

Colton Parish News

November 2025



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Colton Parish News is sponsored by:

The Parish Lands Trust, St. Mary's Church & the Parish Council



Church Services at St Mary's Church Colton

First Sunday	Holy Communion	11.00am
Second Sunday	Morning Worship	11.00am
Third Sunday	Holy Communion	11.00am
Fourth Sunday	Morning Worship	11.00am
Fifth Sunday	Service format will vary	11.00am
Keep Your eyes peeled for details of special Sunday Afternoon Events		

Colton Community Choir

Invite you to come along and join our group of Jolly singers. A group of enthusiastic amateurs who enjoy singing a variety of music. We meet every Monday at 7pm at St. Marys Church Colton.

Do come and join us.



Message from your editor



The annual Christmas Fair is taking place on November 30th in the village hall at 12:00 with a visit from the main man himself at 1:15. This popular event raises ever needed funds to continue to maintain the village hall for future generations and I hope that I will see you there. Further details on page 19, including a request for raffle prizes and contributions to Shirley's bags.

This years Remembrance Service will take place on Sunday 9th at 11 am and the road through the village will be closed until after the service.

Best wishes

All Items for inclusion in the NEXT EDITION

Must reach the Editor by 15th of THIS MONTH



coltonparishnews@gmail.com

Thank you Fiona O'Brien Editor

Colton Friendship Club

Request for Donations for our Christmas Fayre Stall

Colton Friendship Club will, once again, have a stall at the Christmas Fayre on Sunday 30th November.

The stall will be a 'Chocolate Tombola' and members are asked to donate the chocolate related prizes. I wondered if anybody in the community would also like to donate some chocolate based items for the cause? All profits made from the stall will go in to Friendship Club Funds and if there is any chocolate items left over at the end of the Fayre, I will take it to Rugeley Food Bank for distribution to local children who otherwise may not have a sweet treat this Christmas.

If you feel able to donate something, it can either be dropped in to my house at 3 Coachman's Walk, Bellamour Way, Colton or, contact me on 01889 586 379 and I will arrange collection.

Thank you so much for your consideration.

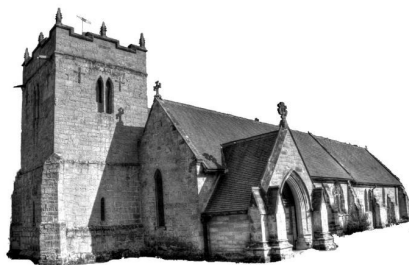
Karen Hill

On behalf of Colton Friendship Club

St Mary's Church Contacts

For all Funerals, Weddings, Baptism & any Pastoral Needs

Please contact Revd Lynne Dean



St Mary's Church
Colton

Church Warden

Rachel Bayliss

24 Moorcroft ws153ND

rachel.bayliss@outlook.com

07792 234720

Messages to Parochial Church Council

vacant

Resident priest

The Revd Lynne Dean

The New Rectory,

Bellamour Way,

Colton WS15 3JW

07736 972560 lanternlit@hotmail.com

Rector

Prebendary Simon Davis

The Vicarage

Marke Place

Abbots Bromley Ws15 3BP

01283 840242

revdsimon@gmail.com

Mrs Olive Ballard

Reader Emeritus

20 High St

Colton

Church Warden

Mrs Victoria Hawley

The Old Rectory

Bellamour Way

01889576050

07939003153

Messages to Colton Parish Council

Ms Alison Parnell

Apartment 48

Handsacre Court

Ws15 1PQ

07969266779

Colton.pc@hotmail.com



Colton Parish Council

The Parish Council meet on the first Wednesday of the month in the Village Hall commencing at 7:30 pm unless advised to the contrary.

Members of the public are welcome to attend and should note their participation is limited to a maximum 20 minutes at the beginning of the meeting when questions and comments from the public are taken

Parish Council Elected members

Chairman

No one elected at Annual meeting.
Councillors will take turns to chair meetings

Clerk to the Council

Ms Alison James
Apartment 48
Handsacre Court
Rugeley
Mob 07969266779
Email colton.pc@hotmail.co.uk

Nigel Parry

Bank Top House

75 High St

Colton

Mob 07968823066

Email njp5@blueyonder.co.uk

Noel Talbot

22 Moorcroft

Colton

Mob 07850655807

Email noeltalbot@hotmail.co.uk

Garren Edwards

Mob 07890103450

Email garren_edwards@hotmail.com

Richard Montbiot

Mob 07710864138

Email richard@richardmonbiot.com

November Letter for the Benefice Magazines

Dear friends,

November is often described as a month of remembering — and in the rhythm of the Church's year, that remembering becomes a kind of prayer. As the landscapes of our villages soften into greys and golds, and the evenings draw in, our worship turns to memory, thanksgiving, and hope.

We begin with **All Saints' Day**, when we celebrate the great company of the faithful — not only the famous names of history, but all those whose lives have quietly reflected the light of Christ. And on **All Souls' Day**, we hold before God those we have loved but see no longer. In the sacramental life of the Church, our remembering is never just nostalgia. It is an act of communion — an affirmation that love endures, and that in Christ, heaven and earth are woven together.

A few days later, our villages gather for **Remembrance Sunday**. These moments at the war memorials, often in the cold stillness of a November morning, seem to touch something very deep in the English soul. The sound of the Last Post, the names read aloud, the silence — all remind us of both the cost of human conflict and the preciousness of peace. It is not a glorification of war, but a longing for God's peaceable kingdom: where swords are turned to ploughshares, and divisions are healed.

Then we move into what the Church calls the **Kingdom Season** — those few weeks between Remembrance and **Christ the King**. It is a time of waiting and wondering, when our readings speak of endings and beginnings, of judgment and renewal, of the world as it might be if shaped by the justice and mercy of God. The Kingdom Season invites us to see the world sacramentally: to recognise the signs of God's reign breaking into the ordinary — in compassion, in generosity, in truth-telling, in reconciliation.

This is not about a distant heaven, but about the transformation of creation here and now. This month, we hold to a faith that is both mystical and practical — we glimpse the divine in beauty, in humanity, in bread and wine, and we are called to live that vision out in daily acts of love and justice.

By the time we reach **Christ the King**, the last Sunday of the Church's year, our gaze is lifted beyond remembrance and reflection to the fullness

of God's purpose — that all things will be gathered up in Christ, and that love will have the final word.

Then, almost without pause, Advent begins — and we start again, watching and waiting for the coming of God in the vulnerability of a child.

May this month of remembrance and of the Kingdom Season deepen in us a sense of hope, a love for all God's people, and a renewed vision of the world as it could be — radiant with the light of Christ.

With every blessing,
Joe Chambers

Churchwarden, Great Haywood.

Colton Community Choir presents

AIRWAVES AND SILVER SCREENS

A Musical Journey

AN EVENING OF MUSIC FROM FILM, TV AND RADIO

SATURDAY 22ND NOVEMBER

AT 7PM

ST MARY'S CHURCH COLTON

Join us for an unforgettable night of melodies
from the big screen, small screen and the
airwaves

 Find us on:
facebook.

FREE ADMISSION
REFRESHMENTS INCLUDED

Observations From the Kitchen Window



It always amazes me that when women gather together in informal surroundings that so much useful information can emanate from their continuous chatter. 'Er Indoors is very adept at picking up such titbits! To give you an example. The Rev runs a craft class twice per month which is normally attended by about eleven participants. I am not convinced that they actually do much craft work (if any) because any time I call when on duty as 'Er Indoors' porter- cum -chauffeur there is little creative activity, but it sounds very similar to a school playground.

As I understand it, many conversations are running simultaneously on a whole range of subjects which would not have been the case if there were any men as participants . There is no way any man would have been able to keep up with the flitting about and changes of subjects. As everyone knows, we men have to leave the multi-tasking to women.

'Er Indoors has an impressive skill of being able to sift out any of the snippets of information that are tumbling about the room. For example, one of the subjects under discussion was the quince harvest. Another was the cheerful subject of death. I don't know all the details of what was covered in this latter conversation (thank goodness!), but 'Er Indoors managed to focus on one interesting piece of information which she reported back to me. This was about Powers of Attorney for managing one's affairs when we become vegetables or generally dulally.

Now the relevance of this is that for a considerable time 'Er Indoors has been trying to convince me that I am neither indestructible nor immortal. So far she has not had much success! However I reluctantly conceded that it would be a good idea as a fail safe to set up the relevant Powers of Attorney, just in case she was correct.

My first instinct would normally have been to put this in the hands of our solicitor. But our recent experience of selling a property with all the palaver that went with it really made me have second thoughts. The whole transactional period was inordinately long with duplicate demands for information already provided, delays in answering emails, prevarication whenever an opinion or decision was requested, the reluctance to commit to a completion date. The last straw was seeing what they were going to charge for

the simple job of setting up this Power of Attorney . The process involves a basically standard form which needs to be filled in with information about 'Er Indoors and me which was already sitting in the solicitor's filing system. 'Er indoors had gathered that doing this on line was a relatively straightforward but fiddly undertaking. I decided to investigate.



So, with mixed feelings and with a bottle of wine to hand, I consulted the Internet. I was confronted with a long list of various sites offering the service for setting up a Power of Attorney. Some of these looked decidedly dodgy and verging on scams. I was concerned that, in keeping with my paranoia about the risk of being scammed, some of our information might be diverted for use in an untoward fashion. However, way down and near the bottom of the list, there was a .Gov.UK site which looked a lot more respectable and, most unexpectedly, reasonably priced. So in for a penny, in for a pound. As is typical of this sort of site featuring documentation created by the Civil Service or other bureaucracy, every box that needs to be filled in is accompanied by pages of notes, warnings and explanations. I spent some considerable time looking to discover whether there might be some hidden problems which might come back to bite us, I wanted to be sure we were not blindly setting up a process which might lead to issues of unadvertised cost or unintended consequences at a later time. Was this time to heed the advice that if something looks too good to be true it probably is? But in the end I was convinced that this site provided "what it said on the tin".

So I rolled my sleeves up and got stuck in. A few hours and several glasses of wine later, the job was done with all the required documents ready for registration and fees paid.

In common with most other people in Colton, we have had a huge crop of apples and we have been having the devil's own job of giving them away to anyone who wants them. Many passers-by, largely parents from the school have been taking some from the display on the roadside, but have made little impression on the total. Our own freezer is groaning under weight of apple pies and crumbles. We are thankful that our daughter-in-law has a horse called Gipsy which enjoys apples so another carrier bagful is awaiting collection. The quinces did not really go down too well with Gipsy previously! She would take one bite and then spit out the entire mouthful leaving daughter-in-law with a messy clearing up job.

Best regards from all at Sheringham



COLTON GARDEN & PRODUCE CLUB.

Hello once again. Our annual Harvest Supper in October was a great success, with everyone well fed and watered. Our next meeting is on Thursday the 6th of November at 7.30 pm where Catherine Baxter will be giving an illustrated talk on

Transylvania.

Although the weather has been unusually dry, some plants have flourished. The Dahlias, no matter what variety, have been wonderful and have continued to bloom as the weather has turned a little cooler. Even the Japanese Anemones have done well, and much to my surprise, I have had a late flowering Delphinium. The Fuschias have excelled this year, not only by their floral display, but also by the amount of growth the plants have made. Don't forget to protect them from any severe frosts that are being forecast by the ever-pessimistic weather sites. Put them next to the house, or if they are more delicate, cover or place them in a shed, greenhouse or garage. Remember to cut back any perennials once they have finished flowering, which will encourage root growth as well as tidying the garden ready for winter.



It should be time to clear and clean the greenhouse to prevent bugs from hibernating over winter - I have a problem as the tomatoes are still producing succulent fruits, but they will be ejected as soon as they show signs of failing! Still no excuse for not cleaning the pots, trays and staging in the greenhouse. If you have any fruit trees, now is the time to prune them – open up the centre of the tree by cutting out new shoots and any dead or dubious-looking signs of rot or die-back. Be sure to cut out any sections which have suspicious cancer growths developing. A task well worth doing to look after trees that have produced a fabulous harvest this year. The hedgerows show how great the fruit crops have been in 2025 – not quite sure how the birds are going to be able to consume the huge quantities of berries. That doesn't mean we can neglect our bird population, as they will need help through the shorter, cooler days to provide enough fat to protect them. Don't forget to clean the feeders, bird tables and drinking stations regularly, as well as keeping the food and fresh water supplies topped up.



Probably the most labour-intensive task at this time of year is sweeping up the huge quantities of leaves the trees shed. Some of you may wish to put these leaves into black plastic bags and let them decompose into a nutritious mulch for use in the spring. If not, bin them! It is crucial to keep the lawns free of any leaf accumulation, otherwise bugs will hibernate and bring problems next year, plus the lawn will be starved of light and fresh rain. If it is still fairly mild, the grass may still need to be cut, but remember to raise the cutters before doing so. I am not sure if parts of my lawn will recover from the drought, but I will have to wait and see. Autumn fruiting raspberries need to be cut back, and soft fruit bushes (currants and gooseberries) should be pruned once they have become dormant.

Garlic, onions, and shallots can be planted in free-draining soil or raised beds and then covered with fleece. If you wish to grow winter peas, beans and salads, they will need to be protected with cloches or plastic tunnels, but leave the ends open for ventilation to prevent rot setting in. Now is the time to plant bulbs in pots or borders, making sure you plant them 2 or 3 times their depth into the soil or compost – this will protect them from heavy frosts. Protect potted plants by raising them on feet or placing them on a gravelled area to prevent them from becoming waterlogged. Plants that are not fully hardy, such as agapanthus, should be protected by using straw, compost or a hessian bag – they will still need water, so do not cover them with plastic. Remember to collect all the fallen leaves affected by blackspot from under your roses, so they don't carry the disease over to next year.

Remove dead branches and dead flowers – I always do a light prune to keep them at a reasonable height and thus negate any wind rock damage through the winter. This is particularly important for climbing and large bush roses.

The growing season may be over, but there is plenty to do to make sure you are in a good position to start the new season of 2026. Keep those weeds under control, and the patio, steps and paths clean for a safe working environment – I use a spray for the hard areas called Wet and Forget. It works!! I hope you have cut those hedges and trimmed the Cupressus, Ivy and Laurel. And don't forget to keep those tools clean and sharp.

Happy Gardening to you All - keep smiling.

Peter Brightman – 07896521941 / 01889803678

Colton WI October Report



Members enjoyed a very entertaining talk from Joy Stephens this month. The title was 'My Time Inside' and we were pleased to hear that Joy didn't mean literally inside prison, but she told us of her time as a teacher at HMP Stafford.

Joy had wanted to be a teacher since the age of 11 and when asked by a careers officer during Sixth Form, she replied that she was going to be a teacher. The careers officer was looking bored during the interview, much to Joys disgust, and told her 'not to bother'. This comment made Joy even more determined, and she attended teacher training college as soon as she left school. Joy applied for 133 jobs after graduating and eventually obtained a teaching position in Essex. After 4 years in Essex she found a position in Loughborough. In 1985 Joy returned to Stafford to get married and saw a job advertised at HMP Stafford teaching inmates literacy, numeracy and basic computer operation. After a tough interview Joy started work and received lots of training before meeting the inmates.

Joy gave us a short history of the prison and explained that there had been a prison on the site since 1185!

Clergy were important to the rehabilitation of prisoners, and there were teachers of every faith who gave talks to the inmates with the hope of encouraging tolerance and understanding.

In 1961 the Home Office took responsibility for education; the gym and football proved popular, and it was important to keep inmates fit and healthy.

Joy explained how vital the parole system is, giving incentives to the inmates to improve their behaviour, which enables them to leave prison before their sentences are up. Education is essential to give the released prisoners good lifetime skills including reading and writing. Motivation to behave was also encouraged and if inmates abused their positions of privilege working in the canteen, library, hospital etc., they could be sent back to the workshops making shirts, mailbags and other items. City and Guild qualifications could be worked for to enable men to find jobs when they were released.



Joy told us some stories of inmates, both funny and sad. Unfortunately, 75% of prisoners reoffend despite continued education and support.

After working in Stafford prison Joy went on to spend 12 years teaching Family Learning to help illiterate parents read, which is so important. She found this both challenging and rewarding as did her time

'inside' HMP.

Sue gave the vote of thanks and Joy was asked to judge the competition which was for a key. Joy remarked that the display of keys was wonderful, and she chose Alison's photo of a key which was currently in her brothers' custody. The photo was of the key to Hitler's bathroom which had been taken from The Eagles Nest at the end of The War. Joy considered this to be the winner as it had been owned by the worst criminal in modern history!



Refreshments then followed and the raffle was drawn.

Sue asked members for a show of hands to arrange the next curling session, and it was voted for Friday 31st October 3pm to 5pm, it is hoped that many members will come to this fun afternoon.

Our next meeting is Wednesday 12th November, when we are having a wreath making session with Karen Wakefield, who is not only President of The Ridwares WI, but a distinguished flower arranger and demonstrator. It is bound to be a wonderful evening.

We would love to see new members come along and see what a great, fun time we have at our meetings and outings. You would be most welcome.

Colton WI

**SUMMARY OF COLTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING ON WEDNESDAY
1st OCTOBER (Full minutes will be available at www.coltonpc.org.uk
after approval at the November meeting)**

1. Highways, Footpaths and Open Spaces

- a) Flooding and highways maintenance - Potential community meeting to co-design flood mitigation would have to be postponed to November (date to be confirmed) to ensure availability of Village Hall and enable adequate publicity. Article would be included in parish magazine and SCC officer had offered to deliver letters to residents on Hollow Lane and Bellamour Way.
- b) Speeding - Meeting arranged to discuss B5013 speeding was held at Admaston on 12th September. Garren Edwards (GE) had attended on behalf of Colton and other attendees were Dave Robertson MP, the Deputy Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner, a local PCSO, County Cllr Janet Higgins and other local county councillors, representatives from Blithfield PC and Abbots Bromley PC and representatives from Highways. GE had put forward Colton's agreed proposal for reduced speed limits and average speed cameras. Police said they required further evidence but ironically cannot do mobile speed detection in a van on that road as speeds are too high. Ownership of the car park at the reservoir is to be checked to see if it might be possible to install speed humps at the entrance. GE said it was disappointing that no particular action was agreed from the initial meeting, although a follow up meeting is to be held in January which **GE** said he would attend.
- c) Overgrown hedge on Bellamour Way – Parishioner had reported to Highways and been notified that SCC had sent an enforcement letter to the landowner.
- d) Additional road gritting for the coming winter – Councillors had a WhatsApp group last winter to agree at short notice when the extra gritting was needed and it had worked well. **Clerk** to notify TGM, confirm contact details and check the price per occasion.

2. Update on Colton Summer Festival - PC had received £500 from SCC Community Fund, courtesy of County Cllr Janet Higgins, who had been

thanked for this. A meeting of interested parties and councillors would be held in January to decide whether a Festival should be held in 2026.

3. Parish Magazine printing and related costs - Rachel Bayliss had reported that PCC still felt a monthly magazine and paper copy are valuable. However, PCC proposed that the cover should generally revert to black and white to reduce costs and would keep costs under review, with the possibility of a survey of parishioners' views and needs in future.
4. Remembrance Sunday - Clerk had received the road closure notice and passed on to Rev Lynne Dean for PCC to make the arrangements on the day. **Clerk** had also sent notice to magazine editor and would put copies on Bellamour Way noticeboards. District Cllr Keith Vernon gave his apologies as he would be attending the service at Lichfield Cathedral as LDC Chair.
5. Correspondence – Included temporary road closure notice for Blithbury Road, from its junction with Hollow Lane to its junction with B5013 Colton Rd, from Monday 20th October to Friday 28th November for water main renewal works. Noel Talbot commented that the road closure appeared to be in place already. There would still be access out of the village via Hill Ridware.
6. Finance and audit
 - a) Arrangements for memorial snowdrops to be planted in village – An email had just been received from the parishioner organising the proposed planting. SCC had said it required licences and fees for planting in its verges. Whilst PC had agreed a donation subject to appropriate SCC permission it did not think it could reasonably fund such high fees nor could it support any illegal action and so suggested that alternative areas for planting be considered.
 - b) Renewal of grazing licence – PC decided to continue with 1 year licence to retain flexibility so it would be issued to licensee for signature.
7. Maintenance of the parish defibrillators – Richard Birkin was happy to do the next check due at Christmas but it was suggested that the new landlords at the Greyhound could be asked to maintain that machine in future.
8. Date of next meeting – Wednesday 5th November at 7pm

Colton

Community Engagement Event

Come and join our community meeting to discuss flood risks problems experienced in Colton

Hosted by Sonja Zmiko - FAIR Community Flood Engagement Officer

Location: Colton Village Hall

Date: Tuesday 11th November 2025 (11/11/2025)

Time: 18:30 – 19:30 (6:30pm until 7:30pm)

Staffordshire County Council is proud to lead the **FAIR (Flood: Aware, Informed, Resilient)** project, one of 25 initiatives funded by DEFRA and managed by the Environment Agency under the Flood and Coastal Resilience Innovation Programme (FCRIP). FAIR empowers communities across Staffordshire to actively participate in flood risk management by co-designing small-scale resilience interventions with Risk Management Authorities (RMAs). Together, we aim to reduce local flood risks and build long-term resilience in the face of a changing climate.

As Colton has been identified as being at risk from surface water flooding, the FAIR project presents a valuable opportunity to proactively engage with the community. By co-creating small-scale flood resilience interventions, we can help build local resilience & flood preparedness. Following discussions with your parish councillors, we're pleased to invite you to explore how we can work together to identify and develop flood mitigation opportunities tailored to your community's needs.

LICHFIELD DISTRICT COUNCIL
TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF STREETS ORDER UNDER SECTION 21
THE TOWN POLICE CLAUSES ACT 1847
FOR THE PREVENTION OF OBSTRUCTION ETC
COLTON REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY SERVICE
SUNDAY 9TH NOVEMBER 2025

Whereas during certain hours on **Sunday 9th November 2025**, the following streets will be thronged and liable to be obstructed the Lichfield District Council pursuant to the powers conferred by Section 21 of the Town Police Clauses Act 1847 do **HEREBY ORDER AND DIRECT** that for the purpose of preventing obstruction in the said streets on the said days the following regulations shall be observed:

The streets known as Bellamour Way, Colton, Rugeley shall be closed to all vehicular traffic including pedal cycles between the hours of 10.30 and 12.00 on **Sunday 9th November 2025** in connection with Colton Remembrance Sunday Service.

The Penalty for infringement of the said Regulations is a fine not exceeding one thousand pounds.

Emergency traffic will be routed under the Organisers supervision.

Dated this 15th September 2025

K Dove
Chief Operating Officer
Lichfield District Council
District Council House
Frog Lane
Lichfield
Staffordshire
WS13 6YU

*Giving every individual the opportunity to achieve
their personal best*



WALKING FOOTBALL OVER 50S

Walking Football is an excellent way for both men and women to stay fit and healthy alongside generating new and existing social interactions with other people in and around your local community

**JOIN US
NOW!**

**FREE
TASTER
SESSION**

What do we deliver?

- Expert-Led Sessions
- Range of activities
- Further Opportunities
- Supportive Environment

Benefits to play Walking Football

Fun, not fierce: No running. Just walking, talking, and having a laugh.

Inclusive: No experience needed. All abilities welcome.

Health benefits: Improve your fitness, balance, and mood.

Social side: Join a team, make new friends, enjoy the game you love.



Starts Wednesday 5th November
7:00-8:00pm
Abbots Bromley Multi Sports Court

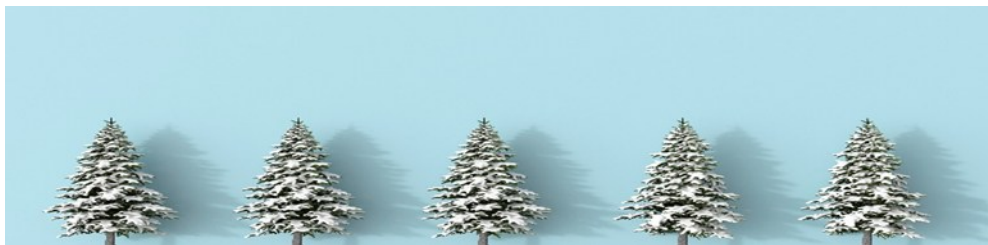
Subscription
£20
Per Month



ABBOTS BROMLEY SPORTS GROUND
Lichfield Road, Abbots Bromley, WS15 3DR

WWW.SPORTINGPB.CO.UK





This year's Christmas Fair will be on Sunday November 30th from 12.00 to 3.00 . All the usuals will be on offer including Shirley's bags. (Shirley would be grateful for any donations for the bags which please take to her house – leave at the back door if no one is home)

The raffle is being co-ordinated by Fiona O'Brien who would welcome donations for prizes. She is happy to collect , just drop her an email on coltonparishnews@gmail.com, or drop off at Evergreens High st.

There will be a visit from Father Christmas at 1:15 so come along and enjoy the fun and support the Village Hall

CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Hosted by Colton Old People's Welfare Committee

We would like to ensure that our guest list is up to date for this year's CHRISTMAS LUNCH. (Sunday December 14th)

So, if you are 65 or over and live in Colton Parish and haven't been to our lunch before, please let us know as soon as possible so we can add you to our invitation list. Maybe you have had a birthday this year, or moved into Colton Parish.

We will be delivering invitations in November, and look forward to hearing how many of you will join us, so we can Set a place for you.

Amanda Pratt 15 Heathway. 07976 975 960
Yvonne Wilson 88 High Street. 01889 586 689
Rypd.wilson@btinternet.com

EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS CONTACTS

Name	Contact No or E-mail	Web site Address
Lichfield District Council		
Customer Services	01543 308000	https://www.lichfielddc.gov.uk/
Out of Hours	01527 406643	https://www.lichfielddc.gov.uk/
Waste and Recycling	0345 002 0022	https://www.lichfielddc.gov.uk/recycling-bins-waste
District Councillor – Keth Vernon	07711758852	
Miscellaneous Numbers		
Age Concern Advice Line	0800 678 1602	https://www.ageuk.org.uk/
Childline	0800 1111	https://www.childline.org.uk/
Citizen advice - Lichfield	0808 278 7977	https://www.casestaffs.org.uk/
Crimestoppers	0800 555 111	https://crimestoppers-uk.org/
Cruise Bereavement Line	0808 808 1677	https://www.cruse.org.uk/
Deer casualty Line	101	https://www.deeraware.com/report-incident/
Domestic Violence	0808 2000 247	https://www.nationaldahelpline.org.uk/
Drug/Alcohol Information line	0300 123 1110	https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/Health-wellbeing-and-leisure/Keeping-well-and-staying-healthy/
Electrical Power Loss	105	National Grid ED (West)
Gas escape	0800 111 999	
Highway repair Hotline	0300 111 8000	https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/
NHS Direct	111	https://www.nhs.uk/
Neighbourhood Watch	Back Page	https://www.staffordshiresmartalert.co.uk/
Relate		https://www.relate.org.uk/
Rugeley Library	01889 869063 rugeley.library@staffordshire.gov.uk	
Samaritans	116 123	https://www.samaritans.org/how-we-can-help/contact-samaritan/
Social Services	0300 111 8010	staffordshirecares@staffordshire.gov.uk
Staffordshire County Council	0300 111 8010	https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/
Staffordshire County Councillor- Richard Cox	01543 490758 Richard.cox@staffordshire.gov.uk	
South Staffs Water	0800 389 1011	https://www.south-staffs-water.co.uk/contact-us/

Colton Organisation Contacts

Colton Local nature reserve John MacMillan Tel: 01889 575394 Email:mrjkmac@sky.com	Colton Parish Council Ms Alison James Tel: 07969266779 Email:colton.pc@hotmail.com
Village Hall Bookings Fiona O'Brien Tel: 07784497048 Email:bookings@coltonvillagehall.co.uk Management committee John MacMillan Tel: 01889575394 Email:mrjkmac@sky.com	Parish Lands Trust Claire Collier Tel: 07966637044 Email:clerk.cplt@gmail.com
St. Mary's Primary School Mr Jon Wynn-Head Teacher Tel: 01889224506 Email:stmatysoffice@tssmat.staffs.sch.uk	Colton Community Choir Ruth Jones Tel: 01889 570724 Email: ruth46jones@gmail.com
Colton Old People's Welfare Committee Mrs Amanda Pratt Tel: 07976975960 Email: mandspratt@msn.com	Colton Women's Institute Email:secretarycoltonwi@gmail.com
Colton Produce Guild Mr Peter Brightman (Chairman) Tel: 07896521941 Email: pd.brightman@hotmail.co.uk	Colton Almhouses Email:coltonparishnews@yahoo.com
Colton History Society Mrs Gill Sykes Email: gillsykes@btinternat.com	Colton Friendship Club Mrs Karen Hill 01889 586 379
Burial Ground Trustee Ms Alison James Tel: 07969266779 Email:colton.pc@hotmail.com	

Colton Village Hall Annual General Meeting

Notice is hereby given of the AGM to be held in the Village Hall on **Thursday 20th November 2025** at 7.30pm. All inhabitants of the Parish of Colton aged 18 years and above are entitled to attend and vote.

Agenda

- 1 Approval of the minutes of the 2024 AGM and matters arising
- 2 The Trustees' report of activities for 2024/25
- 3 To receive the annual report and accounts
- 4 Parishioners' feedback and open forum
- 5 Election of members for the year 2025/26
- 6 Announcement of representative members for the year 2025/26

The accounts for 2024/25, the minutes of the last AGM and the Trustees' Annual Report as filed with the Charity Commission can be provided on request to the chairman: please phone 01889 575394 or email mrjkmac@sky.com. **Copies will not be provided at the meeting.** The submission of **written questions for item 4 at least one week in advance** of the meeting will facilitate prompt, researched answers.

Our constitution provides for the Committee to consist of not more than 8 elected members, 13 representative members and two co-opted members. There is currently one elected member - **Fiona O'Brien** – who seeks re-election and two members who have been appointed to fill casual vacancies – **Ian Everall** and **Edward Tucker** –who offer themselves for election.

There is an on-going need for additional elected members, so if you would like to join the Committee as an elected member, please let the Chairman know not later than 7 days before the AGM.

Currently the only Representative members are:

John Dean – Parochial Church Council; John Macmillan – Local Nature Reserve; Richard Monbiot – Garden Guild and Colton Parish Council: Lynne Richardson – Women's Institute.

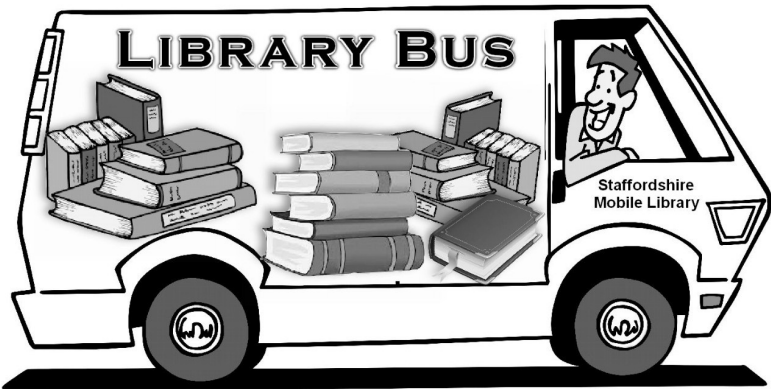
Each of the following village organisations is invited to appoint one person to become a committee member. In addition, the Parish council is entitled to appoint two members. Each organisation should elect its own representative and notify me of their name in writing or by email not less than 3 days before the AGM.

History Society	Neighbourhood Watch	Friendship Club
Parish Lands Trust	Parochial Church Council	Produce Guild
Old Peoples Welfare Committee	Ramblers	Women's Institute
St Mary's School, Colton	Local Nature Reserve	

John Macmillan
Chairman
14th October 2025

COLTON VILLAGE HALL is a registered charity with charity number 1059585

Staffordshire Mobile Library



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Dates from April 2025

Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
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Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
9,23	6,20	4,18	15,29	12,26	12,26

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Rose is a skilled Clinical Reflexology Practitioner running a successful clinic in Colton (Rugeley). She is listed on the NHS website as a recognised practitioner and holds membership in the Association of Reflexologists.

To arrange an appointment contact:

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TEL OR TEXT: 07719023882

WEBSITE:

WWW.THEGOODZESTCOMPANY.CO.UK

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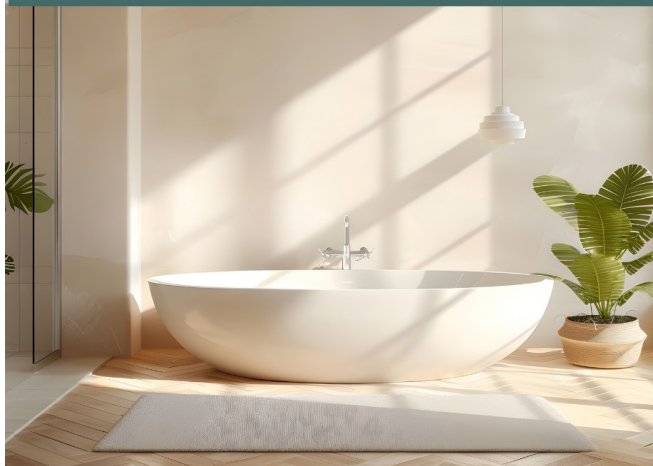
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Colton Art Club



EVERY WEDNESDAY

10am–1pm

COLTON VILLAGE HALL



The Art Club is run by local artist Della Welch



Come along & join in the fun!

My aim is to provide a fun, friendly & productive environment in which all skill levels are welcome & encouraged to artistically thrive; the classes are ideal for beginners, those looking to reinvigorate their practical art skills, wanting to learn to work with a new medium or to just simply have a few hours of focussed creativity each week in a relaxed & informal setting.



Our Art Club has been running since August 2016 and continues to run on a Pay-As-You-Go basis, so you can attend just on the weeks that you're able (GIFT VOUCHERS are also now available, please see full details below); each week we look at various subject matter & artistic styles & explore different media along the way.

Everyone participates at their own pace & I provide guided tuition throughout each session to encourage personal development of your own ideas & knowledge.

NEW MEMBERS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME

Simply turn up if you fancy giving the club a try or if you would like to treat someone who is interested in attending the art club, I now offer GIFT VOUCHERS which can be bought in advance for single or multiple sessions and can be used on any Wednesday.

If you'd like to purchase Gift Vouchers, please contact me.

Everyone's first class is half price at £7.50 (inc. Gift Vouchers), full fees apply thereafter

- All materials provided (just bring an apron)
- Refreshments provided

Just come along or for more info please contact Della Welch;

mrswelchsartclub@gmail.com or 07792 741219



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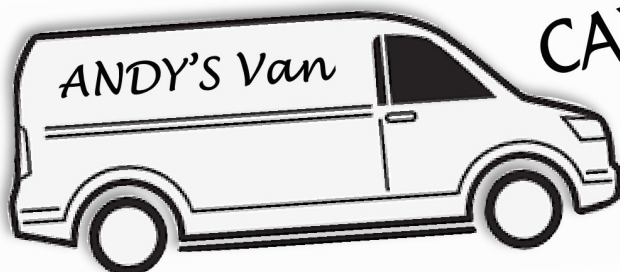
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