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Please get your contributions for the November magazine to the editor by Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October.

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*We are pleased to have been fed a couple of personal news items, for which we offer congratulations this month.*

*We are always on the lookout for such items, so keep them coming!*

*Ed.*

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## Cover Story

Unless you always read this magazine back to front, you will probably have noticed our new cover design by now. Each month we will be featuring a view from somewhere in the Parish, and to start off we couldn't resist these striking frontages in . . . a street not far from the church. Sorry, but we haven't got a prize to offer for identifying them, but you can enjoy the exercise of walking around to find them!

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## Christ Church on the Internet

Visit our website at [www.lichfield.anglican.org/stoke/stone/stonecc](http://www.lichfield.anglican.org/stoke/stone/stonecc)

E-mail the Parish Office at [christchurchcentre@pgen.net](mailto:christchurchcentre@pgen.net)

Send your contributions for this magazine to [christchurch\\_mag@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:christchurch_mag@yahoo.co.uk)

# October

## 2005

Sa	1	8.30 am	Prayers in Church, followed by breakfast
		6:00 pm	Bring and share supper at Christ Church
<b>Su</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Trinity 19 - HARVEST FESTIVAL</b>	
		<b>9.15 am</b>	<b>Parish Communion</b> Sermon text: Mark 4: 1-20 "the sower of the seed"
		<b>6.00 pm</b>	<b>Evening Prayer at Christ Church</b> Sermon text: Philippians 1:27-2:13 "striving as one for the gospel"
Tu	4	11.30 am	Churches Together Fraternal
		12.30 pm	Seekers Club at Christ Church Middle School
		1.45 pm	Christ Church First School Harvest Service in church
We	5	2.00 pm	Mothers' Union – Speaker Monica Darlington
Th	6	7.30 pm	20's Club at 27 Oulton Road
Fr	7	11.15 am	Christ Church Middle School Harvest Service at the school
		7.00 pm	Rock Café for young people in the Centre
<b>Su</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>Trinity 20</b>	
		<b>9.15 am</b>	<b>Morning Prayer</b> Sermon text: Mark 4:21-34 "the revolutionary"
		<b>6.00 pm</b>	<b>Parish Communion at Christ Church</b> Sermon text: Philippians 2:14-18 "star quality Christians"
Tu	11	9.30 am	Assembly at Christ Church First School
		12.30 pm	Seekers Club at Christ Church Middle School
We	12	8.00 pm	Readers' Meeting
Th	13	10.30 am	Holy Communion in church
		11.30 am	Holy Communion at St Mary's Home
		7.30 pm	20's Club at 27 Oulton Road
Fr	14	7.00 pm	Rock Café for young people in the Centre
<b>Su</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>Trinity 21</b>	
		<b>9.15 am</b>	<b>Parish Communion</b> Sermon text: Mark 4:35-41 "who is this?"
		<b>6.00 pm</b>	<b>Service for the Bereaved at Christ Church</b> Sermon text: John 5:16-30 "resurrection hope"
Tu	18		Seekers Club at Christ Church Middle School

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

We 19 10.00 am Men's Fellowship – Boules Competition  
7.45 pm Keele Bible Assembly at Keele University  
Fr 21 7.00 pm Rock Café for young people in the Centre

**Su 23 Last in Trinity**  
**9.15 am Family Service**  
Sermon text: Mark 5:1-20 "he defeats the strong" :  
Representatives from FEBA radio will be visiting  
**6.00 pm Parish Communion at Christ Church**  
Sermon text: Philippians 2:19-30 "a costly harvest"

Th 27 10.30 am Holy Communion in church  
11.00 am Holy Communion at Oulton Abbey

**Su 30 4 Before Advent**  
**9.15 am Morning Prayer**  
Sermon text: Mark 5:21-43 "he helps the weak"  
**6.00 pm Churches Together in Stone**

Mo 31 7.30 pm Standing Committee

Don't forget that our  
Evening Services are at  
**Christ Church**  
from October to March

The following Activities take place every week in the centre during school term time:

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

Activities for children and young people take place in the centre during the Sunday morning service each Sunday (except on the fourth Sunday of the month, which is family service):

**Climbers 3-7 years**  
**Explorers 7-11 years**  
**Pathfinders 11-14 years**

All children are welcome



# 4

## Victory Celebration

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**T**rafalgar 200 celebrations have been countrywide and impressive. Stone's own Sir John Jervis, Earl St Vincent, secured an amazing victory against the odds at Cape St Vincent (hence the title chosen by King George), although he was out of office during the time of the Trafalgar victory under Lord Nelson.



Nelson began his naval career aged 12, he became a captain before he was 21, was a household name by the age of 39 and killed in action just weeks after his 47<sup>th</sup> birthday. The words "*kiss me, Hardy*" are attributed to Nelson as he lay dying in the cockpit of HMS Victory during the battle of Trafalgar on 21<sup>st</sup> Oct 1805. Historians inform us that his character traits played a large part in Nelson securing victory. Lord Nelson always led from the front and is said to have combined ruthless efficiency, strategic vision and tactical genius to end Napoleon's threat to Britain. It was a significant victory because it secured Britain's mastery of the sea and doomed Napoleon's domination of Europe. We're thankful to God for this victory and rightly celebrate it, as peace was costly but precious. Yet such peace remains vulnerable to being overthrown by new attacks.

For Christians such commemorations of victory recall Christ's ultimate victory. His victorious death is described as a work of destruction of evil: *'having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross'* (Colossians 2v15). The cross of Christ stands in history as the point when evil was overthrown in principle - we await the final Day of Judgment when it will be overthrown in fact. On that day there will be the total eradication of all that destroys and is opposed to God's kingdom. The followers of Christ celebrate how he paid an immense price in order to secure us peace with God and a future in heaven.

This peace with God will never be taken from us. This is why we celebrate and share with others what Christ has done already and what he will one day finally do.

*Paul Kingman*

# Just For Fun!

## Old Testament People

- I Pour on water, I'll show you how to make fire!
- II If you cut my hair, I'll lose my strength.
- III I won't come home to my wife when my soldiers are still fighting.
- IV Even though I've lost everything and my wife tells me to curse God, I won't.
- V I am the wisest and richest man in the world and I've been told to build God's temple.

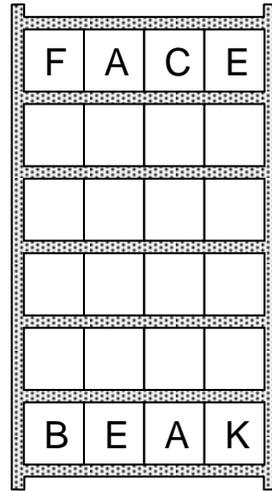
Take the first letter of each of these names:

\_\_\_\_\_

Now rearrange them to find the name of a very special person.

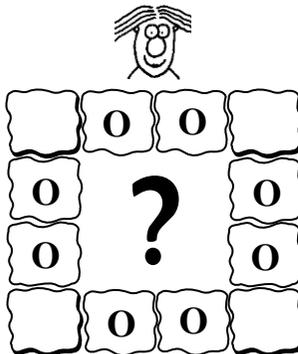
## Word Ladder

You probably know that if you meet a man with a bill it could turn out to be a duck with a hat on. So can you turn "face" into "beak" by changing one letter at a time, making a new word on each rung of the ladder?



## Cornerstones

Put the missing letters in the corners of this square to make four words that match the clues.



Funny feeling

House top

People fuel

Living space

# 6

## Christ Church First School News

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*'Back to school' signs have been displayed in shops since the middle of August, encouraging parents to buy everything from pencils and rulers to school uniform, but now this is it! We can feel the "season of mists and mellow fruitfulness..." and September is here...a new year for children and teachers and a wonderful time for new resolutions and fresh starts.*

*Thus we began school on September 6 when staff met to prepare classrooms. Work on the windows in the mobile classrooms has been completed during the holiday and now Years 3 and 4 are enjoying the benefits of double glazed windows throughout.*

*We welcomed a new member of staff; Mrs Buttery is joining our music team, accompanying on the piano and sharing lessons. We wish her well, and we are looking forward to working together.*

*On September 7<sup>th</sup> the children returned, all safe and refreshed after the holiday and as enthusiastic as ever to meet old friends and settle into a routine. We welcomed 22 children into our Reception class and several more children into other classes throughout the school. We extend a warm welcome to these children and their families as we prepare to share the first exciting steps in school together.*

*Immediately our calendar is filling up with dates of meetings and training courses. Two events which we are looking forward to are:*

*September 23<sup>rd</sup> when the "Newsletter" photographer is coming to take a photo of Reception children to record their first days at school*

*October 4<sup>th</sup> when we will hold our Harvest Thanksgiving Service in Church at 7.45pm. We would welcome any of our friends who would like to share this celebration with us.*

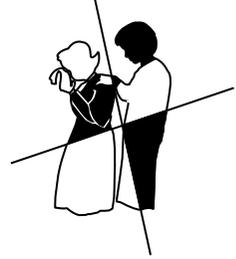
Janet Booth  
Early Years' Coordinator

# 8

## Bereavement Service

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The loss of a loved one always has profound effects upon our lives, and it can take a long time to readjust to one's altered circumstances.



To help those who are affected by bereavement we will be holding a special evening service on **Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> October at 6.00 pm.**

We have had a number of these services in the past, and many people have found them a blessing and comfort in times of sorrow.

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### *Acknowledgments*

Brenda and family would like to thank everyone for their kind messages of sympathy. Your thoughts and prayers have been of great comfort and support to us at this sad time.



David, Stephen and Stuart Morton wish to thank many friends in Christ Church for the lovely cards and kind messages of sympathy on the recent death of Patricia.

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*We have been particularly touched by the recent deaths of Gordon Boote, a long-time member of our church, Les Greer, who until illness forced him to retire was our Music Co-ordinator, and Patricia Morton, a former member whose husband David was a Reader here for many years. We offer our condolences, and our thoughts and prayers are with their families at this time.*



*Ed.*

# Kidz Korner! <sup>9</sup>

This month it's Harvest so we're thinking about some of the things God provides for us.

b

M

co

L

Who am I? (Fruit and vegetables!)

- 1 I'm red and juicy
- 2 I'm yellow and monkeys love me
- 3 I'm found on the first day of Christmas
- 4 I'm a round fruit and a colour of the rainbow
- 5 I'm green and you'll find me in a pod
- 6 I'm lovely baked, mashed, roasted or boiled
- 7 I'm a vegetable that Bug's Bunny likes chewing

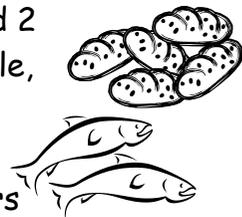
&

R

pp

x

Jesus fed 5000 people with 5 loaves and 2 fish. You can read about this in your Bible, Matthew chapter 14, verses 13 to 21. He did this miracle by giving thanks to God and asking him to provide as his followers were so hungry.



Why don't you pray this prayer?



"Dear God, please help us to care for people who don't have enough food, like Jesus did. Amen."

Answers  
tomato  
banana  
pear  
orange  
pea  
potato  
carrot

- **Thomas Nash** was welcomed onto the PCC in his position as our Youth Worker in the Benefice. He started here at the beginning of September.

*The PCC met on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2005 and the following matters were reported on, discussed and/or decided.*

- Plans for the **visit of the Boaters' Christian Fellowship to Stone** from the evening of Monday 19<sup>th</sup> September to the morning of Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2005 are now well advanced and PCC members were urged to pray and invite people to the various events, and to encourage others to do so.

- **The Rock Café** continues to attract 30-40 young people on a Friday evening. It stayed open over the holiday period at the request of the young people. The operational policy for the Café was accepted by the PCC as a working document for the first year and will be reviewed thereafter.

- Scaffolding is to be erected on 15<sup>th</sup> September 2005 to enable the **church roof** to be repaired where it has suffered damage due to louvres becoming detached from the belfry.

- The PCC is moving forward towards defining its **Mission Action Plan** – that is, defining what God would have us do as a church to reach out to those around who don't yet know Him. As we can't do everything, we are now praying about which group we should focus on, and how they may be reached.

- The **Harvest Supper** is to be on **Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> October 2005** at 6.00pm in Christ Church Centre. It is a bring and share supper. and Christ Church are asked to provide savouries this year. Marylyn Hillman is co-ordinating catering and Mike West is MC for the evening.

**The next PCC meeting** takes place on **Monday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2005**



## From the Mission Field

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### *Our dearest friends,*

Thank you so much for praying for us - for Stephen's health, Tabita's well-being and our house removal, for the children's adaptation and for the on-going work here in Zagreb -and your letters of

encouragement! We have needed it and been blessed by it! Here are some brief updates for your encouragement.

The Bells have a new address in Croatia:

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

Tel 00385-1-2012781

*Stephen's Health* The doctors have finally come down firmly on an illness and are confident of a solution. As we have moved house across town we have a new doctor - a key member of our large mother church in central Zagreb. It is a joy to go to his reception and see many tasteful Christian books and tracts and posters with peaceful pictures and helpful bible-verses. He sent me to the Dubrava Hospital (local to our churchplant) which is very modern and the doctor there told me I have 'rheumatic arthritis', am seriously ill and that I should come to hospital where 'he will heal me'. He gave me two injections into my wrist and knee. I was very encouraged and feel I am now starting the way to recovery... 6 weeks after it all started!

*Tabita's well-being and our removal* Praise God that Tabita's parents have been able to invest 6 days and nights of their holidays into renovating our new house... and taking me to hospitals etc. This has greatly encouraged Tabita, and new sinks, toilet, telephone lines, satellite, water in the kitchen etc, etc are now in place. Everything is also sparkling clean! Please continue to pray for Tabita that while I am in hospital she will be able to cope with all the extra stresses.

## 12

*The children's adaptation* Quiet wonderfully Sheona, Joshy and Benjy have been befriended into the lively group of children of the neighbourhood. About 20 children live in very close proximity to our cul-de-sac house and they now call on our kids to play-out. Please pray for good contacts and future conversions in our area.

Sheona's school is only 500 yards away and she already sits next to one of the neighbours, Michaela. She is enjoying school and it is modern with a seemingly good teacher.

Joshua and Benjy travel across town to the Montessori school, which has just moved into new premises. Everything is new, they have much equipment and both boys already have friends from our previous church in Malešnica. They are both very happy and Joshy is especially proud that he has many new books and writing/drawing equipment and that he has now started school (similar to English junior school).

*The ongoing church-planting* We are all encouraged. The *Summer-Sleep* as I call it is now at an end. We have an evangelistic concert at the turn of the month. A very famous band will play (most members from our mother church) and we hope that up to 100 key 'God-seekers' will come. Two weeks later we have missionaries from our previous church coming for 'Family-Life' (Croatian- "Obiteljski Život"), when we hope to invite folk for advice in family matters, marriage and children etc.

We will also be discussing and planning for the next 10 years (long-term) and for the next 1 year (short term) as a team, as a church, and most importantly we would like to discuss with the wider mother church. Please pray for one vision and God's initiative (as oppose to ours!).

This Saturday we have a team meeting for prayer and planning.

So, best wishes from us all,

Stephen & Tabita,  
Sheona, Joshy and Benjy

## Mission Prayer Request

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### **Dominic, Clare and Erica Joscelyne**

Dom and Clare are working at Hebron School in South India.



- > Praise God that Erica is happy and is sociable to different groups of people and developing friendships in her pre-school group.
- > Pray that Dominic will be able to balance his time between being Erica's primary carer and his role as Systems Administrator.
- > Pray that Clare will be able to get up to speed with the next Technology projects. She is working one project ahead of the students and at times one lesson ahead. (Technology is not her first subject.)

Dominic will be preaching on Hezekiah at Union Church on October 23<sup>rd</sup>. Please pray that he has productive quiet time with God and that he will deliver Gods message.

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**Y**ou are invited to see Surya's new winter collection of silver and gemstone jewellery and accessories. These are from India. Do come and have a drink, a chat and a look at the exciting designs.

**Fri 7<sup>th</sup> October - 7.30 - 9.30 pm at  
George and Mary Holden's, 27 Oulton Road, Stone**

Free admission, but donations gratefully received for  
Christ Church Youth Fund.

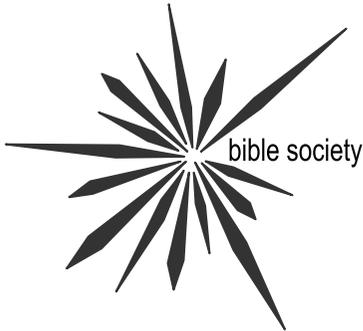
Quality goods at exceptional prices. Refreshments available.  
Contact George and Mary on **01785 815057**

**All welcome**



## Who are . . . Bible Society?

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*In this article, another of the organisations that regularly features in our mission prayers speaks for itself.*

At Bible Society, we are passionate about the Bible. We believe it is not just another book, it's the most important document ever written; God's message, that reveals not only what he is like but also his will and purposes for us!

No wonder we find it exciting!

And if people took the message seriously, really encountered and engaged with what the Bible has to say, imagine the kind of world that would result ...

a world where the Bible's voice is known and loved in a vibrant Christian Church

a world where the Bible is at the heart of everyday life

a world where the wisdom and realism of the Bible shape the way we live as nations, communities and individuals.

So even after 200 years of our work, we're still passionate about the Bible. We're pioneering in creating partnerships and finding new and innovative ways of allowing the Bible to connect with everyday life. We are working with the church to help it live out God's story in its daily life and witness. Because it matters!

### **THE CHALLENGE**

Our task is to ensure that the Bible's message is known, loved and understood.

But making the Bible heard is neither simple nor easy. While in some parts of the world the Bible plays a central role, in many countries it is ignored or seen as irrelevant. And in too many areas its message has still hardly been heard. Even in the UK, despite increased interest in spirituality, the Bible has virtually disappeared from the day-to-day reality of people's lives.

All this means that our work has to be done with more energy, creativity and innovation than ever before. We are still totally committed to making the scriptures available where there are none, but to this core task we have added new activities such as researching how the Bible can be taught in schools or used more effectively in churches.

# 16

We are always learning; sharing information from around the world on what the Bible means, how to communicate it, how to make sure its message is known, loved and understood.

## THE GLOBAL ALLIANCE

We work through a global alliance of over 130 Bible Societies around the world, a worldwide fellowship called the united bible societies, sharing the challenges of making the Bible available, relevant and credible in widely differing cultures. We cannot make the Bible heard on our own and partnerships with other mission organisations are vital to our work.

Just as importantly, we rely on a global alliance of individuals and churches – supporters who share our passion for making the Bible heard. Our work has been made possible through their sacrificial giving, prayer and sheer hard work.

Will you help us? Are you:

- < passionate about making the Bible heard?
- < wanting to see the Bible used more effectively throughout the world?
- < Willing to pray for us and our work?
- < wanting to see lives changed through the power of the Bible?

There are a variety of ways that you can be part of our global alliance. You can give your prayers, money or time. Plus, don't keep this to yourself. Tell others about our work. Spread the message, share your excitement and make a difference!

Together, we can be a force for change. Together, we can make the voice of the Bible heard everywhere.

You can read more about Bible Society and its work at [www.biblesociety.org.uk](http://www.biblesociety.org.uk)

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Congratulations



*To David and Jeanette Rowlands  
on becoming grandparents!*

*To Dave and Enid Bell  
on their Silver Wedding Anniversary!*

## Streets of Prayer

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



**2<sup>nd</sup> October**  
Oulton Road  
Oulton Mews  
Princes Street  
Queens Square  
York Street

**9<sup>th</sup> October**  
Navigation Loop  
Rangeley View  
Barnton Edge  
Anderton Way

**16<sup>th</sup> October**  
Bentley Close  
Rendel Grove  
Brindley Close  
Rudyard Close

**23<sup>rd</sup> October**  
Cressey Close  
Joules Drive  
Caldon Way  
Harecastle Bank

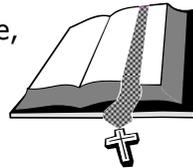
**30<sup>th</sup> October**  
Saltersford Rise  
Millenium Way  
Rolt Close  
Cameron Wharf

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## Encouragement from Scripture

Here are some more readings to encourage you in your journey of faith.

- Φ If your faith needs stirring, Hebrews 11
- Φ If you need encouragement, Luke 11: 1 - 13
- Φ If your picture of God has grown small, Psalm 90
- Φ If you need encouragement in living your daily life, Colossians 3: 12 - 17 or Matthew 5
- Φ If you are leaving home or missing home, Psalm 121
- Φ If you are struggling with bitterness or growing critical, 1 Corinthians 13




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### Puzzle solutions

#### Cornerstones

R O O F    You can  
O        O    swap the  
O        O    M and F  
M O O D

#### Word Ladder

One solution is:  
FACE, PACE, PACK,  
PECK, PEAK, BEAK

#### Old Testament People

Elijah, Samson, Uriah, Job  
Solomon - makes: JESUS



### Funerals

22 <sup>nd</sup> August	Harold Blakemore	Aged 68 yrs
24 <sup>th</sup> August	Gordon Boote	Aged 74 yrs
2 <sup>nd</sup> September	Les George Alexander Greer	Aged 54 yrs

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### Baptisms

11 <sup>th</sup> September	Molly Jane Sullivan
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### Sidespersons for October

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

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### Flower Rota for October

2 <sup>nd</sup>	Harvest
9 <sup>th</sup>	Mrs. E. Leese
16 <sup>th</sup>	Mrs. A. West
23 <sup>rd</sup>	Mothers' Union
30 <sup>th</sup>	Mrs. D. Pickles

