

Parish Magazine



April 2008

# St. James'

35p

## Christleton

[WWW.CHRISTLETON.ORG.UK](http://WWW.CHRISTLETON.ORG.UK)



**WHAT'S  
ON  
This Month**

On Tolerance 8

Nature Notes 10

Post Office 12

Ernest Hall 15

Sorry Petra 26

20 - 23

# Appointments in April

Wed	2	10.45 am	United Communion - followed by refreshments Followed by meeting of Churches Together in Christleton
Fri	4	6.30 pm	Choir Practice
<b>Sun</b>	<b>6</b>		<b>The Third Sunday of Easter</b>
		8.00 am	Holy Communion - Order 2 Sunday School - Parish Hall
		10.45 am	Shortened Parish Communion and Annual Parochial Church Meeting in Church. Followed by refreshments and displays in Parish Hall
		6.00 pm	The Crew Youth Group - Parish Hall
		6.30 pm	Evensong - followed by refreshments Prayer Link Road: Greenfield Lane and Claypits Lane Neighbourhood Link: June Owen
Mon	7	10.45 am	Holy Communion at Tarvin Court Nursing Home
		11.20 am	Holy Communion at Oaklands Nursing Home
		6.30 pm	Confirmation Group - Lady Chapel
Wed	9	10.45 am	Holy Communion - followed by refreshments
		11.30 am	Holy Communion at Birch Heath Lodge Nursing Home
Fri	11	6.30 pm	Choir Practice
			NB: Last date for contributions for May Parish Magazine preferably earlier, to the Rector at The Rectory, Birch Heath Lane, or you can e-mail this to <a href="mailto:christletonmag@hotmail.co.uk">HYPERLINK "mailto:christletonmag@hotmail.co.uk"</a> <a href="mailto:christletonmag@hotmail.co.uk">christletonmag@hotmail.co.uk</a>
<b>Sun</b>	<b>13</b>		<b>The Fourth Sunday of Easter</b>
		8.00 am	Holy Communion - Order 1
		10.45 am	Family Service with Baptism - followed by refreshments
		6.00 pm	The Crew Youth Group - Parish Hall
		6.30 pm	Evensong Prayer Link Road: Greystone Road and Ring Road Neighbourhood Link: Lynda Disley
Mon	14	2.00 pm	Mothers' Union - Parish Hall
		6.30 pm	Confirmation Group - Lady Chapel
Tues	15	8.00 am	Church Walking Group leaves car park

Wed	16	10.45 am	Holy Communion - followed by refreshments
Thurs	17	7.45 pm	Churches Together in Christleton AGM and "All in an April Evening" Informal music and readings. All welcome. Methodist Church
Fri	18	6.30 pm	Choir Practice
<b>Sun</b>	<b>20</b>		<b>The Fifth Sunday of Easter</b>
		8.00 am	Holy Communion - Order 1
		10.45 am	Sunday School - Parish Hall
		10.45 am	Parish Communion - Order 1
		6.00 pm	The Crew Youth Group - Parish Hall
		6.30 pm	Evensong
			Prayer Link Road: Grove Gardens
			Neighbourhood Link: John Carruthers
Mon	21	6.30 pm	Confirmation Group - Lady Chapel
Wed	23	10.45 am	Holy Communion - followed by refreshments.
Fri	25	9.00 am	Holy Communion for ST MARK
		6.30 pm	Choir Practice
Sun	27		The Sixth Sunday of Easter
		8.00 am	Holy Communion - Order 1
		10.45 am	Sunday School - Parish Hall
		10.45 am	Matins with Baptism - followed by refreshments
		6.00 pm	The Crew Youth Group - Parish Hall
		6.30 pm	Evening Communion - Order 1
			Prayer Link Road: Haslin Crescent
			Neighbourhood Link: Ann Smith
Mon	28	6.30 pm	Confirmation Group - Lady Chapel
Wed	30	10.45 am	Holy Communion - followed by refreshments



Front over: The Pit in Spring (Photograph by David Cummings)

# The Rector's Letter

Dear Friends

## “Unless I see the marks ...”

Thomas's condition still holds good today. The disciples told him they had seen the Lord, but he responded “unless I see the marks .. (on his body) .. I will not believe.” Today we, his followers, claim to be his Church and to know our Lord. But it is as though people say to us, as Thomas said to the disciples, “unless we see the marks .. (of his body) .. we will not believe”. We have our Annual Parochial Church Meeting on Sunday 6 April immediately following morning Worship in Church. Afterwards there will be refreshments and displays of aspects of Parish life and work, in the Parish Hall. I do hope everyone who regards St James as their Church will try to take part. On Thursday 17 April we have our Annual Meeting of Churches Together in Christleton with music and readings; ‘All in an April Evening’, and the same is true for that gathering. What are the marks of his people?

Thomas needed convincing. He needed to see the marks of the nails on Jesus' body to be sure it really was him. If the Church is to be convincing today, we need to show, as individuals and together, that our life bears the distinguishing marks of Jesus Christ – that we really are the Body of Christ. As for Thomas, that will include the marks of suffering – that we show the same characteristics of self-sacrifice and service; of putting the needs of others before our own privilege and comfort. It will also mean that, like the early disciples, our lives have been transformed by our meeting with the Risen Lord.

For Mary, her sorrow was turned to joy as she heard Jesus' familiar voice speak her name. So for us, sorrow is turned to joy, not in a superficial or forced façade, but in the deep sense of having come through sorrow to discover that joy which no-one and nothing can take from you. It is the discovery of the steadfast love of God at the heart of life, which does not save us from sorrow, but sees us through the tough times to emerge like Spring after Winter.

Then we read the disciples were behind locked doors for fear, when Jesus came and stood in their midst and said: “Peace be with you.” For them fear was replaced with peace – a peace which passes our understanding – a peace this world cannot give. To know Jesus is to have that deep sense of peace at the heart of life – however ruffled things may seem on the surface! So the life of the Christian and the Church should be characterised by that peace which enable us to live and work in unity and harmony.

We also see Cleopas and his friend walking to Emmaus in confusion and despair. Their hopes were shattered and they could not understand what had happened. But

the stranger who joins them on the road begins to explain the scriptures from the beginning, and to make sense of all that had happened – how a loving God cannot but suffer in a suffering world, but that his love transforms that suffering from defeat to victory. And as they are ready to invite him in, the stranger accepts, and in a special moment Jesus is made known to them in the breaking of the bread and confusion is turned to conviction. Immediately they leave to share the good news. So it is only as we allow Jesus as a stranger to come alongside us in his word, and only when we invite him into our lives, that he becomes known to us in the breaking of the bread.

For Thomas himself, doubt was turned to faith as he saw those marks in Jesus' body and kneeling he said: 'My Lord and my God'. And it is only when we have come to recognise Jesus for ourselves that we can hope to communicate the reality of his risen presence by an evident faith.

Finally for Peter guilt was changed to forgiveness as the risen Lord enabled him to make good his three fold denial with a threefold affirmation in new dawn by the lakeside. So it is only as we know ourselves to be forgiven, accepted and loved, that we can pass on the release of forgiveness to others.

As we celebrate the new life of Christ in this Easter season, and come together as his people and his Church, may we so show the characteristics and marks of his body that he may be made known to all his people.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Peter Lee". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line that underlines the name.

**Prayer of the I**

*Stay with us, Lord, for the day is far spent  
and we have not recognised your face  
in each of our brothers and sisters.*

*Stay with us, Lord, for the day is far spent  
and we have not shared your bread  
in grace with our brothers and sisters.*

*Stay with us, Lord, for the day is far spent  
and we have not listened to your word  
in the words of our brothers and sisters.*

*Stay with us, Lord,  
because our very night becomes day when you are there. Amen.*

# FLOWER APPEAL 'CHURCH WITHOUT FLOWERS'

*Everyone loves to see flowers in Church.*

We now urgently need more volunteers to help keep this going.  
We need two (2) ladies or friends who will work together twice a year to  
join our small happy group of ladies.

Please ring Olive – 336562 Or Alison – 335587



## CHRISTLETON ROSE QUEEN 2008

*Christleton looks forward to crowning  
a new Rose Queen in 2008.*

This may be your chance to become Queen.

The new queen will also require page boys  
and attendants.

To apply for these exciting jobs please  
contact

Reply to Shirley Hurst  
on 01244 345421  
by April 11th



# Coffee Morning for Tanzanian School

The coffee morning which had been held at the home of Iris Foster in the past moved it's venue to the Institute this year, raising £350, double that of previous years.

Villagers who are excellent cooks, others with artistic tendencies decorated the rooms. The atmosphere of giving and sharing made it a very happy occasion.

The money raised has gone to Noonkaden Secondary School in Eluwai village, Monduli, Northern Tanzania in response to their book-appeal. Text books had been shared between four of five pupils. The money raised means every student now has their own book. Any monies over will go to the water-harvesting project which is ongoing in this developing school.

Thank you all of those who remembered those less well-off than themselves and gave so generously.

To learn more about Aang Serian U.K. and Noonkadin Secondary School log onto



Whilst many Sunday newspapers now cost £2, St James' Parish Magazine is still a bargain.

With regret, due to escalating costs, we have to increase the price by 5 pence to 35p from April 1st. Subscribers are however given a discount with 12 monthly editions delivered to your door for only £4.

This is the first price increase since January 1997!

Many thanks to all subscribers, advertisers, contributors and distributors for your continued support.

*Ed*

## CONGRATULATIONS

To David & Jan Bowden for their  
Ruby Wedding Anniversary  
on 27 April

# ON

## TOLERANCE

During February many parishioners visited the Quaker Tapestry Exhibition in Chester Cathedral. Cleverly the event gave a great deal of pleasure; a colourful commentary of social history as seen through the life, work, and corporate witness of Friends over a period of 350 years to the present day.

These days different religious denominations happily do so much together that the significance of a Quaker event in an Anglican Cathedral may, in 2008 barely be noticed. Relations were far more strained in the middle of the seventeenth century. But for an amazing gesture at that time by a prominent member of the Church of England near Ulverston, the Society of Friends might never have got off the ground; a story I told in an earlier article “ON tolerance”

14 years ago:-

“In 1961 my parents became wardens of Swarthmoor Hall just outside Ulverston. Built in 1600 for the Fell family, it was an inspiring and hallowed place to have as our home.

“Whenever I recall Swarthmoor Hall I think of the profound and loving tolerance shown in 1652 by the then owner, Judge Thomas Fell, who was Justice of the Assize for a large area



of north-west England. A group of the early Quakers had, like the other ‘dissenters’, tried to have open-air meetings and services further south, had been pilloried for their efforts, and led by George Fox had crossed Morecambe Bay to Ulverston at

St. James’ Christleton Parish Magazine

low tide. Many dissenters had been imprisoned by colleagues of Judge Fell elsewhere.

“But Judge Fell had a profound Christian faith and, whilst he was a stalwart of Ulverston Parish Church, he invited George Fox into his home at Swarthmoor and allowed the first Quaker Meetings to take place in his oak-panelled dining room.

“Whilst worship based on silence was strange to Judge Thomas, and he reputedly never attended a Meeting himself, he always asked that during Meetings for Worship the door leading from the hall into his parlour be left open so that he could listen to the silence”.

So well done Chester Cathedral for helping to retell the history of Quakers in such a hospitable manner.

*John Carruthers*

---

## **CATHEDRAL NEWS**

### **SAINTS' WINDOWS IN THE CLOISTERS**

St Patrick was kidnapped from the British mainland around age 16, and shipped to Ireland as a slave. He was sent to the mountains as a shepherd, and spent his time in prayer. After six years of this life, he had a dream in which he was commanded to return to Britain; seeing it as a sign, he escaped. He studied in several monasteries in Europe and became a Priest Bishop. He was sent by Pope Saint Celestine to evangelize England, then Ireland. In 33 years he effectively converted the Irish. In the Middle Ages Ireland became known as the Land of Saints, and during the Dark Ages its monasteries were the great repositories of learning in Europe, all a consequence of Patrick's ministry.

Saints Day: 17 March  
Born: 387-390 at Scotland as Maewyn Succat  
Died: 461-464 at Saul, County Down, Ireland  
Patronage: against snakes; excluded people; snake bites

### **BBC Antiques Road Show**

Take your treasures to the experts on Thursday 3 April from 9.30 am – 4.30 pm at The Cathedral. Admission free.

*e-mail:- [antiques.roadshow@bbc.co.uk](mailto:antiques.roadshow@bbc.co.uk)*

# NATURE NOTES

**H**ighlight of the month was the sighting of an egret at Christleton Pit. These small white herons used to be a species you would only see on the continent, but are now visible in the UK at almost every river estuary, including the Dee, and they are known to be breeding in



the South of England on the Dart and Exe rivers. There are usually three or four to be seen around the old quayside at Parkgate, but there are

groups of up to 250 of these beautiful birds in some places, e.g. on the WWT reserve at Penclacwydd, on the Gower Estuary in South Wales. The bird at Christleton was probably a passage bird, although the spring migration hasn't yet started. I understand however that there are already some swallows and martins appearing in the south, and on our recent visit to Spain we saw some migratory species starting to feed and gather before going north over the Pyrenees to their summer homes. I heard recently that an osprey, a huge fish eating eagle has been seen in the Chester area during January. This is not where you would usually expect to find one, as ospreys are migratory and should be spending their winters in West Africa.

---

## *Tufted Duck on the Canal*

---

The first butterflies appeared in the village in early February, with the appearance of two small tortoiseshells. These are last year's adults that have wintered in houses, garages, or sheds to emerge in the first good spell of warm sunshine.

St. James' Christleton Parish Magazine

Look out for the beautiful female tufted duck on the canal, often near The Old Trooper, as it is now in full breeding plumage, complete with a fine tuft of light brown feathers on its head, and a delightful golden eye. It has been there for almost a year, but hasn't yet found a mate. Two of last years cygnets are also trying to build a nest along the canal, but even if they do build a nest at the first attempt, it will be at least two more years before they are mature enough to breed. Our usual pair are now back on site at The Pit, and the new nest is ready for them, The cob, now CP58 has been resident at The Pit since 1997, is approximately 16years old and came originally from Shropshire. The pen C175 was born at The Pit in 1997, and the pair have laid 46 eggs and produced 32cygnets which have survived to fly since 2001. A 68% success rate, which is well above the average for a pair of mute swans.

DC



*The phrase "rule of thumb" is derived from an old English law which stated that you couldn't beat your wife with anything wider than your thumb*

**Christian Aid**

**IN CHRISTLETON**

**WE NEED YOU**

As Easter approaches, I know it is time to turn my thoughts to

**Christian Aid Week  
(11 – 17 May 2008)**

and to ask, once more, for volunteers to join and support our ever faithful band of collectors.

Is this something you could do?

If you feel that you could volunteer I would be most grateful. It would be a shame not to be able to cover every house in the Parish and the more collectors we have the fewer houses each will have to cover.

Also, I would be very glad to hear from anyone who would be willing to help me on the administrative side of Christian Aid Week.

Please ring me  
Fiona Lee (335663)

# Christleton Post Offices 1819 – 2008 *Part II*



**T**he third Post Office in Christleton (pictured) was also in Pepper Street, adjacent to the first building shown last month and was run by the Morgan Brothers, T.R. (Reg) and W.E. (Eric). The second post office at “Two Gables” mentioned last month was the home of Gilbert Mayers, who had married Dorothy Morgan, hence the connection between the families and the three premises. I’m not sure when the switch back to the new shop took place but it is advertised in the

Parish Magazines of the 1920’s. The telephone number was 40, and the advert refers to the firm being established in 1819. You were assured of Prompt and Personal Attention, and as well as being a post office, was an incredible source of goods.

All the following items were stocked in this small store in our village. It sounds like a veritable **SUPERMARKET!!**

High class groceries and provisions, Home made bread and confectionary. Patent medicines, foods and sundries; Toilet requisites, tobacco & stationery; Hardware, earthenware, china and glass,

Cattle, dog and poultry foods; Hay & straw; English & Foreign fruits. Seeds, plants and garden tools etc; Agents for Lyons Cakes, & Chocolates; “Ensign Cameras”, films & photographic



material; “Ensign Snapshot Service” Developing, Printing & Enlarging; Sherley’s Dog & Cat Medicines; “Magnet” Electric Suction sweepers, Fires and Irons. “Osram” Electric lamps and Shades etc; Slazenger’s Tennis Rackets & Balls; Badminton Rackets & Shuttles; Other Sports Goods.

By the 1950’s they were also Newsagents, selling Paints & Distempers, Wireless Batteries and Accumulators, as well as being Travel Agents and members of IATA, and also agents for the “Royal “ Insurance Company Ltd. What an amazing Post Office & General Store

---

### **A veritable Supermarket!**

---

This store was still in operation in the early 1970’s, but the Post Office part of the business had been transferred to the Cash & Carry Stores in Village Road run by the Hall Family. Another interesting fact about this Post Office Stores in Pepper Street is that it was originally called “Chapel House”, and that the first Methodist Chapel in Christleton was situated in the upstairs room above the shop, and reached via a staircase within the shop itself. The last proprietors were the Taylor Family, but business declined after the loss of the Post Office and it closed.

which was run in the premises in Village Road is the one now losing its status. It was trading as a Cash & Carry Stores in 1951, run by Ernest & Emma Hall, becoming the Post Office in 1967. The following description of the shop appeared in the first Christleton History Book, “It has been said in their time, this cheerful couple succeeded in supplying a pony, an electric cooker and a bath, in addition to the more usual village requirements of sweets and shoe laces”. The premises had been occupied successively by the Millward’s, Butler’s (from Butler’s Mill) Leece and Bladwick Families since the turn of the century”. The Hall’s were succeeded in 1976



by Peter & Marjorie Jackson and in recent years by Paul Jackson their son. It is hard to believe that a village the size of Christleton, with its considerable

population, local businesses, homes for the elderly, Primary & High school’s, Law College, pubs, various societies & clubs all needing banking & posting facilities can lose its Post Office. History will show no doubt that new technology will be seen to be the cause, but it seems ludicrous to take away such a basic facility from such a large village population.

The fourth Christleton Post Office

# Ernest Hall

(Postmaster & Photographer)

Last month we reported the sad death of Ernest Hall. Ernest and his late wife Emma ran “The Cash & Carry Stores” later to be Christleton Post Office in Village Road for twenty five years, and took an active part in village life. Emma who died in 2007 was a stalwart member of Christleton W I, Christleton Singers, and in 1975



was Chairman of the organisation hosting the very successful Festival of British Villages celebration held in the village that year. Ernest was a very keen photographer, and took some remarkable pictures of the village in colour from the late 1950's

until his retirement in the late 70's. Ernest's colour slides give a unique view of Christleton, as they illustrate and record all the village events during that period, including fetes, festivals, including “The Beating of the Bounds”, Point to Point horse racing at Littleton, the opening of the new Scout Hut, and in particular recording special visitors to the village including Leonard Cheshire V.C. Ernest also took some wonderful shots of Romany families camped in their vardo's on Birch Heath, and Hare Lane. They regarded him as a

personal friend because of the welcome they received in the shop, so I guess they trusted and allowed him to take their photographs. I include one of these as a tribute to his work, and in his memory. Thanks to his donation of all his village slides to the Local History Group 5years ago we have a unique collection of photographic material,

as important as “Reg” Morgan's work was at the beginning of the 20th C. I hope it will be possible to exhibit some of his work at a Village Show coffee morning to be held in the Parish Hall on the 5th July. (Full details later)

# LONDON

7/8 March 2008

The intrepid travellers, Janet and Christine have been on the move again this time to see Musical Theatre in London.

We were collected by our coach drivers on Friday morning and were just approaching the next collection point for passengers in Wrexham when the bus went over some rough cobbles and the suspension went on this brand new vehicle! The driver was unconcerned about it and we heard him talking to head office on the phone and arranging for repairs to be done in London. More passengers were collected in Oswestry and we made our way, uneventfully, to our hotel, the Tower Guoman in St Katherine's dock, overlooking the Thames at Tower Bridge. We had time for a cup of tea, freshen up and were taken to the Prince of Wales theatre where we were to see MAMMA MIA. We found a nice Italian restaurant where we had a meal before making our way to the theatre and were sitting comfortably in our seats in anticipation of the start of the performance. The two seats on Janet's right were unoccupied for a short while following the start but shortly afterwards two ladies came to sit down, both holding glasses which

had been purchased from the bar. No sooner had they sat down than they started singing – quite loudly - to the music & were obviously Abba fans because they new every word of every song being sung! I glanced at Chris on my right and she raised her eyes to the heavens and I was quickly becoming irritated by these two women who were obviously fuelled by alcohol. I hadn't gone all that way to hear them sing! The lady in front finally spoke to them and very politely asked them to be quiet which sent them into peals of giggles. At the interval they went out to the bar – to get tanked up again no doubt - and sure enough came back with glasses in their hands again. They were still singing and waving their arms like an act from a Karaoke during the second half but I managed to ignore them. The show itself was superb. The singing, costumes, music were all excellent and we would thoroughly recommend it to anyone who hasn't seen it. Whilst making our way back to the hotel the bus driver clipped the railings at the corner of a junction and scraped the side of the bus along one side making several dents in the panels and no sooner had he done that than we heard a police siren on his tail! He duly stopped the bus and spoke to the two policemen but we don't know the outcome of that conversation other than he didn't seem too happy when he got back on the bus. After a very eventful day, we

arrived back at the hotel and went to bed totally exhausted.

After breakfast the next morning there was a long delay because the repairs to the suspension on the bus had not gone according to plan and a temporary repair job was being done – we were keeping our fingers crossed it would be roadworthy! We were later dropped off near to the theatre where we would be seeing the matinee performance later that day of Joseph & the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat. Having got our bearings we spent a very pleasant two hours in Covent Garden browsing in the Flea Market and even had time to do a little shopping.

We had lunch in a French restaurant and made our way to The Adelphi to see Lee Mead playing the title role of Joseph. (You may remember he was the winner of the TV programme last year). We didn't have the Karaoke performers next to us this time

thank goodness and enjoyed the show without interruption. It was most enjoyable but we both agreed at the end that in fact we had enjoyed MAMMA MIA more than Joseph and just where Elvis Presley comes

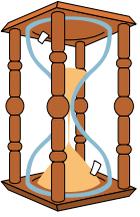
into the story of Joseph we never did find out. As we left the theatre we realised that crowds of people were gathering behind a roped off section and we stood about just to see what was going on! Soon afterwards Lee Mead himself appeared & talked to all the small children who had been waiting patiently to see him – one of them even had a miniature technicolor coat on - and he then started handing out signed pictures of himself. We both got a copy and later laughed at ourselves – two grown mature women waiting outside a theatre with all the rest of the 'fans' to see the handsome Lee!!!



The bus was late collecting us due to having repairs done somewhere on the Thames embankment but eventually we set off for home taking about an hour to just get out of London. The suspension had been repaired and we had an uneventful journey back arriving in Chester very late about 12.15 am and delighted to see John, our chauffeur waiting to drive

us home.

Despite the problems with the bus we have decided to make the weekend an annual visit to London's Theatre land, so here's to the next one in 2009.



# WHAT'S ON THIS MONTH

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

Held in the Parish Hall from  
10.45 am – 12.00 noon each Sunday  
during term-time, except when Family  
Service is held at St James. For further  
details please contact Berenice Hogg,  
336779.

## CHRISTLETON METHODIST CHURCH

We meet for Informal Prayers and a  
Simple Lunch on the first Thursday of  
each month at 12 noon. All welcome.  
There is no charge for the lunch but  
a donation to cover costs would be  
appreciated

## CHRISTLETON LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

**Wednesday April 16th at 6.00pm**

Outdoor Visit

Leader David Cummings

*A History Trail*

*around the Chester City Walls.*

Booking essential; Limited to 20  
members. Tel:01244 332410

## CHRISTLETON W.I.

Meets on the second Wednesday of the  
month at 7.15 pm in the Parish Hall  
Next meeting on April 9th  
*Garden Evening*

## CHESTER FLOWER CLUB

Meetings are held in Christleton Parish  
Hall on the 3rd Wednesday of the  
month at 1.30pm. Details of any events  
can be obtained from the Secretary,  
Mrs Edna Ellis telephone  
Chester 346497

## CHRISTLETON W.I. MONTHLY WHIST

Meet in the Parish Hall on the last  
Wednesday of the month at 2pm.  
*All welcome*

## CHRISTLETON GARDENING CLUB

**April 14th**

*Outing*



The Christleton Web Site  
now has a page featuring  
local events

# THIS MONTH & MAY



## CHURCHES TOGETHER IN CHRISTLETON

### VILLAGE TEA ROOM

All potential helpers  
are warmly invited  
to the Methodist Church  
for Coffee & Homemade biscuits

**on Thursday  
10th April**

**10.30 am – 12 noon**

to discuss catering arrangements  
for Sunday afternoons  
in June, July, August

Please contact Janet (335469) or  
Sheila (336754) if you are coming

### MAGAZINE DISTRIBUTORS

The May Magazine will be available for  
collection from Church on Sunday 27th  
April 2007.

## SCARECROW WOOD

Waverton and Christleton  
Hospice of the Good Shepherd  
Support Group

We are holding a Scarecrow display  
in the wooded garden  
at Cotton Abbotts Farm, Guy Lane,  
Waverton

**on May 17th and 18th**

We are inviting families and  
organisations in the two  
villages to make a scarecrow for the  
event.

Closing date for  
*'Space in the Wood'*  
**Friday, 11th April**

Contact: Margaret Renner  
Telephone 332005

Please help us to make the weekend  
a success!

## ST.JAMES' TUESDAY WALKING GROUP

**April 15th 2008**

N Wales; Llandegla & River Alyn.  
8 miles moderate.

Packed Lunch  
Depart Church Car Park at 8.00am



# WHAT'S ON

# THIS MONTH

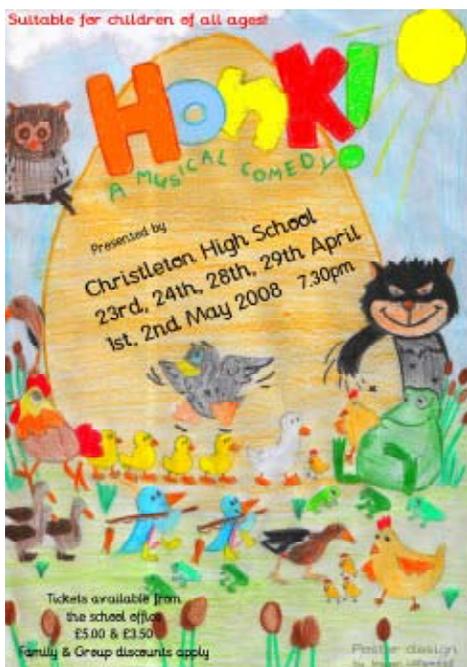
**Saturday April 12th**

**7.00 pm in the Parish Hall**  
**Buffet Supper & Charity talk for**  
**Christian Aid**  
by David Cummings

*“The City of Athens &  
The Greek Islands of Crete,  
Santorini, Samos, Ikaria and  
Lesvos*

Tickets, £6 including a glass of wine and  
light supper.

All proceeds to Christian Aid.  
Tickets from David at Church, or book by  
calling 332410.



April 2008

## CHRISTLETON PARISH COUNCIL

BIGGER AND BETTER THAN  
EVER

**OPEN MORNING**  
**SATURDAY, 12 APRIL, 2008**

**10.00 AM – 12.00 NOON**  
THE PARISH HALL  
VILLAGE GREEN

*Everyone Welcome*

Why not come along and meet your  
Parish Councillors

Find out what is happening in  
your village and see what has been  
achieved in the last year

**QUESTIONS ANSWERED**  
**LOCAL ISSUES DISCUSSED**

*Refreshments will be served*

**Look forward to seeing you there**

---

## MAGAZINE CONTRIBUTIONS

Please ensure all items for inclusion in  
the **MAY** edition are sent to the Rector,  
as soon as possible

**BEFORE Friday 11th April** or you can  
e-mail this to

[christletonmag@hotmail.com](mailto:christletonmag@hotmail.com)

# WHAT'S ON

# IN JULY



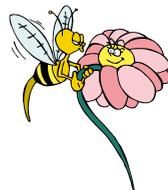
*Make a note in your diary*

## CHRISTLETON VILLAGE SHOW 2008



**Is on Saturday 12th July**

**In Christleton Parish Hall**



There are some new categories to choose from this year and the Young Peoples section has been modified and extended due to increased popularity. The theme this year is *Liverpool – Capital of Culture 2008* – which should get the “brain cells” working.

Schedules this year are available from any committee member and at the Village Churches. This is due to uncertainty about the village shop at the time of “going to press”. (Watch this space as things may change!!)

There will be a Coffee Morning at the Parish Hall on Saturday 5th July for all entrance forms to be handed in. If you have any problems getting a schedule, please telephone any of the committee and you will be sorted out.

We're hoping as many as possible will do a “Hanging Basket and/or Container” to make the Village as floral as possible. Anyone in Christleton can join in, and you don't need to be an expert but we do need to have entry forms in by the scheduled date so that judging can take place during the week previous to the Show.

The Village Show is a wonderful show case for the many talents everyone has, from growing flowers and vegetables to showing and cooking as well as crafts and art. Entering is easy, it doesn't cost much and is great fun - you could also win a trophy – there are lots of them.

If you have any queries or if you would like to help on the day (PLEASE) ring any of the committee below.

David or Beryl Cummings - 332410, Janet Brown – 335785. Charles Smeatham – 335209. Margaret Croston – 335955 - Sue Haywood – 01829 741814, Chris Marsland – 335424, June Pearson - 335101, Judith Butt – 335296, Sue Rees; Christine Abrahams; Iris Foster. Edward Elliot, Sarah Donald

# *They say nostalgia ain't what it used to be*

They don't know what they're talking about. There is a great wave of enthusiasm for looking back on times past; from the horrors of two World Wars to the way our parents and grandparents lived.

The TV programme *The Way We Were* captures brilliantly, through amateur footage and a poignant theme tune, a life that has gone for ever.

The poem is entitled, *The Good Old Days*. And how it brings them back. People really were happier, even though they had less.

*We met; we married, a long time ago,  
He worked for long hours and wages were low.  
No telly, no radio, no bath, times were hard,  
Just a cold water tap and a walk up the yard.  
No holidays abroad, no carpets on floors,  
We had coal on the fire – we never locked doors.  
Our children arrived – no Pill in those days,  
We brought them up without the state aid.  
No Valium, no drugs, no LSD,  
We cured our pains with a good cup of tea.  
If you were sick, you were treated at once,  
Not “fill up a form and come back next month”.  
No vandals, no muggings, there was nowt to rob,*

*In fact, you were rich with a couple of bob.  
People were happier in those far-off days,  
Kinder and caring in so many ways.  
Milkmen and paper boys would whistle and sing,  
And a night out at the flicks, a wonderful thing.  
Oh, we had our share of troubles and strife,  
But we had to face it, that was life.  
But now I'm alone, and look back through the years,  
I don't think of bad times, the troubles and tears,  
I remember the blessings, our home and love  
We shared them together, and I thank God.*



Christleton WI quiz team came third in the County Quiz League. Congratulations to the team: Barbara Mercer, Ann Large, Margaret Dromgoole and Eileen Quinn. Julie Coxall, editor of *The A41* magazine, gave a very interesting talk on how she started this project.

Members enjoyed an Easter raffle and were able to purchase from a good selection of books. Members were told to bring an empty plant container or hanging basket to the April meeting where plants and compost will be available for the “Garden Evening”.

*Visitors and new members welcome.*

# Sorry Petra

Dear Petra,

I am very sorry that I could not see you as promised. Things didn't go quite to plan. Yes I know it is really disappointing. No, I am not going to make any excuses. Well, on second thoughts I might just try a little. The plane you see, was one and half hours late leaving Manchester airport. It turned out it had a flat battery. Yes just like your car on a cold frosty morning when you are trying to get to work. Then we had to stop off at Gatwick to pick up some passengers and a new air crew. We taxied not far from a building and the small powered vehicle arrived with the ladders for the changeover. The problem was that they were not the right ladders for our Boeing 747. No need to worry there was a guy with a dark suit on the tarmac looking after us. Let us call him a flight dispatcher as that is what was written on his yellow fluorescent sleeveless over jacket. Pacing up and down and explaining the problem to his office on his telephone I watched with some amusement. Just then the new air crew were dropped off by an airport bus. They stood in a row thinking they were soon to get on the plane. They were wrong. The nip in the air of an early February morning started to bite. The dispatcher had to break off his quest for another set of ladders to call the bus back for the new crew to sit

in and keep warm. After more phoning another set of ladders drove up. Hooray. The driver edged them up to the plane. Dispatcher starting to look pleased as he thought of getting us on our way to Egypt. His hopes were shattered. This second set of ladders would not reach the aircraft. I felt like Victor Meldrew as I uttered his well know phrase under my breath 'I don't believe it'. Our Captain's rich and unflappable voice came over the cabin sound system assuring us that everything was being done to get the new crew aboard and that we would soon be on our way. Somehow the dispatcher had been able to summon a third set of ladders and guess what. They fitted. Our captain left his cockpit and walked down the aisle carrying his briefcase chuckling away saying it was just one of those days. The new crew came up the third set of steps followed by a bus load of additional passengers. Soon the plane was in the air and by the hour I was getting closer to you.

It was night when the plane landed at Taba airport in Egypt. About half of us made a very untidy queue to buy a visa so as to be able to leave Egypt on our visit. Why had only one man been appointed the job of issuing visas? It took nearly an hour for the coach to drive us from the desolate cold airport set high in the mountains down to Taba. Here myself and fellow travellers dispersed to four hotels all set beside the Red Sea. Across the dark water were the twinkling lights of Saudi Arabia.

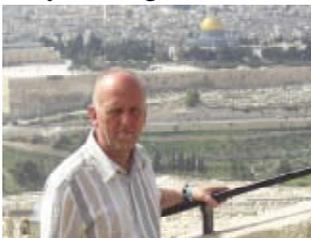
I checked in at the hotel. My case would

follow I was told as a very obliging porter was summoned to show me to my room. It is a good job he did for I might have had to sleep on the beach. It was a good five minute walk along cavernous corridors which thankfully took ninety degree turns every so often to ease the monotony. With only a short time to familiarise myself with my new lodgings my suitcase arrived. I retired to bed.

Awaking at about 7.30 I noticed the thick heavy curtains were strongly backlighted. On drawing them back I was dazzled by that phenomena that hardly dares to show an appearance in February back in England. That sun of ours was already high in the sky burning away in all its glory and illuminating a range of fine delicately coloured mountains replacing the lights of Saudi Arabia I had seen on my arrival. Breakfast brought with it an array of food which one could only sample a small part of. A summons had been given to me on my arrival to go to the hotel entrance hall at 11.15 am. Everything in modern Egypt is on a grand scale just as it was in ancient Egypt. The entrance hall was a good example of this with its circle of wide stout decorated columns surrounding a central pool and fountain.

All right, don't rush me. I am just trying to explain why I could not see you. Another woman you ask. No of course

not. Well not in the way you mean. I am sorry but I cannot and should not conceal it from you any longer. It was Lucy's fault. She was my first choice. Sorry, she was my First Choice rep. She led me to the conference room along with the others and she spoke most admiringly of you. She said you were absolutely wonderful or was it that you were one of the Seven New Wonders of the World. At this point I knew I had made the right decision and that I should visit you as previously planned. Then she went on about Catherine. Well I knew she was out of the running because I had visited her monastery in the Sinai desert two years ago. It was when she mentioned Jerusalem. You could have heard a grain of sand drop in the room. Lucy babbled



on about floating in the Dead Sea, seeing Jerusalem from the Mount of Olives, visiting the old city and the Wailing Wall. Walking the via Dolorosa and seeing the Stations of the Cross before arriving at the the Site of the Holy Sepulchre of Jesus. It just seemed the right thing to do. No, no no it is not that you are second best. It is that not everyone can be first. And in this case I am afraid you did not come first. It is not your money I am interested in but please believe me when I say that I will come and see your Treasury one day. I know there have been other men in your life. I understand Harrison Ford along with Sean Connery spent some time with you when filming Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade.

Had I been one of the eight passengers on our coach to Jerusalem who were detained as we entered Israel from Egypt then I really might have wished I had come to see you. Even though you remained unknown to the western world until Johann Ludwig Burckhardt knocked on your door in 1812 I guess you are going to be around for a while longer. So just be patient and I promise I will see you during a future peregrination.

Your ardent historical fan,

*Richard Nicholson*

---

**RECYCLE YOUR USED MOBILE  
PHONES AND  
PRINTER CARTRIDGES**

Raise money for our unit whilst helping the environment!

As a Young Leader at 2nd Christleton Guides, I am currently working on my Queen's Guide Award (the highest award in Guiding). As part of this I am doing a community action project, to be carried out over a year. For my project I decided to research recycling and environmental issues on a local, national, and international scale, as this is something I feel quite strongly about.

Whilst researching I stumbled across the Girlguiding UK Recycling Appeal, and jumped at the opportunity to get involved. The idea of this recycling

appeal is to collect any unwanted mobile phones & used printer cartridges. These donations are then bought by a recycling plant, the money going to 2nd Christleton Guides. Printer cartridges are refilled and returned to the consumer stream as an environmentally friendly product. Mobile phones are either: resold, fully recycled, or sent to developing countries where there are few landlines. Even phones in poor condition can be made use of.

If you would like to donate anything there are now several collection boxes around the village:

St James Church - The Parish Hall and The Scout Hut

Alternatively, call 08451 30 20 10 and quote our account number: VEN0240833. For more information visit: [www.guidesrecycle.com](http://www.guidesrecycle.com)

Any donations would be greatly appreciated.

*Gemma S*

---

## **And God Created Mothers**

When the good Lord was creating mothers, he was into his sixth day of overtime when an angel appeared and said, "You're doing a lot of fiddling around on this one." And the Lord said, "Have you read the specifications on this order? She has to be completely washable, but not plastic .... Have 180 moveable parts – all replaceable ... run on black coffee and left-overs ... have a lap that disappears when she stands up ... a kiss that can cure anything from a

**St. James' Christleton Parish Magazine**

broken leg to a disappointed love affair ... and six pairs of hands." The angel shook her head slowly and said, "Six pairs of hands? No way." "It's not the hands that are causing me problems," said the Lord. "It's the three pairs of eyes that mothers have to have." "That's on the standard model?" asked the angel. The Lord nodded. "One pair that sees through closed doors when she asks, 'What are you children doing in there?' when she already knows. Another in the back of her head that sees what she shouldn't but what she has to know. And, of course, the ones in front that can look at a child when he gets himself into trouble and say 'I understand and I love you without so much as uttering a word.'

"Lord," said the angel, touching his sleeve gently, "go to bed. Tomorrow is another ..." "I can't" said the Lord. "I'm so close now. Already I have one who heals herself when she is sick, can feed a family of six on one pound of mince, and can get a nine-year-old to have a bath." The angel circled the model of a mother very slowly. "It's too soft," she sighed. "But tough!" said the Lord excitedly. "You cannot imagine what this mother can do or endure." "Can it think?" "Not only think, but it can reason and compromise", said the Creator.

Finally the angel bent over and ran her finger across the cheek. "There's a leak," she pronounced. "It's not a leak," said the Lord. "It's a tear." "What's it for?" "It's for joy, sadness, disappointment, pain, loneliness and pride." "You are a genius," said the angel. The Lord looked

sombre, "I didn't put it there."

*(This was read to the WI last month by David Cook during his talk entitled "Humour in Education")*



## Christleton Cricket Club

Christleton Cricket Club is looking forward to the new season. Several new players have joined, including Sri Lankan former first class cricketer Iroshan De Silva. Iroshan is an opening batsman and off spin bowler, who will also coach our juniors alongside Andy Derwent, a level 3 coach. Junior coaching is for ages 7 to 15 years on Monday evenings. Contact Mike Wyatt on 318019 or Brian on 3323326 for information.

A pre season Dinner will take place on Friday 11th April and games begin on Saturday 19th April with the 1st team at home to Poynton. New captain Paul Allan is confident we will have a successful season.

A match involving the England Deaf Team takes place on July 6th in preparation for the Ashes tour of Australia. Chairman Gareth Davies hopes it is well supported.

We welcome any new match sponsors who wish to donate £30 to support the club. New members are always welcome. Net practice is on Tuesday evenings at 6.30pm

### LEPROSY MISSION

#### Stamp out leprosy!

Please donate your used stamps so that money can be raised for Leprosy Mission. Stamps should be trimmed to quarter inch border around the stamp, and can be left at the back of Church.

#### PLEASE TELL US...

If you know of any special birthdays, anniversaries or anyone celebrating a special occasion, who is a Parish Magazine reader, please inform the editor, David Bull.

#### AVAILABLE AT ST JAMES CHURCH

"Loop" system, for the hearing impaired  
Large print books for the visually impaired & large print weekly notice sheets  
Easy to follow Communion Service Books for children  
Access for wheelchairs  
Please ask any of the Churchwardens or Sidesmen if you need assistance in any way.

### CHRISTLETON UNDER-FIVES

#### COMMUNITY PLAYGROUP

#### Registered Charity 1022817

Christleton Under Fives is an established pre school playgroup attracting children from a wide area. It enjoys good and well founded links with Christleton Primary School. Children from the age of 2 1/2 years until school age are accepted. Please contact the Supervisor, Carole Penny, on 336586 for further details.

#### MOBILE LIBRARY VAN SERVICE

The van calls weekly: alternate Thursdays all day and alternate Fridays in Quarry Lane 11.15 am – 12.45 pm. For further details of when the van is next in your area, please telephone Upton Library on 380053.

#### READERS

Please remember to support our magazine advertisers and mention where you have read their name.

# WHAT'S ON IN APRIL



## Ellesmere Port Music Society

### Spring Concert

Puccini - Requiem (Edgar) Saint-Saëns - Requiem op 54

Mozart - Coronation Mass in C Mozart - Exultate, jubilate

*Diana Palmerston - Soprano Margaret Mc Donald - Contralto Oliver White - Tenor*

*Ian Caddy - Bass*

The EPMS Chorus with Wirral Philharmonic Orchestra

Conductor Michael Williams

**Saturday 19th April 2008 Civic Hall Ellesmere Port**

**At 7 30 pm**

Tickets: 0151 327 4062 [www.epmsonline.co.uk](http://www.epmsonline.co.uk)

From chorus members or At the door (subject to availability)

### CONTRIBUTORS

The best way to send contributions to St. James' Parish Magazine is to e-mail the document.

Attach your Word document and e-mail it to

**[christletonmag@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:christletonmag@hotmail.co.uk)**

# Parish Registers for February 2008

## Holy Baptism

24th Jude John Marrison Samuel Gill son of Rupert & Caroline Gill  
 “Woodleigh” 113 Tarvin Road, Littleton, Chester

*“We welcome you into the Lord’s Family”*

## The Marriage Service.

9th Stephen James Williamson & Jillian Elizabeth Conn  
 34 Meadow Lane, Chester

16th Matthew John Davies 49 Edward Street, Overseal, Swadlincote  
 & Laura Kersten Elspeth Johnson 27 Toll Bar Road, Christleton

*“Those whom God has joined, let not man divide”*

## The Funeral Service

7th Vincent Bailey, 16 Bush Road, Christleton

11th Renee Whissell, “Ashlyns” Cleeshaen Rd, Berkhamstead, Herts

13th Mavis Roper, Birch Heath Lodge Nursing Home, Christleton

26th Catherine Mary Moorley, Birch Heath Lodge Nursing Home,  
 Christleton

28th Ian Macdonald, “Beechwood” 17 The Park, Christleton

29th Nora Jones, 40 Belgrave Road, Great Boughton, Chester

*“Grant then eternal rest”*

## Offertories.

February	Cash	CSE	2008	2007
3rd	170-22	526-36	696-38	933-41
10th	383-92	686-00	1,079-92	721-98
17th	107-88	526-00	633-88	819-45
24th	259-22	681-00	940-22	959-72
<b>Totals</b>			<b>£ 3,150-60</b>	<b>£ 3,434-56</b>

*“Of your own do we give you”*

## PARISH CHURCH OF ST. JAMES, CHRISTLETON

<b>SUNDAYS</b>	8.00 a.m.	Holy Communion	
	10.45 a.m	Parish Communion	1st & 3rd Sundays
		Family Service	2nd Sunday
		Mattins	4th & 5th Sundays
	6.30 p.m	Evensong	1st, 2nd & 3rd Sundays
Evening Communion		4th Sunday	
Songs of Praise		5th Sunday	
<b>WEDNESDAYS</b>	10.45 a.m.	Holy Communion	
<b>SAINT'S DAYS</b>	9.30 a.m.	Holy Communion	

### WHO'S WHO & WHAT'S WHAT

**Rector:** **The Rev'd Canon K. Peter Lee, M.A.**  
**The Rectory, Birch Heath Lane, Christleton .... 335663**

<b>Churchwardens:</b>	Lois Dickinson .....	378320
	Keith Smalls .....	335688
<b>Reader</b>	Wayne Morris .....	01978 263389
<b>Reader Emeritus</b>	John Roberts .....	332207
<b>Verger</b>	David Ellis .....	336879
<b>Sacristan:</b>	Betty Dunning .....	335652
Sunday School:	Berenice Hogg .....	336779
Mother's Union Branch Leader	Margaret Renner ... ..	332005
Organist & Musical Director:	Steve Roberts .....	815277
P. C. C. Secretary:	Brenda Bailey .....	335034
P. C. C. Treasurer:	David Mercer .....	336155
Stewardship Envelope:	Betty Dunning .....	335652
Gift Aid Secretary	Nigel Seddon .....	335588
Bellringers	Ian Braithwaite .....	300565
Bellringer Vice Captains	Ian Crossan .....	332280
Parish Hall Booking	David Mercer .....	336155
C. M. S. Secretary	Janet Brown .....	335785
Children's Society Sec.	Lesley Morgan .....	335088
Visiting Group:	Gill Hibbert .....	336544
Library	Lois Dickinson .....	378320
Church Flowers	Olive Hammond.....	336562
Magazine Editor	David Bull.....	332234
Magazine Compiler	Richard Nicholson .....	336004
Magazine Distributors	Jenny Davies and Valmai Griffiths .....	335884
Neighbourhood Link Co-Ordinator	Janet Bowden.....	335705
Parish Resource		
Person for Child Protection	Susan Alexander .....	335077



**BAPTISMS, WEDDINGS & APPOINTMENTS  
BY ARRANGEMENT WITH THE RECTOR 335663**

