

## HINTS VILLAGE NEWSLETTER December 2020

### **Editor's notes (Peter Edwards)**

Please remember that the deadline for inclusion of items in the Newsletter is the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month. I need to print 48 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 92 "e-mailers" (the number is slowly increasing!). Please help by saving postage and printing costs.

To all the people who receive this newsletter by hand – Because of lockdown, I'm the only one delivering. I have to do all of School Lane, up to Canwell and all of Watling Street right up to Mile Oak. PLEASE consider having it by email in future. My contact details are on the back page. Please send me your name, email address and house number so I can keep track.

Despite my decision to cease producing the newsletter I have decided to continue – I have had some 15 recipients urging me to continue, and nobody else has volunteered to do it. I will however point out that if someone sends me something for inclusion, I do so in all good faith. I do NOT cancel what is put in, the only edits I do is to correct obvious spelling or grammatical errors etc.

### **Hints Garden Guild (Maureen Casson)**

At this time of year many gardens are 'shutting down' for the winter, or are they? I can note that in my garden many bushes are already forming new buds, showing growth for the next season after Christmas when we hope and pray that spring is just around the corner, that is providing any frosts we may have doesn't kill them off. As I write this we are shortly to come through the present lockdown on 2nd December and we are waiting for the latest guidelines as to which tier we will be in, but it would seem that we are all to get that five day relaxation period over Christmas which will be good, something to be thankful for, a real blessing for everyone, especially families. The details of the latest vaccines, three in all, are still to get the final go ahead but with the Christmas season almost upon us I began to think of that well-known carol, the Holly and the Ivy when they are both full grown, of all the trees that are in the wood the Holly bears the crown. For me, I have holly in my garden but none of the bright red berries, I guess I brought the male version which doesn't berry up, giving nothing for the birds to feed upon, and the ivy is presently growing like there is no tomorrow and will need drastic pruning, and I guess that most of our members are still taking advantage of the days when we have mild temperatures allowing us to get outside and I still hear a few faithful gardeners in the village cutting their lawns. Gardens never stand still, there is always something to do. Our latest publication of Garden Matters to all our members has been circulated, keeping us all in touch with each other and we look forward with great anticipation to when we can all join together and start a season of new growth within the Garden Guild. It's time to look ahead and start planning, and encourage new members to join us, gardens don't stop growing and neither should we, so I feel sure that we will all have much to share in 2021 when we meet again the Village Hall. To all readers, we send Blessings for Christmas and New Year.

### **Hints Walking Club (Deb Whittaker)**

Suspended, [debjimwhittaker@gmail.com](mailto:debjimwhittaker@gmail.com)

### **Hints film club (Steve Bourne)**

Suspended, [steve.bourne@me.com](mailto:steve.bourne@me.com)

### **Parish Council (Geoff Kynaston)**

At our Parish council meeting on 10th November the state of stiles in Hints was raised. We are endeavouring to find who is now responsible for them with all this HS2 work going on. Two new defibrillator pads have been purchased and installed. They have a limited life span. The new ones expire in July 2023. Sarah Mullen, from Staffordshire County Council, has submitted a comprehensive complaint to Sir Mark Worthington, construction commissioner, about the contractor vehicle movements through Hints. We eagerly await his findings. A jetting lorry has been in Canwell and Watling Street cleaning out all the gullies. Our next meeting will be, probably by Zoom, on January 12th 2021. Notices will be posted on notice boards and web site nearer the date.

### **Church flowers (Val Edwards)**

As of 24 November it looks like we can have said services in the church (socially distanced) on Sunday 6 and 20 December (as well as the church being open for private worship on Sunday 13 and 27). I will do altar flowers for Sunday 6 December, but as Sunday 20 is going to be our nearest service to Christmas, it would be lovely if the windows and the font could be decorated. If you can help with flowers, you can contact me on 01543 480088 or [val.weardrive@btinternet.com](mailto:val.weardrive@btinternet.com)

### **St Bartholomew's Church Hints (Lloyd Ansermoz)**

We still await further news from the Diocese about our future services and possible merging with other Church groups. Father Jason's last service at St Barts' was on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> November and there was a gift of a book of memories, notes of good wishes for the future and pictures of his time in the Parish which was put together from all three Churches. Unfortunately, our Remembrance Day service on the 8<sup>th</sup> of November was cancelled after "Lockdown 2" was announced, but in true Hints Village style we still laid our wreath and gave blessings and Prayer to remember those who gave their lives for us to be able to live ours. It just so happened that there were quite a few people walking and being around the Church who were able to "observe" at a safe distance, thank you all for your support.

We are donating to the Lichfield Foodbank. Please go to this link:

**[www.lichfield.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-food/](http://www.lichfield.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-food/)**

Particularly at this time of year and with the current Covid 19 restrictions there are even more people struggling to make ends meet and the Food Banks across the country need our help now. Can you help us to help them please?

Our Church will be open every Sunday and we are asking that all donations are left just inside the Church on a Sunday in order for us to then make a weekly trip to deliver direct to the Foodbank Warehouse in Lichfield.

Non-perishable food is desperately needed and specifically the following foods will help alongside the usual tins and jars:

- **CUSTARD**
- **INSTANT COFFEE**
- **RICE PUDDING**
- **TINNED FRUIT**
- **JAM**

We look forward to your support. Should you have any questions or ways that you could help further then please direct them to me on 07900606070 – [lloyd@fidelisgroup.co.uk](mailto:lloyd@fidelisgroup.co.uk) or to Val - [val.weardrive@btinternet.com](mailto:val.weardrive@btinternet.com)

Our Church services in December will be on **Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> at 6.30 pm for a traditional Evening Service and on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> at 6.30 pm**. We are waiting for news and restriction updates for the Service on the 20<sup>th</sup> as we were hoping to be able to hold a Christmas Carol Service but for now the service will be a Christmas themed Evening Service. Both services will be led by Trevor James so please feel free to join us and as always you will be made very welcome. The "lockdown 2" restrictions and guidelines continue to be confusing to most and as I write the revised tier system across England seems to have just added to the confusion and frustration in a lot of regions. A further review will apparently take place on the 17<sup>th</sup> December when hopefully we will be able to at least see and maybe even visit some friends and relatives over the festive season. Christmas is a time for enjoying the riches of grace that God lavishes upon us and having fun as a community in the presence of the Lord, even though this year it may be restricted. It is also important to remember that Christmas can be a very lonely time for some people as not everyone is surrounded by family and friends and some people may be facing Christmas alone without the company of a partner or loved one who has passed. Please think about who we can help or pray for in the coming weeks and remember that a prayer or even a phone call sometimes can be a way of making a difference.

### **A SHORT CHRISTMAS PRAYER**

Holy Jesus, by being born one of us, and lying humbly in a manger, you show us how much God loves the world. Let the light of your love always shine in our hearts, until we reach our home in heaven and see you on your throne of glory. Father please help us to give faith, hope and love to those alone and lonely at this time and always.

**Amen.**

### **Art for St Bart's (Val Edwards)**

Suspended for December, but watch this space in case we can restart in January, although February looks more likely. For further details contact Val on 01543 480088 or [val.weardrive@btinternet.com](mailto:val.weardrive@btinternet.com)

### **Wagon Wheels Line dancing (Daphne Neill)**

Suspended, contact [neilldaphne@yahoo.com](mailto:neilldaphne@yahoo.com).

### **Art Classes (Graham Whittaker)**

Suspended, contact Gill Smith (see back page)

### **Pilates (Emma Wollaston)**

Suspended, [ewpilates@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:ewpilates@yahoo.co.uk) or 07974 145055.

## CONTACT DETAILS FOR FUTURE REFERENCE

**Editor: Peter Edwards - 01543 480088**  
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**Hints web site** [www.hints-village.com](http://www.hints-village.com)  
or [Facebook @hintsvillagehall](https://www.facebook.com/hintsvillagehall)

**Vicar: Rev Dr Jason Phillips - 01543 432728**  
[revdjason@fastmail.co.uk](mailto:revdjason@fastmail.co.uk)

**Churchwarden** **Lloyd Ansermoz 07900 606070**

**Chairman of the Village Hall - Graham Whittaker 480090**

**Chairman of the Social Club - Graham Whittaker 480090**

**Chairperson of Hints with Canwell Parish Council Sue Petford 07976 383913**

**Hints with Canwell website [www.hintswithcanwell.co.uk](http://www.hintswithcanwell.co.uk)**

**District Councillor – Brian Yeates 0121 323 2200**

**County Councillor - David Smith 01543 374690**

**MP – Christopher Pincher 01827 312778**

**PCSOS Costas Karpi [costas.Karpi@staffordshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:costas.Karpi@staffordshire.pnn.police.uk)**  
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**Parish Administrator – Lynne Mills 07721 767963**

**Chairperson of Garden Guild Geoff Kynaston 0121 308 6145**

**Art History - Val Edwards 480088**

**Village Hall Bookings Secretary – Deb Whittaker 480090**

**Art Classes – Gill Smith 0121 308 1776**

### St Bartholomew's Church Services December 2020

No carol service this year.

|            |       |                      |                 |
|------------|-------|----------------------|-----------------|
| Sun 6 Dec  | 18:30 | Said Evening worship | Dr Trevor James |
|            |       | Isiah 40: 1-11       |                 |
|            |       | 2 Peter 3: 8-15a     |                 |
|            |       | Mark 1: 1-8          |                 |
| Sun 20 Dec | 18:30 | Said Evening Worship | Dr Trevor James |
|            |       | 2 Samuel 7: 1-11     |                 |
|            |       | Romans 16: 25-end    |                 |
|            |       | Luke 1: 26-38        |                 |