

HINTS VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

February 2014

Hints web site www.hints-village.com

Rev. Fiona Haskett 01543 432233

Editor's notes (Peter Edwards)

I would like copy for the Newsletter before (about) the 25th of each month. I need to print about 85 copies of the newsletter. If you are willing to receive it by e-mail, send me an e-mail saying so. So far I've had 45 takers. Please help by saving postage and printing costs!

Breakfast in the Village Hall (Debbie Whittaker)

The Village Hall will be open for breakfast on Sunday 23rd February. Breakfast served between 9.30am and 10.45am, please book in advance. Contact Deb on 01543 480090 or email info@interiorsforkids.co.uk

Art for St Bart's (Val Edwards)

We are working our way through northern European artists from Van Eyck to Vermeer and still have a long way to go so if you are new to Art History please feel free to come and join in. Monday evenings 7:30 to 9:30, £3 per session including refreshments, all proceeds to St Bartholomew's Church.

Parish Council (Geoff Kynaston)

At the Parish Council meeting on Tuesday 14th January Councillor Ann Outen's resignation was formally accepted. There is now a vacancy on the Parish Council. Anyone interested should inform a current councillor or contact the Parish Clerk at pauletteross@btinternet.com by February 12th latest. As our local community police officer was off sick, two other officers were asked to attend the parish meeting. As they were from outside the area they were unable to update us on items raised at our last meeting, and had no knowledge of local matters. There was a lengthy debate on the precept for the forthcoming financial year. We have received a letter from Lichfield Council that indicates that they will be retaining approx £700.00 from whatever precept we set. This means we will have to increase our precept by this amount just to stand still. The neighbourhood meeting held at the Quinney Hall on Wed 22nd January, was attended by County Councillor David Smith, who explained the concept and procedures required to do a neighbourhood plan. Also in attendance were district councillors Brian Yeates, Bourne Vale, and David Salter, Shenstone. It was resolved to try and set up a working group to do a survey of villagers hopes and aspirations for the future.

Future meetings - Special meeting on Feb 17th Hints at 2 0'clock to finalize precept and HS2 response. Tuesday 11th March Hints 7.30. Tuesday 13th May Hints Annual Parish Meeting

Valentine's Day (Debbie Whittaker)

VALENTINES DAY is a Friday, so get your red dress on (men especially) and come down to the village hall. There will be tapas and cake, and of course plenty of love in the air. For those that DARE, a game of Mr & Mrs FUN, partner swapping will be encouraged as Gillian Needle has already renounced Martin and he is on the prowl for a new partner. RSVP appreciated to Deb at debs@interiorsforkids.co.uk or 01543 480090. The bar will be open at 8.00pm

Raspberries (Janet Clarke)

Delicious frozen raspberries for sale £2. for a 454gr. punnet. Contact Elaine on 07973 764 703 or email elaine@manorfarmfruits.co.uk

A Blast From The Past – Reviving the Hints Flower Festival (Val Edwards)

As the Hints Open Gardens seems now to have run its course, at a recent meeting of the Parochial Church Council of St Bartholomew's we decided that the time might have come to revive the St Bartholomew's Flower Festival. In the early 1990s this was held in September, from a preview evening on Friday night to a church service on Sunday. We are hoping to hold such an event in 2014 across the weekend of 19th to 21st September, culminating in a Harvest Festival service, and incorporating other attractions such as music and other "cultural activities". If you are interested in participating in this event, we would like to hold an exploratory meeting in St Bartholomew's church on Tuesday 25th February at 7.30pm. Any queries, please contact Val Edwards on 480088 or by email: val@weardrive.demon.co.uk

Young Farmers' Beetle Drive (Polly Baines)

We are having a Beetle Drive on Saturday 22nd February in the Village Hall, starting at 7:30 pm. Tickets £5 including food, all welcome! Contact Polly on 07854 815508 for tickets.

Social Club (Stuart Turton)

The Social Club has now invested in a twin hand pull beer engine for pulling the real ale. Real Ale will be available most Friday evenings and the occasional Sunday Lunch time opening.

Interested parties needed for a potential pool tournament- please register on the sheet put up in the village hall.

The Social Club is looking for new committee members to support the social and bar opening side of the Village Hall. Register interest to Stuart Turton.

The Big Screen can now play DVD's and we need suggestions for Film nights.

We are also considering a Comedy evening with Dara O Brain and Jason Mansford live on stage (on a DVD!)

RBS 6 Nations Rugby (Stuart Turton)

Here are the forthcoming fixtures. Please express an interest if we should put these on the big screen. As long as there is someone available and willing to cover the bar then the bar can be opened also at these times. Real Ale can also be organised with sufficient notice.

Sat 1st February Wales v Italy – 2:30 pm

Sat 1st February France v England – 2:30 pm

Sun 2nd February Ireland v Scotland - 3:00 pm

Sat 8th February Ireland v Wales - 2:30 pm

Sat 8th February Scotland v England - 5:00 pm

Sun 9th February France v Italy - 3:00 pm

Garden Guild (Maureen Casson)

Another excellent meeting of members took place in the Village Hall on Thursday 9th January and was extremely interesting. Our speaker was Peter Coxhead and he took us on a journey into Sutton Park with the history, habitats of wildlife, trees and plants all illustrated with many slides, well that was after we managed to find the screen mechanism to show them on. We were told that the area of Sutton Park is larger than the conurbation of Birmingham City, food for thought that this area is almost on our doorstep and perhaps overlooked. We were reminded of the time when it was only the people of Sutton Coldfield who had free entry to the park and for others it was payment on the gates and yet today it is open to all and many people just nip through the park as they rather shorten the drive from one side to the other. The heath land is being allowed to expand and trees are being felled and replanted with more suitable species. We heard all about the ponies who had been brought into the park and it had been anticipated that they would forage for their own food, filling out in the summer and losing weight during the winter months and how when people saw them losing weight and showing their bones in the winter they now bring in food and feed them, which is exactly what is not needed, they are intended to be self sufficient and wild. Sometimes we do these things with kind hearts but in this case not good for wild ponies. Members of the committee are shortly meeting to discuss the programme for the next year May, 2013 to April, 2014 and .I would appreciate a call if you may wish to suggest topics or speakers for the guild, or even offer to come along a speak to us, but we will look forward to making you welcome at our AGM on 10th April, whether you are a member or not, drinks and nibbles will be served after reports and elections. Our next meeting is on Thursday 13th February at 7.30pm in the Village Hall and our speaker will be enlightening us about the Hot Springs and volcanoes of New Zealand, and interesting place on the other side of the world. Reminder - Tea and Coffee Rota - Anne and Chris, and a simple thank you to everyone who covers this job through the year.

**St. BARTHOLOMEW'S
CHURCH SERVICES FEBRUARY 2014**

9th February	6.30 pm	Holy Communion Rev. Fiona Haskett
Readings:	tba tba	Isiah 58:1-9a Matthew 5:13-20
Sides person:	tba	
23rd February	6:30 pm	Evening Worship Rev. Fiona Haskett
Readings:	tba tba	Romans 8:18-25 Matthew 6:25-34
Sides person:	tba	

CONTACT DETAILS FOR FUTURE REFERENCE

Editor: Peter Edwards - 01543 480088, peter@weardrive.demon.co.uk
Hints web site www.hints-village.com
Vicar – Rev. Fiona Haskett 432233
**Churchwardens – Jeannette White 480066 and
Simon Clarke 07798 740209**
Chairman of the Village Hall - Graham Whittaker 480090
Chairman of the Social Club – Stuart Turton 481162
**Chairman of Hints with Canwell Parish Council
Geoff Kynaston 0121 308 6145**
Chairperson of the Garden Guild – Maureen Casson 481151
Art History - Val Edwards 480088
Village Hall Bookings Secretary - Gill Needle 481220
Art Classes – Janet Clarke 481214