the innkeeper was hit by stage fright and there ensued a stunned silence. However, as always in these situations, it takes a woman to take the lead. Fortunately, the aforesaid innkeeper had such a woman as his wife and on seeing the situation, promptly elbowed him in the ribs, saying "I've just remembered, we've got that stable round the back-----would you like to stay there? She will go far!!!!

Still to look forward to, we have our visit to Autumn House, again to sing to staff, residents and visitors, and finally our School Nativity, to be performed in Church.

On the last day of term, we will welcome again the Area Coordinators for Operation Christmas child and wave them off after loading all our Christmas boxes ready for their journey to Eastern European countries. The end of a busy but very exciting term!!!

Janet Booth - Early Years' Coordinator.

## Charles Wesley's visit to Stone

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The below was found in researches by my Uncle, a Methodist Minister, whilst researching Wesley for work he is involved in at Gwennap Pit in Cornwall.

In Mrs. (Charles) Wesley's old age, she used to relate the experiences of these days (i.e. when she rode pillion with her husband on his preaching tours in their early marriage before the children arrived) with a great deal of humour. One day she and her husband arrived at Stone in Staffordshire, and she sat down to rest in the inn garden which adjoined the parsonage grounds. She was singing a Methodist hymn to herself when the Vicar and his daughters came to their side of the hedge and listened, complimented her upon her voice and asked for her help in the choir the following Sunday. She said she would be happy to sing if her husband might preach, but when the Vicar understood who she was, he declined to lend his pulpit, even with such an inducement.

No date is given in the book - but the visit to Stone would have been between April, 1749, when Charles Wesley & Sarah Gwynne were married near Brecon, and 1756 when he gave up being an itinerant preacher. The oldest child (of 8, only 3 survived), was John, born 1752, who died of small pox (caught from his mother) a year later. So that could mean Sarah was journeying with him for around three years only, i.e. 1749 to 1752

I wonder if anyone can shed any light on the Pub concerned!

Andy Stone

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### **AN EVENING WITH PHIL & ARTHUR** **SATURDAY 8<sup>th</sup> MARCH AT 7.00 PM IN THE CENTRE**

Something for everyone  
 Sale of plants and pots of spring bulbs  
 Guessing games to play with great prizes to win  
 Be part of a light-hearted team  
 Refreshments

Proceeds to the church general fund  
 Tickets £1 from Phil & Arthur and from Irene & Carole in the Office

## <sup>12</sup> Favourite Hymns of George and Mary Holden

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### (George)

There are many things in my life I accept without questioning, although, my wife Mary might well question that statement. It was only when David asked me to write about my favourite hymn did I sit down and reflect on why this particular hymn meant so much to me.

This is a hymn which has not ‘grown on me,’ but has grown within me. It’s difficult to say when the seed was sown. I guess it was in my earlier years as a chorister at St Mary’s church in Penwortham in Lancashire.

It was fascinating to learn that it was introduced to America and the world in Madison Square Garden in 1957 by the prominent singer/songwriter of gospel music, George Beverly Shea. Not only do I share with him a love for this wonderful hymn, ‘*O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder,*’ but also we share the same Christian name and birth month. Originally written in 1886 by the Rev Carl Boberg this Swedish song was translated into English in the 1920’s.

I love singing. This particular hymn opens a door to my emotions allowing me to be at one with heart and voice.

Literally, being close to the earth as a potter, I have a strong feeling of God’s presence in nature, amplified by a simple choice of words which conjure up such wonderful images. They act as a overture to the reception that awaits us when we can echo those words of proclamation: ‘My God, how great thou art!’

### (Mary)

When I was asked which was my favourite hymn I had great difficulty naming just one as I have so many. Through my life certain hymns have represented different emotions and occasions.

As I journey as a Christian I gather up new ‘favourites’ along the way. There is one, however, which stands head and shoulders above the rest. It is believed to have been written in Germany in 1644 by Martin Rinkart, the music by Johann Cruger in 1647.

It was translated into English in 1856. The hymn is ‘*Now Thank we all our God, with heart and hands and voices*’ .

(continued on page 13)

## Favourite Hymns *(continued)*

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When I was at school we had a huge organ in the assembly hall and the organist, our music teacher, was a tiny wisp of a woman with a shock of white hair. She played that organ thunderously and I can still hear that hymn in my mind with Miss Manson pulling out all the stops to the singing of 900 girls on Founder's Day. The hairs stand up on the back of my neck to this day when I sing or hear it. I think that was the only thing about school that I really liked.

The hymn has always been a favourite of my family too. My parents had it at their wedding as did George and I. It was also sung at both my parents funerals. It is such a glorious hymn of praise which says it all, whatever the occasion.

George and Mary

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### What shall I read next? Try these!

Two short paperbacks were on my shelf for years. Both have been a gripping read!

The first is called '*I dared to call Him Father*' by Bilquis Sheikh. This Pakistani woman was from a privileged background. She was married to a high-ranking government official until he left her. Bilquis retreated to a family estate to live a more peaceful existence. Her interest in the life of Jesus Christ began with what she read in the Quran and then by reading the Bible. She reached a crisis point and became a Christian. But her conversion led to increasing isolation from her family and danger to her life. An updated version has just been published with more details about what has happened since. Published by Kingsway.

The second is by Steven Masood: '*Into the Light*' (OM Publishing). This charts the journey of a young boy from a poor background with an unhappy family life. Masood had a strong desire to know God. He diligently read the Muslim scriptures, but he had many questions unanswered. His life took several downturns. At the age of about 20 he reached his lowest ebb and made an attempt on his life. Some kind Muslim people cared for him. His quest continued as he read the Bible and came to know the living Lord Jesus and came into the light. It is a wonderful read. Steven is now Professor of Comparative Religion at Columbia University and has written several books.

Paul Kingman.

## Shallowford House Appeal

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Shallowford House is currently aiming to raise £1.5 Million to build new accommodation and a new chapel; over the last few years, increasing numbers of visitors have had to be turned away because of lack of space, and the time has come for us to make room for everyone.

We were lucky enough to receive 50% of this year's Lent Appeal from the Bishop of Lichfield - but we have a considerable amount more to do to make Shallowford House the best possible resource for the community and church.

Bishop Alan Smith, Chairman of the Trustees of Shallowford House, the Diocese of Lichfield's Retreat and Conference Centre, located in Stone, Staffordshire, announced earlier this year the launch of a major upgrade and development scheme, to include breathtaking new chapel and concourse buildings, and a substantial upgrade to existing meeting rooms, bedrooms and other facilities.

“For nearly seventy years, Shallowford House has served the Diocese of Lichfield, an area covering Staffordshire, Shropshire and much of the Black Country,” Said Bishop Alan, “and the time has now come for us to renew it for the next seventy years. We’re very confident that this plan will meet the needs of the many thousands of people, both Christians and non-Christians, who come to Shallowford for relaxation, learning and business. The planning application for the new buildings has been submitted, and we are very much hoping that the outcome will be favourable.”

“We’ve got a lot of hard work to do to raise the money it will take to make these exciting plans become reality, but we’re positive that we’ve got the right scheme for Shallowford’s future; we’re also delighted that the Bishop of Lichfield, Jonathon Gledhill, has selected Shallowford house as the UK recipient of his Lent Appeal.” Anyone who is interested in helping Shallowford is urged to contact us on 01785 760233.

For additional information on the Shallowford House New Development Programme, contact John Leigh on the telephone number above.

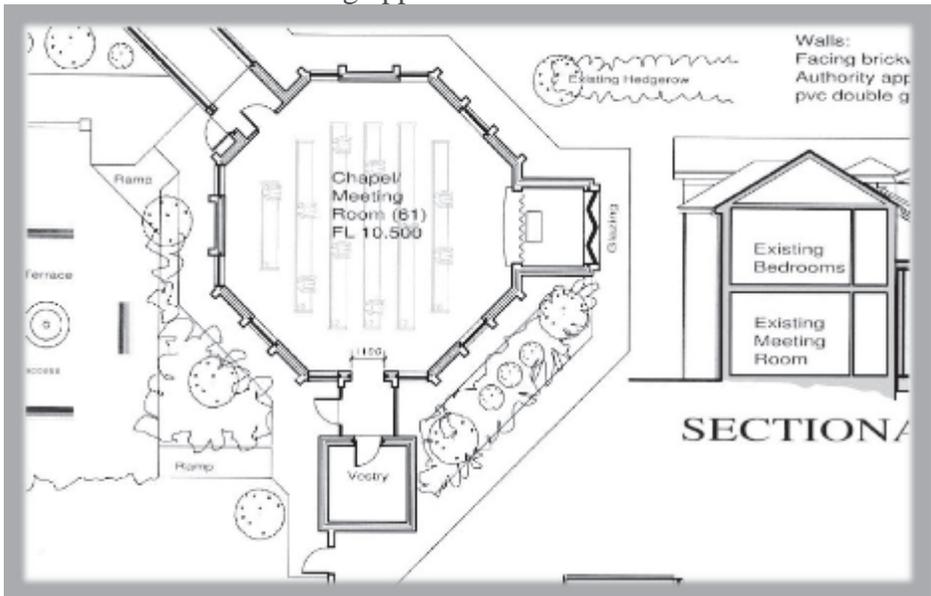
*(continued on page 15)*

## Shallowford House - What will change?

The extensive renewal programme entails significant additions to the existing 1880s country house. A new chapel/meeting room will be constructed in the grounds, accessed via an enclosed linked walkway. A new concourse entrance will be built between the existing wings of the house with glazed flat roof and pitched tiled roof entrance with glazed screens. The new concourse will be used as a meeting place, a reception room and a comfortable lobby for guests. The old Chapel will be internally modified with the introduction of a new first floor and converted to ground floor meeting room and first floor en-suite bedrooms. The floor plan attached to this document gives more details of the extensions.

External pavings and landscape will be developed to reflect the new setting, with an enclosed terraced garden created between the new meeting room and the existing house.

A detail from the proposed design is shown below (the octagonal chapel) but the whole drawing is too large to show here. For further information contact Mike Thompson or look at [www.shallowfordhouse.org/appeal](http://www.shallowfordhouse.org/appeal).



# FROM THE REGISTERS

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## FUNERAL

21st November Richard Alec Michie Aged 88 years

## BAPTISM

25th November Chloe Bethan Lavelle

## SIDESPERSIONS ROTA

	AM	PM
6th Jan	B.Hutchinson, M.Hutchinson D. Wilson, I. Gassor	D. Shemilt
13th Jan	A. Greer, G. Holden J. Abrahams, D. Pickles	P. Tunstall
20th Jan	A. West, D. Davies C. Wilding, T. MacFarlane	D. Shemilt
27th Jan	P.Hipkiss, V. Ledward, D. Wilson, J. Rowlands	P. Tunstall

## FLOWER ROTA

6th January	Flower Guild
13th January	Mrs C. Jaques
20th January	Mrs Buckley
27th January	Mrs J. Booth



## ROADS FOR PRAYER

### 6th January

Northesk Street  
Radford Close  
Radford Street  
Station Road

### 20th January

Airdale Grove  
Airdale Road  
Airdale Spinney  
Cross Street

### 13th January

The Avenue  
Trent Road  
Tunley Street  
Trinity Drive

### 27th January

Nicholls Lane  
Old Road  
Old Road Close  
Oulton Cross, Lotus Court



<b>Deanery Synod Reps</b>	Mrs S Hallam, Mr I Hawley, Mr D. Rowlands
<b>P.C.C. Members</b>	Mrs I Gassor, Mrs M Hillman, Mrs E Mason, Mr P Mason Mrs D Wilson, Mrs E Woodhead, Mrs J. Rowlands Mrs S. Morray, Mrs J. Abrahams, Mr K. Reynolds Mr A. Stone, Mr G. Holden, Mrs A. Greer
<b>Secretary</b>	Jacqueline Abrahams.....817020
<b>Treasurer</b>	Kevin Reynolds.....851595
<b>Envelopes, Gift Aid</b>	Nesta Challinor

## GROUPS AND ACTIVITIES

<b>Climbers 3-7 years</b>	Sandra Morray.....286093
<b>Explorers 7-11 years</b>	Estella Woodhead.....761659
<b>Pathfinders 11-14 years</b>	Enid Bell.....815775
<b>Banner Group</b>	Jeanette Rowlands.....816713
<b>Church Missionary Boxes</b>	Cecilia Wilding.....817987
<b>Flower Guild</b>	Marylyn Hillman.....815936
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<b>Prayer Group</b>	Jeanette Rowlands.....816713
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<b>Friday "Little Fishes"</b> (Fri 11am – 1.30pm)	Cecilia Wilding.....817987

## 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 welcomes you!

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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](http://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.com](http://www.christianityexplored.com)). 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, Botswana and Pakistan.

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).

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## Subscriptions

If you would like this magazine delivered to you regularly, please contact:  
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