

HINTS VILLAGE NEWSLETTER  
February 2024

**Editor's notes: Val Edwards**

Hi each, Peter is unavailable at the moment so I'm having a go at compiling this month's newsletter – be prepared for peculiarities! He'll be back on it for the next edition.

**Hints Walks**

Friday the 2nd and 16th

Walks start at 10.00. Allow 2 hours for walk. Meet at Village hall for more information contact [debjmwhittaker@gmail.com](mailto:debjmwhittaker@gmail.com)

**NEW dance Class in new year**

Dancefit Exercise classes. Our fun sessions will suit all levels of fitness.

A choreographic fun fusion of Latino, Disco, Jive, Bollywood and more.

Commencing Wednesday 10th January 2024

10:30 - 11:30

Please contact Alison (07805 881067) for further details.

**Quiz night**

Date for your diary 12th of April

More details to follow

Graham grahamawhittaker@gmail.com

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

We're continuing to meet on Monday afternoons 2pm to 4pm in the Village Hall, on 5 and 19 February, £5 per session (includes refreshments) £3 for St Bart's and £2 for the Pathway Project. This term we're looking at some quite challenging 20th century women artists. For further details on what we do contact Val on 01543 480088 or email at [val.weardrive@btinternet.com](mailto:val.weardrive@btinternet.com).

**Hints Social Club (John Toogood)**

YOUR Village Hall is open on Fridays 26th Jan, 9th and 23rd Feb. Everyone welcome.

**Art Classes (Gill Smith)**

These classes are now full, watch the newsletter for further information.

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

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

**St Bart's Church - Services and Flowers (Val Edwards)**

The services for February will be on Sunday 4 at 18.30 (Eucharist) and Sunday 18 at 18.30 (Evening Prayer) both with Revd Canon Stephen Mayes. Help with flowers (two small vases on the altar) and cleaning would be much appreciated. For further details contact Val on 01543 480088 or email at [val.weardrive@btinternet.com](mailto:val.weardrive@btinternet.com).

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

I'm sad to report that our meeting on 11th January had to be cancelled due to Trevor James, the speaker booked for this evening had, on the morning let us know that due to ill health he would not be coming, but we hope we will be able to rebook with him later in the year. Members may still wish to hear about Capability Brown the English Landscape architect of the past so well known when we visit stately homes. For now we will be looking forward to our next meeting on 8th February when we will be welcoming Alan Howard talking to us about scented gardens and as we now start to look forward to new growth in spring and summer. In March, on Thursday 14th, we have booked Mark Smith to talk to us about Clematis and this then brings us to the end of our Garden Guild year and the joys of the AGM elections and forward planning. Lists of suggestions / requests have already been sent around and I have put out enquiries but sadly the responses are slow in the returning. We continue to be members of the Staffordshire Association of Garden Guilds who are suggesting local grouping of members may help to boost numbers. New members are always welcome and the evenings end with tea, coffee, biscuits and friendly chat. Look forward to seeing you.

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

At the last meeting we co-opted Peter Fice onto the Parish Council to fill the vacant place. The precept was finalised for the next financial year. Gully clearing is an ongoing project both in Hints and Canwell. The environmental agency have been contacted, again, about the state of the ford. A photo of the washed away car was included to emphasise the dire situation. Highways have advised that the A453 Sutton Road will be closed on five days and diversions will be signed. On Feb 12th & 13th Bassets Pole island to Drayton Lane will be closed between 7am & 5pm for resurfacing work. Feb 14th to 16th Drayton Lane to Mile oak will be closed between 7am and 5pm. The diversions, first phase, will be down A446 to the Belfry roundabout, up to Fazeley and then to Mile Oak. Second phase, the reverse route will be shown. Current works signage is incorrect with the timings shown, the contractors have been instructed to get them corrected. Further information can be found on <https://one.network/?GB135937967>. This site shows the diversions suggested. There are properties that only exit onto the closed sections and every effort will be made to enable them to access during working times.

Further road/lane closures on Sutton road, this time HS2. Notice says diversions between 12th Feb and 31st March, but first date mentioned is 26th Feb!

Sutton Road A453 8th to 11th March 8pm to 6am, then 15th to 18th March 8pm to 6am. Drayton Lane 26th Feb to 1st March, 4th to 8th, 11th to 22nd and 25th to 29th. These are also overnight 8pm to 6am. These dates and times are subject change.

Further information can be obtained on <https://www.hs2.org.uk/work-items/road-closure-a453-sutton-road-and-drayton-lane>. You can also try "Road closure: A453 Sutton Road and Drayton Lane" on the internet for the same information

I understand that the A453 is to be diverted whilst they construct the bridge for HS2. I have seen a mention, on other communication, of three-way traffic lights. I have also been told that the electronic signs have had their times corrected.

Next Parish Council on March 14th at 7.30pm in Hints.

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

Our Services for February will be held on Sunday 4th for our Eucharist service and Sunday 18th for our Evening Prayer Service both at 6.30 p.m.

For 2024 events at St Bart's please watch out for notices and dates in the Newsletters. Please feel free to join us, everybody will be made very welcome.

February is traditionally and naturally the last month of winter, and we look forward to the spring with new beginnings, new life and a renewal of life to flourish into beauty in our natural environments. February also brings "Ordinary Time" to our Church calendar. Ordinary Time especially celebrates Jesus' teachings and his ministry and reminds us to take time to reflect on how we live our lives now and into the seasons ahead to make a difference when thinking of, praying and being grateful for others. A time of gratitude for everything and everyone around us and of course in thanks for the love of Jesus in our lives. Practicing gratitude is an important aspect of many of our lives which naturally leads to happiness and fulfilment. The Bible has many verses that emphasise the importance of being thankful. Here are a couple to reflect on and help us to focus on the blessings of God and on finding blessings even in the small things in our everyday lives.

*"Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful." Colossians 3:15*

*"Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God." Philipians 4:6*

A prayer for gratefulness in our lives and in our communities,

*Thank You, Lord, for blessing us with such a treasured friend in you and for the mutual joy and friendships that we all share together. What a wonderful privilege it is to share our good times together with you and to be there for each other in happiness and also when sorrow or difficult times come into our lives. Thank You for the wonderful love, care, and encouragement we share with each other in our community, and we praise and thank you Father that you are our relational God who knows the importance of close friendships and special relationships, which so enrich our lives, lift our hearts, and refresh our spirits.*

*Amen*

## **St Bartholomew's Church Beetle Drive (Jane Boyle)**

It's almost time for this years' St Bart's Beetle Drive so do book your tickets for Saturday 24th February at 7pm in the village hall. The bar will be open and everyone gets a fish & chip supper too. It's so much fun so hope to see you all there. Contact Jane Boyle for tickets on 07843 077575 or email [janeboylee@hotmail.com](mailto:janeboylee@hotmail.com) so I can pre-order the fish & chips.

### **Contacts for future reference**

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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
District Councillor -	Brian Yeates 0121 323 2200
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Parish Administrator -	Lynne Mills 07721 767963
Chairperson of Garden Guild -	Anne Holman 0121 323 2429
Art History -	Val Edwards 01543 480088
Village Hall Bookings Secretary -	Deb Whittaker 01543 480090

### **St Bartholomew's Church Services** **February 2024**

Sun 4 February Eucharist 18:30  
Revd Canon Stephen Mayes  
Proverbs 8:1, 22-31  
Colossians 1: 15-20  
John 1: 1-14

Sun 18 February Evening Prayer 18.30  
Revd Canon Stephen Mayes  
Genesis 9: 8-17  
1 Peter 3: 18-end  
Mark 1: 9-15

The Church is open every day for private prayer