

## HINTS VILLAGE NEWSLETTER December 2022

### **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 35 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 120 "e-mailers" (the number is increasing!). Please help by saving postage and printing costs (and my time in delivering them, takes about 2 -3 hours or so).

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

Walks for December...Friday 2nd and Friday the 16th

Start at 10.00 meet village hall.

More information contact Deb at [debjmwhittaker@gmail.com](mailto:debjmwhittaker@gmail.com)

### **Hints Christmas wreath workshop (Deb Whittaker)**

Make your own wreath, hearth or table decoration at Hints Village Hall.

This is a very relaxed event, and with help from our Christmas elves/pixies, you will go home with a fantastic decoration. There will also be Christmas Crafts from The Crafty Villagers for that unique Christmas gift. If you would like an arrangement and can't make the workshop, we will be happy to make one for you, again, drop me an email with your requirements. For more information about booking please see attached PDF flyer or contact details [Debjmwhittaker@gmail.com](mailto:Debjmwhittaker@gmail.com).

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

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

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

Not much happening at present. HS2 are extending the closure of Rookery Lane as the work is taking longer due to the adverse weather conditions. (ed – I believe it's now till 9<sup>th</sup> December) The jubilee tree on the parish field is still awaiting delivery. Any time now. Done several highways reports on Gullies and pavements both in Hints and Canwell.

On Monday 21st noticed some work being done the pavement outside Lamb Farm Canwell. Noticed they had left about ten metres of overgrown verge. Asked why and was told that they work from GPS co-ordinates and that bit was outside the co-ordinates given! Modern technology! This job was in response to a report, 4255218, I did on 14/9/2021. Highways now send an e-mail with a photo saying the job has been completed. On that basis we can expect my recent reports in Hints and Canwell to be actioned early 2024!

Next Parish council meeting in Hints on Tuesday 10th January 2023 at 7.30pm.

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

Christmas is coming but not everybody's Goose is getting fat! That's why in December we are appealing for non-perishable goods and food which we will be delivering to Lichfield food bank in time for Christmas. Please leave donations at the back of our Church which will be open every day from morning until dusk.

We are also asking for donations of presents (anything from a teddy to a selection box) to the Pathways project which is a non-for-profit charity who support Women and Children who have or who are suffering from domestic abuse. They are based locally in Staffordshire, please visit their website at: <https://www.pathway-project.co.uk>

As I write on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of advent, the 27<sup>th</sup> of November we start our advent calendar which consists of four Sundays leading up to Christmas eve. The first Sunday represents Isaiah and the other prophets in the Bible that predicted the coming of Jesus. The second represents the Bible. The third represents Mary, the mother of Jesus and the fourth represents John the Baptist, Jesus' cousin, who told the people in Israel to get ready for Jesus' teaching.

To us as Christians, Christmas is a holy day that marks the birth of Jesus which we celebrate and tell through the Nativity. By the accounts of the gospels, Matthew and Luke, Jesus was born to Mary who was engaged to Joseph, a carpenter. Without telling the whole story, it goes on to see Jesus born in Bethlehem in a manger and then visited by three wise men who followed a star that led them to Jesus' birthplace where they presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. The story may be one of which some may find hard to believe but it is celebrated all over the world and is the basis of the "Christmas" we all know today. So whatever Christmas means to you we are celebrating as well as giving in our Church with spirit and joy so please join us in giving and in celebration. Our Church services in December are 4th December at 6.30 p.m. for Evening Prayer and then a very special evening with the Voices Entwined Choir on Saturday the 10th at 7.00 p.m. followed by a candle lit procession to our Village Hall for mulled wine, refreshments, and the Christmas choral finale. We then have our always very popular Carol Service on Sunday the 18th at 6.30 p.m. which again will follow on to our Village Hall for hot jacket potatoes, mulled wine, tea, coffee and refreshments, all proceeds from the evening will be donated to the Pathways project. Our final service this year will be on 24th - Christmas Eve at 7.30 p.m.

*A short prayer for Christmas and for giving*

*Lord Jesus Christ, your birth at Bethlehem draws us to kneel in wonder at heaven touching earth. Please accept our heartfelt praise as we worship you this Christmas time and also please help us to pray, remember and give to those less fortunate and able to celebrate as we might. Our saviour and our eternal God, please hear our prayer, Amen*

### **Art for St Bart**

Our next meeting will be on Monday 5 December at the Village Hall from 14.00 to 16.00 (probably the last meeting before Christmas). If there is anyone else who would like to join us, come along on Monday – you will be most welcome, and you can have copies of the previous handouts so you can catch up on Google! £5 per session, £3 for St Bartholomew's church and £2 for the Pathway Project in Lichfield, refreshments included. For further details contact Val on 01543 480088 or [val.weardrive@btinternet.com](mailto:val.weardrive@btinternet.com)

### **Art Classes (Gill Smith)**

Thursday mornings, contact Gill Smith (see back page for the phone number)

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

On 10<sup>th</sup> November as our members gathered in the Village Hall they were transported back into the times of Henry the eighth, the Tudor King of the 1500's, as our speaker came dressed for those times complete with appropriate long dress, apron and bonnet

and attached to her belt was a long sharp dagger ready for food preparation. An interesting evening that made us aware that climate change is not just happening in the world of today. The cure for sore throats by swallowing a frog was not something to try, best keep to the remedies available right now. We may remember how in the summer this year our temperatures rose and we struggled with the heat but in Tudor times during their hot periods, the River Thames dried up and coaches were driven down its length but in different years the river has frozen over and people have even lit fires on the frozen water. Our speaker brought along samples of the original mincemeat that really did contain minced meat and the modern version we so enjoy in our Christmas festivities today, and so our thoughts turned to our next speaker Kath Reynolds on 8<sup>th</sup> December who, I feel sure, be encouraging us to celebrate Christmas with her talk on "Tis the season to be jolly". Again, a look back in time to the traditions of our past with favourite toys and jokes in crackers that we still enjoy in the world of today. Please feel free to come along for a drink, tea or coffee are always served and mince pies help us on our journey towards Christmas, the talk is on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. Everyone welcome. As we now see more and more activity happening locally with the bringing of HS2 to the area I would like to share with you a short extract from a booklet written in 1985 by a local author John Weston Smith – THOUGHTS OF A COUNTRYMAN - The scene is my garden, as I sit pondering in peace, beneath a shady tree, the bright sun has returned after the brief shower, leaving a sparkle on the grass, there is a fresh fragrance of flowers in the air, my canaries are competing with their wild friends for their own 'top of the pops', during a temporary lull a nearby turtle dove croons its soothing lullaby, blending with the gentle buzzing of a host of honey bees returning to the nearby hives.....the hot Summer '22' is long past, and so from everyone at Hints Garden Guild we wish Christmas Blessings to all readers.

### **Voices Entwined (Nicky Smith)**

Just imagine a picture postcard country church with Christmas tree lights twinkling and windows illuminated by Christmas floral decorations and candles providing a rosy red glow. People arriving greeted by warming mulled wine (for a small donation) whilst waiting expectantly for some stirring Christmas music sung by the 'Voices Entwined' choir. Bring a lantern/torch and be serenaded up to the village hall where you may purchase such traditional festive refreshments as sausage rolls, stollen and mince pies. What better way to enjoy the sense of community and the fact that we will be helping to keep our beautiful church as a part of our village. This Christmas concert celebration takes place on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> December at 7.00 at St. Bartholomew's Church, Hints. Tickets are just £4 and are available from Nicky Smith on the following number 01543 480030. Be a part of our quintessential Christmas. See the attached flyer.

### **Church Flowers**

There will be a lot going on in St Bartholomew's in December – something practically every week! So there will be services on Sunday 4 December (Parish Eucharist at 18.30), Sunday 18 December (Carol Service at 18.30) both with Revd Canon Stephen Mayes and Saturday 24 December (Christmas Eucharist at **19.30**) with Revd Stephen Reynolds. In addition, the *Voices Entwined* concert will be held in church at 19.00 on Saturday 10 December. If you could help with altar, font or window flowers on these dates, your assistance would be much appreciated! For further details contact Val on 01543 480088 or [val.weardrive@btinternet.com](mailto:val.weardrive@btinternet.com)

## 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)  
[Facebook @hintsvillagehall](https://www.facebook.com/hintsvillagehall)

**Vicar: Vacant**

**Churchwarden** Lloyd Ansermoz 07900 606070

**Chairman of the Village Hall - Graham Whittaker 01543 480090**

**Chairman of the Social Club - Graham Whittaker 01543 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)**  
**Davina Hickman [davina.hickman@staffordshire-police.uk](mailto:davina.hickman@staffordshire-police.uk)**

**Parish Administrator – Lynne Mills 07721 767963**

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

**Art History - Val Edwards 01543 480088**

**Village Hall Bookings Secretary – Deb Whittaker 01543 480090**

**Art Classes – Gill Smith 07377 265615**

## St Bartholomew's Church Services December 2022

Sun 4 Dec	18:30 Evening Prayer Revd Canon S Mayes Isiah 11: 1-10 Romans 15: 4-13 Matthew 3: 1-12
Sun 18 Dec	10:30 Carol Service Revd Canon S Mayes Readings TBA
Sat 24 Dec	19:30 Christmas Eucharist Unknown celebrant 2 Samuel 7: 1-5, 8-11, 16 Acts 13: 16-26 Luke 1: 87-79
Sun 1 Jan	18:30 Evening Prayer Revd Canon S Mayes Readings TBA

The Church is open every day for private prayer