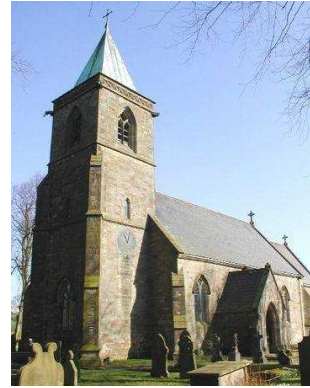


Benefice Magazine



St. Paul's, Quarnford



St. Luke's, Sheen

March

2010

Longnor, Quarnford & Sheen with Newtown
Reapsmoor & Hollinsclough



St. Bartholomew's, Longnor



St. John's, Reapsmoor

40p



St. Paul's, Newtown

Benefice Directory

Vicar: Rev^d James Forrester 01298 83742
 Worship Leader Janet M^cNicol 01298 812053

	St. Bartholomew's, Longnor	St. Paul's, Quarnford
Church Wardens	Mr. L. Riley 01538 300313 Mrs. J. Lownds 01298 83680	Miss J. M ^c Nicol 01298 812053 Mrs. V. Battram 01298 22758
Secretary	Mrs. M. Boam 01298 83513	Mrs. M. Owen 0161 4913323
Treasurer	Mr. C. Smallwood 01298 70003	Miss J. M ^c Nicol 01298 812053
Organist	Mrs. N. Twigg/Mrs. J. Hollingshead	Miss G. Belfield L.R.A.M.
Deanery Reps.	Mr. J. Gilman 01298 83486 Mrs. M. Gilman 01298 83486	Miss J. M ^c Nicol 01298 812053
Magazine Rep. Flowers	Mr. G. Roe 01298 83101 Mrs. A. Evans 01298 83537	Mrs. V. Battram 01298 22758

	St. Luke's, Sheen
Church Wardens	Mrs. A. Belfield 01298 84396 Mr. G. Grindon 01298 83264
Secretary	Mrs. A. Belfield 01298 84396
Treasurer	Mr. C. Belfield 01298 84809
Organist	Vacant
Deanery Reps.	Mrs. A. Belfield 01298 84396
Magazine Rep. Flowers	Mrs. A. Belfield 01298 84396

	St. Paul's, Newtown	St. John's, Reapsmoor
Secretary	Mrs. M. Williams 01298 83350	
Treasurer	Mr. J. Gilman 01298 83486	Mrs. M. Mycock 01298 84585
Organist	Mrs. J. Hollinshead	Mrs. J. Gregory 01298 84429
Magazine Rep.	Mrs. M. Williams 01298 83350	Mrs. J. Gregory 01298 84429

	Church Schools: Headteachers	
Longnor	Mrs. S. Evans	01298 83233
Flash	Mrs. C. Gunn	01298 23442
Hollinsclough	Mrs. J. Mountford-Lees	01298 83303

Methodist Minister
 Rev^d Colin Smith 01298 23556

	Uniformed Associations	
Brownies	Diana Fernihough	01538 371958

From the Vicarage

Dear Friends,

I am sure that I am not the only one who is hoping that by the time you read this letter of mine, we shall be free of snow in the area. Writing on the 18th February, I am told that this is day 64 of the wintry weather, and while the recent days have not been too disrupting, I shall be glad if early March turns out to be the start of Spring, though that may be rather optimistic!

All of the month of March this year is in the season of Lent, and some of you will have started on the suggested readings from the bible that I talked about last month. If you have not had a chance to get hold of the suggested readings, please let me know. In addition, we are marking Lent by holding a series of Lent Lunches, simple meals of soup and bread, on Thursdays during March. The venues for these are as listed elsewhere in the magazine, and I hope that you will want to join us as we visit different parts of the Benefice for these occasions.

There has been a lot of excitement recently in our area about the discovery of the Staffordshire Hoard, that astonishing collection of treasure found in a field in the south of the county, and now on display in Stoke. It seems to give us a small insight into a period of history about which we still know very little, but which was significant in shaping our country in the years before the Norman Conquest of 1066. It is always frustrating for historians when they are short of information, so perhaps this discovery will help to fill in some of the gaps.

The church has the same problem with some of its history from that period. As well as being the season of Lent, in March we remember four great missionary leaders from those early centuries. The Welsh especially celebrate St. David on the 1st,

while the Irish make much of St. Patrick on the 17th. Both of them are credited with leading their nation to a Christian faith, though some of the details are sketchy.

Closer to home, we recall St. Chad on the 2nd, and then Cuthbert on the 20th. Recently I was doing some further study in Durham, so I know more about Cuthbert, buried in that cathedral, than I do about Chad, but whatever the details of their lives, we should remain grateful to God for their work in establishing the Christian faith in the North and the Midlands. The Staffordshire Hoard seems to be the result of a battle, and that period of history was a very turbulent time, with rival kings competing for power and land across the Anglo-Saxon kingdoms. Some of the kings were pagans, and some were already Christian, but none of them would have known anything about the Christian faith without the courageous witness of people like Chad, and Aidan, and Cuthbert, who had heard the call of Christ, and travelled around sharing their faith with both kings and common people.

It is good to recall our history, and to remember how our land was privileged to hear the message of God's kingdom coming in and through Jesus. In an age when all too often the news about the church is of decline and struggle rather than growth, perhaps we can be inspired afresh in this season of Lent to remember our history, to praise God for what we have inherited, and to work and pray for a new age of faith and love.

With best wishes to you all,

James Forrester

Benefice News

Local Police Number

0300 123 44 55

For all non-emergency calls

Dates for your Diary - March

Wednesday, 3rd History Live - Hollinsclough

Saturday, 13th Coffee Morning - Longnor



Buxton and Longnor Group

are looking for families or couples who would like to host two children for two weeks.

A group of 12 children will visit the High Peak for 1 month between Monday 26th July to 23rd August 2010.

The boys and girls we host are usually diabetic, they benefit greatly from a few weeks of uncontaminated food, which boosts their immune system.

A full programme of activities is provided.

Further information from:
Jane Skidmore
Tel: 01298 72278

www.chernobyl-children.org.uk

Your Rural Police News

In a previous article I informed you of the 21 yr old male from Derby arrested for damaging the public toilets in Wetton. He has since apologised and fully paid for the damage. He also received a recordable Police

caution which means that should he offend again this matter will be taken into consideration when deciding how to deal with him in the future.

In the latter part of last year we received complaints of persistent anti social behaviour from a household in Longnor. We confronted the suspects and advised them their behaviour was not acceptable and warned them of the consequences. Unfortunately this advice was not heeded and so working closely with our partners in the local authority and housing association a formal warning notice was served.

Further non-compliance meant an application was made to the court for a repossession order which was granted and has now been executed.

The individuals have now moved out of the area.

In a recent joint operation with our partners in the Animal Health Department, we have been investigating the dumping of dead sheep carcasses in the Morridge area. This is not only irresponsible and costly to the tax payer but gives concerns for public health. A 66 year old male from the Leek area was identified as a suspect and has been interviewed after caution at the Police Station. Offenders can face prosecution for a number of different offences. Enquiries are ongoing.

Villagers continue to express concerns over speeding. We have already carried out speed checks this year and plan to carry out more in the future.

Speed checks give us the opportunity to educate drivers to the dangers of speeding along with any other offences which may be committed.

Where appropriate enforcement action will be taken which includes the issuing of endorsable fixed penalty notices or a summons to court.

To help us determine where speed checks are most needed please let us know your views via any of the contact methods shown below.

Please make a note in your diary of the following Police Surgeries;

2pm til 4pm on Monday 29th March at Alstonefield Village Hall

11am til 12pm on Monday 26th April at the Craft Centre, Longnor Square

10am til 12pm on Saturday 15st May at Waterhouses Police Post

If you can suggest and are able to provide a venue which you believe may be beneficial and accessible to the community please get in touch.

A surgery will soon be set up at the school in Warslow. Once the dates are finalised I will let you know.

If you need any advice on Policing issues contact myself Pc Andy Beresford or one of my colleagues at Waterhouses; Pc Brian Millward and PCSO Paul Flowers.

For non-emergency matters contact us on **0300 123 44 55** asking for your local officers.

If I'm not in the office you can leave me a voicemail message. I check this every duty day. You can also email me on andrew.beresford@staffordshire.pnn.police.uk

In the event of an emergency you should always ring 999 and even if there are no Waterhouses officers available there is continual 24 hour cover from one of our neighbouring stations.

Paid box adverts at £2/month (£20/year) to be in all editions of the Parish Magazine. Advertisements welcome.

Mobile Library

Quarnford/Flash	Springhead Road Junction	10.25 - 10.35
	Flash School	10.45 - 11.30
	Travellers Rest	11.35 - 11.55
	Lower Summerhill	12.00 - 12.05
	Colshaw Lane End	12.10 - 12.15
Hollinsclough	Chapel	12.25 - 12.55
Longnor	The Square	2.05 - 2.35
	Old Saw Mill	2.40 - 2.45
Barrowmoor	Badgers Croft	2.50 - 3.00
Reapmoor	Swallow Moss	3.20 - 3.25
	Park House	3.30 - 3.35

Friday 12th Mar, 26th Mar

Sheen	Dovefield	12.35 - 12.45
	Cross Cottage	1.55 - 2.05
	Ball Ridge Farm	2.10 - 2.20
	Woolaway	2.25 - 2.40

Monday 8th Mar, 22nd Mar

Lent Lunches

On Thursdays this month, there is an opportunity to gather to share in a simple meal at 12.30pm. We are going to hold these lunches in different parts of the benefice, and I hope that you will be able to join us, and meet up with people from the different churches. There will be the chance to make a donation to an appropriate charity.

The venues for the lunches are:

Thurs. 4 th	The Vicarage
Thurs. 11 th	Quarnford Church
Thurs. 18 th	Sheen Church
Thurs. 25 th	Newtown Church

I hope to see you at one or more of these.

James Forrester

In Touch Project



Staffordshire Moorlands CVS has been asked by Health and Social Care to pilot a project in the Dane and Manifold Wards. The In Touch project brings together a package of preventative services available to older people in their own homes. The services will be provided by a number of different organisations such as Beat the Cold, North Staffordshire Home Improvement Agency, Staffordshire Fire and Rescue, North Staffordshire Age Concern and the Financial Assessment and Benefits Team.

For the project to be successful we need to make direct contact with residents in the Dane and Manifold Wards who qualify for the scheme. Residents need to be 60 years and over. I am sure there are many people who would welcome loft insulation, checks on their smoke alarms, electric blankets etc, adaptations to their home. Some residents may not be claiming the appropriate state benefits. Help is at hand for a variety of services.

Prepaid request cards have been circulated to all villages in the Dane and Manifold Wards and are available in village halls or shops where appropriate. Alternatively please give Sheila Allen a call on 01538 398689 or e.mail: sheilaallen@smcvs.co.uk.

We are here to help and provide a friendly service.

Hollinsclough Chapel

I would warmly invite you to come to Hollinsclough at 10.00 - 12.00 on the **4th and 25th March** to reflect together on passages in Mark's Gospel which speak of Jesus' journey to the cross. There will be time for quiet and space as well as listening and conversation.

Colin Smith

Flash and Longnor First Responders Monthly News

www.falfr.org.uk

Hi Folks, The past month has been quite a busy one with a wide variety of callouts including, inevitably, some caused by the icy conditions. The new system of activating only the nearest on duty vehicle, which is tracked by its radio, means that two, or even on some occasions three, CFR vehicles don't all turn up to a call. It is more sensible, but we do miss the old pagers all the same, even though they had us chasing all over the place!

Donations this month are very gratefully received from: Mrs Jennifer Davies who held a Domino knockout competition at the Rock Inn in memory of Richard Elkes and raised £145, The Butchers Arms at Reapsmoor who had a Bingo Night and raised £104.17 and Michela Griffith's Longnor Calendar made a final total of £163.01. Thank you all very much.

We have a new responder in the group who has successfully completed her initial training and look forward to her becoming fully active very soon. There are only four of us able to respond

regularly and six more who do the best they can to fit being on duty around busy lives, so we are very pleased to welcome Sarah and any more who think they could give some time to help their community.

Keep your ears open for news of Emma Wentworth and the London Marathon, she will be looking for some sponsorship and details are on the web site but we will also have some forms. A date for your diaries and another fund raiser: Saturday 8th May at the Winking Man a Hog Roast and music and entertainment with the Houghton Weavers, more details later.

KEEP WELL and KEEP SAFE

*For any information about fundraising or if you would like to train to become a First Responder please contact;
Peter Baker – 01298 83120
Jackie Ellis – 01298 83436*



Teddies for Tragedies

Teddies have come to us from two church groups in the Macclesfield area, as a result of someone seeing our Parish Magazine. With their help, a further 116 teddies were sent to Haiti in February.

Deadline for the Magazine

All material should be delivered to Lynda by 20th February for the March edition. Please send to Mrs. L. Bricklebank, Cottage of Content, Hollinsclough, Buxton, SK17 0RG Telephone 01298 83541 or email lynda@coatetown.freeserve.co.uk



Used Postage Stamps

Thank you to all the people who leave stamps in our churches. Please try to leave a narrow strip round each stamp. The last two sacks of stamps were sent to the Leprosy Mission - another sack is filling up quickly.

Leek and District Historical Society

present a fundraising event to help keep the Staffordshire Hoard in the local area

Tuesday 30th March, 7.30pm

At The Swan, St. Edward St. Leek

with music by Piva

and a talk by Dr Philip Morgan

Tickets in advance £5 [available from Leek library + Historical Society Committee members] or pay on the door £6

All proceeds to go to the Staffordshire Hoard Appeal Fund

These sentences (with all the BLOOPERS) actually appeared in church bulletins or were announced in church services. The last one is always the best.....

The sermon this morning: 'Jesus Walks on the Water.' The sermon tonight: 'Searching for Jesus.'

Remember in prayer the many who are sick of our community. Smile at someone who is hard to love. Say 'Hell' to someone who doesn't care much about you.

Don't let worry kill you off - let the Church help.

Miss Charlene Mason sang 'I will not pass this way again,' giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.

Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on October 24 in the church So ends a friendship that began in their school days.

Longnor

St. Bartholomew's Church News

Coffee morning in Church on Saturday 13th March at 10-30am. Please come and join us.



Thank-you to everyone who has already paid their magazine subscription. At the moment there are still a few outstanding. We would be grateful if you could give this to Mavis or any member of the PCC.

It is with great sadness that we have learned of the death of Piers Cook at the age of 41.

Piers was the Church Treasurer and a very valuable and popular member of the PCC for several years.

Our thoughts and prayers are with all his family at this difficult time.

Burials

8/12/09 Cyril Sigley aged 79

30/12/09 Mary Bestwick aged 86

4/2/10 Jane Dunne aged 91

9/2/10 Trevor Grimshaw aged 76

10/2/10 Stanley Riley aged 97

18/2/10 George Needham aged 86

In Loving Memory

Mary Bestwick



Family and friends gathered on New Year's Eve, to pay their respects to Mary Bestwick, of Buxton Road, Longnor, who died at Abbey Court care home, Leek, on Tuesday, December 22, aged 86. The funeral service was conducted by the Reverend James Forrester and was followed by interment in the churchyard.

Born Mary Broomhead, at Reapsmoor, on July 16, 1923, she was the eldest of 11 children, nine girls and two boys —all of whom attended school in Longnor.

On leaving school, she went to work for the Johnsons at Heath House Farm, Longnor, and later worked at Harley Grange Farm, Earl Sterndale.

In March 1948, Mary married Matthew Bestwick and they settled at Alstonefield. Their only son, Ronald, was born in 1948 and the family moved to Hartington where they made many friends. Eventually Mary and Matthew retired to Longnor to be closer to the family.

Sadly in 2001, Matthew died, but Mary remained in Longnor and enjoyed trips to Leek as she went shopping with her late sister Norah.

Mary liked walking and cooking. One of her favourite memories was a holiday in North Wales many years ago.

Mary will be sadly missed by her son Ron, his partner Olga, granddaughter Caroline and members of the Broomhead family

Art For Health

Mondays 2pm - 4pm

1st March - Hartington Village Hall

8th March - Biggin Village Hall

15th & 29th March - Longnor Church

(Balcony Room - Stair Access)

Allotments in Longnor - Interested?
Longnor Parish Council are looking into the possibility of getting allotments for the residents of Longnor. If you would like to have an allotment please let a parish councillor know of your interest.
Longnor Parish Council

ST BARTHOLOMEW'S EASTER DAFFODILS

ORDERS ARE NOW BEING TAKEN FOR DAFFODILS FOR OUR EASTER DISPLAY IN CHURCH IN MEMORY OF LOVED ONES. WE KNOW THAT THIS DISPLAY IS GREATLY VALUED BY MANY IN THE LOCAL COMMUNITY AS AN OPPORTUNITY TO REMEMBER THOSE WHO HAVE PASSED INTO THE GREATER LIGHT OF GOD'S PRESENCE. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SPONSOR THIS EVENT PLEASE COMPLETE THE ATTACHED FORM AND RETURN IT, TOGETHER WITH YOUR PAYMENT OF £1 PER NAME, TO ANY MEMBER OF LONGNOR PCC BY SATURDAY 27th MARCH THIS WILL GIVE US TIME TO PLACE THE ORDER AND ARRANGE THE DISPLAY FOR EASTER SUNDAY.

EASTER SATURDAY.

COULD YOU HELP TO GET THE CHURCH READY FOR EASTER DAY BY ARRANGING THE DAFFODILS? IF SO COME ALONG TO THE CHURCH ON SATURDAY 3rd APRIL AT 2PM.

EASTER DAFFODIL ORDER SLIP.

I would like to order Daffodils in memory of.....
.....
.....
.....

At £1 per name..... TOTAL.....

Longnor & District
Pre-School Playgroup
High quality care and education for 2-5 year-olds Ofsted rated: GOOD

Opening times: Mon, Tues, Wed, term time
9.15am-12.15, 12.45-3.15pm
Lunch Club 12.15-12.45

- A small, friendly group based in the Surestart room at St Bartholomew's School, Longnor, offering a wide range of exciting experiences for your child in safe, secure surroundings.
- As well as a secure outdoor play area within the school grounds, we regularly use the adjacent brilliant new outdoor *Breathing Place* at St Bartholomew's School, and of course Longnor Village Playground

· New! All-organic snack-times!

tel: 01298 83233 (ask for Heather)
info@ playgroup.st-bartholomews-longnor.org.uk
www.playgroup.st-bartholomews-longnor.org.uk
Reg. Charity: 1044161 Ofsted: 218187



LONGNOR PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 11th January 2010

Present: Councillors - C Stevenson, S Turrell, R Mellor, F Dunbar, K Dunn, & S Samuels

Apologies: T Storer

Minutes of previous meeting - These were approved as read.

Matters arising from Minutes

- 1 **Car Parking** - Harry will draft letter for PC. Date of notification was 22nd July 2009.
Action - Clerk to give dates of Advertisement & notification to Mr Gould to Harry.
- 2 **Councillors Boards** - Chris thanked Fi for finishing boards.
Action - Chris to get them framed.
- 3 **Traffic calming - High Street, Riverview, Longnor approaches and Gauledge road signs - Queen street, Narrowing sign & Street sign outside Riverview** - No signs and no reply from SCC. Let SCC know how disappointed PC are with length of time taken to finalise.
Action - Clerk to find out about complaints procedures.
- 4 **Street lighting** - Dark spots identified were Lane next to Cheshire Cheese pub, intersection of church street and chapel street. Suggest pay church to keep light going through night on gate. PC to pay for any electric work required.
Action - Write to Church Council for opinion.
- 5 **Lane Head conditions** - No more news.
Action - remind Mather James of visit.
- 6 **Playground area** - Fi spoke with person responsible for Monyash play area. They said they were not happy with the contractors they used. Looking at using local people for surfacing area. Dean Goodwin contacted Fi and said he would like to help with the grant application for the equipment. All agreed he did a good job with the grant for skateboard ramps.
Action - Fi to take to next stage.
Action - Invite Dean to meeting.
- 8 **Wall on left of Leek Road** - No news but owner is aware of poor condition of wall.
Action - Chris to have another word.
- 9 **Lease on market square** - Still need more people to write in. Put copies of standard letter in corner shop.
Action - Chris to re-send standard letter from Gail to Clerk
- 10 **Grids Map** - Waiting to hear more from SCC about scheme allowing PCs to obtain maps.
Action - Clerk to get map.
- 11 **Youth Club Bus** - Will attend meeting soon.
- 12 **Lights and small trees outside Businesses & New Xmas lights** - All agreed the new Xmas lights looked really good this year.
Action - Thank you letter to Peter Fox for electric supply.
- 13 **Mill lane, Waynes Lane & Community Action Gang** - . Check if Waynes lane done when weather permits.
When will the Gang be in Longnor again?
Action - Email Gill Heath and ask her.
- 15 **Notice board above Craft centre** - Quote from Peter Fox.
Action - Chris & clerk to fill in form for PP for 50% grant.
- 16 **Allotments** - Sarah phoned ACC and they said need only 6 people to show interest for council to have to do

something about it.

Action - Fi to discuss further with AG.

Action - Write to Charlotte Atkins to ask what she can do about it.

Action - Note to be put in Church magazine asking for interested persons to contact PC.

Action - Ask land owners if willing to rent out some land.

- 17 **New vicar** - Look forward to meeting Rev. Forrester soon at a meeting.

Action - Write letter and invite to a meeting.

- 18 **Junction of A515 with Buxton road** - leave on till hear from Councillor Chris Jackson again about consultation.

- 19 **Planning applications** - SPCA - Training course on 4th Feb. 4 councillors interested in attending.

Action - book 4 places

- 20 **Photos of old maps** - Chris has safe place to store them.

Action - Fi needs measurements of tubes required to preserve maps.

- 21 **Queen street Grid** - reported to Clarence ref- 0935863

Action - check and confirm if done when it rains again.

- 22 **Roads covered in mud** - Roy had word with farmers concerned.

- 23 **HGVs through village** - The weight limit signs were only temporary so can do nothing about it

- 24 Fi - Problem of people dogs fouling in church yard.

Action - raise with vicar - if can put no dogs sign on gate temporarily.

- 25 **Memorial Wreath** - Chris has cost of wreath from Teresa.

Action - Chris to give cheque to Teresa.

Any other business

Simon - Skip collector van on Crewe carpark has not been for 5-6 weeks.

- A Action - Telephone SMDC recycling department and ask what has happened?

- B Ken - Residents have made it known to him that the corner of Gaulege Lane and Leek road desperately needs some grit on it. A grit bin used to be positioned there. Clerk said she had been informed of two places where grit bins were required so ordered them through the Clarence number.

- C Roy - Who is responsible for condition of pavements when it snows. Letter from SCC read out saying only A and B roads were being gritted now to conserve supplies.

Action - find out who responsible.

Parish Precept - no increase - all councillors present voted and unanimously agreed to leave precept at £6800.

- D Chris and Simon signed form.

Action - post form back to SMDC.

Best kept village competition - Chris said village is looking good so why not have a go at it. All agreed.

- E Action - Chris to look at what involved in applying.

Correspondence

SMDC - Weekly Planning applications - none for Longnor.

Usual

Cheques Written

11/01/10	G Tilson	1391	Adventure playground	£ 70.00	Approved
11/01/10	G Roe	1392	Lengthsman	£139.97	Approved
11/01/10	Mrs T Riley	1393	Memorial Wreath	£tba	Approved

Receipts - none

Date of next monthly meeting

Next monthly meeting - 1st February 2010 at 7.30pm in the School.

Minutes of Longnor Action Group meeting, Wednesday 27th January 2010

Present: S Kidd, J O'Neill, D O'Neill, R Kebble, G Kebble

Apologies: S Kitchen, L Hall, P Baker

The minutes from the previous meeting were read and agreed as a true record.

1. Christmas Market

Requests for funding need to be in place by the end of March 2010 if this project is to be progressed in December 2010, JON to contact NR to ensure that this item is discussed at the parish council meeting on Monday 1st February.

JON

2. Play Equipment

Consultation with all interested parties now complete, formal proposal now required from parish council to progress application.

3. Market Square

No further update at time of meeting.

4. Refuse Wagon

No update on refuse wagon situation available at meeting.

5. Village hall

Update needed from parish council.

Next meeting: Wednesday 3rd March 2010 at 7.30pm in the church room.

SMCVS Comments

Gaynor from the Community Development Team would just like to reiterate their support for items 2 and 3. They will also be happy to meet with the individuals concerned to see where best they can support.



News from St Bartholomew's School ...

We missed the February deadline for the magazine due to Miss Coates retiring as she

always sent our contributions in for the magazine. Miss Coates retired at Christmas and we wish her all the best for the future. She is missed by the staff and pupils.

We came back to school on the 4th January and due to the very snowy conditions the school closed just for the Tuesday and Wednesday and the following week we were closed on the Monday. The staff struggled through on the other days and school was open as usual. Most of our children live locally and so they didn't have a problem getting into school.

We had a non uniform day on Friday 22nd January for pupils and staff and raised a staggering amount of £116.00 for the Haiti earthquake appeal.

The Juniors took part in a 6 aside football tournament at Leek High School on Wednesday 27th January and although they came last they thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

KS2 children are well into their topic of the Tudors - they are enjoying learning about this exciting period of history - completing research, biographies and art work. KS1 children are busy learning about People who help us - we have had lots of visitors into school to talk about their work. Children have interviewed Rev. Forrester and Mrs Jackie Bills who is a nurse on the accident and emergency unit at North Staffs hospital.

The children are supporting an ex pupil who is serving in Afghanistan with letters and cards.

We are currently preparing for Lent with pancakes and celebrating the Chinese New Year. The snowdrops are beginning to appear and it will soon be time to plant seeds etc. and watch the miracle that is spring unfold before our eyes.

Quarnford St. Paul's Church News

**A date for your diary:-
Saturday, 3rd July 7.30pm
An evening with the Salvation Army
Band and Songsters
St. Paul's, Quarnford**

New Roof

Work is to begin this month but church services will not be disrupted. Now that (hopefully) the bad weather is over, it would be lovely to see more people in church. Mothering Sunday is on the 14th and Palm Sunday on the 28th is also the date when summer time begins. Easter Sunday falls on the first Sunday in April and Val or Janet would love to hear from anyone willing to donate flowers for Easter.

Although work is beginning, we are still a long way from raising the funds for the roof.

Donations

Donations are gratefully received from Glenys Mycock, Cheryl Rogers and from Judith Naden and Sam Limer in memory of Gerald Cooper.

Roof appeal donations are individually acknowledged.

Quarnford Quest

Winners for February are:- 1st J. Naden

2nd P. Roberts

3rd G. Bennett

Thank you to all our members. The Quest scheme helps with the maintenance of church and churchyard.

From the Registers

We entrust him to God's merciful keeping
25th January Gerald Cooper Aged 71 years.

More Bloopers

The ladies of the Church have cast off clothing of every kind. They may be seen in the basement on Friday afternoon.

This evening at 7 PM there will be a hymn singing in the park across from the Church. Bring a blanket and come prepared to sin.

The pastor would appreciate it if the ladies of the Congregation would lend him their electric girdles for the pancake breakfast next Sunday.

Low Self Esteem Support Group will meet Thursday at 7 PM. Please use the back door.

The eighth-graders will be presenting Shakespeare's Hamlet in the Church basement Friday at 7 PM. The congregation is invited to attend this tragedy.

Weight Watchers will meet at 7 PM at the First Presbyterian Church. Please use large double door at the side entrance.

The Associate Minister unveiled the church's new campaign slogan last Sunday:
'I Upped My Pledge - Up Yours.'

Sheen

FEBRUARY HUNDRED CLUB RESULTS

1 st No 124	Cliff Green	£20
2 nd No 128	David Gould	£15
3 rd No 26	David Belfield	£10
4 th No 6	Genevieve Thompson	£7
5 th No 35	Sheila Smith	£6
6 th No 44	Hilda Critchlow	£5

Thank you, to all 126 Members

If anyone would like to join the Hundred Club please contact Ann, George or any member of the PCC it costs just £12 for the year. Half the funds goes out in prize money and the other half goes to church funds.

LEGACY - We would like to thank the family of Maude Holland deceased for the generous legacy left in her memory to St Luke's Church.

DONATIONS - we would like to thank the following people for their generous donations made to St Luke's Church from Audrey Morson and family in the memory of Les Morson who passed away 18th February 1998, from the Rutherford family to celebrate Harry's christening and one anon donation to the fabric fund.

PCC MEETING -Tuesday 2nd March at 7.30pm.

MOTHERS DAY SERVICE - 14th March please come along and join us. There will be a posy for every mother that comes. If anyone is able to help make the posies for the service we will meet in church on Saturday 13th March at 11am to make them.

LENT LUNCH -Thursday 18th March in Sheen Village Hall from 12.00 noon until 1pm. Lunch will consist of choice of homemade soups, bread and a cup of tea or coffee. You give a donation for the cost of your lunch. If anyone requires transport to attend please contact Ann or George and transport will be arranged.

FLOWERS - no flowers because it's Lent.

BRASS CLEANING - The Gould family.

WHIST DRIVE - 19th March at 8pm in Sheen Village Hall. In aid of St Luke's Church.

VILLAGE HALL MEETING - 8th March at 8pm everyone is welcome to attend and if you have any good fun raising ideas please come along.



AEROBICS CLASS -The first class will be 18th March at 7pm Thursday at 7pm in Sheen Village Hall with Wendy. All

you need is loose fitting clothes, pair of trainers and a bottle of water. The class costs £2.50 per session. For more information phone Pam 84809 or Julie 84507.

GET WELL wishes to Freda Critchlow and Sheila Cope.

BAPTISMS - we would like to welcome Harry Jeffery Rutherford and Archie James Bennett in to Gods family they were both baptised on the 7th February 2010.

POST OFFICE OPENINGS IN SHEEN - Monday mornings 9am to 1pm in Sheen Village Hall.

Sheen Village Hall

A belated and big thank you to all who came along to the New Year's Eve Party, once again it was a great success with ticket sales raising £200 for the Village Hall funds. If you fancy a reminder of the evening's events then please contact Helen Critchlow on 01298 687021 to order your DVD of the party. These are being sold at £3 with all proceeds for Village Hall funds.

ST PAUL'S CHURCH NEWTOWN

Our fundraising for the Church bible restoration has now reached the halfway stage thanks to the generosity of local people and we hope to achieve our target by the end of next month when the work will commence.

A Lent lunch will be held during March.

A new date for your diary is Friday April 9th at 7.30 pm when we hope to hold a cheese and wine evening, further details in next month magazine.

Our thoughts and condolences go to the family of the late Mr. Stan Riley who was Treasurer at St Paul's for many years.

Hollinsclough Hollinsclough School



We are delighted to welcome Evana from Buxton and Grace from the Gollin.

On February 26th the plant-pot wrappers and the daffodil bulbs planted for "Mini Pots of Care" will be judged. Watch this space for the results.

The PTA has organised a film night on Saturday February 27th.

Contractors will be in over half term replacing the shelving and cupboards throughout the school.

On the evening of March 2nd parents are invited in to review the children's individual learning programme and on March 4th each child will be allowed to dress up as his/her favourite character to celebrate World Book Day.

On March 8th the children will visit a local river to explore the habitat. They will be helped in this by experts from the Wild Trout River Trust and Severn Trent. They will also be setting up equipment for rearing mayflies to be released later as food for the wild trout.

Both parents and children will be learning First Aid with the First Aid Responders on March 11th, including members of the Stay and Play Group. As part of the RE syllabus there will be a visit to Bishop Rawle School to take part in their celebration of the eucharist. This links in closely with the production of a play to teach the Easter Story. We are very grateful that the Rev'd James Forrester and the Rev'd Colin Smith

have agreed to take an assembly a week, one on one week and the other on the next.

A performance of dance at Leek High School is scheduled for March 17th and on the 18th the children will be taking part in the "Crucial Crew" event at Tittesworth. This teaches personal safety and involves the police, fire, ambulance and other services. A visit to Little Moreton Hall on March 19th is part of the study of the Tudors by KS2 children.

On March 22nd a drama group "Going Global" is coming to do a performance which will enhance our study of Africa, with special reference to life in Kenya. The PTA will be holding their monthly Film Club on the evening of March 27th

The 31st of March will be especially hectic, since in the morning there will be a live music concert by a peripatetic music group called K2M and in the afternoon we are taking part in a swimming gala at Waterhouses. The school breaks up for Easter on April 1st and returns on April 19th.

The school prospectus is now available from the school website www.hollinsclough.staffs.sch.uk then follow the link, or a copy can be ordered/ collected/ e-mailed from the school office. For any parents who might be interested the e-mail address is office@hollinsclough.staffs.sch.uk

History Live

History Live meets on the first Wednesday of the month from September until April in Hollinsclough Chapel Hall at 7.30pm. Our famous refreshments are included in the entrance fee of £2.50 for non-members and £1.50 for members. We are a very friendly group who love to welcome new faces and to catch up with old friends.

This month, Alan Roberts, author of Coal Mines around Buxton and Turnpike Roads around Buxton, will speak to us about his new book about the mills of the River Wye.

For more details contact Victoria 01298 83721

Action Group

Next meeting Monday 1st March at 7.30 pm in the Chapel Hall. Everyone welcome.

The Parish Office will be closing in May and we will then hold a sale of various items of stationery and PC peripherals. Details will be published nearer to the time.

We are considering having 'nature' talks at alternative meetings. These will include birds, wild flowers, geology etc. All talks will concentrate solely on our local fauna & flora and will include identification, how we can support wildlife etc.; in fact, whatever people would like to know. We hope that this might appeal to a number of people in the community. All talks will be held in the Chapel Hall - First Monday in the month at 19.30, first date to be agreed.

We are offering 2 land drainage pipes for sale and also asking for tenders to lay grass gridding in Hollinsclough.
Victoria Rowe

Offers are invited for:-

**Two black plastic land drainage pipes
approximately 23 feet long and 17 inches internal diameter**

Contact 01298 83307 to view
Offers to Victoria on 01298 83721
Closing date for offers: 5.00pm March 20th 2010

Tender for Grass Gridding

Tenders are invited to lay grass gridding in Hollinsclough, close to the telephone box.

There are 100 honeycomb grids measuring 2'x1' to be laid on an appropriate hardcore base.

Will tenderers please include all other raw materials within their bid.

Please note that any tenderers digging up the ground must be insured with the County Council.

There are some additional grids in storage and the successful bidder will be asked to lay these based on the same square footage rate.

Please submit your bids by midnight on March 31st 2010 to:

Victoria Rowe, The New Farm, Hollinsclough.

Tel 01298 83721

or v.rowe352@btinternet.com

Registered Charity: 1106152

Hollinsclough Chapel

Services for March:-

All at 2.30pm

7th Rev Colin Smith Holy Communion

14th At Earl Sterndale Mothering Sunday

21st Deacon Janet Heys

28th LA

A bean supper will be held on Tuesday evening in the church hall. Music will follow.

At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be 'What Is Hell?' Come early and listen to our choir practice.

Eight new choir robes are currently needed due to the addition of several new members and to the deterioration of some older ones.

Please place your donation in the envelope along with the deceased person you want remembered.

Warslow

**Warslow Church Lent Lunch
On Monday, 22nd March
At Warslow Hall
Time 12 - 2pm
Proceeds to St. Lawrence's
Church, Warslow
And Bishop of Lichfield's Lent
Appeal
All Welcome**

**Whist Drive
Whist Drive at Warslow Village
Hall
March 22nd at 8pm**

Manifold Pre School

Open from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. Monday to Friday.
Admission from 2 years old with funded places
for 3 year olds.
Ofsted registered : 218188.
Planned activities based on Early Years
Foundation.
All activities based in the safety of the Manifold
Primary School site.

Please contact us to arrange a visit or to register
your child to secure a place for future years.
Contact the Pre School Leader Sarah Broadley on
01298 84320 at Manifold Primary School.

*The church will host an evening of fine dining,
super entertainment and gracious hospitality.*

*Potluck supper Sunday at 5:00 PM - prayer and
meditation to follow.*

From the Readership

The word 'March' comes from the Roman
'Martius'. This was originally the first
month of the Roman calendar and was named

after Mars, the god of war. March used to
be the first month of our calendar year. We
changed to the 'New Style' or 'Gregorian
calendar in 1752, and it is only since then
when we the year began on 1st January.

Another name for March- The Anglo-Saxons
called the month Hlyd monath which means
Stormy month, or Hraed monath which means
Rugged month.

The March Equinox Explained

The March equinox will occur on March 20 in
2010, marking the beginning of spring in the
northern hemisphere and autumn in the
southern hemisphere from an astronomical
viewpoint.

Twice a year, around March 20 or 21 and
September 22 or 23, the sun shines directly
on the equator and the length of day and
night are nearly equal in all parts of the
world. These two days are known as the
March (vernal or spring in the northern
hemisphere) equinox and the Autumnal
equinox.

What does equinox mean?

The word "equinox" derives from the Latin
words meaning "equal night" and refers to
the time when the sun crosses the equator.
At such times, day and night are everywhere
of nearly equal length everywhere in the
world.

It is important to note that while the March
equinox marks the beginning of spring in the
northern hemisphere, it is the start of
autumn in many parts of the southern
hemisphere.

Nearly Equal?

During the equinox, the length of night and
day across the world is nearly, but not
entirely, equal. This is because the day is
slightly longer in places that are further
away from the equator, and because the sun

takes longer to rise and set in these locations. Furthermore, the sun takes longer to rise and set farther from the equator because it does not set straight down - it moves in a horizontal direction.

During the March equinox, the length of daylight is about 12 hours and eight to nine minutes in areas that are about 30 degrees north or south of the equator, while areas that are 60 degrees north or south of the equator observe daylight for about 12 hours and 16 minutes. Many regions around the equator have a daylight length about 12 hours and six-and-a-half minutes during the March equinox.

Historical Fact

A Greek astronomer and mathematician named Hipparchus (ca. 190-ca.120 BCE) was attributed by various sources to have discovered the precession of the equinoxes, the slow movement among the stars of the two opposite places where the sun crosses the celestial equator. Hipparchus made observations of the equinox and solstice.

March Equinox across Cultures

In the northern hemisphere the March equinox marks the start of spring and has long been celebrated as a time of rebirth. Many cultures and religions celebrate or observe holidays and festivals around the time of the March equinox, such as the Easter holiday period.

Extracts from an antiquarian book. Abolition of Toll-Gates

On November 1st, 1873 the tolls ceased to be collected at the following gates, bars and chains:- Leek Edge gate, Flash gate, and side-gate, Longnor gate, Monyash gate, Mab's chain, Ladmanlow gate and side-gate and Crowdecote gate and side-gate.



OPEN FOR BUSINESS

Cobbles Deli has now been open for 6 months, its flown by! We have met some amazing producers in that time and our range of fine foods has gone from strength to strength.

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<p>Open weekdays 10:00 until 17:00 and weekends 09:00 until 17:00</p>		

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From the Manse

Dear Friends,

I remember a few years ago purchasing a new computer over the phone. The sales assistant asked me, "Do you want wireless?" "What a silly question," I thought. "If I'd wanted a radio, I'd have bought one!" Little did I realise that what I was really being offered a computer which would communicate with the outside world without being connected by wires.

A few weeks ago, visiting Ireland, I took my new laptop computer with me. This one has wireless and in my hotel room I could pick up my emails and reply to them. To my surprise the hotel also provided those old fashioned means of communication, paper and envelopes. I decided to write my brother a chatty letter and posted it (at the high cost of 0.82 euros)

Talking to my brother, Graham, he said how nice it was to get a letter. He hadn't had a hand-written letter for some time. It made us reminisce about the letters both our parents sent us, first when we were away at school and then later in our lives. Sadly, we've thrown many of them away but we still have some of them. Often they contain news, sometimes suggestions or advice (not always welcome at the time!), but always they finished with words of love and care. In a way, our parents still speak to us through them!

This all made me wonder what would have happened if the apostle, Paul, had communicated by email. Would his emails have been opened, glanced at, and then forgotten before their words reached anyone else? If he'd sent a text message in quick response to an urgent enquiry, would it have been noted but soon deleted?

I'm very fond of my lap top and spend more time with it than I do with Caroline! Modern means of communication can be a wonderful way of quickly giving and receiving information. Yet, questions are being raised about the dangers of children and adults living more and more in a "virtual world" and not one in which there is real personal contact whether it is by that hand-written letter or, even better, face to face contact.

Church, the gathering of the people of God, is decidedly low-tec - even in those churches full of modern equipment. It is about people meeting together in an encounter which is both human and divine. In many acts of worship we listen to words from letters written 2,000 years ago. I suspect Paul never imagined that they would have such an enormous readership! Nevertheless, the words he addressed to particular situations in Rome, Corinth and Galatia continue to speak to us.

In one famous letter, Paul reminds us that even more important than our words - whether written on an email, text message or in a letter - is the Spirit within us: "If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal." (1 Corinthians 13.1)

For Paul, the love of God is revealed most completely in a carpenter who goes the way that leads to a cross, trusting God, even as the darkness surrounds him. Jesus is God's profoundly personal way of communicating with us. He is "the word made flesh". This Lent, on the journey to the cross, we look at him and listen to his words with great care.

Christ's peace be with you. Colin

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Our shop is open 7 days a week, and we are situated just outside Longnor village, on the Warslow/Cheadle road - look out for the signs.

For price list or other enquiries please telephone or drop in.



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History Notes

Alstonefield Deanery Magazine

Longnor March, 1920

On February 5th, a happy wedding by licence took place at Longnor Church. Mr. James Cooper (widower of Lower Fold, Hurdsfield, Macclesfield, was the bridegroom, and the bride Miss Sarah Ann Lownds of Booseley Grange Farm. A quiet company assembled, with Mr. William Lownds (brother), Booseley Grange, and Miss Sarah Gould in attendance, the bride being given away by the former. The Vicar performed the ceremony, and on coming from the Church the whole party were according to old custom held up at the Gates as in the old Tollgate Days in Longnor, rather to receive than give, being the recipients of much rice and confetti, ere they passed the barriers to the liberty of a happy espousal. We wish them much happiness and God's blessing in future days.

We regret the loss by death of Mrs. Matthew Mellor, who for a long number of years has been midwife at Longnor. Her Christian example and Christian resignation during 15 weeks in bed was conspicuous. Her memory of the Bible and love for it was an indication of wise, early training. She will be much missed. God has called her to nobler service.

BURIALS.

Feb. 28-Bartle James Cundy, Fawside, aged 2 years.

Mar. 4 - Elizabeth Mellor, Town Head, aged 65 years.

A. E. H. STANHAM. BA.,
Vicar and Surrogate.

Quarnford

Baptism

Jan. 25 - Annie Elizabeth, daughter of John and Florence Brayne.

Burials

Feb. 9 - Joyce Newton, Gradbach House, aged 48 years. Feb. 17 - James Oliver, Wickencrough, aged 72 years. Feb. 19 - John Tunnicliffe, Blue Hills, aged 21 days.

Marriage Feb. 16 - Joseph Mellor, Wisley to Nellie Wood, Quarnford.

Sheen

Burials

Feb. 6 - Abraham Thomas Bury of Bank House aged 69 years. Feb. 14 - Elizabeth Ann Riley, High Sheen aged 14 days.

March, 1960

Longnor

Holy Baptism

Feb. 14 Tony John Storer.

Burial

Jan. 22 - Charles William Mellor aged 78 years.

Quarnford

Burial

Feb. 2 - Frank Belfield Spencer aged 76 years.

Sheen

Burials

Jan 23 - Arthur Howson of Ivy Cottage, Sheen. Feb. Frank Belfield Spencer died in this parish but buried in Quarnford.

Services in the Benefice for March

	Longnor	Quarnford	Sheen	Newtown	Reapsmoor	Hollinsclough Chapel	Gradbach Chapel
7 th	Evening Service 6.30pm		Morning Service 11.00am	Holy Communion 9.30am		Rev Colin Smith Holy Communion 2.30pm	
14 th Mothering Sunday	Family Service 11.00 am	Family Service 2.30pm	Holy Communion 6.30pm		Morning Service 9.30am	At Earl Sterndale	
21 st	Morning Service 9.30am	Holy Communion 11.15am	Evening Service 6.30pm			Deacon Janet Heys 2.30pm	
28 th Palm Sunday	Holy Communion 6.30pm	Morning Service 11.00am	Family Service 9.30am	Evening Service 4.30pm	Holy Communion 11.00am	LA	

Newtown - Short morning service 9.45 am each Thursday