

Christ Church and People

40p



Parish Magazine of
Christ Church Stone



September 2008

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 page 21 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
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	David 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	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
---	--------

In This Issue

Diary for September	2, 3
Church Weekend Programme	4
You reap what you sow	5
Jesus is Lord	6
Sermon series starting in September	7
Guides Commissioning Service	7
Tearfund	8, 9
PCC News	10
Quiet Days at Shallowford House	11
News from Andrew Butterworth	12, 13
Reflections on Keswick	13, 14
Staffordshire Historic Churches Trust	14
Body and Soul Evening	15
A Smile	16
Young people's boat trip	16
Explorer Psalms	17
Message from the Beesigomwes	18
Roads for Prayer	19
Summer Socials	19
From the Registers, Rotas	20

Christ Church



and People

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

Cover Story:- Cameron Wharf

September 2008

Mon	1	9:00am	Prayers for schools and young people
Tue	2	10:00am 10:30am	Coffee before midweek service Midweek service
Wed	3	7:30pm 7:30pm	Standing Committee Prayer group at 20 Barnton Edge
Thu	4		
Fri	5	7:00pm 8:00pm	Church Weekend Evening meal provided by Oulton Church Courage and gospel mission 1 Cor 2:1-5
Sat	6	9:30am	Church Weekend activities. See page 4 for full details
Sun	7	10:00am 11:45am 6:00pm	Worship All age service. 2 Timothy 1:3-12 "Perseverance and gospel mission" Communion at Oulton Church Matthew 13:1-23 "Potential"
Mon	8	9:00am 7:00pm	Prayers for schools and young people Cornerstone for teenagers
Tue	9	9:30am 10:00am 10:30am 12:30pm 7:30pm	Christ Church First School assembly Coffee before service Midweek service Seekers Club at Christ Church Middle School Christ Church Youth Club
Wed	10	10:00am 7:30pm	Shallowford House Quiet Day Prayer Group at 20 Barnton Edge
Thu	11	1:20pm	Christ Church Middle School assembly
Fri	12		
Sat	13	8:30am	Oulton Church outing to Liverpool
Sun	14	9:15am 6:00pm	Morning Prayer. John 1:43-51 "The greater way" Communion at Oulton Church Matthew 13:24-43 "Influence"
Mon	15	9:00am 7:00pm 8:00pm	Prayers for schools and young people Cornerstone for teenagers Home group Bring and Share supper 15 Coalport Drive

September 2008

Tue	16	9:30am 10:00am 10:30am 12:30pm 1:00pm 7:30pm	Christ Church First School assembly Coffee before service Midwek service Seekers Club at Christ Church Middle School Stone Fraternal meeting Christ Church Youth Club
Wed	17	9:30am 7:30pm 7:30pm	Mens' meeting PCC meeting Prayer group at 20 Barnton Edge
Thu	18	1:20pm	Christ Church Middle School assembly
Fri	19	7:00pm	Songs of Praise evening for CTiS at Christ Church
Sat	20		
Sun	21	9:15am 6:00pm	Communion John 4:1-15 "The greater water" Evening Prayer at Oulton Church Matthew 13:1-23 "Potential"
Mon	22	9:00am 7:00pm	Prayers for schools and young people Cornerstone for teenagers
Tue	23	9:30am 10:00am 10:30am 12:30pm 7:30pm	Christ Church First School assembly Coffee before service Midwek service Seekers Club at Christ Church Middle School Christ Church Youth Club
Wed	24	7:30pm	Prayer group at 20 Barnton Edge
Thu	25	1:20pm	Christ Church Middle School assembly
Fri	26	7:30pm	Body and Soul evening at Christ Church Centre
Sat	27		Harvest Supper
Sun	28	9:15am 6:00pm	Harvest service John 6:25-40 "The greater bread" Communion at Moddershall Church Matthew 14:1-21 "Testing"
Mon	29	9:00am 1:45pm 7:00pm	Prayers for schools and young people Christ Church First School Harvest service in Church Cornerstone for teenagers
Tue	30	9:30am 10:00am 12:30pm 7:30pm	Christ Church First School assembly Coffee before service, Srvice at 10:30am Seekers Club at Christ Church Middle School Christ Church Youth Club

Church Weekend

5-7th September

Our speaker is John Hamilton, Rector of The Sherbornes with Pamber Parish in rural Hampshire; he is also a member of the Church of England Evangelical Council.

John read Economics at Cambridge and trained for the ministry at Ridley Hall. He is married to Trish who teaches in an Infants School, and they have two grown-up children.

Detailed Programme

Fri	Church Weekend	
	7:00pm	Evening meal provided by St John's, Oulton
	8:00pm	Courage and gospel mission – 1 Corinthians 2:1-5
Sat	9.30am	Arrival – tea and coffee
	10:00am	Worship
	10.30am	The Bible and gospel mission – 1 Corinthians 15:1-4
		Children's session and Creche
	11.30am	Coffee and cakes provided by All Saints, Moddershall
	12 noon	Prayer and gospel mission – 2 Thessalonians 3:1-5
		Children's session and Creche
	1:00pm	Lunch – bring own sandwiches
	2:00pm	Afternoon break – walk organised by Dorothy Wilson
		– all welcome
	5.30pm	Evening meal provided by Christ Church
	6.30pm	Beetle Drive - organised by Phil Tunstall - all welcome
Sun	9.30am	Tea, coffee and pastries
	10.00am	Worship
	10.30am	Fellowship and Gospel Mission – Philippians 1:3-8
		Children's session
	11.30am	Tea/coffee break
	11.45pm	All age service - Perseverance and gospel mission
		Sermon Text: 2 Timothy 1:3-12
	12.45pm	Lunch provided by caterers
	6.00pm	Holy Communion at Oulton Church
		Sermon Text: Matthew 13:1-23 "Potential"

You reap what you sow

In today's world we too often look for instant results. It comes from living with a shift in communication technology with the resultant change in expectations. In business the prices of shares are monitored daily. The latest news is found on 24-hour news programmes and websites carrying real-time action. In daily transactions we have switched from waiting for a reply to our letters to using e-mail with a reduction in the expected response time: "But I sent an e-mail over an hour ago!"

These days the slow cycles of farming and horticulture may seem to be a far cry from most people's experience. But the rising popularity of 'slow food' is bucking the trend and helps us to rediscover lessons of life. In particular growing crops provides us with a useful 'parable' to what is of importance to God.

What are we to learn from agriculture? A primary lesson is that Christian discipleship requires long-term planning and daily investment. With the long-term in view we must invest wisely since *'a man reaps what he sows'* (Gal 6v7). A harvest depends on the type of seed sown and the place where it is sown. There are two choices, which have two very different outcomes. Here's how the apostle Paul puts it as he takes the analogy of agriculture to help us understand how we can live by the Spirit (to walk in line with God's will and purpose): *'The one who sows to please his sinful nature, from that nature will reap destruction; the one who sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life'* (Gal 6v8). It's clear that our character is determined by whether we sow to the flesh – indulging our sinful natures – or whether we sow to the Spirit – living in faithful obedience to the Lord Jesus. The crop is of benefit both personally and socially: *'Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers'* (v9-10). This requires patience and perseverance so that long term we see the harvest that is pleasing to God.

The month of September is a month in which we celebrate Harvest Festivals and the beginning of a new church and school year. This new term marks a new start of sowing and reaping for all who give themselves to the Lord Jesus and his work. I hope you will count yourself 'in' as you sow and reap in order to grow in Christ-likeness and be part of the great future harvest.

Paul Kingman



Jesus is Lord

I suggested last month that a true world view is founded on this statement: “Jesus is Lord”. What does this mean?

For early Christians, believing this put your life at risk because it contradicted the official belief that Caesar was Lord. But these believers knew that there was a ruler greater than Caesar, to whom he and all people needed to bow the knee.

Jesus is Lord means you are not! We often imagine that we are captains of our own destiny: free to make whatever choice suits us (so long as it doesn't break the law). But Jesus is our creator; we are accountable to him; “From life's first cry, to final breath – Jesus commands our destiny” as the popular hymn *In Christ Alone* puts it.

Jesus is Lord means the government is not! Governments have no right to vary the meaning of marriage (as in some American states and in Canada). Regimes have no authority to commit genocide or deny justice for the poor, because Jesus says so.

Jesus is Lord makes a difference to education. Schools that demote Jesus to an occasional assembly are schools that fail to teach the most important fact of reality. Jesus isn't a religious option for those who like that kind of thing – while others might follow Muhammed or the Buddha. “Jesus is Lord” makes a difference to how maths, history and science should be taught.

I wonder how you respond to these assertions. Maybe you think, “That's a bit heavy! Sounds like one of those wacky Christians always complaining about society.” Or maybe “Well, yes, Jesus is Lord – but I don't want to impose my faith on others.”

But think about Jesus – the real Jesus revealed in the Bible (not the fake ones that often spring to mind when people hear his name). The real Jesus showed he is Lord by his authority over sickness, weather, evil, life and even death. And whenever his Lordship was revealed, grace and freedom and love flowed from Jesus to others: the sick were healed; pompous religious hypocrites were silenced; broken lives were restored; sinners found forgiveness; the despised found value. Because Jesus is Lord Christians have been compelled over the years to challenge dictators, establish schools, oppose racism and care for their neighbours.

“Jesus is Lord” is the only possible foundation for individuals and societies to flourish as God intends. It is *the* fact against which all facts are tested. And it is the good news that brings lasting joy. Not convinced? Keep reading!

Tim Vasby-Burnie

Sermon series starting in September

In the mornings at Christ Church and Oulton we will reflect on some of Jesus' words in John's Gospel to learn about *the greater revelation* brought by Jesus. Jesus came and revealed God fully and finally. John encourages us to look to Jesus who is the Christ, the Son of God, as when we believe in him we have eternal life.

At Moddershall in the mornings and in the evening services we learn more about the surprising nature of *the Kingdom of God* according to Matthew's Gospel. Jesus teaches us what God is doing and how His ways often differ from our own. He calls us to trust in Him and live in the light of the divine plan.

Harvest Festival Services

Our celebration of Harvest Festival will take place on the last weekend of September.

Details are to be found in the diary section of this magazine. You are welcome to join us in giving thanks to God for His gracious provision of all that we have.

A special collection for TEAR Fund will be made to help people overseas who have many practical needs as a result of natural disasters.

Guides Commissioning Service

On the evening of the 10th October there will be a commissioning service in church for Stone Outward Division Guides before they leave for Mombasa.

The Bishop of Lichfield has been at the Lambeth Conference, so has not been able to write a magazine letter.

Harvest Sunday this year is the occasion when we, as a church, have an opportunity to give financially to the work of Tearfund. Last year, Tearfund received its highest ever income of £62.8 million. General donations rose by 8%, 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 admin.

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 it became an official fund – the Evangelical Alliance Relief Fund – Tearfund.

Tearfund works through professional, accountable partners who work with, and through local churches. To quote Pastor Cuthbert Gondwe, who works for Tearfund partner Eagles in Malawi “You really have to go down to the ground to find the very poorest who have no voice. Local churches work with everyone. They know the poorest people in the village because they live there.”

This partnership also enables aid to reach its point of need quickly. During the Kenyan crisis at the beginning of the year, Tearfund’s church linked partner NIDP was able to provide essentials such as cooking equipment, blankets and anti-malarial nets for people displaced due to the tribal violence. Also our donation to the Burma Cyclone Appeal would not be diverted as Tearfund has partners working in areas affected by the cyclone so the money could be sent directly to them.

In June 2007 a new campaign was launched ‘Be part of a miracle’ - a ten-year vision to see 50 million people released from material and spiritual poverty through a world wide network of 100,000 local churches. (Half of the world’s population - 2.8 billion people live on \$2 a day; 600 million children live on \$1 a day.) The campaign focuses on five priority areas.

1 Defeating disease: *the goal is to help stop the spread of HIV and reverse the impact of AIDS.* Tearfund has been running a successful scheme in Zimbabwe and Burkino Faso looking at the issue of gender, HIV and the role of the church. This project has been featured at a recent church conference in Mexico. Mike Dagg-Jengen will speak to us at the Harvest Supper about his experiences on a HIV/AIDS project in Colombia.

(continued on next page)

2 *Improving basic services:* *guarantee clean water and good sanitation in areas they work in.* Almost half the worlds population lack access to proper sanitation and 2008 has been designated International Year of Sanitation. Tearfund partner Eagles in Malawi has encouraged the local church in Fombe to set up a sanitation committee – now the village has toilets and a borehole for clean water so good hygiene habits can be developed and disease reduced.

3 *Tackling disasters:* *respond to disasters but also investing in churches in vulnerable areas so that they are better equipped to cope when disaster strikes.* Tearfund’s Ian Derbyshire on returning from Afghanistan in the Spring, said ‘It would be easy to despair about ever making an impact in Afghanistan, but that would be to underestimate what God can do.’ Teams are helping villagers to prepare for floods, droughts and earthquakes.

4 *Climate change:* *mobilise churches in the UK and Ireland to take personal action and to write to their governments to cut greenhouse gas emission; but also help people in poverty to adapt to the reality of climate change.* Tearfund has been focussing on this issue in 2008 with the Carbonfast campaign in Lent and more recently My Global Impact about reducing your CO₂ emissions. (More details on www.tearfund.org/mgi)

5 *Resolving injustice:* *Tearfund’s plan begins with campaigning for trade justice; international trade rules favour rich countries.*

How can we respond to this campaign? Firstly, by prayer then action! As Saint Augustine said ‘Pray as though everything depended on God. Work as though everything depended on you.’ Here is an example of how this could happen; a youth group in Stone washed cars for cash, sent the money to Tearfund, who funds a church in Ethiopia, to bring education and advice to a village, which enables a generation of children to be born HIV free. (see 1 above)

Do pray about Tearfund’s concerns in the Prayer Diary. There’s also a weekly focus on the Mission Notice Board. You can receive prayer points yourself – visit www.tearfund.org/praying

The PCC met on Wednesday 16 July 2008 and the following matters were reported on, discussed and/or decided.

- We have received a donation of a new communion chalice in memory of the late Alec Michie. Dedication will take place on Sunday 21 September.
- A new noticeboard is to be purchased; to be sited on the end of the centre building facing the Christ Church Way car park.
- A service of welcome for Adam Rushton, our new assistant minister for Youth will take place at 4.30pm on Sunday 31 August at Midfield Nurseries, Oulton Heath, followed by a tea.
- We aim to launch our new website in September. The website has two aims; 1) as a first port of call for newcomers to the area, and 2) a resource for the congregation; on which we can post sermons, rotas, lists and other regular publications.
- Births, marriages and deaths are the main framework for newcomers being in contact with church. We hope to take things a step further and resource this ministry with a small group network. Suggestions included a Parenting course, a Marriage course, Debt support and Bereavement support.
- The first item on the agenda for the next meeting of the PCC in September is an open invitation to anyone who would like to discuss the issues raised recently in the media regarding the future of the Anglican Communion. Please come along if you feel you would like to take part.

The next PCC meeting is on Wednesday 17 September 2008 at 7.30pm.

Quiet Day at Shallowford

on
Wednesday 10th September
10.00am -3.30pm
at
Shallowford House
with
Christine Polhill
from Reflections, Beaudesert
Cost including lunch £15
Booking to the Warden 01785 760233

“Whispers from Within”

This is the title for a **Quiet Day** at Shallowford House to be led by Pat Marsh. Some of you may already know her. Pat is a writer and retreat leader living in Staffordshire. She has contributed poems to a number of anthologies and is the author of *“Whispers of Love”* and *“The Gift of a cross”*.

Any Quiet Day led by Pat is well worth attending, and as numbers are limited, you are advised to book up quickly. The Day is on Thursday 19th October from 10.00a.m. to 3.30p.m.. The cost is £19.00; with Coffee, Lunch and Tea provided.

To book, either phone Shallowford House on 01785 760233 or The John Young Foundation on 01785 258428. If anybody would like a lift, there will be two spare seats in our car.

Sally Vaughan

Andrew Butterworth was a regular attender at Christ Church from the age of three until eighteen when he moved away to University to study medicine at St Andrew's and Manchester Universities .

“With an estimated 5.5 million people living with HIV (UNAIDS, 2006) **South Africa** is the country with the largest number of infections in the world.”

So reads the most recent report from the United Nations on the world HIV epidemic. Since September 2007 I have been living in South Africa (in one of the worst hit HIV regions) and have been studying for a Masters degree in Public Health, the branch of medicine that looks at preventing illness from occurring. Come October I will be working with the Oasis trust (www.oasisza.org) to embark a project to find the best method of diminishing the HIV epidemic.

South Africa is a fascinating country to live in. With eleven official languages there is much ethnic diversity from the loud and brash Xhosa women to the proud and dismissive Zulu warriors. Even among the whites there are the Dutch Afrikaaners who look and sound like Germans on holiday and the ‘English’ South Africans, who are sounding more and more American by the day.

Apartheid went in 1994 but a divide remains: this time between rich and poor. High security fences and barred windows characterise the new mixed-race middle class while the adjacent neighbourhood could be a tin roof city supplying those same security-guarded houses with maids and gardeners.

Racial tensions still exist but the church I attend has been one of those leading the way: we have a mixed race leadership team and an informal quota system for songs in different languages, with many tribes and nations in attendance. One visitor came to the church and refused to sing a song in Zulu. The next song, however, was in Afrikaans and as she saw a mix of blacks and Indians enthusiastically worshipping Jesus in the language of their former oppressors she was mightily touched and repented of her attitude by joining in the next ‘African’ song. Jesus, and his church, truly are the hope of the world.

(continued on next page)

As you can imagine, life is quite different from my days as a hospital doctor in Manchester but I strangely feel quite at home here. I am very excited for the opportunity to work with Oasis in October and, while HIV remains incurable, effective prevention strategies are by far the best ‘treatment’ we have to offer.

Andrew Butterworth

Those interested in finding out more about Andrew’s work can subscribe to his prayer/newsletter by emailing him at Andrew@godfirst.co.za

Reflections on Keswick

Want to know what’s great about Keswick? I’ll tell you it’s mostly unexplored territory, every time I go I find something bracing about the place. This year was no exception as we found a café on top of a mountain and a fresh water plunge pool that the girls thoroughly enjoyed. I find the bible a bit like that, mostly unexplored territory, but I love to plunge right in!

The convention meets every three weeks in July and has two sites, the first is just over the road from the park and the other, known as the Rawnsley site, is just a stones throw from Keswick’s historical town centre and houses the world mission tent where you could have a coffee and explore the various exhibitions. It’s also the chill out zone where the children and youth ministry events are held. Once again the convention was a complete success.

Jesus said “I am the bread of life” (John 6:35) and as always there is plenty of food for thought at the Keswick Christian Convention. With meaningful worship and inspirational speakers, taking us through Genesis in the morning and the Sermon on the Mount in the evening this convention was not to be missed!

The talks were peppered with humour, they were imaginative, challenging and thought provoking. It was stimulating for the children too as they explored Gods word encouraged by the vibrant youth team at the Rawnsley site.

(continued on next page)

Finally it was just great to unwind with the family and to kickback and have some fun! We have been going to the convention for about four years now so we are always bumping into people we know, meeting and fellowshiping with old friends and having tea in the park with new friends. And so after an enjoyable experience we came back home stimulated and refreshed.

There is a lot more I could tell you but its more fun if you find out for yourself. If you have never been to Keswick before and want to experience something rewarding and a little bit different then I would say to you....

Go for it!

Steve Garrington-Miller

Staffordshire Historic Churches Trust

Sponsored Cycle Ride and Walk

Saturday 13th September 2008

13th September is coming quickly - make a note of the date now! How about cycling or walking round our area visiting churches and collect sponsorship for the number of churches you visit? There are churches involved all over the county but a list of those in this area and a map showing locations will be in church nearer the time. The sponsor money is equally divided between the Historic Churches Trust and our own church.

Could you cycle or walk to help fund the proposed alterations? To hear about the delights of cycling speak to Sandra Morray who has raised lots of money over the years – but don't expect to keep up with her. Dorothy Wilson is thinking about a walk in Stafford to visit churches. (Not walking from Stone). Speak to her if you are interested in doing that. Sponsor forms are available from Dorothy

Do you know what medicines to buy when you are under the weather?
 Do you know who to turn to in times of trouble?
 How can **you** help in preventing hospital acquired infections?
 Where can you find help in desperate moments?
 Have you heard the story of the man who kept having baths
 because the doctor told him to take the tablets in water?
 Come and hear more at:



BODY and SOUL EVENING

FRIDAY 26TH SEPTEMBER AT 7.30pm

CHRIST CHURCH CENTRE

CHRIST CHURCH WAY, STONE. ST15 8ZB

REFRESHMENTS

SPEAKERS: JAN BUTTERWORTH

LOUISE VINER

INVITATIONS FROM CHURCH OFFICE: 811990



Jan Butterworth is a pharmacist and for many years worked in Birchill and Watson in the High St Stone. She has lectured and taught about medicines and in particular helped many nurses to prescribe for the first time. She now works for NHS North Staffordshire, as Head of Primary Care, where she is leading on the building of a new GP led Healthcentre and providing new services for GPs, dentists, pharmacists and optometrists. She has been a member of Christchurch for 25 years and sings in the music group. She will be talking about her life as a pharmacist and giving advice on over the counter and prescription medicines. If you have any particular questions on medicines that you would like Jan to address during the evening, please hand in your question to the Church office. Louise Viner is from a non-Christian home but came to faith at the age of 13. After university she married James and worked for 5 years for the John Lewis Partnership before giving up to have a family – her boys are now 11 and 13. At the age of 34 with 2 young children she was diagnosed out of the blue with colon cancer which subsequently spread to her liver. After 4 major operations and two courses of chemo Louise is fit and well. She and her family are members of Christ Church Central in Sheffield which is a new church plant where she is the Administrator.

She will reflect on how her faith has helped her in desperate moments and the pain and loneliness of illness and what she has learned through difficult times.

For more information speak to Sue Kingman 812669 or Caroline Vasby-Burnie 814244.

A Smile

“A SMILE costs nothing, but gives much. It enriches those who receive, without making poorer those who give. It takes but a moment, but the memory of it sometimes lasts forever. None is so rich and mighty that he/she can get along without it, and none is so poor but that he/she can be made rich by it. A smile creates happiness in the home, fosters good will in business, and is the countersign of friendship. It brings rest to the weary, cheer to the discouraged, sunshine to the sad, and it is nature’s best antidote for trouble. Yet it cannot be bought, begged, borrowed, or stolen, for it is something that is of no value to anyone until it is given away. Some people are too tired to give you a smile. Give them one of yours, and none needs a smile so much as he/she who has no more to give.”

Whilst visiting the Chemotherapy Unit at Stafford District Hospital with Rosemary, we both noticed this article pinned on their notice board and I asked if I could print it in our magazine. Looking around the patients who attend that unit it has struck me that although they are receiving treatment which leaves them with awful side affects, none of them look or sound miserable. They laugh and joke amongst themselves and with the nurses whilst in the unit. It made me think that perhaps we should all learn a lesson from this and take note of what the article says. It doesn’t cost anything and it doesn’t take much of your time, but it may mean a lot to the person who receives that **Smile**.

Irene Gassor

Young people’s Boat Trip

Coffee-time at church finished, a Pathfinder / young people’s group set off on narrow boat Icthus, to Barlaston and back.

On an almost dry afternoon views of the town, countryside and various water birds were enjoyed. Having a lift home, the youngest crew member decided that bread was wasted on the lazy ducks and should be personally eaten. Sandwiches were dished out and young people dashed off to their landlubber homes for extra ships’ biscuits.

Below deck was explored and it was found that Jenga is not a successful game on a moving boat. The roof though, it turns out, is a great place to enjoy the passing weeping willow trees, at very close proximity. It seems that mooring ropes can also be used to tie up people as well as boats.

Indeed much fun was had by all and even the Saturday crossword completed. Amazingly, no-one fell in the canal, Captain Pete’s hair is no whiter than before and the boat is still in one piece. A great day, many thanks to Pete.

Explorer Psalms

Explorers wrote Psalms in the form of “Consequences” - you write a line, fold the paper over and pass the paper to the next person, who writes a line. These are some of the results.

Thankyou God
for food and drink
Thankyou
for cheese
Thankyou Father God
for mums and dads
Thankyou God
Thankyou for Jesus
You are wonderful

Thankyou Father
For our families
Thankyou
for giving me friends
Thankyou
for flowers
Thankyou
for dying for me
THANK YOU

Thanks to You Holy One
for creating me
We praise you
Thankyou for everyone
Thankyou for chocolate
You are Immeasurabubbly

God I love you
Thankyou for trees
We praise you God
Thankyou for family and friends
Thankyou
You made me
Thankyou
for loving me
You are wonderful

Thankyou Father God
for making me me
Thankyou God
for my friends
You saved us from our sins
Thankyou

Message from the Beesigomwes

Dear Christ Church,

Thanks for praying for this Mission Week. Many prayed the sinners prayer that was part of the message. We reached about 240 staff and students in the hospital.

God bless you, Jonathan and Robinah

Here is a message from Pastor Achim Rodekhor, chaplain at the Ramotsa hospital, describing the outcome of the mission.

Subject: Re: Bamalete Lutheran Hospital Mission Week

Dear Jonathan,

thank you very much for your presentation. I will print it and distribute it to the staff at our hospital as well as the guests from outside, who were present during the Mission Week. After checking the evaluation papers of the 5 days I can give you the feedback that 99% of the staff was very excited and satisfied by your input and many reported having learned a lot for their lives.

May God continue to richly bless you and your wife in this ministry of counselling couples and help them reflect on their relationships from a true Christian stand point. All too often people are accustomed to see their culture as more important as Christ or God. The need for this Christian message about marriage is very much needed in this country. Greet your wife from me and thank her for having allowed you to come to Ramotswa these days.
God bless you!

Achim Rodekhor, Ramotswa, Botswana

(Jonathan and Robinah Beesigomwe work in Botswana, taking the gospel to families and young people)

7th September

Airdale Grove
Airdale Road
Airdale Spinney
Cross Street
Lotus Court

21st September

Oulton Mews
Princes Street
Queens Square
York Street

14th September

Nicholls Lane
Old Road
Old Road Close
Oulton Cross
Oulton Road

28th September

Navigation Loop
Rangeley View
Barnton Edge
Anderton Way/View



Summer Socials (Summer isn't over yet!)

5th to 7th September

Church Weekend

A great time to spend together, hearing God speak to us and enjoying plenty of good food. A must for all who consider themselves part of Christ Church, Oulton or Moddershall.

Saturday 13th September

Coach Trip to Liverpool

This year's Oulton Church outing is to Liverpool. There is the option of attending Evensong at the Cathedral. A 48-seater coach will leave Oulton Village Hall at 8.30am, picking up at Lotus Court and Christ Church Way car park en route. Depart Liverpool at 6:30pm. Cost: £10 per person.

Contact: Janet Thorne (01782 372324)

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

10th August Grace Ellen Kelly
 Jack Peter Vaughan

FUNERALS

4th August Margaret Wilkinson
 7th August Bertha Downing Belfield

Stafford Crematorium

21st July Stewart Mellor

Sidespersons ROTA

AM

7th September G.Holden, J. Abrahams
 A. West, T. MacFarlane

14th September D.Davies, V.Ledward
 K.Thompson, C. Wilding

21st September J.Rowlands, D.Wilson
 A. Greer, I. Gassor

28th September P. Hipkiss, B. Hutchinson
 G. Holden, M. Hutchinson

Flower Rota

7th September Mr & Mrs I. Hawley
 14th September Mrs E. Cook
 21st September Mrs S. Hallam
 28th September Mrs E. Woodhead



Deanery Synod Reps	Mrs S Hallam, Mr I Hawley, Mr D. Rowlands
P.C.C. Members	Mrs I Gassor, Mrs M Hillman, Mrs E Mason, Mr P Mason Mrs D Wilson, Mrs E Woodhead, Mrs J. Rowlands Mrs J Abrahams, Mr K Reynolds, Mr A Stone Mrs M Garrington-Miller, Mr G Holden, Mrs D Davies
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
Friday "Little Fishes" (Fri 11am – 1.30pm)	Cecilia Wilding.....817987

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 in the Centre during term time.

Monday Toddlers 9.30 am **Friday Little Fishes** 11.00 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,
Staffs ST15 8ZB or by email to christchurch_mag@yahoo.co.uk

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:
Mrs Marylyn Hillman, Park Lodge, Beech Court, Stone. Tel 815936