

# Christ Church and People

30p



April

Parish Magazine of  
Christ Church Stone

2007

# PARISH DIRECTORY

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## SUNDAY SERVICES

Details of our services are given on pages 2 and 3.

**Young people's activities** take place in the Centre at 9.15 am

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## THE PARISH TEAM

<b>Vicar</b>	Paul Kingman The Vicarage, Bromfield Court	812669
<b>Parish Administrator</b>	Clare Nash (Office)	811990
<b>Electoral Roll Officer</b>	Irene Gassor	814871
<b>Parish Office</b>	Christ Church Centre, Christ Church Way, Stone, Staffs ST15 8ZB Email christchurch.centre1@btinternet.com	
<b>Youth Worker</b>	Thomas Nash	286551
<b>Deaconess (Retired)</b>	Ann Butler	818160
<b>Readers</b>	David Bell John Butterworth Margaret Massey David Rowlands Michael Thompson Cecilia Wilding	815775 817465 813403 816713 813712 817987
<b>Music Co-ordinators</b>	Peter Mason Jeff Challinor	815854 819665
<b>Wardens</b>	Phil Tunstall David Rowlands	817028 816713
<b>Deputy Wardens</b>	Shirley Hallam, Arthur Foulkes	
<b>Prayer Request List</b>	Barbara Thornicroft	818700

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## CHRIST CHURCH CENTRE

<b>Booking Secretary</b>	Shelagh Sanders (Office) (Home)	811990 760602
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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 May  
magazine to us  
by 15th  
April

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**Cover Story:** Jerry Cooper drew lots of wonderful pictures for this magazine, all of them buildings in our parish. This month it is Newcastle Road

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## Christ Church on the Internet

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

# April 2007

Sun	1	9:15am 6:00pm	Palm Sunday. Morning Prayer. Luke 19:28-44 "King for a day" Communion at Oulton Church. 1 Peter 2:21-24, 3:18 "Jesus, the man who died for rebels"
Mon	2		
Tue	3	10:30am	Midweek service
Wed	4		
Thu	5	7:45pm	Communion at Oulton
Fri	6	10:00am 10:00am 10:45am 7:30pm	Easter Procession starting at St. Michaels Children's craft at Christ Church Good Friday family service at Christ Church Watch and Pray service
Sat	7	12:00	Churches Together in Stone Singing in town centre
Sun	8	9:15am 6:00pm	Easter Day. Communion Luke 24:1-12 "Evidence that demands a verdict" Evening Prayer at Oulton Church. 1 Peter 1:3 "Jesus the risen ruler"
Mon	9		
Tue	10	10:30am 1:30pm	Midweek service Holiday Club
Wed	11	1:30pm	Holiday Club
Thu	12	1:30pm	Holiday Club
Fri	13	1:30pm	Holiday Club
Sat	14		
Sun	15	9:15am 6:00pm	Holiday Club service. Revelation 21-22 "The heavenly city" Communion at Oulton Church. Revelation 17 "The fall of Babylon"
Mon	16	9:00am 6:30pm	Prayers for schools and young people Cornerstone 78 Oulton Road
Tue	17	10:30am 7:30pm	Midweek service Youth Club in the Centre

# April 2007

Wed	18	7:30pm	APCM (annual meeting for all church members)
Thu	19		
Fri	20		
Sat	21	2:00pm	Dedication of Andrew Morrison and Debbie Sanderson
Su	22	9:15am 6:00pm	Communion. Luke 24:13-35 "Christ in Scripture" Fair Trade goods stall after service. Evening Prayer at Oulton Church. Revelation 19:1-10 "Hallelujah"
Mon	23	9:00am 6:30pm	Prayers for schools and young people Cornerstone at 78 Oulton Road
Tue	24	10:30am 7:30pm	Midweek service Youth Club in Centre
Wed	25		
Thu	26		
Fri	27		
Sat	28		
Su	29	9:15am 6:00pm	Morning Prayer. John 8:31-39 "True freedom" Communion at Oulton Church. Revelation 19:11-21 "King of Kings"
Mon	30	9:00am 6:30pm	Prayers for schools and young people Cornerstone at 78 Oulton Road

## Young People's Activities on Sunday Mornings

Activities for young people take place in the centre during the Sunday morning service each Sunday except the fourth in the month, which is the family service.

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

The following activities take place every week week in the Centre during term time.

- |                      |          |
|----------------------|----------|
| Monday Toddlers      | 9.30 am  |
| Friday Little Fishes | 11.00 am |



## Not an April fool!

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April begins with a day that delights all jesters, but leads to blushed cheeks for victims. Pranks are one thing, but deliberate deception is quite another. None of us like to be taken for a ride. We would be aghast if we discovered that we had been deliberately deceived!

After a day for pranks and tricks, you could easily think that Easter was an extension of light-hearted family fun. Just look at what fills the shop windows. Chicks, bunnies and eggs are enormous fun and a great money-spinner. Yet, for Jesus' disciples Easter is a defining festival for what it means to be a follower of Christ. Easter celebrates the central truth of Christianity that many dismiss as a lie.

We can't simply dismiss the well-documented historical records of the New Testament, which show that the resurrection is not an April fool. Did you know that every Christian sermon in the New Testament is about the resurrection? This is the *gospel* (the word which means good news), which is all about Jesus Christ. The good news that set in motion a spiritual revolution was the historic reality that Jesus Christ rose again from the dead. This never-seen-before event validates his claim to be divine and not merely human. It demonstrates that he truly is the Son of God as he was stronger than death. It also authenticates all that he said as being true. For if he hadn't risen from the dead then he would have spoken falsely when he said that three days after his death he would rise again.

The Apostle Paul gives an impressive line-up of eyewitnesses as his lead in to explaining why this is the truth on which Christianity stands or falls. If the burial tomb of Jesus wasn't empty and Jesus hadn't been seen alive then there would be no hope. If Jesus did not rise from death then the Apostle's witness would be pointless, their preaching would be a pack of lies, there would be no way of being forgiven for our sins, and all who had died trusting in Jesus would have no future. Either the Apostles would have been self-deceived or deliberately deceiving others.

The Apostle writes to encourage faith: *'If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are to be pitied more than all men. But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep'* (1 Cor 15v19-20).



(continued on next page)

## Not an April fool! (continued)

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I want to invite all the readers of this article to come and join our celebrations on Easter morning. Together we will celebrate the fact that Christ has died, Christ has risen and Christ will come again!

*Paul Kingman.*

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### Children's Society Boxes

Thank you to everyone who gave so generously to the Children's Society through their collecting boxes. House boxes raise over £2 million a year towards their valuable work with runaway and disadvantaged children in our country. Unfortunately this year for various reasons, several boxes have been given up. If you feel you could take one of the house boxes, which are collected once a year, I would be very happy to let you have one. A grand total of £243.56 is on its way to the society.

Thank you, Sandra Morray,  
Hon. secretary

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### Fairtrade Goods Sale

Fairtrade goods will be on sale in the Centre after the morning service on April 22nd

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### What a Liberty!

Sermon texts at morning services after Easter will be on the subject of the Freedom we have in Christ

April 29th	John 8:31-39	"True Freedom"
May 6th	Romans 8:1-11	"Are you in or out?"
May 13th	1 Corinthians 9	"Free, but a servant"
May 20th	2 Corinthians 3:7-17	"The glorious new covenant"



Immediately following our return to school after our half-term break, we began our Lent appeal. As in previous years, we are trying to help in some way and encouraging each other to think of others who may not enjoy the best quality of life possible.

This year, we are supporting “Oxfam Unwrapped” and are linking up with the organization to collect money to buy a goat for a family in Africa. This has developed into a most exciting project and has really captured the children’s imagination (and sharpened their Maths skills!), as each class collects donations from the children during the week and on Thursday, we update the school total.

At the time of writing, the end of week 1, at a cost of £24 per goat, we are in a position to buy two and a half goats! We are extremely pleased with this start, and look forward to adding to this (a herd, maybe?!). Our thanks must go to parents and families who always support our appeals so enthusiastically. Therefore, if you are in the High Street and hear a child asking Mum for “goat money” you will know what it is about! Likewise, if you would like to contribute yourself to this appeal, that would be great, thank you.

Almost immediately our Choir children gave a performance at The Gatehouse Theatre, Stafford. The theme of “Celebrating Music” is an annual event, sponsored by the Staffordshire Newsletter. We contributed to the evening along with three other schools and received extremely pleasing comments about our performance, as we chose to sing an African song and a Maori song along with a Beatles favourite. Well done Choir children and thanks again to parents for their support.

Last week closed with a lively music concert given by a group of the Peripatetic music teachers who took us on a musical “World Tour” during which we listened to music from many different countries.

We are looking forward to a “Dance Extravaganza” to be held later this month in which Year 4 children have been invited to take part. This is organized by the PE department and is to be held at the Victoria Hall in Hanley. It promises to be a very exciting Dance celebration.

Finally, our Easter Service will take place at Church on Friday March 30<sup>th</sup> at 2.00pm. You are warmly invited to join us.

Happy Easter, everyone!

Janet Booth--- Early Years’ Coordinator.



(Hebron School is the international Christian boarding school in the Nilgiri Hills, South India, where both the Baron and Humphreys families, who we support as a church, live and work. Owen Humphreys tells us something of what life at Hebron is like and, towards the end of the article, shares some of the struggles which people working there long-term experience.)

## **Life at Hebron**

Life at Hebron certainly moves with the seasons...in a sort of predictable pattern. Each year is often very similar in structure, divided as it is into four half-terms. For example, the first half-term is often dominated by the Drama week, which happens in the last week of the half-term. Five classes produced plays for this fantastic week. (The productions consume much effort and time in the preceding 7 weeks!) It is also the time when teachers get to know their new classes.

The next half-term leads into the busy and enjoyable Christmas activities...especially in the Junior School. Both these half terms are crowded with inter-school sports activities (football, athletics, badminton, cross country, tennis, basketball, hockey and cricket) and music exams.

The third half term culminates in 'Parent's Week', when most parents visit the school for parent/ teacher interviews. This half-term is also characterized by 'clubs'. Every Thursday the lessons are shortened and children do a variety of activities. This can be illustrated by my own family. Ben is having driving lessons, Steffan is doing Tennis, while Jonathan is building and racing Go-carts. I am teaching football skills to some young boys and girls whereas Tracy is doing a mural with another group. This half-term is especially stressful for many teachers (including Tracy) as all the course-work deadlines appear here. There is always a mass panic (by Staff and Students) to complete the work that needs doing for courses!

The final half-term is exam time and the saying of good-bye to the many leavers. It is also when the 2 school houses (blue and gold), compete in every year group in every sport! Each half-term also has the unenviable task of report writing (4 reports a year). There are many other regular features that make up the school year. Throughout the year there are numerous 'spiritual' activities: Bible studies, prayer meetings, youth fellowship weekends, and church services etc. for both staff and students.

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The weather also plays a fairly predictable pattern. June to November is characterized by rain, clouds and some sunny periods (monsoon). December and January are clear but cool (for India). Then warm sunshine until April, followed by some rain, cloud and sun until the Monsoon proper in June.

Even the years passing can have a kind of pattern. The first year is often one remembered for much sickness, culture shock, homesickness and the excitement of a whole new life situation. Years two and three often find the 'not-so-new' staff well-settled and perhaps taking on new responsibilities. Many staff leave after a three year contract, but those who stay on increasingly realize how many of their friends and colleagues they have seen come and go.

This is perhaps one of the hardest and most challenging aspects of staying 'long-term' at Hebron. A challenge that is little talked about and certainly not expected when we first arrived. How do people cope with the constant bereavement type process that such a mobile population brings? There is a photograph taken of the 'professional' staff, just after we arrived in September 2002. Of the 82, over half are gone. The majority of those who are still here are Indian office staff, most of who live locally in town. Only 14 expatriates remain from that photograph. Someone has described it like living in a busy train station...people come and people go!

The way to cope, as we are still learning, is dependence on His Grace. Only His Grace enables the school to function and serve year after year. And it is the prayers of many, that profound mystery, that somehow moves the 'Hand of God' to act on behalf of His people. The school is a special place, it's His school. Many thousands of Christian worker families have used Hebron to educate their children, enabling them to obey the Master's call in the harvest fields of SE Asia. That is why Hebron is still going strong 107 years after it opened.

Owen Humphreys

***Coming soon!***

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# **MEGAQUEST HOLIDAY CLUB**

For children aged 4-11 years.

Christ Church Centre, Stone  
10<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> April, from 1.30 to 3.30 p.m.

Find out about God's BIG plan for the world!

- Games
- Songs
- Bible stories
- Drama
- Craft
- Refreshments.



\* 50 pence per session.

Limited places, so book early! For a booking form ring Clare or Irene on T: 01785 811990.

A special MEGAQUEST service will be held at Christ Church: 9.15 a.m. Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> April.

## Letter from Margaret Mance

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This message is to say a “very big thank you” to the family of Christ Church for all your love and friendship over the years.

I remember so well the open-hearted welcome Bertie and I received way back in 1985. Christ Church is a fellowship where faith in our Lord Jesus can grow whatever our age and sustain us in all sorts of times - both happy and sad. Thank you too for your part in the gifts I have brought to my flat here in Baldock - the picture is on the wall and the lovely card in full view. The greatest treasure to bring away is the experience of the Lord in this place, not left behind in Stone. May you all know that should your time to come to move.

Again thank you and may the Lord bless you.

Love in Him,

Margaret Mance

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## Amazing Grace

John Newton, the son of a sea captain was born in 1725. He did not behave well as a young sailor and later became involved in the slave trade of West Africa. After many desperate adventures he heard news of his family in England and joined a ship that would eventually return. He was highly critical of anyone who was a christian and used extremely foul language. In a drunken state he almost fell overboard - one of many occasions that his life was saved. The ship was almost lost in a storm and in his terrible situation Newton began to pray. The crew had almost starved before the battered ship reached Ireland. These and other amazing deliverances made Newton realise that there was a God and that he answered prayer. All this happened before Newton was 24. For a while John Newton returned to the slave trade but in 1764 he was ordained into the Church of England, his life had changed completely.

Later he wrote “Amazing Grace” reflecting on God’s grace to us sinners (see Galations 3:26-28).

(The Cowper & Newton museum is at Olney near Bedford and further information is on their website)

Enid Bell

Sunday has always been a ‘different’ day for me, from way back in my childhood to present day. Thinking about this topic has brought back memories of my Sunday school days in an Elim Pentecostal church, going to my Nan’s for Sunday tea, wearing ‘Sunday best’ clothes (I can still remember some of those), and after making a commitment to follow Jesus, travelling to my Baptism, my towel in a bag as it was total immersion. And later, as a teenager, giggling with my friend Beryl in the pews of the Baptist church I then attended.

I can also remember only too well the negative aspects of Sundays long ago; no playing ball outside, no knitting outside in the front garden (while staying with my Welsh Aunt on holiday), and no buying of ice creams or going on the swings in the park.

These are memories from years ago and until Phil and I met and married I spent many times in the ‘wilderness’. Nowadays, I’m glad to say, I see Sundays in a different light. I see it as a special day that we have been given for worship and recreation, although I’m aware that many people have to work on a Sunday whether they want to or not.

Going to church on Sundays is not just ‘something we do’ on this day but a very special time of corporate worship and meeting with the church family. It is possible to worship, read the Bible and to pray at home, and I do, but it is also very uplifting and comforting to be part of the church family, doing these things and sharing together the music, prayers, Bible readings and listening to the sermon. We are very fortunate at Christ Church in that the sermon is always Bible based. Sometimes there is almost too much material in it for me, but I always try to take at least one thing from it away with me. In other words, what one particular thing does God want to say to me today?

Then there is the sharing of news and prayer concerns with other members of the church family whether we talk in the pew or wander through to the Centre to chat over coffee. Who can tell how important some of those conversations may be?

Now our service is rather early with a 9.15 a.m. start, but it therefore follows that it finishes early, so leaving the rest of the day for recreation. How we spend the time is up to us as individuals but as long as we remember that it is the Lord’s special day, we will spend it in a way pleasing to Him.

## What is Scripture Union?

Scripture Union(SU) is a non-denominational, Christ-centred, international movement, founded in 1867, working in partnership with individuals and churches across the world.

**SU's aim** is to use the Bible to inspire children, young people and adults to know God. To achieve this they work in a variety of areas – schools, churches, holidays, missions, training, publishing – in obedience to the Lord Jesus Christ and in reliance on the Holy Spirit.

## Christ Church's links with Scripture Union:

A number of us in Christ Church use **Scripture Union Bible reading notes**, of which there a variety suited for various age-groups – Daily Bread, Closer to God and Encounter with God for adults, Tiddlywinks (under 5s), Snapshots (age 8+), One Up (age 11+) and Airlock, DAYZD and 'Bible Bits to ignite your life', for teenagers and young adults. I have used Encounter with God for many years and find it opens up the Scriptures and challenges my life. To find out more look on the SU web-site address below.

- Our **Sunday Schools** use Scripture Union material as a guide to their teaching and activities.
- The **Mega Quest Holiday Club** for 4-11yr olds, taking place 10<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> April in the Christ Church Centre, is also using Scripture Union material. Booking forms for the Club can be obtained from the Parish Office in the Centre.
- Christ Church makes an **annual donation** to Scripture Union in recognition of the valuable work it does in outreach, particularly amongst children and young people, and in training teachers and leaders of young people's and children's work.

## Evangelism

In the summer SU provides over a hundred holidays across England and Wales for children and young people and they are always on the look-out for volunteers to help run them (3,000 needed this year). Why not think about it. There are also opportunities in other countries. More information on the web-site.

To find out more about the work of Scripture Union, visit

**[www.scriptureunion.org.uk](http://www.scriptureunion.org.uk)**

*by Cecilia Wilding*

## THESE SIGNS WERE WRITTEN

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Here are a few signs you may not have seen before:

Sign in a vets waiting room: "Be back in 5 minutes. Sit! Stay!!!"

At a towing company:  
"We don't charge an arm and a leg. We want tows."

In a restaurant window: "Eat now, pay waiter."

Sign in school near clock: "Time will pass; will you?"

On a display of "I love you only" Valentine cards  
"Now available in multi-packs."

Sign in a dentist's office:  
"Patient parking only. All others will be painfully extracted."

Outside a country shop: "We buy junk and sell antiques."

Brochure for holiday cottages  
"Lovely honeymoon cottage . . . . sleeps 8"

A sign seen on a toilet dryer "Do not activate with wet hands."

In a restaurant: "Open 7 days a week and weekends."

On a plumber's van "We repair what your husband fixed."

Signs serve different purposes. Some point the way, others inform, still others issue a warning. The word "sign" appears often in the New Testament (and especially in the gospel of John) in reference to the miracles of Christ. Those signs also serve a purpose.

"And truly Jesus did many other signs in the presence of His disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name." (John 20:30-31).

The signs recorded in scripture serve as a basis for our confidence that Jesus is who he claimed to be. Praise be to Christ who demonstrated God's power time and again!

Mike Thompson



## Easter - New Life and Chocolate Eggs

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Daffodils line the streets  
And in the shops there's eggs and sweets  
The world wakes up - the sun comes out  
"Easter's here" - I want to shout

Jesus died to give us hope  
To let us know that he can cope  
When things get tough, we have a friend  
Our broken hearts he wants to mend.

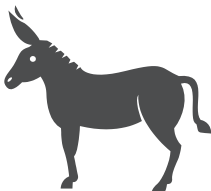
Give thanks for the flowers, and the brightening sun  
As you munch on an egg or a nice hot cross bun  
Remember that Easter is a present fro God  
So look to his son and the path that he trod.

Mim Bell

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There may come a point in a donkey's life (and perhaps a human life too) when one has to stand up for one's beliefs. Maybe it was such a moment for the donkey who carried Jesus into Jerusalem. Many apparent "co-incidences" had led up to this moment but now came a decision time. Despite the noisy crowds madly waving palm branches no mention is made of the donkey flinching or backing away from the task ahead.

Sometimes we have to stand up for being a Christian and be proud of the burden we bear.



Daisy the donkey

## ROADS FOR PRAYER

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Please pray for people living in these streets of our parish

### 1st April

Mount Street  
Old Road  
Stonefield Court  
Stonefield Square

### 15th April

Bromfield Court  
Dominic Court  
Granville Terrace  
King's Avenue

### 29th April

Northesk Street  
Radford Close  
Radford Street  
Station Road

### 8th April

Victor Street  
Victoria Street  
Whitebridge Lane  
Alma Street

### 22nd April

Longton Road  
Margaret Street  
Newcastle Road  
Newcastle Street




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## Freecycling

In this journal we like to keep a grip (albeit tenuous) on the modern idiom. “Freecycling” is the word for recycling things free of charge to anyone who wants them. Of course we have the charity shops which take unwanted things and sell them to raise money for the needy. Some people leave things on the pavement outside their house with a sign saying “please take”. Maybe that would not go down very well in Stone. So, here is an opportunity - if you would like to offer something free of charge to anyone who will collect it, please let me know and hopefully we can include this in the magazine next month. Here is a starter item.

Computer (old but everything works, no monitor)

Dave Bell

# FROM THE REGISTERS

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## BAPTISMS

25th	February	Jack Peter Herward
25th	February	Emma Harvey
25th	February	Tom Harvey

## FUNERALS

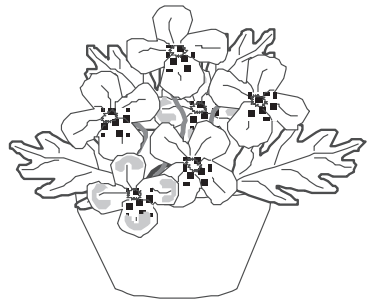
19th	February	Jennie Tuttle	Age 83
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## SIDESPERSIONS FOR APRIL

1st	April	V. Ledward, P. Tunstall, D. Pickles, J. Rowlands
8th	April	C. Wilding, S. Hallam, A. Greer, T. MacFarlane
15th	April	P. Hipkiss, G. Holden, M. Hutchinson, B. Hutchinson
22nd	April	D. Wilson, A. West, V. Ledward, P. Tunstall
29th	April	D. Pickles, J. Rowlands, C. Wilding, A. Greer

## FLOWER ROTA

1st	April	Palm Sunday
8th	April	Easter
15th	April	Flower Guild
22nd	April	Miss B. Sutcliffe
29th	April	Mrs A. Greer



<b>Deanery Synod Reps</b>	Mrs S Hallam, Mr I Hawley, Mr D. Rowlands	
<b>P.C.C. Members</b>	Mr J Challinor, Mrs B Guerrard, Mrs I Gassor Mr D Guerrard, Mrs M Hillman, Mrs E Mason, Mr P Mason, Mrs D Wilson, Mrs E Woodhead Mrs M. Hutchinson, Mrs E. Bell, Mrs S. Morray, Mrs S. Sanders	
<b>Secretary</b>	Jacqueline Abrahams.....	817020
<b>Treasurer</b>	Kevin Reynolds.....	851595
<b>Envelopes, Gift Aid</b>	Nesta Challinor	

## GROUPS AND ACTIVITIES

<b>Climbers 3-7 years</b>	Sandra Morray.....	286093
<b>Explorers 7-11 years</b>	Estella Woodhead.....	761659
<b>Pathfinders 11-14 years</b>	Enid Bell.....	815775
<b>Cornerstone Bible Study</b>	Thomas Nash.....	286551
<b>Youth Group Yr9 upwards</b>	Thomas Nash.....	286551
<b>Banner Group</b>	Jeanette Rowlands.....	816713
<b>Church Missionary Boxes</b>	Cecilia Wilding.....	817987
<b>Flower Guild</b>	Marylyn Hillman.....	815936
<b>Men's Fellowship</b>	Mike Thompson.....	813712
<b>Missions Secretary</b>	Cecilia Wilding.....	817987
<b>Prayer Group</b>	Jeanette Rowlands.....	816713
<b>Parents &amp; Toddlers</b> (Mon 9.30 – 11.15am)	Sandra Morray.....	286093
<b>Friday "Little Fishes"</b> (Fri 11am – 1.30pm)	Cecilia Wilding.....	817987

## THE MAGAZINE TEAM

<b>Mission News&amp; Prayer Diary</b>	Cecilia Wilding	817987
<b>Please send material for the magazine to</b>		
Dave Bell, c/o Christ Church Parish Office, Christ Church Way, Staffs ST15 8ZB or by email to christchurch_mag@yahoo.co.uk		

# Christ Church welcomes you!

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Whether you are new to the Stone area or have been living here for some time you are welcome to come to this church. The church is made up of adults and children who want to know more about the living God, who has supremely revealed Himself in Jesus Christ and continues to speak to us through His Spirit-inspired word, the Holy Bible (which can be read online at [www.biblegateway.com](http://www.biblegateway.com) and we recommend a modern translation e.g. the New International Version or English Standard Version).

We are a Christian church, because at the heart of what we believe is the fact that to know God personally we must put our trust in Jesus' death for our forgiveness so that we can be reconciled to God. We are part of the Anglican church, the basis of its Trinitarian belief is summarised in the Book of Common Prayer with its 39 articles, though we unite in Christ irrespective of denomination. We are an Evangelical church, as we see that the Bible is God's word for us and so is to inspire all that we do. This church was established with the help of the renowned Charles Simeon.

Our church meetings help us to grow in our understanding of what the Bible tells us about God, and this is something that we encourage others to investigate especially through our *Christianity Explored* course (see details on the national website [www.christianityexplored.com](http://www.christianityexplored.com)). If you would like details of when the next local course is starting then please contact the church office.

We have children's and youth activities running during the Sunday meetings and also during the week, such as our Tuesday evening youth club. Adults may be further involved through small groups which meet for Bible study and prayer, a midweek communion service and a monthly prayer meeting.

Our community involvement includes links with the local schools: Christ Church First, Oulton First, Christ Church Middle and Alleyne's High.

We also have links with the Church in India, The Philippines, Croatia, Botswana and Pakistan.

This magazine and the church website concern Christ Church in Stone, but we are linked with the churches in Oulton and Moddershall (see separate magazine and website).

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## Subscriptions

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