



St. James'

PARISH MAGAZINE

November 2012

www.christleton.org.uk

35p

Remember in November

Thur	1	12 noon	United Prayer Lunch - Methodist Hall
Fri	2	6.30 pm	Choir Practice
Sun	4		All Saints
		8.00 am	Holy Communion
		10.45 am	Sunday School - Parish Hall
		10.45 am	Holy Communion
		6.00 pm	The Crew Youth Group - Parish Hall
			Emily Underhill & Tina
		6.30 pm	Evensong
			- ALL SOUL'S SERVICE -
			"A service to remember those whom we love, but see no longer"
Mon	5	10.45 am	Holy Communion at Oaklands
			Nursing Home
		11.20 am	Holy Communion at Tarvin Court
			Nursing Home
Wed	7	10.45 am	United Communion - followed by refreshments
Fri	9	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	11		REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY
		8.00 am	Holy Communion
		10.45 am	MORNING WORSHIP FOR
			REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY - with 2
			min silence followed by
			wreath laying ceremony at
			War Memorial
		6.30 pm	Holy Communion

Mon	12	2.00 pm 7.30 pm	Mothers' Union - Parish Hall PCC - Parish Hall
Wed	14	10.45 am 11.30 am	Holy Communion - followed by refreshments Holy Communion at Birch Heath Lodge
Fri	16	6.30 pm	Choir Practice
Sun	18	8.00 am 10.45 am 10.45 am 6.30 pm	2nd before Advent Holy Communion Holy Communion with Annual Blessing of Children's Society Boxes & Guest Speaker Aelison Wilson Sunday School - Parish Hall Evensong (BCP)
Wed	21	10.45 am	Holy Communion - followed by refreshments
Fri Fair	23	3.30 pm 6.30 pm	Preparation of Hall for Christmas Choir Practice
Sat	24	10.00 am	CHRISTMAS FAIR (See Full Page Poster in Magazine)
Sun	25	8.00 am 10.45 am 10.45 am 6.30 pm	Christ the King Holy Communion Morning Prayer Sunday School - Parish Hall Holy Communion
Wed	28	10.45 am	Holy Communion followed by Refreshments
Fri	30	6.30 pm	Choir Practice

Message from our Rector

I find the whole concept of reality television to be awful. The thought of “celebrities” sitting round all day doing nothing, is hardly my idea of entertainment, particularly “Big Brother”.

However, behind the gloss of the programme, is an important message for us all.

The celebrities, as we are used to seeing them, are bright, bubbly, usually on best behaviour, particularly so if they think they are being observed. Yet in this environment of reality television, the mask slips, and we are able to witness their behaviour live on television.

If we are honest with ourselves, we would have to admit that most of us act in a similar manner. We may not act exactly like them, but most of us, who drive cars, will at some time, knowingly driven at speed, only to brake as we see a speed camera in the distance, or complain bitterly about someone behind their back, only to be sweetness and light to their face.

It's that side of us that we don't like to reveal publicly, we would much rather have people witness our public behaviour than witness our private behaviour.

Yet as Christians, we are aware that everything we do is public, and is being observed, further, it's not only what we do, but also what we think. God knows our innermost thoughts.

When God called us out of darkness and into his marvellous light, it not only allowed us to see the light of Christ and to walk in that light, it also allowed others to witness us, to watch us in this light,

rather like the spotlight in a theatre, following the leading actor round, each step, each gesture visible to the whole audience. As Christians, this is both the privilege and the responsibility we have, the privilege of walking in God's marvellous light and yet the responsibility of being God's people, encouraging others by our words and deeds.

God calls us not to conform to the standards of this world, but rather to a higher standard. It can be difficult at times, which is why God sent the Holy Spirit to guide our hearts and minds, to support and encourage us each step of the way.

So remember that as with the contestants on the reality television programmes, all we do and all we think, is constantly being observed by our Father who is in Heaven.

Your faithful servant

Malcolm



November Cover Picture.

The Cenotaph, Whitehall.

The Cenotaph is a War Memorial designed by Sir Edwin Lutyens, which is the centre of the Nation & Commonwealth's annual commemoration for all those who have died in the service of their countries. The memorial was unveiled by King George V on 11th November 1920, and was part of a larger ceremony bringing the British Unknown Soldier to be laid to rest in his tomb at nearby Westminster Abbey. The Annual Service of Remembrance is held each year on the closest Sunday to 11th November (Armistice Day).

People in the News.

Peter Bridges.

From time to time I hear of former students from Christleton making a name for themselves in their careers. Former Christleton Primary & High School student & Bell Ringer at St James, Peter Bridges is no exception, who has made a great impact on the life of the country, in a very unassuming way. Peter is now a leading Sound Engineer at the BBC, a far cry from his putting on the cd's at Assembly at the Primary School, or helping with the technical sound at High School Productions. You will hear his work but probably not see his name, as it flashes past on the TV credits. Peter has worked across the range of output of the BBC from Quiz Shows, to General Election Nights. He has been involved at major sporting events including European Football Championships, World Cups, Commonwealth & summer & winter Olympic Games, culminating in being responsible for the technical planning and delivery of sound and communication facilities for the BBC's output at the International Broadcast Centre in the Olympic Park for London 2012. It was probably the biggest event the BBC has covered in terms of number of hours of content generated, and pushed the boundaries from a technical and production point of view. Such were the demands on the staff that they virtually lived on the Olympic Park for the six weeks of the Games. Peter's "normal" work these days is at the BBC studios in London, Elstree and Bristol, but he can be called to cover the technical sound for events all across the world, including Melbourne where we met during the 2006 Commonwealth Games. Peter has recently married Gopa, and lives in London, where he



often meets up with other former Christleton students. The world is now a very small place, and I know from speaking to many former students that they value the impact that Christleton, the Schools and the Village has had on their lives. Congratulations Peter on a job well done, the coverage from the Olympic Park was really wonderful, thanks to yourself and all the skilled BBC team. DC

Mr & Mrs Steve Wild

Apologies to Steve & Tania both former students at Christleton, for omitting their names after they appeared on the cover of the October Magazine after their wedding at St James on 8th September. The photographer (DC) was to blame for not passing on the information.



Box Opening time is here again!

I do hope you will join with us on Sunday 18th November at 10:30 am when we welcome guest speaker Mrs Aelison Wilson from The Children's Society who will be bringing us up to date with the work of The Children's Society here in the North West. I know this talk will prove to be both extremely informative and enlightening.

Last year we achieved a Box Opening total of £1,248.46. This really was a splendid effort by everyone. Thank you all so much for your continuing generosity and support. During the service The Children's Society collection boxes will be brought up to the Altar for a blessing and thanksgiving. Please can all you kind Box Holders make special note of this date.

Our contributions are essential in supporting the work of the Children's Society as they address the problems facing many young children in our country today. Their work helping children includes;

- Children in trouble with the law.
- Children's centres.
- Children at risk on the street.
- Disabled children.
- Young refugees.
- Young carers.
- Gypsy, Roma, Traveller children.
- Children affected by adult substance misuse.
- Post adoption and care service.
- Advocacy services.
- Participation.

With many thanks

Lesley Morgan

Nature Notes.

Despite the incredible rainfall, which caused so many problems locally and nationally, the warmer weather of late September and early

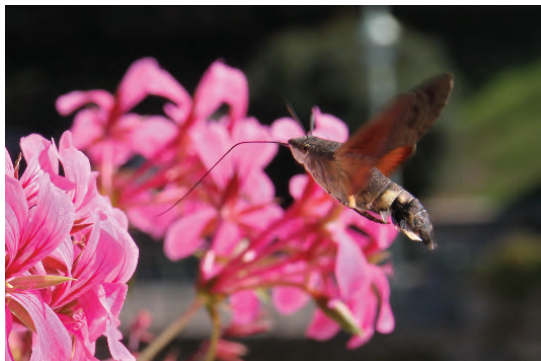


October has seen a very welcome increase in the number of butterflies in the gardens. We've had lots of tortoiseshell, peacock, red admiral and comma all feeding on Michaelmas daisies or sunflowers. Beryl & I also had the pleasure of seeing some of these quite common butterfly species flying at over 6,000ft in the Viennese Alps, feeding on meadows of late flowering gentian and edelweiss. We also saw good numbers of humming bird hawk moths in Vienna, one of many species of moth that migrate across Europe. Many moths and butterflies such as red admiral, painted lady and monarch also fly vast distances, the first two, hundreds of miles across Europe to the



warmer climes of the Mediterranean for winter, whilst the monarch flying in numbers of many millions up to 2,000 miles from Alaska to Mexico in one of the longest migrations of any butterfly species. Some of these beautiful creatures can actually get blown off course and turn up in the UK adding even more miles to their flight plan.

Incidentally we loved the Austrian word for butterfly "schmetterling", it makes them sound a very exciting species. We also caught up with one of our favourite mammals, the black squirrels of Schonbrunn Palace grounds. These very elusive and fast moving creatures will come to the hand for food, but scurry away even faster into



woodland to eat. They vary in colour from shades of black to red, some even red with black tails.

Another elusive creature we saw evidence for was the beaver. These magnificent animals were re introduced into parts of Europe several years ago, but can be something of a nuisance when they build their dams across watercourses such as streams and ponds. Maybe we should take extra care before releasing beavers back into the wild in the UK. They will certainly need to be closely monitored.

We had a very interesting guided tour of the vast Danube Island, to see both its leisure potential and natural history, and saw close up the damage which beavers were causing to some woodland. There were hundreds of people enjoying the island by walking or using skateboards, roller blades and bicycles. This island was created by taking clay and vegetation from marshland along side the natural course of the River Danube, and making the artificial island that is now primarily used for recreation. The island is over 24km long and up to 1km wide. However the main aim of the channel created by the removal of this material is to provide a relief channel for water in times of flooding, and by the use of locks and sluices create a much safer environment. It also produces a good clean source of renewable hydro electricity for the people of Vienna. The new channel can also absorb a vast amount of surplus water in times of flooding, meaning that the city of Vienna will probably never be flooded again, thanks to this ingenious scheme.

DC



Evidence of
Beavers

CHRISTMAS LUNCH – 12 DECEMBER

A member of the congregation has kindly offered to do a Community Lunch to be held in the Parish Hall and anyone is welcome to attend – no age limit and no cost (although a donation would be welcome), just come along and enjoy a two course hot luncheon including both meat and vegetarian option. Mums with toddlers (something simple can be offered for little ones) are welcome as well as all other age groups. The invitation is extended to other Christleton churches or members or their contacts in the community to come along.

This will be a relaxed and informal event, hopefully followed by more each season if this first one is successful, and if it is felt there is sufficient interest, with food to reflect the changing seasons.

If you would like to come along, there will be a list at the back of church shortly for people to enter their names but a closing date will be 8 December.

If you would like further information please contact Janet Milton (335469).

Further details will be in the December Magazine.

THE QUEENS DIAMONDS

I was asked if I would like to go to Buckingham Palace to see the Queens Diamonds Exhibition, as part of the Diamond Jubilee celebrations – well who wouldn't, and so it was that four of us planned the day out to also include an exhibition of Ballgowns at the V & A Museum entitled British Glamour Since 1950.

We arrived at Chester Station intending to catch the 9.35 am train to Euston only to be told it had been cancelled due to flooding on the line from Crewe, so 30 minutes later than planned we took a train to Warrington, waited for an hour & eventually got on a train to Euston. We arrived at the Palace 1½ hrs late but it didn't seem to matter, apart from the fact that we had to queue in places to get through the Palace rooms. We were frisked on arrival by Security, told what we could & could not do, touch, eat/drink and issued with ear phones/hand sets which told us all about each & every room we passed through.

We climbed part of the Grand Staircase, walked along the Gallery lined with exquisite paintings of Her Majesty's ancestors, into the throne room, music room (where some of the royal children & grandchildren have been baptised), green room, ballroom where investitures (reminding me of when I came here with my Mother when my Aunt Vivien was presented with her MBE by Her Majesty in 1990 for services to the Hospice of the Good Shepherd), and state banquets take place, and eventually to the DIAMONDS.

Some of the items had never been on display before. Seven of the nine principal stones cut from the Cullinan Diamond were on display together. The other two form part of the Crown Jewels kept in the Tower of London and were seen when the Queen wore the Crown and held the Sceptre at her Coronation and also at the State Opening of Parliament. The Cullinan Diamond was mined in South Africa in 1905 and because it was so big it was assumed to be crystal & thrown out, later retrieved and is one of the most famous diamonds in the world. In its rough state it weighed 3,106 carats. It is completely flawless and has a wonderful blue, white colour. The seven Cullinan Diamonds on display included a huge pear-shaped drop brooch & the Delhi Durbar Necklace of diamonds and emeralds with Cullinan diamond pendant. The Queen recently wore the brooch during the Service of Thanksgiving during the Diamond Jubilee on 5 June. Probably the most recognisable piece of the Queen's diamond jewellery is the Diamond Diadem. She wears it every year on her way to and from Westminster for the State Opening of Parliament and is also seen on images of the Queen on stamps, notes and coins.



We then went by another taxi to the V & A Museum and having left horrible wet, cold weather in Chester found glorious sunshine in the courtyard of the Museum where we sat outside and had a light lunch before going into the Ballgowns exhibition. This charts 60 years of stylish evening wear since 1950, from debutantes and royalty to charity balls and the red carpet highlighting styles, silhouettes and colours that have been perennial favourites for many years. Some of the gowns on display represented decades-long collaborations between designer and client & the loyalty of a fashionable client can be crucial to sustaining a designer's career. As Hardy Amies stated, the 'best discipline for a designer is a customer with taste'.

Since the 1950's occasions for wearing evening gowns have evolved from the private event to the public parade. Debutante balls, where young women were formally introduced to society were often their first occasion to wear a grand gown. After Elizabeth II ended formal Court presentations in 1957, other entertainments arose in their place. By the 1980's private balls were overtaken by more inclusive charity balls which allowed entry to all who purchased a ticket. Other ballgown-wearing occasions include hunt balls & Burns Night in Scotland. Britain's royal family observe the protocol of state visits in formal attire, their official dinners and gala events requiring the most elaborate of evening gowns. We saw gowns worn for royal balls, wedding engagements, private parties, Scottish balls and more recently, the red-carpet celebrity event. Contributors included David Sassoon, Victor Edelstein, Hardy Amies, Norman Hartnell, Victoria Beckham, Catherine Walker, Vivienne Westwood and Alexander McQueen amongst many others. As well as the designers loaning the gowns for the exhibition many garments were also loaned by those who had worn them ie Dame Judi Dench, Joan Collins, Princess Ann, the late Queen Mother, Princess Alexandra, the late Princess Diana and her Majesty the Queen. The gowns displayed demonstrate that Britain's fashion designers are still highly accomplished creators of formal evening wear. A rich combination of traditional craft and maverick sensibility ensures that Britain, with London as its engine, remains a successful laboratory for sartorial experiment.

We found a lovely Bistro near to the V & A where we had a very welcome meal before another taxi ride back to Euston only to find our train had been delayed, yet again by floods on the line. We left Euston eventually about an hour late & the journey from Crewe to Chester took over 1½ hrs travelling at about 10 mph with long stops every 5 minutes again due to flooding on the line affecting the signals. However, there was much chat on the train home about the wonderful day we had experienced which made the journey time pass quickly.

Janet Milton



CHURCHES TOGETHER IN CHRISTLETON

Many thanks to all who have supported the 'Village Summer Teas' this year.

Thanks to those who made and served delicious cakes and refreshments and to those 'meeting and greeting'.

Above all thanks to our lovely customers for helping to raise the sum of £604.72. This has been sent to the British Red Cross for use overseas.

In mid August, along with many others, we were deeply shocked and saddened by the sudden death of Jayne Roscoe, our treasurer. Jayne banked the takings from the Teas each week and kept a close eye on the proceedings. We are most grateful to Brian, her husband, for continuing to carry out this task until the Teas finished. For many years we have been indebted to Jayne for keeping the accounts of CTinC in meticulous order she will be a hard act to follow.

Finally, sincere apologies that we haven't been able to hold our usual 'end of teas' Coffee Morning. However, please pencil in Thursday 28 February 2013, 10 am – Coffee Morning to plan 'Teas 2013'.

Sheila Roberts

Christleton Local History Group.

Purchase Christleton Village 2 set DVD's for Christmas.

The Local History Group still has a stock of its successful DVD's available for sale at £12. They would make ideal Christmas presents for former Christleton residents now living away from the Village. The 2 set DVD which lasts about 3 ½ hours, covers many aspects of village life and covers all the five townships. They can be obtained from the Village Stores, David Cummings 332410 or Judy Smith 335758. All the proceeds from the sale of the DVD's will go to the Hospice of the Good Shepherd & local charities.

St James Crew Youth Group:

Many thanks to David Cummings who spoke to the group about the history of the Village. There was a mixture of new and old photos with many of the Crew featuring which brought home to us how we are part of Christleton's history. We had some new members this month and would still love to welcome more.

Please contact Tina at tina.lightfoot@googlemail.com for further information.

Our next meeting is on November 4th 6pm in the Parish Hall



Occasions Cards.

A new set of Christleton Occasions cards are now available from the Village Stores. These blank cards illustrated with actual photographs of the village come in packs of 6 for £2-50 and can be used for any occasion. It is also hoped to produce a set of Christleton Christmas Cards in the same format but with a Christmas text, and these will be available from the Village Stores or myself at the Church Christmas Fair & Victorian Street Party in the Village. DC

HOSPICE

OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

(Reg.charity no.515516)

Waverton/Christleton Support Group

GIFT AND CRAFT FAIR

Saturday November 17th

10am – 4pm

Waverton Village Hall

An opportunity to purchase unusual
Christmas gifts at over 30 stalls
and at the same time support

The Hospice of the Good Shepherd

Enquiries to 01244 332053

or 01244 335515

patchwork

pottery

jams and chutneys

knitted goods

jewellery

Xmas cards and materials



Ellesmere Port Music Society

AUTUMN CONCERT

HAYDN St Cecilia Mass & HANDEL Dettingen Te Deum

EPMS chorus with Wirral Philharmonic Orchestra

Conductor Loyd Buck

Soloists:

Julie Kench - Soprano

Imogen Garner - Mezzo

Christopher Steele - Tenor

Jolyon Dodgson - Bass

Civic Hall, Ellesmere Port on Saturday 10th November 2012 at 7.30pm

Tickets £13,14 Concessions £12 students £7

From www.epmsonline.co.uk from members or at the door

ST JAMES KEYS

In order to help us complete an inventory of various items in St James by the end of the year, will all those people who have keys to the church, whether it be 1 or more, please contact the Verger, John Milton (335469) as soon as possible.

Thank you.

A BROADWAY CHRISTMAS

Carols by candlelight

Sunday 16 Dec 2012, 7.30pm at St Alban's church, Tattenhall
and Saturday 22 Dec 2012, 7.30pm at St Mary's, Handbridge

Chester Bach Singers' annual Christmas celebrations with an American slant: traditional carols for all combined with music from 'across the pond'

Tickets: £11 (concessions £10) - to include seasonal refreshments,
from Chester Tourist Office (town Hall) 0845 241 7868

CHRISTMAS CONCERT IN THE CHAPEL

Wed 19 Dec 2012, 7.30pm
The Chapel, Chirk Castle, LL14 5AF

Tickets: £8, from 01691 777701



A TRAVELLER IN GOD

Retracing many teenage journeys I recently caught a train at Carlisle for the journey south. The young lady I found myself sitting next to had the appearance of a bright second or third year university student returning to her studies.

The train had barely started when she spoke. "Have you had a good day?", she asked. "Yes," I replied, "I've been visiting relations and friends in my native Wigton – they are always so pleased to see me". "Are you a student?" I asked. "No," my neighbour replied in a gentle West of Scotland accent, "I'm only 17 and I was married this year". With an intelligent modesty she continued to tell me that she had left school at 11. Politely asking her if you could do that in Scotland, she replied "not really, but I'm a traveller".

I was less dumbfounded than I might have been, having witnessed in Eastern Europe how traveller families can be as respectable, friendly, polite, kind and hard-working as the rest of us. Of course, many travellers do live in abject poverty as I saw in Bucharest, yet up country in Transylvania, inter-marriage and other contacts between ethnic Romanians and Romany people, for example, often made for a harmonious blend.

Even at home, our elder daughter had a friendly classmate at primary school who came from a lovely traveller family who spent the summer in Rhyl with their small roundabout and the winter on an open space not far from our house. The girl did well at school and I often wonder what became of her.

I asked my new acquaintance on the train what kept her going. "My faith in God", came her instant reply. "I couldn't be without Him and I say my prayers each night. Tell me your wife's name and I'll pray for you both tonight. We have a travellers' Church up at home with a Minister who was a traveller himself. The Services include lots of silent prayer, I like that. I love my Bible too".

Telling me about her family, she fingered her long necklace of beads tipped by a simple rosary. One bead was for her husband, one for her mother And so on. Some were spares yet to be allocated. Approaching Preston she thanked me for my interest, touched my arm, alighted from the train and disappeared along the platform.

I was left with a lot to think about. For instance, what about Jesus Christ whom she unashamedly and modestly adored? Born in a stable and not in a maternity home, He spent much of His life as a traveller or of no fixed address or both. St Paul too. Didn't the earliest Wesleyans and Quakers "travel in the ministry" from the 1650's onwards? So many practices of faith and worship that we value today can be attributed to those movements.

Each of us has the gift to travel in God in one way or another. My young fellow-traveller was a modest and rich reminder of that.

JOHN CARRUTHERS

The History File.

Harvest Folklore

Harvest is a ceremony celebrated each year across the globe in many different ways. At St James' Christleton the ceremony takes the form of bringing harvest gifts into church to thank God for all the goodness of the land, and to share with others less well off in the community. The altar is traditionally dressed with a harvest loaf, often with a little bread mouse attached to the loaf in some way. This has been the case at St James since at least 1908 when the wording "The staff of life" also appears on the altar. The church is decorated with flowers, vegetables and produce, and always looks the part, celebrating our own Farming Community and the food it produces.

Several years ago we came across the harvest celebrations in a small town in Tuscany, and here they built what was described as a "cornucopia" of fruit and vegetables in the church Square. This huge display looked magnificent and clearly demonstrated many of the foods grown locally by the farmers of the town.

Recently in Austria we saw two forms of Harvest Crowns, placed in the centre of the church between the congregation and the chancel. Each had a distinctive style that had probably been used in those churches for many years. Both had a varied but different collection of fruits, vegetables among a crown made of corn.



Using straw in the displays clearly marks the link with the land, and making decorative corn dollies has long been a tradition at Siddington Church near Macclesfield, where local Lay Reader Ray Rush is an expert on this ancient craft. He started making these intricate works of art 50 or so years ago, and is now an acknowledged expert. Hundreds of his corn dollies decorate the church at Siddington at Harvest time, and it is a wonderful sight to admire. The belief in this custom came about,

because it was believed that “The spirit of the Corn” lived amongst the crop as it was growing. However when the crop was harvested the corn spirit was effectively made homeless, for this reason the last sheaf of corn or cereal crops was used to make a doll. The “Corn Spirit” would then remain in the farmhouse all winter, before being ploughed into the first furrow at the start of the new growing season, in the belief that it would ensure another successful crop. It is thought that the word doll maybe a corruption of the word “idol” or possibly derived from the Greek word “eidolon”.
DC

The Harvest Display with the Corn Dollies at Siddington Church will be present all the month until the week before Remembrance Sunday.



ONE THOUSAND EXHIBITORS AND 9,000 PARTICIPANTS

An international Baking Exhibition is held in Munich every three years so, naturally that was a ‘must’ for us, to be added to our annual visit to see friends and the Oktoberfest. Quality is paramount with the exhibitors and we were warmly greeted on the stands we visited, provided with literature, refreshments and advice. One stand produced lovely glasses for our tea tasting and also, to our surprise, an attractive glass egg timer to ensure that our tea was brewed to the exact time for perfection.

Starting at the Max II Monument in Munich, 9,000 participants marched in groups through the city to the Oktoberfest ground at Theresienwiese on Sunday 23 September. They presented a great variety of costumes, folk dance and bands. There were also guest groups from France, Italy, Norway, Poland, Austria and Switzerland. Richly decorated festival carriages, banner wavers, maypoles, hunting dogs, Munich breweries’ horses with beautifully groomed manes and tails decorated with bells, ribbons and flowers delighted the spectators. The parade occurred for the first time in 1835 to celebrate the 25th wedding anniversary of King Ludwig I and Therese of Bavaria.

The following Monday we set off by train to Vienna, famous for its buildings and culture. The high speed train reached 200 km/hour and took four hours, stopping only at three stations. The weather was HOT, but the churches provided coolness as well as interesting architecture and opportunity for prayer. One church without a saint’s name provided for an Italian congregation and had some connection with Russia. It had very tall plain columns and no stained glass. However, there

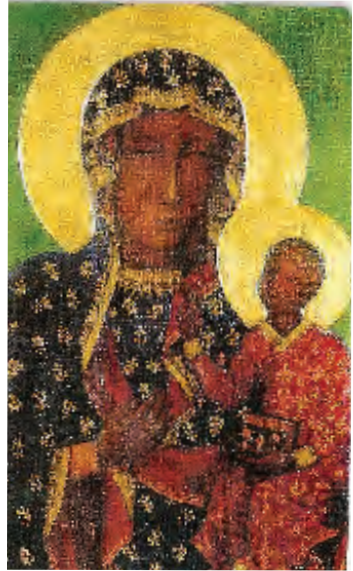


was a large fragment of a wall painting of St Francis of Assisi dated in the 1500s, and a large wall mosaic of the Last Supper – about twice the size of the one in Chester Cathedral.

St Michael's church had a very elaborate altar with many statues, including Saints Matthew, Mark, Luke and John, with cherubs either side of a portrait of Maria (from Crete) dated from the 1300's.

Several of Mozart's six children were baptised here.

We thoroughly enjoyed a Mozart Concert with the orchestra in period costumes and wigs in Vienna's biggest and most famous of concert halls – The Golden Hall of the Vienna State Opera from where the New Year Concerts are broadcast on our TV and radio. There was a lot of fun with audience participation when the conductor turned away from his orchestra to conduct the audience, encouraging clapping to the music.



We stayed in the same hotel (Sacher) where Alf was stationed in 1947 as part of the Army of Occupation in the British Zone in Vienna. Graham Greene wrote the story of *The Third Man* whilst he was staying in the hotel. It became the film, with Orson Welles playing the part of Harry Lime, trying to escape from the British through the city's sewers. The film mirrored the atmosphere of the city at that time.

We just missed seeing Beryl and David Cummings who were in the area at the same time. They also enjoyed a superb stay.

A & M Croston

Understanding the 23rd psalm

Most of us may well know that the 23rd psalm starts 'The Lord is my Shepherd'. The reverse is also often true, i.e if one mentions the first line, many of us could quote the number of the psalm. Apart from the academics and theologians amongst us, there are probably few, if any other psalms where the same can be said. This is a familiar psalm to many Christians but how many of us have really studied it in depth and fully understood its meaning? We know that Jesus is The Good Shepherd and we can readily retell the parable of the lost sheep without hesitation but we would struggle to give a lengthy discourse on the Shepherd's psalm. Phillip Keller, himself a shepherd and pastor unpicks the psalm phrase by phrase shedding a refreshing light on old familiar words. The book was first published in 1970 but remains completely relevant for us in the 21st century.

The psalm essentially covers a year in the life of a sheep. Keller takes us from the pastures of the home ranch, past fresh water and on up through deep valleys to high summer pasture. With the intimate knowledge of a sheep farmer he explains how the shepherd needs to be ever watchful, protecting his flock not just from predators, pests and diseases but quite often from themselves and their own stubborn wills. With each phrase he explains the origins from a Shepherd's view point and then relates it to our Christian life and how dependant we are on Jesus, our shepherd. It can be uncomfortable and challenging to realise just how like sheep we really are!

We learn that for sheep to be content and lay down in green pasture, they must have ample food and water, be free of disease and pests and content with their fellow sheep. To get to the high pastures where summer grazing is lush, the shepherd must lead them and protect them through dark valleys where danger lurks, there is no other way but to go on this perilous journey but the shepherd is forever watchful for danger. The Shepherd's rod acts not only as a weapon against predators but also to discipline his

wayward flock. The staff, gently guides and comforts them. The shepherd will prepare the high pasture before the long journey ensuring the water holes are clear and there are no poisonous weeds. Using his own recipe, he pours oil on the sheep to deter pests and also smears oil on the rams to stop them from hurting one another in the rutting season. His extended commentary on how this relates to our Christian life is both challenging and comforting.

Throughout the book, Keller relates the love and care of the shepherd to that of our Lord.

The book is well written and easily understood. I certainly have a much clearer understanding now of the complexities of sheep farming but it has also enlightened my understanding of how this psalm relates directly to me and my relationship with our saviour, our Shepherd, our master and protector. I dare say there will still be many times in my life when I act like a stubborn sheep, drinking from polluted water rather than clean and getting myself stuck in a ravine because I thought my way was better but when that happens, I can return again to the psalm and it will comfort me as I will be reminded that The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want.

‘A Shepherd looks at Psalm 23’ is written by Phillip Keller and can be found in the library at the back of St James’ church

Christleton Local History Group.

Wednesday 21st November 7.30pm at The Primary School

Speaker; Geoff Clifton

The Task of a Cathedral Engineer

Geoff Clifton is a conservation accredited engineer, working as a Consultant to Ramboll. He is the engineer to Wells & Lincoln Cathedrals as well as being the engineer on the Cathedral Fabric Commission for England. Geoff is a resident of Littleton, was Chairman of Governors at Christleton Primary School for many years, and is a very enthusiastic supporter of the Arts in Chester.

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 Kirwan, 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.

Wednesday November 14th

COMEDY AND OLD COMEDIANS Brian Lloyd

Annual General Meeting



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 Lilian Hopley telephone Chester 676683.

MAGAZINE CONTRIBUTIONS

Please ensure all items for inclusion in the December edition are sent to Janet Milton (335469), as soon as possible BEFORE Friday 9th November or you can e-mail this to christletonmag@hotmail.co.uk

MAGAZINE DISTRIBUTORS

The November magazine will be available for collection from Sunday 28th October

AN AUTUMN/WINTER PROJECT

We are going to make little crosses for you to keep in your pocket.

The crosses will be available from the back of Church for £1 each, the proceeds going to St James Church funds.

Each cross will include the following poem:

A Cross in My Pocket

I carry a cross in my pocket
A simple reminder to me
Of the fact that I am a Christian
no matter where I may be.

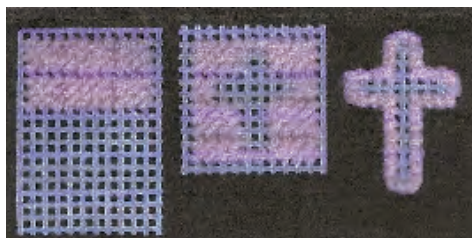
This little cross is not magic
nor is it a good luck charm.
It isn't means to protect me
from every physical harm.

It's not for identification
for the entire world to see.
It's simply an understanding
between my Saviour and me.

When I put my hand in my pocket
to bring out a coin or key,
the cross is there to remind me
of the price he paid for me.

It reminds me, too, to be thankful
for my blessings day by day
and strive to serve him better
in all that I do and say.

It's also a daily reminder
of the peace and comfort I share
with all who know my master
and give themselves to his care.
So, I carry a cross in my pocket
reminding no one but me
That Jesus Christ is Lord of my life
If only I'll let him be.



We hope that you will support us!

Jenny and Valmai


ALL SOUL'S SERVICE

Sunday November 4th at 6.30pm.


Every year at this time the Bereavement Support group at St James' invites newly bereaved families and anyone who feels that they might draw strength and solace from this gentle, contemplative and hopefully moving service, where we can all remember loved ones whom we see no longer. There will be an opportunity should you wish, to light a candle during the service, and to enjoy refreshments in the Parish Hall following it. The St James BSG Group is a group that works quietly behind the scenes as part of the Ministry of St James within the community, and the All Soul's Service is organised annually to commemorate all loved ones departed. You would be very welcome if you would like to join us at the Service. DC



St. James' Christmas Fair
on
Sat. November 24th
in Parish Hall, Christleton
10.00 a.m. - 12.30. p.m.



**Twelve Days
of Christmas**
Entrance 50 pence
Opening by the Rose Queen - Alice Ewins



Refreshments
All proceeds in aid of international, national and local charities
Mothers' Union - International Salvation Army - National Children Today - Local

Raffle

CHRISTLETON METHODISTS

Warmly invite you for
Coffee and Homemade Biscuits

On Saturday 3 November
10 am - 12 noon

Charity Christmas Cards

Cake Stall : White Elephant Stall :
Raffle

Proceeds to World Mission Funds
ALL WELCOME

LEPROSY MISSION

Stamp out leprosy!

Please donate your used stamps so that money can be raised for Leprosy Mission.

Stamps should be trimmed to quarter inch border around the stamp and can be left at the back of the 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 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.

MOBILE LIBRARY VAN SERVICE

We call every TWO WEEKS.

WEEK 1.

Quarry Lane at 3.15 to 6.00pm.

WEEK 2

Quarry Lane at 11.30 to 12.15pm.

Our NEW telephone is Chester 973700.

READERS

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

Parish Registers

Baptisms.

2 nd	Thomas James Gibson Morris son of John Morris & Deborah Gibson Morris Tregantle, Little Heath Road, Christleton
2 nd	Ethan William Stephen Testi Wheeler son of Peter Wheeler & Clare Louise Testi 55 Pine Grove, Hoole, Chester
9 th	Teddy Allen Lowry Phillips son of Alison Jayne Lowry Phillips & Katy Lowry Phillips 76 Heath Road, Upton by Chester

"We welcome you into the Lord's Family"

The Marriage Service

1 st	Rik Duncan Jackson & Zoe Ball 28 Sovereign Chambers, Fire Temple Lane, Liverpool
7 th	Gregory Michael Atkinson & Joanne O Loughlin 8 Cotton Hall Farm, Cotton Hall, Cotton Edmunds
8 th	Steven Darwin Wild & Tania Stephanie Bull 6 Pringle Close, Conningsby, Lincs
15 th	Jonathan Michael Wright & Joanne Louise Barber 11 Hilbre Drive, Little Stanney, Ellesmere Port
16 th	Gavin Grover Cooper & Sarah Dorothy Hodgkinson 25 Balmoral Park, Chester

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

The Funeral Service

11 th	Sarah Gertrude (Sally) Knobbs 23 Bush Road, Christleton 78yrs
12 th	Jayne Louise Roscoe, Hawthorn Road, Christleton 65yrs (Burial of cremated remains)
13 th	Elizabeth (Liz) Matthias 17 Hawthorn Road, Christleton 56yrs
15 th	Sarah Gertrude (Sally) Knobbs 23 Bush Road, Christleton 78yrs (Burial of cremated remains)
17 th	Ian Luxton 10 Skips Lane, Christleton 66yrs
24 th	Robert Henry (Bob) Holloway 8 Hatchmere Drive, Great Boughton 84yrs

"Grant them eternal rest"

<u>Offertories.</u>	Sept	Cash	C.S.E.	2012	2011
2 nd		186-39	760-50	946-89	866-20
9 th		125-00	603-00	728-00	646-70
16 th		160-77	621-00	781-77	686-10
23 th		116-30	442-00	558-30	525-80
30 th		119- 37	411- 00	530- 37	
Totals				3,545-33	£2,724-80

"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	1 st & 3 rd Sundays
		Family Service	2 nd Sunday
		Mattinns	4 th & 5 th Sundays
	6.30 p.m.	Evensong	1 st , 2 nd & 3 rd Sundays
		Evening Communion	4 th Sunday
		Songs of Praise	5 th 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. Malcolm Cowan, B.Th

The Rectory, Birch Heath Lane, Christleton

01244 335663

All baptisms, weddings and appointments by arrangement with Janet Milton 335469

Churchwardens:	John Pearson	335101
	Carl Cumiskey	330028
Deputy Wardens:	Alan McAllester	335494
	Chris Platel	332466
	Keith Smalls	335688
Reader:	Wayne Morris	01978 263389
Verger:	John Milton	335469
Sacristan:	Betty Dunning	335652
Pastoral Worker:	Berenice Kirwan	336779
Sunday Club:	Berenice Kirwan	336779
Mothers' Union Branch Leader:	Janet Brown	335785
Organist & Musical Director:	Steve Roberts	815277
P. C. C. Secretary:	Betty Gilliatt	335645
P. C. C. Treasurer:	Carl Cumiskey	330028
Stewardship Envelope:	Betty Dunning	335652
Gift Aid Secretary:	Nigel Seddon	335588
Bellringers:	Ian Braithwaite	300565
Bellringers Secretary:	Nikki Dromgoole	351124
Parish Hall Booking:	Clare Holland	332819
C. M. S. Secretary:	Janet Brown	335785
Children's Society Sec:	Lesley Morgan	335088
Visiting Group:	Berenice Kirwan	336779
Library:	Gwen Knight	336236
Church Flowers:	Olive Hammond	336562
Magazine Editor:	David Bull	332234
Magazine Compiler:	Julie Coxall	336062
Magazine Distributors:	Jenny Davies and Valmai Griffiths	335884
Parish Resource		
Person for Child Protection:	Alastair Holland	332819