

St. James' Christleton



Parish Magazine
September 2006

30p

Starting in September

Fri	1	6.30 pm	Choir Practice restarts
Sun	3		The Twelfth Sunday after Trinity - Proper 17
		8.00 am	Holy Communion - Order 2
		10.45 am	Parish Communion - Order 1
		6.30 pm	Evensong - followed by refreshments Prayer Link Road - Durban Avenue Neighbourhood Link - Jenny Brown
Mon	4	10.45 am	Holy Communion - Tarvin Court Nursing Home
		11.15 am	Holy Communion - Oaklands Nursing Home
		2.00 pm	PCC Standing Committee - Rectory
Wed	6	10.45 am	United Communion - followed by refreshments
		7.45 pm	Faith and Worship Committee - Rectory
Thur	7	7.45 pm	Stewardship Committee - Lady Chapel
Fri	8	6.30 pm	Choir Practice
			NB Last date for any contributions for October Parish Magazine to David Bull (332234). Earlier if possible please. You can attach your Word document and e-mail to: christleton mag@hotmail.co.uk
Sat	9	10.00 am - 4.0 pm	Church open for Ride and Stride - Historic Cheshire Churches.

Sun	10	The Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity - Proper 18
	8.00 am	Holy Communion - Order 1
	10.45 am	Annual Family Rededication Communion with Baptism - followed by Finger Buffet
	6.30 pm	Evensong
		Prayer Link Road: Fir Tree Lane Neighbourhood Link: Bunty McLelland
Mon	11	Mothers Union - Parish Hall
	7.45 pm	Bereavement Support Group - Rectory
Wed	13	Holy Communion - followed by refreshments
	11.30 am	Holy Communion at Birch Heath Lodge Nursing Home
Fri	15	6.30 pm Choir Practice
Sun	17	The Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity - Proper 19
	8.00 am	Holy Communion - Order 1
	10.45 am	Sunday School - Parish Hall
	10.45 am	Parish Communion - Order 1
	6.00 pm	The Crew Youth Group - Parish Hall
	6.30 pm	Evensong
		Prayer Link Road: Greenfield Lane & Claypits Lane Neighbourhood Link: June Owen
Wed	20	10.45 am Holy Communion - followed by refreshments
Thur	21	7.45 pm Deanery Eucharist - Ecclestone
Fri	22	6.30 pm Choir Practice
Sun	24	The Fifteenth Sunday After Trinity - Proper 20
	8.00 am	Holy Communion - Order 1
	10.45 am	Sunday School - Parish Hall
	10.45 am	Matins with Baptism - followed by refreshments
	6.00 pm	The Crew Youth Group - Parish Hall
	6.30 pm	Evening Communion - Order 1
		Eucharist for Healing
		Prayer Link: Greystone Road and Ring Road
Wed	27	10.45 am Holy Communion - followed by refreshments
	7.45 pm	PCC Meeting - Parish Hall
Fri	29	9.00 am Holy Communion for St Michael and All Angels

The Rector's Letter

Dear Friends

“Outside-In”

September will no doubt signal a new flurry of activity – back to school, end of holidays, new beginnings etc. And as a Church we recognise that in our Rededication Service on 10 September, as the Autumn pattern of programmes kicks in. But what is it all about? What is the goal of our activities? For us as a Church surely the goal is the Gospel. An obituary to the late Frankie Howerd ended: “Once asked for his favourite memory, he replied:- ‘It hasn’t happened yet!’.” As Christians we believe that the best is yet to come. Not only in an eschatological sense in Heaven, but as the coming of God’s Kingdom on earth, as in Heaven. That is the goal of the Gospel, and the goal to which we are dedicated.

As we read the Bible Jesus strides through the pages of the Gospels healing the sick, comforting the needy and feeding the hungry. But there is another dimension to the activity of Jesus. In all his actions Jesus is moving the margins, to bring the outside in. Jesus is inclusive. His ‘miracles’ are aimed at those who are outside social conventions – the lepers, the blind, the beggar, the ‘unclean’ – to show they are acceptable as God’s children. His parables likewise would cause offence to the established hierarchy. The Parable of the ‘Good Samaritan’ would be anathema to the Jews; likewise the ‘Prodigal Son’. Jesus’ encounters are also with ‘outsiders’ for whatever reason – Nicodemus, Matthew, Zacchaeus, the woman at Samaria. The actions and teachings of Jesus demonstrate his love and concern for all God’s people, but this is not just as an example to follow – its more than that. Jesus is not just a ‘good man’ who epitomises a code of behaviour. His ‘miracles’, teaching and encounters are glimpses of the Kingdom. As we see each of them, we see the ‘flashes of dawn’ as, in Jesus, the Kingdom begins to break in. In his book “More About Mark”, John Fenton wrote:- “ ... instead of demons and madness, there will be sanity; instead of sickness, health; instead of uncleanness, holiness; instead of defects, activity; instead of guilt, forgiveness; instead of sea and storms, peace; instead of hunger, plenty; instead of barrenness, fruitfulness; instead of death, life. The miracles of Mark point to the life that will be on earth when God begins to rule.”

The incredible thing is, however, that Jesus invites us, as he invited those first disciples, to help in this mission, and become actively engaged. His very choice of helpers displayed this policy of bringing outsiders in – fishermen, a tax collector, a Zealot – a motley band of ill-assorted characters on the margins of society, who would become the powerhouse of his purpose. One of the major themes of the Gospel is that God makes use of human frailties

CATHEDRAL LINK

Chester Cathedral is more than just a building – its strength lies in its people. Over the centuries, the Abbey and Cathedral have influenced millions of lives – in local, national and international events, in personal triumphs and trials. Here are a few stories and events.

1101 Hugh Lupus, callous Norman Earl of Chester, briefly became a monk to atone for his sins. He replaced the Saxon Church with a large and well endowed Benedictine Abbey in 1092.

In 1274 Edward 1 allowed monks to cut through the City walls to reach their gardens – Kaleyard Gate is still locked at 9 pm each night.

In the 1480's "Divers Wymen" accused of being "the paramours of the monks of Chester".

1555 George Marsh burnt at the stake for heresy, by order of the Bishop.

1588 Day of Thanksgiving in the Cathedral "for our deliverance from the Spanyardes".

1607 Mayor wins right to carry his sword point uppermost in the Cathedral – a tradition still observed today.

1640s Cathedral roofs melted down to make musket balls during Civil War siege.

1647 Plague kills 2,032 people in Chester.

1741 Handel hears first ever recital of his Messiah in the Cathedral.

1760 George Clark, late Governor of New York, buried in the Cathedral.

1776 George Harding, aged 104, marries Jane Darlington, 84, in the South Transept.

1815 Thousands of candles illuminate Abbey Square to celebrate defeat of Napoleon.

1930s Cathedral's Consistory Court hears final case; attempted suicide by priest.

1939-45 Rooftop fire watchers save the Cathedral from "German incendiary bombs".

1975 – Free-standing Bell Tower built.

1992 900th anniversary celebrations: Her Majesty the Queen distributes Maundy Money in the Cathedral. Grace Owen, our St James' Sacristan at the time, received hers.

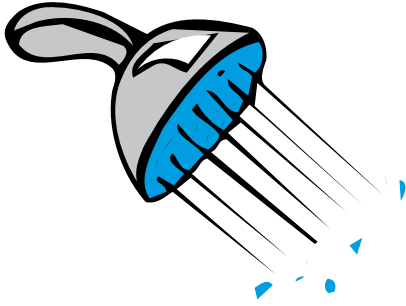
1996 Nave excavated by City Archaeologists and new floor laid.

Present day New Song School is built.

Margaret Croston

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GODS GREAT GIFT OF WATER

Without the endless properties of water there would be no life on earth as we know it. Yet how often do we pause to consider the importance of this life giving substance. Daily we drink it whether in the form of tea, coffee, lemonade, alcohol or in its natural state.

Our bodies and the bodies of most creatures on earth are mostly made up of this amazing substance, and we not only drink it but we wash in it and wash with it. We would find it difficult to cook without it, and most remarkably it mixes with most acids and alkali as well as providing a base for many medicines and chemicals. Surprisingly only 3% of the worlds water is fresh water, but if shared thoughtfully it can feed every human, every animal, bird or insect, as well as every tree and plant on the earth.

Water can be pressurised, but not compressed, and it can be boiled or frozen all of which makes it useful for doing work. Because it is buoyant and flows easily it allows great ships to sail on it, and beneath the waves billions of fish and other marine life exists, living in an interdependent chain of birth, life and death, the design and colours of which are beyond description. Because water

can evaporate and reform as rain, hail or snow it controls much of our weather systems, which in turn helps our trees to grow thereby purifying the air we breath. Water also purifies much of the pollution which is man made. It bonds the bricks and mortar of our towns and cities.

Is it any wonder that John baptised Christ with water or that we are christened with it?

The question is? Do we reverence, respect and care for this great gift as we should?

To despoil water is to despoil and destroy life!

Neville Williams.



House Blessing

Have you ever blessed your house? If not, here is a prayer to help you on your way!

*God bless the house from ground to stay,
From beam to wall and all the way,
From head to post, from ridge to clay,
From balk to roof-tree let it lay,
From found to top and every day
God bless both fore and aft, I pray,
Nor from the house God's blessing stray,
From top to toe the blessing go.*

From Poems of the Western Highlanders

TOMMY THE FISH

(a profile)

Tommy has been delivering fish from his refrigerated van for over 30 years. He travels all around Cheshire, calling every Friday afternoon at precisely 2.40 pm with my order of fish.

He's a very humble man, but interesting and very contented with life.

Over the years, although I've never met his family, through his amusing anecdotes each week, I have come to know them well. Four little fair haired girls, full of mischief and Betty their mother. Now they are all grown up, married, and have 9 children between them ranging from 2 years to 12. They all live near to Tommy and Betty and are simply one large happy family, the grandchildren spending a great deal of time at Tommy's home, where he joins in with all their games and like Pied Piper, he takes them all out together, for walks in the country and Delamere forest, where they make dens, and Tommy tells them weird tales of bears and wolves, and fairy folk for his little granddaughters.

Not only does he entertain me every Friday with his hilarious tales, but in the past winters, he has chopped firewood for me, brought in coal, and when I was not well, made me cups of tea. One day, when he found me sandpapering the paint on my back door, he stopped me, saying that he would bring his blow torch

and undercoat on the following Friday, which he did, and the following week, painted it with gloss paint – all between his fish deliveries!

We've never discussed religion, but I know that he only attends church for weddings, christenings and funerals, but Tommy has all the qualities which were taught by Jesus, of loving and caring for our neighbours. As he travels round Cheshire in his little white van, delivering his fish, I hear from many of his customers, of his caring and help when needed.



One amusing story I must tell you. Sometimes Tommy and I exchange CD's. One Friday recently, he brought me a CD which he wanted to listen to, saying that it needed to be played at full volume to get "the Buzz". Apparently, all his grandchildren danced to it, and he defied anyone to not get their feet tapping. Then, getting up, he started to show me a few steps of line dancing" which he'd recently and accidentally discovered. (But that's another story!) I joined him, rather reluctantly, in the middle of my sitting room and rather unsteadily followed his steps – when I heard the door bell ring, and a face appeared at the widow. On opening the front door, there stood a very astonished Rector. "Rena" he shouted, over the music blasting out from the sitting room, "what on earth are you doing?!" "I'm line dancing with the fishmonger" I replied, laughing, and leading him into the sitting room, I turned off the music.

Tommy stood there, with a sheepish expression on his face, twisting his cap nervously between his fingers. I think that he believes that all ministers are next in line to God. As I handed him his CD, he crept out of the house and driving his little white van at great speed, he disappeared from view, before I'd even paid for my fish. Doubling over with laughter, I explained the situation to the Rector, adding "you never know what your parishioners get up to behind closed doors!" I don't know if he too was amused – or perhaps disgusted at this elderly lady behaving in such an undignified manner.

Rena Griffiths

THOUGHTS OF PEACE

By chance I have been here during the worsening Lebanese crisis, as I was on "September 11th" five years ago. This flourishing and beautiful city was itself the subject of an attack in war causing disproportionate harm and death to civilians.

While Lebanon burns I have again received great kindnesses from delightful Dresdeners, most of them young, looking to the future. I have fed ducks with a Romanian and a North Vietnamese, and I have spent a day in the Czech Republic with a student from Russia and now married to a German border guard

Please God

John Carruthers

Never too late..

Belated Happy Birthday
greetings to
Marie Rutter
who was 90 on 24 July.

General Synod discusses women bishops amongst a range of important debates

The latest Group of Sessions of the General Synod took place in York in mid-July, and the Synod worked through a demanding agenda. Over the course of two debates, Synod decided that admitting women to the episcopate in the Church of England is theologically justified, and agreed that a legislative drafting group be established with a view to preparing a range of specific options for enabling women to be consecrated as bishops whilst maintaining the highest possible degree of unity within the Church. Amongst a range of debates, Synod studied the report of the Commission on Urban Life and Faith, Faithful Cities, and also considered the first draft of plans that aim to make it easier for people to get married in church.

Statistic of the Month:

More churches are growing!

**By Dr Peter Brierley of
Christian Research**

One of the findings from the 2005 English Church Census, whose main results are being published this month, was that the number of churches in England which grew between 1998 and 2005 was 34%. This is a large increase on the 21% which grew between 1989 and 1998. It is of course very good news!

Why do churches grow? Often because there is warm welcome, a friendly

atmosphere, and the preaching is helpful to 'the people in the pew'. Many growing churches have activities which reach out to their local community and attract people to the church. This is especially true of youth meetings midweek. The key reason for growth, however, relates to the vision of the church and the strength of the leadership behind it. If a church knows what it wants to accomplish over the next two or three years, people will want to join in!

Many churches are growing among the black churches, those of other ethnic groups, larger churches, and Pentecostal and Independent churches. However, there are some growing churches in all denominations and in every county in England

Holydays in September

2 William of Roskilde d 1070

Here is a saint for anyone who thinks Christian leaders should stand up for justice – even at the risk of angering secular powers.

It all began when William was an English priest serving as chaplain to Canute, king of England, (1016-35), who decided to visit Scandinavia. William went along, and was so shocked by the ignorance, idolatry and superstition that he stayed on to help preach the Gospel. Eventually he became bishop of Roskilde (Zeeland), working tirelessly among the people as a beloved pastor.

But William's main challenge came in his determination to improve the conduct of the king, Sweyn Estridsen.

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The king had had some criminals killed without trial and in a church, violating sanctuary. William then forbade him to enter the church next day until he was absolved from the guilt of shedding blood unjustly. Courtiers drew their swords, and William showed himself ready to die. Instead, Sweyn confessed his crime and donated land to Roskilde church as a peace-offering. Thenceforward until the king's death Sweyn and William worked together to foster Christianity in Scandinavia.

3 Gregory the Great c 540 – 604

Pope Gregory never called himself 'the Great', but instead 'the Servant of the Servants of God'. Nevertheless, Gregory was one of the most important popes and influential writers of the Middle Ages. The son of a very rich Roman senator, he left the service of the State upon his conversion as a young man. Gregory then sold off his tremendous estates to found six monasteries in Sicily and a seventh in Rome, and gave generously to the poor. He became a monk and adopted an austere lifestyle. But he was destined to be a frustrated monk, because successive popes kept appointing him to jobs with major public responsibilities. Christians in England owe him a great deal. When Gregory came across some English slaves for sale in Rome, he asked who they were, and was told, 'They are Angles.' Moved with compassion for these humiliated and despised men, he replied, 'They are not Angles, but angels!' He wanted to lead a band of missionaries to England to evangelise

the Angles, but then plague broke out in Italy, and during this time he was elected Pope. Reluctantly he accepted, and then sent to work to deal with the crises facing Christendom: plague, floods, famine, and a Lombard invasion. But busy though Gregory was, he did not forget the Angles. He sent Augustine to England, and so indirectly became the apostle of the English

8 The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

In both eastern and western churches, Mary has always been held as pre-eminent among all the saints. The unique, extraordinary privilege of being the mother of the One who was both God and Man, makes her worthy of special honour. Thomas Aquinas believed she was due hyperdulia, or a veneration that exceeds that of other saints, but is at the same time infinitely below the adoration, or latria, due to God alone. The gospels of Matthew and Luke give Mary most mention. Luke even tells the story of Jesus' infancy from Mary's point of view. Her Song, or Magnificat appears in Luke 1:46-55.

The virginal conception of Christ is clearly stated in the gospels. But after Jesus' birth, Mary fades quietly into the background. During Jesus' public life, she is mentioned only occasionally, as at the wedding at Cana. She reappears at the foot of the Cross (John's Gospel), and is given into John's care. In the early chapters of Acts, Mary is with the Apostles, and received the Holy Spirit

along with them on Whitsunday. But her role was not the active one of teaching and preaching.

Mary's significance grew with the centuries. By the fifth century she was called Theotokos, The Mother of God, and from the seventh century onwards, she was given four festivals: the Presentation in the Temple (2 February), the Annunciation (25 March), the Assumption (15 August) and her Nativity (8 September). Marian devotion has played an enormous role in the church down the years. Mary has been the object of countless prayers, accredited with performing many miracles, and the subject of thousands of artistic endeavours. She has had hundreds of chapels or parish churches named after her.

During the Reformation many images of Mary were destroyed. The Second Vatican Council 1962 made an extended statement on her, stressing her complete dependence on her Son, and regarding her as a model of the Church. Principal Marian shrines of today include Lourdes (France), Fatima (Portugal), Walsingham (England), Loreto (Italy), Czesochowa (Poland) and Guadalupe (Mexico).

“The vocation of every man and woman is to serve other people”. – Count Leo Tolstói

Pause for thought

*Around the corner I have a friend
In this great city that has no end
Yet the days go by and weeks rush on
And before I know it, a year is gone
And I never see my old friend's face
As in the days when I rang his bell
And he rang mine, but we were younger then.*

*And now, we are busy, tired men
Tired of playing a foolish game
Tired of trying to make a name.*

*Tomorrow. I say, I will call on Jim
But tomorrow comes and tomorrow goes*

And distance between us grows and grows

Around the corner – yet miles away.

“Here's a message, sir, “Jim died today”

And that's what we get and deserve in the end

Around the corner, a vanished friend!

Anon

Christleton Pit Conservation Group

Why is there no water in The Pit? is a question I'm often asked by newcomers or visitors to the village.

I always stress the point, which is all too obvious this summer, that The Pit is only fed by rainwater, and a few road drains, and has no feeder stream, spring or other source of water. If the weather is constantly hot as at present, the water evaporates at a tremendous rate, and regular heavy downpours are needed this autumn and winter to replenish it. In fact we are lucky that May was so wet (3 _ " of rain) that it filled The Pit up before the recent hot spell started. It is remarkable that we have had less than 8" of rain in the year to date, well below average, and heavy rainfall is essential to build up future reserves of water. The Pit Group has carried out depth surveys during the winter and spring and there are several areas where silt is quite close to the surface. So the need for water is critical, to ensure a balance and to keep the wildlife (especially the large number of fish) alive and well.

Although work at "The Pit" began as a conservation activity by children from the Primary School between 1972 - 5, the main work of restoring and caring for "The Pit" started after September 2006

the severe drought of 1976 when the area dried out and NO WATER remained, after the great heat wave of that year. To commemorate the work that has been carried out there over 30 years by a large group of volunteers from the village community, together with the full support of the Christleton Parish Council, a celebratory evening is being organised in the Parish Hall on Saturday 14th October 2005 starting at 7.00pm.

It will take the form of a buffet supper, with an illustrated talk about "The Pit Project" in the first half, with the story of Christleton swans after the interval. Tickets are £6.00, with all the proceeds going towards the future management of "The Pit"

Tickets will be available from The
Post Office,
David Cummings 332410 or
Pit Group members.

My thanks

I greatly appreciate the support and prayers of so many following the death of my younger brother, Charles.

Your cards and messages of sympathy have been a great comfort at this time

My thanks to everyone

Alf Croston

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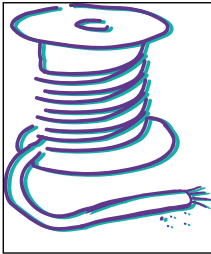
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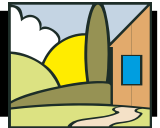
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September '06 - Christleton Adult and Community Education Centre

The new programme of evening classes will start on Monday 18th September. We hope that many local residents will again join us and take up the opportunity of lifelong learning locally.

The Centre is open Monday, Tuesday and Thursday evenings – in excellent accommodation – the new block at Christleton High School – to the left of the main school entrance – if you've not yet found us.

On offer – a range of courses to meet the interests – professional and leisure of our students. The programme has expanded again this year and we have some exciting new classes as well as 'old favourites'.

You may want to develop your expertise, find a new interest, add a recognised qualification to your CV – our students enjoy the guidance of excellent tutors and like minded colleagues – in a relaxed atmosphere.

Calligraphy, garden design, traditional English willow basketry, philosophy, wine appreciation, total tone, feng-shui, holistic therapies, RYA yachtmaster, Spanish, computers, watercolours, bridge, book keeping, creative writing.....Almost 50 courses are available – and at a reasonable cost

To find out full details of dates, times and fees

– please see the NewsWest brochure which was distributed free with your copy of the Standard and is also available in Christleton Post Office and local libraries

– look on our website www.christletonhigh.co.uk

and follow links to Community and Adult Education.

Each course is described here – with answers to the most frequently asked questions about the classes

– phone me at the Centre 6.30-9.30pm from 18th September
or email me now for information g.cleverly@west-cheshire.ac.uk

And - to enrol – telephone 01244 670600

We look forward to seeing you at the Centre in September
you'll be very welcome.

Gwen Cleverly

Places to visit to see wonderful close up views of wildlife



During the last two months I've been fortunate to visit two magical "Bird Islands".

Skomer off the Pembrokeshire coast, and the Farne Island Group off Northumberland. Both are superb places to visit, but with subtle differences in the species of sea birds to be seen. In all I saw tens of thousands of birds which gave me great encouragement, after reading so many recent stories of declining numbers of many species.

The highlight on Skomer was the close up views of puffins, nesting very close to the pathways, in among sea pinks, red campion and blue bells, bringing in fish to feed their mate. Sand eels their favourite food, seem to have recovered from the recent dearth in numbers, which caused many young birds especially in Scotland, to starve to death. These puffins were just a few feet away, and a joy to watch, with their colourful beaks stuffed full with the slithering silver sand eels. Sand eels are also the staple diet of the tern family, of which

five species could be seen on the Farnes. A few rare Roseate terns,



could be seen together with tens of thousands of noisy Sandwich, Common, Arctic and Little terns, all feeding by crash diving from height, straight into the sea to catch their fish. They were joined in spectacular fashion by long lines of gannets, huge white seabirds with black tips to their wings. There are 28,000 pairs on Grassholm, an island near

Skomer and a similar number on The Bass Rock in Scotland who travel across the oceans to feed, passing very close to areas like the Farne Islands, where fish are plentiful. We can also vouch for the quality of the local fish, as the local fish and chips were the best we've ever tasted!. Both islands have large colonies of grey seals, and huge numbers of vociferous nesting birds such as the delightful kittiwake, or the fish - eating cormorants and shag. We missed out on seeing the beautiful black and white guillemots and razorbills on the Farnes as they had already left their breeding



grounds to live out at sea, although there had been plenty on the stack rocks at Skomer. There were good numbers of cormorants, with their curved red bills and red legs on Skomer, but we missed seeing tens of thousands of Manx shearwaters, (almost half the world population of this species) who only fly in at night, often to the nest site where they were born some four years previously!! Another favourite on the Farnes are the delightful Eider ducks, from which we get our eider down feathers. They also dive for their food, and can stay under water for up to 60 seconds. In the summer months it's only the females that can be seen, often looking after huge rafts of young ducklings in joint family caring schemes!. Both islands can be reached by boat, Skomer from Martin's Haven, and The Farnes from Seahouses. Boat and landing fees are payable making them expensive family outings, but the quality of the wildlife seen at very close range, make them both very memorable experiences. However Bill Oddie's TV programmes has made these trips very popular, and queues can now be expected.

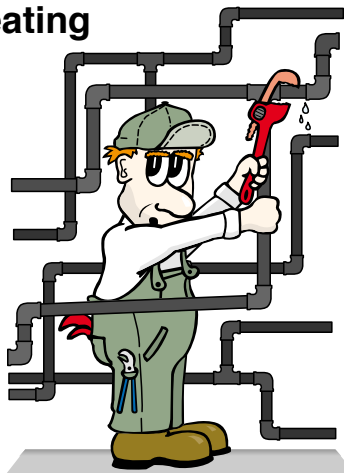
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LOCAL EVENTS DIARY

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 LADIES GUILD

Held at the Christleton Methodist Church, commencing at 2pm, Tuesdays fortnightly, £1 admission includes refreshments. For further information contact Joan Webb, 335518.

All very 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 WEDNESDAY GROUP

As from September, the group will meet once per month, on the first Tuesday of each month.

CHRISTLETON W.I.

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

There is no meeting in August

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

No information received at the time of going to press regarding the next meeting

CHRISTLETON W.I. MONTHLY WHIST DRIVE

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

All welcome.

MAGAZINE DISTRIBUTORS

The October magazine will be available for collection from Church
on Sunday 24 September.

LOCAL EVENTS DIARY

CHRISTLETON RAMBLING GROUPS



St'James (Tuesday) Walking Group

This is an informal group of members of the village community (mostly retired) who enjoy stimulating company, and walking in interesting areas of the country. The walks are varied to cater for all abilities, and transport is shared. Due to the increasing cost of fuel and heavy congestion on some of our main roads, the walks will in future usually take place in areas involving about an hours travel. Members are asked to confirm their attendance by the Sunday evening prior to each walk. If you would like to find out more about the group & the walking standard required, please ring David Cummings on 332410.

Tuesday September 19th
Derbyshire Tideswell, Chee & Millers Dales 7 miles (Grade moderate). Picnic needed. Possible visit to Eyam (Plague) Village & afternoon tea.
Depart Church Car Park at 7.30am.

Tuesday October 24th
Anglesey. Meolfre 10 miles (Grade easy).
Visiting stone age burial chamber/ hut circles & ancient village at Din Lligwy, & the coast at Lligwy Bay.
Picnic needed. Depart Church Car Park at 7.30am.

MAGAZINE CONTRIBUTIONS

Please ensure all items for inclusion in the October edition are sent to the Editor, David Bull, The Old Rectory, Plough Lane, as soon as possible **BEFORE Friday 8 September** or you can e-mail this to

christletonmag@hotmail.co.uk

LOCAL EVENTS DIARY

Christleton

Local History Group.

The Group usually meets at the Primary School in Quarry Lane, on the third Wednesday of the month.

Due to clashes with holidays and half term, this winter session starts on **Thursday October 19th**, before reverting to Wednesdays for the rest of the season. There is a charge of £2.00 to cover the costs of hiring the Hall and for light refreshments, including a glass of wine/soft drink. All welcome.

Thursday October 19th. 7.30pm

Houses and Villages of the Cotswolds.
Speaker David Cummings.

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.

Christleton Wednesday Group

Annual Christmas Card Sale
& Coffee Morning
on

Saturday 14 October,
Christleton Parish Hall,
10.00 am – 12.00 noon.

Admission 80p, includes coffee /
tea & biscuits.

*A great opportunity to buy all your
Christmas cards direct from local & national
charities all at the same time!*

Also cake and toy stalls.

PAMPER NIGHT

Friday 3 November
Methodist Church Hall – 7.30 pm
£5 admission

Ladies – a date for your
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Details from

Janet Milton 01244.335469
Christine Abrams 01244.335562
Gill Brackenbury 01244.329346

LOCAL EVENTS DIARY

“The 2006 Chester Literature Festival

Runs from 2nd to 27th October.

Guest speakers and entertainers include Willy Russell, Ian McMillan, U A Fanthorpe, Judith Flanders, Marina Lewycka, Anne Fine, Professor Steve Jones, Joan Bakewell, Robert Powell & Liza Goddard, A N Wilson, George Monbiot, Professor David Crystal, Stella Rimington, Michael Dobbs, Bill Roache, Michael Pennington, George Galloway, Patricia Duncker and George Alagiah.

Other events are:

the Book Swaps on 23rd and 30th September in the Town Hall Square from 10.30 - 3.00 pm. Bring a book, take a book or buy a book., Chester & Ellesmere Port Schools Poetry Competition, Schools Poetry Workshop, ‘How to Write Fiction for magazines’ talk - get the inside information and know how from the Fiction Editor of Woman’s Weekly, Chester Poets with Cliff Yates, Cheshire Poet Laureate showcase, Chester Writers Belle Epoque synaesthesia: words by Baudelaire and paintings by Limouse at the Grosvenor Museum Cheshire Prize for Literature, and the Chester Lyric Singers.

In addition, the Chester Literature Festival are proud to present the Big Blacon Poetry Day Prior to the official start the Barnsley poet, Radio 3 The Verb presenter, regular on Radio 2 Mark Radcliffe show and sometime poet in residence on the Today programme, Ian McMillan is coming to do a walkabout and workshop in Blacon on Monday 25th September. He will then use some of the material in his ‘official’ event on Thursday 5th October National Poetry Day when he also presents the winners of the Chester & Ellesmere Port Schools Poetry Competition with their prizes.

See www.chester-literature-festival.org.uk or telephone 01244 674020 for further details. Box office 01244 340 392 (Chester Gateway)”

September 2006

GROSVENOR MUSEUM SOCIETY

Thursday, 7th September.

Elizabeth Newall.

“ Liverpool Pier Head Promenade : from fishing village to world-renowned dock”.

Wednesday, 11th October.

Jenny Chesters.

“Stories from a retired Bishop’s wife”.

Meetings are at the Grosvenor Museum, starting at 7.30pm.

Members, free. Non-members, suggested donation, £4.

Membership details from Ken Holding, tel 312689.

AFTERNOON TEA

In the garden at
Melrose, Roadside, Christleton

At 3.00 pm on
Wednesday 23 August Tickets £3

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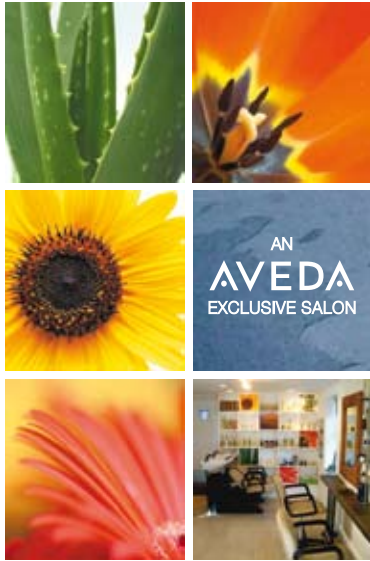
What will it take to end child poverty?

It may come as a shock to some of our readers to learn that child poverty in the United Kingdom remains worse than in most other European countries; and that a child here still has nearly twice as much chance of living in a household with relatively low income than a generation ago.

Yet these are among the findings of a recent study carried out for the Joseph Rowntree Foundation. Since the late 1990s, child poverty has begun to fall, helped by rising parental employment and by large increases in tax credits and benefits paid to low-income families. But, say the researchers, present policies are unlikely to produce further substantial improvement. Increasing benefits alone will not be enough to meet the Government's targets of halving child poverty by 2010 and abolishing it by 2020 (because some families will remain outside paid work and under present plans their incomes would fall well behind rising living standards). In addition, ways must be found to enable parents to fare better in the workplace, with improved pay and opportunities. This will require better education and training for disadvantaged groups, improved childcare and the promotion of equal pay for women.

'Welfare to work' measures are important but they will have a diminishing effect over time, as the families remaining unemployed face greater barriers to work (a growing proportion will be either parents with disabilities or those with very young children). Lord Richard Best, Director of the Joseph Rowntree Foundation, says: "All political parties agree in principle that a continuation of child poverty in our affluent country is unacceptable. Now we need a long-term vision of how to end it. Just as with pensions, this requires a commitment to ensure that the incomes of those who depend on state help do not fall behind as we grow more prosperous as a nation. The amount of extra public spending needed may seem large but in fact would be only a small fraction of future economic growth."

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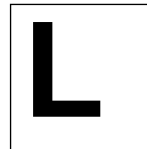
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Stop Press.

The Christleton cygnets were caught and ringed today 8th August on the canal at Rowton. They were a good weight, all between 6.5kg and 7.8kg, and the cygnets include five females and two males. They now have green leg rings in the sequence CP 51 to 57, and the cob nick-named Sam, has also been re ringed for the fourth time, this time as Green CP 58 (Previously VZN Blue and Green 852 and CL30) He is now at least fourteen years, and has mellowed somewhat in his old age. He does extremely well despite his damaged hip, and although walking is difficult, still flies very well, when not in moult as at present. A red kite was recently seen in the area between Plough Lane and the Canal, and a Little Owl at Hockenhull.



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**September 29
Michael, Gabriel
and Raphael**

In the Bible, angels are messengers from God. The word 'angel' comes from the Greek word for a messenger and it appears hundreds of times in the Bible. But the only angels whose names we know are Michael, Gabriel and Raphael who are archangels, captains among the angels. Each of these three has a different task: Michael protects; Gabriel announces; Raphael guides.

In the New Testament, in the book of Revelation, Michael leads God's armies to final victory over the forces of evil and in the Old Testament he is in the book of Daniel, defending Israel against its enemies.

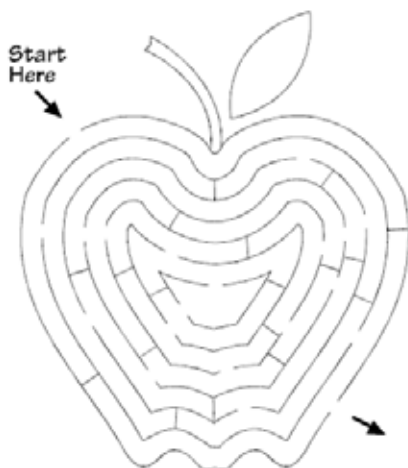
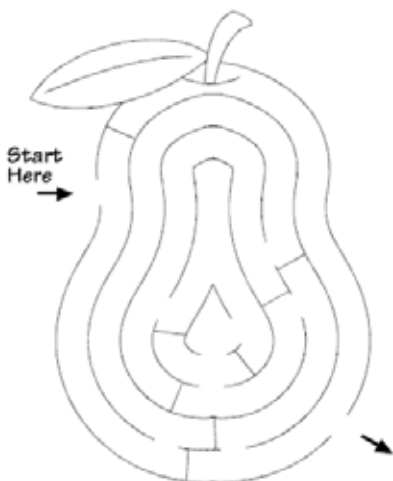


Gabriel is best known for his appearing to a young Jewish girl named Mary to tell her that she will give birth to Jesus.

Raphael is in the Old Testament story of Tobit where he guides Tobit's son Tobiah.

HARVEST PUZZLE

Can you find your way through these two fruit mazes?



What kind of nuts sneeze the most?

Cashews.

What's a vampire's favourite fruit?

Nectarine.

Historic Narrow Boat “President” on the Shropshire Union Canal

From time to time historic narrow boats can be seen on the Shropshire Union Canal at Christleton. The best time is usually around Easter when traditional working boats travel from all parts of the canal system to celebrate at a Festival at the Ellesmere Port Boat Museum. However a few weeks ago I was alerted by the sound of an American whistle, to see “President” a unique steam powered narrow boat passing my house at Rowton with another historic



Fellows Morton Clayton narrow boat “Gifford” in tow. The ‘President’ has a distinctive ‘Josher’ shaped hull, which has riveted wrought iron sides and a 3” elm bottom. It also has a unique funnel which can be folded when it negotiates tunnels. The specially developed steam engine and coke fired boiler took up so much space in the hull that

it could only carry 18 tons of cargo, compared with 25 tons in horse drawn boats. However it had so much spare power that it could tow several 'butty' or unpowered boats behind it. These steam boats led to a great speeding up of cargoes, and they worked 'fly' which means by day and night, on the canals between London and the Midlands. On this occasion the butty boat was the 'Gifford', built to work as a horse drawn narrow boat by FMC, and currently kept at Ellesmere Port. FMC or Fellows Morton Clayton are one of the great names of the canal era, a company that had a reputation for offering a fast service, supported by efficient warehousing and good daily distribution services. They were major suppliers of tea and sugar to the Birmingham area, and carried all types of groceries and perishables, even cocoa beans to Bournville for Cadbury's. The 'President' is lovingly cared for at The Black Country Living Museum, and was passing through Christleton on route to its base, towing 'Gifford' for a four week stint as a horse drawn narrow boat at Audlem in South Cheshire. The photograph shows the two boats negotiating the bend near bridge 117 (Salmon's Bridge) , just beyond Waverton.

David Cummings.

Further information;

Heritage Waterways by Keith Langstone Pub. W H Smith
and www,nb-president.org.uk

COULD MAKE YOU SMILE

Wedding guest

A little boy sat through a Sunday School class and learned about the time Jesus went to a wedding and changed the water into wine. "And what did you learn from that story?" asked his father afterwards.

The boy thought for a moment and answered, "If you're having a wedding, make sure Jesus is there."

Wedding

Attending a wedding for the first time, a little girl whispered to her mother, "Why is the bride dressed in white?"

"Because white is the colour of happiness, and today is the happiest day of her life."

The child thought about this for a moment, then said, "So why is the groom wearing black?"

Commandment

A Sunday school teacher was discussing the Ten Commandments with her five and six year olds. After explaining the commandment to 'honor thy father and thy mother', she asked "Is there a commandment that teaches us how to treat our brothers and sisters?" Without missing a beat one little boy answered, "Thou shalt not kill."

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CHRISTLETON CRICKET CLUB

At the end of July, the 1st X1 were 4th in the Premier League, still hoping to better last years 3rd position. The return of the university students is now producing strong teams. Several new players have joined the club and along with maturing juniors the future of Christleton looks rosy. More people are supporting the village team and the bar is now open from 5.00pm during 1st team home games.

The 2nd X1 are in tremendous form and riding high in the league. Now unbeaten over the last 13 games, it is hoped promotion can be achieved. The team has a good blend of youth and experience.

After a poor start, the 3rd X1 are improving and have won the last two games, which gives them a mid table position.

The junior coaching has now finished. 60 children from Christleton and the surrounding villages attended sessions.

Games for under 15's, under 13's and under 11's have been played and good results achieved. We have now added a social membership to the Cricket Club and any new members are welcome

Contact Brian 01244 332326 for any information about the club

We would like to thank the following for July match sponsorship:

Derek & Alun Garner, Rita & Jack Swift, Harveys Catering, Alan Parry, Simon Watt -Smith, Arthur Broster, The Bike Factory, Terry Brooks, Jason & Jill Lea, Shire Sports

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.

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CHRISTLETON UNDER-FIVES
COMMUNITY PLAYGROUP
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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

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Parish Registers for July 2006

The Baptism Service

- 2nd Evie Clare Bradley daughter of Peter & Jane Bradley
18 Belgrave Road, Great Boughton.
- 2nd Grace Emily Parry daughter of Rowland & Yvonne Parry
20 Toll Bar Road, Christleton.
- 23rd Toby John Griffiths son of Paul & Kerry Griffiths
18 Richmond Crescent, Vicars Cross.
- 23rd Rose Anwen Bowdler daughter of Gareth & Catherine Bowdler
Orchard Cottage, Quarry Lane Christleton.
- 30th Neha Leanne George daughter of Ronald & Biji George
25 Maple Grove, Hoole, Chester.

"We welcome you into the Lord's family"

The Wedding Service.

- 7th Colin Holiday & Rachel Margaret Martin
Chestnut House, Lea Hall Park, Lea by Backford.
- 14th Christopher John Riley & Amberley Saer Richardson
91 Whitchurch Road, Boughton. Chester
- 29th Brendon James Colin Sussams 63 Dunston Road London
& Alexandra Mary Begbie Two Butts, Greenfield Lane, Rowton, Chester

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

The Funeral Service.

- 11th Elizabeth Ashton 3 Park Avenue, Shotton, Deeside
- 21st Norah Sconce 7 Grove Avenue, Vicars Cross, Chester
- 26th Nigel Robson Hollows Farm, Stamford Lane, Christleton.
- 27th Thelma Joyce Pryle 7 Lincoln Drive, Hoole, Chester
- 31st Doris Bentley Birch Heath Lodge Nursing Home, Christleton.

"Grant them eternal rest."

Offertories

July	Cash	CSE	2006	2005
2nd	270-39	991-39	1,018-89	983-36
9th	778-98	633-20	1,412-18	1,076-12
16th	166-10	795-50	961-60	906-62
23rd	212-89	590-40	803-29	881-03
30th	204-43	611-50	815-93	792-00
Totals			£5,011-89	£4,639-13

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"Of your own do we give you."

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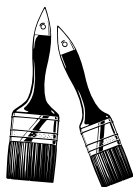
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	10.45 a.m	Parish Communion	1st & 3rd Sundays
		Family Service	2nd Sunday
		Mattins	4th & 5th Sundays
	6.30 p.m	Evensong	1st, 2nd & 3rd
Sundays		Evening Communion	4th Sunday
		Songs of Praise	5th Sunday
WEDNESDAYS	10.45 a.m.	Holy Communion	
SAINTS	9.30 a.m.	Holy Communion	

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	Lois Dickinson, 8 Old Mill Court, Mill Lane, Upton.....	378320
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263389		
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Children's Society Sec.	Lesley Morgan.....	335088
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