

# St. James' - Christleton



**Parish Magazine**  
**November 2006**

30p

# Remember in November

Wed	1	10.45 am 7.45 pm	United Communion for All Saints Day Pastoral and Outreach Committee – Lady Chapel
Fri	3	7.30 pm 6.30 pm	Pamper Night - Methodist Church Hall Choir Practice
Sat	4	9.00 am - 1.00 pm	Churchyard Work Party. All welcome for part or all of the time.
Sun	5		<b>ALL SAINTS SUNDAY</b> 8.00 am Holy Communion - Order 2 10.45 am Sunday School - Parish Hall 10.45 am Parish Communion with Baptism 6.00 pm The Crew Youth Group - Parish Hall 6.30 pm Evensong followed by refreshments Prayer Link Road : Little Heath Road and Pearl Lane Neighbourhood Link : Judith Edwards, Liz Evans & Carol Rivers
Mon	6	10.45 am 11.20 am 2.00 pm	Holy Communion at Tarvin Court Nursing Home Holy Communion at Oaklands Nursing Home PCC Standing Committee - Rectory
Wed	8	10.45 am 11.30 am	Holy Communion - followed by refreshments Holy Communion at Birch Health Lodge Nursing Home
Thur	9	7.45 pm	Faith and Worship Committee - Rectory
Fri	10	6.30 pm	Choir Practice NB: Last date for contribution to DECEMBER Parish Magazine to David Bull (332234). Earlier if possible please. You can attach your Word document and e-mail to: christletonmag@hotmail.co.uk
Sun	12		<b>The Third Sunday before Advent - Remembrance Sunday</b> 8.00 am Holy Communion - Order 1 10.45 am Sunday School – Parish Hall 10.45 am REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY SERVICE with 2 minutes silence and followed by wreath laying at War Memorial 6.00 pm The Crew - Parish Hall 6.30 pm Evensong with speaker from Children's Society and Offertory of Boxes Prayer Link Road: Littleton Lane and Bypass Neighbourhood Link: Judith Willacy
Mon	13	2.00 pm 2.30 pm 7.45 pm	Mothers' Union - Parish Hall Churches Together in Christleton Committee – Methodist Church Stewardship Committee - Plough Lane

Wed	15	10.45 am 7.45 pm	Holy Communion - followed by refreshments Bereavement Support Group - Tarvin Road
Fri	17	6.30 pm	Choir Practice
<b>Sun</b>	<b>19</b>		<b>THE SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT</b>
		8.00 am	Holy Communion
		10.45 am	Sunday School ---Parish Hall
		10.45 am	Parish Communion
		6.00 pm	The Crew Youth Group - Parish Hall
		6.30 pm	United Village Songs of Praise – St James Prayer Link Road : Moor Lane and Chapel Close Neighbourhood Link : Gwen Knight
Mon	20	7.30 pm	Diocesan Roadshow - Bishops High School
Wed	22	10.45 am	Holy Communion - followed by refreshments
Fri	24	2.00 – 4.00 pm 6.30 pm	Parish Hall open for preparation for Christmas Fair Choir Practice
Sat	25	10.00 am – 1.00 pm	CHRISTMAS FAIR (see poster) - Parish Hall
<b>Sun</b>	<b>26</b>		<b>CHRIST THE KING</b>
		8.00 am	Holy Communion
		10.30 am	Sunday School - Parish Hall
		10.45 am	Matins - followed by refreshments
		6.00 pm	The Crew Youth Group - Parish Hall
		6.30 pm	Evening Communion Prayer Link Road : Pepper Street and Windmill Lane Neighbourhood Link : Pat Hodges
Mon	27	7.45 pm	Deanery Synod
Tues	28	9.00 am	Tuesday Ramble Group leave car park for Halkyn Mountain
Wed	29	10.45 am 7.45 pm	Holy Communion followed by refreshments PCC Meeting - Parish Hall
Thur	30	9.00 am	Holy Communion for ST ANDREW
Fri	1	6.30 pm	Choir Practice NB: Last date for contribution to JANUARY Parish Magazine to David Bull (332234). Earlier if possible please. You can attach your Word document and e-mail to: christletonmag@hotmail.co.uk

# The Rector's Letter

Dear Friends

## CONNECTIONS

Sometimes you need to step back in order to see the wood for the trees. That is what 11 members of your Church Council did one Saturday in October. We had an 'away-day' at a hotel by Lake Bala to think together strategically about our Parish. It was a lovely Autumnal day in a beautiful setting, but we discovered there was so much to talk about we hardly ventured outdoors. We started with sharing Communion and the priorities of the task entrusted to the Church by Jesus. We also thought of St Paul's illustration of the Church as the Body of Christ, with each individual belonging and contributing his or her distinctive gifts so that we work together for our common purpose.

We reviewed the process over the last few years which has brought us to where we are, and then looked at the challenges which lie ahead. What are the objectives we should be setting ourselves and the methods we should adopt to achieve them? This is not the place to give a detailed review of all that was decided, which will hopefully be taken up by the PCC, and put into action in the coming months. What I would like to share with you here is the enthusiasm that the day engendered for all of us who were there, and some of the common themes and priorities which emerged. Right at the centre was the desire for us as a Church to make connections with as many people as possible to show the relevance and purpose of our faith. We want our worship and witness to be inclusive so that anyone who joins us knows their contribution is welcomed, and so people have a deeper sense of belonging to the life of St James. We decided that we are not very good at communicating what we are, and what is happening. Certainly we need to get up to date with modern technology as well as using the more traditional methods of communication. We also need to network more effectively between ourselves and the wider Church and world. I would like to invite anyone who would like to, to respond to this with ideas, criticisms, observations or offers of particular skills.

It struck me as I came to think about this how varied and representative are the opportunities we have if we make the most of them. Just think of the calendar for this one month of November. On Friday 3 there is the 'Pamper Night' for the ladies to indulge in both retail and beauty therapy whilst raising money for the Christmas Fair and sharing fellowship. The next morning we have a Churchyard work party when all ages will be welcome to come and help tidy up the Churchyard – one example of how we can use talents and time as well as money to resource the work of the church and get to know each other better. On Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> we have our Annual All Souls Service with special invitation to all those who have recently been bereaved to share in worship as we remember those whom we love. A week later our Remembrance Service brings together the whole village community, young

and old, to commemorate those who gave their lives, and renew our own commitment to peace. At Evensong that day we have a speaker on the work of the Children's Society with the Offertory of the boxes – each year we raise over £1000 for their work in helping children at risk. The next day Norman Goodwin, who lives in the village and is Chief Executive of Adoption Matters, will speak at Mothers' Union about that important work centred in Chester. Then on Sunday 19 November at 6.30 pm Churches Together in Chester have organised a Village Songs of Praise at St James. Both the High School and the Primary School have been invited and are contributing to the Service, which really will be a community occasion. The Christmas Fair this year is on Saturday 25 November and as usual this will be opened by the village Rose Queen. All the proceeds of the Christmas Fair will again be divided equally and given to meet these wider needs:- International: Middle East Crisis Appeal, National: the Mental Health Foundation, Local: Dial House in Chester which helps those with any disability. Finally on 28 November anyone is welcome to join our Church Ramble Group for a walk on Halkyn Mountain (see details in magazine and/or contact David Cummings). Include all that goes on every week and one month's diary gives just a snapshot of the variety of ways we seek as a Church to make connections with God and with each other in our worship, work and witness.

So the opportunities are there to make connections and together to get engaged in all we do at St James.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Peter Lee". Below the signature is a horizontal line.

**Prayer of the Month:**

**Christine Pocock**

*Renewing God,  
like rain on a parched landscape, you bring new life.  
Like the sun breaking through storm clouds, you bring us hope.  
Like the wind lifting the waves on the seashore, you stir us into action.  
Each morning we wake to you continual care  
and every day you call us to depend on you.*

*In time of weariness, refresh us,  
in times of despair, give us hope,  
in times of apathy, stir us into action,  
that free from anxiety, and rejoicing in your love,  
we may serve you with glad and thankful hearts.  
In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.*



The  
Children's  
Society

With children, for children, with you

## **ANNUAL OFFERTORY SERVICE** **12th NOVEMBER AT 6.30 pm**

We are delighted once again to welcome back to St. James, Mrs. Aelison Wilson as our guest speaker at this years annual offertory service. Aelison was recently presented with a Children's Society 'Star Volunteer Award' at Southwark Cathedral in London in recognition of her many years dedicated service as both fund-raiser and promoter of The Children's Society's work.

I do hope you will be able to take this opportunity to meet Aelison and find out more about the Society's current campaigns and projects .

### **125 YEARS OF CREATING CHANGE FOR CHILDREN**

The Children's Society celebrates its 125th anniversary this year and the The Most Revd. and Rt. Hon. DR Rowan Williams, The Archbishop of Canterbury shares this message in celebration of the occasion.

'As President of The Children's Society, I congratulate the

Society on reaching its 125th Anniversary. Throughout its history the Society has witnessed some unprecedented and incalculable changes in the social environment in which it has operated but it has remained steadfast to its origins to help disadvantaged and vulnerable children. They are still with us in the modern, sophisticated yet uncertain world in which we live.

With the passing of time, The Children's Society has adapted to new opportunities and challenges and, while it continues to tackle child abuse and neglect, it has also embraced the particular circumstances of young people affected by disability, social injustice and family breakdown.

Many thousands of young people and adults owe a great deal to the Society which, over many decades, became a household name inextricably linked with The Church of England. My prayers and best wishes are with The Children's Society as it marks this milestone and as it looks to its ministry and mission in the years ahead.'

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

Many thanks,

*Lesley Morgan*

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## ST SAVIOURS NURSERIES

St Saviours Nurseries offer a "Flowers by Post" service details of which are listed below. The flowers are despatched from the nursery Monday – Friday and take up to 2 working days to arrive. Orders placed by telephone must be received by 11.15 am if you wish for the flowers to be despatched that day.

I have used this service very successfully on more than one occasion and they do make a donation to the Church of England Children's Society.

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*Vera Wood*

## Road Sign at Plough Lane Crossroads

In the course of work on the footway between Plough Lane crossroads and Christleton High School a road sign was removed. This has now been restored and placed in its original position. Further, the signs to Waverton, Whitchurch and Cotton Edmunds have been remade so that now all directions are indicated.

Many thanks to all concerned in the restoration and replacement of this signpost.

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## PEOPLE IN THE NEWS.

### *Congratulations to*

**Joan Astley** who is 90 years young on  
November 14th

and to

**Hilary Devenport** who reaches a certain  
age on the 17th November

and to

**Lois Dickinson** who was 70 on 19th  
October

## **MUNICH MEANDERING AROUND THE MARIENPLATZ**

**H**enry the Lion transformed the Marienplatz into the centre of Munich. Dominated by the Neues Rathaus the square features a golden statue of the Virgin Mary from 1590 and the 19th century Fish Fountain. On Ash Wednesday the Mayor and town councillors wash their wallets there so that the city's coffers will always be full.

Built between 1867 and 1908, the new Town Hall is topped by the Munchner Kindl (Munich Child) grasping the Gospel in its left hand and its right hand raised in a gesture of benediction. Dressed in black and yellow, the colours of the city, it accompanies all official processions including the Oktoberfest – on horseback. The live stand-in is always a woman. At 11am, noon and , from May to October, at 5 pm, people gather to watch and listen to the Glockenspiel, a chiming clock with dancing figures and knights in armour on horseback.

Topped by two onion domes, the Frauenkirche is Munich's best known symbol. This Cathedral was built in record time (1468 – 88) and is the largest Gothic Basilica in Southern Germany. The tomb of Ludwig IV lies here, and our friend

Gosia sings in the choir. They sang before the Pope on his recent visit to Munich.

Since 1807 the Viktualienmarkt, the colourful food market, has thrived just off the square. A walk through it sets the gastric juices moving with sights and smells of cheese, beer, fish, every kind of fruit and vegetable, olives, mushrooms flowers etc. During our stay we noticed the colourful statues of lions dotted all over the city. All the children and adults too wanted their photographs taken sitting astride one.

The origins of the Oktoberfest began in 1810 to celebrate the marriage of Prince Ludwig and his bride Therese. It was so successful that it became an annual event growing into a major fair. Since 1925 the opening starts on the Saturday morning with the Grand Entry of the Oktoberfest landlords. Beautifully groomed draught horses bedecked with bells pull flower-decorated brewery wagons through the city. They are accompanied by brass bands, the brewery owners and their families. At noon Munich's mayor taps the first barrel and the festivities begin – lasting for 16 days!

*M Croston*



# WAR MEMORIAL GATES

The war memorial for the Ecclesiastical Parishes of Christleton, Littleton and Rowton is situated within the grounds of St. James Parish Church, Christleton and accessed by a pair of wooden gates. It was decided that the gates were beyond repair and required replacing. The existing gates were very old with wooden dowels and rollers underneath and therefore required specialist skills, using European oak timber. In addition, the furniture had to be removed and will be fitted to the new gates.

The grounds around the war memorial are regularly maintained by St. James P.C.C. and the village has, on numerous occasions, won the “Best Kept Village” award, the judges always commenting on the well kept grounds around the church.

Donations have been received from the Parish Councils of Christleton, Littleton, Rowton,

Christleton Fete Committee and a Littleton ex-serviceman and his wife to the value of £775 out of the total cost of £1,055 (including VAT).

The old gates have now been removed and the new gates should be in place for this year’s Remembrance Sunday service.



Remembrance Sunday - 2005 in Christleton

# History File



Last year whilst carrying out some research studying old Chester Chronicle's at the City Library, I came across the obituary of the Reverend Canon Lionel Garnett, which gave us a new insight into this key figure in Christleton village history. Recently I came across a cutting which contained the obituary of Lucy Ann Ince, a lady who was equally important, who was the source of funds for many if not all of Lionel Garnett's plans for the village, new schools, a new church building at St James', the Men's Institute, funding of musical instruments for the village band, development of the Village Shows and Fetes etc. She hailed from Sussex, and her father was a prominent MP at Westminster, and the family wealth originated from Sir Francis Drake. There is no written evidence of Lucy Anne apart from letters in the Arthur Alyn Guest Williams papers at Chester Record Office, and in Parish Magazines. However this new document shows her influence outside the village in the wider Society of the day, during the reign of five Monarchs, including Queen Victoria.

*page 10*

*Obituary from  
"The Chester Chronicle"  
May 1903.*

## **Death of Mrs Townsend Ince Died May 2nd 1903.**

We deeply regret to record the death of Mrs Townsend Ince, which occurred on Saturday evening at her residence Christleton Hall. The deceased lady was born on January 11th 1811 and had thus reached the advanced age of 92, but she was in full possession of her faculties, and took an active part in the management of her affairs up to the very end. She succumbed to an attack of pneumonia. Mrs Ince was a daughter of the late Mr Augustus Elliott Fuller, of Rose Hill Sussex, who died in 1857, and Clara, his wife, the eldest daughter of Mr Owen Putland Meyrick, of Bodorgan. In 1840 the deceased was married to Mr Townsend Ince, D.L., of Christleton, who died on June 10th, 1871. There was no issue of the marriage.

Mrs Ince, it will be seen, lived during the reigns of five monarchs of this realm, viz., George III & IV., William IV., Victoria and Edward VII. She was present at the Coronation of

St. James' Christleton Parish Magazine

William IV and Queen Victoria, and always evinced a strong attachment to the Throne and members of the Royal Family. At the opening of the Menai Suspension Bridge in 1826 she was an occupant of the first carriage following the one conveying the Royal party, and had the distinction of paying the first toll for crossing the bridge- the Royal party being of course exempt. It is rather remarkable that she was the last person to pay toll immediately precedent to the freeing of the Grosvenor Bridge in Chester.

By the death of Mrs Ince many charitable and philanthropic organisations, both national and local, lose a steadfast and constant supporter. In Christleton the loss will be keenly felt. Quiet, unobtrusive and deeply sympathetic, she was ever ready to tender assistance where such was needed, and thus endeared herself to the hearts of all. Each Christmas, for a long series of years, it was her custom to make presents of bundles of clothing, etc., to some eighty or ninety families of deserving poor, irrespective of creed or anything else. To Christleton Institutions- church, schools, institute, friendly society, clothing club- she was always a generous and willing supporter. When the Parish Church was restored she was one of the largest supporters of the

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restoration fund, and placed the beautiful pulpit in it as a memorial of her late husband, and paid for the re-hanging of the bells. Many of her acts of kindness are known only to the recipients, for she was one of those delighted to do good by stealth. The Union Jack was flown at half mast high from the church tower on Sunday, and after the evening service the organist (Mr Brewer) played "The Dead March" The deceased's executors are her great nephew, Sir George Jervis Meyrick, Bart, of Bodorgan, Anglesey, and Christ Church, Hants, and Mr W Carstairs Jones. The funeral will take place tomorrow (Thursday) at Christleton Church, at 11.30. It is requested that no flowers be sent.

Note.

Lucy Anne Townsend Ince is commemorated at St James' in two stain glass windows, by the Victorian artist Charles Kempe. One is situated on the south aisle, and the other on the north side, adjacent to a small plaque which also describes her contribution to the church. As mentioned above, the Oak Pulpit at St James' is dedicated to her husband Townsend.

*David Cummings*

## Harvest Festival at St. James' 8th October, 2006



Ah Sunflower, weary of time,  
Who countest the steps of the sun;  
Seeking after that sweet golden clime  
Where the traveller's journey is done;

Where the youth pined away with desire,  
And the pale virgin shrouded in snow,  
Arise from their graves, and aspire  
Where my Sunflower wishes to go!

*Ah Sunflower!*  
by William Blake

## BAKING IN A WAR ZONE

Kevin Barke, aged 51, a baker from Essex, set up an emergency bakery in Afghanistan to feed 25, 000 people affected by war.

In January 2002 he travelled with WAR CHILD, a network of independent organisations working across the world to help children and families affected by war.

He arrived in Harat after a ten hour journey in a huge Russian convoy. There was a very large tent in the UN compound that had large UN letters on top, in the hope that it would not be bombed by the Americans. This was where he had to train a team of refugees and displaced Afghans. He came up with a kind of soda bread, as he couldn't get improvers. There was no water, but after five days a well was dug. After about two weeks he had set up to six hour shifts in full production creating 25, 000 loaves a day. The World Food Programme said that a ration of one 400g loaf a day was enough to keep people alive, and this is what the team provided.

At the end of September this year, Kevin was going to Kosovo with an aid convoy distributing clothing, bedding, nursery supplies and food. Thank God for such men as Kevin.

MC

# CATHEDRAL LINK FAREWELL TO JUDY DAVIES

**A**t the end of September and the end of this year's Pilgrim Days at the Cathedral, the many volunteers who had helped Judy, some of them who had been involved for the whole of its nine year existence, gathered in the Cloister Room to say farewell to Judy on her retirement as Education Officer – a position she had held for 12 years. Canon Trevor Dennis broke his sabbatical to be present, and the Dean sent his apologies as he was unable to attend.

Many tributes were paid to her. One of the schools taking part, had created its own special card, with lots of small cards attached from the children, who had decorated and inscribed them with best wishes. Three cards signed by volunteers, a framed picture of the Water of Life painting, an especially composed poem, and tokens from each of the workshops, were presented to Judy. In turn, Judy thanked all the volunteers who had supported her. She was looking forward to being able to spend more time with their five grandchildren who live in London. She will be very much missed by everyone and by our own volunteers, Lesley, Lois, Margaret and Sheilagh.

MC

## **Pulling out of the Nosedive**

In 1989 the number of people attending church each week in England was 4.7 million. During the 9 years between 1989 and 1998 that number reduced by a million people to 3.7 million. In the 7 years 1998 to 2005 that number has reduced again, to 3.2 million, half a million less. Bad news and good news! Bad news – the number continues to decline. Good news – the drop is nothing like as steep as it was. We are pulling out of the nosedive!

That is the title of the book on the recent results of the 2005 English Church Census: Pulling out of the Nosedive. It gives the details of how the percentage of the population attending church has dropped from 7.5% in 1998 to 6.3% in 2005. It also tells that there are more growing churches, more people from ethnic minorities in church now, and how the largest churches are growing.

It also explains that many women are not attending so frequently, that 29% of churchgoers are 65 or over, and that more than half the churches have congregations of 50 or fewer people. So there are plenty of challenges ahead if we are really to pull right out of the nosedive and start climbing again!



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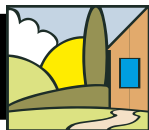
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## Signs & Symbols

### Church Boundaries

It wasn't until 1229 that it was proposed that churchyards should be enclosed by a wall, hedge or ditch. Forty years later and there were plans to stop the grazing of animals on consecrated land. It clearly didn't work - as there are plenty of Victorian paintings with cattle in the churchyard.

Today there's usually a clearly defined boundary to the grounds surrounding the church building, but not always. If you are responsible for the maintenance then you'd probably have a good idea, but even then not always. Back in the seventeenth century, when most churches were by then enclosed, people in the parish were personally responsible for the upkeep of lengths of the boundary. It is not clear how they decided how long each person was allotted, but presumably it related to wealth or their ability in terms of manpower to do the work.

In the country there are plenty of churches that have seemingly unused land next to them which is left untended, so you would be forgiven for not recognising them as being part of the church. In some places houses backing onto such land may quietly extent their gardens for a yard or two thinking that it either won't be noticed or it doesn't matter. Sometimes, of course, it is just 'plain' land that's next to the church and may be rented out to farmers or used as playing fields. Often when land for the church was originally given, bought or determined there was much open land around it and it was only in later years that boundaries were marked on the land.

But often the ground is actually set aside as an area for burials but not needed yet. This will normally mean that the ground will have been consecrated for that purpose. Consecration, in general, is an act by which a thing is separated from ordinary use to a sacred use, or by which a person or thing is dedicated to the service and worship of God by prayers, rites, and ceremonies. The custom of consecrating persons to the divine service and things to serve in the worship of God may be traced to the remotest times and is found in nearly all religions and nations.

## Archbishop speaks out on childhood

The Archbishop has spoken out on the difficulties children face in the 21st Century, as patron of the Children's Society who has launched The Good Childhood Inquiry. Dr Rowan Williams spoke about the pressure children face at a school with excessive testing, as well as the commercial pressures they face by being targeted as consumers before they are ready. "I think we have a shared unwillingness in our culture to let children be children for long enough".

# Nature Notes



I think most people will have seen the recent increase in small birds visiting their gardens. There is a partial migration each year, and gradually the local native species of birds, such as blackbird, wren, dunnock, blue and great tits, come back to feed and join the ever present robin, who has been singing his heart out for weeks. I've also noticed jays in the churchyard, feeding on yew berries rather than acorns, and there has been a passage of birds flying south. On September 10th I was watching a flock of thousands of swallows and house martins flying around our close, some sitting on the telephone wires, others circling over the canal having a final feed perhaps before their flight to warmer climes. However my eye was taken to a larger bird high above them in the sky, flying with relatively slow wing beats, and flying south. It was a beautiful osprey, a fish eating eagle now plentiful again in Scotland, and also nesting in The Lake District and North Wales. It was a thrilling sigh. Unfortunately I didn't have time to collect my camera for a photograph. Thanks to the several readers of the magazine

who confirmed the sighting of a red kite over the village in August. I'm sure it can't be too long before we have a breeding site, somewhere nearby. A group of four of our Christleton Pit cygnets flew off on the 9th October, after what can be only be described as a very good year. They were certainly very healthy, the biggest I can remember as a group, and to keep all seven cygnets was an achievement for the cob and pen after a poor breeding season in Cheshire generally. We are never sure where they will end up, or how long they will survive, but a recent Cheshire ringed bird appeared at Martin Mere on cue to be seen on Autumn Watch with Kate Humble and Bill Oddie on BBC2. Our cygnets might indeed fly north, as several first flights have seen Christleton cygnets appear at Spike Island at Widnes, Southport Marine Lake, Cavendish Dock at Barrow and one on the International rowing course outside Glasgow.

A late red admiral butterfly was seen in the village this week, (October 8th). This beautiful migrant will not survive, but many other species including the



peacock and tortoiseshell will have now found quiet corners in sheds and possibly even in church, to hibernate for the cold winter months. E.g a large tortoiseshell flew around St James' during a service in late September!

## *Places to watch Nature.*

### Bottlenose Dolphins in Cardigan Bay

**A**t the end of September Beryl & I spent a fascinating morning on the "Sulaire" a 33ft modern charter vessel, surveying Bottlenose Dolphins and Harbour Porpoises in Cardigan Bay's



"Special area of Conservation". This research vessel is funded by the general public, paying to observe these beautiful creatures, and we were amply rewarded by the close encounters we had. During our cruise we came across three distinct groups and several individuals. There were probably thirty creatures in all. Each of the

groups had mums with calves alongside them, and this made exciting watching, as they came circling around, and often going under the boat. Autumn is the best time for watching Bottlenose Dolphins as their young are born in September, and they tend to gather close in, around the bay. Steve Holmes the leader of the research team, has an expert knowledge of the dolphins and their habits, and he uses photo recognition to build up knowledge of the creatures he sees in the bay. It is apparently possible to identify individuals by naturally occurring marks and patterns on their fins, and so he

can build up family histories of the Cardigan Bay group.

Teams of volunteers work on land as well as at sea, and this work is proving not only beneficial for the study of dolphins, but is a great tourist attraction for the town of New Quay. Anyone interested in visiting the dolphins could usefully look up the Dolphin Survey website [www.cbmwc.org](http://www.cbmwc.org). Although rain isn't a problem, strong winds may prevent the boat going out into the bay, so you will need to check up on sailing conditions. There is also limited space on board, but there could be up to three sailings a day. This is an excellent attraction for all ages.

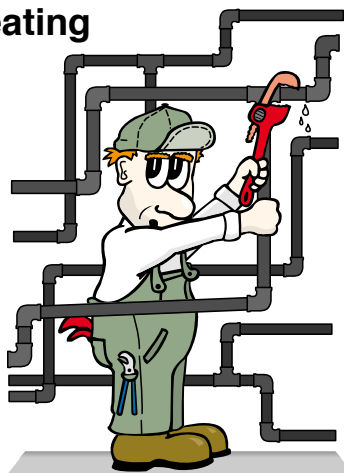
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# LOCAL EVENTS DIARY

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

Held in the Parish Hall from 10.30 am – 11.45 am each Sunday during term-time, except when Family Service is held at St James. For further details please contact Berenice Hogg, 336779.

## CHRISTLETON W.I.

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

The next meeting will be on 9 November – Close Encounters with Margaret Sixsmith followed by the Annual General Meeting.

## CHRISTLETON LADIES GUILD

Held at the Christleton Methodist Church, commencing at 2pm, on the first Tuesday of each month, £1 admission includes refreshments. For further information contact Joan Webb, 335518.

All very welcome.

## CHESTER FLOWER CLUB

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

## CHRISTLETON 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. MONTHLY WHIST DRIVE

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

## MAGAZINE DISTRIBUTORS

**T**he December magazine will be available for collection from Church on Sunday 26 November.

# LOCAL EVENTS DIARY

## CHRISTLETON RAMBLING GROUPS



**St James'**

**"Tuesday" Walking Group**

**Tuesday November 28th**

Halkyn Mountain near Holywell.

Limestone pavement and lead mines. 6 miles (Grade moderate).

Walking in an area overlooking the Dee Estuary once mined by the Romans,

Picnic needed. Depart Church Car

Park at 9.00am

**Tuesday December 12th**

Burwardsley and Peckforton. 6 miles

(Grade moderate).

Followed by a Christmas Lunch, at Mitchell's Wine Bar in Tattenhall.

Depart Church Car Park at 9.00am

(Firm booking needed by 28th November walk)

Please contact David Cummings on

332410 for further details.

## PAMPER NIGHT



**Friday 3 November**

**Methodist Church Hall – 7.30 pm**

**£5 admission**

**Ladies – a date for your diary!**

*Come and be pampered – have a manicure, a pedicure, a head massage by professional beauticians.*

*See the exotic Spanish shoes by Shoe-b-doo.*

*Do some Christmas shopping from "Fripperies" – beautiful jewellery, leather goods, scarves.*

*And much, much more.*

*All proceeds to go to PCC charities.*

*Details from*

*Janet Milton 01244.335469*

*Christine Abrams 01244.335562*

## MAGAZINE CONTRIBUTIONS

**P**lease ensure all items for inclusion in the December edition are sent to the Editor, David Bull, The Old Rectory, Plough Lane, as soon as possible **BEFORE Friday 10 November** or you can e-mail this to

**christletonmag@hotmail.co.uk**

# LOCAL EVENTS DIARY

## Ellesmere Port Music Society Presents

HANDEL – MESSIAH

On Saturday 18th November  
2006

At: THE CIVIC HALL ELLESMERE  
PORT

Cecilia Osmond – Soprano

Deborah Miles-Johnson – Contralto

James Griffett- Tenor

Neil Baker – Bass

with The Music Society Chorus and  
the Wirral Philharmonic Orchestra

Conductor Malcolm Perry

Tickets : £12 concessions £10  
from the booking Secretary Tel  
051 327 4062

(Or from members of the Chorus)

## Christmas Cards.

Packs of Village Charity Christmas Cards are now available from the back of St James' Church, or from David Cummings on 332410. This year's card is a view from the church tower looking down on the snow covered village in March 2006. The photograph by John Beckett is a delightful record of this now rare event, and an ideal Christmas card for all former residents, or anyone fond of our beautiful village. The cards are in packs of 5 and cost £2. All the proceeds are going to St James' three Christmas Charities.

DC

## Christleton Wednesday Group

Wine & Wisdom

Quiz Evening

on

**Saturday 18 November,**

Christleton Parish Hall,

7.30 for 8.00 pm.

Tickets £7, from members,  
(includes glass of wine & light  
refreshments).

*In aid of the Adolescent Unit  
at the Countess of Chester  
Hospital.*

## Christleton Local History Group

Meetings at the Primary School  
in Quarry Lane.

All welcome Entrance fee £2  
per meeting which includes a  
glass of wine/fruit juice/snacks.

## Wednesday November 22nd 7.30pm

Recent developments in archaeology  
in Chester, with special reference  
to the current Roman amphitheatre  
excavations.

Speaker; Simon Ward

Senior Archaeologist

Chester City Council.

# LOCAL EVENTS DIARY

## Christleton Garden Club

13 November  
Clematis - Matthew Powell - Caddicks  
Nursery. Plants for sale

11 December  
Christmas Table Decoration - Mrs  
Pauline Baxendale

8 January, 2006  
Dahlias - Mr Shion Jones - Station  
House Nurseries

12 February  
Highgrove film

12 March  
Herbaceous Perennials Old and New  
- Mr Peter Foley - Holden Clough  
Nurseries

16 April (NB 3rd Monday)  
Garden Cyclamen - Mr Derek Jones

14 May  
Climbers - Mr Graham Shilabeer

11 June  
9 July  
Outings to be announced later

## The Friends Autumn Lecture

**Thursday 2 November  
7.30 pm in the Chapter House**

"The Zoo, Past, Present and Future"  
by Professor Gordon McGregor Reid,  
Dir Gen of Chester Zoo  
Tickets £5 to include a glass of wine,  
available on the door or in advance from  
The Receptionist, 12 Abbey Square,  
Chester CH1 2HU. Please enclose SAE  
and make cheques payable to The Friends  
of Chester Cathedral.

## Smile Lines

*I married Miss Right. I just didn't know her first  
name was 'Always'.*

*At the wedding, the bride tripped and fell into  
the arms of the minister. 'That's the first time  
I've held a fallen woman,' he quipped. To which  
she retorted: 'It's the first time I've been picked  
up by a minister!'*

*A woman went to visit a fortune teller. In a dark  
and hazy room, peering into a crystal ball, the  
mystic delivered grave news. "There's no easy  
way to say this, so I'll just be blunt - prepare  
yourself to be a widow. Your husband will die  
a violent and horrible death this year." Visibly  
shaken, the woman stares at the fortune teller's  
lined face, then at the single flickering candle,  
then down at her hands. She took a few deep  
breaths to compose herself. She simply had to  
know. She met the fortuneteller's gaze, steadied  
her voice, and asked her question: "Will I get  
away with it?"*

# *The Poppy Poem*

*In Flanders' fields the poppies blow  
Between the crosses, row on row,  
That mark our place: and in the sky  
The larks, still bravely singing, fly  
Scarce heard amid the guns below.  
We are the dead. Short days ago  
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,  
Loved and were loved, and now we lie  
In Flanders' fields.*

*Take up our quarrel with the foe;  
To you from failing hands we throw  
The torch; be yours to hold it high,  
If ye break faith with us who die  
We shall not sleep, though poppies  
grow*

*In Flanders' Fields*

John McCrae

---

## **The Ship of Life**

Steer the ship of my life, good Lord, to your quiet harbour, where I can be safe from the storms of sin and conflict. Show me the course I should take. Renew in me the gift of discernment, so that I can always see the right direction in which I should go. And give me the strength and the courage to choose the right course, even when the sea is rough and the waves are high, knowing that through enduring hardship and danger in your name we shall find comfort and peace.

Basil of Caesarea c. 330 to 379

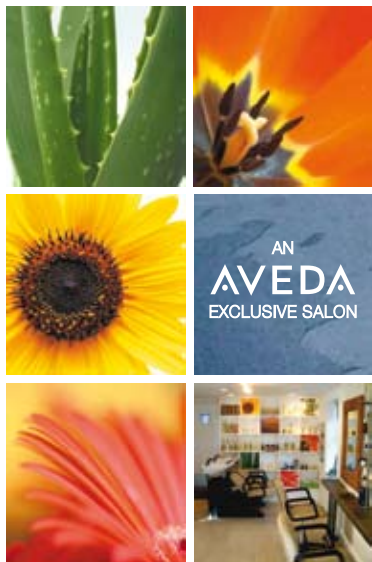
## **More and more women now trapped as 'super carers'**

The numbers of women in their forties and fifties who are caught between the demands of holding down a job and looking after a younger or older relative will rise by 50 percent by 2020, according to a recent study. This so-called 'sandwich' generation is trapped by falling birth rates and increasing longevity. More and more of these women are taking on the role of a 'super carer' – looking after both children or grandchildren and elderly relatives at the same time.

It puts a huge strain on the 'have it all' generation of women who were supposed to have more personal freedom and greater wealth than their predecessors. Currently there are an estimated 2.5 million 'super carers' in the UK, but the figure is expected to rise to 3.9 million. Most are aged between 45 and 55, and as super carers, face increased stresses which have an adverse effect on their overall health, wealth and well-being.



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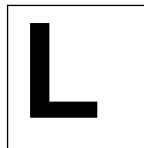
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# Holydays in November

## 1 All Saints' Day

All Saints, or All Hallows, is the feast of all the redeemed, known and unknown, who are now in heaven. When the English Reformation took place, the number of saints in the calendar was drastically reduced, with the result that All Saints' Day stood out with a prominence that it had never had before.

This feast day first began in the East, perhaps as early as the 5th century, as commemorating 'the martyrs of the whole world'. A Northern English 9th century calendar named All Hallows as a principal feast, and such it has remained. Down the centuries devotional writers have seen in it the fulfilment of Pentecost and indeed of Christ's redemptive

sacrifice and resurrection.

1,255 ancient English churches were dedicated to All Saints - a number only surpassed by those dedicated to the Virgin Mary.

## 2 All Souls' Day

The early Church was slow to dedicate a liturgical day to offering prayers and masses to commemorate the faithful departed.

But in time prayers were offered on behalf of dead monks, that they might attain "the Beatific Vision" through purification, which the Church later described as Purgatory. Odilo, the powerful abbot of Cluny, (d 1049) decreed that All Souls' Day should follow the feast of All Saints' Day. At least four ancient English dedications are known, the most famous of which are All Souls College, Oxford and the church in Langham Place in London.

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In bygone centuries All Souls' day was certainly uncomfortable for anyone who had wronged a person who had then died. For it was believed that souls in purgatory could appear on earth on this day, in the form of ghosts, witches or toads, to haunt anyone who had wronged them in life. On a more cheerful note, it was also believed that you could help the dead on this day by almsgiving in cash or in kind. Some of these beliefs seem to have been caught up in the popular customs of Hallowe'en. When the Reformation came, the Protestants disregarded the idea of Purgatory, and this feast day remained with the Roman Catholic Church.

## **25 Catherine of Alexandria** (thought to be 4th century)

Catherine is thought to have been a noble girl who lived in the 4th century. She was persecuted for her Christianity, and despised marriage with the Emperor because she was a 'bride of Christ'. According to the legend, Catherine was no push-over intellectually, either: she disputed successfully with 50 philosophers who were called in to convince her of the errors of Christianity.

Catherine protested against the persecution of Christians by Maxentius, and then she herself was tortured: broken on a wheel (later called Catherine wheel), but the machine then broke down itself, injuring bystanders. Catherine was then beheaded. This legend strongly appealed to the Middle Age imagination. Catherine became the patron of young girls, students, philosophers, nurses and craftsmen such as wheelwrights, spinners and millers.

In England 62 churches were dedicated to her, and 170 medieval bells still bear her name. 'Lives', poems, miracle plays, stained-glass windows, panels and paintings have all been done in Catherine's honour.

## **30 St Andrew's Day (d. c.60)**

Andrew is a good patron saint for those of you planning a Christmas party this year - and who hope you have rightly estimated the amount of food you'll need. Andrew was the disciple who, when faced with 5,000 people to feed, brought a boy to Jesus who had two small fish and five barley loaves. When Andrew wasn't being wildly optimistic with the catering arrangements, he was out fishing with brother Peter and

friends James and John. This New Testament apostle and martyr was brother of Simon Peter. He was a fisherman by trade, his home was at Capernaum. He was a disciple of John the Baptist before becoming an apostle of Christ.

In all the Gospel lists of apostles his name is among the first four; he is specially mentioned for his share in the feeding of the 5,000 and in the episode of the Greeks who wished to meet Jesus. (John 12:20-2) It is not certain where Andrew preached the Gospel, where he died, or (even in Chrysostom's time) where he was buried. The most ancient written tradition links him with Greece; Scythia and Epirus both claimed him as their disciple. Patras in Achaia claimed to be the place where he was crucified and preached to the people for two days before he died.

There was a notable cult in the West. His feast was universal from the 6th century; churches were dedicated to him from early times in Italy and France, as well as Anglo-Saxon England, where Rochester was the earliest of 637 medieval dedications. After the fall of Constantinople in 1204, the Crusaders took his body to Amalfi. The despot Thomas

Palaeologus gave his head to the pope in 1461. It was one of the most treasured possessions of St Peter's until it was returned to Constantinople by Paul VI.

In art Andrew is depicted with a normal Latin cross. The saltire cross (X), commonly called St Andrew's Cross, which represents Scotland on the Union Jack, was associated with him from the 10th century at Autun. His other attribute is a fishing net.

---

## VACANCY

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# St. James' Annual Christmas Fair

**Saturday 25 November 2006**

Christleton Parish Hall

10.00 a.m. start

Entrance 50p  
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**THEME**



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# CHRISTLETON CRICKET CLUB

Despite being known throughout the county as a village cricket team, Christleton is still able to compete successfully in the Cheshire Premier league. 2006 was another season of good performances. The first X1 finished in 4th position. Along with last seasons 3rd place we have now established ourselves with the elite teams. Chairman, Gareth Davies, will be hoping we can challenge for honours next year.

The 2nd X1 had a fantastic season. They achieved promotion, finishing 4 points behind Grapenhall. A blend of youth, experience and team spirit resulted in an unbeaten run of 19 games.

The 3rd X1 finished in 4th position in their league. This team will soon gain advantage from the excellent youth policy which is producing some fine prospects from the village and surrounding areas.

In recognition of the excellent ground and playing surface Christleton have been asked to host a Cheshire minor counties match in May next season. This will be the first occasion that such an important Cheshire game is to be played at Little Heath and we hope the village will support this unique occasion.

Anyone who visited the cricket club this season will have noticed the beautiful hanging baskets and flower tubs, individually provided by local supporters. A competition was held to choose the best floral display. The winner, chosen by local gardening celebrity, Alison Hollindale, was Spenner Edwards, closely followed by marigold specialist Jim Partington and Gareth Davies geranium exhibit.

We would like to express our thanks to the following match sponsors for September:

Grey Matters, Sissons family, Brian Ruks and the Morgan – Jones family

For information about the club or hiring – contact Brian 332326



The winner, chosen by local gardening celebrity, Alison Hollindale, was Spenner Edwards

## **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**

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## **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.

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## **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 2006

## Holy Baptism

- 10th Toby Montague Holland son of Alistair & Clare Holland  
Little Paddock Plough Lane, Christleton
- 17th Thomas Michael Duffy son of Nicholas & Helen Duffy  
The Croft, Rowton Bridge Road, Christleton
- 28th Thomas James Elvey son of Geoffrey & Catherine Elvey  
Rose Cottage, Fir Tree Lane, Littleton

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

## The Wedding Service

- 16th Paul James Taylor & Alexandra Jocelyn Smith  
30 Trefoil Close, Huntington, Chester
- 16th Nigel William Boothman 89a Grange Loan, Edinburgh &  
Karagh Elizabeth Scott Gilliat East Garth, Tarvin Road, Littleton
- 30th Huw Richard Williams 22 Kings Crescent West, Boughton &  
Jane Elizabeth Moore Manor Farm, Hare Lane, Littleton

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

## Offeratories

September	Cash	CSM	2006	2005
3rd	242-84	849-00	1,091-84	1,016-20
10th	257-83	693-00	950-83	971-00
17th	140-72	561-90	702-62	718-79
24th	230-10	666-00	896-10	1,020-15
Totals			£3,641-39	£3,726-14

*"Of your own do we give you"*

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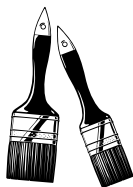
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<b>SUNDAYS</b>	8.00 a.m.	Holy Communion	
	10.45 a.m	Parish Communion	1st & 3rd Sundays
		Family Service	2nd Sunday
		Mattins	4th & 5th Sundays
	6.30 p.m	Evensong	1st, 2nd & 3rd
Sundays			
		Evening Communion	4th Sunday
		Songs of Praise	5th Sunday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

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	Lois Dickinson,	
	8 Old Mill Court, Mill Lane, Upton.....	378320
<b>Reader</b>	Wayne Morris.....	01978
263389		
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