

Christ Church and People

Parish Magazine of
Christ Church Stone

40p



June

2014

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 18 for details)

THE PARISH TEAM

Vicar	Paul Kingman The Vicarage, Bromfield Court	812669
Curate	Andy Cranston 1 Navigation Loop	818983
Youth and Children's Worker	Kieran McKnight	600734 07731984755
Electoral Roll Officer	Irene Gassor	814871
Parish Office	Christ Church Centre, Christ Church Way, Stone, Staffs ST15 8ZB Email office@christchurchstone.org	811990
Deaconess (Retired)	Ann Butler	818160
Readers	Dave Bell David Rowlands Michael Thompson Cecilia Wilding	815775 816713 813712 817987
Music Co-ordinators	Pete Mason Sue Kingman	815854
Wardens	Andy Stone David Beauchamp	286526
Deputy Wardens	Phil Tunstall,	817028

CHRIST CHURCH CENTRE

Booking Secretary	Kate or Irene	(Office)	811990
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CHURCH SCHOOLS

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

Head: Mr N. Chesters	354125
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Christ Church Academy, Old Road

Principal: Mr C. Wright MAEd	354047
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Christ Church



and People

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Please get your contributions for the July magazine to us by the 15th June

Cover Picture:-

Victor Street

The magazine costs 40p per issue or £4 for a full year.

Subscriptions

If you would like this magazine delivered to you regularly, please contact:
Mrs Marylyn Hillman, Park Lodge, Beech Court, Stone. Tel 815936

June 2014

Sun	1	9:15am 4:00pm 6:00pm	Communion (Giving review day) 1 Corinthians 1:1-17 "An enriched people" Families at Four Identity Course (4) The God who wants to comfort us
Mon	2	6:30pm	Breathe yrs 5-8
Tue	3	9:30am 10:00am 12:30pm 7:00pm	Christ Church First School assembly Coffee before midweek service; service at 10:30 Seekers Club Youth Club yrs 9-13
Wed	4	6:00pm	KingZone yrs 2-4
Thu	5	1:20pm	Christ Church Academy assembly
Fri	6		
Sat	7	8:30am	Prayer meeting followed by breakfast
Sun	8	9:15am 2:30pm 6:00pm	Morning Prayer 1 Corinthians 1:18-31 "A humble people" Autumn House service Identity Course (5) "The God who loves relationships"
Mon	9	6:30pm	Breathe yrs 5-8
Tue	10	9:30am 10:00am 12:30pm 7:00pm	Christ Church First School assembly Coffee before midweek service; service at 10:30 Seekers Club Youth Club yrs 9-13
Wed	11	6:00pm	KingZone yrs 2-4
Thu	12	1:20pm 6:30pm	Christ Church Academy assembly Christ Church First School governors' meeting
Fri	13	7:30pm	Wolverhampton Bible Convention
Sat	14	2:30pm 5:00pm	WBC - The message of grace and judgement WBC - The mystery of providence
Sun	15	9:15am 4:00pm 6:00pm 8:30pm	Communion. 1 Corinthians 2:1-16 "A wise people" Families at Four Identity Course (6) "The God who died for us" WBC - Trusting God in dark days

Fairtrade goods will be on sale after the service on June 22nd

Mon	16	6:30pm	Breathe yrs 5-8
Tue	17	9:30am 10:00am 12:30pm 7:00pm	Christ Church First School assembly Coffee before midweek service; service at 10:30 Seekers Club Youth Club yrs 9-13
Wed	18	6:00pm 7:30pm	KingZone yrs 2-4 Standing Committee
Thu	19	1:20pm 6:00pm	Christ Church Academy assembly Governor training
Fri	20		
Sat	21	7:00pm	Traidcraft evening in the Centre
Sun	22	9:15am 6:00pm	Family service 1 Corinthians 3:1-14 "A transformed people" Identity Course (7) The God who wants to persuade us
Mon	23	6:30pm	Breathe yrs 5-8
Tue	24	9:30am 10:00am 12:30pm 6:00pm 7:00pm	Christ Church First School assembly Coffee before midweek service; service at 10:30 Seekers Club Governors' meeting Youth Club yrs 9-13
Wed	25	6:00pm 6:30pm	KingZone yrs 2-4 Diocesan Synod
Thu	26	1:20pm	Christ Church Academy assembly
Fri	27		
Sat	28	2:00pm	JigSaw Kids Trains Day
Sun	29	9:15am 6:00pm	Morning Prayer 1 Corinthians 4:1-21 "A growing people" The Gospel-centred life (1) "The Gospel grid"
Mon	30	6:30pm	Breathe yrs 5-8

Make me clean!

More than 1,000 people have asked 'Google' to cleanse their web histories in the first three days after the European Court of Justice ruled we have 'a right to be forgotten.' By now the number will be a lot higher! 'Google' retrieves information put into the Internet. It's like a mega-efficient librarian searching on our behalf, but without the smile or personal touch. In mid-May the European Court of Justice ruled that an individual has the "right to be forgotten" when [take a deep breath here] personal data online "appear to be inadequate, irrelevant or no longer relevant, or excessive in relation to the purpose for which they were processed and in the light of the time that has elapsed". It means that the search engines have to remove the links to information, although not the information itself. The users of social media can still share personal information about others so long as it remains online. This has of course kicked off further debate about the right for free expression as opposed to the right to privacy. Those who wish to remove information want to be set free from the past or unhelpful associations. Their desire is to be clean.

Thankfully there has been a ruling from heaven that means we have the real possibility of being made clean for all who put their faith in Jesus Christ. Recently the church celebrated Jesus' return to heaven (Ascension) and is on the brink of celebrating the outpouring of his Spirit on Pentecost or 'Whit' Sunday (from white, as new followers who were baptized, wore white clothes). Both festivals testify to the fact that Jesus' ministry from heaven is still changing lives.

If a heavenly search engine did a check on our lives then it would dredge up all sorts of details that we'd want to delete permanently. Jesus offers a deep cleansing from our guilty past. He alone can do this as his death surpassed all the Old Testament sacrifices: *'How much more, then, will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself unblemished to God, cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death, so that we may serve the living God!'* (Hebrews 9v14). The desire to be clean can be met. Jesus alone can do this for his people. You don't have to dress in white. But you will want to let others know.



Paul Kingman

Where's your hope?

On Thursday 12th June, Brazil and Croatia will get the 2014 Football World Cup underway. For many the prospect of hour upon hour of football to watch will be a joy to behold. For others there'll be audible groans of despair! 64 games crammed into 31 days and the hope that maybe just maybe 48 long years of waiting might finally come to an end! Well OK, let's be realistic - that England will somehow get through to the knock out stages! (And even that seems optimistic!)

Much of the time when we talk about hoping for something, we are very unsure as to what the outcome will be. It's often far from guaranteed, particularly if we're talking about England and football – or England and any sport come to that!

We hope that the weather will be good, we hope the train will arrive on time, that the pregnancy will be free from complications or that the children will do well in their exams. Hope is a word we use in all these situations and many others besides, but we can never quite be sure things will work out in the way we want. Rain, lateness, complications and failure regularly dash our hopes. Or, in the case of the football team, penalties!

But when it comes to the Bible, the hope that we are encouraged to have as Christians is not speculative or uncertain but on the contrary steadfast and sure, because our hope is the Lord Jesus Christ. As Hebrews 6:19 puts it: *We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure. It enters the inner sanctuary behind the curtain where Jesus, who went before us, has entered on our behalf.*

Jesus' death and resurrection mean that the speculation is over. The uncertainty has ended. The way back to God is open. Assurance is ours because Jesus has opened the way. It's not arrogance, because my hope is not in me. My hope is in Jesus. Yes, it involves faith, but isn't that what we're doing when we express hope in any situation?

The mere expression of hope suggests faith – faith in people or predictions, organisations or genetics. But the question is how reliable are these things as an object of faith? Because it's the reliability of the object of our faith that determines how sure we can be in our hope.

(continued on next page)

So while people, organisations, genetics and even England may reward our faith and hope in them, only Jesus gives certainty and complete assurance. The grave is empty! The penalty of sin has been dealt with. The object of our faith gives us a hope that is an anchor for the soul, which is more than can be said with England and penalties!

Andy Cranston

Bishop's Letter

(The bishops in the Lichfield diocese have not written a letter in time for this magazine, so here is part of a letter from another bishop; in fact, one of the earliest letters ever written by a bishop! Ignatius was Bishop of Antioch from AD 67 and was executed in the Colosseum in AD 107 or 108 by being fed to wild beasts. He is believed to have been a student of John the Apostle. He wrote several letters to churches, and this is an extract from the Letter to the Trallians. It is believed that this formed the origin of our "Apostles Creed" used in Morning and Evening Prayer. The tradition that Paul and Peter were executed for their faith also comes from Ignatius - their deaths are not recorded in the Bible)

Stop your ears, therefore, when any one speaks to you at variance with Jesus Christ, the Son of God, who was descended from David, and was also of Mary; who was truly begotten of God and of the Virgin, but not after the same manner. For indeed God and man are not the same. He truly assumed a body; for "the Word was made flesh," John 1:14. and lived upon earth without sin. For says He, "Which of you convicts me of sin?" John 8:46. He did in reality both eat and drink. He was crucified and died under Pontius Pilate. He really, and not merely in appearance, was crucified, and died, in the sight of beings in heaven, and on earth, and under the earth. By those in heaven I mean such as are possessed of incorporeal natures; by those on earth, the Jews and Romans, and such persons as were present at that time when the Lord was crucified; and by those under the earth, the multitude that arose along with the Lord. For says the Scripture, "Many bodies of the saints that slept arose," Matt. 27:52. their graves being opened. He descended, indeed, into Hades alone, but He arose accompanied by a multitude; and rent asunder that means of separation which had existed from the beginning of the world, and cast down its partition-wall. *(continued)*

He also rose again in three days, the Father raising Him up; and after spending forty days with the apostles, He was received up to the Father, and “sat down at His right hand, expecting till His enemies are placed under His feet.” Heb. 10: 12, 13. On the day of the preparation, then, at the third hour, He received the sentence from Pilate, the Father permitting that to happen; at the sixth hour He was crucified; at the ninth hour He gave up the ghost; and before sunset He was buried. During the Sabbath He continued under the earth in the tomb in which Joseph of Arimathæa had laid Him. At the dawning of the Lord's day He arose from the dead, according to what was spoken by Himself, “As Jonah was three days and three nights in the whale's belly, so shall the Son of man also be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.” Matt. 12. 40. The day of the preparation, then, comprises the passion; the Sabbath embraces the burial; the Lord's Day contains the resurrection.

(Ignatius also was one of the first to argue in favour of Christianity's replacement of the Sabbath with the Lord's Day (Sunday))

Youth and Children's Report

This year has been another quite exciting year for all the youth and children's work that takes place. We are seeing the youth and children who are involved in various clubs desire to go deeper in their faith. We have also seen many young people who would not consider themselves to be Christian, begin to explore the claims of Jesus for themselves. The regular activities are as follows:

Youth Club

The Tuesday night youth club targets those that are in the high school and runs from 7-9 pm. Over the last few years we have been gradually building this club back up since many of the core group left for university. Week to week the numbers can differ quite a bit. This year we have seen about 50 different young people come along to the club. Each week there is a short talk, discussion or video explaining the Christian faith. This year the PCC approved the purchase of a Pool table, table football and an xbox. The young people really appreciate this and are enjoying playing with them.

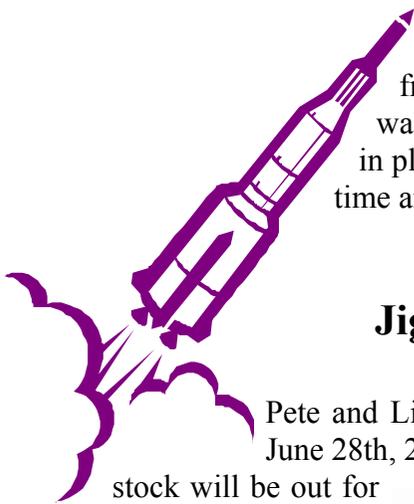
(continued on page 16)

Stars of the Space Academy

Holiday Club this year was about the life of Daniel arriving in Babylon and rising up the ranks of the Babylonian government. It was themed around a Space Academy with lots of fun facts about space! The children especially enjoyed the drama where captain Kym, Holly, Spot, Prism and Cook travelled the planets of the Delta Quadrant spreading the good news of mission command. This was some people's favourite bit (including me!) There was also lots of spacey crafts! The age categories were split into groups (Stars, Moon, Earth, Mars, Venus, Pluto.) My sister Heddu (11) is gutted that she can't go to Holiday Club next year because she enjoys the crafts. When I first heard about the space holiday club I didn't want to go, but my sister wanted me to go with her to try it and I loved it!

When I first walked into the foyer on the Tuesday afternoon I saw a lot of my friends and a huge space rocket. Then as I walked into the centre I saw it was covered in planets, stars and space men! I had a great time and recommend it to you!

John Beauchamp



JigSaw Kids Trains Day

Pete and Liz invite us all to their garden again on June 28th, 2pm to 5pm. The full inventory of rolling stock will be out for rides. This is not just an opportunity to ride on a train, but also an opportunity to support the work of Jigsaw Kids Ministry, working in Manila in the Philippines. No train fares to pay, but a donation to Jigsaw will be greatly appreciated. Speak to Pete or Liz for further details.



Holiday Club 2014

Once again a big 'thank you' to Sue Kingman for organising the Holiday Club for boys and girls aged 5-11 years , which took place in the church and centre from 22nd to 25th April. Sue was supported by a team of helpers whose input was very obvious and I know that Sue is extremely grateful for that. However, a large part of the work , not quite so obvious, lies in the overall planning which takes place in the months and weeks before the Club starts, and those of us involved in the Holiday Club in any way are mindful of the hard work and commitment of Sue to this aspect of the Club. Here are the comments from just a few of the children:

- Zachary (4) I liked playing the games.
- Alice (6) I liked the noisy dancing bits.
- Amelia (7) The arts and crafts were good.
- Thomas (11) My best bit? The drama at the end.
- John (11) The drama for me too.
- Paco (9) I enjoyed earning points .
- Labelle (5) Making all the things like the finger puppets.

The Lord blessed us with many participants this year....in fact at one point we had a full house, and a great time was had by all. The comments above reflect the fun that the children had, and that is a very important part of the Holiday Club. Nevertheless there was as always a serious spiritual input and we trust that the children will have taken something of that away with them.

Diana Tunstall

News from Scargill

Following on from ' A Resurrection Story' in the April magazine, copies of the Scargill Movement's latest newsletter are available in church along with their programme for July onwards. Their 'resurrection life' continues to be blessed and a blessing for many!

Brian Reeve

10 **Fundraising for Stone Outward Division Guides to Mombasa in October**

Catherine Abrahams is raising money for her trip to Mombasa, where she will be helping a project in Kididima that will see the building of a toilet block, community hall, health centre and playground. Help her by dining with the Abrahams family at their house or at The Crown of India. For evening meals Catherine suggests you might pay £15, for Strawberry Teas £2 - but you are welcome to make a larger contribution.

Speak to Catherine or Jacqueline for details

Parent and Toddler Group

The group meets on Monday morning in the centre 9.30 to 11.30am during term time. It's a great group of young parents, grandparents and carers, sharing experiences, helping each other and making friends.

There are hot drinks for adults and drinks, fruit and biscuits for the children. We celebrate birthdays, singing to the children and sharing cakes and biscuits brought in by the mums. There is lots to do (if you're a toddler!) wheeled toys, jigsaws, climbing frame, books and craft activities. A special area is made for babies and their mums.

We continue to sponsor Zhang Ya Ge and the youth program and contribute with cleaning of the centre.

We gave the Holiday Club a gift to help with materials and try to boost our sponsor money to the youth fund.

We try to encourage all relevant church activities and have had some small successes.

We like to donate a gift to help people less fortunate than ourselves. This year its toilet twinning which we have supported before, I think the mums can appreciate how important a toilet is!.

I must say a huge thank you to all the ladies who help each week. It would not work without their support and I really appreciate their fellowship. If you are free on Monday morning and could spare time once a month we would make you very welcome.

Please pray for all young families especially our Toddler group.

Sandra Morray

**YOU ARE INVITED TO
AN EVENING WITH
MAGS VAUGHAN**

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF TRAIDCRAFT

20th June
at Christ Church Centre
7.00pm for supper

After supper Mags will share her vision for the
future of Traidcraft

Details from: Sheila 811646
or
Christ Church Office: 811990
or
Ruth 815275

Latest from Jigsaw Ministries

(Jenny, one of the Jigsaw social workers, recently suffered from a stroke and we were asked to pray for her. We have just received this update from Tim Lee and Lendhel)

Dear Friends of Jigsaw,

We Praise God for His goodness and healing hand, today Jenny was released from hospital and brought back home. She has miraculously regained all movement in her body except for one hand, her tests show her blood pressure has gone down to good levels and her potassium levels are up, both of which the doctors have been concerned about. Jenny is eager to get back to work but must take a month's rest. The doctors are very concerned about Jenny's long term health and further strokes due to the lack of good healthy food in her diet and the harsh and debilitating physical and mental stresses caused by the pressures of urban slum living.

Jenny has been told she must take medicine now every day (probably for the rest of her life) to reduce high blood pressure among other things. The medicine is around 20 pesos (30 pence a day) but this is a tremendous amount of money for Jenny and without assistance she will not be able to buy the medicine or take it. The challenge for Jigsaw is how to assist Jenny when so many in Jigsaw are in similar need of good nutrition, health care and to be relieved from the stresses of poverty. We cannot just buy the medicine she needs out of Jigsaw funds as so many in Jigsaw need medicine and help all the time. Please pray for wisdom as we seek how to assist each person in Jigsaw fairly in such a way that the outcomes are sustainable.

We Praise God for the Jigsaw staff who themselves live in the grips of poverty but immediately gave all they had for the hospital bills for Jenny and the immediate medicine, I feel humbled by being part of Jigsaw's love. This collection not asked for but freely given, raised over 3000 pesos (around £36) which paid for all her hospital bills. These acts of love are unheard of in our world; it meant the bills were paid where in the past a five to ten year loan may have had to be taken out, which often destroys families. It is this love which best describes Jigsaw to the world.

This has been a real warning for Jenny and for all of us of the dangers that poverty brings, Jenny we thought was the least likely to suffer from a stroke yet she has been close to death this last week. *(continued)*

Jigsaw latest *(continued)*

Although this maybe far from over the speed of her immediate recovery and coming out of life danger has been remarkable and we want to send you huge thanks for your prayers. Jenny herself asks me to say thank you as she is sure it is your prayers that have saved her life. As she said, ‘the doctor told me my blood pressure levels meant I should have been dead, but now I am back home well, this is God.’

Jenny is doing well now and we ask for your prayers for her further physical recovery and the wisdom we need to aid Jenny (and others) in getting the health care, medicine they need on a daily basis.

God’s Blessings to you all, in the name of Christ.

Lendhel, Jenny and all in Jigsaw

(The next section was written by Tim Lee)

I echo Lendhel, Jenny and Jigsaw’s thanks for your prayers. It is prayer that saves and transforms lives and is so powerful. We have been so worried about Jenny, who is especially close to Kate and our children. As Lendhel asks, please pray for the wisdom we need to be able to know how to sustainably and effectively respond to the health and life needs of Jenny and other staff and children in Jigsaw. God knows and we need to understand His ways and leading. Thank you all again.

Along with this update from Lendhel I also have received a letter from Venus, one of our School Sponsorship officers, to all of us, (the Friends of Jigsaw) sharing about the wonderful news of the recent birth of her daughter:

(Letter from Venus follows)

Dear Tim and all Friends of Jigsaw,

I want to thank all of you there for all your prayers. I’ve been too nervous because I thought I am going to deliver via cs but because of God's grace I gave birth normally in East Avenue Medical Center and I thank God because my baby is healthy. Her name is Carmela Joselle and we're very glad to have her. Thank you also for the gift (5,000 pesos) from Jigsaw. We bought her a crib and other accessories. Again, thank you very much for everything!!!! God bless you more and God bless Jigsaw!

We want to share our joy with you and the Jigsaw family!!!!

Lots love, *Venus, Joshua and Carmela.*

Wolverhampton Bible Convention

An Interdenominational Bible Teaching Weekend

*St. Edmund's School, Compton Park,
Wolverhampton WV3 9DU*

**Friday 13, Saturday 14
& Sunday 15 June 2014**

Speaker: Paul Mallard

Since being called to the pastoral ministry in 1982, Paul has served as pastor at three churches and is now pastor of Widcombe Baptist Church, Bath. Paul has an itinerant preaching ministry serving a number of churches and conferences throughout the UK. He is married to Edrie and they have four children and five grandchildren.



*'I will listen
to what God
the Lord will
say'*

Psalms 85.8

Theme: "Serving God in Difficult Days"

Studies in the Life of Elisha

Friday 13th June

Taking on the Mantle

7.30pm-8.45pm

Saturday 14th June

The Message of Grace and Judgement

2.30pm-3.45pm

Saturday 14th June

The Mystery of Providence

This session will conclude with a short act of worship incorporating the Lord's Supper

5.00pm-6.30pm

Sunday 15th June

Trusting God in Dark Days

8.30pm-9.30pm

There will be facilities for picnics between the two Saturday sessions.

Dates for 2015

June 12, 13, 14

Speaker: John Stevens

*For further
information contact*

John Clark on

01785 780689

Jon Richmond on

01902 673150



How to find us

Compton Park is on the No.10 Bus Route from the Bus Station, Wolverhampton City Centre. Ample parking available.

Breathe

Breathe has been another source of encouragement for us; although numbers are not as high as we would like there is a real keenness to engage with the Christian faith. We have around 15-20 young people who come along weekly. They enjoy the fun and games but are also very keen to explore what the Bible says, and come with a wide range of questions. Three of the young people have decided to follow the Lord Jesus and many others are interested in finding out more.

KingZone

KingZone meets at 6pm on Wednesdays. We have three rooms that we use for different activities; a craft room, a Bible story room and a games room. This works well as the children understand what behaviour is expected in each room. We have about 10 children who currently attend; we have found that parents are less willing to bring children out at night, than when the club was earlier in the day. We have been having a great deal of fun with the games and the crafts but most importantly the Bible time has been fantastic. The children have really engaged during these times, asking lots of great questions and have been asking to say prayers at the end of the sessions!

Changing Lanes Course

In the past six months we also had the opportunity to run a "Changing Lanes Course". Changing Lanes is a new youth course that explores the claims of the Bible. The time is split between videos, Bible study and discussion. Four of our young people came along to this course and found it very useful in their Christian journey.

Thanks

I would like to thank all of the volunteers who give up so much time and effort each week to help out at the various youth and children's groups - without you they would not be possible. *Kieran*

Prayer Breakfast *(first Saturday each month)*

A time to pray for ourselves, each other, our church, our country, the wider world, anything on our hearts, in a friendly and informal setting. This is followed by a light breakfast consisting of a variety of cereals, toast and tea or coffee.

Prayers start at 8:30 am and breakfast follows at 9:00 am.

REGISTERS AND ROTAS**FUNERAL**

28th April

Margaret Jessie O'Brien

Age 89

SIDESPERSIONS ROTA

AM

1st June	D. Wilson	V. Ledward
	D. Davies	K. Thompson
8th June	J. Abrahams	D. Shemilt
	J. Bowes	K. McKnight
15th June	G. Holden	J. Rowlands
	C. Wilding	P. Tunstall
22nd June	P. Hipkiss	P. Roberts
	D. Davies	K. Woodward
29th June	V. Ledward	K. Thompson
	D. Wilson	D. Pickles

**FLOWER ROTA**

1st June	Mrs L. Mason
8th June	Mrs I. Gassor
15th June	Mrs S. Morray
22nd June	Miss A. Butler
29th June	Mrs V. Ledward

ROADS FOR PRAYER**1st June**

Northesk Street
 Radford Close
 Radford Street
 Station Road

22nd June

Lotus Court
 Nicholls Lane
 Old Road
 Old Road Close
 Oulton Cross

8th June

The Avenue
 Trent Road
 Tunley Street
 Trinity Drive

29th June

Oulton Road
 Oulton Mews
 Prince's Street
 Queen's Square
 York Street

15th June

Airdale Grove
 Airdale Road
 Airdale Spinney
 Cross Street



