

# St. James'

PARISH MAGAZINE

October 2011

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

35p

A stained glass illustration of St. James' Church, featuring a large stone tower on the left and a smaller building on the right, both with arched windows and a steep roof. The church is surrounded by green foliage. In the foreground, a white scroll with a black outline contains the text "CHURCHES TOGETHER IN CHRISTLETON".

CHURCHES TOGETHER  
IN CHRISTLETON

# Occasions in October

Sat	1	1.0 pm	Wedding: Matthew Bensley and Bethan Davies
Sun	2	8.00 am 10.45 am 10.45 am 6.00 pm 6.30 pm	Holy Communion - Order 2 Sunday School - Parish Hall Parish Communion - Order 1 The Crew Youth Group – Parish Hall Evensong - Followed by refreshments <i>Prayer Link Road: Toll Bar Road</i> <i>Neighbourhood Link: Valmai Griffiths</i>
Mon	3	10.45 am  11.20 am	Holy Communion - Oaklands Nursing Home  Holy Communion - Tarvin Court Nursing Home
Wed	5	10.45 am	United Communion - followed by refreshments
Thur	6	7.30 pm	Bereavement & Support Meeting - Rectory
Fri	7	6.30 pm	Choir Practice
Sat	8	9.30 am  7.30 pm	Decoration of church for Harvest – Contributions & help needed please <b>Harvest Supper - Parish Hall</b> Tickets available See Parish Magazine Everyone Welcome.
Sun	9	8.00 am 10.45 am   6.30 pm	<b>HARVEST FESTIVAL</b> Holy Communion - Order 1 <b>Harvest Family Service.</b> Followed by refreshments. You are invited to bring a gift of Harvest produce to be given out in the Parish Evensong <i>Prayer Link Road: Village Road</i> <i>Neighbourhood Link: Jean Cresswell</i>
Mon	10	9.00 am	Preparation and distribution of Harvest parcels
Mon	10	2.00 pm	Mothers' Union - Parish Hall

Wed	12	10.45 am	Holy Communion - followed by refreshment
	11.30 am		Holy Communion - Birch Heath Lodge Nursing Home

Fri	14	6.30 pm	Choir Practice
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**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](mailto:christletonmag@hotmail.co.uk)**

Sun	16	8.00 am	Holy Communion - Order 1
		10.45 am	Sunday School - Parish Hall
		10.45 am	Parish Communion - Order 1
		6.30 pm	Evensong
			<i>Prayer Link: Whitchurch Road, Roadside, and White Lane</i>
			<i>Neighbourhood Link: Janet Milton, Neville Meredith &amp; Norman Goodwin</i>
Wed	19	10.45 am	Holy Communion - followed by refreshments
Thur	20	10.30 am	Coffee Morning at Methodist Church End of summer Village Teas - All welcome
Fri	21	6.30 pm	Choir Practice
Sat	22	1.00 pm	Wedding: Peter Burns and Susan Peacock
Sun	23	8.00 am	Holy Communion - Order 1
		10.45 am	Matins
		6.30 pm	Evening Communion - Order 1
			<i>Prayer Link Road: Woodfields</i>
			<i>Neighbourhood Link: Olive Hammond</i>
Wed	26	10.45 am	Holy Communion - followed by refreshments
Fri	28	6.30 pm	Choir Practice
Sun	30	8.00 am	Holy Communion - Order 1
		10.45 am	Sunday School - Parish Hall
		10.45 am	Matins
		6.30 pm	Songs of Praise
			<i>Prayer Link: Those worshipping at St James from outside the Parish</i>
			<i>Neighbourhood Link: Area Secretary Janet Milton</i>

## Letter from our Rector

It is five months since my induction to this parish, and as part of my own Spiritual journey and with the guidance of my Spiritual director, I have recently reflected on my time here, in this Church.

I am aware that there is a strong link for many people, even those who do not attend at St James' regularly, (or at all) with the building. I recall speaking recently to someone associated with the parish, who waxed lyrical about the relationship she, and the organisation she represented had with the church. Discussing this it became clear that the relationship of which she was so proud, was in fact with a building. An important and significant building, but a building nonetheless.

The church of course, are the people who meet week by week, some more regular than others, but the important thing is that it's the people not the building who are the church, having a relationship with each other and the community is far more important than a tenuous relationship with stones and glass and slate (however beautiful they may be).

The past five months has been a time when we have witnessed the death of some wonderful Christians, part of the Church family here in Christleton, and we miss them dearly. Our pain can be eased perhaps by knowing that they now see in full what they could only ever see in part whilst here on earth, that is, the fullness of the Majesty of God, who held them through death and into new and everlasting life.

We have also been blessed by the arrival of many people, each person bringing with them gifts and talents and offering them to God in service. It is right and important that each of us encourage and support each other as we journey together and I give thanks for them.

As we journey, we begin to put in place the building blocks of relationships. Trust is essential in any relationship, if we feel we can trust those around us, we develop the confidence to try new and exciting things, however, if that trust is betrayed, it can damage our relationships with each other.

If we accept that the church is the community who meet to worship then we need to care for and about each other, as Christians, we must

see the Christ in others. When we consider the ministry of Christ, we should also consider our response to his ministry. When Christ called the Apostles, they unquestioningly left all they had to follow him, there was, no doubt, joy and excitement, and that joy and excitement we should have in our walk with Christ and with each other. Of course, there was also the sorrow and the sadness of Holy Week in those dark days of walking in the shadow of the Cross, the desertions and abandonment of the Apostles. If we are honest with ourselves, we too can follow the actions of the Apostles, we turn our backs on each other, we fail to support or to stand firm, and there are even times when perhaps we await a fall of those around us, with a wry smile.

I guess one of the most common traits is that of seeking power and authority similar to the actions of the Apostles in Luke 9:46. It is one of the greatest failings of people, we are not content with the responsibilities entrusted to us, we want more.....and we will do whatever it takes to get it.

In my time here, I have met with love, many people have been loving, encouraging, and supportive, and I am grateful to each of them, because in the darkness of my walking the way of the Cross, their support and love has kept me from falling.

Five months ago, strangers, you and I were brought together, to work and witness in this community. There have been many new and positive initiatives, and I believe God has been there, encouraging and supporting us. "After the Lord Jesus had spoken to them, he was taken up into heaven and he sat at the right hand of God. Then the Disciples went out and preached everywhere, and the Lord worked with them and confirmed his word by the signs that accompanied it" ( Mark 16:19-20)

We need to ensure that love and trust and compassion are the heart of our ministries to all people and the Lord will be with us, and will Bless us as we confirm His word by those same signs.

Your faithful servant

Malcolm



## DEVELOPMENTS AT COTTON HALL

As many worshippers at St James know, Cotton Hall Farm at Cotton Edmunds will soon become the second centre run by the charity Save the Family, the first one being well established a little way over the border in Wales.

Cotton Hall has been a costly development project requiring the conversion of the large farmhouse, outbuildings and barns for community use.

A topping out ceremony to mark the new centre's official opening will be performed on 1 October by the Lord Lieutenant of Cheshire, David Briggs. The Dean of Chester, the Very Reverend Professor Gordon McPhate will also perform a blessing at the complex. A time capsule, containing family photographs and messages of support will be buried on site, only to be re-opened in 80 years.

Standing in semi-rural countryside in five and a half acres of farmland Cotton Hall Farm will build upon the activities of Save the Family's existing family/village support at Plas Bellin, Flintshire, where 24 cottages are maintained. It will provide homeless families with access to emergency accommodation, adult training facilities and personal support to help them resettle back into society.

The new site will provide an additional 32 self-contained houses, made up of one, two and three bed-roomed houses and apartments. Other facilities will include a sensory nursery for babies and toddlers.

The farm's renovated Dutch barn will also provide the focus for adult training activities, including workshops, a computer training suite, cookery skills, kitchen and community hall, with a small sports hall and café. There will also be outdoor play areas and sports pitch to encourage children and families to enjoy fresh air and exercise.

Save the Family's unique approach in keeping families together has attracted nationwide praise from those concerned with helping the homeless and poverty-hit families. This new family intervention centre will help thousands of struggling families improve their life changes over the years to come.



Founder of the charity, Edna Speed said: “The aim of Cotton Hall Farm is simply to support more families and help integrate them back into the wider community.

“Abject poverty is not just about money, jobs or careers, it is far more encompassing. It is about the whole thinking of a person, from an individual’s education, to knowledge of life skills such as cooking or managing household finances. That is what we encourage at Save the Family.”

Operating an holistic model that encourages love, care and stability within the family unit, the village attempts to address the rising problem of homelessness in England and Wales.

The lack of affordable housing, jobs and access to education, as well as uncertain economic conditions, has led to an increase in requests and referrals from homeless families for Save the Family’s help.

Save the Family is committed to helping homeless families facing crisis stay together and resettle in the community. For 35 years, the charity has maintained family support centres and outreach properties to provide emergency accommodation, adult training facilities and children’s services to homeless families in the UK.

As for Cotton Hall, local people have supported Save the Family, both with funds and tangible gifts in the past and the new Centre brings those opportunities right on to our doorstep from October.

Contact can be made on 01244-409100.

Chris Walton, the Centre Manager at Cotton Hall tells me that he looks forward to being established in Christleton parish.

JOHN CARRUTHERS



# People in the News

## **Walking Group**

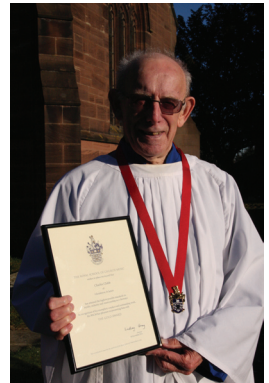
Congratulations to Sue Mallows and her family for hosting a summer get together for the Walking Group, and raising the total of £110 for the D.E.C East Africa Famine Appeal. Members of the group had an excellent tea, with scrumptious cakes and biscuits, to celebrate another good year of walking, along a variety of routes in almost perfect weather conditions. Tuesdays somehow always seem to be dry & sunny.

## **John Milton**

Congratulations to John from all his friends in the village on celebrating his 70th birthday in October.

## **Charles Clubbe**

On Saturday 15th October at Chester Cathedral during the Annual Diocesan Music Festival organised by the Royal School of Church Music, Charles a tenor at St James' will be presented with the RSCM Gold Award, the highest honour awarded to a Chorister.



## **Music at St James**

Please note that the proposed concert on Saturday 31st October with the Dee & Alyn Gilbert & Sullivan Society has had to be postponed until a later date, due to rebuilding & electrical connection work taking place during half term at the High School.

## **Neil Croston**

Congratulations to Nevil Croston who has just climbed Mount Kilimanjaro in aid of an African school. Nevil was one of the early students at the College of Law and is now a solicitor in Mansfield.

## **CONGRATULATIONS**

***David Cummings will be 70 on 9 October and to follow on the next seven pages are tributes which summarise David's contribution to the village of Christleton over many, many years. With love & best wishes from all his family and friends.***



## **DAVID CUMMINGS – “The Headmaster”**

Mr David Cummings was (as new Headmaster of the new Primary School in Quarry Lane) invited to a Governors' meeting on 4 February 1974.

He was a very dedicated Head, always holding the welfare of his staff and pupils was paramount. He was innovator of many things now taken for granted, and he embraced then, as now, many interests. He was granted leave of absence in September 1976 to enable him to prepare to be an official at the World Orienteering Championship.

He encouraged the children to take part in outside activities and in 1976 the school was awarded 2nd prize in the Junior Section of a National Competition to “Save the Village Pond” and the Governors congratulated him on his out of school activities.

He was tutor in 1979 on wildlife at Burwardsley and gave talks to Old People's Clubs in Christleton and Vicars Cross and other organisations (what's new?). He and his wife Beryl took 15 boys for a weekend at Delamere Forest Outdoor Education Centre and 38 children went to see Joseph and his Amazing Technicolor Dream Coat at the Gateway Theatre. For many years parties were taken to the Lake District. The school choir sang at Chester Town Hall as part of Chester's 900th Anniversary and Head Boy Anthony Mellor and Head Girl Emma Marsden, along with David, attended the Royal visit to the service at Chester Cathedral.

Maypole dancing at Village Fetes and outside venues was performed under his direction. A one-way system for cars travelling to school was inaugurated to avoid traffic congestion.

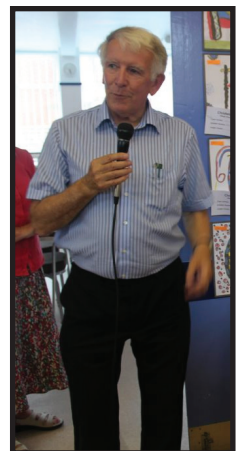
A tree was planted in memory of Joanne Christie, a pupil, killed in a car crash. She was taken to the Royal Liverpool Hospital for Kidney Research after the accident and her kidneys were used to save the lives of two people.

With his son Gareth he made a sponsored canoe paddle from Llangollen to Chester raising £670.

He coped with fluctuations in pupil numbers that dropped substantially, only to recover in later years when restrictions had to be introduced for out of zone pupils.

(These are just a few recollections from my time as Governor from 1974 for 21 years)

Margaret Croston



## **DAVID CUMMINGS - “Writer and Photographer”**

I suddenly feel like the pupil as I start to write this tribute to my very good friend David. There have been so many times over the years that I have set out tributes each month in the Parish Magazine that he has written. The articles needed when a notable person in the village has died. Somehow he managed to prepare, very often at short notice, a fitting tribute to the person concerned. Thankfully I am able to write this whilst he is very much alive, as usual, as he approaches his seventieth birthday. Yes it is just a number and some people just hate having a fuss made when a birthday comes round with the figure nought on the end. But its a great excuse for just pausing for a while to consider everything that David has done for the village over the years. For it deserves the highest praise. There will no doubt be other articles in this months magazine noting his work for St. James’ Church, the choir, the Primary School, the Pit and the History Group. It is for the work and dedication that he has given to St. James’ Parish Magazine over the years that I wish to give praise and heartfelt thanks.

It can be quite easy just doing something once but when it falls to do something every month that is quite another matter. Not only do you have to do it but are limited to a strict deadline. The number of articles that he has written for the Parish Magazine over the years is quite phenomenal. Each month he has kept the readers in touch with the sights and sounds around us in Christleton in his Nature Notes. The History File which he has created makes wonderful fascinating reading and an invaluable record of our village life now and in days gone by, making us feel proud to live here. The two books on Christleton that the Local History Group published have provided a lasting record of the village for us now and for the generations to come.

When you are compiling a Parish Magazine one of your main concerns is that there will be enough local material each month to fill the pages. Thanks to David’s contributions there was always a good balance of interesting articles, suitable illustrations and special photographs for the front cover of the magazine. During the fourteen years I compiled the Parish Magazine we never repeated the front cover illustration thanks to David’s excellent and imaginative photography.

The web site for Christleton has created yet more demand for information. Over the years I have received many emails requesting details and facts about Christleton. Most personal requests I am just unable to answer as they require very specialist knowledge. I therefore pass these over to David and I know that he gives each one his special individual attention. One of the greatest gifts you can give is your time and in this respect David is just one of the most generous.

Richard Nicholson



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### ***DAVID CUMMINGS – “The Charity Worker”***

David has always been dedicated to the good cause of others. When you telephone he replies: “David Cummings. How can I help?”

Since his retirement in 1997, David has given lectures to many associations and, of course, to the people of Christleton, all in aid of local and national charities. We have all enjoyed those Saturday evening talks on local history, the village life and often life and travel in other countries. Then a few days later, he will send a substantial cheque to the chosen charity.

One of the charities he regularly gives to is the Hospice of the Good Shepherd which needs £3 million each year to provide dedicated care to those with life-threatening illnesses. He often gives an illustrated talk to the “Wednesday Group” at the Hospice and they always ask him to come back.

Above all, we have a man who knows the joy of giving. What a wonderful world it would be if we all gave so willingly! We celebrate 70 years of life of a good man – and thank God for his goodness.

John Pearson

## **DAVID CUMMINGS - “The Chorister”**

When I first started work as organist and choirmaster in Christleton, I remember reading the church magazine, to get some feel for the place and very quickly encountered the name of David Cummings. He seemed to be the guy to meet, who could answer any question (in some detail), and had a finger on the proverbial pulse of the church and village as well as the shutter of his camera.

At my first choir practice in September 1997, which is always a daunting prospect ... mainly for the choir, I was introduced to everyone and found out whilst chatting afterwards, that not only was David a competent, enthusiastic and experienced singer, but that we had teaching in common, a shared love of music and birthdays on the same day! In a choir of any size, it is always handy to have a good solid, reliable bass line, the foundation on which to sit the rest of the parts. This helps with tuning and confidence for the rest of the singers. David has always been a natural leader in this respect and you know that if he's there, you can at least give the boys a verse to sing on their own and it's worth giving the anthem a shot too. Being in a choir does mean massive commitment and even if David and Beryl were attending one of their other numerous activities, one or usually both of them, would come back early for a crucial practice or a festival service, or come to practice first before they went on to another rehearsal for a concert. When his musical motor's running; it can be quite tricky to stop it sometimes.

It is a privilege to have someone like David as a friend and fellow musician. Someone who knows the bloke who wrote the tune, who has probably visited most of the places named after tunes in the hymn book, who is a ready source of musical information and who has always supported the choir of St James' in all they do. David has served the church in many ways, none more so than in the choir. I wonder if he'll still be singing at the start of his next ten years? Probably.

“Happy birthday David”.

Steve and the Choir

## **DAVID CUMMINGS – “The Historian”**

The Christleton Local History Group was first convened in 1979 to produce a history book on Christleton. David worked under Research Organiser and Editor, Frank Latham, with responsibility for all maps. He must have enjoyed the experience in researching local history for he revived the Group in an Inaugural Meeting on 17 October 1995. David was chairman then and, 16 years later, is still chair. He is responsible for organising each year's programme, including outings and excursions.

From the beginning of this revival the aim was to produce a new book on Christleton – Project 2000 – to supplement the first volume. Speakers came to inform us of ways in which to research and record family and local history, and members tackled various topics to contribute to what was finally published for the millennium year – ‘Christleton, 2000 Years of History’.

Our annual programmes are varied and interesting, and speakers are welcomed from within our group and further afield. A superb photographer, David himself offers an enormous range of presentations, from Crete to Pembrokeshire, the Art of Stained Glass to Shakespeare's Country. Outings have been organised to Aldford, the Anderton Lift, Haddon Hall and Eyam in Derbyshire. Walks round Chester have included the city's Walls, Bridge Street and the Old Port.

David's role has expanded through his own great interest in life in Christleton, past and present. He is our archivist, and is amassing a fascinating collection of literature on the village and period photographs from former residents such as Reg Morgan and Ernest Hall. Soon we may have to contribute to an extension to his house! He did a huge job sorting through and recording material from the Rev Guest Williams collection of 23 boxes in the Chester Record Office. He has produced booklets on The Battle of Rowton Moor, Christleton Village Trail and The Pit. He responds to enquiries from relatives of Christleton families, and writes regular articles for the Parish Magazine.

His knowledge of the village and its people, past and present, is amazing. This year's History Group's programme typifies the range of topics we have been fortunate to have had since 1995 under David's chairmanship

JUDY SMITH.

## **DAVID CUMMINGS - “The Naturalist”**

David Cummings – the person most of us go to when we have a query about birds or the Pit or village history – or when we don’t know what to do because the swans from the Pit are wandering through the centre of the village with their cygnets on their way to the canal and are causing traffic chaos.

David’s involvement with village history, swans and the Pit began almost as soon as he became head of the village primary school, the children helping with a wildlife survey, then making a model of the Pit as part of a national ‘Save the Village Pond’ campaign, culminating in several of them appearing on the popular television programme ‘Animal Magic’.

In 1976 the Pit – the ancient village clay pit and pond – was almost dry and the Parish Council, who have the formal responsibility for the care of the Pit, arranged for a large area to be deepened. It was then David’s enthusiasm for improving the area as a wildlife haven, particularly encouraging swans to return to their traditional nesting area, which led to him working with many children (and quite a few of their parents) to clear excessive areas of water and marsh plants – and frequently get covered in mud in the process. It is these working parties which were formalised in 1987 into the volunteer Christleton Pit Group which still meets regularly to carry out essential maintenance – and still get covered in mud. There have been many changes in the make-up of the Group over the years, also the personal responsibilities and types of work have of necessity varied, but it is still David’s enthusiasm which is at the heart of the work.

David has written many times and arranged many photographic presentations about wildlife, history, the Pit and village life, often for the benefit of local or other charities. In 1979 he was one of the contributors to a village history book, and in 2000 he led a group which produced an updated history incorporating information from many previously unseen documents which had been deposited in the County archives but had not been sorted or catalogued – many hours were spent by a small team searching hopefully for hidden gems of information!

It was the 2000 group which formed the basis of what has become the well established Village History Group, meeting several times each year with a range of speakers, but relying so often on David's amazing memory and apparently ever-increasing range of contacts.

Long may his enthusiastic leadership continue!

Eric Kenyon





# Nature Notes.

Our “Pit” swans and their three surviving cygnets were ringed in mid August and now have the green rings CBS4, CBS5, CBS6, CBS7 cob, CBS8 pen. The cob weighed 12.4kg and the pen 8.9kg- which is the average weight for adults, but the cygnets were considerably underweight this year, despite all the extra food they are given. Although they lost three cygnets to predation and illness, the total number of cygnets raised per pair at Christleton is well above the national average. Since 1990 the two pairs at ” The Pit” have laid 143 eggs, 125cygnets hatched and 101cygnets have survived to the September of their birth year, when they are ready to fly.

The wildlife highlight of the summer at Hockenhull Platts was the filming of a red kite over the main meadow when a BBC Look North team were recording a piece about the success of a pair of marsh harriers in producing two young in the Gowy wildlife corridor. The kite displayed beautifully for the cameras, with its rather hesitant looping flight pattern, but with distinctive V shaped red tail. It was almost certainly a passage bird, as we’ve seen several kites passing over the village at this time in previous years. This has been a very successful year at the Platts, with both the quality and quantity of the number of butterflies and dragonflies appearing there. I’ve never recorded so many species or in such numbers whilst I’ve studied the area over the last 40years. The last to



appear this season was a common darter dragonfly seen well into September, which together with a pair of speckled wood butterflies were sunning themselves on the warm stonework of the first bridge. Common darters are the smallest of dragonflies, but often stay longest on a plant stem, fence post or bridge, so they can be easily observed. Speckled wood butterflies like the shadows of the reeds, and can be seen flitting in and out of shadows in the passageway to the bridges. The most noticeable butterfly of this wonderful butterfly summer was the appearance of a ringlet, not seen in the area for many years.



Most of our migrant birds are ready to move on, and as I write hundreds of house martins are in a feeding frenzy around the canal, hurriedly catching insects to build up their weight and energy resources for their journey to Africa in a few days

time. A single young whitethroat was still feeding in the hawthorn bush near the Gowry on the 4th September. I wonder what chance it has of reaching its destination in Africa, if as it appears it might be flying alone. My last thought on looking at this beautiful creature was, How does it know in which direction to fly? Who will guide it on its four thousand mile journey? Will it survive to return next year, despite the poor food resources in Africa, because if there is a drought for humans, there will be little food for these tiny but amazing creatures. DC



## NEVIL CROSTON ~ Kilimanjaro

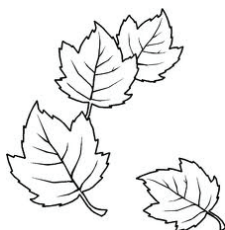
Further to his mention in “people in the news” on page eight, Neil Croston writes about his Kilimanjaro climb.

“I have been thrashing around mountains since I was a teenager but I found going from sea level on the Indian ocean at Dar es Salaam to just under 20,000 feet to the summit of Kilimanjaro in six days, to be the most physically and mentally demanding thing I’ve done. However all 10 of the team made it. Two groups set off an hour apart on summit day. My group started at 1 am. I could not believe that at 4 am we joined a queue where routes converge, to get up the last several hundred feet to one of the points on the summit ridge. By this time I’d stopped counting the height and was just trying to suck in enough oxygen to stay upright. Then another surprise – the summit is 45 minutes further on from Gilman’s point along a fairly narrow ridge with big drops on either side. I am not sure why I thought it was a domed summit! The wind was getting up and it was about minus 10 degrees so we all looked like ice men with frozen eyebrows and beards. That ridge was painful. We got to the summit at 7 am but dawn was a dismal lightening of the sky and visibility about 50 yards. We then had to descend, followed by a 21 km walk out. It was a slightly longer than normal day. We have already bought about 400 mosquito nets for the pupils at the school, which we have already presented to them. Their thirst for education is an inspiration. Their facilities are pretty basic but they are immaculate in their uniforms and hearing them sing their national anthem brings tears to the eyes. We hope that when all sponsorship is in we will be able to pay for a new classroom as well.”

MC

### Falling Leaves

Fall, leaves, fall; die, flowers, away;  
Lengthen night and shorten day;  
Every leaf speaks bliss to me  
Fluttering from the autumn tree.  
From a poem by Emily Bronte (1818-48)



## MONDAY PAINTERS

### Art Exhibition

The Monday Painters are holding an Art Exhibition with paintings for sale at Christleton Parish Hall on Saturday 19 November 10.00 am – 3.30 pm. Entrance is £1 including refreshments. Children under 12 free.

Please come and support this event which is in aid of The Hospice of the Good Shepherd.

## CHRISTLETON WEDNESDAY GROUP CHARITY CHRISTMAS CARDS AND GIFT SALE

Come & buy all your cards etc direct  
from local & national charities  
Saturday 8th October, at Christleton Parish Hall,  
10.00 am to 12.00 noon  
Free admission

Coffee / Tea & Biscuits available also Cakes, Books CDs & DVDs

## CHRISTLETON METHODISTS

Warmly invite you for  
COFFEE & HOMEMADE BISCUITS

On Saturday 12 November  
10 am – 12 noon

Charity Christmas Cards

Cake Stall : White Elephant Stall : Raffle

Proceeds to World Mission Funds

**ALL WELCOME**

## House Group

at Bob & Gwen Knight's (Tel 336236)

For 6 Tuesdays 4 Oct – 15 Oct (excluding 11 Oct)

Start 7.0 for 7.30 pm

**"Restoring Hope: Seizing the Moment"**

## HARVEST SUPPER

To be held in the Parish Hall on Saturday 8 October at 7.30 pm

## Letter to the editor.....

"Dear Sirs

I noticed on the internet, whilst researching my own family history, in the November 2007 edition of your Parish magazine an entry concerning the "Adopt A Grave Scheme" in which it is stated that "We the Parrot Patrol are looking after the grave of Ada and Edward Porritt and their son Edward".

I would like to thank you on behalf of all my family who will be very touched to learn about this endeavour. Ada and Edward was my mother's grandmother and Edward was her uncle who she never had the chance to meet. I understand that no remains were found of Edward on the battlefield other than his helmet. It must have been an awful time.

The whole experience was devastating for his parents.

ER Porritt is listed on the Liverpool Cotton Association War Memorial which states: (plaque)

This plaque records the names of those men

who went from the Liverpool Cotton Association to the

Great War 1914-1918 and to the World War 1939-1945

and died for their country in defence of liberty and justice

The Porritts were involved with the Liverpool Cotton Exchange until its closure later in the twentieth century. Edward's sister, my mother's mother lived with her husband in Ockham, Surrey and I believe her grandparents sold Christleton Grange sometime in the 1950s. My mother's brother was a banker until his own premature death aged 50 in 1982. Ada and Edward currently have three great great great grandchildren through my mother, Humphrey, Julia, Arthur. I will pass on this message to my mother, Jane, who may know more about the branches of the family. She currently lives peacefully in Pulborough, West Sussex after retiring as a Justice of the Peace after many years of service. It is very moving to read that the Parrot Patrol adopted their grave. I visited Christleton about five years ago and was able to identify the grave and enjoy the wonderful setting of Christleton Church.

Once again, thank you all again in the Parrot Patrol, on behalf of my family, for taking time and trouble undertaking these selfless deeds.

Kind regards. " Ian Paton

# CHRISTLETON GARDENING CLUB

## PROGRAMME 2011/2012

12 Sept. 2011	Herbaceous Borders – Jane Allinson
10 Oct. 2011	The History of Apples – Glyn Smith ( Erdigg )
14 Nov. 2011	Trentham Gardens – Clive Mollast
12 Dec. 2011	Film Evening
9 Jan. 2012	Club Christmas Dinner
13 Feb. 2012	Cheshire Landscape Trust – Katie Lowe
12 March 2012	Late Bloomers – Martin Blow
16 April 2012	( note this is 3rd Monday ) TBA
14 May 2012	Carnivorous Plants – Alan Leyland
11 June 2012	Outing TBA
9 July 2012	Outing TBA

SUNDAY 30th OCTOBER 10.45 am

We are delighted to welcome back to St. James Mrs. Aelison Wilson as our guest speaker at this year's annual offertory service.



A better childhood. For every child.

Ever since Edward Rudolph founded the Church of England Central Home for Waifs and Strays in 1881 the Children's Society has constantly evolved to meet changes in society and in children's need for support. From pioneering residential homes and placing children for adoption, to it's current focus on the most overlooked children through direct work and national campaigns, each has been motivated by listening to children's needs. I do hope you will be able to take this opportunity to meet Aelison and hear more about the current work that the Children's Society undertakes.

Please can all you kind Box Holders make sure that your Box has been returned to church by the above date in order that it may be offered at the altar.

Many thanks,  
Lesley Morgan

#### HELP - PARISH HALL

The advertisement in the Parish Magazine regarding the contact for diary bookings is currently blank. Janet Milton no longer takes the calls regarding future bookings and unfortunately no one has come forward to take this on.

If there is anyone interested in doing this job, either from St James or from the village, (you don't have to worship at St James as this is a Parish Hall), and therefore available for use by everyone, would they please contact Janet (335469).



## JOHN SELLERS EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION CHRISTLETON

This ancient Trust was set up on 23 December 1779 by John Sellers and local worthies for the education of poor children in Christleton and Littleton. It was originally to provide instruction in reading, English, writing, arithmetic, and for spinning, sewing and/or other manual work. In 1805 it was extended by deed to include the children of Rowton. The original Minute Book is still in use.

The main source of income is from the rent of a field in Plough Lane. The present trustees comprise the Rector, Clerk, a representative from Cheshire West and Chester and two Christleton Parish Councillors. It is their intention to try and increase the capital and use the interest to provide grants. Further donations or legacies, 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 circumstances who would like to apply in confidence.

Applications for grants from individuals or groups wishing to be considered should apply in writing before November to the Clerk, Mrs M Croston, 5 Bridge Drive, Christleton, CH3 6AW.



## Christleton Parish Hall

**available for Meetings, Parties, Functions etc,  
occasional or regular use.**

**The Hall has wheelchair access  
and specially adapted facilities.**

## TEN THINGS YOU NEVER KNEW ABOUT .....Sandwiches

On January 18, 1778, Captain James Cook became the first European to visit the islands now known as Hawaii – which he named the Sandwich Islands.

- He names them after John Montagu, 4th Earl of Sandwich, who was one of his sponsors.
- This was the same Earl of Sandwich who gave his name to food eaten between two slices of bread.
- According to a poll in 2002, the sandwich most British children like to find in their lunch box is ham ...
- ... while their least favourite is egg mayonnaise.
- On average, six chicken sandwiches are eaten every second in Britain.
- If you eat a sandwich for breakfast, lunch and dinner it will take 168 days to get through the amount of bread produced from one bushel of wheat.
- In 1996, an Italian teacher was suspended for passing answers in salami sandwiches to exam takers.
- In 2008, an attempt in Iran to set a new record for the world's biggest sandwich failed when the impatient crowd ate it before it was measured.
- When Charles Lindbergh flew the Atlantic in 1927, he took only one bite from the five sandwiches he had with him.
- In 1255, the first elephant in Britain landed at Sandwich in Kent. It was a gift from Louis IX of France.

Rhythm Time classes celebrate their 10th birthday this year.

The classes run in Christleton Parish Hall

For further info please call 07789867589 [www.rhythmtime.net](http://www.rhythmtime.net)



# WHAT'S ON THIS MONTH

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

Held in the Parish Hall from 10.45 am – 11.45 am each Sunday during term-time, except when Family Service is held at St. James. For further details please contact Berenice Hogg, 336779.

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

## CHRISTLETON W. I.

Meets on the second Wednesday of the month at 7.15 pm in the Parish Hall. October 12th - herbs for Health, Natalie Kirkham



## 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.

## MAGAZINE CONTRIBUTIONS

Please ensure all items for inclusion in the July edition are sent to Janet Milton (335469), as soon as possible BEFORE Friday 14th October or you can e-mail this to christletonmag@hotmail.co.uk

## MAGAZINE DISTRIBUTORS

The November magazine will be available for collection from church on Sunday 30th October

## The History File. The Village Show Part 3

### Christleton Show 1949.

Held at Littleton Old Hall on August Bank Holiday Monday.

Thanks to a very kind recent donation of an original programme, we have details of the superb Village Show held in 1949. The programme indicates that it was a very popular event for people from a wide area, and the days events were very long and enjoyable. I'm intrigued to see a special class for cottagers! (presumably anyone who wasn't a farmer or landed gentry!) who lived within five miles of the Show Ground, with exhibits to be grown by the exhibitor on their premises. There were cash prizes for every event, and a wide programme of entertainment during the day, In fact a combination of Village Show and Fete.

#### Times of Events.

10-30a.m.      Showground Opens.  
                    Judging of Horticultural Classes  
                    Vegetables/Fruit/Flowers/Preserves Honey/Farmers

#### Classes

Vegetables Cottage Garden Only for local Cottagers./Flowers/  
Wild Flowers& Grasses - School Children/ Table Decoration- Prettiest  
arrangement of Flowers for the Dinner table 4'6" x 3'

11-00a.m.      Juvenile Hack Classes.  
12-00noon      Open Juvenile Jumping (12.2h)  
12-30p.m.      Juvenile Classes continued  
1-30p.m.      Parade of Morris Dancing Troupes from Christleton Vil-  
lage to Showground, with the Chester Blue Coat Band.  
1- 45p.m.      The Billy Macs- Aristocrats of Balance-  
Britain's Youngest Equilibrists  
3-.00pm      Lezelli- High Staircase Globe Act.  
3-15pm      Open Juvenile Jumping (14.2h)  
4-15pm      Parade of Wining Troupes of Morris Dancers  
4-30pm      Ventriloquist & Novelty Competitions.  
4-30p.m.      Sheepdog Demonstration  
5-00p.m.      Open Musical Chairs (Horse Event)

5-30p.m.	Lezelli- Ground Act on the Globe and Competition Open to the public.
6-00p.m.	All the fun of the Circus Ring 2
6-00p.m.	Tractor Obstacle Race.
6-30p.m.	Open Jumping Competition
7-00p.m.	Grade C Jumping.
7.30p.m.	Pitching the Sheaf.
7.45p.m.	Tug of War between teams entered by local Licensed House.
8.45p.m.	Committee Bicycle Obstacle Race.

#### Show Officials.

President; P G Hunter    Chairman; G KL Richardson    Vice Chairman D A Dutton

Treasurer; R Gregory;    Assnt.Treasurer; R. A. Dandy.    Auditor J Formstone

Advertising; C. J. Mills.    Veterinary Officer G. Beresford Edwards

Medical Officers; Dr P.A. Campbell    Cr C Pownall    Commentator; G N Milton

The show Programme offers Aeroplane Flights during the whole of the Show Day, an opportunity to view the surrounding countryside and City of Chester from the air. EXCITEMENT WITH SAFETY is the motto of the JOYFLIGHTS provided by the Wright Aviation Ltd from Hooton. Comfortable flights at reasonable charges.

There were also control Line model aircraft displays and competitions by the Chester Model Flying Club.

The Agricultural type shows folded in the early 1950's with the demise of the farming industry in the village and local area generally. However the Village Fete has continued and been held on various sites from the Old Hall, whilst the home of Rev AA Guest Williams, Faulkner's Lodge the home of Mr & Mrs Rae Cullimore, at Christleton High School, at Christleton Hall (The Law College) , and for over 25 years in the grounds of the Primary School in Quarry Lane.

DC

## **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 the Church.

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### **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

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### **AVAILABLE AT ST. JAMES' CHURCH**

“Loop” system for the hearing impaired.

Large print books for the visually impaired and large print weekly notice sheets

Easy to follow Communion Service

Books for Children

Access for wheelchairs

Please ask any of the Church wardens or Sidesmen if you need assistance in anyway

## **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 01244 336586 for further details.

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### **MOBILE LIBRARY VAN SERVICE**

The van calls weekly: alternate Thursdays & Fridays in Quarry Lane 3.15 pm – 6.0 pm. For further details of when the van is next in your area, please telephone Upton Library on 380053.

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### **READERS**

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

# Parish Registers

## Holy Baptism

7th Ava Philippa Redmond

daughter of Christopher Redmond & Hayley Walker

29 Melrose Avenue, Vicars Cross, Chester

*"We welcome you into the Lord's Family"*

## The Marriage Service

1st George Robert Eaton & Helen Sarah Alice Kippin

The Hollows, Fir Tree Lane, Littleton

6th Roger Hewitt & Charlotte Churchill

34 Toll Bar Road, Christleton

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

## The Funeral Service

22nd Glynmore Jones, Birch Heath Lodge Nursing Home Christleton

*"Grant them eternal rest"*

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## Offertories.

August	Cash	CSE	2011	2010
7th	114-40	498-00	612-40	658-90
14th	93-55	611-50	705-05	453-60
21st	106-87	473-50	580-37	619-49
28th	59-20	424-00	483-20	670-01
				637-50
<b>Totals.</b>			<b>£ 2,381-02</b>	<b>£3,039-50</b>

*"Of your own do we give you"*



# PARISH CHURCH OF ST. JAMES, CHRISTLETON

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

## WHO'S WHO & WHAT'S WHAT

**Rector: The Rev'd. Malcolm Cowan, B.Th**

**The Rectory,  
Birch Heath Lane,  
Christleton  
01244 335663**

**All baptism, weddings and appointments by arrangement with Janet Milton 335469**

<b>Churchwardens:</b>	John Pearson	335101
	Keith Smalls	335688
<b>Deputy Wardens</b>	Lois Dickinson	
	Alan McAllester	
<b>Reader</b>	Wayne Morris	01978 263389
<b>Sacristan:</b>	Betty Dunning	335652
<b>Pastoral Worker:</b>	Berenice Hogg	336779
<b>Sunday School:</b>	Berenice Hogg	336779
<b>Mothers' Union Branch Leader</b>	Janet Brown	335785
<b>Organist &amp; Musical Director:</b>	Steve Roberts	815277
<b>P. C. C. Secretary:</b>	Brenda Bailey	335034
<b>P. C. C. Treasurer:</b>	David Mercer	336155
<b>Stewardship Envelope:</b>	Betty Dunning	335652
<b>Gift Aid Secretary</b>	Nigel Seddon	335588
<b>Bellringers</b>	Ian Braithwaite	300565
<b>Bellringers Secretary</b>	Nikki Dromgoole	351124
<b>Parish Hall Booking</b>	Janet Milton	335469
<b>C. M. S. Secretary</b>	Janet Brown	335785
<b>Children's Society Sec.</b>	Lesley Morgan	335088
<b>Visiting Group:</b>	Berenice Hogg.	336779
<b>Library</b>	Lois Dickinson	378320
<b>Church Flowers</b>	Olive Hammond	336562
<b>Magazine Editor</b>	David Bull	332234
<b>Magazine Compiler</b>	Julie Coxall	336062
<b>Magazine Distributors</b>	Jenny Davies and Valmai Griffiths	335884
<b>Neighbourhood Link Co-Ordinator</b>	Janet Bowden	335705
<b>Parish Resource</b>		
<b>Person for Child Protection</b>	Alastair Holland	332819