

Our brand new **Venta Group website** is coming soon—all the events in all the churches and more in one place!

Can you help us? To add colour and life to the website we need as many pictures as possible of church events and services. If you have anything from recent activities that might prove helpful, please email them to admin@venta-group.org. Thank you very much!

TO ADVERTISE BELOW PLEASE CONTACT ANGELA
admin@venta-group.org

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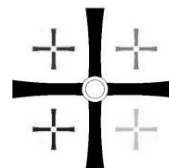
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Free For All

The Magazine of the Venta Group
Arminghall, Caistor St Edmund, Stoke Holy Cross with Dunston
May 2016



Cream teas with floral displays to celebrate the
Queen's 90th Birthday

Saturday June 18th and Sunday June 19th 2016
2pm - 5pm

Family Service for Father's Day
on the Sunday at 9.30am

Coffee will also be served
from 10.30am on both days

Cake Stall





I have given up my place looking out from the corner of this page this month to someone else. I think you might recognise her, unlike the American tourist who came across her out walking (somewhat dressed down) with one of her bodyguards, and got into conversation with her about whether she had ever met the Queen. "No," she replied, nodding at her police escort, "but he has."

Starting around 21st April on her 'actual' birthday, a series of events across the country (and in these villages) will celebrate not just her reaching 90—a few of you have managed that too! - but a lifetime lived in service to this country.

It is not just us whom she serves, though. In many of her Christmas broadcasts the Queen refers to the importance and strength of her faith in Jesus. Last year, she wrote of the hope we can find even at the hardest of times: "It is true that the world has had to confront moments of darkness this year, but the Gospel of John contains a verse of great hope, often read at Christmas carol services: 'The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it'." Going all the way back to 1952, the Queen-to-be asked all the people she was to serve to pray for her, that God would give her wisdom and strength for the task he had for her. Sixty years and more later, that prayer is still being answered.

Your life and mine, your job and mine, your family and mine, are very different from the Queen's in lots of ways, but I am still conscious of the need I have for hope, wisdom, and strength. These are things which ultimately can only be found in Christ, and that's why this summer I will be celebrating not only the Servant Queen, but also the King she serves.

With love from Rob




cafe church



**Stoke Holy Cross
celebration tea
party, Sunday 12th
June afternoon**

Sunday 1st May
10.30am
Stoke Church Hall
**Breakfast, chat,
songs, craft, prayer,
thought for the day...**

All residents of
Stoke Holy Cross,
Upper Stoke and
Dunston are very welcome to join
us at the school to celebrate the
Queen's 90th birthday. For a FREE
ticket (required for catering
purposes) please contact Viv
Carrington or Angela Bell (details
on page 3).



Friday May 13th, 7.30pm at Stoke Holy Cross Church Hall. Drinks and Nibbles Social evening.

Bring your own drinks of choice, nibbles provided.

£3 a ticket, tickets available from Marie Thurston on 07990 580098

Future date for your diary: Summer Fair at the Pavilion, Stoke Holy Cross
Saturday 18th June, 11am till 2pm

**Sparklers welcomes all babies, toddlers and pre-schoolers
with their parents & carers.**

Tuesdays 10-11.30

Stoke Holy Cross Church Hall

 **Sparklers Stoke Holy Cross**

Free For All May 2016

Please send articles for the June magazine to Angela Bell by 15th May,
email admin@venta-group.org

Stoke Holy Cross with Dunston



Christian Aid Week 15-21 May 2016



I have organised, and participated in collecting for Christian Aid for a considerable number of years, but, sadly, due to ill health, no longer feel able to continue. I would, therefore, like to take this opportunity to thank the many, many people who have given of their time, and who have donated so generously. Together we have raised over £27000 over the years.

You can donate this year at christianaid.org.uk/ Freephone 08080 006006/ Text SAFE to 700412 to donate £5. In future years we hope to organise a fund-raising day and if you would like to help with this please contact me. Once more many thanks for your generous support for the world's poor over the years.

Viv Carrington 493438

St George's Hall Dementia Support Café is meeting this month on 9th May, 10am till 12 and 23rd May 10am-1.30 to commemorate the Queens 90th birthday with light lunch and party. New members and volunteers welcome. Telephone 01508 493661 or 01508 492938 for more information.



Stoke Holy Cross Church Hall
Monday 9.00-1.00
Wednesday 1.15-4.15

Services for May

1st May—6th Sunday of Easter		
9am	Traditional Holy Communion	Caistor St Edmund
10.30am	Café Church	Stoke Church Hall
5th May —Ascension Day		
10.00am	Holy Communion	Dunston
8th May—7th Sunday of Easter		
9am	Traditional Holy Communion	Arminghall
9.30am	Praise and worship	Caistor St Edmund
10.30am	Informal Holy Communion <i>with children's groups</i>	Stoke Holy Cross
15th May—Pentecost		
9.30am	Family Service	Caistor St Edmund
11.00am	Traditional Holy Communion	Stoke Holy Cross
6.30pm	Celebration service	Stoke Holy Cross
22nd May—Trinity Sunday		
9am	Traditional Holy Communion	Caistor St Edmund
10.30am	Informal Holy Communion <i>with children's groups</i>	Stoke Holy Cross
4pm	Songs of Praise	Arminghall
29th May—1st Sunday after Trinity		
10.30am	Venta Group Service	Arminghall

Vicar of The Venta Group
Stoke Holy Cross with Dunston, Arminghall and Caistor St Edmund
Rob Baker

The Vicarage, Mill Road, Stoke Holy Cross, NR14 8PA
rob@venta-group.org 01508 492305
Church Administrator Angela Bell admin@venta-group.org 491619
(please ring Angela during office hours rather than evenings or weekends)
stokeholycrosschurch.org caistorstedmundchurch.co.uk

Churchwardens	Stoke Holy Cross & Dunston Viv (493438) & Peter (471529)
Arminghall Pat (492622) & Annie (495580)	Caistor St Edmund Jani (493572) & Graham (493430)

Thursday Club at St George's Hall

Would you like to spread your wings and meet like minded people? Would you like to have days out and socialising, visiting other places, having a convivial cup of coffee gossiping about events both locally and nationally? If you would like to do any or all of these things then come and join us. We are a club for the over 55's who meet the first Thursday of every month for a cup of tea and biscuits where you can either play cards, dominos etc or just sit and chat. We also meet every Wednesday afternoon to play bingo or carpet bowls alternate weeks. If you don't drive or are unable to get to the hall please call the number below and we will do our best to organise a lift for you. During the summer we have trips once a month to different places e.g. in May we are going to Holt for coffee and some shopping then on to Sheringham for a fish and chip lunch. Coach picks up and drops off at various stops - Trowse, Stoke Holy Cross, Arminghall and Poringland. We will try to arrange the best place for you to be picked up once you have joined us. We also have various events through the year, meals out, jumble sales and of course our famous November Fayre. We would love to see you and extend our warm welcome to everyone as we are sure that once you have visited us and see how friendly we are you will want to join and take part in all our activities. All you have to do is call the number below or turn up at St. Georges Hall, Upper Stoke at 1.30pm on the first Thursday of the month. We look forward to seeing you then. If you have any questions please call our chairperson Susie Curson on 01508 493990. Our next meeting is on Thursday 5th May, 2016. We have an outing on 24th May 2016 which is to Holt for coffee and then onto Sheringham for a fish and chip lunch. The cost for this is £13. If you are interested, please phone Liz Smith on 01508 493245. The dates for our Bingo are the 11th and 25th and bowls are the 4th and 18th.

Caistor St Edmund Annual Parish
Meeting at St Edmund's Church
11th May at 7.00pm

Stoke Holy Cross Tuesday Group
May 17th
Ruth Smith - Life with Nanny

**Stoke Holy Cross
Matinee Group**

**May 12th
Plant and book sale—teas and cake**



Caistor St Edmund

Have you put the dates yet in your diary? Saturday 18th and Sunday 19th June, ***The Queen's Cream Teas*** at Caistor Church. From 2pm to 5pm each day there will be Cream Teas with floral displays to celebrate the ***Queen's 90th Birthday***. There will also be a home made cake stall so if you could make a cake, sponge, cup cakes, biscuits etc. for the stall that would be greatly appreciated. Offers please to either Jani Wymer (493572) or Liz Humphrey (494189). The church will be open from 10-30am both days and coffee will be available.



Arminghall

Bluebell Coffee Morning in the church
May 7th 10.00am to 12.00 noon.
Donations of cakes, raffle prizes & bric-a-brac very welcome.

Sunday May 22nd Songs of Praise in the church—let us know if you have a favourite hymn, because we would love to include it!

Saturday June 11th we shall be celebrating the Queens 90th birthday in the garden of Bluebell Lodge by kind permission of Stan & Annie.

More details later. It will be an all ticket event for catering purposes.

Pat & Jim Howlett 6 Church Close Arminghall Norwich, NR14 8SE
01508 492622

From the registers

13th April, funeral of Cyril Harrison, Stoke Holy Cross
16th April, interment of ashes, Agnes Orton, Stoke Holy Cross
20th April, funeral of Jean Watts, Stoke Holy Cross

St George's Hall bookings:

Joyce Williams 492143

Stoke Church Hall bookings:

Viv Carrington 493438

Stoke Holy Cross pavilion bookings:

Barbara Cattermole
(Parish clerk) 530739