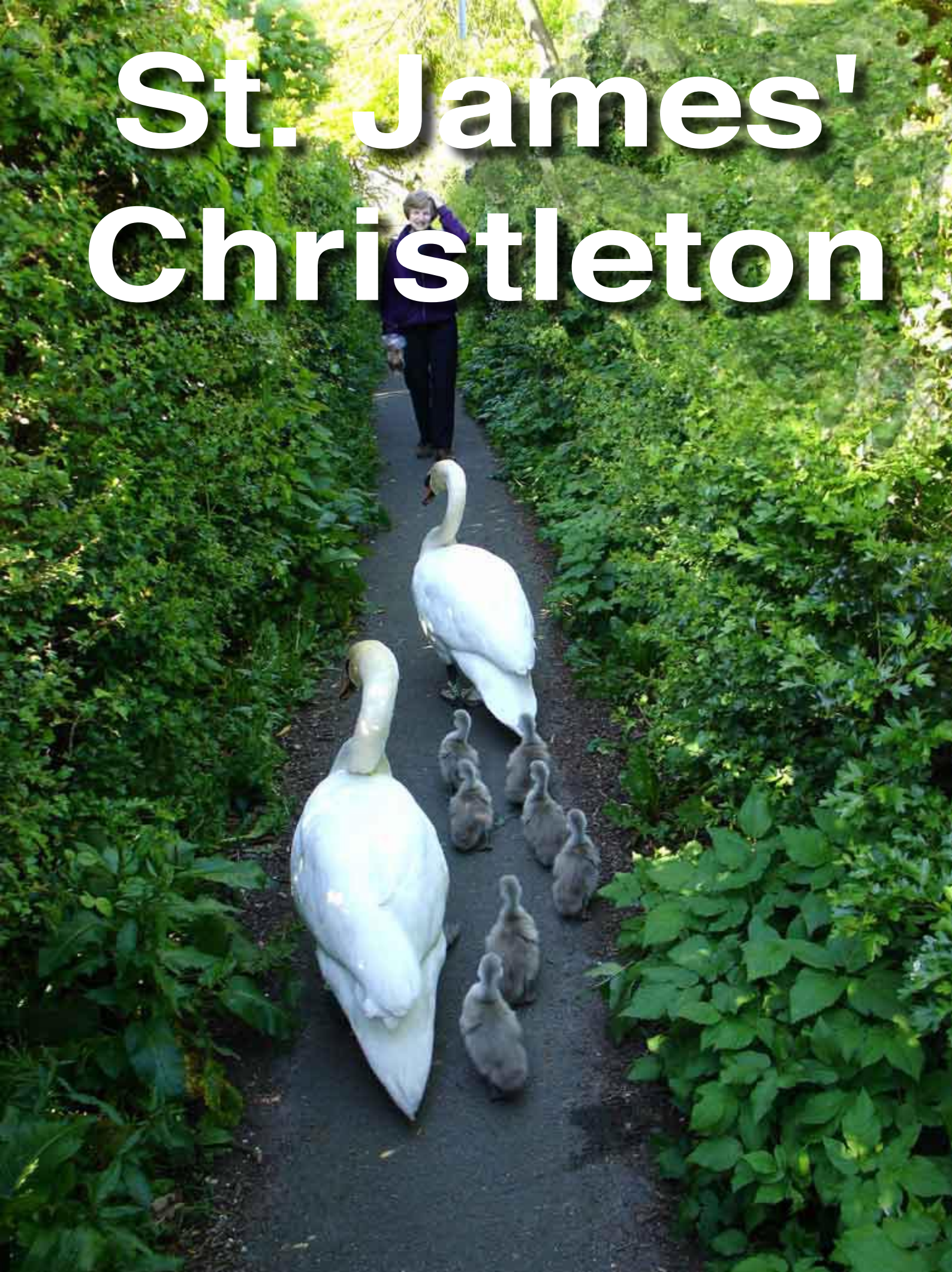


# St. James' Christleton



# JOURNAL FOR JULY

**Sun 3**

## **St Thomas**

8.00 am Holy Communion - Order 2  
10.30 am Sunday School - Parish Hall  
10.45 am Parish Communion - Order 1  
12 noon Holy Baptism  
6.30 pm Evensong - followed by refreshments  
Prayer Link Road: Birch Heath Lane  
Neighbourhood Link: Sue Crossan

Mon 4

10.45 am Holy Communion at Tarvin Court Nursing Home  
11.20 am Holy Communion at Oaklands Nursing Home

Wed 6

10.45 am United Communion - followed by refreshments  
7.45 pm PCC Meeting

Thurs 7

7.45 pm Bereavement Support Group - Vicars Cross

Sat 9

2.00 pm VILLAGE SHOW - PARISH HALL

**Sun 10**

## **The Seventh Sunday After Trinity. Proper 10**

8.00 am Holy Communion - Order 2  
10.45 am FAMILY FLOWER SERVICE  
6.30 pm Evensong  
Prayer Link Road :Brickfield Lane  
Neighbourhood Link: Janet Jones

Mon 11

2.00 pm Mothers' Union Outing

Wed 13

10.45 am Holy Communion - followed by refreshments  
11.30 am Holy Communion Birch Heath Lodge Nursing Home

Fri 15

NB: Last day for contributions to August magazine, preferably earlier please, to David Bull (332234).

**Sun 17**

## **The Eighth Sunday of Trinity - Proper 11**

8.00 am Holy Communion - Common Worship Order 1  
10.45 am Parish Communion - Order 1  
Sunday School Outing  
6.30 pm Evening Worship with Young People  
Prayer Link Road: Bridge Drive  
Neighbourhood Link: Margaret Croston

Tue 19

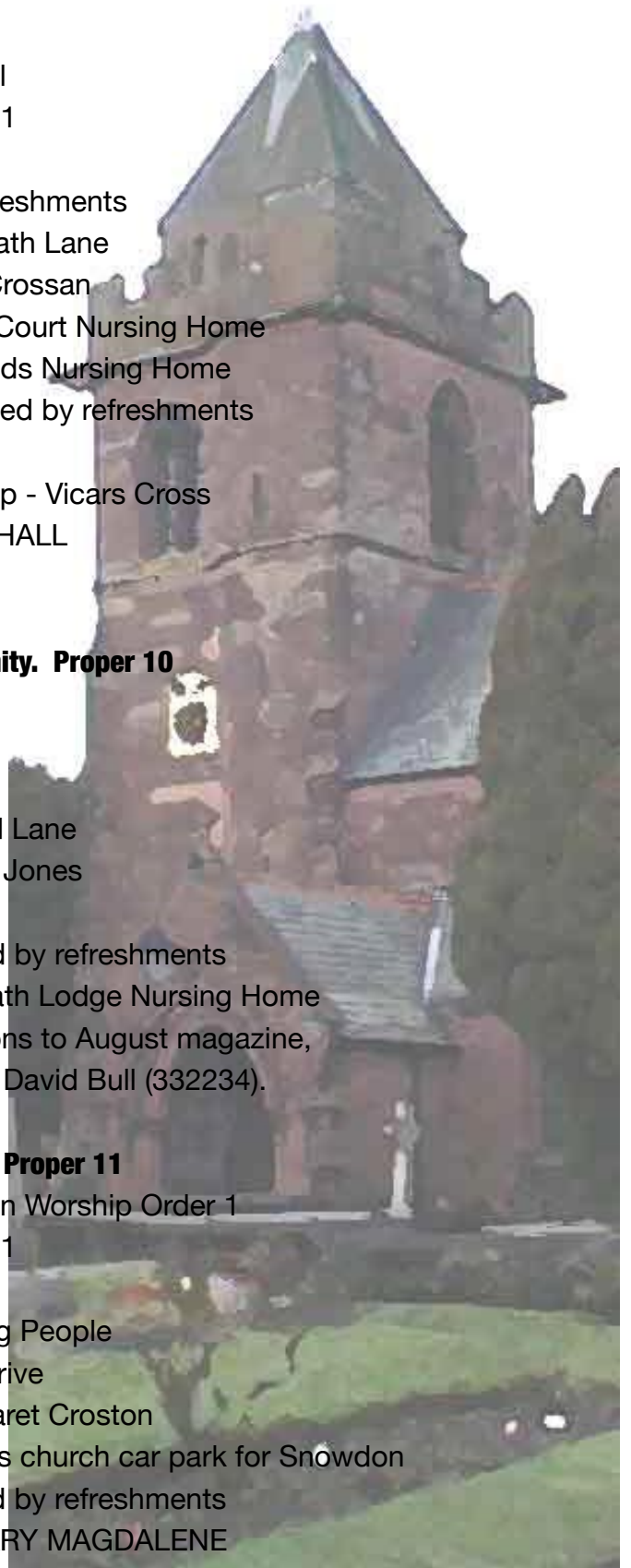
7.30 pm Parish Ramble Group leaves church car park for Snowdon

Wed 20

10.45 am Holy Communion - followed by refreshments

Fri 22

9.00 am Holy Communion for St MARY MAGDALENE



Sun 24

**The Ninth Sunday After Trinity - Proper 12**

8.00 am Holy Communion -Common Worship Order 1  
10.45 am Matins - Common Worship - followed by refreshments  
12 Noon Holy Baptism  
6.30 pm Evening Communion for St JAMES  
Patronal Festival Service  
Prayer Link Road: Brown Heath Road

Wed 27

10.45 am Holy Communion - followed by refreshments

Sun 31

**The Tenth Sunday After Trinity - Proper 13**

8.00 am Holy Communion - Common Worship Order 1  
10.45 am Matins  
6.30 pm Evening Worship  
Prayer Link: Those worshipping at St James from outside the Parish  
Neighbourhood Link Co-ordinator: Janet Bowden

Parish Registers for May

**Baptism**

1st Jessica Violet Harding daughter of Alan & Clare Harding  
40 Stocks Lane, Boughton.  
1st Jonathan Edward Taylor son of Richard & Catherine Taylor  
2 Berwyn View, Little Heath Road, Littleton.  
15th May Elizabeth Challinor daughter of Benjamin & Catherine Challinor  
23 Sandrock Road, Christleton.

*"We welcome you to the Lords Family"*

**The Marriage Service.**

27th James McElroy 74 Cambrian View, Whipcord Lane, Chester  
& Elizabeth Mary Allen 187 Christleton Road, Great Boughton.  
28th Mark John Leonard Dodd 46 Greenfield Road, Christleton  
& Rachel Louise Lindsay 20 Birchwood Close, Elton.

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

**The Funeral Service.**

4th Lois Ida Rogers 20 Dee Fords Ave, Boughton, Chester.  
6th Maurice John Murphy 52 Toll Bar Road, Christleton. (Burial of Ashes)  
9th Elsie May Evans 32 Grove Ave, Vicars Cross, Chester.  
13th Stanley Brown Chapel House Nursing Home, Puddington.  
15th Jean Jones Priory Court, Ring Road, Boughton. (Burial of Ashes)  
25th Minnie (Mary) Butt Birch Heath Lodge Nursing Home, Christleton.  
31st Colin Herbert Ellett 31 Langport Drive, Vicars Cross, Chester.

*"Rest eternal grant unto them"*

Offertories.

May	Cash	CSE	2005	2004
1st	341.82	609.20	951.02	944.14
8th	225.55	783.50	1009.05	1006.55
15th	218.05	682.00	900.05	845.17
22nd	158.40	752.60	909.00	1106.80
29th	139.35	507.50	646.85	711.65
<b>Totals</b>			£4,415.97	£4,614,31

# THE RECTOR'S LETTER

Dear Friends

## Datum Face

Ron Dale, a Methodist Minister, wrote of visiting the tool room of an Oldham factory in his work as an industrial Chaplain. He stopped by a man working carefully at his lathe. At an opportune moment he asked what the man was making, and the reply was a datum face. Ron Dale admitted his ignorance as to what that might be. The man explained that without a datum face nothing could be made: it is a working face, a template, a true foundation for all measurements involved in the finished product. Nothing could be made without this datum face as a standard. Ron Dale commented:- "You know, it surprises me that you guys see the absolute necessity of a datum face as a foundation for all your work, but not for your lives." As he slowly walked away the man called back:- "You're right. I've never thought of it like that before."

I have just seen a news item on television about two hospitals where they are withdrawing all Gideon Bibles from their wards. The explanation is that they want all faiths to be presented equally! Perhaps someone might suggest that the logical way to do that, would be to make the religious books of other faiths available as well. It is difficult to see how taking away what is already there, increases anything. How many people turn to the Bible in times of illness or trouble to find the comfort and guidance they need? But it is not only at times when things have gone wrong that we need such guidance. Like the datum face in that factory, we need to measure our decisions and actions each day against a standard, or template, we know is true and accurate. When I was first Ordained I was a Curate in Slough, which had a high racial mix in its population. I remember a policeman telling me that in every house he entered where a family of Caribbean origin lived, he found not only a Bible, but a Bible opened on the table. By contrast, I have often said how people will sometimes show me a Bible they were given years ago, perhaps at their Baptism, and it is still in perfect condition and obviously hardly ever opened. I would far prefer to see a tatty Bible, torn and well thumbed, which has obviously been in constant use.

One of my favourite Bible verses is Isaiah 30:21:- "If you stray from the road to the right or the left, you shall hear a voice behind you saying, 'This is the way, follow it.'" How true that is. But it does not happen automatically. It is too easy to ignore that voice, or simply be oblivious to its presence. It is no use expecting to be able to 'tune in' to that voice in times of crisis, if we have not been in constant touch with it at other times. We need to read our Bibles regularly, if we are to hear God's voice speaking through his word. Time and again in life, if we are in constant touch with God's word, we shall hear it speaking directly to us in particular situations, even if we are not consciously trying to hear it. That is part of the proof of faith. Not that we believe as an act of will, but that God's word is proved true and relevant in our own experience: it makes sense of life in God's world. These days we are rightly reminded of the importance of healthy eating for physical well being. We are told we need to take regular amounts of the fruits and vegetables and other foods, which provide us with the necessary vitamins and minerals our bodies need. Similarly we are reminded to avoid those foods which harm our bodies. The same is true of our spiritual well being. If we stop reading our Bibles we shall not notice any difference overnight. But over a period of time we shall feel at spiritual unease or dis-ease, which we may not be able to understand. Society, as a whole, is free-wheeling on its Christian heritage, but struggling to find any 'datum face' to replace its Christian foundation and yardstick, which it has rejected.

As Christians, and as a Church, we have been given a 'datum face' in the Bible and in our faith. May we recognise its essential importance to life in God's world, and use it in all we do and decide. Every day we need to hold our life against this template and yardstick so that when we stray from the road to the right or to the left, we hear a voice behind us saying:- "This is the way, follow it."

Yours sincerely

K Peter Lee

### Prayer of the Month: from Common Worship

*Almighty God,  
we thank you for the gift of your holy word.  
May it be a lantern to our feet,  
a light to our paths,  
and a strength to our lives.  
Take us and use us to love and serve  
in the power of the Holy Spirit  
and in the name of your Son,  
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

# 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
SAINTS	9.30 a.m.	Holy Communion

## WHO'S WHO & WHAT'S WHAT

Rector:	The Rev'd Canon K. Peter Lee, M.A. The Rectory, Birch Heath Lane, Christleton ..... 335663	
Wardens:	David Mercer, 13 Bridge Drive ..... 336155 Lois Dickinson 8 Old Mill Court, Mill Lane Upton ..... 378320	
Reader Emeritus	John Roberts, Cerisy, Birch Heath Lane ..... 332207	
Verger	David Ellis ..... 336879	
Sacristan:	Betty Dunning ..... 335652	
Sunday School:	Berenice Hogg ..... 336779	
Mother's Union Branch Leader	Margaret Renner ... ..... 332005	
Organist & Musical Director:	Steve Roberts ..... 815277	
P. C. C. Secretary:	Margaret Croston ..... 335955	
Treasurer:	Cec Rydings ..... 336483	
Stewardship Envelope:	Betty Dunning ..... 335652	
Gift Aid Secretary	Martin Wheeler ..... 336644	
Bellringers	Ian Braithwaite ..... 300565	
Bellringer Vice Captains	Michael Phillips ..... 01829 771357 Ian Crossan ..... 332280	
Parish Hall Booking	David Mercer ..... 336155	
C. M. S. Secretary	Janet Brown ..... 335785	
Children's Society Sec.	Lesley Morgan ..... 335088	
Visiting Group:	Gill Hibbert. .... 336544	
Library	Margaret Bass ..... 335517	
Church Flowers	Olive Hammond ..... 336562	
Magazine Editor	David Bull ..... 332234	
Magazine Compiler	Richard Nicholson ..... 336004	
Magazine Distributor	Margaret Dromgoole ..... 341406	
Neighbourhood Link Co-Ordinator	Janet Bowden ..... 335705	



## *Christleton Swans on the March!!*

**O**n Sunday May 14th when 7/8 days old the cob Green ringed 852 and daughter 175, walked with their 7 cygnets on their annual pilgrimage from the Pit to the canal. The cob suffering from his damaged hip found walking difficult, and seemed to lose his way, leading the family into the Ring O Bells car park, instead of along the footpath to the primary school. Fortunately the Rector's wife Fiona, and John Beckitt spotted them and were soon

joined by the Rector and John Eccles. They were coaxed out of the car park and back down the path towards the primary school, across Quarry Lane, into Rowan Park and through a garden onto the canal. The cygnets struggled with the curb stones en route, and more often than not tripped and rolled over onto their backs - we had to gently lift them over the curb stones! As you can see the cover photograph shows our very own 'Pied Piper of Hamelin' Fiona as she leads the way, through the village, for the swans and cygnets. They sailed off happily onto the canal, safe for a time in their new environment. At the time of writing two cygnets have been lost, and we understand that the cob was attacked by a fisherman using his fishing rod, as he tried to take the family for food up onto the canal bank at Rowton. This is a favourite feeding and roosting spot for the Christleton swans, as they are fed, every morning and evening, by a local family.

**A**s has been explained in previous accounts, the movement each year is not just confined to our swans, and happens in many other areas. However we have evidence in Christleton to show that since the early 1960's at least four distinct pairs, have completed this migration, and only on two occasions in the early 1990's did the swans stay at the Pit for the season. That pair 2SL and 2SD were a great team and produced over 50 cygnets over the years, but the first year that they moved, they managed to walk without help along Pepper Street, down Faulkners Lane and across Quarry Bridge onto the A41. There they were rescued by Mr Hughes who ran the Mill Stores. They finally ended up behind the Water Tower in Hoole. Four of those cygnets developed lead poisoning, one lost his tongue cut by a fishing line, and another became blind. However a surviving cygnet from that brood is still alive, as the female of the pair in Telford Town Park, and is 14 years old.

*John Beckitt / David Cummings*

# LOCAL EVENTS DIARY

## **CHRISTLETON GARDENING CLUB**

The next meeting will take place on 13 June with an outing to Arley Hall

## **CHRISTLETON W.I. MONTHLY WHIST DRIVE**

Meet in the Parish Hall on the last Wednesday of the month at 2pm. All welcome.

## **OPEN HOUSE GROUPS**

The Monday Afternoon Group meet on the 4th Monday of the month at the home of Rena Griffiths, 24 Hawthorn Road, Christleton. Contact Margaret Bass (335517) for further information.



## **PARISH RAMBLING (Tuesday)Group**

**Tuesday 21st June**

The Peak District; Monsal Dale and the River Wye. 8 miles Moderate. Leave Church Car park at 8.00am. Pub meal at finish. Monsal Dale is one of the most beautiful dales in the Peak. We follow the river Wye, cross the limestone dale, and return via the old railway line that once served the area, to a spectacular viaduct across the valley.

## **CHRISTLETON W.I.**

Come and join Christleton WI

At a

**COFFEE MORNING**

In aid of the

**WALES AIR AMBULANCE**

At THE OLD FARM

On **SATURDAY 18TH JUNE**

10 am – 12 noon

Cakes/Raffle/Plants/Bring & Buy

£1.50 Coffee and Home made Goodies

*All Welcome*

## **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.

## **CHESTER FLOWER CLUB**

Meetings are held in Christleton Parish Hall on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 1.30pm. Details of any events can be obtained from the Secretary, Mrs Edna Ellis telephone Chester 346497.

## **CHRISTLETON GARDENING CLUB**

The next meeting will take place on 11 July with a talk by Mr John Price – “Going to Chelsea”

## **CHRISTLETON W.I. MONTHLY WHIST DRIVE**

Meet in the Parish Hall on the last Wednesday of the month at 2pm. All welcome.

# Heather Rees

## *Lesotho Project*

**H**eather a n Christleton, is seeking to help the and expertise during her Lesotho, Southern Africa other young Christians Church, helping the a town on the outskirts she will be helping run for children of Primary the construction work on The project is being Inland Mission an inter-mission working in islands of the Indian in practical ways, such agricultural projects, and



architectural student from one of many young people developing world by giving time vacation. She plans to travel to and work together with 6-8 for the Lesotho Evangelical congregation of Li'raheleng of the capital Maseru. There a bible camp and sports club School age, and assist with their new church building. co-ordinated by the Africa denominational evangelical Africa and across the many Ocean. It serves the people as training nurses, initiating helping children receive an

education, as well as sharing the gospel with unreached peoples. AIM recognises that its presence in places in only temporary and seeks to train local people so that work can be self-sustaining. Heather who was educated at Christleton Primary School and The Queens School in Chester, has produced eight beautiful letter cards made from some of her original paintings, several which were exhibited at the Village Show last summer, and these are now on sale to help raise funds. They are priced £2 for a set of four designs, and can be obtained from Old Court, Rowton Bridge Road, 335830 or from David Cummings at Church or Village Show.

---

## THANK YOU



Thank you, Thank you Thank you also to the Second Christleton Brownies for all their hard work - car washing and selling of cakes at the fund raising event at the Methodist Church on Saturday 7th May





## AN OASIS IN OUR MIDST

**H**ave you ever walked past that black and white building in the village and thought? "I wonder what goes on there"

The building is the Christleton Institute, formally the Christleton Men's Institute, fondly known to all as "THE STUTE".

A watering hole frequented by many, the Stute offers so many things to tempt you. A good selection of wines beers and spirits, all at very reasonable prices. Two full size snooker tables, Embassy World Championship? A pool table, Darts and Dominoes. A separate Lounge Bar. If bingo is more your line, there is a Full House on a Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. We also have a Quiz every Saturday night. For a friendly evening out why not give The Stute a try I promise you wont be disappointed. Open 7.00pm to 11.00pm Mon to Sat. Noon to 10.30pm Sunday"

The Christleton Institute is a Private Members Club, An Annual Members fee or visitors fee applies. Enquiries to John Hughes. Telephone 01244 312248 or email [red\\_raffles@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:red_raffles@yahoo.co.uk)

## OUR RECTOR

**C**ongratulations to our Rector on becoming a Canon of Chester Cathedral. Apart from his ministry at St James, Peter has been associated with Adoption Matters and also was appointed by the Bishop's Council to serve on the Diocesan Redundant Churches Uses Committee. This Committee advises the Diocesan Pastoral Committee and the Church Commissioners on the use and disposal of redundant church buildings in the Diocese.

## MOTHER'S UNION

At our meeting on 13th June Mrs Barbara Capstick was our speaker.

We are making alternative arrangements for our July meeting as our trip to Erddig will not be possible.

*Janet Brown*



**A record breaking total for Christleton once again - £3238-07!**

**A**lthough our house-to-house collections were down by £4 and the Family Service collection by rather more, our total was given a wonderful boost by David Cummings who donated the gross takings of £200 from his talk entitled "The Magic of Swans and Orchids and Wild Flowers", which he gave in early May.

So, thank you to David, and to all of you who have helped by organising the Family Service, and as collectors, counters and contributors during the house-to-house collection.

David Cummings' talk 200.00  
Family Service collection 110.30  
House-to house collection 2927.77  
Total £3238.07

*Fiona Lee*

## PATTERNS OF LIFE

**W**e met, we married, a long time ago;  
We worked for long hours, when wages  
were low;

No TV, no radio, no bath; times were hard,  
Just a cold water tap and a walk down the yard.

No holidays abroad, no carpets on floors,  
But we had coal on the fires and we never locked  
doors;

Our children arrived, no pill in those days,  
And we brought them up without any state aid.

No valium, no drugs, no LSD,  
We cured our troubles with a nice cup of tea;  
If you were ill you were treated at once,  
Not fill in forms and come back in six months!

No vandals, no muggings, there was nothing to  
rob;  
In fact we were rich with a couple o9f bob.  
People were happier in those far-off days,  
Kinder caring in so many ways.

Milkmen and paper boys used to whistle and  
sing,  
And a night out at the cinema was a wonderful  
thing.  
Oh, we had our share of trouble and strife,  
But we just had to face them, the pattern of life.

Now I'm alone and look back through the years,  
I don't think of the bad times, the trouble and  
tears;  
I remember the blessings, our home and our  
love;  
We shared them together and I thank God  
above.

I thought your readers might enjoy some of my  
thoughts as a tribute to my lovely wife, Doreen.

*Jim Murray.*



## CHRISTLETON CRICKET CLUB

**C**hristleton Cricket Club have had mixed  
Results during May. The first team  
are in 7th place, the second team are in 3rd  
place and the third team are in 1st place.  
We will shortly be strengthening the 1st team when the  
former captain, Jim Gillson, returns from New Zealand.  
Chris Hollindale, Greg Malkin and Andy Moulds are  
also returning from their respective universities.  
After progressing through the divisions we hope  
to consolidate in the Premier league, perhaps  
making a concerted effort to challenge for the  
league next year. The signs are good as there  
are many promising young players developing.  
Our junior section continues on Mondays at 6.30pm  
– details from Brian 01244 332326. We have  
high hopes for a number of our junior players.  
On a social level, the SUMMER  
BALL takes place on 2nd July.

Christleton CC would like to thank  
the following sponsors for June:  
Arthur Broster  
Buck & Hickman  
David & Joyce Grey  
Mick Rooney  
John & Penny Bell  
Mrs Gordon Williams  
Croston Bulk Handling Services

## CONGRATULATIONS

**T**o Frank & Bunty McClelland  
for their Diamond Wedding  
Anniversary on 23 July.

# A PLACE TO VISIT



As time is short this month for producing a new article in this series, I thought I would share with you an experience I've just had in the Egyptian Western Desert. Whilst visiting the SIWA Oasis 800km west of the River Nile and 500km or so from the Mediterranean Coast near El Alemein, I came across the most incongruous sight of an internet café in what was effectively a mud hut. I paid £1 for 30 minutes and tried to send an e mail to the family. Well the system wasn't having it, their version of AOL 4 couldn't connect up. However it did allow me to visit our village web site [www. Christleton. Org.uk](http://www.Christleton.Org.uk). There in full colour was a picture of Christleton Pit with the swans that I had taken only days previously, together with Brian Devenport celebrating his 60th Birthday. It was just so exciting to be able to make contact with the village from the middle of this very hot place!. We had arrived at this delightful place which is 17m below sea level, after a ten hour drive across the desert in blistering heat. As we drove into the oasis there were heavily weathered rocks all around us, but in the distance we could see SIWA town itself surrounded by over a million palm trees. The temperature was over 100 degrees, yet there was fresh water and signs of growing plants everywhere. To the north the desert and rocky mountains, to the west, sand dunes and lakes. It rains here one hour a year, and in every twenty five years there is a total of three days of rainfall!. Could we exist in conditions like that? I doubt it. However the people we met were friendly and happy, despite their poor living conditions. The men worked in the oasis producing lots of food, including the finest quality dates, bananas and olive oil. The women as well as having the primary role of caring for the children, produced many exciting textiles and craft products, which they were keen to sell to us. The children were happy and very friendly and followed us through the village to the City of the dead, a place of refuge for the Siwan's during attacks from British aircraft during WW2. All 4,000 villagers are said to have lived there for over three years, cooking, washing, giving birth, etc. in a place where in ancient times people had been buried. They also followed us to a ruined temple where Alexandra the Great is said to have visited the Oracle of Siwa, a place where he is said to have wanted to be buried. There was a small school, where between 8.00 and 11 am, local children could now learn lessons in Siwi which is BERBER in origin, but which differs greatly from Arabic. Most of the Siwans speak Arabic as a second language, and now also write in it, learning it at school or from television. However Egyptians cannot speak or understand the Siwan language, as it is only a spoken language and is known only to the Siwans themselves.

*David Cummings*



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**David Mercer 336155**

Please telephone between 10.00am and 8.00pm Monday to Saturday

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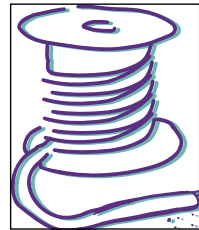
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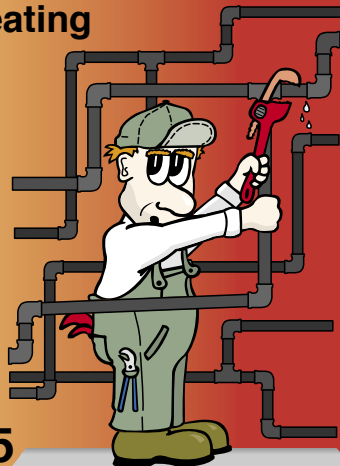
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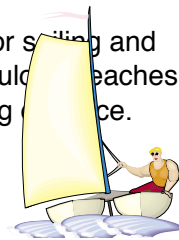
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