

Parish Magazine



July 2008

St. James'

Christleton

35p

www.christleton.org.uk



RECTOR'S LETTER - PARISH REGISTERS
VILLAGE TEA ROOM - DALAI LAMA IN OXFORD
NATURE NOTES - METHODIST CHAPEL - WHAT'S ON
ON THE NIGHT OF 31st MARCH 1851 - CRICKET CLUB
THE FRAUENKIRCHE IN DRESDEN - CHORISTER'S CONCERT

Journal for July

Wed 2 10.45 am United Communion - followed by refreshments

Thur 3 9.00 am Holy Communion for ST THOMAS

Fri 4 6.30 pm Choir Practice

Sat 5 9.00 am - 1.00 pm Churchyard work party - all welcome!

Sun 6 The Seventh Sunday After Trinity. Proper 9

8.00 am Holy Communion - Order 2

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 - followed by refreshments

Prayer Link Road: Rake Lane and Stamford Lane

Neighbourhood Link: Julia Carr

Mon 7 10.45 am Holy Communion at Tarvin Court Nursing Home

11.20 am Holy Communion at Oaklands Nursing Home

7.45 pm PCC Meeting - Parish Hall

Wed 9 10.45 am Holy Communion - followed by refreshments

11.30 am Holy Communion at Birch Heath Lodge Nursing Home

Thur 10 9.30 am Churches Together Committee Away Day - Brown Knowl

Fri 11 6.30 pm Choir Practice

NB: Last day for contributions to August magazine, preferably earlier, to The Rectory (335663) or you can e-mail your document to christletonmag@hotmail.co.uk

Sat 12 **THE VILLAGE SHOW - PARISH HALL**

Sun	13		The Eighth Sunday After Trinity - Proper 10
		8.00 am	Holy Communion - Order 1
		10.45 am	FAMILY FLOWER SERVICE followed by Family Barbecue
		6.30 pm	Evensong Prayer Link Road: Rowan Park Neighbourhood Link: Fran Taberner
Mon	14	2.00 pm	Mothers' Union - Parish Hall
Tues	15	8.00 am	Church Walking Group leaves car park for walk in Shropshire. Contact David Cummings 332410
Wed	16	10.45 am	Holy Communion - followed by refreshments
Fri	18	6.30 pm	Choir Dinner
Sun	20		The Ninth Sunday After Trinity: Proper 11
		8.00 am	Holy Communion - Order 1
		10.45 am	Matins with Baptisms
		6.30 pm	Evensong Prayer Link Road: Rowton Lane and Promised Land Lane Neighbourhood Link: Karen Smalls
Tues	22	9.00 am	Holy Communion for St Mary Magdalene
		2.30 pm	Tea Party at Rookery Nook - Proceeds to John Sellers Trust
Wed	23	10.45 am	Holy Communion - followed by refreshments
Sun	27		ST JAMES
		8.00 am	Holy Communion - Order 1
		10.45 am	Matins - followed by refreshments
		6.30 pm	Evening Communion - Order 1 Prayer Link: Rowton Bridge Road Neighbourhood Link: Angela Haswell
Wed	30	10.45 am	Holy Communion - followed by refreshments

The Rector's Letter

Dear Friends

Talented Christleton

I never cease to be amazed, as I visit the Village Show each year, by how talented people are! To walk round the Parish Hall, and see all the various exhibits in so many different 'categories', is a feast to the senses. Of course, this time last year we were celebrating our Flower Festival at St James, and what a wonderful display that was. This year, at our Family Flower Service on 13 July at 10.45 am, we shall thank God and celebrate all the talents he has given us. As usual, weather permitting, it will be on the grass in front of St James, and it will be followed by a family barbecue, so do come and join in if you can. Hopefully, the Crew Youth Group will help to lead us in our celebration and worship.

As I write this we have just had our June Family Service, which focussed on the Parable of the Talents. (Matthew 25:14-30). In fact, thanks to some talented, and persuadable 'volunteers', we had our own version of 'The Apprentice', which brought out the message of the parable in a modern interpretation! The Service reminded us that the word 'talent', which we readily use now to refer to natural ability or aptitude, has come to us from that parable of Jesus. In the parable, the 'talents' entrusted to the three servants, were very valuable amounts of money. Two servants were commended for making the most of the talents entrusted to them, and one reprimanded for failing to make anything of what he had been given. In the Service I mentioned taking a Harvest Assembly in a Primary School, before I came to Christleton. I had taken various examples of things people had made using their natural talents, and celebrating their skill and patience in doing so. Months later when I returned to the school one of the teachers told me that what I had said had 'struck a chord'. She was, in fact, a talented musician, but had neglected her ability. Now she was using it to enable the school to include music and singing again – and what a difference that had made. Incidentally, at our Family Service children from the Sunday School showed us the ways they had enthusiastically taken up Berenice Hogg's challenge to use £1 each they had been given to 'multiply' it through the Summer, and give the proceeds to charity.

As we celebrate 'Talented Christleton' perhaps that can help us to take to heart the message of the Parable of the Talents. The whole principle of Christian Stewardship is based on the understanding, brought out by this Parable, that we do not 'own' or 'possess' anything in our own right. All we

are and have, and the whole world, is God's creation, which he entrusts to our care; our stewardship. We are ultimately responsible to God, as the servants were, to their master in the parable, for how we use our life, our talents, our time and our possessions. The parable also teaches us that God does not create us all the same, but gives us different gifts and abilities so that we can work together in unity for the benefit of all. Sometimes we may well feel others have all the gifts and we have none, but we need to start with what we have, and celebrate that. Perhaps, like the servant who was reprimanded, we have gifts, or abilities, we have neglected, or not yet even discovered.

Certainly, as we look around Christleton, we are blest with many talented people from many different walks of life, to enrich our community. People contribute their talents in so many different areas of community life. That is also true of Church life. It is good to celebrate the ways so many people use their talents in the ongoing life of our Church to contribute to our shared mission and ministry in so many different ways. There is always room for more, and I invite each and all of us to offer our particular talents, whatever they may be to enrich our shared life, and to help work for God's Kingdom.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Peter Lee". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style. Below the signature is a horizontal line that starts under the first part of the name and extends to the right, ending under the last part of the name.

Prayer of the Month:

Creator God, we thank you for the varied talents you have given to all your people: to some the gift of music or artistic ability; to others the gift of writing or communication; to some the gift of intelligence and skill in practical ways for the benefit of others; to some particular physical gifts in sport and recreation; so many diverse gifts to enrich our lives.

Above all we thank you for the gift of your love, which invites our response, and the gift of human love which enriches relationships in understanding, sympathy and friendship and offers help and happiness.

Show each of us what are your special gifts to us, and enable us to use them to your glory, and the benefit of those around us. Help us to be good stewards of the time, talents and possessions you have entrusted to us. We ask this in Jesus name. Amen.

St. James Church Open all day Sundays,

July, August and
September 2008



Thank You.

Hospice Sunrise Stroll

David & Beryl Cummings wish to thank everyone who supported their sponsored walk in aid of the Hospice of the Good Shepherd on Sunday 24th May. The sunrise stroll was an amazing experience, walking around the city between 5.00 and 8.00am watching the sun come up, listening to the dawn chorus, surrounded by a wonderful display of spring flowers, whilst walking along the canal as far as Backford & Caughall Bridge. The return route took us along back lanes to Chester Zoo, through Upton and back to the city via Newton & Blacon on the most beautiful of mornings. We are delighted to be able to send £650 to the Hospice to aid its valuable work. DC.

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN CHRISTLETON



will be open

Sunday afternoons

2.00 pm – 4.30 pm

1st June – 31st August

Methodist Church Hall

ALL WELCOME

Proceeds to charity

The doors of the Village Tea Room were opened for the first time on 1 June at the Methodist Church.

(pictured below) and after sampling the coffee cake they went on their way wishing us good luck.



We had 16 visitors for tea during the afternoon and we thought that was a good start.

We hope that the number of visitors will increase week by week, and perhaps some of the local residents of the Village will join us for 'afternoon tea' – you'll be more than

welcome.

Five ladies were 'on duty' and everything was laid out beautifully in good time for the visitors to arrive. There was a selection of home made cakes – Victoria sponge, 2 chocolate cakes, coffee and walnut and a fruit cake and they all looked delicious.

The very first visitors to be welcomed to this new venture were Iris Foster & her friend Rosina Williams

Janet Milton



People in the News

Cestrian Hosts Audience of the Dalai Lama in Oxford

On Friday 30th May, 2008

His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama met 204 descendants of the 40 British diplomats, officials, military personnel and travellers who were in Tibet before the county's annexation by China in 1950

present was the actress Joanna Lumley whose grandfather had been "political officer in Sikkim, Bhutan and Tibet".

Of local interest, in 1904 during the British invasion of Tibet, one of the 623 British soldiers who reached the capital



The "British in Tibet" Audience was granted following a request by those descendants.

Mr. Croston of Christleton had first met the Dalai Lama in 1996 at Manchester Free Trades Hall and over the past 12 years has been tracing throughout the world, the descendants of the British who were serving in Tibet. Among those

of Lhasa was Major W.G.T. Currie of Christleton.

Also present at the Audience were three of the four British representatives who were at the installation of the current Dalai Lama in 1940 - the only Europeans ever to have been at the installation of a Dalai Lama. These were Sir Basil Gould,

Dr. Stainton and Captain Thornburgh. It has not been possible to trace any descendants of Major Innes-Keys who was the fourth.

During this historic meeting the Dalai Lama was introduced to each British family, some of whose connections with Tibet dated back to 1889. Each of them showed old Tibet photos of their family and had their group photo taken with the Tibetan spiritual and temporal leader,

According to Roger Croston, the Audience Organiser, all the members of the “British in Tibet” group were delighted to have had the opportunity to be in the presence of the Dalai Lama and to actually meet and speak with him. He said “Everyone is very pleased. They are keen to support Tibet because their father or grandfather had witnessed the independent Tibet. They agree with His Holiness that the history is history and that we must look to the future. They recognise the opportunity to extend a positive encouragement to China and want to help the Tibetan cause. They want China to be reasonable and want to tell the truth because their parents were there when Tibet was free”.

Petition are being sent to the Prime Minister, Mr. Gordon Brown, urging the British Government to give due importance to the legacy inherited from the British presence in Tibet through its treaty obligations “to pursue a robust engagement of the Chinese leadership to respond positively to His Holiness the

Dalai Lama who has made every effort through his “Middle Way” approach to resolve the issue of Tibet with the Chinese Government”.

The Dalai Lama commented at the end of the Audience that it had been “most unusual and most wonderful”.

Footnote

We stayed in Keble College where there is some connection with St. James, as the Victorian architect William Butterfield designed Keble College Chapel and St. James Church using the characteristic chequer-board style of sandstone and bricks. Also our late Canon Gordon Robinson studied there. The Keble Chapel is more the size of a cathedral and would fit about three of St. James inside. The side chapel has the famous painting of “Light of the World” by Holman Hunt which one can illuminate by pressing a red button.

It was a privilege to assist Roger at this event. He had put in many hours of burning the midnight oil, creating and cross referencing lists, sending out invitations, making sticky labels for lapels etc. We merely ticked off the visitors as they arrived and made sure there were no gate crashers. The Dalai Lama has a warm personality, Judging by the many thank-you letters that Roger received since, it is apparent that these descendants found it very moving to meet him.

Alf and Margaret Croston

Photograph by kind permission of Roger Moulard www.brighton-images.com

NATURE NOTES

The “Battle” for Christleton Canal, 2008

It will be no surprise to villagers that our swans from The Pit “walked” on the 31st May. It may seem strange to many that they do this, but it has been done by generations of swans, not only in the village, but in other parts of the country. Whether it is a migratory instinct or simply mov-

pair and five cygnets walking through the village at 7.30am. After seeing the problems the old cob was having in walking, and how thin the pen was, (who probably hadn’t fed properly for about 8 weeks), I decided to move them from danger using special carrying bags that I use for injured swans, and as there were already a pair of swans with seven cygnets on the canal



ing to a better source of food, we can’t be sure, but it happens. This year we were called to help the bedraggled

near Quarry Bridge, decided to release them at Waverton. However later that morning the pair & cygnets decided to move back to the village and shortly

afterwards a battle for territory began. This lasted for about an hour with much displaying and posturing on either side. Suffice to say that by pure chance I managed to get hold of the younger losing cob, from the side of the canal before he was drowned by the older Christleton Pit cob.

At this point the old cob moved to be with his pen and went with their cygnets towards the “Cheshire Cat”. After allowing the younger cob to recover I released him back with his mate and their seven cygnets by Butlers Mill. For the next two days they lived reasonably well, tolerating each other from a distance on the stretch near Christleton. However on the Monday afternoon there were two further battles for supremacy at Waverton. Both cobs now look worse for wear, but the Christleton pen, daughter of the old cob!, and her daughter the Waverton pen! (Yes it does get complicated!), and all twelve cygnets seem fit and well. There are many instances in the animal kingdom where dominance of an aggressive male exists. In the case of swans, this always concerns territory. Luckily, we have never had such a fierce battle as this before. These cobs did fight briefly last year, but the younger pair had no cygnets and the older cob chased the younger male off easily. The older cob (CP58) also caused problems for the Waverton cob of 2007 (CJ03) (not the same swan),

which I had to catch, and then take with and its 3 surviving cygnets into care at the RSPCA at Nantwich.

Both pairs have been on the canal all winter. In fact the younger (Waverton) pair attempted to build three nests this spring, two of them in Christleton, before settling for a garden site at Waverton. It's only when cygnets are involved that the territorial urge takes hold. However there is one place in England where territory plays no part in quite an extraordinary way. Swans have been bred, (originally being kept as birds for the table), for well over 600 years by the monks at Abbotsbury in Dorset. For generations, a swan herd and his team have looked after the swans, and over the centuries, inbreeding has resulted in them growing to tolerate each other, not fighting as other swans do all over the UK. Each year about 80 nests of straw are set out by the staff on the breeding grounds at the edge of “The Fleet”, a brackish lagoon behind Chesil Beach, and by the end of May there is the remarkable sight of hundreds of young cygnets moving around the breeding grounds surrounded by visitors. You get so close to the swans that you can take very close up pictures safely. It is a wonderful sight, and well worth a visit if you are in the area, as are the nearby Tropical Gardens.

David Cummings

Christleton Chapel

Congratulations to members of the Methodist Chapel on their 120th Anniversary this month. Methodism had a rather chequered history in the village until the building of the new Chapel in 1888.

Although John Wesley visited Chester over thirty times there is no record of him having preached in the village. The first recorded Methodist visitor to the village was in 1765, when a travelling preacher Francis Gilbert, a close friend of John Wesley, called at The Rectory. In that same year a Christleton resident Thomas Bennett, built the first Methodist Church in Chester, called the "Octagon Chapel" situated near The Bars.

We learn that later during the Victorian era, local Methodists met in a room above The Post Office & Store in Pepper Street, but Rowton Chapel was more important at that time, with the congregation being led by John Dean of Rowton. Another Christleton resident to feature heavily in Methodism was Richard Reece, whose mother Catherine was a member of the prominent Hodson Family, who were all great supporters of St James' Church, several being churchwarden's, and many of whom are buried in the churchyard. Richard

became President of the Methodist Conference twice, in 1816 and 1835. It is also noted that at this time many Methodists attended St James' Church as they had no building of their own.

During the 1870s the Methodists met in the house of a Mr Minshull, who lived in one of a small group of cottages in The Square, adjacent to where the present chapel was built. Leading movers of the chapel were Mr Rowe and Samuel Winward from Stamford Heath, and a Mr W H Allwood, who were all listed as local preachers. At the 70th Anniversary in 1958 Mrs Darrock (nee Winward) then an old lady of 98, described the excitement and enthusiasm, which affected all involved and which enabled all the obstacles and difficulties to be overcome, and a new chapel to be built. By February 1888 the design had been agreed and a tender from Mr J Youd of Christleton was accepted, to build a chapel at the cost of £277. The stone laying ceremony took place on 22nd March and the building opened in July. It is interesting to note that the Rector, Canon Lionel Garnett had objected to the building of the chapel saying that the church could accommodate everyone in the village, but the Trustees of the Chapel were equally sure that they had adequate support

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from members to continue. So much so that by 1892, the schoolroom and chapel extension were built, and it is possible that the kitchen and lavatories were also built at this time. The vestry was added in 1899. The

with a service attended by the Mayor & Mayoress of Chester, Mr & Mrs Gerry Fair. The Chapel continues to thrive today, and one of the great strengths of the village, are the links created between members



Methodist Society in Christleton has fluctuated over the years probably reaching a high point in the 1930's, when it is also recorded that over 60 children attended the Sunday school. The Chapel depends heavily on the efforts of its members to sustain and organise church services and events, and the Chapel has always been well blessed with excellent support. The Centenary of the Chapel was celebrated in 1988 with a year long programme of events, culminating

of the Methodist Chapel and others within the Christian Community. Since 1993 its members have always played a prominent role in the activities of "Churches Together in Christleton" We wish them well for the years ahead.

DC

References;

Christleton 2000 years of History
Christleton Methodist Church 1888-1988

CHORISTERS' CONCERT

Having read in the local press that Chester Cathedral Choir were to sing in Liverpool at 2.30 pm on Tuesday 13 May I decided to try out my free travel bus pass and go along to hear them.

Arriving at the Liverpool Anglican Cathedral I was told that they were not there! Where were they? "Oh it's a big event at the Metropolitan (Catholic) Cathedral, starting at 1.30 pm" (Can we ever believe what we read in the papers?)

So off I walked down to the other end of Hope Street and climbed the 45 steps up to the entrance to discover that there was to be a concert featuring choristers from Cathedrals and Foundations from across the United Kingdom and it was FREE. How exciting.

Taking part were Ampleforth College, the Cathedrals of Chester, Durham, Lichfield, Lincoln, Manchester, Rochester, Edinburgh, Salisbury, Wells, Winchester, York and Westminster Abbey. The combined choirs were conducted by Timothy Noon, Director of Music at the Metropolitan Cathedral and the organ played by their organist

Richard Lea.

The programme was: Song of Wisdom (Stanford), Pie Jesus (Faure), Let the bright seraphim (Handel), Love divine (Goodall), Missa Brevis (Britten), Litany to the Holy Spirit (Hurford), Nunc Dimittis (Burgon), Ex ore innocentium (Ireland), Laudate Dominum (Mozart), and Alleluia Jubilate (Whitbourn).

The singing was magnificent and inspiring. The concert was one of many events to mark Liverpool's status in 2008 as "Capital of Culture" and was in association with The Choir Schools' Association which represents 44 schools attached to cathedrals, churches and college chapels around the country. The majority are Church of England foundations but the Roman Catholic, Scottish and Welsh churches are all represented.

As well as the singing, instrumental items were performed by pupils from St Edward's College in Liverpool and pupils from Cheetham's School of Music in Manchester. To finish off songs were performed by infants from St Matthew's Catholic Primary School, Liverpool and the Junior Choir of the Metropolitan Cathedral. A day to remember.

Margaret Croston



THE FRAUENKIRCHE IN DRESDEN

PART 7. COMPLETION AND COMMERCIALISATION

Six earlier articles between 2003 and 2006 charted the progress in the complete rebuilding of the beautiful Baroque Church of Our Lady, the Frauenkirche in Dresden. Bombed in 1945, it lay as a pile of rubble until 1993 when a decision was made to reconstruct the Church from scratch. The expensive and complex project was funded by generous donations from all over the world, but there was real concern that the costs would be so great that only major loans would see the project through, and that these would take years to repay.

However these fears were not realised. Once the Frauenkirche was completed in 2005, in no time the project had been fully funded and the Church stands proudly with sympathetic neo-Baroque apartments now appearing around it. Indeed, directly and indirectly the Church is now raising large sums of money for the city of Dresden. Tourists flock to see the Church where they also attend concerts and buy souvenirs, DVD's, and books from its shop nearby. More than that, the Frauenkirche's familiar bell-tower silhouette has become a brand and appears on all sorts of goods and advertisements, official and unofficial.

The resurgence of fine shops in Dresden might have happened over the past 10 years anyway, and the Frauenkirche is not the only fine Baroque building, but should the rapid commercialisation of the Frauenkirche shape and the large amount of money being spent in the city make us feel guilty?

We must acknowledge that the original splendour of Dresden and its prosperity in the eighteenth century was largely due to the enterprising patronage of the electors of Saxony and other wealthy benefactors. By the standards of these days, enormous sums of money were poured into the city, much of it

for the construction and maintenance of the many great churches, of which the Frauenkirche is but one. Clergy, musicians and artists were generously remunerated likewise, many brought from other parts of Europe.

Our own Church in Christleton not only cost money to build but as elsewhere it was the product of hours and hours of painstaking skill and manual labour, also the professional wisdom of architects and designers. Maintenance is an ongoing demand.

These things do not come without money. I am happy for Dresden, as I am for Christleton and for Chester. Like the residents and the burgers of the city of Dresden, I never believed in 1993 that the crumpled rubble of the Frauenkirche would so rapidly become such a striking symbol of the Christian faith, still arousing the deep sentiment that such destruction must never, never happen again.

Economic pressures, political angst and the cruelty of war upset everyone. But two great things transcend them all; magnificent Church architecture and the corporate worship of God. The Frauenkirche embodies them both.

Copies of the earlier articles are obtainable from John (01829-740810)

John Carruthers

Signs found outside churches

- It is unlikely there'll be a reduction in the wages of sin.
- *If you don't like the way you were born, try being born again.*
- *Looking at the way some people live, they ought to obtain eternal fire insurance soon.*
- *This is a ch__ch What is missing? (U R)*
- *Forbidden fruit creates many jams.*
- *In the dark? Follow the Son.*
- *Running low on faith? Stop in for a fill-up.*
- *If you can't sleep, don't count sheep. Talk to the Shepherd.*



WHAT'S ON

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

ST. JAMES' TUESDAY WALKING GROUP

July 15th 2008

Shropshire; Whittington "Jack the
Lad Ghost Walk". Canal & farmland.
8 miles easy.
Pub meal on route
Depart Church Car Park at 8.00am.

The Christleton Web Site now
has a page featuring
local events



www.christleton.org.uk

July 2008

CHRISTLETON W.I.

Meets on the second Wednesday of the
month at 7.15 pm in the Parish Hall
Gilt on the Gingerbread
Janet Bradshaw
Competition: An unusual object
All Welcome

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

MAGAZINE DISTRIBUTORS

The August Magazine will be available for
collection from Church on Sunday 27th
July 2008.

MAGAZINE CONTRIBUTIONS

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

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

christletonmag@hotmail.com

THIS MONTH



Christleton Village Show “Coffee Morning”.

Saturday 5th July 2008

10.00am –12 noon

A Coffee Morning will be held in the Parish Hall on Saturday 5th July between 10.00am and 12 noon, This will be an opportunity for villagers to hand in their Entry Forms for the 2008 Village Show, particularly hanging basket or container entries, look a display of village photographic albums and memorabilia, and view a new exhibition of digital photographs by *David Cummings*.

TEA PARTY

AT ROOKERY NOOK
5 BRIDGE DRIVE

on
TUESDAY 22 July 2008

2.30 pm

Proceeds to John Sellers Trust

A Village charity founded in the 1770s to help educate children

£2.50

Raffle

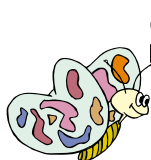
Dust, if you must ...

Dust, if you must, but wouldn't it be better
to paint a picture; - to write a letter?
Dust, if you must, but there is not much time
with rivers to swim and mountains to climb:
Dust, if you must, but bear in mind
old age will come, and its not always kind:
And when you pass on, as pass on you must,
you yourself will make more dust!



WHAT'S ON THIS MONTH

CHRISTLETON VILLAGE SHOW 2008



Saturday 12th July

In Christleton Parish Hall



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, the Village Churches and Christleton Newsagents – see Phil or Sue.

To return the forms there will be a Coffee Morning at the Parish Hall on Saturday 5th July (the weekend before the Show) - all entrance forms to be handed in then or by post to Judith Butt (see instructions on the entry form). If you have any problems getting a schedule, please telephone any of the committee and you will be sorted out.

A special plug for the “Hanging Basket and/or Container” section- we would like 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

Olympic determination

The Olympics, Mexico, 1968: a ground of die-hard spectators lingered in the Olympic stadium, watching the last finishers of the marathon. An hour before, Mamo Wolde of Ethiopia had won. It was getting cold and dark and the remaining spectators were beginning to leave when suddenly they heard the sound of sirens and police whistles coming into the stadium. As they watched in amazement, one last runner made his way onto the track for the last lap of the 26 mile race. It was John Stephen Akhwari of Tanzania. As he ran the 400-metre circuit, people saw that his leg was bandaged and bleeding. He had fallen and injured it during the race, but he refused to let it stop him completely. Suddenly the people remaining in the stadium rose (some in tears) and applauded him until he crossed the finishing line. As he finally hobbled away, he was asked why he had not quit since he had no chance of winning a medal.

He said simply: "My country did not send me to Mexico City to start the race, they sent me here to finish it!" What an attitude! He looked beyond the pain of the moment and kept his eye on the purpose for which he was there. Next month at the Olympics, China will be full of athletes, all determined to finish their race. As Christians, we are also called to finish the race before us. To fulfil God's particular calling for us.



Christleton W.I.

May Meeting

Members enjoyed a very interesting talk and demonstration by Helen Phipps on decorating cakes with royal icing. A contribution of knitted beanie hats was made by members in answer to the appeal by Christleton Brownies for the newly-born babies in India.

Cynthia Siddall reported that she had had a lovely CFWI afternoon at Capesthorpe Hall and Garden and encouraged members to make a visit. Hargrave and Huxley WI have extended an invitation to join them on a coach trip to the Wedgewood Factory and Trentham Gardens on the 24th July, 2008. Any members interested in this event please contact a Christleton WI committee member. Visitors and new members welcome.

June Meeting

Members enjoyed an excellent meal at the annual birthday party. The Christleton WI Scarecrow name competition was won by Majorie Stafford. Next meeting July 9th "Gilt on the Gingerbread". Competition - An unusual object. All very welcome.

On the night of 30th March, 1851

David Cummings has a love of history as well as many other subjects. He has shared this with the people of Christleton over the years with his lectures in the Parish Hall and his numerous articles in St. James' Parish Magazine. When you ask him something about the history of our village you can feel like a surfer approaching a gigantic wave. His imaginative descriptions and his vast amount of stored knowledge take you on this roller coaster of a ride through time until you land helpless upon the beach gasping trying to remember just a small fragment of what he has told you.

Those of us who are fortunate to have access to the internet have a wonderful historical search tool at our fingertips. I was browsing the other day as one does and came across a page that certainly interested me. It was the will of Robert Townsend of Christleton made on 20th November, 1786. If you do a search for Robert Townsend on the Christleton web site you will find many references to him by David Cummings. Perhaps you remember Robert Townsend portrayed in the Christleton Pageant in 2000 as the Recorder of Chester living at the Old Hall, Christleton. From David's research I gather that he was not a very likeable person and that is rather more kind than the words David used to describe him.

The lines in the will that interested me concerned Stoneydale, Pepper Street Christleton where I have lived for the past thirty-one years and came about halfway down the page and read

and for his other property in Chester, Christleton, Gilden, Sutton and Elton to use of his daughter, wife of Thomas Ince, Esq., who is to inhabit a house lately built for him in a close called Stoneydale

I had a rough idea of the period Stoneydale was built but here was evidence that in 1786 it was referred to as 'lately built'. I also know now who it was built for and that the name of the house is taken from the name of an area of

land.

Moving some seventy years on to the mid 19th century the following details are taken from a census listing the name and surname of each person who abided in Stoneydale on the Night of 30th March, 1851

Name & Surname	Relation to Head of Family	Condition	Age	Rank, Profession of Occupation	Where Born
Elizabeth Bower	Head	Unmarried	29	Landed Proprietor	Waverton
Agnes Bower	Sister	Unmarried	19	Landed Proprietor	Waverton
Jane Yates	Sister	Married	31	Landed Proprietor	Waverton
Annie Lipscomb	Visitor	Unmarried	31	Landed Proprietor	Middlesex, Chelsea
Stella Yates	Niece		1		Kingston, Canada
Elizabeth Arthen	Servant	Unmarried	41	Servant	Larton, Cheshire
Sarah Arthen	Servant	Unmarried	25	Servant	Larton, Cheshire
Margaret Roberts	Servant	Unmarried	17	Servant	Gresford, Denbighshire

Oh dear, I feel a Mrs. Gaskell novel coming on.

The raindrops trickled endlessly down the window panes that dark March night. Agnes was reading in the dimly lit drawing room of their house in Stoneydale close about Mr. Paxton's Crystal Palace in Hyde Park. The Great Exhibition was due to open in a months time. She had decided that she must plan her visit. It was her elder sister Elizabeth, mistress of the house, seated on the other side of the room who without warning picked up the small silver hand bell by her side and shook it. The church-clock was just chiming eight when the door opened and a maid entered.

"Another oil lamp in here if you please Sarah" said Elizabeth in the low tone she always used when something was on her mind. "We do not want Miss Agnes' sight to go do we?" Sarah's soon returned with a green cut glass lamp which she placed beside Agnes who turned her head and acknowledged with a small nod and a demure smile.

The distant church-clock chimed half-past seven as Sarah checked the heavy chintz curtains and seeing that the fire in the large marble fireplace was well stoked for the evening she withdrew Elizabeth Bower settled knowing she had brought a little thoughtfulness to Agnes. Now she was free ponder on the days events and in particular the visit of the Reverend Thomas Mostyn, Rector of Christleton and the news he brought which she found most perplexing if not a little tantalising. She longed for the morning so that she may take the few steps to see her friend Sarah Johnson who ran the post office on the corner of Windmill Lane. Sarah was some twenty-one years her senior but knowing too well the gossip that was exchanged along with the sale of penny black stamps Elizabeth hoped she might be able to shed more light on the parts of the story that the

rector had with annoyingly great expertise avoided.

How this story twists and turns and finally transpires we shall never know. I will just leave it to your own vivid imagination. Do remember though that the persons mentioned were real people living real lives here in Christleton over 150 years ago. Any one of the eight persons residing at Stoneydale that night of 30th March, 1851 would have needed a vivid imagination to visualise our present time. To come up with the idea that one day in the future a man would be living in their very own home, without a servant, sitting on a strange looking swivel chair in a room brightly and mysteriously lit. That this queerly dressed man should be looking into a box that portrays words and pictures would have been beyond their comprehension. The fact he can cause more words to appear just by tapping his fingers on a box displaying a jumbled alphabet might be rather scary. And could they have imagined I would be writing about them. How could they imagine that when a bell rings now it is still a beckoning call but can mean that someone on the other side of the world wants to speak to you It is nice to reflect on the past. A lot has changed but some things thankfully never change. We might have lost our post office but St, James' still stands resplendent. One hundred and fifty-seven years and a few months have passed since that recorded night in 1851 but thankfully the Rector still calls. Now I wonder if he will have anything to tell me.

Although I had printed out a portion of the will of Robert Townsend I had not bookmarked the page and on looking again I was not able to find the web page but much to my amazement I found a book dealer who was offering the actual 16 page Townsend will with codicils, red seals and the signatures of three persons for sale. I telephoned him and he answered from somewhere abroad saying he would check to see if it was available on his return. He e-mailed me when he got back to tell me it had been sold. You cannot win them all but where there is a will there is a way.

Richard Nicholson



Christleton Cricket Club

The 1st team had a reasonable start to the season with only one loss so far. However, an improvement in batting is needed to get into contention for promotion. A fine 20/20 win over a strong Oxton side was a highlight in May. If we are to progress we need to beat Oulton Park on Tuesday 17th June at Little Heath.

The 2nd XI have not started well, but will benefit from university students returning in June.

Our junior section continues to flourish with over 80 boys and girls from Christleton and the surrounding villages. Three teams are managed by local residents, who must be congratulated for their efforts, which will benefit the club in future years.

On Sunday July 6th, the England Deaf team will be playing a 'warm up' game at Christleton, before The Ashes Series 2008. Support from local enthusiasts will be welcome on the day.

Our thanks to the following sponsors for matches in May/June:

Wynstay fuels, Phil Morrey, Arthur Broster, Birchalt Project Services, Master Wil Edwards, WG Jones, Jason & Jill Lea

For any enquiries please contact Brian:
Tel. 01244 332326



Christleton W.I.

May Meeting

Members enjoyed a very interesting talk and demonstration by Helen Phipps on decorating cakes with royal icing. A contribution of knitted beanie hats was made by members in answer to the appeal by Christleton Brownies for the newly-born babies in India.

Cynthia Siddall reported that she had had a lovely CFWI afternoon at Capesthorpe Hall and Garden and encouraged members to make a visit. Hargrave and Huxley WI have extended an invitation to join them on a coach trip to the Wedgewood Factory and Trentham Gardens on the 24th July, 2008. Any members interested in this event please contact a Christleton WI committee member. Visitors and new members welcome.

June Meeting

Members enjoyed an excellent meal at the annual birthday party. The Christleton WI Scarecrow name competition was won by Majorie Stafford.

Next meeting July 9th

"Gilt on the Gingerbread".

Competition - An unusual object.
All very welcome.

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.

Sky fright

*An airliner flew into a violent thunderstorm and was soon bumping around in the sky. One very nervous lady happened to be sitting next to a clergyman and turned to him for comfort. "Can't you do something?" she demanded forcefully.
"I'm sorry ma'am," said the minister gently. "I'm in sales, not management."*

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

Parish Registers for May 2008

Holy Baptism

- 4th Toby Benjamin Challinor son of Benjamin & Catherine Challinor
23 Sandrock Road, Christleton
- 25th Louie William Rielly son of Christopher & Amberley Rielly
1 Boughton Heights, Pentre, Broughton, Wrexham
- 25th Morgan Gillian Alice Lynch daughter of Kevin Lynch & Kimberely Waring
5 Heath Close, Great Boughton

"We welcome you into the Lord's Family"

The Marriage Service

- 8th Philip Roy Patton & Janette Ruth Nowland
3 South View Cottages, Plough Lane, Christleton
- 24th Martin Ian Wright & Janet Maria Green
12 Durban Avenue, Christleton

"Those whom God has joined, let not man divide"

The Funeral Service

- 2nd Barbara May Ashley, 101 Norfolk Road, Wrexham (Burial of Ashes)
- 6th Arthur George Farrington, 10 Bush Road, Christleton
- 6th Michael Gerrard Taylor, 23 Oaklands Avenue, Guilden Sutton (Interment)
- 8th Jessie Berry, Flat B2 Norley, Plumley Close, Vicars Cross
- 9th James Mosford Partington, 1 Sandrock Road, Christleton
- 15th Mary Elizabeth McCann, Oaklands Nursing Home, Tarvin Road, Littleton
- 19th Janet Sandra Arden, Parkfields Farm, Plough Lane, Christleton
- 21st Arthur George Farrington, 10 Bush Road, Christleton (Burial of Ashes)
- 30th Joyce Shorrock, 7 Haslin Crescent, Christleton

"Grant then eternal rest"

Offertories

May	Cash	CSE	2008	2007
4th	171-93	593-50	765-43	818-35
11th	352-30	787-90	1,140-20	1,078-20
18th	322-60	641-20	963-60	682-10
25th	176-52	557-10	733-62	808-17
Totals			£ 3,603-05	£ 3,386-82

PARISH CHURCH OF ST. JAMES, CHRISTLETON

SUNDAYS	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
WEDNESDAYS	10.45 a.m.	Holy Communion	
SAINT'S DAYS	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, Christleton335663

Churchwardens:	Lois Dickinson	378320
	Keith Smalls	335688
Reader	Wayne Morris	01978 263389
Reader Emeritus	John Roberts	332207
Verger	David Ellis	336879
Sacristan:	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
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BAPTISMS, WEDDINGS & APPOINTMENTS
BY ARRANGEMENT WITH THE RECTOR 335663

