

St. James'

Christleton



PARISH MAGAZINE

August 2016

www.christleton.org.uk

35p

Advertising August

Wed	3	10.45 am	United Communion (BCP) - followed by refreshments
Sat	6	01.30 pm	Wedding – James Rose and Annaliese Offord
Sun	7		11th After Trinity
		08.00 am	Holy Communion (BCP) followed by breakfast in the Parish Hall
		10.45 am	Holy Communion (CW) Healing Service followed by refreshments in Parish Hall
		06.30 pm	Evening Prayer
Wed	10	10.45 am	Holy Communion (BCP) -followed by refreshments
		11.30 am	Holy Communion at Birch Heath Lodge
Fri	12		NB: Last day for contributions to September magazine, to Janet Milton (325529) or you can-email your document to christletonmag@gmail.com
Sun	14		12th After Trinity
		08.00 am	Holy Communion (CW)
		10.45 am	Holy Communion (CW)
		06.30 pm	Evening Worship (BCP)
Mon	15	12.00 noon -	for 12.30 pm start Luncheon Club in Parish Hall
Wed	17	10.45 am	Holy Communion (BCP) - followed by refreshment

Sun	21	13th After Trinity	
		08.00 am	Holy Communion (CW)
		10.45 am	Holy Communion (CW)
		06.30 pm	Evening Prayer (BCP)
Wed	24	10.45 am	Holy Communion (BCP) - followed by refreshments
Fri	26	01.00 pm	Wedding – Andrew Ollies and Liz Graham
Sun	28	14th After Trinity	
		08.00 am	Holy Communion (CW)
		10.45 am	Morning Prayer (CW)
		06.00 pm	Holy Communion (CW)
Wed	31	10.45 am	Holy Communion (BCP) followed by refreshments

Prayer to our Always-Good Father

Father,

Thank you that you are our Father and that you love us, whoever we are, wherever we go, whatever we've done, however we feel.

No matter what life brings, you never change. You are always good and always there for us, if we just turn and talk to you.

Thank you for Jesus who died to make that possible. We pray in his name.

Amen.

By Daphne Kitching

Small opportunities are often the beginning of great enterprises.

Demosthenes

Message from our Rector



Walk round any major shopping area, and you will see collection tins, or baskets, or buckets strategically placed seeking to persuade shoppers to contribute to the nominated charity.

Hardly anything newsworthy in that you may think.....and you may well be right, the local journalists would probably agree with you, after all, when was the last time you saw an article in the local never mind the national

press reporting that some charity or other was collecting in Chester.....of course it may happen if it's some international charity, or some local celebrity is involved.....but if the collector is simply a member of the public, no gimmicks.....just a good cause.

Of course, it doesn't happenand yet behind those collection tins, is an attempt to improve,..... to make a difference to the lives of ordinary everyday people.....and it's true that if we knew the people who in effect were reflected in these tins, we may feel that more should be done to ensure the issue or the campaign was given more recognition.

Compare and contrast that image to an item on national news just a short time ago, a man walked down the local high street of his town.....handing out money to total strangers as they passed by.....there was a frenzy of activity when he simply took hold of a substantial amount of bank notes and tossed them into the air..... the incident was captured on CCTV word spread quickly, and many local reporters scrambled for the scoopsomeone was actually giving something rather than asking for something.

As Christians, we, more than anyone have reason to broadcast the things we have received, and continue to receive.....
Forgiveness of our sins.....

If we consider that throughout Scripture, we are told that the one thing which drives that wedge between us and God is sin.....and the more we sin, the more the wedge can be driven inand yet through Christ, we are given forgiveness of our sins, that each time we simply say sorry and mean itthat wedge disappears and our relationship with God is as close as ever.

And that is how Christ comes to us, not asking what we can offer him.....but rather by telling us what he can and does offer to us.....perhaps that's why some people struggle with religion, why some people look for the twist.....because society just doesn't operate like thathow many people have been caught on the telephone by someone trying to gain our confidence.....

You know the ones.....you are suddenly told that your name has been drawn out of the hat for this once in a lifetime, never to be missed, holiday or whatever it is.....a draw that you haven't entered, but they are giving it to you.....well if you're anything like me, the barriers go up right away, and I just want to get this person off the phone.....

There's that popular phrase on consumer programmes..... If it sounds too good to be true, then it probably is

And of course, the reason it's usually not true is quite simply because these people who contact us are "business" people..... people looking out for their own ends

Hardly surprising then that when people come across Christianity, they can ask.....what's the catch.....and I love it when we can say, quite honestly that there is no catch.....because they will usually reply.....nothing's free in this life.....to which we can agree.....and then addbut Jesus paid the price..... whatever the cost, when he offered himself in our place,
That he paid the price, that we may simply receive.
And of course, as we receive, as we become aware of this wonderful

relationship we have with God, through Jesus.....how that works through all of our daily living.....it's at that point that we recognise that this gift, is not simply something that we hold on to, something we hide away for fear of losing it.....on the contrary, we then go about giving away this gift we have received, because we come to that realisation that the more we give away, the more we retain for ourselves.

It's a way of life that turns conventional understanding on it's head
But as we give, we need to remember that true Christian love, is not just about the gift we give away.....but about the giver

It's not just the actions we take.....but the attitudes of our actions
It's not just about our methods.....but our motivation

Human nature tells us that we should focus selfishly on ourselves, but God's nature in a person causes them to focus selflessly on the needs of others.

God's amazingly abundant grace comes our way, in order that we might be rich.....our richness is not in pounds and pencebut in grace.

And now we must learn that we give of ourselves, because God first gave to us.....his son Jesus Christhe became poor and died for us, that we might be rich and live for him and in him.

As Christians, we should be leading the way into the futurewe have the intentions before us to set the future of our church, living in faith, learning to live by Gods means.

We can be confident that if we walk by faith in all areas of our lives, God will be faithful with us and place upon us his amazing abundant grace.

Your faithful Servant,
Malcolm



THE MONTHLY
CHRISTLETON

Next Lunch:

LUNCHEON CLUB

IN THE
PARISH HALL

Monday 15th August 2016

(Future dates: 19th Sept; 17th Oct.)

12 noon for 12.30 serving. All welcome.

No charge, donations welcome.

Book by calling: Liz: 409414, or Janet: 325529,
or Christine: 335562, or sign a list in Church.



THE PARISH OF
ST JAMES,
CHRISTLETON

New Hymn Books

There is a plan to buy new hymn books for use in St James' Church in the not too distant future, the final choice of book has yet to be made.

You are invited to dedicate a book in memory of a loved one or in celebration and thanksgiving for an event such as a special wedding anniversary, birth of a child, etc.

A bookplate will be placed in the book indicating the dedication and a donation of £10.00 per book is suggested.

For more information contact Elizabeth Inall

Tel: 336500;

email: Elizabeth@Inall.co.uk



WHAT'S ON THIS MONTH

SUNDAY CLUB

Held in the Parish Hall from 10.45 am – 11.45 am each Sunday during term-time, except when Family Service is held at St James.

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 W. I.

Meets on the second Wednesday of the month at 7.15 pm in the Parish Hall. Further details may be obtained from the Secretary, Miss Ida Rogers, Chester 350060.



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 Club Secretary - 01745 856126.

MAGAZINE DISTRIBUTORS

The **September** magazine will be available for collection from Church on Sunday 28th August

MONTHLY LUNCHEON CLUB

Meets in the Parish Hall on the 3rd Monday of each month at 12 noon for a 12.30 pm start. There is no charge but donations are welcome. For further details contact Janet Milton (325529) or Christine Abrams (335562)

RSPB CHESTER GROUP

Meetings are held from September to April in Christleton Parish Hall, usually on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7.30pm. Occasional field trips.

Details from Norman on 01244 335670 or www.rspb.org.uk/groups/chester



The History File

Mute Swans. (Cygnus olor)

The main species of swan that we see in Britain are Mute Swans. Evidence has been found to suggest that they have been around in the UK for thousands of years. Many were kept as birds for the table, in hospital grounds, and at Monasteries such as at Abbotsbury in Dorset where the monks established a colony over 900years ago. Mute swans were marked on their bills to indicate their ownership. All unmarked swans then became the property of the Queen. The swans at Abbotsbury have one other interesting feature, in that over the years the swans have become non territorial and live together on the water called The Fleet. They also nest side by side with each other on nests provided for them by the “swan herd”. All other swans including those at Christleton are highly territorial and do not allow other swans in on their area.

The Worshipful Companies of Vintners and Dyers also still have the right to mark their swans and this takes place in the famous ceremony of Swan – upping each July on the River Thames. Today metal, and often additional coloured plastic rings are put on swans’ legs to indicate ownership, or place of ringing, such as at Christleton. Swans in Cheshire have green coloured rings with white letters and numbers. Swans from other parts of the UK have coloured leg rings such as yellow for Staffordshire, orange for Warwickshire, and blue for Lancashire. This enables researchers to follow the movement of swans throughout the country and sometimes overseas. Swans from the Chester area have been seen in Northern & Southern Ireland, Scotland, Northern England, Shropshire, Gloucestershire, Devon and recently one was seen at Kensington Palace Gardens in London.

Swans are long lived, our Christleton cob is over 25years old, and will mate for life if things go right, but as in the human world, it often doesn’t. Although they can be very belligerent, and liable to attack dogs, and man, if they get too close. This is especially so if they are protecting cygnets. They are wonderful parents, and we’ve seen some amaz-

ing sights, including the pen having all eight cygnets sitting under her wings on her back, or shepherding the cygnets carefully through our village to get to the canal from the Pit. They are also very intelligent, can identify safe places to feed, and people to trust. Our cob has been unable to walk properly or fly for the last three years, due to an arthritic hip, and instinct has told him to stay on the canal to breed, and not make the hazardous journey through the village. Finding a village family who provide the facilities for a nest site in a corner of their garden, he has even got on famously with their dog, and they seem to get on wonderfully. However any other dog seen to come close to the swan family near the canal will get the “hissing and very angry” treatment.



Swans have long been one of the traditions of the village of Christleton, being seen first as marks in a wax seal, made by villagers purchasing a new church building in 1737. Almost all village organisations have adopted the swan as their emblem, and we are all very proud of this. Although we no longer have swans on “The Pit” they are still very much part of the village being on the canal. This year we have five healthy cygnets, although one did disappear down the sluice near the lock a week or so ago and had to be rescued by the RSPCA. They are still all safely together and can be seen roosting on the bank opposite the Trooper most evenings and moving along the canal between Christleton Lock and Waverton during the day.

DC

THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who sent us cards, flowers and their best wishes on the occasion of our recent Golden Wedding. They were very much appreciated. Janet & John Milton

Back Cover

Top - Winning cake by Rector Malcolm Cowan

Bottom - Rose Queen Eilza Rose and her retinue outside St James June 2016

Front Cover: Confirmation at St James 2016

We had a wonderful celebration when five members of the Crew youth group were confirmed by the Bishop of Birkenhead in May along with one of the adult members of our congregation.

They are pictured with the Bishop and Malcolm (from left to right): Caroline; Emily; Jessica; Bishop Keith; Daryl; Dan; Elenor; Malcolm Tina Lightfoot

Thanks for supporting the Heritage Walks

Thank you to all who supported my recent series of heritage walks around the village. These proved to be a great success, and raised £250 through donations for two charities. The Parish Hall refurbishment fund here in Christleton, and to provide bibles for a Primary Mission School in Lacovia, Jamaica. I hope to publish the walks in a booklet over the winter months.DC

Churches Together in Christleton

SUMMER SUNDAY TEAS

In the Methodist Church Schoolroom

**From 5th June
Until 25 September 2016**

EVERY SUNDAY

FROM 2.30 pm UNTIL 4.30 pm

Everyone Welcome

Proceeds to Railway Children



St James Bereavement Support Group

The first meeting of this group was in July 1995, at the suggestion of Rev. Peter Lee and has been running continuously ever since, now supported by the Rev. Malcolm Cowan. Initially there were 12 members, led by Wendy and Norman Tattam, with Lois Dickinson acting as recorder. Training was provided by the Committee for Social Responsibility, Diocesan House, Chester. Although there have been many changes of visitors over the years, three of the original group are still members of the group, namely Gillian Brackenbury, Beryl Cummings and myself, as group leader since 1999. The aim of the group remains the same as agreed at the initial meeting. This is to offer a befriending and support service from within St James Church to recently bereaved parishioners and is not to be seen as bereavement counselling.

About six weeks after the funeral, an initial visit to the bereaved person is offered or made, together with flowers and a card with a message of sympathy on behalf of the family at St James and the contact details of the visitor. Further visits may be made depending on the needs of the bereaved person and a card is sent on the first anniversary of the death. Due to the fact that now many of the bereaved live outside of the parish, a handwritten card is sent to those families, following the funeral and on the first anniversary. In 2014-15, 10 initial visits made plus further follow up visits and 24 cards were sent. Since 1996, an annual special service, guided by the Rector and involving the group members, has been held on the evening of All Soul's Day, to which the bereaved from the previous year are personally invited by letter, refreshments being provided afterwards with the help of the Mothers' Union.

In order to aid group cohesion and support, we meet four to five times a year and have had several 'away days', the last one being at the Sisters of Jesus Way in West Kirby. We are represented on the PCC by Ann White, with Beryl and David Cummings doing a sterling job on the administration tasks. We have recently been joined by Tina Lightfoot, so the group now consists of the Rector and 6 visitor members.
Chris Alderton

Christleton Village Show 2016 Results

Best Exhibitor	Edward Elliott
Best Exhibit	Rev Malcolm Cowan
Rose Bowl	Judith Edwards
Wine/Drink	Eleanor Walker
Produce award	June Mawer
Baking Award	Elizabeth Inall
Fruit & Vegetables	David Prince
Best Plant	Jocelyn Platel
Floral art	Alison Kenyon
Art Local Scene	John Mawer
Children's Overall	Neamh Mills
Most Successful Flowers	Edward Elliott
Craft Award	Wendy Lewis
Best 3 Exhibits	Jan Bowden
Best Photo	Natalie Mills
Best Exhibit by a child.	Emily Bolton
Best Hanging Basket	Gerry Lockley
Best Group Baskets	Mr & Mrs D Williams
Best Commercial Baskets	Ring O Bells
Theme Shield	Dorothy Checkley
Millennium Trophy	June Pearson
Best Newcomer	Barbara Lovering
Chairman's Jubilee Award	Ben Williams
Jim Siddall Award	Mrs K Hall

Best Group Young Growers - Ellesmere Port Catholic High

Young People's Section Winners

Neamh Mills, Emily Bolton, Kara Thomas, Madeline Wrigley, Molly Williams, Luke Sturgess, James Newall, Ted Bolton, Elinor Vidamor, Alice Craven, Ciaran Inchley, Sophie Kerr, Lexie, Raphael, Austin Lowe, Thomas Wyrko, Lucas Kelly

PCC UPDATE

It isn't just the relationship with Europe that's changing, or our government. Things are changing here too! (CHANGE!!!) Don't panic.



In past years the PCC has had sub-committees for dealing with particular aspects of running the church - Pastoral, Outreach, Fabric, etc. Over time these have faded away. Initiatives were taken at the Church Conference day in July 2014 and some sub-groups restarted, but except for the Worship Group these also have ceased to be.

Something had to be done, and at the Annual Meetings this year there was a desire to put things right, and the Rector and PCC have recently re-started a number of Sub-groups (we are trying to avoid the word 'Committee') in particular the Fabric, Pastoral, Finance, Fundraising, and Communications sub-groups.

The Worship Group continues and the Standing Committee, which is a sub-group we are obliged to have, also continues. The PCC meeting in June kicked this off so it's early days as the new groups find their feet, decide on their organisation and reason for being and make plans.

Other groups may be added over time as needed. This whole arrangement is fluid and will be adapted as necessary so that we run as effectively and efficiently as possible for the good of our church and our community.

The groups do and will include some PCC members, but other people will be drawn in to help. Apart from getting things done it is hoped the groups will foster greater fellowship and fun as people work together.

More information in due course.
(Brian Inall, PCC Secretary)

We Need Your Help!

Save the Family is looking for volunteers for their residential centre for homeless families at their Cotton Edmunds site. You can join a dedicated team of friendly and helpful staff and volunteers and contribute massively to our work. From working in the office to the outdoors there are a range of positions and skill levels available including Play Assistant, Family Mentor, Gardeners, Drivers, Events and Community Champion, Grants Researcher and more. It's a perfect way to spend a few of hours, refresh a CV, meet new people and use your skills while helping others in need.

If you have a love of all things fashionable and want to help Save the Family, be a model for us! We need 5 models to showcase ladies clothes, jewellery and shoes. There is no upper age limit but models must be over 18 and be confident and happy to perform in front of an audience. Time commitment – Tuesday 20th September from 5pm to 10pm and two rehearsals the week before.

Alternatively, you are welcome to attend the Fashion Show on Tuesday 20th September at 7:30 pm at a luxury venue near Chester. Tickets are priced at £15pp including interval refreshments. Come and see a stunning collection of autumn and winter clothing and sportswear from Rachel Marsh of Captain Tortue clothing and marvel at wonderful handmade creations from Jayne Rozario Jewellery.

For more information about volunteer opportunities at Save the Family and information about modelling and tickets for the fashion show call Save the Family on 01244 409100, visit us at www.savethefamily.org.uk or follow us on Twitter and Facebook @SaveTheFamilyUK.

For over 40 years Save the Family has provided safe and supported accommodation, training and life skills. The families we support have lost everything and are fighting that last battle – to keep their children from being taken into care and remain independent. Save the Family offer a last chance to these families by providing temporary accommodation along with support and access to training to help get them back on their feet and contribute and benefit from living successfully back in the community. We believe in keeping homeless together, do you?



Thanks

I would like to thank everyone for their kind words messages of support and sympathy at this sad time.

Nina regularly attended St James since moving to Christleton in 1971. In later years though Nina struggled with ill health restricting her independence and ability to do the normal things we take for granted, although she was very accepting, never complaining or ungrateful whilst always continuing to show more concerns for others.

Faith was always a large influence on her life and it is this faith I carry with me today thank you. Her son Stewart Phillips

The Shaker Clock

I used to go to clock fairs, buy an old clock movement, renovate it and make a case for it. I once bought a small spring wound Vienna movement [circa 1900] with a damaged dial and missing parts. I had the dial repaired and repainted, stripped and cleaned the movement fitted new springs and bought a new bezel , pendulum, hands and gong. In Ellesmere Port library I found an American book of wood work projects and photo copied details of a Shaker Clock. I made the case and fitted the Vienna movement. It didn't look right so some time later I bought a book of clock case designs and made an authentic Vienna case in mahogany.

Using the empty case I decided to make a reproduction Shaker clock. At an Antiquarian Society clock meeting I met John Taylor, a dealer in American period clocks and bought a Waterbury regulator movement from him, apart from having the correct pendulum length it was nothing like an original movement. The Waterbury's were mass produced in the early 1900s made of brass, spring wound and had a strike. The Shaker movement was hand made entirely of wood including the wheels and pinions and weight driven, there was no strike. In 1870 when they were made metal would have been in short supply and expensive, clock springs were imported. I have seen early Black Fores-

movements made under the same constraints.

I made a dial and sent it with a photo copy of the Shaker dial to be painted. I also sent a copy to Tommy Miles a third generation hand piercing sawyer and asked him to cut a pair of hands. A piercing saw is what most people would call a fret saw, the difference is that the blades have much finer teeth and are made for cutting metal. These men could cut fine filigree patterns in metal sheet, tubes and even hollow metal balls. When he died at his bench about 15 years ago Tommy was possibly the last working full time at the trade.

Only about twenty Shaker clocks are recorded being made and only about six survive, all in museums. There must be many thousand reproductions.

The United Society of Believers in Christ's Second Appearing is a religious sect, also known as the Shakers, founded in the 18th century in North West England by James and Jane Wardley who broke away from the Quakers. They were initially known as "Shaking Quakers" because of their ecstatic behaviour during Worship Services. From the very beginning they believed in the equality of the sexes and women took leadership roles in the Sect. They believed God was both male and female. In 1758 Ann Lee later to be known as 'Mother Lee' joined the Shakers and then became the leader of the small community a powerful preacher she held meetings round the north west including Chester. The members began to be persecuted, mobbed and stoned and Ann Lee was imprisoned in Manchester. In 1774 Ann Lee and 8 of her followers sailed from Liverpool to Colonial America and set up a community at Mount Lebanon New England. Lee travelled through the Eastern States preaching her gospel views and inviting people to join her. Lee said that Shakers were to live by four tenets. They must live communally, they must be celibate, they must regularly confess their sins and they must cut themselves off from the outside world.

Over the years there were changes, each time a man and a woman took equal leadership roles. By 1859 there were 4000 members spread over a number of communities. Men and women slept in separate dormitories, they came together at meal times and for communal prayer and discus-

sion. They danced to hymns, one of which we have sung many times, was written in 1848. Simple Gifts, better known as the Lord of the Dance - Tis a gift to be simple - Tis a gift to be free

They were expected to work, the woman doing the laundry ,cooking etc and the men doing field work and as smiths and joiners etc. They made furniture adopting a style which was simple without any adornment, but practical, a style now popular in America . The furniture was initially for their own use but they also sold it for an income. The Shaker legacy includes many achievements in social reform, agriculture, technology and innovation. For example the flat broom, the circular saw blade, spring clothes peg, buttons and the paper seed envelopes are among a long list of Shaker inventions.

The clocks had a verse pasted on the inside, here is one:

Behold how swift the seasons roll!
Time swiftly flies away!
Tis blown away as fleetly chaff
Upon a windy summers day.
The O improve it as it flies
Eternal joys are for the wise

Established in 1876 Sabbathday Lake Village in New Gloucester is home to the only active Shaker Community in the world today. It is situated on 1800 acres of farm and forest land with seventeen historic structures. Ben Williams

AROUND THE PARKS

I was recently invited, along with other husbands, to join Tangent members for a themed coach trip to Birkenhead and Liverpool to visit their parks. Having picked up Sue, our very knowledgeable Blue Guide, the first tour was of Birkenhead Park which is now in very good health. Birkenhead was the first publicly owned free park in the world funded by local wealthy business men who built grand houses on the city's out-

skirts. Central Park, New York and many others were inspired by and designed, copying Birkenhead's example.

Following light refreshments in the newly-built cafeteria, it was back onto the coach and through the tunnel to the heights of Everton Brow with its spectacular view over the River Mersey. The proposed visit to Stanley Park had been cancelled on account of traffic problems caused by an on-going extension to Anfield, the home of Liverpool Football Club. Turning towards the city we passed the "beehive" which features on Everton's football shirts. My old school – Liverpool Collegiate – built to Victorian standards in the early 1840's, still looked as grand now as part of Liverpool University. Past Liverpool Institute, now an Arts and Music Centre part funded by Sir Paul McCartney, past the Roman Catholic Cathedral, known locally as "the Wigwam" and on to the Anglican Cathedral for a short tour.

Lunch was at a quirky café in Brunswick Street near the docks where those who braved it, chose scouse which was delicious. The only complaint being from one husband who only found one piece of succulent meat in his bowl whilst his wife had three. Princes Boulevard next, where the trams used to run down the centre to the elaborate entrance gates of Princes Park, named in honour of the sons of Queen Victoria.

Finally to Sefton Park, the queen of them all and my play ground before the war. The outskirts rivalled London's Rotten Row for horse riders. The Eros statue, a replica of the one on Piccadilly Circus, brought back memories, although the aviary that was near by is no more, having been replaced by a café.

Next to the lake with its newly renovated bandstand on an island, where brass bands played on Sundays when young and old, dressed in their best, promenaded or sat on the grassy banks with the boys eyeing the girls – and vice versa! A short walk took us to the renovated Palm House whose design was based on the Crystal Palace, surrounded by statues of well-known personages from the past plus the re-located Peter Pan. We enjoyed afternoon tea and home made cake baked by

local volunteers. Poignant memories for me as a young teenager in the war when the field in front was a barrage balloon site controlled by ATS personnel. I was nearby when, one day, the balloons were suddenly raised to operational height, followed five minutes later by air raid sirens as we scurried home on our bikes to the accompaniment of anti-aircraft guns firing at a German raider. The big houses beyond the field had been requisitioned for accommodation for the WRNS whose operation room underground near the docks controlled the convoys in and out of the Western approaches. Alf Croston

TROOPING THE COLOUR

Every day in June, on the date chosen as the Sovereign's Official Birthday, Horse Guards Parade witnesses a ceremony which has been described as the greatest parade of all. This is the ceremony in the presence of her Majesty, the Colonel in Chief of all seven regiments of the Household Division.

Not of a lot of people fully appreciate the original purpose of this exercise. In the early days of land warfare, flags were used as rallying points or assembly points for their followers in battle. It was necessary to make sure that every soldier could recognize his own flag or Colour and it became the practice to carry, or 'troop' the colour down the ranks at the end of the day and to escort it to the place where it would be lodged for the night. As a result of these ceremonies known originally as Lodging the Colour, it has become an object of reverence.

At 11 am the Queen arrives from Buckingham Palace and as she arrives at the saluting base she is received with a Royal Salute, the bands playing the national anthem. She then inspects the parade and returns to the saluting base, while the Guards stand at ease. The entire parade subsequently comes to attention and the Colour is handed over to the Ensign and is trooped. It is a very spectacular occasion and we were privileged to attend ten years ago on the Queen's 80th birthday.

It was a great surprise, again to be lucky in this year's ballot for tickets for the Queen's 90th birthday, although for the big Major General's Review of the Queen's Birthday Parade, which is 2 weeks before the occasion when the Queen herself is present. The icing on the cake this time was for us to be hosted in Whitehall by Lt Colonel Ian Large (grandson of Cynthia Siddall) before the ceremony. We enjoyed Scotch pancakes, fruit and Bucks Fizz before the Parade and a cup of tea afterwards. The weather was kind and only began to rain about 10 minutes before the end. A very memorable occasion. Margaret Croston

ON MIGRATION

In July 1999, I wrote an article with this title for the Magazine. We had barely celebrated the Millennium, with so many hopes and just a few fears.

Since then the topic of migration has become one of the most toxic of our age. Could places like Britain become overcrowded (if not already)? Where does each of us stand regarding the tragic suffering of thousands of men, women and children daily fleeing from the Middle East and Africa to mainland Europe?

With just a few updates, here is the original article

History is full of migrating peoples. When we live in a settled community, value our local environment and build up friendships, the thought of moving to and fro with one's family and belongings does not bear thinking about. The uprooting dimension of the recent forced movement of Syrians is horrible, as it is for the Jews during the Second World War. Family separation, malnutrition, and tears are right there on our television screens. It could be us. Yet amazingly, people and communities survive. Just think of the waves of soldiers and civilians who have swept across Poland in the past 300 years or across Israel in the past 2000. Cities, rich cultures, and great historical sites survive there.

Nor is it always political forces that cause people to migrate. The search for pasture amid seasonal and annual climatic change is the very basis of life and culture for the Bedouin camel-owners and the Masai cattle-herders of North and east Africa. With the issue of four stamps in 1999, the Royal Mail reminded us of migrations happy and less happy. The transfer of prisoners from Britain to Australia from 1788, was succeeded by peaceful voluntary emigration of thousands of settlers to Australia and Canada. The Pilgrim Fathers were featured on a beautiful stamp exuding peace and racial harmony, but many of the early settlers in North America were also escaping from religious persecution in England, France, and the Netherlands. To this day Thanksgiving Day celebrates the first successful harvest by 60 settlers near New Plymouth in 1621, 40 of their peers having died of disease and malnutrition soon after their arrival at Christmas 1620.

And of immigration into Britain? The highest value stamp reminded us of what a haven for refugees and immigrants we had by their contribution, not to mention our multinational diet.

As we are reminded so often in the Old Testament readings in Church, people have long been on the move and we have not stopped yet. Relating our faith to these complexities is one of the greatest challenges.
John Carruthers

THE ROAD TO GOLD

You will remember that my grandson Antony Foster won the Kick Boxing World Championship title in a competition in Geneva in 2014. He then took a year off from competing to do his GCSE's, which he passed with flying colours, and took his AS exams earlier this year.

He returned to taking part in competitions and has subsequently won the British and Welsh championships this year, and is hoping to return to Geneva in 2017 to defend his world title.

As a family we are supporting Antony whole heartedly and various fund

raising events are in the pipe line to get Antony plus his Mother (Rebecca), to Geneva next year eg Car Boot Sales, Cake sales at School, and a Coffee Morning details

THE ROAD TO GOLD

COFFEE MORNING

at

1 Glovers Loom, Great Boughton

on

Tuesday 23 August at 10.30 am

Raffle

Bring & Buy

We were delighted with the success of the Coffee Morning we held in 2014 with so many people coming along to support Antony and I hope you will come again and spend a pleasant couple of hours in our garden (weather permitting).

Antony and all the family look forward to seeing you. Janet Milton

Happy Birthday to Mothers' Union!

This month (August) will see the world's largest lay-Christian membership charity, Mothers' Union, mark 140 years of faithful outreach to families of all faiths and none. Since 1876, when Mary Sumner first brought together parents in her own parish to build their confidence in bringing up their children in the Christian faith, the MU has grown to an organisation of over four million women – and men – in over 80 countries of the world. Why celebrate 140th, rather than wait for 150th? In the Old Testament of the Bible, in the first book of Samuel, there is the story of Samuel marking an unlooked for victory against the mighty Philistines by erecting a stone between Mizpah and Shen, naming it

“Ebenezer” meaning “stone of help” as a permanent reminder of the leading and guidance of God “Thus far has the Lord helped us”. Over the past 140 years, Mothers’ Union has faced, and will continue to face, many challenges. Family life is under increasing pressure and the call on MU’s resources is higher than ever. But the MU can look at how it is meeting these challenges and say, like Samuel, “Thus far has the Lord helped us.”

The same chapter in Samuel recounts how, throughout Samuel’s lifetime, the Lord helped him and Israel meet the challenges they faced. As the MU marks its 140th year, the future is very much on its mind. And so this summer’s celebrations are not only about celebrating how God has led and blessed the MU so far, but also how He is leading in future ministry, guiding as the MU seeks to discern the needs in our communities that are necessary for stability for both families and society as a whole. During 2016 over 500,000 people will benefit from Mothers’ Union’s support for family life. Many more will know the support of its membership without any tally being taken – because in their daily lives MU members support families in prayer, in voicing their support for policy changes that benefit families and in their practical support.

Holy days in August

1st Ethelwold - the Wessex saint who founded the first monastic cathedral

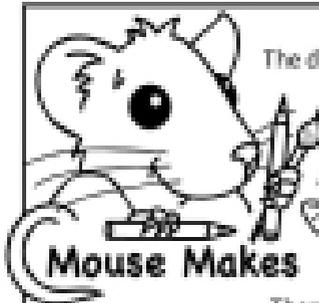
10th Laurence of Rome – and the gridiron. Laurence was a deacon of the Church in Rome, and martyred in 258.

16th Laurence Loricatus - the saint who couldn’t forgive himself

30th John Bunyan – the man who wrote Pilgrim’s Progress

Thank You

Ike Efobi & Family want to use this opportunity to say thank you to Rev Malcolm, the Church community and PCC for the support and love shown to Ike and family during this difficult time of the passing of Ike’s father Adolphus.



Mouse Makes

THE BIG CATCH OF FISH

The disciples had spent all night out on the lake fishing. As the sun rose a man on the shore asked them, "Have you caught anything?" They answered, "Not a thing". He said to them "Throw your net out on the right side of the boat and you will catch some." So they threw the net out and could not pull it back in because they had caught so many fish.

Then John recognised the man and said, "It is the Lord" When they reached the shore there was a fire burning and some bread.

"Bring some fish" said Jesus "Come and eat."

How many fish did they catch?
Read John 21: 1-14



Can you find 18 pairs of fish and the odd one out?

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TELEVISION

When did television start? I bet you didn't know that it started on 22nd August 1932 when the British Broadcasting Corporation introduced its first regular TV service in the London area. By the summer of 1949 television began to be available outside London and 1954 saw the first daily news bulletins and weather forecasts. Colour pictures arrived at the end of 1969.

Lots of people moan about what is on television and what a waste of time it is, but there are good things to say for it too. Without the news reports of famine in Africa would we have had Live Aid? And what about Comic Relief and Children in Need?

TV entertains and educates. It helps us to relax, and it can also help us to pray by showing us the world. We see the natural disasters of weather like tsunamis and hurricanes. We see people hurt and made homeless by war. And we turn to God and ask Him to help those who suffer and we pray for them, remembering that we are God's hands here on earth.

EYE SEE YOU

All the answers to this Bible quiz are to do with eyes and seeing. Answers at the bottom of the page.

1. What is the name of the village where Jesus healed a blind man? (Luke, chapter 8)
2. What eye can a camel go through more easily than a rich man? (Matthew, chapter 19)
3. Joseph talks about his eyes and the eyes of which one of his brothers? (Genesis, chapter 45)
4. What did Moses see in the desert at Horeb? (Exodus, chapter 3)
5. Where did Jesus send the blind man to wash his eyes? (John, chapter 9)
6. What are the eyes like of the one who rides a white horse? (Revelation, chapter 19)

Why do beavers spend a fortune on the internet?

They never want to log off.



How do you stop the batteries in your Play Station running out?

Hide their trainers.

Answers: 1. Bethsaida

2. the eye of a needle 3. Benjamin
4. a burning bush 5. the pool of Siloam
6. like a flame of fire.

Parish Registers

Holy Baptisms

- 15 May 2016 Harper Lily Wilson Daughter of Katie Jackson and Ross Wilson
19 June 2016 Esme Elizabeth Hannah Prince Daughter of Kate and David Prince
19 June 2016 Harper Penelope Wilton King Daughter of Gemma and Aaron Winton King
26 June 2016 Eleanor Grace Andrews Daughter of Charlotte and Michael Andrews

Holy Matrimony

- 14 May 2016 Jonathan Dover and Helen Johnson
28 May 2016 Mark Cunningham and Sophie Caldecott
18 June 2016 Andrew Watson and Hannah Askey

Funerals

- 06 May 2016 Edith and Philip Haywood
09 May 2016 Dale Robbins
09 May 2016 David Ferris-Wade
19 May 2016 Susan Wardman
25 June 2016 Glenys (Glen) Bellis
28 June 2016 Elizabeth Rhoda (Betty) Mack

A Strong Hold

Should I slip and lose the way
The Lord will hold me fast,
Should I chose to walk away
I'm firmly in His grasp.
by Megan Carter

PARISH CHURCH OF ST JAMES, CHRISTLETON

REGULAR WORSHIP

SUNDAYS:	8.00am:	Holy Communion
	10.45am:	Holy Communion (1st & 3rd & 5th Sundays) Morning Worship - a less formal service for all (2nd Sunday) Morning Prayer / Mattins (4th Sunday)
	6.30pm:	Evening Prayer / Evensong (1st Sunday) Holy Communion (2nd & 4th Sundays) Evening Prayer / Evensong (BCP) (3rd Sunday) Evening services on a 5th Sunday vary - see notices.

WEDNESDAYS:	10.45am:	Holy Communion (BCP) (United service on 1st Wednesday)
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Special services take place at festivals and at other times, and other variations occur, so please check the diary at the front of this magazine, also the church notices and the Christleton website. A 'United' service is where Churches Together in Christleton congregations come together.

'Book of Common Prayer' (BCP) services use the older traditional language, other services are 'Common Worship' using modern language.

Children are welcome at all of our services. Sunday Club, Messy Church and the Crew Youth Group also available for younger members.

Refreshments are generally served after the 10.45am Sunday service in the Parish Hall across the road, and are also served in the church after the 10.45am Wednesday services. Once a month on the 1st Sunday breakfast is served in the Parish Hall from about 8.45am. These give splendid opportunities for fellowship and you are invited to join in.

WHO'S WHO & CONTACT NUMBERS

Rector:	Rev'd Malcolm Cowan, B.Th. The Rectory, Birch Heath Lane, Christleton, CH3 7AP jandmcowan@gmail.com (The Rector's day off each week is normally Friday)	335663
Administration:	Janet Milton (Janet is your initial contact point for Baptism, Wedding and Appointment requests)	325529
Other local clergy who may assist:	Rev'd Gill Hibbert	336544
Churchwardens:	Tina Lightfoot Bettie Gilliatt	07557 352592 335645
Deputy Wardens:	Chris Platel	332466
Verge:	John Milton	325529
Sacristan:	Betty Dunning	335652
Organist:	Vacant	
PCC Secretary:	Brian Inall	336500
PCC Treasurer:	Brian & Lorraine Lewis	534323
Gift Aid Secretary:	Nigel Seddon	335588
Planned Giving Envelopes:	Betty Dunning	335652
Deanery Synod Representative:	Betty Gilliatt	335645
Electoral Roll Officer:	Brenda Bailey	335034
Churches Together Representative:	Jan Bowden	335705
Parish Safeguarding Co-ordinator:	The Rector	335663
Messy Church:	Rev'd Malcolm Cowan	335663
CREW Youth Group:	Mike & Tina Lightfoot	328436
Church Library:	Valmai Griffiths	335884
Church Flowers:	Olive Hammond	336562
Bellringers' Secretary:	Nikki Dromgoole	351124
Parish Hall Bookings:	Janet Milton	325529
Children's Society Sec:	Lesley Morgan	335088
Church Missionary Society Sec:	Janet Brown	335785
Mothers' Union Branch Leader:	Janet Brown	335785
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Magazine Distributors:	Jenny Davies, Valmai Griffiths	335884
Magazine Compiler	Ike Efobi	336072

(Phone numbers have Chester code: 01244 unless stated otherwise)



Christleton Village Show 2016
Winning cake by Rector Malcolm Cowan



Rose Queen Eilza Rose and her retinue outside
St James June 2016

Holiday Soothies

If God forgives us, we must forgive others. Otherwise it is almost like setting up ourselves as a higher tribunal than him. C. S. Lewis

Faith is the capacity to trust God while not being able to make sense out of everything. James Kok

August 2016 @ St. James, Church Christleton