

Christ Church and People

Parish Magazine of
Christ Church Stone

40p



September 2009

PARISH DIRECTORY

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
(see inside back page for details)

THE PARISH TEAM

Vicar	Paul Kingman The Vicarage, Bromfield Court	812669
Curate	Tim Vasby-Burnie, 1 Navigation Loop Email tim@vasbyburnie.net	814244
Assistant Minister For Youth	Adam Rushton, 26 Victoria Street	813654
Electoral Roll Officer	Irene Gassor	814871
Parish Office	Christ Church Centre, Christ Church Way, Stone, Staffs ST15 8ZB Email christchurch.centre1@btinternet.com	811990
Deaconess (Retired)	Ann Butler	818160
Readers	Dave Bell John Butterworth David Rowlands Michael Thompson Cecilia Wilding	815775 817465 816713 813712 817987
Music Co-ordinators	Peter Mason Jeff Challinor	815854 819665
Wardens	Phil Tunstall David Rowlands	817028 816713
Deputy Wardens	Andy Stone, Arthur Foulkes, Tim Saxton	

CHRIST CHURCH CENTRE

Booking Secretary	Kate or Irene	(Office)	811990
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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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Christ Church



and People

Please get your contributions for the October magazine to us by 15th Sept.

Cover Story:- The Phyllis May, with owners Terry and Monica Darlington, and Jim and Jess. The Phyllis May was the venue for one of our "Summer Socials" on August 8th.

September 2009

Tue	1	10:00am	Coffee before midweek service: service at 10:30am
Wed	2	2:00pm 6:00pm 7:30pm	Women's Institute meeting Welcome service for Neil Adams at Stone URC & Methodist Church Standing Committee
Thu	3		
Fri	4		
Sat	5	8:30am 9:00am	Prayer meeting Breakfast in the Centre
Sun	6	9:15am 6:00pm	Family Service. Romans 8:1-4 "Justification" Communion at Oulton Mark 2:13-22 "The time to feast"
Mon	7		
Tue	8	10:00am	Coffee before midweek service: service at 10:30am
Wed	9		
Thu	10	1:20pm 7:30pm	Christ Church Middle School assembly Deanery Synod at Swynnerton
Fri	11		
Sat	12	11:00am All day	Church Open Day with Bishop Gordon Mursell Staffordshire Historic Churches Trust Sponsored Cycle Ride and Walk
Sun	13	9:15am 6:00pm	Morning Prayer. Romans 8:5-11 "Life" Communion at Oulton Mark 2:23-3:6 "The Lord of the Sabbath"
Mon	14	7:00pm	Cornerstone for teenagers
Tue	15	9:30am 10:00am 3:45pm 7:30pm	Christ Church First School assembly Coffee before midweek service: service at 10:30am Lighthouse Club
Wed	16	7:30pm	PCC meeting
Thu	17	1:20pm	Christ Church Middle School assembly Men's meeting - visit to Cosford

September 2009

Fri	18		
Sat	19	8:00am	Men's breakfast
Sun	20	9:15am 6:00pm	Communion. Romans 8:12-17 "Adoption" Evening Prayer at Oulton Mark 3:7-35 "The Son of God"
Mon	21	7:00pm	Cornerstone for teenagers
Tue	22	9:30am 10:00am 3:45pm 7:30pm	Christ Church First School assembly Coffee before midweek service: service at 10:30am Lighthouse Club Christ Church Youth Club
Wed	23		
Thu	24	1:20pm	Christ Church Middle School assembly
Fri	25	1:10pm	Assembly at Alleyne's
Sat	26	2:20pm	Wedding of Jennie Hillman and Andy Hill
Sun	27	9:15am 5:00pm	Back to Church Sunday Family Harvest service. Romans 8:18-27 "Glory" Harvest Supper at Christ Church
Mon	28	7:00pm 7:30pm	Cornerstone for teenagers "Putting parenting to bed" course in the Centre
Tue	29	9:30am 10:00am 3:45pm 6:30pm 7:30pm	Christ Church First School Harvest service in church Coffee before midweek service: service at 10:30am Lighthouse Club Christ Church First School governor's meeting Christ Church Youth Club
Wed	30		

Encourage one another

With a new season comes a new opportunity. It's true for many dimensions of life including our walk with the Lord. Educational and interest groups advertise to get new members to sign up for the autumn term. In the sporting world of football, rugby, motor racing or athletics, a team can't rely on last season's results. In church life the autumn is also an important season. Each church member has the opportunity to exercise a ministry that will help many: *'Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another – and all the more as you see the Day approaching'* (Heb 10v25).

The role of encouragement can be worked out in several ways:

1. **Welcome:** it can be difficult to go somewhere that you haven't visited for a long time or ever before - everyone else seems to know what will happen and where to go. We can of course ask for help, but how much better it is if someone offers us help. Let's be that person!
2. **Invite:** it's a simple thing to invite someone to join us in what we are planning to do, but how valuable it is to the person we ask. Why not invite someone to our Harvest service on Back to Church Sunday?
3. **Serve:** church meetings are not like concerts where we go to be entertained and swap notes about the quality of the performance. We meet in order to worship the Lord and to actively encourage one another to live for Christ.
4. **Talk:** for some this is not a difficult box to tick. But how much more helpful it is if we talk with one another about what we've learnt that day or during the week about Jesus and how he affects everyday life. Engage the preacher in what has been said, if it has helped you in some way.
5. **Prepare:** the minister should not be the only one who prepares for the meeting. We can play our part by praying for the musicians, the preacher and the children's group leaders. We can be better prepared to hear God speak to us by reading and studying the Bible passage to be preached on that day.

The incentive for these things is that we are moving ever closer to the Day of the Lord's return as Judge and Saviour. So, let's encourage one another.

Paul Kingman



The Gospel in Creation (3) – The Harvest

Harvest is upon us. All over the country tins of baked beans are being stockpiled, ready to take to church. Children who think milk is produced in supermarkets are learning how to sing “*We plough the fields and scatter*”. And God is preaching.

Jesus often spoke about the harvest, using the image in at least two ways.

1. The Harvest is Ripe: Get Reaping!

Then Jesus said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.” (Matthew 9:38)

It is easy to be pessimistic and think that very few people are interested in Jesus. We might look over our town or village and, spiritually, think that we see a desert. Jesus instead saw a field ripe for harvest. If we believe Jesus, there are plenty of people living around us who are broken but open to God's healing; lonely but open to Jesus' friendship; fearful but open to the Spirit who brings hope.

Our response? First and foremost it is this: pray. Literally, Jesus says “*beg* the Lord of the harvest to send out workers.” We need to pray frequently and earnestly that followers of Jesus would be sent into the harvest field... and remember, it could be you!

2. The Harvest is Coming: Get Ready!

The harvest is the end of the age... As the weeds are pulled up and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of the age. The Son of Man [Jesus] will send out his angels and they will weed out of his kingdom everything that causes sin and all who do evil. They will throw them into the fiery furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the Kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear. (Jesus' words in Matthew 13:39-43)

Jesus' words are very sobering. A day of reckoning, a day of division is coming. The *only* way to be safe is to run to Jesus, relying on his mercy and committed to following him. Are you ready for that day?

God is preaching. As you see the harvest around us, or simply as we visit the supermarket and enjoy the fruit of many harvests, may your ears be open to his voice. Get ready and get reaping.

6 Casting the first stone in the direction of our MPs

The scandal associated with MPs expense claims has rumbled on for much of the summer. There can be few of us who have not, at various times, felt outrage, amusement and boredom as the saga has progressively unfolded.

My own response has gone through a number of stages. Initially I felt simply appalled both at the laxity of the expenses regime that could permit such claims and by the number of MPs who had clearly taken advantage of the system and helped themselves to considerable quantities of taxpayers' money in the process. I remember a radio phone-in where callers were queuing up to vent their righteous fury and I was very much in agreement with their sentiments.

But as the summer has gone on my anger has become more diffused. What exactly has been the justification for the drip drip of leaked revelations, if not enhanced newspaper sales over a prolonged period of weeks? What was a broadsheet paper thinking of when it sought to enlist its readers in the task of scrutinising tens of thousands of pages of MPs expenses claims online?

The unmasking of the expenses scandal has felt less and less like an exercise in holding to account our democratically elected representatives and increasingly like an invitation to participate in a ritual humiliation. And, as the treatment of many reality show contestants proves, we seem as a society to do ritual humiliation very well at present.

It has always been the case that for every person 'caught in adultery' there will be many more who are keen to 'cast the first stone'. Moral majorities are easy to mobilise. They are reassuring to be a part of too. I felt very secure in my solidarity with the callers on the radio phone in.

Some people think that churches consist of squads of morality police, eager to point the finger, throw a stone. But of course the opposite should be true. As Jesus said 'I came not to call the righteous but sinners'. The starting point for Christian discipleship is a profound sense of our human weakness and an acknowledgement of our radical dependence on God's grace if we are to lead lives worthy of our calling.

I started the summer happily lining up with the stone throwers, and I still believe that the targets were legitimate. It's just that somewhere along the way I saw a figure writing words in the sand* and I lost the will to propel the stones or keep the company of my fellow accusers.

Clive Wulfrun

Tearfund

Tearfund is a Christian relief and development agency, working through professional, accountable partners who in turn work with and through local churches to help to eradicate poverty. It aims to connect people to these churches to transform lives spiritually and materially. Tearfund is also part of the Micah challenge (Micah 6 v8); a global movement of Christians that seek to speak with a common voice against the injustices of poverty. It unites countries of N and S as they call their leaders to account on the promise made in the Millenium Development Goals to halve poverty by 2015.

Harvest Sunday this year (September 27th) is the occasion when we as a church have an opportunity to give financially to the work of Tearfund. Last year Tearfund received an income of £60.4 million. General donation rose by 2%, mainly from churches and individuals in the UK and Ireland. How is this income spent? Out of each £1 donated, 91p is spent on campaigning, emergency work, development work and humanitarian needs: 8p is invested for future income and only 1p on administration. Expenditure was £65.8 million, (the additional funds came from reserves).

Tearfund began in 1967 when images of the Biafra crisis in West Africa aroused the compassion of the UK church and a flood of gifts were sent to the Evangelical Alliance, knowing the Alliance had contacts with missionaries working with refugees. A bank account was set up which in 1969 became an official fund – the Evangelical Alliance Relief Fund – Tearfund.

In 2007 Tearfund launched their 10 year vision to see 50 million people released from material poverty. They are focusing on 5 broad issues: defeating disease, preparing for and responding to disasters, campaigning for economic justice and enabling fair trade, working for a sustainable environment and providing basic services.

1 HIV

According to current estimates, 33 million people are living with HIV. Tearfund's aim is to stop and reverse the impact of HIV in areas they work in by 2016, by supporting those affected, promoting access to health care and treatment and tackling the stigma associated with the disease. Andrew Butterworth is receiving some money from Tearfund for his HIV research project in S Africa. Radio shows supported by Tearfund are helping to breakdown ignorance and prejudice about HIV in Russia where 940,000 people are living with HIV.

(continue on next page)

2 Tackling disasters

Tearfund work with vulnerable people to prevent, respond to and recover from disasters when they happen and to deal with the practical and emotional drama they bring. In April, hundreds of thousands of people in Angola and Zambia were affected by severe flooding. Local churches in Angola mobilised congregations to help with collections of food and clothing. After last year's cyclone in Myanmar, partners have been helping to rebuild homes – in traditional style but with improvements to strengthen them for future storms.

3 Challenging injustice

Tearfund campaigns to challenge and change the unjust policies and practices that keep people in poverty, working to ensure fairer trade laws, lobbying for good governance, fighting corruption and empowering communities to stand up for themselves. ('A poor man's field may produce abundant food, but injustice sweeps it away.' Proverbs 13 v2)

4 Restoring the environment

In a changing climate, Tearfund try to create a sustainable environment in areas where they work. Programmes include helping communities adapt to climate change, coping with environmental degradation and tackling shortages of food and water. In Bangladesh, a partner has been working to reduce the population's dependence on rice and have introduced new crops such as wheat, corn and potatoes.

5 Water, sanitation and basic services

Tearfund is focusing on water and sanitation in 2009, with their 'Make life flow' campaign; 2.5 billion people have no basic sanitation and 900 million don't have access to clean water. Tearfund lobbied development ministers on this issue, prior to the G8 summit. Partners have been working in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe to repair the damaged sewage system and restore boreholes to bring water to those living in poor districts of the city. A water and sanitation project in Lower Sindh province in SE Pakistan aims to help 60 villages build water tanks and latrines over a 3 year period.

Do pray about Tearfund's current concerns - they are featured in the Mission Prayer Diary each month. There's also a weekly focus on the Mission Notice Board. You can receive prayer points yourself – visit www.tearfund.org/praying.

Sheila Hawley

Sermon texts for September

Mornings at Christ Church & Oulton: we kick off the new season by looking at some *great Bible words*. In Romans 8 (a superb chapter) we learn about justification, life, adoption, and glory – bursting with meaning and importance for the Christian.

Moddershall & evenings: *seeds of faith* are found to take root and grow in Mark's Gospel. We are introduced to Jesus, the Son of God who came to bring a spiritual revolution that rapidly went global!

Harvest Supper

The Harvest Supper for the benefice of churches will be at 5.00 p.m. on Sunday 27th September in Christ Church Centre. All are welcome to join in this meal.

From Liverpool to London – via Stone

Steve Finney, who called into Stone on the weekend of July 4 and 5 on Interserve's Walk for Justice from Liverpool to London has written to thank Christ Church for their support.

Missionary society Interserve has designated this year as Prayer 12, believing that God has prompted them to get back to their faith roots to recapture the passion and vision to serve, demonstrated by the first workers who set out by boat for India nearly 158 years ago. This walk, calling on churches and Interserve supporters between the two cities, was part of Prayer 12.

Steve, who arrived in London on Wednesday, July 15, wrote to John and Jan Butterworth to say: "It was good of you to offer hospitality, transport and also to interview me during the Sunday morning service. The walk finished well and Interserve will benefit in a variety of ways – you have made a key contribution to that."

For details of Steve's blog go to www.interserve.org.uk

Stone Women's Institute

A new and exciting branch of the Women's Institute – Stone WI – has been formed and meets at Christ Church Centre on the first Wednesday of the month from 2-4pm.

Come along and join in the varied meetings and activities to be found within the WI. In its infancy a full programme has yet to be arranged but the first 2 meetings were very informative on the art of perfumery and 'The Life of Crime'. The September meeting is to be on silk painting and in October; Temporary Heroines, an intriguing title but apparently we shall be looking at the history of wedding dresses. For November we shall be off on a Holiday Journey bringing us to the Christmas social.

Be assured of a warm welcome when you come to this new group. Some members of Christ Church are already involved. For more information have a chat with Angela Brandon (Secretary) or me.

Jeanette Rowlands



Summer Social Calendar

While some have been eating, drinking and lazing away the summer days, a select few tried *culture*. Two rather damp trips to Leek were a step into another era where ladies spent many hours hand embroidering church furnishings and the famous, or even infamous artists of the Arts and Crafts Movement (probably not quite as portrayed in the recent TV 'Desperate Romantics' series) were at work designing stained glass for North Staffordshire churches.

The exhibitions at St Edward's Cheddleton and Leek marked the centenary of the death of Sir Thomas Wardle, industrialist, dye works owner and philanthropist. Lady Wardle set up the Leek Embroidery School which produced intricate altar frontals and hangings working with locally dyed silk. All Saints Church in Leek is a true Arts and Crafts Church, not a touch of Victorian gothic there, with glass, wall painting, space and light. St Edward's in the town centre is an old church with more treasures. If nothing else, go to Cheddleton to look at the Burne-Jones angel window, then do the William Morris Trail in Leek. (Leaflet from Tourist I. C....oh - and there were pretty good refreshments too!).

Dorothy

The PCC met on Wednesday 8 July 2009 and the following matters were reported on, discussed and/or decided.

- We are to hold a church open day on Saturday 12 September. This will include the official opening of the new entrance by the Bishop of Stafford. We hope to hold an open air service and have displays about our church activities and life.
- Churches Together in Stone are planning for the Canal Ministry that will take place from 16 to 23 September. There will also be the joint service to close the annual Food and Drink Festival on Sunday 4 October. Volunteers to tidy up after this event on the Monday morning will be greatly appreciated. If you would like to take part in this please speak to Tim, the curate.
- A water butt has been installed at the back of the church centre to collect rainwater. This is for use by visitors to the churchyard who want water for fresh flower displays on the memorials there.
- The condition of the path from the back of church that takes you through to Bromfield Court is now very overgrown. We are to consider the most appropriate solution to address this problem. This may mean upgrading the present path or could see it being re-sited.
- We will not be pursuing the purchase of a dishwasher for the church centre. Reasons include the cost of a suitable machine and the limited use with the exception of large events.
- This year's Harvest Supper will take place on Sunday 27 September at 5.00pm (this is also Back to Church Sunday). In addition, Staffordshire Young Farmers are hosting their Harvest Service at Christ Church on Thursday 1 October at 8.00pm.

The next PCC meeting is on Wednesday 16 September 2009 at 7.30pm.

Jacqueline Abrahams

Holiday Church

We are at Cromer. It is Sunday. We have found out the time of the church service which is 10.30 a.m. and now we are approaching the entrance. It is a very large church and we have to wait until the people from the first service are coming out before we can go in. We are politely welcomed and given our books. We find a seat and sit down. People suddenly realise that we are visitors and several people come and talk to us. The church fills up and among the congregation are a good many special needs people who obviously feel perfectly at home here. Before the service begins the music group and singers lead us in some worship songs. The service is rather like our own service at Christ Church so we too feel at home. Afterwards there is coffee and biscuits served at the back of church and we exchange news with some of the people and learn that they have a beach mission every summer. They also give guided tours up to the church steeple. One of the joys we discovered was that the church was kept open all day, every day and there were second hand books that could be brought as well as cards and pictures. Overall, we were made to feel very much part of the family.

Finally we were invited to receive their prayer letter so that we could keep in touch. This we have done and it is lovely to be able to keep in touch.

Kath Thompson

Holiday Church

Visiting churches while travelling or on holiday is something I find very interesting. Sometimes the service and the welcome are very uplifting, and sometime unfortunately it can be most depressing. However, even a bad experience makes me think - what would a visitor think of our church? Once I visited a church in the USA, and at the beginning of the service the minister asked if there were any visitors. I raised my hand- I was the only visitor. A sidesman rushed over to me and gave me a large envelope, and the service continued. Opening the envelope I found information about the church, a form to fill in (or to fill out, since I was in the USA), and a large badge saying "VISITOR". This badge worried me, it was fully six inches in diameter, and I am not given to wearing badges of any sort. I decided that this must be something that would not trouble an American and so decided that I ought to wear it. At the end of the service, I expected that people would come to speak to me, but no! I was completely ignored. *(continued on next page)*

Holiday Church *(continued)*

Usually when I have been in the USA, people are very ready to talk but all the members of the congregation (and there were quite a few) were deep in conversation with each other. I thought, perhaps they have to ask each other all the important things people must after church, then they will speak to me. But my complete invisibility persisted, despite the teaplate pinned to my jacket. Eventually, I walked out, nobody having said a word to me. I threw the badge and the “Visitor’s Contact Form” into a waste bin.

The experience made me think, “Can a visitor attend our church and leave without a word being said to him or her?” I hope not.

This year we were on holiday in Switzerland, and had a much better experience. We found an Intercontinental Church Society (ICS) church in Wengen; ICS have 27 English-speaking Anglican churches abroad and the one we visited [St Bernard's] must have the best view; from the door we could see the summit of the Jungfrau with its snow cap and glacier.

It transpired that most of the congregation were Swiss, including a large dog lying at the feet of a lady in the front pew. The dog lay perfectly still but panted loudly throughout the service.

Ministers at ICS churches are volunteers who spend two or more weeks at a church whilst on holiday. Reverend Tim led an informal service based upon Psalm 95. He explained that this was his first service at the church and ICS had told him not to choose 'How great thou art', because visiting ministers tended always to choose this hymn when they saw the view, and regular worshippers would get bored with it. Rev Tim then asked us if we would like to choose a hymn and the lady in the front row immediately requested 'How great thou art'. So we did sing about the lofty mountain grandeur, despite the guidelines. During his talk, Rev Tim asked us to praise God but also to think whether there was anything coming between us and God, and he said that sometimes a holiday gave people time to think more about the really important things in their lives.

Conversations with other worshippers were mainly about walks in the mountains but the message from Psalm 95 was a powerful one.

Dave Bell

We would be interested to hear about your visit to church while on holiday.

14 News from Stephen and Tabita Bell, Zagreb

Dear Friends,

Summer is up and running and we'd like to give you a quick "feel" of events. We are very encouraged! It has been a good time until now and we're looking forward to further events. Please rejoice with us and pray in God's blessings! During the Summer we were able as a church to make so many contacts! Sheona's three friends Mihaela, Mihaela & Antonia came to „Imagine Air“, and one Mihaela came also to the camp with her! It has all done wonders for our friendships with their parents. Please pray that friendships develop into conversions! This is also a very fun way of evangelising. Quite a few are currently at camps throughout Croatia. Please pray for spiritual renewal and in some cases, conversion.

29th Aug IMAGINE AIR RE-UNION

It really was a great time in June and so many new contacts were made and some developed. We plan a Saturday evening at the beginning of "the new church year", hoping to further win parents and children alike.

30th Aug DUBRAVA YOUTH BARBECUE & KICK-START

The long Summer holidays will now be finishing and it's time again to get cracking! Pray for us as we invite all the youth (and hopefully some new!) for a barbecue in our garden after the Sunday service and into the afternoon/evening.

6th SEPT CHURCH MEAL: Fellowship & Evangelisation

We aim to be "seeker-friendly" and so we'll have an open invitation church lunch outside on the lawns, with spontaneous singing and testimonies. I'm sure we'll allow ping-pong and badminton to be set up also. Please pray that new folk will be drawn in and „infected with the Gospel“!

Leadership Retreat (for the 1st time!) September 11/12

We really want to share the leadership of the church and so we have planned a 24 hours away at Severin-na Kupa camp. We three missionary couples and 5 lay leaders and

their families will attend. There will actually be two conferences in parallel:- Youth and Leadership, seeing as the youth is made up of leaders' children! We'll be 33 in all! Josip & Maria couldn't come.

Aug 24-27th ECM Balkan section prayer days (at Severin) (Serbia, Bosnia & Croatia)

Sept 22-24 ECM Field Ministries Team in Spain (Stephen attending)

Oct 2009 Stephen will visit the Albanian and Kosova Field Council for 4 days

So, much love to you all!

Stephen, Tabita, Sheona, Joshua + Benjamin

6th September

The Crescent
End of Granville Terrace
Millers Gate
Hartley Drive

13th September

Albert Street
Alexandra Street
Arthur Street
Berkeley Street



20th September

Chestnut Grove
Edward Street
Field Terrace
Field House Court

27th September

Kent Grove
Meaford Avenue
Mount Avenue
Mount Crescent

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL OUTING, 1885

By the kind and ready permission of the Earl of Harrowby, our Sunday Schools again went to Sandon Park for their annual excursion. On the morning of Saturday, August 15th—a beautifully fine day—the Christ Church and Stonefield Schools assembled at 11 o'clock in the churchyard, and marched in high spirits and with flags flying to the station ; there the little contingent from Meaford School met us with their pretty little banner. The waiting time passed, and cheering greeted the arrival of the long-wished-for train. "We were soon in and off. At Sandon we re-formed and marched to the allotted ground in the park. After a few words of caution and congratulation they dispersed to enter with their usual zest into the several games and amusements provided. The teachers became the centres of attraction to groups of happy faces. Luncheon was at 1 o'clock. The children, arranged in parallel lines, were quickly served, and ate as only children can.

During the afternoon we were glad to welcome many members of the congregation ; most of the elder scholars also joined us at this time, and Mr. Woods' capital Brass Band. Tea was at five o'clock, when the hungry and thirsty were again satisfied. At 7.40 we returned to Stone, and, headed by the band, marched to our church, where, after a few words expressing thankfulness to the Giver of all good gifts for the very happy day, the National Anthem was sung, and, amid cheering for all kind friends, the scholars dispersed to their homes.

"We would here thank our subscribers and those who collected, as well as those who lent things necessary for tea, etc.

Christ Church on the Internet

Parish website www.churches.lichfield.anglican.org/stone/stonecc
Parish office email christchurch.centre1@btinternet.com
Magazine contributions christchurch_mag@yahoo.co.uk

FROM THE REGISTERS

BAPTISMS

26th July Zachariah Lucas Emery
 Christopher Rhys Royle
 Luc Philip Royle

FUNERALS

(Stafford Crematorium)

24th July Beatrice (Beattie) Nutt aged 92
 24th July Ivy Grace Kirkland aged 90

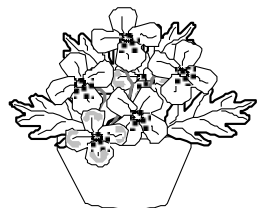
SIDESPERSIONS ROTAS

AM

6th Sept D. Wilson J. Abrahams
 T. MacFarlane C. Wilding
 13th Sept D. Pickles D. Davies
 V. Ledward K. Thompson
 20th Sept A. West G. Holden
 A. Greer I. Gassor
 27th Sept P. Hipkiss D. Wilson
 J. Rowlands V. Ledward

FLOWER ROTAS

6th Sept Mrs S Hawley
 13th Sept Mrs E Cook
 20th Sept Mrs S Hallam
 27th Sept Harvest/Hillman wedding



Deanery Synod Reps	Mrs S Hallam, Mr D. Rowlands	
P.C.C. Members	Mr G. Holden, Mr K. Reynolds, Mrs J. Rowlands Mr A. Stone, Mrs E. Woodhead, Mrs D. Davies Mrs I. Gassor, Mrs E. Mason, Mr M. Thompson Mrs D. Wilson, Mrs J. Abrahams, Mrs K. Latham Mr P. Mason, Mr A. Rushton, Mr T. Woodhead	
Secretary	Jacqueline Abrahams.....	817020
Treasurer	Kevin Reynolds.....	851595
Envelopes, Gift Aid	Nesta Challinor	

GROUPS AND ACTIVITIES

Climbers 3-7 years	Sandra Morray.....	286093
Explorers 7-11 years	Estella Woodhead.....	761659
Pathfinders 11-14 years	Enid Bell.....	815775
Banner Group	Jeanette Rowlands.....	816713
Church Missionary Boxes	Cecilia Wilding.....	817987
Flower Guild	Marylyn Hillman.....	815936
Men's Fellowship	Mike Thompson.....	813712
Missions Secretary	Cecilia Wilding.....	817987
Prayer Group	Jeanette Rowlands.....	816713
Parents & Toddlers (Mon 9.30 – 11.15am)	Sandra Morray.....	286093
3rd Stone Brownies (Mo 6:00-7:30pm, First School)	Janet Smith.....	815939

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

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,
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Christ Church welcomes you!

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 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). 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).

Subscriptions

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