

HINTS VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

May 2015

Hints web site www.hints-village.com

Editor's notes (Peter Edwards)

Please remember that the deadline for inclusion of items in the Newsletter is the 25th of each month. I need to print 76 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 60 takers (the number is slowly increasing!). Please help by saving postage and printing costs!

Breakfast Club (Graham Whittaker)

Timing and date for the Breakfast Club in May is unsure – if in doubt contact Graham Whittaker.

St. Bartholomew's Fund Raising at Whittington Fete 13th June 2015 (Jeannette White)

Once again we would like to fund raise for the church at this year's Whittington Fete by having a Hat, handbag and jewellery stall. Can you help us by providing unwanted handbags, hats or jewellery? Items can be left at the back of the church, village hall or contact me on 01543 480066.

Pool Competition (John Toogood)

The first Pool Competition of 2015 is taking place at 7.30 on Wednesday 20th May.

This is bound to attract the cream of Hints Pool players - Stew Baker, Bob Wright, Ian Reeley, Dan Petford, Lloyd Ansermoz etc and we need some stiff competition for them. Elaine Clarke has shown her ability on the baize so maybe she can join us and give the guys a run for their money. The main thing is to have fun and a few beers so Pool skills are not that important - come and join us. There will be prize money for the winners in the various categories by way of bar credits which you are welcome to spend on the night or save for later.

Film and Hot Dogs night 23rd May (John Toogood)

Please come along and meet friends and neighbours at this informal event and enjoy a great film "What we did on our holiday". This amazing new British Film is showing in *YOUR* Village Hall on Saturday 23rd May courtesy of Geoff and Pam who are also providing Hot Dogs afterwards. The doors will be open at 7pm ready for a 7.30pm showing followed by the Hot Dogs and onions. This film is billed as "Hilarious British Comedy at its Best" and I am assured by those that have seen it we will not be disappointed. There will be the normal bar refreshments available before and after the film. The cost of this Bonanza of entertainment is a mere £5 per head. E-mail: john@johntoogood.co.uk to book your seats.

Eggs (Ruth Petford)

Free range eggs are now available again at Botley House – first come, first served. £2 per dozen.

Hints Golf Society (Simon Clarke)

The Hints Golf Society travelled to Breadsall Priory near Derby for the game in April. The Club has 2 courses, the Priory and the Moorland. It was the Priory course that the Society pitted their wits against. With the recent good weather the course had dried out and the rough was thick and the greens were hard and fast. Due to certain circumstances – work, injuries and intense golf practice in Portugal, there was a smaller field than normal. However the game proved to be no less competitive. On a perfect golfing afternoon, Ann Meadows came home winner with 32 points with Simon Clarke narrowly beating Carol Conwell to second place. Afterwards, much needed refreshment was called for at the William IV in Alrewas to contemplate what might have been! The next game will be on Monday 18th May and all being well will be followed by a BBQ at the Village Hall.

A welcome to spring (Janet Clarke)

Way back in January we were all wishing the month away and here we are almost into May. This beautiful sun lifts the spirits and the blossom on so many trees and shrubs is a wonderful sight. Long may it last. We're hoping now that all the ladybirds that have hibernated in our bedroom windows for several months will find their way outside. Very early in the year the field fares paid us a very fleeting visit. The birds are out in full force now on the seed and nut containers. There are chaffinches, robins, blue tits and coal tits, sparrows, greenfinches, goldfinches, starlings and one bird which appeared recently is a Reed-Bunting. Haven't seen one before so had to consult my bird book. It is sparrow-size, perhaps slightly larger, with characteristic black and white head-pattern (male) and white outer tail feathers. Just hope there is a female for him. So much seed is ejected by many of the birds but George, the pheasant, is always around to clear these up. Needless to say we have far too many pigeons and magpies. We've also had a Jay on the seed container, struggling to hang on to the bottom. This proved to be most difficult so he changed his tactics and attacked the container from the top, thus stopping it from swinging about. Very clever! We've seen the green woodpecker only once; a case of being in the right place at the right time. Until recently, three moor hens have been on our front lawns. We've had what we think were hedgehog hibernation quarters; purposely built piles of leaves. If we're very lucky we might see them late in the evenings, but more often than not, there is 'evidence' of their presence on the lawns.

Food for thought which I saw in a book recently- "Today you may be cock of the roost, but tomorrow a feather duster."

P.S. On Sunday evening we heard the cuckoo and we haven't heard his call for many years. Lovely!

Social Club (Kevin Caine)

The social club AGM held on 15th April was well attended and saw the current officers re-elected under the continued leadership of Stuart Turton. The club is in good shape and we are expecting the warmer evenings to attract more villagers for 'refreshments' and a chat with friends and neighbours on a Wednesday or Friday evening. We are trialling an earlier opening on Fridays and invite all new villagers to come along and meet those of us who moved to Hints in years gone by. Watch out for more details. The committee were sad to learn that Keith Collins was standing down. Keith moved to Hints in the 1960's and served the Social Club committee for 32 years. Amazing! Even more amazing is that he retired with his wife Jean to a new home in Lichfield 14 years ago but continued to contribute his knowledge and experience, and was regularly to be found behind the bar. The committee recorded their sincere thanks for all the work he has done and the time he has given so freely to the Social Club and village hall.

Garden Guild (Maureen Casson)

The Annual General Meeting of the Guild was held on Thursday 9th April and the accounts were tabled and affirmed at the meeting as were the Minutes of the 2014 meeting. There was a review of the past year and we were all reminded of the many excellent speakers we have enjoyed and all the various visits. The constitution requires that the position of Chairperson is for a period of three years and therefore Pam Kynaston was voted in and this commences immediately. One committee member, Val Edwards retired and was thanked for her help and support over the years and Mandy Willett was elected to replace Val, the rest of the committee were elected en-bloc. There was a review of the forthcoming programme for 2015/16 with a great variety of speakers and at the next meeting on Thursday 14th May our speaker will be Vicky Worrall and will be all about Bats. These creatures are protected and loved by many people. On June 11th we will be visiting Sheepwash Farm at Whittington for a guided tractor and trailer ride followed by supper at £6pp please ring Janet Willett on 0121 308 1706 to book your place . Annual Coach trip will be on 11th July to John's Garden and Ashwood Nurseries. There will be no increase in the Annual Charge for Guild members, this is a real bargain at £12 per annum, new members are always welcome as also are visitors at a charge of £3 per person.

Art for St Bart's (Val Edwards)

We are continuing to meet on Monday nights at 7.30pm in the Village Hall, courtesy of the Management Committee. The general topic for the present series of talks is Art in Spain on which I am far from being an expert, so if you fancy joining in a voyage of discovery (for all concerned!) please feel free to join us! £3 per session, refreshments included, all proceeds to St Bartholomew's Church.

CONTACT DETAILS FOR FUTURE REFERENCE

Editor: Peter Edwards - 01543 480088, peter@weardrive.demon.co.uk
Hints web site www.hints-village.com
**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
District Councillor – Brian Yeates 0121 323 2200
County Councillor – David Smith 01543 374690
Chairperson of the Garden Guild – Pam Kynaston 0121 308 6145
Art History – Val Edwards 480088
Village Hall Bookings Secretary - Gill Needle 481220
Art Classes – Janet Clarke 481214

St. Bartholomew's CHURCH SERVICES May 2015

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| 10 May | 10:30 | Morning Worship Trevor James |
| Readings | Acts 10:44-end John 15:9-17 | tba tba |
| Sides person: | | tba |
| 24 May | 18:30 pm | Holy Communion Keith Haywood |
| Readings: | Acts 2:1-21 John 15:26-27, 16:4b-15 | tba tba |
| Sides person: | | tba |

Annual Meeting of Parishioners and Annual Parochial Church Meeting (Val Edwards)

These meetings were held on Sunday 26 April at 5.30pm before an inspiring Holy Communion Service presided over by Revd Val Hicks, one of the retired clergy who are helping us out during the vacancy caused by Revd Haskett's departure. At the meeting in addition to reports on the state of the fabric of the church (from Jeannette White and Simon Clarke, the churchwardens) and on the finances (from Sally Shepherd, the treasurer) the following elections took place:

Churchwardens - Simon Clarke and Jeannette White

Deanery Synod Representatives – Gill Needle, Jeannette White and Val Edwards

Parochial Church Council Members – Lloyd Ansermoz (awaiting confirmation as not present at the meeting) Janet Clarke, Roy Clarke, Gilly Fifield, Sally Shepherd.