Colton Parish News

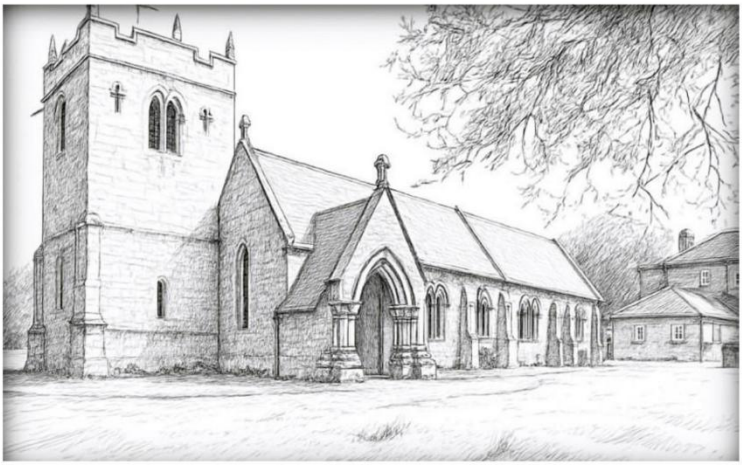
November 2026



Colton Parish News is sponsored by:

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

St Mary the Virgin Church, Colton



Church Services		
First Sunday	Holy Communion	11.00 am
Second Sunday	Morning Worship	11.00 am
Third Sunday	Holy Communion	11.00 am
Fourth Sunday	Morning Worship	11.00 am
Fifth Sunday	Service Format will vary	11.00 am
Keep your eyes peeled for details of other services and Special Sunday Afternoon Events		

For all Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals and any Pastoral Needs
please contact Reverend Lynne Dean

Resident Priest	**Rector**	**Church Wardens**
Reverend Lynne Dean The New Rectory Bellamour Way Colton WS15 3JW 07736 972560 lanternlit@hotmail.com	Prebendary Simon Davis The Vicarage Market Place Abbots Bromley WS15 3BP	Mrs Rachel Bayliss 24 Moorcroft, Colton, WS15 3ND rachel.bayliss@outlook.com 07792 234720 Mrs Victoria Hawley The Old Rectory, Bellamour Way, Colton, WS15 3JW 07939 003153
Messages to the Parochial Church Council : Mrs Katie Brown 07814 729148		

Message from your editor



Welcome to the November issue of your parish magazine. I hope you enjoy reading about the activities of the village organisations. If there is anything that you want including in future editions please just send them to me at the email below and I will include them. It is always interesting to hear readers memories and activities.

Best wishes *Fiona*

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

Message sent on behalf of Carol Sanders, High Street...

I read with interest your article 'Harvest Corn Plaiting in Colton'. I, myself, was a plaiter for many years.

I am on Rod's photograph but am sorry to say that many are not with us any longer. Miss Jones who lived all her life in one of the Martlin Cottages was the organiser. Some of the ladies who did not plait cut the barley and wheat into required lengths.

Dorothy and David Bradbury organised the tea, coffee and biscuits. They also arranged the plaits in church. I mostly did the pulpit and I still, with my daughter Lynne, arrange flowers at the pulpit for festivals throughout the year.

Carol Sanders



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 ate the beginning of the meeting when questions and comments from the public are taken

Parish Council Elected members

Chairman	**Clerk to the Council**
No one elected at Annual meeting. Councillors will take turns to chair meetings	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

At the end of August, Claire and I were very fortunate to be able to go to Kenya. For me it was not only my first visit to the country but also the continent. For her it was returning to a place she had lived and worked in for years and to meet up with old friends.

Whilst obviously being a shared experience it was also so very different for each of us given our contrasting realities. For me the trip was a source of wonder but also of being very aware of obvious contrasts. I was wowed by seeing the Great Rift Valley for the first time, by seeing, in their natural habitat, monkeys, giraffes, lions, elephants, wildebeest, buffalo and many other animals I'd never even seen in captivity. The rock hyrax looking so chilled as it sunbathed in the early morning before vanishing when it saw something overhead. The diversity of the birds was amazing from the vulture like marabou stork to the superb starlings, to the go away bird which I constantly misnamed as the goodbye bird, to the lilac breasted roller who very kindly posed for photos.

I was struck by the contrast between Tsavo East and West parks, 22,000 square kilometres split by the Nairobi to Mombasa road. In the west the crystal clear water of the Mzima Springs bubbles up from underground and you can see hippos and crocodiles. Kilimanjaro in neighbouring Tanzania makes an appearance when the clouds clear and the Chyulu hills are constant companions.

Cross the road into the East and it is almost like you're on a different planet. We were greeted by a family of elephants as we entered the park but they were red not grey. The hills are left behind and in front is the flat African bush with its red dusty earth that the elephants have sprayed over themselves to keep cool and numerous baobab trees that appear to be growing upside down and acacias that look like umbrellas. There was an even more startling contrast when we left the park and travelled along the Nairobi to Mombasa road. The steady pace of quietly watching animals doing what they do, replaced by the noise and busyness of the highway, lorries nose to tail, cars desperately trying to pass, motorcycles so laden with goods that the rider was hard to see.

On the way to Mombasa the privileged world of the safari lodges was replaced by piles of rubbish alongside the road and a ragtail assortment of buildings in which the occupants are trying to scrape a living. The contrast in opportunity available to people obvious in the different school buildings that appeared. For the least well off there was a small government school of a single building with a mabati (corrugated iron) roof with grills for windows and a few hundred yards away a private or church school with a glossy sign, a high wall and smart 2 storey buildings.

It is of course not just in Kenya that the contrast of privilege and poverty can be seen. It is all too present in the UK which, unlike Kenya, is one of the richest nations on the planet.

I can't help wondering why if we can create the environment for all of God's creatures to flourish in the parks, why we can't create the environment to enable all of God's children to flourish wherever they happen to be.

Observations From the Kitchen Window



My goodness, inspiration for this piece was hard to come by this month! Normally after doing the washing up I can reward myself by looking down the garden with a nice bottle of Rioja to hand and weigh up the possibilities in a relaxed frame of mind. Normally my inspiration derives from actual events which occur between publication dates of the Colton Times. But our lives over the past month have been totally taken over by personal events for which I can put the blame almost completely on 'Er Indoors.

So, my normal thinking process has been totally disrupted! 'Er Indoors had her big eye operation about 8 weeks ago after which the medics produced a long list of NOT TO DO tasks. About the only thing she is apparently allowed to do is give our tame robin his breakfast of meal worms each morning! Life has changed dramatically. I was given the dubious honour of being promoted to chief cook, dish washer, main housekeeper and head gardener. I was even handed the keys to her jealously guarded lawn mower! I am now in the crazy position of having to write my own TO DO "lists" which seem to be even longer than the ones she used to provide and monitor.

So, life is very full and I have little time for rumination. Next week we have a meeting with the consultant to review progress. Hopefully he will remove some of the restrictions on her activities However, anything he is prepared to do which might allow some relief will only be temporary. She must go through the same procedures on her other eye to restore stereoscopic vision, so that we can look forward to at least another 8 weeks of purgatory! Who knows what the waiting time will be? I have no confidence that this will all be over by Christmas!!! This is one of the other things that 'Er Indoors has no control over which she finds intensely frustrating.

'Er Indoors told me she had read somewhere that, with luck, we ought to be able to see the Northern Lights from Colton during the next few days. these displays tend to be fairly faint events which are often difficult to see at the best of times at these latitudes, I was somewhat doubtful. I was particularly concerned about this since some of my activities would inevitably create impenetrable optical barriers and that the weather might not be too favourable. Anyway, we could always hope.

My own contribution to creating difficulties would result from the smoke of two large bonfires which I had been planning on lighting around this time. These had been built over the spring and early summer. I could not tackle them at



that time because of the fire risk on the parched land. Also, birds and other wildlife were using the piles for shelter, especially the odd hedgehog and plenty of frogs and toads. There was a further reason why the fires had remained untouched. because we had our annual summer visit by a flock of mobile lawn mowers to graze down the grass in two of our paddocks. We had 46 of them delivered this time. Because of the drought, they were not getting enough water from the grass to give them adequate refreshment, so I was for ever topping up their water troughs. This was unusual, because the grass was too dry to give them their normal adequate water intake. Fortunately, this year we had no instances of heads getting stuck in the stock fencing, which was a major problem last year. Then last week, once they had completed their tour of duty on our paddocks, the mowers were driven across the South Staffs Way on to the Colton Nature Reserve to chomp away the old growth there. Responsibility for their welfare then passed to the Nature Reserve team This gave me the chance, at last, to set and light the bonfire.

After lighting, the flames went up with a whoosh, because most of the fuel was tinder dry. However, there was enough green or damp material to generate plenty of smoke, which appeared to rise as far as the stratosphere. Without much wind it tended to hang about in a long column, until in the evening. We then had the dusty heat haze from the dying embers which lasted to well beyond our bedtime! This created a formidable barrier to any skyward observations! And then, of course there was the weather which, for much of the time, consisted of high cloud in between the showers. So not much chance there either! Apart from some quite dramatic sunsets and the odd rainbow, there was not much in the sky to hold our attention! We certainly did not have, even the briefest view, of the *aurora borealis.* The heavens offered no entertainment, certainly during our waking hours and my telescope was put away unused.

Best wishes from all at Sheringham



COLTON GARDEN & PRODUCE CLUB.

Hello to you all again. The Harvest Supper on the 1st of October was again a great success, with plenty of delicious food and a bountiful supply of liquid refreshment. Some would say a feast fit for a King! We look forward to October 2027. Before that, we have a few more meetings and a variety of speakers. On Thursday the 5th of November, Melanie Latham will be visiting us with the subject of "Chutney & Cheer" - I have heard good reports from other clubs. She will be bringing along jars and bottles to sell, and 50p from every one sold is donated to the Stroke Association. This dedication is because she has suffered 4 strokes herself and does not charge a fee for her time at Colton. I hope to see you all then, and don't forget to bring some money with you to purchase some of Melanie's Chutney & Cheer. Remember, new members or visitors (only £2 each) are very welcome.

I can't believe we are only eight weeks away from the start of another year. The nights may be getting longer, and the hours of daylight will restrict any growth, unless, of course, we experience some warm nights. The clocks also move forward an hour, a week earlier than usual. The threat of El Niiio is supposed to be bringing storms and even a Polar Vortex, but there is no certainty of being able to predict the weather we will experience. Not even the Met Office gets it right all the time. We need to adapt what we grow, how we grow it and change the species or varieties we plant. I am convinced we need to make sure we can cope with the less cold winters and much warmer summers. The main priority is saving and storing as much water as we can. Keep the gutters clean and install an extra water butt or 2, as • well as making sure our feathered friends always have fresh water available. Take care of your Roses by removing any fallen leaves, as well as taking off any that are infected with black spot. Remove any dead wood and cut back the main stems by as much as half their length - this will help to· prevent any wind damage and go into winter dormancy. If we have a mild winter again, you may find new buds forming earlier than expected. If memory serves me right, this happened this year, and the result was a bumper crop of rose blooms. It will help if you provide some winter food by placing compost or manure around the base, but ensure it is not actually touching the root base, as this will encourage rot, especially if we have any very wet spells.

Providing there isn't any frost, we are still able to trim the grass, but do not cut it too close, so raise the blades of the mower. I find this is a very effective way of removing unwanted leaves and tree seeds, as if they are left, the seeds will sprout, and the leaves cause the grass to turn yellow underneath. It has been a big enough problem trying to get the lawns back to their true colour with this year's long, hot, dry summer, especially living on a sandy soil area, as I do. A little tic, with raking and hollow-tining will help the roots re-establish before the soil becomes too cold for any further growth. If you want to be more meticulous, you can put some seed into the tines and top them with a little sand.

This is a trick all sports clubs use to encourage new growth, but they have the specialist machinery to do the job for them.



a level playing field with the crops and flowers we choose to plant in the early spring. Before then, be sure you have planted your tulips in pots and borders, planting them at least twice their size in depth - those naughty little squirrels are very partial to a juicy bulb, and those near the surface will be in danger of being hijacked! This is difficult with tete-a-tete mini daffodils, as they are very near the surface - protect them under a cloche or tunnel until they start to shoot. This reminds me, be sure to protect your agapanthus from frost with straw, bubble wrap or fleece. Raise those patio pots from the floor (unless they are on a gravel base) to prevent any waterlogging, and any non-frost-resistant pots need to be wrapped to prevent them from flaking or lifting.

The greenhouse will need to be cleared of plants, washed down and disinfected. Don't forget those seed trays and plant pots will also need cleaning, ready for the new season. Once you have done this, any plants you wish to save and overwinter can safely be placed in the greenhouse without fear of them becoming infested with any disease.

This would also be a good place to keep any tubers you have lifted, such as dahlias, to dry out. Place them on a bed of dry sand, upside down so they dry properly. To keep the greenhouse frost-free, you may need to line it with some bubble wrap, although I found this was not necessary this last year as we only had a few hard frosts. Also, I do not lift my dahlia tubers due to the free-draining sandy soil, although I will need to lift some in the spring to divide them and thus increase the dahlia population. The only problem is that they are quite thirsty, but the blooms have been fabulous this year, and they are still flowering in October.

Any autumn raspberries will need pruning to just above ground level, and new growth on the early variety will need tying to stakes or wires to prevent wind damage to the delicate new growth. Time also to cut down the runner beans to just above ground level, once they have finished cropping. Leave the roots in, as they are high in nitrates, which will put goodness back into the soil. Keep those perennials happy by cutting down dead foliage and flowers. This reminds me again. I came across another list of plants recommended for inclusion in a wildflower garden, as they are more drought-resistant than some we usually use. These are: Catmint, Perennial Salvia{blue in colour), Yarrow (yellow), Echinacea (deep red), Sedum (pale blue), Sea Holly (purple), Macedonian Scabious (deep red), and Wild Marjoram. There may be something there for us to try in the dry summer next year - they do need planting before the ground becomes too cold this autumn.

I hope I have given you some new thoughts and provided some hope to combat any long, hot, dry summers in the future. When the garden becomes a chore, rather than a challenge and a source of pleasure and achievement, maybe it is time to move to a flat with a window box!! Just a thought. It should be a place of relaxation and reward for your time spent trying to overcome the elements. KEEP SMILING - enjoy the fresh air and the birdsong.

See you next month.

Peter Brightman - 07896521941/01889803678

Colton Community Choir Presents

Music of Land & Sea

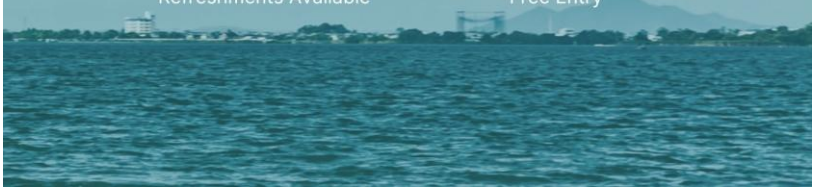
Join us for an evening of timeless melodies, featuring rousing sea shanties, traditional folk songs, and old favourites. Come along and enjoy music, memories and melodies from times gone by.

Saturday | 7th November 7pm

at St Mary's Church, Colton

Refreshments Available

Free Entry





Remembrance Sunday

8th November 2026

Please gather at the War Memorial on Bellamour Way at 10:50am

The service will be led by Rev. Lynne Dean



Colton Village Hall
Annual General Meeting

Notice is hereby given of the AGM to be held in the Village Hall on **Thursday 26th November 2026** 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 2025 AGM and matters arising
2. The Trustees' report of activities for 2025/26
3. To receive the annual report and accounts
4. Parishioners' feedback and open forum
5. Election of members for the year 2026/27
6. Announcement of representative members for the year 2026/27

The accounts for 2025/26, 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 are currently three elected member - **Fiona O'Brien, Ian Everall** and **Edward Tucker** – who seeks re-election and two members who have been appointed to fill casual vacancies - **Brian Cope** and **Ian Hadridge** – 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: Jo Cope – 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 2026

SUMMARY OF COLTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING ON WEDNESDAY 7th OCTOBER (Full minutes of this meeting will be available at www.coltonpc.org.uk after approval at the following meeting)

1.Public participation

Re speeding and safety on B5013, parishioner had attended the meeting arranged by County Councillors at Admaston Village Hall in early September. He was very disappointed that Highways do not appear willing to do anything to improve safety. They were only prepared to consider erecting a warning sign for motorcyclists for the period April-Sept, which they considered to be the biking season but which he felt was inappropriate.

Garren Edwards had also attended the meeting and believed that Highways had said they would investigate what could be done. However, any action would require funding, which may be their issue. There would be another meeting in December if Highways had completed their investigations. It would be worth asking County Cllr Janet Higgins if she had heard anything further or if there had been any meetings or action internally. Dave Robertson MP had also attended and had previously said improvements are needed. He had previously pressed Highways for costings for different options but they had been unwilling to provide any figures. Although Highways had done some speed and volume checks on the road, Garren Edwards said they had done them in the wrong place.

As agreed at the last PC meeting, Clerk had sent a letter to the Coroner on behalf of the PC requesting that he consider raising a Prevention of Future Deaths Report at the inquest for the motorcyclist who was killed in the accident in May.

PC decided that it should send a letter to Dave Robertson MP copied to Janet Higgins and potentially the SCC Cabinet Member for Highways too, saying it is dissatisfied and frustrated with Highways' apparent unwillingness to take any action and asking for further support for action. **Clerk** to draft for councillors' comments.

2.Highways, Footpaths and Open Spaces

a) Flooding and highways maintenance - Works over the last year to relieve flooding appeared to have been successful. **Clerk** to check with SCC FAIR team if the planned work at Hollow Lane had been completed.

b) State of Stoneyford Lane and Newlands Lane – Some repair work had been carried out at the junction at the top of High St and on Newlands Lane towards Blithbury. However, work was desperately needed on the section towards Stockwell Heath so **Clerk** to ask County Cllr Janet Higgins if she could pursue. Some limited emergency repairs had been made on Stoneyford Lane.

c) Improving the appearance of the village – PC agreed that **Garren Edwards** should arrange for the contractor to tidy on the right-hand side of High St again and also consider if there were other areas that the contractor could be asked to tackle.

d) Parking on High Street – Although parking on the corner of Moorcroft had stopped, there is still a row of cars parking opposite the end of Moorcroft making it difficult to pull out, especially in icy weather and with oncoming traffic. Item to be left on the agenda to consider how to pursue.

e) Footpath along the side of Moreton Brook – Richard Monbiot had received a few complaints about the state of the footpath. Noel Talbot thought it had only deteriorated after Covid due to the increased footfall. It is unclear who is responsible for the maintenance of the footpath but, even if identified, it was difficult to know what action would be appropriate to make it safer. However, councillors thought PC had a duty to try to resolve the problem as it had been raised by several parishioners. Enquiries to be made of Parish Lands Trust and PCC and PC minutes to be checked for previous discussions about ownership (**Richard Monbiot, Clerk**).

3.Finance - PCC had requested a contribution to the costs of mowing Pedley's Croft and maintaining appearance on entry to village. PC agreed to contribute the sum of £300 which had been included in its 2026/27 budget.

4.Defibrillators – Noel Talbot now has the 2 defibrillators on an app on his phone and had checked that batteries and pads are in date. Janet Higgins had just approved the PC's application to SCC Community Fund for a contribution of £250 towards the purchase of an exterior cabinet to house externally the defibrillator currently inside the Dun Cow pub. PC agreed to proceed with the purchase.

5.Attracting additional parish councillors – An advert had been included in the latest parish magazine but it was agreed that personal approaches are normally more successful. A parishioner was attending this meeting to understand better what is involved in being a councillor but was concerned whether they could contribute as meetings on Wednesdays would be after a long workday. PC would consider altering the meeting night as it was important to be flexible as additional councillors are very much needed. Garren Edwards also raised whether the PC needs to meet every month. Potential meeting days and times were discussed and would be further considered.

6.Date of next meeting – It was suggested that PC holds its next meeting on Wednesday 2nd December at 7pm to include the budget discussion. However, **Clerk** to consider whether a meeting is needed in November and, if so, it would be held on the previously scheduled date of Wednesday 4th November at 7pm.

whereas during certain hours on Sunday 8th November 2026 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 8th November 2026 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 6th October 2026
K Dove
Chief Operating Officer Lichfield District Council District Council House

COLTON WI

Colton WI ladies met as usual on the second Wednesday evening of the month – 14 October – and began with a minute's silence for two WI ladies who had recently passed away – Julie Thorn and Hazel Evans. Both had been members for many years, serving on the Committee, and Hazel had also been either our Treasurer or Secretary for quite some time.

Our speaker was Steve Gwilt, a former mounted policeman. We all realised how little we knew about the history of policeman on horses, the first being ex soldiers from the First World War. It wasn't until the 1970's that some men entering the police force were offered the opportunity to train as mounted police, a course lasting some 9 weeks which tested their ability to overcome falls and ease aching muscles they never knew existed. Women were not given the opportunity until much later. The horse that Steve was given was a true champion, winning many cups and medals at Shows as well as being good for the police work he was challenged to do. When the unit was suddenly disbanded with very little notice, it must have been heartbreaking to lose such a constant faithful companion. Steve writes under the name of Stefan Wild and he brought copies of the two books that have been published and are available for sale.

As always, there was a competition – a horse ornament – which Steve judged and announced Sue Izon as the winner. Sue had brought a horseshoe which was recently ploughed up from a field Sue 's Grandad used to farm.

Our next meeting is on Wednesday 11 November at 7.30 when we have Janet Markwell giving a talk on her experiences as a meteorologist in a man's world. She also makes the most beautiful patchwork quilts and hopefully she will be bringing some along to display.

As always ladies, if you would like to come to our meeting, please do. You will be made welcome.





Friendship Club - September Report

On 16th September, fifteen members of Friendship Club met at Marsh Farm for our annual lunch out. where we enjoyed good food and excellent company.

Our speaker at our next meeting on 21st October will be Emma Purshouse and her talk is entitled 'It's Honorary Bab - Poet Laureate'.
The following month, Wednesday 18th November, the speaker will be Jess Boyden-Jukes talking about 'Women in aviation'.

We look forward to welcoming you.

Karen Hill

Recruiting!

Colton Friendship Club is an informal club set up for those aged 60 and over - we wouldn't strictly adhere to that age if you would like to join us and you are younger!

On the third Wednesday of the month (except for the April, September and December meetings), Colton Friendship Club meet at Colton Village Hall, from 10.30 until approximately midday. Members are invited to get refreshments before sitting down to hear a speaker for approximately 45 minutes. Following the speaker, any notices are read out.

We do not meet in September, rather, we have an annual trip out for a meal, the perfect opportunity to socialise with other members. Our December meeting is always one we look forward to, when we enjoy sherry and mince pies and welcome the children from St Mary's school who entertain us (TBC). Our first meeting of the year in January is a very informal affair, being a Beetle Drive - members MOSTLY abide by the rules of the game! At our last meeting of the programme year (April) the committee will prepare a buffet lunch for members and we have an entertainer.

If you think you may like to join us (or you know someone who may like to) please feel free to come for a free session to see if it is for you - you would be most welcome. Subscriptions are currently just £8 per annum, which I am sure you agree, represents excellent value for money.

Karen Hill
Colton Friendship Club Chairman

Christmas Fair: Chocolate Tombola Stall

Colton Christmas Fair will take place on Sunday 29th November (from midday) and, as in recent years, Friendship Club will have a chocolate tombola stall to raise funds for the club. To that end, if anyone feels they would like to make a donation of chocolate items I would be very pleased to receive them. They can either be dropped in to my home address: 3 Coachmans Walk, Bellamour Way, Colton, Rugeley, WS15 3QA or I (or a representative) can pick them up from you.

Many thanks, in advance.

Karen Hill
Colton Friendship Club Chairman

COLTON OVER 65'S

Colton Old People's Welfare Committee are hosting the annual Christmas Lunch for residents over 65 on Sunday December 6th this year.

If you are new to Colton Parish, or are over 65 and not on our list please let one of us know so we can send out invitations. (partners are invited too if resident in the parish)

Invitations will be sent out in November, and once we have responses we will know how many to cater for.

Manda 07976 975 960

Yvonne 01889 586 689 rypd.wilson@btinternet.com



JOIN YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

If you care about where you live and are passionate about your community, we need you.

Become a Councillor, be the voice for the community , have a say.

Contact any existing councillor for more details and/or email our Clerk; Alison James at colton.pc@hotmail.co.uk



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 , 1, Martlin Cottages, Martlin Lane – 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 Hight st.

Benefice Bible Book Club 2026



Not a lecture, and not a Bible study, but an opportunity to read and then talk about part of the Bible each month. Read the allocated book or books and then come along and join the conversation.

Sunday 28 June 4.00 pm at Colwich Church	Galatians
Sunday 26 July 4.00pm at Blithfield Church	Joel
Sunday 27 September 4.00 pm at Colton Church Room	Philemon and Titus
Sunday 25 October at Church House, Abbots Bromley	Ecclesiastes, chapters 1 – 6
Sunday 22 November at St Stephen's, Gt Haywood	I Thessalonians

For more information, contact the Rev'd Mark Davys revmdavys@gmail.com or 07483 298725

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:booking@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:stmarysoffice@tssmat.staffs.sch.uk	**Colton Community Choir** Ruth Jones Email: ruth46jones@gmail.com
Colton Old People's Welfare Committee Mrs Amanda Pratt Tel: 07976975960 Email: mandapratt@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	**Burial Ground Trustee** Ms Alison James Tel: 07969266779 Email:colton.pc@hotmail.com
Colton History Society Mrs Gill Sykes Email: gillsykes@btinternat.com	**Colton Friendship Club** Mrs Karen Hill 01889 586 379





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