

Parish Magazine



May 2008

St. James'

35p

Christleton

WWW.CHRISTLETON.ORG.UK



**Christian Aid
Week**

11th - 17th May



**Rector's Letter
A Tribute
Election Results
Behind the Scenes
Wildlife Meadow
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Petra's Reply
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Parish Registers**

May Days

Thur 1 7.45 pm Holy Communion for ASCENSION DAY

Fri 2 6.30 pm Choir Practice

Sun 4 The Sunday After Ascension Day

8.00 am Holy Communion - Order 2
 10.45 am Sunday School - Parish Hall
 10.45 am Parish Communion - Order 1
 12 noon Holy Baptism
 6.00 pm The Crew Youth Group
 6.30 pm Evensong - followed by refreshments
 Prayer Link Road: Hawthorn Road
 Neighbourhood Link: Jayne Roscoe

Wed 7 10.45 am United Communion - followed by refreshments.
 6.30 pm Confirmation Rehearsal

Thur 8 1.00 pm Wedding

Fri 9 6.30 pm Choir Practice

NB: Last day for contributions to June magazine, preferably earlier,
 to the Rector (335663) or you can e-mail it to christletonmag@
 hotmail.co.uk

Sun 11 WHITSUNDAY

8.00 am Holy Communion - Order 1
 10.45 am CONFIRMATION WITH COMMUNION
 6.00 pm The Crew Youth Group - Parish Hall
 6.30 pm Evensong
 Prayer Link Road: Home Close
 Neighbourhood Link: Gertrude Wright

Mon 12 2.00 pm Mothers' Union

Wed 14 10.45 am Holy Communion for ST MATTHIAS
 Followed by refreshments
 11.30 am Holy Communion at Birch Heath Lodge Nursing Home

Thurs 15 2.30 pm Archdeacon's Visitation - Saltney

Fri 16 6.30 pm Choir practice

| | | | |
|------------|-----------|----------|--|
| Sun | 18 | | TRINITY SUNDAY |
| | 8.00 am | | Holy Communion - Order 1 |
| | 10.45 am | | CHRISTIAN AID FAMILY SERVICE |
| | 6.00 pm | | The Crew Youth Group Parish Hall |
| | 6.30 pm | | Evensong |
| | | | Prayer Link Road: Little Heath Road and Pearl Lane |
| | | | Neighbourhood Link: Judith Edwards and Liz Evans |
| Mon | 19 | 1.30 pm | Churches Together Committee - Lady Chapel |
| Tues | 20 | 8.00 am | Church Walking Group leaves car park |
| Wed | 21 | 10.45 am | Holy Communion followed by refreshments |
| Fri | 23 | 6.30 pm | Choir Practice |
| Sat | 24 | 1.30 pm | Wedding |
| Sun | 25 | | The First Sunday After Trinity |
| | 8.00 am | | Holy Communion - Order 1 |
| | 10.45 am | | Sunday School - Parish Hall |
| | 10.45 am | | Matins |
| | 12 noon | | Holy Baptism |
| | 6.00 pm | | The Crew Youth Group - Parish Hall |
| | 6.30 pm | | Evening Communion |
| | | | Prayer Link Road: Littleton Lane and The Bypass |
| | | | Neighbourhood Link: Judith Willacy |
| Tues | 27 | 7.45 pm | Deanery Synod - Boughton |
| Wed | 28 | 10.45 am | Holy Communion - followed by refreshments |



The Rector's Letter

Dear Friends

The Sanctity of Life

Following a number of tragic deaths in the news, the radio programme I switched on in the car was doing a 'phone-in' feature on how to cope with the death of a loved one or friend. They listed various things people do, such as running the London Marathon for a charity in memory of the one who had died, and other 'coping mechanisms' or therapies. I am sure that, in their own way, they were positive and helpful suggestions, but I was sad to notice that there was not even a suggestion of offering the Christian hope of eternal life. All the suggestions were limited to the acceptance that life was over, and all that was left was memory.

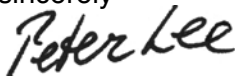
Thursday 1 May is Ascension Day. Ascension Day affirms the sanctity of life in that God not only became man in Jesus Christ, but that after his death and Resurrection, Jesus took our humanity to 'the right hand of God on high'. Jesus came down to earth from heaven that we might go with him from earth to heaven. But Ascension Day is followed on 11 May with Whitsunday or Pentecost. Having ascended back to be with the Father, Jesus sent his promised gift of the Holy Spirit to his disciples. What a transformation! Here was a small group of frightened people, huddled together behind locked doors, when suddenly the house was 'filled with the sound like that of a strong, driving wind' and they saw 'what appeared as tongues of flame resting on each one of them'. So it was that the Holy Spirit drove them out to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ and to become, arguably, the greatest force for change the world has ever known. The history of the Church is the history of how ordinary people have been transformed by the experience of the Holy Spirit in their lives. The significance is not so much in what these people have done, though that has been remarkable, but more in what drove and enabled them to do it – the experience of the Holy Spirit in their lives. That gift and experience is available to each and everyone.

It is particularly appropriate that the Bishop of Birkenhead is coming to St James on Whitsunday for the Confirmation Service. Just as we remember how the first disciples received the gift of the Spirit, so we, his disciples of today, receive the Holy Spirit through the Sacrament of Confirmation. Please pray for the fourteen of our members who will be Confirmed as we look forward to this strengthening of our life together in the Church. For each of us

can be enabled, through the Spirit, to offer the particular gifts God has given us for the strengthening of our shared mission and ministry.

Sunday 11 May is also the start of Christian Aid Week. Why should we give money to Christian Aid? Why should we feel responsibility for hungry, homeless people the world over? If life is no more than a physical, material accident, then perhaps there is no reason – it is just a personal choice. But if all life is touched and enthused by God: if God became man in Jesus Christ and went about healing the sick, comforting the sad and feeding the hungry as a revelation of God's purpose for human life: if we can feel ourselves respond to an awareness of God in our lives and in his world: if every human being is a child of God, and if the universe is God's creation, which he has entrusted to us as stewards for safe-keeping: if Jesus ascended as the affirmation of his life as God's purposes for life in his world, and if we can worship and pray through the Holy Spirit – then we have no choice but to recognise the sanctity of life, and that the value we place on any other life is the value we place on our own: then it is our duty and our joy to identify ourselves with the work of the Church through Christian Aid, and in every other way the Spirit empowers and leads us, to go out together in the power of the Spirit to live and work to his praise and glory.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Peter Lee". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Prayer of the Month:

Christian Aid Service 2008

*Boundless God,
we praise you for your transforming love,
poured onto your disciples on the Day of Pentecost,
and freely offered to us now.*

*We praise you for your Son,
who, in his words and actions, brought good news to the poor.*

*We praise you for the Spirit that changes lives,
and for the many lives changed through Christian Aid.*

*Give us open hands and hearts to receive the gift of your Holy Spirit, and
open eyes and ears to perceive your Spirit at work in the world today. We
ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.*

May 2008

A Tribute

Len Thomas
Dorothy Colley McNair
Harold Whetnall

Christleton has lost three stalwart members of the church community this last month. Len Thomas, Dorothy Colley McNair and Harold Whetnall. All three played an important role, in their distinctive ways, Len as churchwarden, sidesman, assistant at communion, pianist and as chorister over many years. He served St James loyally and with distinction, and brightened our lives with his wonderful cheery and understated humour. Len was born in Bethesda in North Wales, and when times in the slate mining quarries were hard the family moved to Caernarvon. After service in the Army at Catterick, and working in Holyhead and Cardiff, he came to Chester as an Engineer with the Electricity Board in 1961. Sadly his first wife Beryl died in 1961, but two years later married Dorothy his sister in law, and they lived happily in Christleton until Dorothy died in 1991. Len continued his commitment to church life and was also a devoted family man, loving nothing more than following their lives and careers, and meeting

up with them whenever possible. Illness gradually made life difficult for him and he became even more reliant on his radio and television, reliving his times in Wales and all things Welsh especially through his great love of music. He will be missed especially by his family and the church choir. A very poignant perhaps significant event took place as Len's coffin was being taken in procession to the Lych Gate, when a beautiful male song thrush burst into its loud, melodic song, singing from a perch high up on the church tower, How appropriate it seemed to those of us present.

Dorothy Colley McNair was another remarkable person, not only caring for a young family, and supporting her husband Tim a respected tailor when they moved to Chester, but being inspirational in her leadership of all things creative in the area. Her influence was immense, and can be seen in her work, or in that she inspired. Her major work was to design and organise the making of the 1992 embroideries for the 900th St. James' Christleton Parish Magazine

Anniversary of Chester Cathedral. This work took five years and involved an administrative team, sewing leaders, teachers and artists in various parishes who helped with local designs for the 630 kneelers. Over 1,000 stitcher's, men, women and children attended the dedication service in Chester Cathedral. She also designed and led a team of 20 skilled needle women to make the altar frontal and vestments for the Cathedral.

The unique Edwin Carr memorial frontal for St James' Christleton, based on a view of the Holy Land from space, was designed and machine stitched in 1997, with the help of a group of members from church. Dorothy was also delighted to have been commissioned by Voirrey Embroidery to produce three memorial samplers to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the Battle of the Atlantic, D Day and V E Day in 1994.

Her designs to commemorate the Millennium included; A panel for the United Nations in Chester Cathedral, Embroideries and kneelers for the Hospice of the Good Shepherd. Two panels and wedding kneelers for Burton Church, ten kneelers for the Clatterbridge Hospital Chapel,

a Cushion for the Embroiders Guild 2000 project, and a new banner for the Mothers Union at St James' Church Christleton. She also produced an embroidered panel – Theme "Air" for the new Breast care Unit at the Countess of Chester Hospital in June 2003, This work, incorporated the ideas and work of a group. The enlarged design was completed as a collage to tell the story of the embroidery. She also produced a set of Preaching Scarves for the Falls Church in Washington USA.

This list is not exhaustive and shows what a dynamic person she really was, despite being ill herself over a long period of time. She also had the joy of meeting, falling in love and marrying Professor Philip McNair in 2005/6 and they were able to share two wonderful years together both in Christleton and later at Much Haddam in Hertfordshire. She inspired so many in her life and her wonderfully created designs will delight, and be seen by people in the area for centuries to come.

Harold Whetnall was a well respected and much loved member of the community and of St James, and a full appreciation will be included next month.

DC

**Christian
Aid Week**
11-17 May 08

Time for action on climate change



As sea levels rise in coastal Bangladesh, saltwater is contaminating the water supply of riverbank and coastal communities. These communities also face losing homes to rapidly increasing river erosion

The changing climate is poised to reverse decades of development. Forget making poverty history; poverty is set to become permanent unless we address climate change as a matter of urgency.

Your donations this Christian Aid Week will help communities in the developing world to cope with the effects of climate change. But money in itself is not enough. We also need to act. We can all use our influence on politicians and business leaders in the rich world – who are the

ones making many of the key decisions affecting poor countries. Global warming is not just a distant forecast. It's already happening now, and poor people are the ones who are being hit the hardest.

Climate change increases the unpredictability and severity of extreme weather patterns. During the past 35 years, hurricane-force storms have almost doubled. Eleven million people are threatened by hunger because of years of unprecedented drought in east Africa.

Ninety per cent of the victims of weather-related natural disasters during the 1990s were from poor countries. And an estimated 150,000 people are dying annually from diseases exacerbated by the changing climate. For example, scientists predict that malaria-carrying mosquitoes, which cannot survive at low temperatures, are now spreading the disease further as regions warm up, putting hundreds of thousands of people at risk.

And the outlook is bleak. Even if we are able to stabilise CO₂ emissions, global average temperatures are still likely to rise by at least 2°C by 2050. If this is the case, 1-3 billion people will face acute water shortages. Thirty million more people will go hungry as crops fail across the globe. Melting ice caps, combined with the thermal expansion of the oceans, means that sea levels are set to rise dramatically. A rise of one metre would displace ten million people in Vietnam and 8-10 million in Egypt, as well as potentially submerging around 16 per cent of Bangladesh.

Climate change is an issue of injustice. The world's poorest people have done the least to contribute to the problem, and yet they are suffering the worst effects. Carbon has fuelled the rich world's wealth and development. But the devastating impact of our CO₂ emissions on our climate means that poor countries cannot now develop in the same way.

Christian Aid is pressing for an international agreement to ensure that rich countries dramatically cut their CO₂ emissions so that poor countries can develop in a way that won't further increase climate change and condemn

them to perpetual poverty. This agreement will call for rich countries to cut their own CO₂ emissions by at least 80 per cent by 2050; compensate poor countries for the damage already caused by climate change so they have the resources to adapt; and assist poor countries to develop in ways that will limit CO₂ emissions.

Eighty per cent by 2050 means cuts of five per cent every year. This is the absolute minimum action required if global warming is to be kept below the tipping point of 2°C. Five per cent every year is a big challenge. But it's one that we must meet. Millions of lives depend on it.

As citizens of a rich country, we are all in a powerful position to make a difference. And this is where we need your help. Please sign the prayer and action card this Christian Aid Week, and send a message to the government that urgent action is needed on climate change now.

Campaigning works. Previous campaigns have delivered real change on issues such as debt and fair trade. We need to take action on climate change now, before it is too late.



Find out more about Christian Aid's Climate Changed campaign, and sign up to take further action, by visiting www.christianaid.org.uk/climate or www.christianaid.ie/climate

NATURE NOTES

Spring has certainly sprung as I write at the beginning of April. The first swallows have

and both green and greater spotted woodpeckers have been seen and heard in the village. Our swans



arrived, and many chiff chaff's were singing merrily from the treetops, despite the sudden snowfall which created picturesque scenes around the village. We've also seen several beautiful early migrant butterflies, the delightful yellow brimstone, which is so well camouflaged it can almost look like a leaf, and two distinctive comma's in the garden this month. There have been several more sightings of barn owl,

abandoned or probably "refused to use" their nest on the Pit this year, as the original straw we had provided was waterlogged, but took up their newly raised and refurbished nest site almost as soon as it was rebuilt. My calculations are that they will not hatch any young until almost June, due to this delay. Unlike the crazy situation in Crewe, where three cygnets were born on the 5th March!!

The average date for cygnets being

St. James' Christleton Parish Magazine

born in Cheshire is about the second week in May! Things are not looking so good for other swan pairs in the area, and I've had four dead swans reported to me on the section of canal beyond Waverton in the last six months, three within the last month, two taken by mink, and one(CT75 a 2007 Christleton cygnet) found shot in the head. The wet weather doesn't seem to have affected other species, and nest building by blue tits, robin, wren and blackbird is taking place in our garden. An exciting development is the news that a pair of long tailed tits are nesting in a garden hedge in the village. These birds are usually quite secretive, but build a delightful domed nest, beautifully crafted and almost entirely made up of intertwined lichens and mosses. Long tailed tits are becoming much more common in gardens, and are now regular feeders from bird tables, and the fact that they are now nesting in gardens is another welcome trend. I think they look like little rotund clowns, albeit with long tails, often being seen in large parties, as they tumble and flit from tree to tree, giving out indistinct whispy like calls, as signals, to keep the group together.

David Cummings



CHRISTLETON W.I. April Meeting 2008

Congratulations to Ann Large who won the Garden Quiz. Diane Garner, Jean Nield, Jenny Ralfs, June Crowe and Rossina Williams represented Christleton WI in the March Gowry Group Darts Competition at Ashton. Well done ladies.

Any members who are unable to attend the next meeting in May and who would like to go to the June Birthday Party please pass your name to a member/committee member so that it may be included on the list. Schedules for the Produce-Handcraft Show in September are now available. Telephone 01244 336004 if you would like a copy.

The World

The world of the host and the world of the guest,
The world of which great things are told;
 The world of experience, world of the jest,
The world that shall never grow old;
 The world of the rogue and the world of the weak,
The world of good fortune and ill;
 The world long-ago that is now hard to seek,
The world that is wonderful still;
 The world of rejoicing, or repartee strong,
The world where the great and small dwell,
 The world of far lands, of sweet music and song,
The heart breaking world of farewell;
 The world of the hills and the world of the young,
The world of the good and the gone;
 The world of God's arm so protectingly flung,
The world that still goes on and on.
 Ancient Celtic poem



Mass. David Cummings had kindly loaned me a photograph of Rock House where Huggins had lived in the village and of his grave which is in our Church yard. Rupert Maas was most interested but regretted no filming as the Series Editor had decided that a Cathedral painting would not have the universal appeal of the more usual Huggins animal paintings.

When it was announced that the BBC was to hold an Antiques Roadshow in Chester I thought “I wonder whether William Huggins’ painting (1862) of the Cathedral garth will be of any interest”? So I wrote a letter. A reply came back saying that you may (underlined) get a call over the weekend before the Show. The telephone duly rang on the Saturday. My husband answered it and was told to expect a visit on Sunday morning, to which he replied “We usually go to Church on Sunday morning” making me think that that would put them off – but no – they said OK then we’ll come early.

Mr Nicholas Mitchell and a lady duly arrived to look at Huggins and said, yes, bring it in, and gave us a ticket to bypass the queues. On the way out they noticed four other different paintings by another artist and a phone call later said they would all be picked up and taken to the Show. We turned up on the day and saw the Art Expert Rupert

However it was most interesting to be in the thick of things amongst all the experts and to see them “in the flesh” so to speak, including Fiona Bruce who is taking over from Michael Aspel, Henry Sandon, Lars Tharp and others were busy in their own spheres.

A family member had more success with his story of a book about Mallory, the Everest climber. A letter of Mallory’s was taped into the book which had been bought on the day that Mallory’s frozen body was discovered. A small memorial window in the cloisters dedicated to the two Cheshire climbers Mallory and Irvine had, a few years ago, been badly broken in an attempt to steal it but it was subsequently restored from an old photograph. The letter and book were filmed next to the window. We look forward to the broadcast later this year to see whether that appears.

Margaret Croston

The Parish of St James, Christleton
in the Deanery of Chester and the Diocese of Chester
**RESULTS OF ELECTIONS AT
THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING
held on SUNDAY 6 APRIL 2008**

MEMBERSHIP OF THE PCC

Ex-Officio:

Rector

2 Churchwardens

4 Deanery Synod Members:

Elected members of the PCC:

2006 Carl Cumiskey, Sheena Cumiskey, Liz McClure, Lesley Mitchell

2007 Brenda Bailey, John Carr, Edward Elliott, David Fielding, David Mercer

Elected at Annual Parochial Church Meeting:

| Churchwardens | Deanery Synod | PCC |
|------------------|---------------|------------------|
| 1 Lois Dickinson | David Bowden | Sheila Davies |
| 2 Keith Smalls | Gill Hibbert | John Eccles |
| 3 | Berenice Hogg | Catriona Levitt |
| 4 | Wayne Morris | Tina Lightfoot |
| 5 | | Margaret Wheeler |

Appointed as Auditor: Cec Rydings

Elected by new PCC:

Vice-Chair of PCC:

Lois Dickinson

Secretary to the PCC:

Brenda Bailey

Treasurer to the PCC

David Mercer

Parish Electoral Roll Officer:

Fiona Lee

Sidespersons appointed:-

| | | | |
|---------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| David Bowden | Dave Ellis | Barbara Mercer | Jim Siddall |
| Jan Bowden | Liz Evans | David Mercer | Martin Wheeler |
| Gillian Brackenbury | David Fielding | Lesley Mitchell | Sheila Williams |
| David Bull | Noelle Fielding | John Pearson | Gertrude Wright |
| John Carr | Valmai Giffiths | June Pearson | |
| Alf Croston | Gill Hibbert | Chris Platel | |
| Carl Cumiskey | Berenice Hogg | Jocelyn Platel | |
| Sheena Cumiskey | Eric Kenyon | Graham Ranger | |
| Ian Davies | Fiona Lee | Ida Rogers | |
| Jenny Davies | Mike Lightfoot | Cec Rydings | |
| Betty Dunning | Alan McAllester | Nigel Seddon | |
| Edward Elliott | Mike McGarva | Cynthia Sidall | |

Christleton's New Wildflower Meadow



It was exciting to see groups of children from the Primary School, supervised by teachers, parents and Parish Councillors doing active conservation work on the new village flower meadow behind the Alms Houses on Wednesday 9th April. The children were helping to plant up the meadow with wild native flower species, which will bring a welcome flash of colour to spring in future years, and enable villagers to see what our countryside looked like, back in the time when such meadows were common place all over Britain. Pickering's Pasture near Widnes on the Liverpool side of the Mersey is the site of a similar project, in that instance where wild native flowers were planted on top of reclaimed industrial land, onto a bed of waste ash from Fiddler's Ferry Power Station. This meadow is well worth a visit in May /June and can be found on the north side of the road between Widnes & Hale Bank. DC



SAINTS WINDOWS IN THE CLOISTERS

St George was a Soldier and a Martyr and that's all we know for sure. Several stories have been attached to Saint George, the best known of which is the Golden Legend. In it, a dragon lived in a lake near Silena, Libya. Whole armies had gone up against this fierce creature, and had gone down in painful defeat. The monster ate two sheep each day; when mutton was scarce, lots were drawn in local villages, and maidens were substituted for sheep. Into this country came Saint George. Hearing the story on a day when a princess was to be eaten, he crossed himself, rode to battle against the serpent, and killed it with a single blow with his lance. George then held forth with a magnificent sermon, and converted the locals. Given a large reward by the king, George distributed it to the poor, then rode away.

Due to his chivalrous behaviour (protecting women, fighting evil, dependence on faith and might of arms, largesse to the poor), devotion to Saint George became popular in the Europe after the 10th century. In the 15th century his feast day was as popular and important as Christmas. Many of his areas of patronage have to do with life as a knight on horseback. The celebrated Knights of the Garter are actually Knights of the Order of Saint George. The shrine built for his relics at Lydda, Palestine was a popular point of pilgrimage for centuries.

Saints Day: 23 April

Died: tortured and beheaded c.304 at Lydda, Palestine

Patronage: agricultural workers, archers, boy scouts, butchers, equestrians, farmers, knights, lepers, plague, skin diseases, skin rashes, soldiers, syphilis

The Quaker Tapestry

This was on display in the South Transept during February. Over 12,000 visitors were welcomed to the exhibition, which has now returned to its home in Kendal.

Kneeler Exhibition

Norah Edwards would like to thank the Dean and Chapter for their help in displaying the Kneeler Catalogues at the Quaker Tapestry Exhibition which the Chester Branch of NADFAS have worked very hard to produce. We now have a record of every kneeler made for the 900th Anniversary of the Cathedral, and hope to have it on display permanently soon.

The Friends of Chester Cathedral

Plant Sale

Friday 2 – Saturday 3 May

10.00 am – 4.00 pm

Entrance to Plant Sale is free of charge

Vacancy for Saturday Warden

Wesley Methodist Church are looking for someone to supervise the coffee bar on Saturdays. Duties include opening and closing the building, food preparation, serving customers plus managing volunteers and paid assistants. Hours of work 9am – 4.30 pm. Rate of pay £6.50/hr. Minimum age 18. Call Andrew on 07930 639246 for more information.

Some observations on life in general...

The things that come to those that wait may be the things left by those who got there first.

Torch: A case for holding dead batteries.

Accept that some days you're the pigeon, and some days you're the statue.

Always keep your words soft and sweet, just in case you have to eat them.

Always read stuff that will make you look good if you die in the middle of it.

If you lend someone £20, and never see that person again, it was probably worth it.

Birds of a feather flock together and mess on your car.



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

May 20th 2008.

North Wales. The Great Orme Circuit
& RSPB Conway. 8miles moderate.
Packed lunch
Depart Church Car Park at 8.00am

CHRISTLETON W.I.

Meets on the second Wednesday of the
month at 7.15 pm in the Parish Hall

Next meeting on May 14th
Decorating with Royal Icing
Helen Phipps
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



The Christleton Web Site now has a
page featuring local events
www.christleton.org.uk

THIS MONTH & JUNE



You are invited to

A CHRISTLETON / CONGO LINK EVENING

With
Eric & Sandra Read

Meet them and find out about
their work in DR Congo

on

Friday 13th June

at 7.30 pm

at

Bob & Gwen Knight's

Copthorne Moor Lane Rowton

For more details contact: 01244
336236

CHRISTLETON GARDENING CLUB

May 12th

Hanging Basket Demonstration

Andrew Johnson

Oaktree Nurseries

MAGAZINE DISTRIBUTORS

The June Magazine will be available for
collection from Church on Sunday 25th
May 2008.



SCARECROW WOOD

Waverton and Christleton
Hospice of the Good Shepherd
Support Group

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

on May 17th and 18th

We have invited families and
organisations in the two
villages to make a scarecrow for the
event.

Contact: Margaret Renner
Telephone 332005

*Please help us to make the weekend
a success!*



WHAT'S ON MAY & JUNE

Family Fun Day May 3rd

Save the Family is a local charity providing support for homeless families in Cheshire and North Wales. We are embarking on a major fundraising campaign to build a new centre at Cotton Hall Farm, in Cotton Edmunds, so we can help more families in crisis.

In the UK, there are 170,000 homeless children. The problem is not confined to big cities. At Save the Family, we receive more than 400 referrals every year and we can only help about 12% of them. We want to do more.

As a charity with strong Christian principles, we have always been grateful for the terrific support we receive from local churches and affiliated groups. Your generosity and prayers have helped make us what we are today: an extended family for those who have nowhere else to turn.

So, we would like to invite you and your families to join us for our

Family Fun Day at Cotton Hall Farm

**Saturday 3rd May
12.00pm – 4.00pm**

The Family Fun Day is a celebration of our work as a lifeline for disadvantaged and desperate families, as we accelerate the campaign to transform Cotton Hall Farm into 26 homes for homeless families. This can be achieved through love, community and non-judgemental support.

Come along and join the fun: stalls, games and activities, music and dancing. We look forward to welcoming you to our new home

For more information telephone
01244 333 490



Christleton Village Fete Saturday 28th June 2008

Parade leaves Village Green at
1.00pm

Christleton Primary School
1.30 – 4.30pm

The theme is

‘Mysteries of the Orient’

There are prizes for the best Grown-ups and Kids costumes, so start planning your outfits now.

Lion dancers. Martial arts demo. Surfboard simulator. Sumowrestling competition. Bouncy castle. And much more!

Entry: Family £5, Adult £2
Child £1, Under5's – Free.
www.christletonfete.co.uk

MAGAZINE CONTRIBUTIONS

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

BEFORE Friday 9th May or you can e-mail this to

christletonmag@hotmail.com

WHAT'S ON IN JULY



Just a reminder

CHRISTLETON VILLAGE SHOW 2008



Is on 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

A SENIOR MOMENT

*I'm having a senior moment
If it's all the same to you,
I can't find my way to the bathroom,
And I don't know what to do.
Why do I want to go there?
It's not to admire the view.*

*I'm having a senior moment
As I stand at the foot of the stair,
I put something away in the bedroom
And I can't think what or where.
It will come to me in a minute
Not that I really care.*

*I make my way to the kitchen,
The place where I used to cook.
I'd make you a stew in no time
But I can't find the cookery book.
And I've lost my favourite saucepan
And don't know where to look.*

*So I'll just sit down by the telly
And finish the Christmas booze.
I'll stay awake for one programme
And listen for the news.
And then, if I remember,
I'll put on my outdoor shoes.*

*'Cos I heard on the phone this morning
A friend is coming for me,
I don't know where we are going
But I must be ready by three.
I just thank the good Lord that someone
Knows just where I ought to be.*

Sheila Morgan

Church reaffirms its opposition to forced marriage

The Church of England has reaffirmed its belief that forced marriage is wrong both morally and legally. Responding to a Home Office consultation on 'marriage to partners from overseas', the Rt Rev Tom Butler, Bishop of Southwark, said the Mission and Public Affairs Council strongly affirmed that principle. The Church of England also agrees that the minimum age that someone could sponsor a marriage partner from abroad or be sponsored as a spouse should be raised to 21 years. "The idea of personal consent," the bishop continued, "is key for the Christian understandings of marriage. The Church of England recognises that there may be some young people who are vulnerable to pressure from families to sponsor a partner and we believe that good marriage preparation would detect whether a young person was entering into marriage for the right reasons. There is a strong case for increased resources for marriage preparation, education and counselling for groups working with those most at risk of being exploited."

Dear Richard,

I could wish that you had not written to me, but that would be churlish.

At least you had the good manners to apologise for dropping me off your itinerary, in favour of Jerusalem. Getting one's priorities right is important, so I do understand, but please don't take me for granted...

I disappeared once for over 300 years and, who knows, another earthquake might finish me off for good and, as you are my "ardent historical fan", that would be very sad indeed.

Three lassies from St James' did visit me in October 2007, to explore the hidden wonders of my rose red city. Their party of pilgrims walked down the long, narrow, steep and twisting Sig to the entrance (except for one, who chose a horse-drawn chariot, which she is curiously reluctant to talk about!)

When they reached the end, and emerged from the gloom into brilliant sunshine, a scene of glowing beauty and perfect proportions confronted them...the Khazneh or Treasury.

Finally, they tore themselves away and slowly, wound their way through my valley, stopping frequently to gaze up at the sandstone rock on either side, which is every shade, from the palest cream to deepest red.

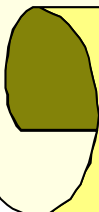
Majestic facades, hewn from the rock, soar upwards and, further into the centre, the cliffs are pocked with hundreds of simple, ancient dwellings.

Colonnades, ancient tombs, monasteries, churches...but enough!

It's all here for all to see, explore and marvel at.

Don't leave it too long, Richard,
Come and see me...I'm worth it!

Petra.



Easter Day

*The pearly dawn suffused the morning sky.
Drifts of grey mists crept between the hills
Like a gossamer shawl,
And all was calm.*

*Last night the storm raged around the house.
Fences rattled, shutters banged.
Wind lashed rain shot against my windowpane
Like pebbles flung from far below.
I tossed and turned within my bed.
Dark spectres crept across my troubled mind
And then, I slept.*

*The sleepy sound of birdsong pierced my dreams
And I awoke.
Standing before my window, I gazed upon the
silent world.
In the grey dawn, all was still.
Then, as I watched, the sun slowly rose,
Surrounded by a golden halo
And the sky was filled with light.
It was Easter Day.*

*And my thoughts went back to that first Easter
Day.
I felt, in some small way, it must have been like
this.
The dark storm of the night,
The small, sad group around the cross
With anguish, tears and cries,
Watching Our Lord suffering on the cross.
Storms raged within their hearts
And they were filled with fear.*

*And then the morning when they found their Lord
was risen.
What joy they must have felt
Their fears of that dark night had fled,
And their whole world was filled
With the presence of the risen Lord.*

*And so, in some small measure, I also felt this
joy, this calm.
After the raging, frightening storm
Before this new morning, so full of light and
reassurance
For a lovely Easter Day.*

WEB NEWS



If you had a late lie in on Sunday 6th April you might have missed seeing Christleton covered in snow. David Cummings was there to photograph the few hours it lasted. You can view his gallery of 55 pictures on the Christleton web site.

Kiss them by all means, but DON'T hold their hand!

When you next meet someone, think twice before you shake their hand. Recent research has found that touching someone's hand is just about the quickest way to pick up their flu, cold or stomach bug. As one doctor ominously puts it: "You don't know where their hand has just been..." Instead, leading doctors recommend a French 'air kiss', consisting of a peck at the air near someone's cheek, as being much healthier. In fact, Prof John Oxford, Britain's leading flu expert and a virologist at Barts hospital and the London School of Medicine, says that more widespread 'social kissing' might well help to cut infection levels across the country.

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.

Why you should row with your spouse

If you argue with your husband or wife, you are likely to live longer than if you don't, according to recent research. Apparently, the occasional marital row is far better for your health than bottling up the tensions inside of you. A study of 192 marriages by researchers at the University of Michigan School of Public Health has discovered that couples who suppress their emotions are twice as likely to die as those where at least one partner expressed their anger. As one professor explains, marriage must be built on "reconciliation after conflict." If you don't express your anger, but swallow your words, they can quite literally kill you.

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 March 2008

Holy Baptism

30th Kara Lucy Thomas, Daughter of Lee & Emma Thomas
23 Toll Bar Road, Christleton

"We welcome you into the Lord's Family"

The Funeral Service

4th Mary Eileen George, 38 Toll Bar Road, Christleton
9th Renee Whissell, "Ashlyns" Cheeshain Road, Berkhamstead,
Hertfordshire
(Burial of Ashes)
11th Leonard Victor Thomas, 16 Greystone Road, Christleton
14th Beryl Elizabeth Jones, 29 Littleton Lane, Littleton
19th Clarence Jenkins, 12 Heath Road, Upton by Chester
26th Florence Tilston, 1 Brickfield Lane, Tarvin Road, Littleton
31st Dorothy May Smith, 15 Bush Road, Christleton
31st Edith Ashford, Birch Heath Lodge Nursing Home, Christleton

"Grant then eternal rest"

Offertories

| March | Cash | CSE | 2008 | 2007 |
|--------|--------|--------|------------|------------|
| 2nd | 504-72 | 756-50 | 1261-22 | 1022-06 |
| 9th | 130-69 | 868-60 | 999-29 | 787-65 |
| 16th | 235-40 | 825-00 | 1060-40 | 855-66 |
| 23rd | 645-81 | 995-50 | 1641-31 | 753-82 |
| 30th | 142-96 | 429-00 | 571-96 | 969-05 |
| Totals | | | £ 5,534-18 | £ 3,388-24 |

"Of your own do we give you"

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 |
| Magazine Editor | David Bull..... | 332234 |
| Magazine Compiler | Richard Nicholson | 336004 |
| Magazine Distributors | Jenny Davies and Valmai Griffiths | 335884 |
| Neighbourhood Link Co-Ordinator | Janet Bowden..... | 335705 |
| Parish Resource | | |
| Person for Child Protection | Susan Alexander | 335077 |



BAPTISMS, WEDDINGS & APPOINTMENTS
BY ARRANGEMENT WITH THE RECTOR 335663

