

Parish Magazine



October 2008

# St. James'

Christleton

35p

[www.christleton.org.uk](http://www.christleton.org.uk)

Rector's Letter  
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ON the last Bus  
Ring O Bells Reopening  
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Cricket Club



**HARVEST FESTIVAL  
SUNDAY 12th OCTOBER**

# Occasions in October

Wed	1	10.45 am 7.30 pm	United Communion - followed by refreshments Pamper Night (Parish Hall)
Thur	2	12 noon 7.45 pm	Prayer Lunch (Methodist Church) Deanery Eucharist (Tarvin)
Fri	3	6.30 pm	Choir Practice
Sat	4	7.00 pm	'Celebrations of Christleton' Talk by David Cummings (Parish Hall)
<b>Sun</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>8.00 am</b> <b>10.45 am</b> <b>10.45 am</b> <b>6.00 pm</b> <b>6.30 pm</b>	<b>The Twentieth Sunday After Trinity: Proper 22</b> Holy Communion (Order 2) Sunday School (Parish Hall) Parish Communion with special intention for Healing The Crew Youth Group (Parish Hall) Evensong - Followed by refreshments Prayer Link Road: Woodfields Neighbourhood Link: Joyce Ridings
Mon	6	10.45 am 11.15 am	Holy Communion at Tarvin Court Nursing Home Holy Communion at Oaklands Nursing Home
Wed	8	10.45 am 11.30 am	Holy Communion - followed by refreshments Holy Communion at Birch Heath Lodge Nursing Home
Fri	10	2.00 pm 6.30 pm	Primary School Harvest Service Choir Practice NB: Last date for any contributions for November Parish Magazine to Janet Milton (335469). Earlier if possible. You can attach your Word document and e-mail to: christletonmag@hotmail.co.uk
Sat	11		Harvest Supper (Parish Hall)

<b>Sun</b>	<b>12</b>		<b>HARVEST FESTIVAL</b>
		8.00 am	Holy Communion (Order 1)
		10.45 am	Harvest Family Service. You are invited to bring a gift of Harvest produce to be given out in the Parish
		6.00 pm	The Crew Youth Group (Parish Hall)
		6.30 pm	Evensong Prayer Link Road: Badgers Close    Neighbourhood Link: June Hulmes
<b>Mon</b>	<b>13</b>	9.00 am	Preparation and distribution of Harvest parcels
		2.00 pm	Mothers' Union (Parish Hall)
<b>Wed</b>	<b>15</b>	10.45 am	Holy Communion - followed by refreshments
<b>Thur</b>	<b>16</b>	2.30 pm	Parish Visiting Group (White Haven)
		7.45 pm	Canon Trevor Denis: "The Parables: a Radical Jesus" (Methodist Church)
<b>Fri</b>	<b>17</b>	6.30 pm	Choir Practice
<b>Sat</b>	<b>18</b>	9.00 am	Holy Communion for ST LUKE
<b>Sun</b>	<b>19</b>		<b>The Twenty- Second Sunday after Trinity - Proper 24</b>
		8.00 am	Holy Communion (Order 1)
		10.45 am	Matins - followed by refreshments
		10.45 am	Sunday School (Parish Hall)
		6.00 pm	The Crew Youth Club (Parish Hall)
		6.30 pm	Evensong Prayer Link: Birch Heath Lane    Neighbourhood Link: Fiona Lee
<b>Wed</b>	<b>22</b>	10.45 am	Holy Communion - followed by refreshments
<b>Fri</b>	<b>24</b>	6.30 pm	Choir Practice
<b>Sun</b>	<b>26</b>		<b>The Last Sunday After Trinity - Bible Sunday</b>
		8.00 am	Holy Communion (Order 1)
		10.45 am	Matins - followed by refreshments
		12 noon	Holy Baptism
		6.00 pm	The Crew Youth Group (Parish Hall)
		6.30 pm	Evening Communion (Order 1) Prayer Link Road: Bridge Drive    Neighbourhood Link: Margaret
<b>Croston</b>			
<b>Tues</b>	<b>28</b>	8.00 am	Church Walking Group
<b>Wed</b>	<b>29</b>	10.45 am	Holy Communion - followed by refreshments

# The Rector's Letter

Dear Friends

## The Cry of Creation

There is a sense of unfulfilled longing which resonates through secular culture. Boris Becker came close to taking his own life through being overwhelmed by this sense of emptiness and helplessness. He wrote:- “I had won Wimbledon twice before, once as the youngest player. I was rich. I had all the possessions I needed: money, cars, women, everything ... I know that this is a cliché. It's the old song of the movie and pop stars who commit suicide. They have everything, and yet they are so unhappy ... I had no inner peace. I was a puppet on a string ...” The Christian Gospel interprets this sense of longing, this feeling of estrangement, as an awareness of the absence of God.

The Bible begins with the words:- “In the beginning God created ...” This is the first basic building block of the Christian faith. Alongside that is the belief that God creates in relationship – that a loving relationship is his inherent nature. It is not surprising therefore that his creation is incomplete without a response to its Creator. This is the cry of creation which yearns and reaches out to find fulfilment in relationship with its Creator. In 1860 George Congreve became the first Vicar of Frankby on Wirral, where I served as Vicar before coming to Christleton. Later he was to become a member of a Religious Community known as the Cowley Fathers. A deeply spiritual man, he loved nature: he refers to the sound of the wind in the trees over and over again, and to the “sorrow of the sea breaking along the shore; its sorrow is my own sorrow.” But he wrote:- “Do not linger over beauty not halt in it. You may not possess it, not find a home there. It is a signal, a beckoning, a beacon. Always go further; always refer, carry your eyes, your mind, still onward, upward; pass through all this – all form and texture, fragrance and delicate colour – to Him, the unseen Beauty, the goodness that gave the fairness, for whom alone the soul was made and the loveliness that delights it.”

It is the loss of the relationship between Creator and creation which the Christian faith expresses in the doctrine of ‘The Fall’. ‘The cry of creation’ is the cry of Adam and Eve, walking out of Paradise. It is the doctrine of Redemption in Jesus Christ which enables that relationship to be restored, and that bitter-sweet

yearning to be satisfied. The noted theoretical physicist, John Polkinghorne, wrote in a book about points of contact for the Gospel, but then observed: "The kinds of consideration outlined ... would, I think, incline me to take a Theistic view of the world. The reason I take my stand within the Christian community lies in certain events which took place in Palestine nearly two thousand years ago."

To me, all these elements come together in HARVEST. Harvest, like the Bible, starts with the awareness that all things come from God, in creation. But Harvest is more than 'nature worship'. Harvest takes up Congreve's exhortation to look onwards and upwards to the Creator behind the creation. Harvest, however, also recognises the 'cry of creation' – it recognises that the relationship between Creator and creation is fractured: that "creation groans in all its parts as if in the groans of childbirth" (Romans 8:22) And so we also look to Redemption in the pattern and love of Jesus Christ "who was rich, yet for our sake became poor, that through his poverty we might become rich" (2 Corinthians 8:9). For in his life and teaching Jesus gave us a glimpse of the Kingdom – a taste of tomorrow's bread today. As we face the threat of catastrophe through our abuse of creation, we need to hear the cry of creation. We need to proclaim that there is a far greater and deeper and over-arching reason to respond that just secular self-interest, and that is as a response of creation to our Creator. And so, as we come together to celebrate Harvest at St James on 12 October, the cry of creation is met with God's loving embrace, to give hope of new life and fulfilment through the self-giving love of God in Christ.

Yours sincerely



Peter Lee

**Prayer of the Month:**

*Almighty God, you have made us for yourself,  
and our hearts are restless till they find their rest in you:  
pour your love into our hearts and draw us to yourself,  
and so bring us at last to your heavenly city  
where we shall see you face to face;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

*(Collect for Trinity 17: based on St Augustine's prayer)*

# SUNDAY AFTERNOON TEAS

From an idea originating from the Flower Festival last year, Sunday Afternoon Teas in the Village became a reality this year and a very big THANK YOU to everyone taking part.

From what we have heard so far in feed back it would appear that everyone enjoyed their session(s) on the rota and consider it a very worthwhile exercise both in providing a welcome service for visitors to the Village and also to the residents alike. We had cyclists passing through who will put our details on their Web Site next year (if we open for business in 2009), residents from Birch Heath Lodge Nursing Home, as well as many local residents from the Village who came along for a "chat".

The numbers visiting started off modestly at approx 17 on the first week, significantly rising during August to approx 30+, with the staggering number of 51 on the last week, making an average of approx 27 per week.

The money we made after deduction of expenses amounts to £460.40 and particular thanks to Jayne Roscoe for keeping account of the money each week. This money is going to the Zimbabwe Crisis.

So thank you again to everyone and after our meeting on Thursday 18 September perhaps we will be in a position to say whether we will be serving teas again in 2009.

*Anne Collier*

*Janet Milton*

*Sheila Roberts*

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## **HISTORIC CHESHIRE CHURCHES PRESERVATION TRUST**

### ***SPONSORED BIKE RIDE – 13 SEPTEMBER 2008***

I write 24 hours before tomorrows bicycle ride to say a massive thank you to everyone who sponsored me. I really am so grateful to you all for your support and generosity. It is very much appreciated. Thank you.

*Edward Elliott*



## CANTERBURY BELLS

**W**e Wednesday morning Worshippers were enjoying our usual cup of coffee after the service recently when we were suddenly invaded by a group of men and women. We took them to be a party of walkers wanting to see the Church but it turned out they were bell ringers from churches within the outskirts of Canterbury. They joined us for a drink and they had a look around and seemed to know all about Butterworth and his style of architecture. Sure enough within a

short time they were ringing merrily, making villagers wonder who could be getting married on a Wednesday.

### Mike and Tina Lightfoot

celebrate their 30th wedding anniversary on October 21st (Trafalgar Day)

They were married at St Peters, Birkenhead (long gone) by Tina's father, the late Gordon Robinson.

They shall be celebrating the event



**The Children's Society**  
MAKING LIVES WORTH LIVING

## BOX OPENING 2008

Attention all Box Holders!!  
Please check next month's Parish Magazine for details of our annual Offertory Service... Just a few weeks left to collect those pennies!

Many thanks

*Lesley Morgan*



*October is a piper,  
..Piping down the dell -  
Sad sweet songs of sunshine -  
..Summer's last farewell,  
He pipes till grey November  
..Comes in the mist and rain,  
And then he puts his pipe away  
..Till Autumn comes again.*

*.....Margaret Rose*

# People in the News

## Ben Johnson & his painting of Liverpool Cityscape



Ben a pupil at Christleton Secondary School when it opened in 1958 has become a world famous artist, culminating in his being commissioned to paint the Liverpool Cityscape for the Capital of Culture 2008. It is a wonderful piece of art, and well worth the journey to “The Walker Art Gallery” in Liverpool where a special exhibition of his work is being shown until the 2nd November 2008. His superb painting of Liverpool Cityscape which has taken four years to complete is a masterpiece its own right, but his wonderful landscape paintings of Hong Kong, Zurich, Paris, Chicago, and Jerusalem are also on display. Ben’s Liverpool painting is typical of his style. It is very architectural, with precise detail of every building being shown. His use of light is also extraordinary with light illuminating the buildings/scene/space from different directions at the

same time. There is intricate detail in every space, and the painting has a photographic quality about it. There are no people or traffic, and people who see it must image themselves in the space. It also shows how Liverpool will probably look, when all the current building work is completed. Ben is very enthusiastic about his work, and we were lucky enough to see and listen to him working on the painting earlier this year. The current exhibition has a film about the preparations and production of the work and many displays and exhibits of the ways in which the painting was achieved. The Gallery is also displaying several other landscape paintings of the City of Liverpool, the first dating from 1680.

Ben was born in Llandudno but moved to Chester & attended Christleton Secondary Modern School in 1958. He later studied at the Chester School of Art, and then at The Royal College of Art in London. His first major exhibition was held in New York in 1969, and his work has since been seen all over the world. He was made an honorary Fellow of the Royal Institute of British Architects in 1990, the only contemporary painter to be so honoured.

*David Cummings*

## Charles Clubbe

Congratulations to Charles a member of the church choir, who recently gained a chorister's Dean's Award from the Royal School of Church Music, and will receive his award at a Deanery Service at Chester Cathedral on November 1st.

## Fiona McCann

Congratulations to Fiona a former pupil of Christleton Primary School, who was chosen to travel to Beijing for the Olympic Games, as a potential 2012 competitor for the Team GB Water Polo team.

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## Re Opening of the Ring O Bells

**C**ongratulations to Ian Wade & his colleagues for their refurbishment of the Ring O Bells. The cutting of the ribbon at the re opening was performed by the Lord Mayor of Chester, Councillor Brian Bailey accompanied by Mrs Bailey and the Town Crier of Shrewsbury. Councillor Bailey spoke about the importance of the occasion for the village, and congratulated and welcomed the new Ring O Bells Team to the Village. The "Ring O Bells" was originally named the "Red Lion", which opened its doors in August 1817 under the ownership of the Venables Family, members of which still live in the Parish.

*DC*



# NATURE NEWS

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**B**oth pairs of swans on the canal have now reached maturity and are all practising flying along their various stretches of water. The Christleton pair with their three surviving cygnets along the canal at Rowton and the Waverton pair with their six cygnets near Chemistry Lock in Chester, They would normally be caught and ringed by now by the Swan Study Group, but this has not been possible this year due to an injury to the chief ringer whilst catching a swan. The ringing process of birds is strictly controlled by the British Trust for Ornithology, and ringers have to be licensed. However the process of ringing and in particular the recovery of ringed birds adds greatly to our knowledge of how long birds live, how far they travel and some of their interesting secret lives. Until we ringed the swans at The Pit Christleton for instance we had no idea that our swans travelled so far, with recoveries from Telford, Hay on Wye, Slimbridge, Plymouth, Martin Mere, Southport, The Lake District, Glasgow, Rhyl Marine Lake, The Menai Straits, Anglesey, Caernarvon, Portmadoc and Cardigan Bay. Without ringing for example we wouldn't have discovered that the present cob is mating with his daughter!!

Alistair McCreary who studies and rings the barn owls in our area has recently e mailed me with details of his work this year, and the history of one owl in particular nicknamed "Lolita", which I'll share with you. Alistair writes "One highlight this year was the re trapping of our old friend "Lolita" for the seventh time & she was with a different male but hadn't bred. When weighed she was 380 grms which is of a breeding weight so maybe she is going to be a late breeder. This lady has had 4 different males that we know of in the last 4 yrs & I suspect that she may have had more we don't know about !!! She was ringed as an adult female in June 2004. This has been a very poor year for the owls and kestrels and numbers are well down on 2007. A total of 32 owl chicks were ringed at 15 sites (2.1 chicks/site) Also ringed were 4 adult birds plus a total of 11 retrap birds (owls previously ringed). The Kestrels have had similar poor results, ringing a total of 18 chicks at 6 sites. At the same time last year I had ringed 110 barn owl chicks at 24 sites (4.5

chicks/site) & 16 adults along with 19 retrap birds. I think these figures show again as in 2006 how vulnerable the Barn Owl is to fluctuations in the small mammal population & weather conditions”.

With thanks to Alistair McCreary of Littleton for his picture & contribution to the magazine.

*David Cummings*

PS.

My sighting of the month was a beautiful female wheatear sitting on the Mersey Ferry Terminal at Hamilton Square in Birkenhead. Perhaps it was trying to hitch a lift home to Africa on the Royal Iris!!, but chose the wrong boat.



## **The History File**

### **Women's Land Army Girls**

#### **finally get their reward!!**

#### **"The Forgotten Army"**

**I**n July 2008 the British Government eventually recognised, and finally gave awards to a very important group of ladies who helped win the last war. The citation on the certificate presented with their medal states,

The Government wishes to express to you, its profound gratitude for your unsparing efforts as a loyal and devoted member of the Women's Land Army/Women's Timber Corps at a time when our country depended upon you for its survival.

Signed

*Gordon Brown*

The Women's Land Army was made up of girls from every walk of life. Posters of smiling girls bathing in glorious sunshine and open fields, covered the fact that they were raw recruits doing gruelling hard work and often with great monotony. Homesickness was common, and this was particularly true of the girls in private billets. Those in hostels were often more settled as they were in a group. However despite the difficulties there was a great sense of camaraderie amongst the girls who ultimately became life long friends. Although formed initially in 1917 at the end of the Great War, its greatest work was done from 1939, when after first asking for volunteers and later by conscription over 80,000 members were employed working the land by 1944. The ladies wore uniforms, although often did their own alterations and tailoring to improve them.

The uniform consisted of; 2 short sleeved shirts, a green pullover, a pair of breeches, a great coat and a long thin Mackintosh for winter, a bib and brace overall, a hat, 2 pairs of socks, a pair of shoes and rubber boots.

#### **Their even had their own song.**

*Back to the land, we must all lend a hand  
To the farms and the fields we must go.*

*There's a job to be done*

*Though we can't fire a gun*

*We can still do our bit with a hoe*

*Back to the land, with its clay and its sand,*

*Its granite and gravel and grit,*

*You grow barley and wheat*

*And potatoes to eat*

*To make sure that the nation keeps fit.*

*We will tell you once more*

*You can help win the war*

*If you come back with us –back to the land.*

A week or so ago I was delighted to be able to talk to Christleton residents Mary & Lucy about the award of their Land Army medals and about their lives during the war. They grew up with their parents and four siblings on an isolated farm on the south Cheshire/Shropshire border near Tushingham, and when the call came both volunteered to join the Women's Land Army. Mary specialised in horticulture and spent some time at Bees Nurseries at Sealand in Chester, and was billeted at the Vernon Institute at Saughall. She then transferred to Market Gardens at Altrincham, on land that was soon to become part of Manchester Airport. Here she worked on all aspects of horticulture; planting, growing and harvesting flowers,



on the family farm at Eccleston Ferry, and who it seems was also a great joker, causing Lucy some hilarious but unmentionable moments of embarrassment. On a Sunday in their spare time Jim often rowed Lucy on the river and they soon became an item. Later on during the war Lucy was able through the influential Misses Day & Wheeler of Rowton to obtain

potatoes, cabbages, sprouts etc, working in the greenhouses, and on the land. Every scrap of land was used and Mary became a dab hand at harrowing the ground with the horse and chain harrow. They were happy times and Mary went on to marry and have a very happy career in horticulture.

Lucy started her Land Army Career at Eccleston in Chester, and spoke about milking by hand at 5.45am in the morning, and later having to lift the heavy churns onto the collecting point at the farm. (She noted that the older men who were also working on the farm were always noticeably absent when the heavy churns had to be lifted!) Lucy was also able to work the heavy horse, ploughing and harvesting the crops, and she particularly remembers the difficult task of stooking the corn by hand. Both ladies said that despite the hardships these were some of the happiest times of their lives, because of the friendships made and the teamwork that existed. It was at Eccleston that Lucy first met Jim Partington, who was at his happiest working with his Uncle Tom

work at Johnny Williams' Farm at White Lane in Christleton, and worked there for over six years.

Jim & Lucy married and eventually took over the Mosford Family Butcher's Shop at Rock House in the Village, although Jim's love was always in farming. They started with nothing at a very difficult time, with Mary Partington giving them their first weeks meat to sell, They worked hard and the shop became a huge success, a great village institution and a place loved by all villagers, not only for the meat, but for the comment, chatter, and above all a place to leave their keys for deliveries of any kind.

Thanks to Mary & Lucy for sharing their memories with us. I'd be delighted to hear from any other parishioners who were involved in such work during the war, and to record their memories.

*David Cummings*

Ref; Women's Land Army;  
[www.homesweethomefront.co.uk](http://www.homesweethomefront.co.uk)

## Letter to the Editor from Antony Barrington-Brown

It meant a great deal to me to be permitted to read a lesson at St James' on August 31.

Born on 13 July 1927 I was baptised there by Rev Alyn Guest Williams on 11 August, among those few whom he baptised in the first year of his ministry. Most of my early life was spent at my grandparents' house, Stoneydale. My father, a geologist, was abroad most of the time and my mother and sister (born at Five Oaks in 1929) joined him out there. So my grandfather Harold Dolphin was a dominant influence. In church we all sat in the front row (now removed) under the pulpit so that he could read the lesson which he did for twenty years or more, opposite (later Sir) Nigel Grainger of Littleton Hall who read the other. He was churchwarden for many years. My parents left Stoneydale in 1940

but we continued to visit. So being in the church again was like coming home.

I hope I may be spared to return one day.

Thank you, and my apologies to whoever's rightful place at the lectern I usurped!

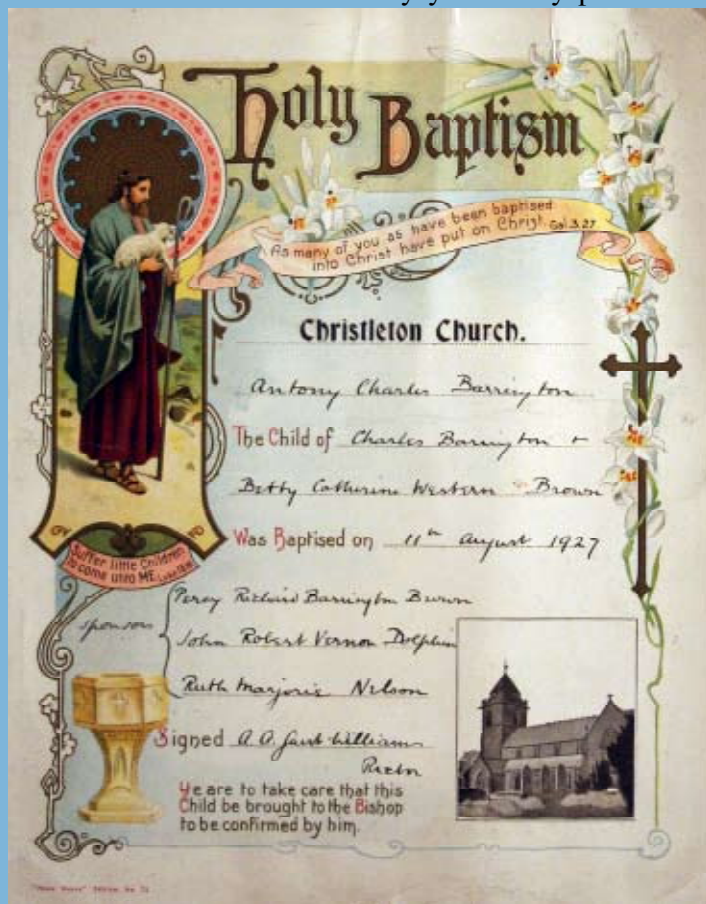


Illustration:  
*Antony's Holy  
Baptism certificate  
dated 11th August,  
1927 and signed  
by Rev. A. G. Guest  
Williams  
Is this the oldest  
one in existence?*

# ON THE LAST BUS

It is many years since my father was supervising an 'A' Level Art exam and noticed five minutes from the end that one student had painted away but not yet turned the question paper over! Edmund was an enigmatic boy, more able in verbal discussion than in writing, yet he was one of the most talented landscape painters the school ever saw. And it was on the edge of the Lake District.

On being persuaded reluctantly to look at the questions, Edmund perused the five choices and glanced at his magnificent Lake District scene looking up a wooded valley, mountain summits all around. 'Question Three, The Last Bus, that'll do', he muttered. Reaching for the vermilion red, he put a tiny red blob near the head of the valley.

I have often wondered if Edmund's 'A double-star' grade would have been awarded without the bus. Whatever, it has had this writer musing ever since.

As a local, I several times picked up stray mountaineers in Borrowdale, walking down towards Keswick having missed the 5.10, amazingly the last summer departure in those days. Moreover, as my own punishment I later spent half a winter night on Carnforth Station having missed the last rail connection to Ulverston to which my parents had moved.

Edmund's genius was to bring alive a most gorgeous water colour; that touch had a meaning beyond beauty. Like a tiny addition to something already great, like the special final gesture from a friend who has already been so kind, or one sentence towards the end of a rich sermon that stayed in the mind forever. Those things tug the heart.

Make your own interpretation. For me the Last Bus (caught or missed) means more than just the bright red Leyland single-decker.

*JOHN CARRUTHERS*

# CATHEDRAL LINK

Canon Trevor Dennis writes:-

Bob Owens joined us as a part-time Steward some years ago, and quickly established himself as an invaluable member of the verging team. Indeed, without Bob we do not know how we could have kept going, or hosted the number of special services, concerts and events we have. Bob put in countless hours of work, both during the day with regular verging duties, and on evenings when a service or event was going on in the Cathedral. Often he did not return home till very late at night, or even in the small hours of the morning. Bob has many sides to him. He is an accomplished organist, and when visiting choirs came in the holidays, he was very often the one who introduced their organist to the many idiosyncrasies of the Cathedral instrument, and dealt with their queries. Many visiting choirs have told us how well they have been looked after here. Bob Owens was one of the main people they had to thank for that. Bob was a former organist at St James.

## **Saints' Windows in the Cloisters**

St Jerome was born to a rich pagan family, and led a misspent youth. Converted in theory, and baptised in

365, he began his study of theology, and had a true conversion. He became a Monk and lived for years as a hermit in the Syrian deserts. He is reported to have drawn a thorn from a lion's paw; the animal stayed loyally at his side for years. He was a student of St Gregory of Nazianzen and Secretary to Pope Damasus I who commissioned him to revise the Latin text of the Bible. The result of his 30 years of work was the Vulgate translation, which is still in use. Jerome was a friend and teacher of St Paula, St Marcella, and St Eustochium, an association that led to much gossip. Jerome left Rome to return to the desert solitude. He lived his last 34 years in the Holy Land as a semi-recluse and wrote translations of Origen, histories, biographies, and much more. Since his own time, he has been associated in the popular mind with scrolls, writing, cataloguing, translating, etc. This led to those who work in such fields taking him as their patron – a man who knew their lives and problems.

Born: 347 at Strido, Dalmatia. Died: 419; relics at the Basilica of Saint Mary Major in Rome.

Patronage: archaeologists, archivists, bible scholars, librarians, schoolchildren.



# WHAT'S

## 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

**October 28th 2008.**

Kelsall, Primrose Hill Wood & Sandstone Trail. Moderate + 7 1/2 miles

Leader Sue Mallows. Contact; suemallows@hotmail.com or 01244 335527.

Depart. Church Car Park 8.00am  
Packed Lunch.

## CHRISTLETON W.I.

Meets on the second Wednesday of the month at 7.15 pm in the Parish Hall  
*Next Meeting - 8th October*  
*Northwest Air Ambulance*  
*Jackie Northover*  
*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.

## MAGAZINE DISTRIBUTORS

The November Magazine will be available for collection from Church on Sunday 26th October 2008.

## MAGAZINE CONTRIBUTIONS

Please ensure all items for inclusion in the **November** edition are sent to Janet Milton, as soon as possible **BEFORE Friday 11th October** or you can e-mail this to christletonmag@hotmail.

# ON

## CHRISTLETON WEDNESDAY GROUP

Charity Christmas Card Sale  
Come & buy all your cards direct  
from the local & national charities.

on

**Saturday 11 October,**

Christleton Parish Hall,  
10.00 am – 12.00 noon.

Coffee / tea & biscuits included in  
80p admission.

Also cake and toy stalls.

## CHRISTLETON LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

Saturday October 4th  
7.00pm

**Jim Partington Memorial  
Lecture in The Parish Hall.**

**David Cummings  
Celebrations of Christleton**

**“Fetes & Festivals”**

Buffet Supper £6.00

All proceeds to “The Institute”  
Tickets from David Cummings  
332410. The Village Stores, “The  
Institute”, Drake’s Hairdressers.

## PAMPER NIGHT

**WEDNESDAY 1 OCTOBER 2008**

CHRISTLETON PARISH HALL

7.30 pm

Admission £5 (to include liquid refreshment)

Raffle

Spanish Shoes

Phoenix Cards & gift wrap

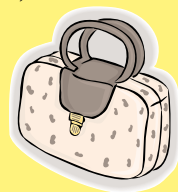
Nails by Jade

Colour Me Beautiful by Sylvia

Jewellery by Mococo

All proceeds to PCC Charities

For tickets/details contact :  
Janet Milton : 01244-335469



# WHAT'S ON

## CHESTER

### BACH SINGERS

(conductor Martin Bussey)

**Saturday 18 October**

Wesley Methodist Church

St.John's Street, Chester

**Lunch-time concert, 12.45**

### ENGLAND'S GLORY

#### *music of the sea*

by Elgar, Parry, Wood

Vaughan- Williams...

a foretaste of their forthcoming

C.D.

Tickets £5 - obtainable at the door,  
or from CBS tickets, 0151 677 3137

## ADVANCE NOTICE

### Carol Singing at Oaklands and Birch Heath Lodge

After last year's very successful and enjoyable afternoons at these two nursing homes, we hope very much to repeat them this year. Dates have yet to be finalised, but I imagine they will be much as last year, probably during the second and third weeks of December - so WATCH THIS SPACE.. I do hope all who joined us last year will be able to come again, as Methodist, Roman Catholic and Anglicans came together for carols and readings and a happy time much appreciated by many.

J.Bowden (335705)

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## CHESTER LECTURE SOCIETY PROGRAMME

The series of lectures starts up again this month in the Grosvenor Museum on Thursday evenings at 7.30 pm. The October lectures are:-

2nd David Cummings "The Day the Sky Fell in". The story of the eruption of Vesuvius in AD78 and the catastrophic effect on the citizens and population of the Bay of Naples, including Pompeii and Herculanium.

9th Geoff Somers MBE "Scott, Hero or Loser?" A recent enactment of part of the fateful journey of Scott of Antarctica using the same equipment and clothing, food and navigation.

16th Pollyanna Pickering "Giant Pandas and Sleeping Dragons". A remarkable journey into China to study and paint Pandas. Her charitable Foundation raises funds for international conservation and wild life.

23rd Peter Baker "Imagine India". This programme aims to reflect something of India's wild life, dance, parades, festivals, variety and scenery.

30th John Hare. "The mysteries of the Gobi". John discovered an outpost of Lou Lan called Tu-Ying with cloth and felt dating from 1000 BC. He shows the city, the mummies and the cloth.

Non-members will be admitted on payment of £4 per lecture, but, it is far better value to become a member for an annual subscription of £20 which covers 18 lectures. Contact Ann Large on Chester 336108 or Margaret Croston on Chester 335955 for further details.

## **GROSVENOR MUSEUM SOCIETY**

The next meeting of the Society  
will be held on

**Monday, 6th October**

at the Museum,  
starting at 7.30pm.

“Liverpool’s Two Cathedrals”

Speaker: Elizabet Newall  
a city, guide.

Admission : Members free; sug-  
gested donation for visitors, £4.

Membership details from  
Ken Holdiing, Tel. 312689

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## **CHRISTLETON WEDNESDAY GROUP**

**Quiz Evening**

**on**

**Saturday 15 November**

at Christleton Parish Hall,  
7 for 7.30 pm

Tickets £8, (available from mem-  
bers) include a glass of wine &  
finger buffet In aid of the  
*“Friends of The Mulberry Centre”*

## **John Sellers Educational Foundation, Christleton**

This ancient Trust was founded on  
23 December 1779 for the ducation  
of poor children in Christleton and  
Littleton. It was originally to pro-  
vide instruction in reading, English,  
writing, arithmetic, and for spinning,  
sewing and knitting. The original  
Minute Book is still in use and has  
recently been restored.

The main source of income is from  
the rent of a field in Plough Lane. The  
present trustees comprise the Rector,  
Clerk, a County Council representa-  
tive and two Parish Councillors. It is  
their intention to try and increase the  
capital and use the interest to provide  
grants. Further donations or lega-  
cies, which could be used to increase  
the level of grants paid out, would be  
very much appreciated.

This year the Primary School and the  
High School have been given money  
but applications are encouraged from  
individuals in exceptional circum-  
stances who would like to apply in  
confidence.

Applications for grants from indi-  
viduals or groups wishing to be con-  
sidered should apply in writing be-  
fore November to the Clerk, Mrs M  
Croston, 5 Bridge Drive, Christleton,  
Chester CH3 6AW



# Christleton W.I.

**September**

The Christleton's Women's Institute hold a Produce, Handicraft and Flower Show every two years. The latest show was held on the 10th September in the Parish Hall. The number of entries exceeded expectations and was greatly enjoyed by the members. We would like to extend our thanks to the exhibitors and judges who made this a successful event. Lucy Partington and Mary Jackson very kindly agreed to bring their recently awarded Land Army Medals much to the interest of members. Well done ladies. Congratulations to Jane Pickering who won the Evening Quiz.



*Above:  
Janet judged preserves and cakes*



*Left:  
Joyce Galley who judged  
Handicrafts and Barbara Airey  
who judged the flowers.*

# Christleton Gardening Club

## Outings 2008

In June, the members of the gardening Club had a guided tour of Ness gardens. It was the most perfect summer evening – yes one of the few- as we gathered in the Car Park. We were met and welcomed by Ness staff. They were elated as they had just heard that they had achieved Visitor Centre of the Year 2008.

We were introduced to Tom Brabin – a volunteer tour guide at Ness. What an enthusiast! He led us through hidden pathways which visitors might not normally find. He is a tree expert and showed us unusual species and had many tales to tell about their origins and about how they arrived at Ness. The highlight was a handkerchief tree in full bloom.

Our visit ended with a stroll past the large herbaceous borders.

In July the gardening club was the guest of Fryers Nursery near Knutsford. Following a lunch we were led to the propagating greenhouses. This where, hopefully new varieties are found. It was amazing to see how many plants were propagated to produce possibly one new variety of rose. We then went to the trial grounds where these new varieties are grown – even at this stage many plants are discarded in the search for perfection.

Once selected the plants are grafted on to root stock and grown in large fields ready for sale.



Fryers had produced the rose of the year for 2009 as judged at Chelsea.

This was an afternoon of colour and perfume which made us realise the years of work involved in producing a new rose variety.

The Gardening Club has now begun the new season of Speakers and Outings – see September issue of Parish Magazine for details

# BACK TO POLAND



## 1. A Little History

I have written before about my visit to Poland on a youth exchange in 1959, the challenging passage through a security-conscious East Germany, and the friendly welcome from an impoverished Poland. After our return to England, the letters from our exchange partners had usually been opened en route, became fewer and fewer, and eventually stopped. The young Poles never made it to England.

Unfinished business, and for me a strange experience for a 19 year old working his way through university. Poland rarely featured in the news. Yet by the 1970's snippets started to appear in the newspapers and I read each one with the fascination of mystery. I even cut some out.

It was therefore with great excitement that this summer I returned to Poland for the first time in 49 years, flying into a very different Warsaw to the city that I had seen in dire straits 49 years earlier. Furthermore, this time I was to attend the christening of a 21st century baby, a beautiful symbol of the passage of time in a rapidly changing Poland.

More of that in a further article, but first a little historical perspective.

No country in Europe has suffered

more boundary changes than Poland; few others have at times virtually disappeared from the map. During the Second World War, a quarter of the population died and in 1945 the country was shunted westward losing large tracts to the east now shared between Belarus and Ukraine.

In eastern Poland, Lublin and Bialystock were bastions of the Polish Jewish culture and the two cities remain within present-day Poland. Lublin to the far south-east may now look a little isolated on the map, but prospers as a major academic centre and regional focus. Perhaps its saddest memory is the site of the Majdanek concentration camp nearby.

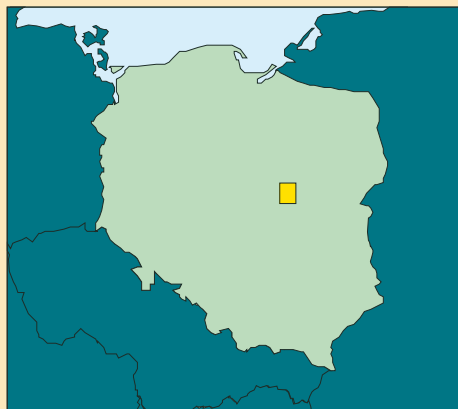
To the south-west, Silesia returned to Poland after the Second World War and Wroclaw (formerly the German Breslan) has an element of dual Polish-German culture, including displaced Polish settlers and their descendants who in 1945 were moved there from L'viv, now in Ukraine.

Due west of Warsaw, the city of Poznan somehow retained its strong Polish culture over the centuries, finally resisting Bismark's widening Germanisation policy in the uprising of 1918. Poznan was incidentally the city where I first arrived in 1959. I remember it well; I took my first colour photograph there!

You would expect a Geographer like

myself to focus on Poland from the map, rather than for instance the political and military history of the two World Wars. But those are well documented on BBC2 and Channel 4 and atrocities by the Nazi invaders are now recorded in many history books and fictionalised in novels. It is important to focus on how strongly modern Poland has emerged into the united nation of today; in so many ways a modern miracle.

*JOHN CARRUTHERS*



### **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.

## **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)**



## Christleton Cricket Club

As the season comes to an end Christleton CC can reflect on a season of consolidation. Several players have been unable to play many games for personal reasons, which has resulted in a mid table position. However next season we should have a full complement of players, so combined with the news that Iroshan De Silva will be playing again next year, a challenge for the league championship in 2009 looks hopeful.

Iroshan has made over 800 runs so far and taken 35 wickets. He has also passed on his expertise in first class cricket to the junior players during coaching sessions.

Over 80 youngsters have attended our junior coaching programme, which has been extremely successful

and will continue next April. Three junior teams have competed during the 2008 season. We welcome any additional boys & girls ages 7 – 15, next year.

The Cricket Club would like to congratulate Gareth Davies and his wife Ruth on their 50th wedding anniversary, which is a sort of miracle as Gareth has been Chairman of the Christleton CC for 10 years – enough to test any marriage!

We would like to thank the following sponsors for July/August:

Towry Law, Terry Brooks, Owain Davies, Croston Engineering, Sissons family (Leukaemia charities), Harveys Farmhouse Catering

For any enquiries please contact: Brian 332326



‘A common sight at Little Heath this year’

# Parish Registers for August 2008

## The Marriage Service

30th Steven Paul Holland & Sarah Jane Darwin  
28 Sorrel Close, Huntington, Chester

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

## The Funeral Service

9th Jessie Charlton 62 Quinta Drive, Barnet, London

19th Audrey Goldberg 3 Haslin Crescent, Christleton

*“Grant then eternal rest”*

## Offeratories

August	Cash	CSE	2008	2007
3rd	275-41	657-00	932-41	930-25
10th	121-31	606-30	727-61	716-68
17th	72-50	457-50	530-00	535-74
24th	92-35	720-00	812-35	711-50
31st	128-18	694-00	822-18	870-75
<b>Totals</b>			<b>£ 3,824-55</b>	<b>£ 3,765-02</b>

*“Of your own do we give you”*

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## CHURCH BULLETINS

Some of these actually appeared in church bulletins or were announced in church services.

*The Fasting & Prayer Conference includes meals.*

*The sermon this morning: ‘Jesus Walks on the Water’. The sermon tonight: ‘Searching for Jesus’.*

*Ladies, don’t forget the rummage sale. It’s a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.*

*Remember in prayer the many who are sick of our community.*

*Smile at someone who is hard to love. Say ‘Hell’ to someone who doesn’t care much about you. Don’t let worry kill you off – let the Church help.*

