

St. James'

PARISH MAGAZINE



www.christleton.org.uk



1939-1945

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November 2010

35p

Remember in November

- Mon 1 10.45 am Holy Communion at Tarvin Court Nursing Home
11.20 am Holy Communion at Oaklands Nursing Home
7.30 pm Stewardship Committee - Parish Hall
- Tue 2 7.30 pm Short Term House Group – ‘Daniel: Spiritual Living in a Secular World’ Contact Bob & Gwen Knight (tel 336236)
7.45 pm Pastoral & Outreach Committee - Lady Chapel
- Wed 3 10.45 am United Communion - Revd Canon P Williams followed by refreshments
- Fri 5 6.30 pm Choir Practice
- Sun 7 8.00 am Holy Communion - Order 2 - Revd Canon P Williams**
10.45 am Sunday School - Parish Hall
10.45 am Holy Communion - Order 1 - Revd Canon P Williams
6.00 pm The Crew Youth Group - Parish Hall
6.30 pm **ALL SOUL’S SERVICE** - Revd Gill Hibbert
“A service to remember those whom we love, but see no longer” -
Prayer Link Road: Rowton Lane and Promised Land Lane
Neighbourhood Link: Karen Smalls
- Mon 8 2.00 pm Mothers’ Union - Parish Hall
- Tue 9 7.30 pm Short Term House Group - ‘Daniel: Spiritual Living in a Secular World’ Contact Bob & Gwen Knight (tel 336236)
- Wed 10 10.45 am Holy Communion - Revd Gill Hibbert followed by refreshments
11.30 am Holy Communion at Birch Heath Lodge Nursing Home - Revd Gill Hibbert
- Fri 12 6.30 pm Choir Practice

NB: Last date for contribution to DECEMBER Parish Magazine to Janet Milton (335469). Earlier if possible please. You can attach your Word document and e-mail to: christletonmag@hotmail.co.uk

- Sun 14 REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY**
8.00 am Holy Communion - Order 1 - Revd Canon C W J Samuels
10.45 am REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY SERVICE - Revd Canon P Williams with 2 minutes silence and followed by wreath laying ceremony at War Memorial
6.00 pm The Crew Youth Group - Parish Hall
6.30 pm Evensong - Dr Wayne Morris - with Offertory of The Children’s Society Boxes
Prayer Link Road: Rowton Bridge Road
Neighbourhood Link: Angela Haswell

- Tue 16 7.30 pm Short Term House Group - 'Daniel: Spiritual Living in a Secular World' Contact Bob & Gwen Knight (tel 336236)
- Wed 17 10.45 am Holy Communion - Rev Canon P Williams
followed by refreshments
2.00 pm Standing Committee - Badgers Close
7.00 pm GAP Welcome - Parish Hall
- Fri 19 6.30 pm Choir Practice
- Sun 21 8.00 am Holy Communion - Order 1 - Revd Gill Hibbert**
10.45 am Parish Communion - Order 1 - Revd John Carhart
followed by refreshments
10.45 am Sunday School - Parish Hall
6.00 pm The Crew Youth Group - Parish Hall
6.30 pm Evensong - Order 1 - Dr Wayne Morris
Prayer Link Road: Sandrock Road
Neighbourhood Link: Margaret Wheeler
- Tue 23 7.30 pm Short Term House Group - 'Daniel: Spiritual Living in a Secular World' Contact Bob & Gwen Knight (tel 336236)
- Wed 24 10.45 am Holy Communion - Revd Brian Harris
followed by refreshments
7.45 pm PCC Meeting - Parish Hall
- Fri 26 3.30 pm Preparation of Hall for Christmas Fair
6.30 pm Choir Practice
- Sat 27 10.00 am **CHRISTMAS FAIR** (See Full Page Poster)
2.00 pm Wedding
- Sun 28 8.00 am Holy Communion - Order 1 - Revd Canon P Williams**
10.45 am Sunday School - Parish Hall
10.45 am Matins - Dr Wayne Morris - followed by refreshments
6.00 pm The Crew Youth Group - Parish Hall
6.30 pm Evening Communion - Revd Canon P Williams
and Offertory of CMS Boxes.
Prayer Link Road: Those worshipping at St James from outside
the Parish
Area Secretary: Leo Carroll
- Mon 29 2.00 pm Mothers' Union Advent Service for Chester Archdeaconry followed
by refreshments in Parish Hall
- Tue 30 7.30 pm Short Term House Group - 'Daniel: Spiritual Living in a Secular
World' Contact Bob & Gwen Knight (tel 336236)

'No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends.' (John 15.13)

November is the month in which the nation remembers those who have given their lives in moments of conflict and war over the last one hundred years. At such a time, the words of Jesus, that there is no greater love than to give one's life for one's friends, takes on a particular power and poignancy. A few years ago, I accompanied a friend on a holiday in Normandy. While there, we visited a number of the places dedicated to the memory of those who died in the Second World War. On visiting some of the cemeteries dedicated to those who gave their lives in Normandy from many different nations, it was very striking to see not only the volume of human life lost in that one part of France, but also how young so many of those who had died were. Giving one's life for the sake of others is, no doubt, the greatest sign of one's love for another. It is also right that the sacrifice of those who have died for the sake of their nation should be remembered. But it is also important to remember that wars are contexts in which it is often the young and vulnerable who suffer the most and that any life lost to war is ultimately a precious life wasted that could have been avoided.

We only have to watch our television screens to see that conflict and war remains as a very real part of life in the world of the twenty-first century. The Gospel, above all, however, challenges human communities, first and foremost to seek the way of peace. That is,

to seek peace between individuals, communities and nations, in particular between peoples who are different to one another.

November also marks the end of the Church's year which begins afresh with Advent. The feast at the end of the Church's year is known as the feast of Christ the King. On this day, the church acknowledges that Christ is King above all kings, but understands this in the light of Jesus' own words. When on trial before Pontius Pilate, he is asked 'Are you the king of the Jews'. In part of his response Jesus replies, 'My kingdom is not of this world'. Sometimes, it is thought that in these words Jesus points to the future kingdom of heaven that awaits human persons beyond this world. In some ways this is what he means, but Jesus was always most concerned with the reality of people's lives in the present. He means in these words, his kingdom operates in a different way to the kingdoms of the world. It is a kingdom of no more tears, no more conflict, no more wars, a place in which human individuals and communities can live alongside one another in peace, with all their diversity and difference. The words of Jesus are not only words of hope for a future possibility of another world, but a challenge to make that other world a reality in the present. So while it is right to remember those who have given their lives in contexts of war, as the past is remembered, so might human persons commit themselves in the present to making a better, more peaceful future for all.

Dr. Wayne Morris

Phil Haywood

Philip a loyal member of the church choir for almost 40 years died recently aged 82. He was a proud Yorkshireman, born in the village of Linthwaite, and trained initially as a plantsman in Blackpool, before taking a post at The Royal Palace at Sandringham. There he continued to learn his trade as a gardener, but also had duties indoors, creating floral decorations in state and family rooms. One of his proudest duties was to stand vigil over the body of the late King George VI. Phil then moved on to a prestigious apprenticeship at the Royal Botanical Gardens at Kew, something he was really proud of, and wore his Kew blazer & badge with pride for the rest of his life. From Kew he progressed to the War Office and the CEGB in London, and whilst there studied for and obtained a University degree. In 1967 he took up the role of Chief Landscape Architect for Cheshire County Council and moved to Christleton, and his legacy in this role can be seen at Thurstaston Country Park, on Wirral Way, around our own village and in many other places around the county. He was Chairman of both the Parish Council and Fete Committee, and took part in many village activities, none more so than as a member of The Institute, together with one of his best friends Ces Rydings. He was a keen cricketer, good golfer, a fine watercolour artist, and an excellent singer. He served as a church chorister for over 70years, singing as a head choirboy at Linthwaite and Blackpool, before developing into a fine tenor, often singing solo roles with the church choir and Christleton Singers. He was a delightful kind and gentle man, but also a character with typical Yorkshire wit and humour. He was a devoted family man, almost always seen in the company of Edie his wife of 58years, and was devoted to his children and grandchildren. Phil was a loyal dependable member of the church choir until his illness and will be sorely missed by his family, and his many friends and colleagues in the village and county.

Paul Griffiths

Congratulations from all at St James' to Paul on his latest achievement, an award for Health & Safety promoted by Chester University and the Wirral Autistic Society. His mum Rena told me "How proud she was when she saw Paul mount the platform to receive his award from the Principal Dr Asher". She continued; "when Paul was four years old he spent several months in a Psychiatric Hospital in London, and the diagnosis was that he had very low intelligence and was uneducable. We were also told to put him in a home, but needless to say we didn't follow that advice." Paul has proved that initial diagnosis very wrong, and those of us in the village who have seen his superb art & craftwork, know that he is a very able person in his own right. As he is autistic, he can't communicate with people in the usual way, but has this incredible ability to achieve things that the early diagnosis completely missed. During the week he lives on Wirral in a house with many other young men, and it is a tribute to the Autistic Society, the teachers, carers, helpers and parents that they achieve so much. Paul is an outstanding example of someone with a severe handicap, yet living as normal a life as possible in today's Society.



Cremated Remains Area



Congratulations to Keith Smalls and the PCC for organising the transformation of the old cremated remains area in front of church. This area of the churchyard has been very difficult to manage for many years, both for families and for the church authorities. The improvement work has been paid for with a grant from Pettit's the Undertakers and from other kind donations. It has been carried out sensitively and carefully by Blackwell's, the stone masons, and the whole area of these cremated remains begun in the 1970's, now "fits in" well with the older burial monuments in the churchyard, many dating from the early 1800's.

David Cummings

Rex Rowers pull it off.



Congratulations to the REX B.C. rowers (parents & friends of King's School Chester) who set a new record for the Masters Novice 8's event in the recent Boston Rowing Marathon. This race is a gruelling 31miles (50k) between Lincoln and Boston on the river Witham. The crew which included local rowers, Dave Brodie, Mike Lowrie, Nigel Seddon, & Adam Wilson, with Stuart Gillies and Jonathan and James Bellis in their back up crew, completed this exhausting event in 4hrs, 44.47 minutes. The crew also raised the magnificent total of over £2,000 for the Movement Centre at The Robert Jones & Agnes Hunt Hospital near Gobowen. This centre deals with children suffering from cerebal palsy, and helps them achieve everyday functional skills by using specialist therapy and targeted training to improve their quality of life. I'm sure that the pain, hard work and many blisters suffered by the rowers, was worth the effort to help and support such a just cause.

David Cummings

NATURE NOTES

David
Cummings

The village Pit swan family are still on the canal as I write, and the 5 cygnets as big and healthy as they can be. They are now fully grown and ready to fly, so look out for them as they practice flying along the canal and over the village usually dropping off at the Pit before they fly on to-- well anywhere is possible. Christleton swans flying west will call in to the Dee at Chester, or the marine lake at Rhyl, Conway RSPB Reserve, or the Menai Straits, Bangor, Caernarvon, Anglesey or even Porthmadoc. Swans flying northwest often drop in at Spike Island near Widnes,



Southport Marine Lake and then on to Cavendish Dock near Barrow and Lake Windermere. Flying east will take them to Fairburn Ings in Yorkshire or perhaps the Trent at Nottingham. Flying south they fly above the river Dee to Ellesmere and Hanmer Meres, or follow the Shropshire Union Canal to Nantwich, then head towards Shrewsbury & the River Severn to Telford, or further south to Kidderminster, Bewdley, Worcester. One of our swans visited the Wildfowl Trust Reserve at Slimbridge on the Severn estuary, and another flew as far south as Plymouth. One Cheshire swan was even recorded this summer at Kensington Palace

Gardens in London! When I began studying our village swans in 1989 I had no idea that any of the above was possible. I can only say that despite the difficulties they cause, in holding up the traffic in the village during their walk to the canal each year, they do give enormous pleasure to people, and I even get requests from places as far away as Australia to find out how the swans are doing.



Both pied and grey wagtails, and several colourful and noisy jays have been seen in the village this last month, together with newly emerged late flying butterflies, tortoiseshell, comma and red admiral all in wonderful condition. There have also been several sightings of the brown hawker dragonfly and I managed to take a superb shot of a female laying eggs under some reeds last week. Small birds have begun singing in full voice once again after a short lull during the summer months, and a pair of robins were singing their hearts out, as Phil Haywood's coffin was being taken to and from church recently. It can't just be a coincidence that when Len Thomas' funeral service took place a song thrush sang from the top of the tower, as did a blackbird when Ken Stark was being buried, and a robin again when Cliff Boddy was being laid to rest. All were members of the church choir!

Charity Climb to Kilimanjaro

Ian Wade

Last month I reported that Ian from The Ring O Bells was about to climb Mt Kilimanjaro in Tanzania, Africa for charity. He has now returned fitter and relaxed after a very challenging experience. He and local colleague Craig Unwin, were part of a 19 strong team



raising much needed funds, (£60,000 to date) for the “Children Today” charity based in Christleton. Their training consisted of weeks of running, and even walking up Moel Famau twice a day to help them get into physical shape. The trek to the summit of the 20,000ft+ mountain, took four and a half days, walking steadily upwards along

well-worn paths, and through the heavily canopied tropical rain forest. They saw many species of monkey, mongoose, and a number of noisy and colourful birds as they pushed upwards in the intense heat. At night the party stayed in mountain huts, but had to cope with huge temperature changes, with warm sunshine by day down to minus 15C at night. The summit day was a challenging six hours above the tree line, climbing in glorious sunshine along slippery slopes of shale, but the view from the top with patches of snow on crests of the ridge, and overlooking nearby glaciers was wonderful and made it really worthwhile. They also looked down over a wide area of the surrounding mountain scenery, towards the rain forest, some of it covered in thick layers of cloud. The party were supported by local guides, who had to use much guile and persuasion in helping them achieve their challenging target. Despite this several of the party suffered from altitude sickness and other illnesses, and only twelve finally reached the summit. Ian was thrilled to have done so, and has raised over £5,000 for the charity with this exciting challenge. The one and a half days coming down from the summit was just a dash, but they passed hundreds of others from all around the world who were completing this exciting challenge. Congratulations Ian from your friends in the village.

David Cummings

Leprosy Mission. Stamp Out Leprosy.

Vera Wood is the local representative for the Leprosy Mission and thanks everyone for the donation of used stamps left at the back of church. She also urges us to continue to support the Mission by donating old stamps, Christmas stamps in particular, foreign or collectable coins, old postcards etc, which can be auctioned off for the Societies Funds. Last year £74,000 was donated in this way. Leprosy is curable, but still affects people in more than 28 countries where the mission provides treatment. The main drug used in the multi drug therapy treatment was initially researched by a Norwegian Dr Hansen, which has led to leprosy being called the Hansen disease in some countries. The multi drug therapy MDT now used, is provided by a Japanese Company.

Christleton Parish Hall



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

The Hall has wheelchair access
and specially adapted facilities.

Please contact the Booking Secretary,

Janet Milton 01244 335469

Please telephone between 10.00am and 8.00pm
Monday to Saturday

A Right Relationship with God

In last month's article, we heard from the prophets how God's judgment is inevitable. How Christ will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead. But we need not fear that judgement. We can approach our Lord with confidence if we have heeded his word, stayed faithful and acknowledge our weaknesses and our failings. Of course, we have the example of Christ our Lord and Saviour. His teachings did turn the Jewish world upside down. In Paul's letter to the Romans he goes to great length to explain what this means to the people who believed salvation had to be won through strict adherence to the law. Basically setting themselves up to fail. But they only had to turn to the prophets to understand what God desires of his people. Rowan Williams, in his book 'Praying with the Icons' uses the 'Eleousa' where the Christ child is clinging to the Madonna as an example of our Lord's love described as that of an eager, somewhat boisterous child scrambling up on his mother's lap, seizing handfuls of her clothing and nuzzling his face against hers with a hunger for physical closeness that children show their loving parents. This is not a God, he tells us, who stands aloof waiting for us to make a mistake. He is not waiting impassively for us to babble on about our shame and penitence but one who actively and hungrily seeks our love.

We need to understand how we can respond to such love. What does our loving father desire of us? As history has shown, we have constantly got it wrong.

Isaiah, along with the other prophets takes up the theme, what kind of worship does God want from us? Isaiah berates the people for their approach to worship and particularly to fasting. It was at a time when the Israelites

continued overleaf

relished their worship and observance of Holy Ritual but at the same time like spoilt and naive children they were complaining that God didn't keep his side of the bargain. He wasn't answering their prayers. Isaiah points out to them how they have got it all wrong; their focus is on the ritual and not on their actions. Despite their worship they have continued to oppress their workers, they have quarrelled and committed acts of violence and used the courts to enslave the poor.

Hosea echoes Isaiah's message. He was a contemporary of Isaiah. He was a northerner and his message was for Israel, the northern kingdom. His preaching took place against a background of political instability, moral corruption and religious decadence.

He tells us that God wants 'love' to be expressed in action. 'For I desire mercy not sacrifice, and acknowledgement of God, not burnt offerings'

Micah was another contemporary of Isaiah and Hosea living in South-West Judah. He denounces rulers, priests and prophets. At this time the priests and the prophets were religious mercenaries, preaching for money and using religion to silence the voice of the oppressed and to justify the violent fury of the rich, the judges and the governors. Micah spelt out to the people the will of God in words we still use in the prayer of confession for evening worship.

That is, he requires us to act justly, to love mercy, to walk humbly with God. But what does that mean?

To act justly: God demands of us that our courts be honest, that laws be carried out, that the rights of the poor and homeless be defended; that financial crimes be judged with severity and that corruption in government be brought to an end.

To love mercy: God expects unity and mutual care in society, where doing good is a constant habit, welcomed by its citizens and where there would be no abandoned or abused children, lonely old people or homeless people

To walk humbly with God: God wants all people to submit to him. His will must be our will.

Isaiah, Hosea and Micah were preaching to a land in turmoil some 2800 years ago. I'm not sure enough of the pre-history of these isles to understand what was happening here in England at that time but I do know that the arrival of Christianity did not bring with it a nation which acted justly, loved mercy and walked humbly with God. Rather there are many times in our history when Christianity has been used to oppress, exploit and persecute the poor.

We have moved on from those dark days of religious persecution but can we rest on our laurels? Are we worshipping God as he would have us worship him?

The sort of self denial that God is asking for is a self denial on behalf of others. He wants us to free the oppressed and share our food with the hungry, our shelter with the homeless and our clothing with the poor. What would Isaiah have to say to us here in Christleton? Fasting is still seen as a form of self denial. I work with many Muslims who fast during the feast of Ramadan and they certainly win my admiration for their strict observance. Many of us will seek to deny ourselves something during the season of Lent but how many of us actually go hungry in order to feed another?

How do we calculate our charitable giving? On what we've got left over after we've spent what we need to on ourselves or do we deny ourselves in order to give in abundance? How many of us buy new clothes to give to the poor and homeless or do they make do with our cast offs? Too often our gifts and acts of charity stop short of meaningful self sacrifice.

The worship God wants from us involves self-sacrifice. If we love God and love our neighbour until it hurts we will have a right relationship with God and he will bless us, when we call him he will answer us, we will find our joy in the Lord and we will feast on our inheritance.

WHAT'S ON THIS MONTH

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

CHRISTLETON WEDNESDAY GROUP

FESTIVE LUNCH
on

Wednesday 1st December,

at Christleton Parish Hall,
12.00 noon.

Tickets £9, available from
members.

(includes a glass of wine)

In aid of the
Hospice of the Good Shepherd

CHRISTLETON W.I.

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

Next Meeting

10th November

CHESTER UNCOVERED

Stephen Shakeshaft

All Welcome

CHESTER FLOWER CLUB

Meetings are held in Christleton
Parish Hall on the 3rd Wednesday
of the month at 1.30 pm. Details of
any events can be obtained from
the Secretary, Trish Pollard

CHRISTLETON WEDNESDAY GROUP

Fun Quiz Evening
on

Saturday 13th November,

at Christleton Parish Hall,

7.00pm for 7.30 pm.

Tickets £8.50

(available from members)

includes a glass of wine

& finger buffet

In aid of the
Hospice of the Good Shepherd

WHAT'S ON THIS MONTH

2nd Christleton Guides JUMBLE SALE

2.00pm

Saturday 6 November 2010

Christleton Scout Hut

Admission 25p

Children 10p

Refreshments available

If you have any jumble please bring it to the Scout Hut on the day between, 10am and 1pm.

SHORT TERM HOUSE GROUP

at

Bob & Gwen Knight's

(Tel. 336236)

For 5 Tuesdays starting at

7.30 pm

**2nd 9th 16th 23rd and 30th
November**

Daniel: Spiritual Living in a
Secular World

CHRISTLETON GARDENING CLUB

Monday 8th November

Christleton Methodist Hall

7.30pm

Ness Gardens

Now and the Future

Mr. Kevin Reid - Curator

All welcome

CHRISTLETON LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

Wednesday 24th November

Christleton Primary School

at 7.30pm.

Speaker: Roger Croston

Subject: China "Steam Dragons"
Roger is an experienced traveller and an expert in the affairs of Tibet, The Dalai Lama and China. He will tell the story of recent journeys in Northern China using steam travel.

ANNUAL ALL SOULS SERVICE

St James' Church

Sunday 7 November

at 6.30 pm

To remember those who have died

CHRISTLETON METHODISTS

Warmly invite you for

Coffee & Homemade Biscuits

on Saturday 6 November

10.00 am – 12 noon

Charity Christmas Cards: Cake
stall. White Elephant : Raffle

ALL WELCOME

Proceeds to World Church Funds

St. James' Annual Christmas Fair

Saturday 27th November 2010
Christleton Parish Hall

Theme

COPPELIA

A STORY OF A TOYMAKER
WHO FALLS IN LOVE
WITH A DOLL

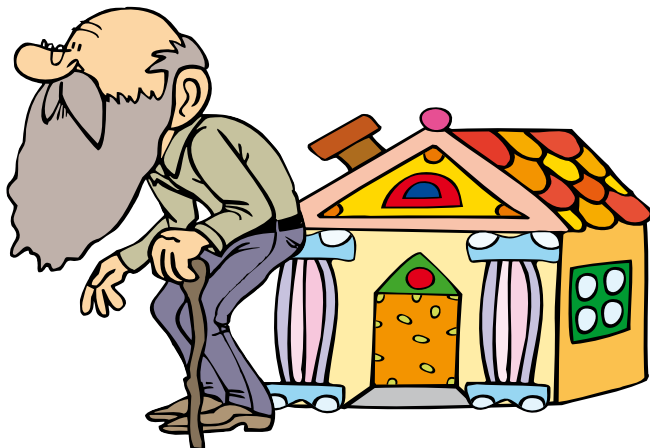
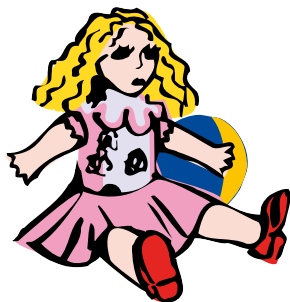
Opening by
Rose Queen

Natasha Beach

10.00am - Noon

Entrance 50p

accompanied children free



Proceeds to

International – Water Aid **National** – Samaritans and **Local** – Dorrin Park School

Christmas Cards and Christmas Charities

Do you ever think that the giving of Christmas cards has become a little out of hand? Perhaps you have even considered that the cost might be better directed? Of course, no thoughts expressed here preclude the sending of your own Christmas cards.

We are not holding the usual pre-Christmas Charities fund-raising event this year. Would you consider reducing the number of cards you give to friends at St. James and donating what you save to our three Christmas Charities? This is something that happens at a number of Churches known to us and appears to be very successful.



Households across the parish and beyond have been generously collecting loose change throughout the year in support of The Children's Society.

Loose change changing lives

**Offertory of The Children's
Society collection boxes
during Evensong
Sunday 14th November
6.30 pm
St James' Church**

If you are a boxholder, please could you ensure your box is in Church on or before the above date. Alternatively, if you would like more information about the work of The Children's Society, or would like to become a boxholder, please let me know.

With many thanks,
Lesley Morgan

2,246 Votes Needed

Broadband speed is in the news again and your vote in Christleton is vital. BT is rolling out super fast fibre optic broadband across the UK. The system is called BT Infinity. Some places such as Chester are already on the announced roll out plan. Christleton can vote to fast track the village exchange to get BT Infinity next.

The five areas with the largest percentage of votes by December 31st, 2010 will win the chance to bring superfast broadband to their area. BT will also donate £5,000 of computer equipment to a local community project.

This is your chance to put Christleton on the map. Whether you're big on social networking, gaming, streaming, uploading or downloading, prepare to have your life transformed with superfast speeds.

Christleton exchange has a possible 2,246 votes. At the time that this magazine goes to press only 32 votes have been cast. This represents an abysmal 1.42% of the total possible votes. There are already many villages well ahead of this percentage figure so immediate voting action is needed in the Christleton area. After that spread the word and get your friends and neighbours to vote. There are still a number of weeks to go before the voting closes.

Even if you are thinking of moving and have your house up for sale it might make all the difference in finding a purchaser for your property if Christleton has superfast broadband.

You will find a link to vote on the Christleton web site home page. Do not delay. Do it now. via www.christleton.org.uk

Richard Nicholson

Congratulations to Stuart & Diana Begbie
on their Ruby Wedding Anniversary
Married at St James,
Christleton on 4th November 1970

Christleton Congo Link Eric & Sandra Read with Church Mission Society(CMS)

Eric and Sandra Read with their two children, Peter and Atiyah came to Christleton in June 2008 when they had just finished their first term in the DR of Congo. For the past five years they have been working with the Anglican Church in the Katanga Diocese, which is in the less-troubled southern part of Congo. They, as mission partners with CMS, are linked with us in St James' Church in the



Chester Diocese. Their visit on Sunday afternoon 19th September 2010 got off to a good start by the Crew's talk of their overseas involvement with their sponsored child, Jaila and by the launch of their new project: 'Sponsor a Toilet'. Eric and Sandra showed interest

in these projects and responded with a very interesting DVD to give us some understanding of their community development work. Their project is called MKM in Swahili, literally meaning 'continuing from the foundations'. It is somewhat like our Growth Action Planning (GAP) programme in Christleton, which is currently concentrating on spiritual growth through welcome, house groups and the inclusion of all ages and stages in our church community life. MKM is about the practicalities of 'love of neighbour' through working together, such as learning how to make bricks for buildings for the village and repairing roads, as well as training in leadership. In brief it is doing things that benefit the whole community and the villages around have shown great interest. Eric and Sandra set up this programme and now that they have left DR Congo to move to the Philippines, the local leaders have been inspired to continue the development, as they recognise that they are 'part of the bigger vision of God in establishing his Kingdom in Africa and on earth'. The Reads say that this growth spreading across the Katanga diocese is like the enjoyment of 'eating wild mushrooms. Clusters of them keep on appearing on our lawn this year! They say that once mushrooms are established in a place, you can be sure of a harvest year after year. Our team have the faith to believe that the vision-spore of this programme can be blown all over Congo, meeting up and blending with similar visions at work in Africa, like wild mushrooms, - until God's Kingdom is established in Africa'. An open time for questions followed to give an opportunity to compare and contrast ways we use to 'love our neighbour' here in Christleton with the development work in DR Congo. Wayne Morris then closed the session by emphasising the world-wide aspect of the community of faith and the importance of praying for each other as we said the grace together. Janet Brown's delicious home-made scones, jam and cream served so kindly by the Crew gave us further time to talk over matters and learn from each other. Many thanks to all who came and for playing a part in making the afternoon not just an event, but a very strong link in the growth of the church world-wide.

Gwen Knight

ON ADVERTISING FAITH

Publicising faith is important but when religion is portrayed in big public events it can be as easily misunderstood as understood. We witnessed this during the Pope's recent visit to Britain.

I am poor at advertising faith myself, neither brave enough to preach in the street nor to knock on neighbours' doors inviting them to church. I prefer to let them know gently now and again that when I disappear from the house twice on Sunday, I am singing in the choir at Christleton Church.

Mind you, when sitting in church for a quiet two hour shift of Open Church on a Sunday afternoon, I do sometimes pop round the churchyard to recruit one or two visitors, usually with mutual gratitude. Nearly half seem to have had some past connection with Christleton or St James and it is good to welcome them and to show that we are still a friendly lot.

Subliminal advertising of my faith is more my scene, trying to set a fair example of neighbourly care, choosing voluntary activities rooted in my Christian faith and setting the best family values that I can. If people notice those, great. If they don't, I don't worry but I recognise my inadequacies. Somehow we feel fulfilled in Christ just trying and the effort enriches our faith.

"Preaching to the converted" rolls off the tongue almost too easily. Perhaps it is as far as I get. Leading prayers in church and singing in the choir is preaching to the "convinced-still-searching". I am one

of those myself. We all come to church with doubts and sorrows in our hearts as well as joy.

Controversies? It only took the visit of the Pope to Britain in September to arouse all sorts of those. Why was he coming at all, should it have been classed as a state visit, had he been strong enough in condemning child abuse, what about condoms for Africa? Yet from his first steps in Scotland he preached reconciliation, forgiveness and apology with a sincere gentleness. I had felt for my Roman Catholic friends in the weeks leading up to his visit. All sorts of virulent comment were hurled at his visit, and indeed the Vatican itself, by secularists, journalists, politicians and even some Christians.

Perhaps Jesus Christ was ridiculed for a longer period leading up to Good Friday than we are normally told. Perhaps the scriptures, or at least their sources, were censored by some central office. Rumour and drama could not be leaked over the internet then; 'no rapid media hype' or MI5 in Jerusalem either.

We are rarely abused for our faith; we live a fairly comfortable Christian witness. In that situation is it humility that keeps us out of the limelight or are we shying away from talking about our beliefs in public out of fear? I have never been sure; perhaps that uncertainty pinpoints my weakness.

John Carruthers

SPONSORED BIKE RIDE

We were again lucky with the weather; apart from some early drizzle it stayed fine and sunny. As always, it was a most enjoyable day, criss-crossing the countryside from village to village, visiting lots of churches, meeting all the people who were manning the churches for the day, and invariably being offered tea and biscuits as a bonus.

Thanks to the wonderful generosity of everyone who sponsored us. We raised over £550, half of which goes to the Trust, the other half being retained by St James.



The efforts of Liz McClure and myself to encourage others to take part in the ride failed to attract anyone else. This was a disappointment. However, we look forward to next years ride as we have had promises from other church members that they would like to have a go, and we are certain that by doing so, we would be able to make a much bigger contribution to the Trust.

Again my grateful thanks to everyone who kindly sponsored us.

Edward and Liz

**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.

**MAGAZINE
CONTRIBUTIONS**

Please ensure all items for inclusion in the **December** edition are sent to Janet Milton (335469), as soon as possible **BEFORE Friday 12th November** or you can e-mail this to christletonmag@hotmail.co.uk

MAGAZINE DISTRIBUTORS

The **December** magazine will be available for collection from Church on **Sunday 28th November**

CONCERT

**Saturday 13th November at 7 30 pm in
Elesmere Port Civic Hall**

GLORIA

by Poulenc

CORONATION ANTHEMS (incl Zadok the Priest, The King Shall Rejoice) with

Let the bright Seraphim

Organ Concerto in B flat

Arrival of the Queen of Sheba

Eternal Source of Light Devine

by Handel

EMPS Music Society Chorus, conductor Tim Stuart with

The Boarders Sinfonia &

Emma Peaurt soprano

Graham Eccles organ

Jef Brothwell trumpet

Tickets: Phone 0151 327 4962 or www.empsonline.co.uk + some availability at the door

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 September 2010

Holy Baptism

- 5th Abby Constance Holloway daughter of Thomas & Katrina Holloway
46 Quarry Lane, Christleton
5th Abigail Chloe Egan daughter of John & Kelly Egan
119 Whitchurch Road, Great Boughton

"We welcome you into the Lord's Family"

The Wedding Service

- 27th Felipe Jose Izquierdo & Anna Victoria Davies
40 Queen Road, Twickenham, London

"Those whom god has joined together, let not man divide"

The Funeral Service

- 17th Irene Marie Picken Chester Lodge Nursing Home, Brook St. Chester
28th Philip Arthur Haywood 17 Rowan Park, Christleton
29th Polly Louise Weaver 1 Bates Cottages, Mill Lane, Beeston
30th Polly Louise Weaver (Burial of Ashes)

"Grant them eternal rest"

Offertories

September	Cash	CSE	2010	2009
5th	135-39	597-00	733-39	1,081-85
12th	98-03	627-40	725-43	650-40
19th	74-50	599-10	673-60	813-77
26th	101-56	759-00	860-56	749-64
Totals			£ 2,432-98	£3,295-66

"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:	Interregnum
	All baptism, weddings and appointments by arrangement with Janet Milton, 335469
Churchwardens:	John Pearson 335101
	Keith Smalls 335688
Deputy Wardens	Lois Dickinson
	Alan McAllester
Reader	Wayne Morris 01978 263389
Verger	David Ellis 336879
Sacristan:	Betty Dunning..... 335652
Sunday School:	Berenice Hogg.....336779
Mother's Union Branch Leader	Janet Brown335785
Organist & Musical Director:	Steve Roberts815277
P. C. C. Secretary:	Brenda Bailey335034
P. C. C. Treasurer:	David Mercer336155
Stewardship Envelope:	Betty Dunning335652
Gift Aid Secretary	Nigel Seddon.....335588
Bellringers	Ian Braithwaite300565
Bellringer Vice Captains	Ian Crossan.....332280
Parish Hall Booking	Janet Milton335469
C. M. S. Secretary	Janet Brown335785
Children's Society Sec.	Lesley Morgan335088
Visiting Group:	Berenice Hogg.....336779
Library	Lois Dickinson378320
Church Flowers	Olive Hammond.....336562
Magazine Editor	David Bull332234
Magazine Compiler	Richard Nicholson336004
Magazine Distributors	Jenny Davies and Valmai Griffiths.....335884
Neighbourhood Link Co-Ordinator	Janet Bowden335705
Parish Resource	
Person for Child Protection	Alastair Holland332819