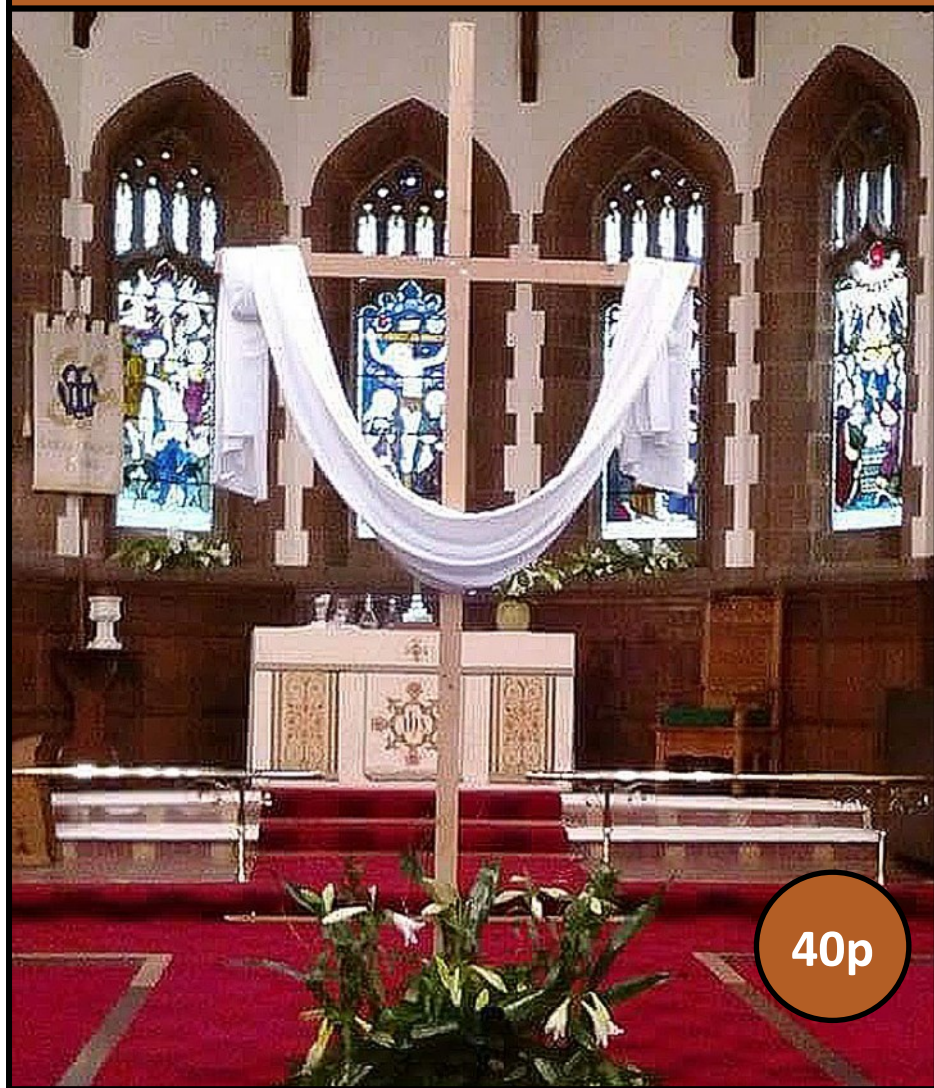


# Christ Church Magazine

## March 2024



40p

# PARISH DIRECTORY

## SUNDAY SERVICES

Details of our services are given on page 4.

## THE PARISH TEAM

<b>Vicar</b>	Paul Kingman	812669
	The Vicarage, Bromfield Court	
<b>Children &amp; Families Worker</b>	Peter Cuthbert	07733 042205
	peter.j.cuthbert@btinternet.com	
<b>Electoral Roll Officer</b>	Parish Office	811990
<b>Parish Office</b>	Christ Church Centre, Christ Church Way, Stone, Staffs ST15 8ZB	
	Email office@christchurchstone.org	811990

## CHRIST CHURCH CENTRE

<b>Booking Secretary</b>	Parish Office	811990
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## CHURCH SCHOOLS

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

Headteacher Mrs A. Graham BA(Hons) NPQH 01785 336545

Christ Church Academy, Old Road

Principal: Mr C. Wright MAEd 01785 334900

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## Christ Church Magazine



Please send your articles for the April magazine to us by 15th March

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Christ Church  
dressed for Easter

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Church office

### Christ Church on the Internet

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Parish office email	<a href="mailto:office@christchurchstone.org">office@christchurchstone.org</a>
Magazine contributions	<a href="mailto:magazine@christchurchstone.org">magazine@christchurchstone.org</a>

# March 2024

	Date	Time	Events (Zoom codes in weekly email)
Fri	1st	2.00 pm	'World Day of Prayer' at Christ Church
Sat	2nd	8.30 am 2.30 pm	Prayer meeting followed by breakfast 'Window on Her Soul' ladies event in Centre
Sun	3rd	9.15 am 5.00 pm	Communion; Luke 7: 1-17 "A unique authority" Lent Course (session 3) at the Vicarage
Mon	4th	9.30 am	Toddler group
Tue	5th	10.30 am 12.30 pm	Communion; Mark 14: 53-65 "Worthy of death" Pursuit Club Christ Church Academy
Wed	6th	9.00 am 3.30 pm 7.30 pm	Christ Church First School assembly Trekks Lent Course (session 3 repeat) in Centre
Thu	7th	1.10 pm	Christ Church Academy assembly
Fri	8th		
Sat	9th		
Sun	10th	9.15 am 5.00 pm	<b><i>Mothering Sunday</i></b> Morning Prayer; Luke 7: 18-35 "Great children" Lent Course (session 4) at the Vicarage
Mon	11th	9.30 am	Toddler group
Tue	12th	10.30 am 12.30 pm 2.00 pm	Communion; Mark 14: 66-72 "Disowning Jesus" Pursuit Club Christ Church Academy Autumn House service
Wed	13th	9.00 am 2.00 pm 3.30 pm 7.30 pm	Christ Church First School assembly Oulton Abbey Care Home service Trekks Lent Course (session 4 repeat) in Centre
Thu	14th	11.00 am 1.10 pm	St Mary's Home service Christ Church Academy assembly
Fri	15th		

# March 2024

	Date	Time	Events
Sat	16th		
Sun	17th	9.15 am 5.00 pm	Communion; Luke 7: 36-50 "A debt free life" Lent Course (session 5) at the Vicarage
Mon	18th	9.30 am 7.30 pm	Toddler group P.C.C. Meeting
Tue	19th	10.30 am 12.30 pm 1.30 pm	Communion; Mark 15: 1-15 "The scales of justice" Pursuit Club Christ Church Academy Christ Church First School Easter Service
Wed	20th	9.00 am 3.30 pm 7.30 pm	Christ Church First School assembly Trekks Lent Course (session 5 repeat) in Centre
Thu	21st	1.10 pm	Christ Church Academy assembly
Fri	22nd	10.45 am	Christ Church Academy Easter Service
Sat	23rd		
Sun	24th	9.15 am 5.00 pm	<b>Palm Sunday</b> All Age; Luke 11: 28-40 "Entering Jerusalem" Lent Course (session 6) at the Vicarage
Mon	25th		
Tue	26th	10.30 am	Communion; Mark 15: 16-32 "A king?"
Wed	27th	7.30 pm	Lent Course (session 6 repeat) in Centre
Thu	28th	7.30 pm	<b>Maundy Thursday</b> service at St John's Oulton
Fri	29th	10.00 am 10.45 am 7.00 pm	Children's Easter crafts in Centre <b>Good Friday</b> Joint service for all Meditation on Christ's Passion
Sat	30th		
Sun	31st	9.15 am	<b>Easter</b> Communion; Luke 24: 1-35 "It is true! The Lord has risen"

When it comes to political scandals, people ask: *“Who knew what and when?”* It’s partly the shock at how events turned out and the surprise that those involved had not seen it coming. These questions are asked in other contexts too.

Luke seems to have had a similar question. The religious establishment had been rocked by a new and controversial rabbi getting a following. The closing of what seemed an unhelpful chapter in the Holy Land came in the death of Jesus Christ. But the claim of resurrection was electrifying!

Luke sifted the evidence. What did people know and when? He charts the course of Jesus’ brutal death by execution, the sombre reality of his burial and then the staggering resurrection appearances. Luke a physician became an investigative journalist. He wanted to find out who knew what and when. He interviewed eyewitnesses to arrive at the facts to present: *‘an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, so that you may know the certainty of the things you have been taught’* (Luke 1v3-4). Jesus described his pathway to the cross on more than one occasion.

Jesus FIRST mentioned his death after Peter confessed Jesus as the Christ: <sup>21</sup> Jesus strictly warned them not to tell this to anyone. <sup>22</sup> And he said, “The Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life.” But Jesus was resolute in his mission and would not be diverted from the cross (Lk 22).

The SECOND occasion was after Jesus’ transfiguration: ‘While everyone was



marvelling at all that Jesus did, he said to his disciples, <sup>44</sup> “Listen carefully to what I am about to tell you: The Son of Man is going to be delivered into the hands of men.” <sup>45</sup> But they did not understand what this meant. It was hidden from them, so that they did not grasp it, and they were afraid to ask him about it. (Lk 9).

FINALLY, Jesus told his disciples what would happen to him as he approached Jerusalem in the final days of his life: <sup>31</sup> Jesus took the Twelve aside and told them, “We are going up to Jerusalem, and everything that is written by the prophets about the Son of Man will be fulfilled. <sup>32</sup> He will be delivered over to the Gentiles. They will mock him, insult him and spit on him; <sup>33</sup> they will flog him and kill him. On the third day he will rise again.”

<sup>34</sup> The disciples did not understand any of this. Its meaning was hidden from them, and they did not know what he was talking about (Lk 18).

How amazing that Jesus accurately predicted the events leading up to his death and the three day wait before his resurrection. Can you believe it? Yes, Luke has given us the historical evidence.

Happy Easter!

*Paul Kingman*

## **A Music Lesson**

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Our Christian faith is very personal. We each need to come to God our Father, through Jesus, and, with the help of the Holy Spirit, to see how this works out in our own individual lives. In so doing we are united to Christians in God’s family, and especially to the close family of our local congregation. So there is both a personal but also a corporate aspect to our Christian Faith.

This is wonderfully summed up in the first two words of our Lord’s pattern of prayer. Jesus starts with the words “Our Father”. The personal intimacy of a father and his child and the corporate emphasis in the word “our” are bound together. This should be the pattern for our prayer and our lives.

Problems arise when one aspect becomes dominant. Historically the sale of “indulgences” (a sort of religious gift token for the next life!) by the church, could tend to erode the personal relationship of people relying on Jesus as their saviour.

Today in society, there is great emphasis on individualism. We are told, for example, that about one in five teenagers have mental problems because of concern about what they read about themselves on social media.

Sadly, the church can easily reflect this “I/Me” trend. For example, when the “Revised Hymns Ancient and Modern” was first published in 1983 only four hymns started with the word “I”. Just seven years later, when the first edition of an entirely new hymn book “Mission Praise” came out, the number of hymns starting with “I” had gone up to sixty-eight!

Referring to our Christian life in community, St Paul writes “live in harmony with one another” (Romans 12:16). This involves recognising our individual relationship with God through Jesus, accepting that everyone is unique and working together.

Analogies from music are helpful. An individual note played on its own is monotonous and does not create a melody. However, if that note is left out of a tune the melody is incomplete. We can’t live in harmony on our own, we need the support of Christian friends. However, they will miss us if we leave their fellowship.

The word “harmony” also reflects the beauty of chords in music. Chords are combinations of notes played together to produce beautiful sounds.

“Living in Harmony” is wonderful but not easy. The right notes must be played at just the right time. However, like musical notes it is only as we “come together”, using our individual contribution as the Holy Spirit directs, that God can produce the music of His Kingdom through us to bring its beauty to the world.

*Roger*



Mark 11v24: *'Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.'*



## **WEEK ONE (1-8<sup>th</sup> Mar): Our Mission Partners: E and R with CMS India**

CMS provides education for pastors and other leaders so that they can shepherd their flocks with greater wisdom and insight.

### **Please pray for**

- Friday 1<sup>st</sup> is the World Day of Prayer: let's give thanks for the church which is worldwide and give thanks for its growth in the majority world.
- Sat 2<sup>nd</sup>: For church fellowship leadership and the structures to enable the churches to grow and be healthy.
- Sun 3<sup>rd</sup>: For homegroups to develop leaders who will care for their members growth as disciples.
- Mon 4<sup>th</sup>: For recent studies to be fruitful so that students to have gained greater confidence in handling the Gospels for their own discipleship and to teach others.
- Tue 5<sup>th</sup>: For CMS to provide resources and encouragement for its partners worldwide.
- Weds 6<sup>th</sup>: For the health and wellbeing of E & R.
- Thurs 7<sup>th</sup>: For longer term arrangement of housing for E & R.
- Fri 8<sup>th</sup>: For E and R's children in the UK.



## **WEEK TWO (9-15<sup>th</sup> March): Langham International:**

Langham Partnership has a vision for enabling Christian ministry in the majority world churches through training pastors, equipping scholars and publishing books.

- Sat 9<sup>th</sup>: Ask God to bless the work of Langham UK & Ireland as they engage with churches this year. May there be a strong partnership and a combined vision of Langham's mission. 10<sup>th</sup>: Give thanks for Langham US's trip to Egypt where supporters engaged with local Langham facilitators and saw the work 'on the ground'.

- Sun 10<sup>th</sup>: We continue to pray for Chris Wright's weekly podcast *On Mission with Chris Wright*. May God bless Chris and his guests in reaching a wide global audience that equips and inspires.
- Mon 11<sup>th</sup>: We pray for the *Out of the Margins* podcast by the Young Langham Australian team that they may give and receive encouragement to a new online audience.
- Tue 12<sup>th</sup>: We pray for the Regional Pastor Training (pastors travel to annual one-week Langham training seminars to meet and learn how to study God's Word) and local preaching circles (equipping both ordained and lay ministers for their ministry).
- Wed 13<sup>th</sup>: We pray for the success of a new initiative by Langham called Books for Bible Colleges to promote library grants throughout the Majority World. They launched the campaign on 7th March to coincide with World Book Day.
- Thurs 14<sup>th</sup>: In Latin America members describe their preaching circle [escuelitas] as not just a group to learn preaching, but a family who walk alongside each other. Member D'Angelo Valdez from Peru shares, *"In the escuelitas what we do is, as a family, we learn, we preach, we communicate, and we love each other as a family. In this way, we grow month after month in preaching."*
- Fri 15<sup>th</sup>: Pray for their work with scholars for their academic training and their role in teaching others.



## **Week Three (16-21<sup>st</sup> March): Keswick Ministries**

- Sat 16<sup>th</sup>: We pray for the Keswick team as they provide training, courses, retreats and leadership times of refreshment for churches across the nation.
- Sun 17<sup>th</sup>: We pray for good relationships with the town and that the new site at the old pencil factory will prove a blessing to the town and to those who attend events and the summer convention.
- Mon 18<sup>th</sup>: We remember the new ministry director, Mark Ellis as he oversees the work.

- Tue 19<sup>th</sup>: We pray for the technical team for the summer convention that they will overcome issues face and so provide all that is needed in terms of light, sound and vision!
- Wed 20<sup>th</sup>: We pray for the many volunteers who make things happen and run smoothly – for the teams to be complete for the summer.
- Thur 21<sup>st</sup>: We pray for the musicians who lead worship for the week who take time out from their usual churches to provide musical input for the convention



### **Week Four (22-28<sup>th</sup>): The Leprosy Mission ['TLM'].**

Every two minutes someone receives the devastating news that they have leprosy, but there is a cure. TLM work with people from all faiths and none to bring about transformation; breaking the chains of leprosy and empowering people to attain healing, dignity and life in all its fullness.

#### **Please pray for:**

- Fri 22<sup>nd</sup>: That the Lord Jesus and prayer would always be at the centre of TLM across the world.
- Sat 23<sup>rd</sup>: Praise God that a cure for leprosy was discovered 40 years ago! Ask that the Lord would continue to enable us to find people who need this across Africa and Asia in this our 150<sup>th</sup> year of work.
- Sun 24<sup>th</sup>: Please pray that God would continue to guide and bless the work of our hands as we seek to raise funds to end leprosy.
- Mon 25<sup>th</sup>: Please pray for The Leprosy Mission India team: for wisdom in using resources wisely, for insight to find where leprosy is hidden.
- Tue 26<sup>th</sup>: Pray for fruitful relationships with Government and local health teams.
- Wed 27<sup>th</sup>: For the safety for team members when travelling long distances to communities affected by leprosy. Especially that the Nigerian Government would uphold justice and protect Christians.
- Thurs 28<sup>th</sup>: Myanmar Please pray for protection over our church partnership in the conflict-affected north-east of the country, and for the 15 churches who are now running Disability Centres for people affected by leprosy and other conditions.

**Week Five (29-31): The Bible Society**

- Fri 29<sup>th</sup>: Give thanks for the 'Open the Book' materials that we use in our local schools. Pray that these will be a great blessing to children across the length and breadth of the country.
- Sat 30<sup>th</sup>: Give thanks for the video resources we have used over the years and for the Romans course we have had as our Lent study this year.
- Sun 31<sup>st</sup>: For the protection of Bible Society staff around the world. Many work in difficult and even oppressive situations. Pray for their encouragement.

*The information provided and points for prayer are intended for use week by week during the month. These can be used by an individual, or a group of people meeting for prayer and fellowship.*

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**Thank-you**

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My family and I want to thank all our church family for their loving support and prayers over the years of Joe's illness. Thank you for all the cards, plants and flowers we have received.

Also thank you to all who helped behind the scenes at the funeral. It felt so much like a family coming together to give thanks to God for all that has been and for all that is to come—for those who believe in the redemptive work of Jesus.

Mindy my daughter-in-law said after the funeral that she felt so wrapped around and held in love and warmth. I too felt held up and supported by you all on the day.

The gift of money and the donations at the funeral has reached £400, how wonderful! £200 has been given to the Christchurch Alzheimers drop in club in the centre with our grateful thanks for their friendship and support over the last few years. The other £200 is going to Alzheimers Research UK.

Lastly to my neighbours in Old Road and Arthur Street—bless you for your help when things went a little haywire.

*Dilys xx*

**Morning has broken, like the first morning...** Mum was with me, on my first day, and I with her, on her last. Between those bookends lies half a lifetime of love, support, kindness, agreement, disagreement and everything else a mum and her son experience. There is so much I will never know about who she was to all of you. Those are your memories, these are just mine. I'll always remember mum and I talking over breakfast almost every morning, when dad was somewhere deep under London, already on his way to work.. Physics, politics, faith, theology and everything in between.. with a side of porridge!

**Blackbird has spoken, like the first bird...** Elizabeth, grandma, mum. However we knew her, we knew someone who spoke, with her voice and with her life. The first to get involved, to give of herself and to anyone who needed her. For neighbours, friends, family, and strangers. Inside churches or out, to the old, the young, the disadvantaged and the grieving.

**Praise for the singing, praise for the morning...** Mum loved generously and deeply, and wore her faith on her sleeve. She was an inspiration to this little boy, and those honest and deep conversations built a foundation in me that has sustained my faith through thick and thin. Dad said to me, 'Mike, she was my companion and my best friend for 50 years, I don't know how I got so lucky'. I hear you dad.

**Praise for them springing, fresh from the Word!** If there's one thing I always knew about mum it was that she knew Jesus, had chosen to follow Him and knew why she was here. Everything about her sprang from that. He was her rock, she was His hands.

**Mine is the sunlight, mine is the morning...** When my family started to grow, mum was so obviously delighted. Luke was born in 2015 and we visited a lot. We played in the garden, dammed streams (or rivers!), collected leaves and fed ducks.

Seven years ago she was diagnosed with cancer and given 12-18 months to live, but she didn't care what the statistics said. She saw Rowan born in 2019. Just a year later the cancer flared up again, and she decided to stop

treatment and let God's will be done. We prayed, you prayed, and she prayed. In faith and hope, that God would have her in his hands whatever happened. It wasn't a worldly hope, a tense, fingers crossed hope. It was a secure and strong Hope, a certainty really, of promised sunlight, and a new dawn to come. But we also prayed for her healing, because that's what we wanted. God was willing and her cancer vanished between appointments. He gave her, and all of us, a little more time together

**Born of the One Light, Eden saw play...** Mum spent her last years doing so much, ignoring her own pain and tiredness, refusing to slow down or limit herself, and giving like she always had. She saw Luke and Rowan grow up together, and loved every minute they spent feeding the ducks and throwing sticks into the canal. Water and boats have been a huge part of our lives, from mum sailing boats in the bay in Auckland as a young woman, to the many holidays we spent on narrowboats in this country. Our boat was called Kia Kaha – Maori for 'Forever Strong'. Maybe that described the steel hull, but it described someone else equally well.

**Praise with elation! Praise every morning...** In the end, Mum went on her way quite suddenly, but without suffering, for which we're so grateful. My enduring memory of her is someone so generous, so selfless and so loving. That love came from our God. In her absence, she would tell us to praise Him with elation.. and to do it every morning *Mike Nix*

## Mothering Sunday

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Mothering Sunday is celebrated on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent. Its' name derives from medieval times when it was customary for people to make a pilgrimage to their 'Mother Church', ie the one that they had been baptised in or travelling to the nearest cathedral (seen as the mother church of all the parish churches in a diocese). It was also called Mid-Lent Sunday, a day when there was a respite from fasting and there would be a feast. These events were not always the peaceful and calm events you would expect. One 13<sup>th</sup> century Bishop of Lincoln had to threaten punishments for those involved in brawls. During the 17<sup>th</sup> century the emphasis changed. With workers now living away from home, limited transport and leisure time,

returning workers would often visit their family as well as the church at this time and bring a gift. Now this may have been flowers but may also include food. Young people would check up on their families and bring food or money if they needed it. That's why one tradition of Mothering Sunday was the simnel cake. Named after the medieval word for fine flour, it was originally boiled and then baked. But by the 19th Century, it had become a saffron-hued fruitcake decorated with marzipan. Either way, it proved an easy means of bringing calorie-dense food to hungry parents.

Mothering Sunday was revived in the early 1900. Anna Jarvis, of West Virginia, is the matriarch of modern Mother's Day. She organised the first in 1908, following the death of her own mother. By 1914 the US president had proclaimed it a national holiday. A British woman, Constance Adelaide Smith, was inspired by this success, but she was also afraid of an American celebration displacing British traditions. Instead she campaigned to bring back its medieval incarnation. Smith linked this concept to the Mothering Sunday, traditionally observed in the Anglican liturgical calendar. She advocated for Mothering Sunday as a day for recognizing Mother Church, 'mothers of earthly homes', Mary, mother of Jesus, and Mother Nature, basing her work on medieval traditions.

Churches across the country will celebrate Mothering Sunday with gifts to female members of the congregation. However, Mothering Sunday should not just be about honouring those that have had children. Many find this Sunday one that is difficult to navigate, for a variety of reasons and this should be remembered during this time of celebration.

For me Mothering Sunday also brings to mind St. Paul's second letter to Timothy Ch1 v 5. 'I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that first lived in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you.' If we are the family of God and we are all God's children then we all should nurture the faith of those around us, be they young or old.

On Mothering Sunday may we pray that God will be with all those families that gather together. That those who find this day difficult will have a sense

of God's love for them and that mothers all around the world, whatever their circumstances, know that they are loved. Oh, and don't forget Mothering Sunday is a feast day. Enjoy yourselves.

*Maryanne* (with due credit to Wikipedia).

## Tales from the Towpath (6)

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**January 2024**

**How did that happen???**

It was lovely that lots of you came to the Commissioning Service held on January 21<sup>st</sup>. It was great to combine the Licensing of Paul as Rural Dean and my commissioning as a fully fledged Waterways Chaplain. I think everyone enjoyed meeting Howie (Lead Chaplain – North) – a larger than life character - and some other WWCs and it was good to have this ministry endorsed by Bishop Matthew alongside the very important role Paul now has as Rural Dean. It was lovely to receive my engraved windlass – my name plus the WWC aim to ***“Act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with God.”***

Somewhere along the way I also somehow found myself being asked to be a Senior Chaplain for Staffordshire (lack of other bodies I suspect!) which means that I will be doing some trouble shooting around the county and mentoring new chaplains as they come on board – good that some of our own church members have shown an interest in becoming chaplains too.

This month has been quite quiet along our stretch of the Trent & Mersey canal. As most of you will have seen, Newcastle Road Lock (Number 29) has been shut for maintenance on the lock gates – the workers said they were the worst lock gates they had ever seen! On chatting to them they invited me to see what they had been doing so I donned hard hat and climbed down the scaffolding ladder to stand in the bottom of the empty lock! Fascinating to see the work going on and what a feat of engineering they are! The lack of movement has also been because Twyford Road Lock (38) in Stoke was closed so everything has been stuck between the two for a month. Please continue to pray for all boaters and users of the towpath in our town.

Many blessings – *Helen*





*Spring term*—In contrast to the autumn term, this last half term went by in a flash. It was a short half term of only 5 weeks. At the start of the new year, the school council launched their campaign to eliminate the use of single-use plastic in school. Mrs E Morgan did a special assembly to launch the idea and the children have thought about how they can all contribute to this by not bringing single-use bottles to school. We have purchased spare water bottles for the children to borrow if they have not got a bottle and we are encouraging the children to take responsibility at home.

In this half term, a new cookery club started for pupils in Year 2. They have been making a range of tasty treats using our limited facilities in the staffroom. They have made melas spaghetti bolognaise and quesadillas which smelt delicious and the children have really enjoyed the experience.

On 25<sup>th</sup> January, author, illustrator and poet Chris White spent the day in school. He worked with all year groups and the children had a great day. They created their own crazy animal illustration with Chris and then wrote poems about them. This was such a fun activity and the children produced some fabulous work from the day. Children in Year 4 also went home and wrote their own poems which was wonderful to see (and hear!)

On 29<sup>th</sup> January, 2 teams of children from Year 3 and 4 attended a special activity morning at Clip and Climb. This was event was aimed at building resilience and promoting teamwork. The children did really well and showed great bravery and worked well to support each other through all the challenges. They came away with a silver award.

On 1<sup>st</sup> February, Year 3 visited Apedale mining museum as part of their science topic. They learned all about the way coal was mined and what working conditions would have been like. They were led through the mine by an ex-miner and had the chance to ask questions and visit he museum. This was a really enjoyable trip for the children despite the confined spaces!

On 5<sup>th</sup> February, Year 2 visited Brampton Museum in Newcastle as part of their topic about Florence Nightingale. They learnt all about the work of Florence and medicine back in that time.

During the week commencing 5<sup>th</sup> February, we looked at ways to keep ourselves safe online as it was Safer Internet Day on 6<sup>th</sup> February. Mrs A Morgan did a special assembly to launch Safe Internet Day and the children worked on the themes throughout the week.

Just before we broke up for half term, the PTFA held their Valentine's Disco and school finished on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February.

*Amy Graham*

## **Transform Trade News**

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Big Brew Event: A Coffee Morning will be held at Oulton Village Hall on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March from 9.30 – 11.30a.m. The event is to raise money for the work of Transform Trade. All are welcome!

Traidcraft Christmas cards: A small range of Christmas cards was the 1<sup>st</sup> venture under the Traidcraft name. This was very successful & there will be a bigger range in 2024. A greeting card range is also being introduced soon.

The Unseen Appeal: Transform Trade have thanked supporters for their generous donations to the Unseen Appeal. This is the campaign to recognise that home workers in the fast fashion industry should have the same rights as the factory workers. UK fashion brands are being urged to recognise home workers in their supply chain & to have a policy to make sure home workers are acknowledged & treated equally.

Community Shops: The charity is helping to build community shops in rural areas of Bangladesh. Each is then owned & run by groups of women. Money raised at Big Brew Events will go towards these shops which can transform their communities. The long term aim is to build 100 shops.

Traidcraft Tea: Details are being finalised to launch a new Traidcraft tea brand in the early summer. The tea will be sourced from small holder tea growers in Kenya.

For more info. about the charity see [transform-trade.org](https://transform-trade.org)

*Sheila*

**NEW EXPERIENCES**

Since last writing I have had a number of new experiences, with more to come. I've been sent to visit in a new ward at Royal Stoke which is laid out quite differently and has a unique 'feel' to it. I am sure this will be very good for the patients, their visitors and the staff working there.

I have been visiting in neurological wards taking with me a digital writing tablet to assist in communicating with patients who are unable to speak due to their medical condition.

One very different experience was when, after completing my visits and talking with the staff on the ward, I saw three 3<sup>rd</sup> year medical students from Keele University. As I turned and faced them they almost clicked their heels to attention in front of me because they assumed that I was the doctor to whom they had come to report for bedside training!

Tempting as it was to do otherwise, I explained who I was and did my best to let them down gently, but it was a great opportunity to tell them about the work of the Chaplaincy team!

At the end of February there is another Chaplaincy Volunteer fellowship and training afternoon. This will be especially good as recently some new Volunteers have started and I find it is always beneficial to meet with others and share experiences to our mutual advantage.

Finally, you may remember that in my last notes I mentioned that I had expressed interest in visiting and supporting end of life and palliative care patients and their families. Despite my age and own limitations I have been selected, along with another volunteer and two of the Chaplains to attend a training day at St. Christopher's Hospice in SE London on 1<sup>st</sup> March. It will be a long but, I am sure, very worthwhile day.

I will be reporting on these last two events next time but in the meantime I would like, once again, to encourage anyone with an interest in this highly rewarding work to speak with me or contact the Chaplaincy at RSUH direct. You will not be disappointed that you did. Indeed, I find it hard to put into words how wonderful it is to be involved in caring for people in need in this way.

*Dave Rowlands*

<b>Deanery Synod Reps</b>	Helen Bowes, Dave Rowlands
<b>P.C.C. Members</b>	Pete Kelly, Estella Woodhead, Jacqueline Abrahams, Shirley Hallam, Gary Williams, Marylyn Hillman, Diane Aspey, Liz Mason, Phil Tunstall, Andy Stone, Shelagh Sanders, Lynne Bakker-Collier
<b>Secretary</b>	Shelagh Sanders
<b>Treasurer</b>	Pete Kelly
<b>Envelopes, Gift Aid</b>	Steve Taylor

## FLOWER ROTA

3rd March:	Lent
10th March:	Lent
17th March:	Lent
24th March:	Lent
31st March:	Flower Guild

## SIDESPERSONS

Jacqueline Abrahams
Pete Kelly
Dave Rowlands
Marilyn Overall
Pam Roberts

## ROADS FOR PRAYER

### 3rd March

Tunley Street  
Trinity Drive  
Airdale Grove  
Airdale Road

### 10th March

Airdale Spinney  
Cross Street  
Nicholls Lane  
Old Road

### 17th March

Old Road Close  
Oulton Cross  
Oulton Road  
Oulton Mews

### 24th March

Prince's Street  
Queen's Square  
York Street  
Navigation Loop

### 31st March

Rangeley View  
Barnton Edge  
Anderton Way/View  
Bentley Close

