

# St. James' Christleton

PARISH MAGAZINE

August 2015

[www.christleton.org.uk](http://www.christleton.org.uk)

35p

# Advertising August

## 9th After Trinity

Sun	2	8.00 am	Holy Communion (BCP) followed by Breakfast in Parish Hall
		10.45 am	Holy Communion (CW) followed by Baptism of Isla Crosbie
		6.30 pm	Evening Worship (CW)
Mon	3	10.45 am	Holy Communion Tarvin Court Nursing Home
		11.20 am	Holy Communion Oaklands Nursing Home
Wed	5	10.45 am	United Communion (BCP) - followed by refreshments
Fri	7	2.00 pm	<b>Wedding</b> - Justin Napier & Jane Dugnan

## 10th After Trinity

Sun	9	8.00 am	Holy Communion (CW)
		10.45 am	Morning Worship
		6.30 pm	Holy Communion (CW)
Wed	12	10.45 am	Holy Communion (BCP) - followed by refreshments
		11.30 am	Holy Communion at Birch Heath Lodge
		2.00 pm - 4.00 pm	WI Tea with Scone in Parish Hall
Fri	14	<b>NB:Last day for contributions to September magazine, preferably earlier, to Janet Milton (325529) or you can e-mail your document to christletonmag@hotmail.co.uk or christletonmag@spraff.net</b>	

Sat 15 1.00 pm **Wedding** – Ryan Hodgson and  
Laura Menkin

**11th After Trinity - HEALING SERVICE**

Sun 16 8.00 am Holy Communion (CW)  
10.45 am Holy Communion (CW)  
6.30 pm Evening Worship (BCP)

Mon 17 **12.00 noon - for 12.30 start Luncheon Club in  
Parish Hall**

Wed 19 10.45 am Holy Communion (BCP) - followed by  
refreshment

Sat 22 1.30 pm Wedding – Daniel Hazell and Emma  
Carr

**12th After Trinity**

Sun 23 8.00 am Holy Communion (CW)  
10.45 am Morning Worship (CW)  
6.30 pm Holy Communion (CW)

Wed 26 10.45 am Holy Communion (BCP) - followed by  
refreshments

Sat 29 12.30 pm **Wedding** – Andrew Jones and  
Claire Oldfield

**13th After Trinity**

Sun 30 8.00 am Holy Communion (CW)  
10.45 am Holy Communion (CW)  
6.00 pm Type to be advised

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**Front Cover**

Rose Queen Isobel Holland

**Back Cover**

Scenes from the Fete procession in the village

# Message from our Rector



Four years ago, I had the privilege of attending at the book launch of a dear friend, Lady Grace Sheppard, widow of Bishop David Sheppard.

For those who don't know, Grace, amongst many other talents was an accomplished author, her first two books "An aspect of fear" and "Pits and Pedestals" make compelling reading and are honest and frank accounts of her struggles with life. The last book she wrote before her death is entitled "Living with

Dying" . It is her intimate details of a brave journey into darkness and light, pain and joy.

I have no doubt that each of us can relate to those feelings and experiences, and perhaps that's what made Grace Sheppard, so accessible and such a dear friend because she never judged, but simply listened. I never heard her accuse people of weakness, however she always offered them prayer and support at times of joy and pain, and indeed would call her friends on the phone to ask them to say an extra prayer for her when she was facing a particular issue, or meeting, of which she was apprehensive.

Such action takes great strength, because telling people our weakness, can be a risk !!!!!!!!!!! does this reveal a chink in our armour ? Relationships involve taking risks, without the risks there can be no relationships, and without the relationships we become isolated and distant.

Each of us are placed in situations, either by design or due to external events when there must be an element of risk taking.

Family bereavements, loss of employment, new Schools ..... we can no doubt all add several more situations or events to this list,.....

It is no coincidence that if we take risks, good things can and do happen, and we often look back and ask ourselves, why we didn't take the risk much earlier        sometimes it's good to take a risk and try an alternative.

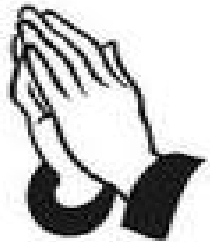
Of course, all we do involves risk, and that is where each of us must play our part, opinions on what we do are good and encouraged, criticism, however, is harmful and destructive and although there is sometimes a fine line between the two, we know in our hearts, if we are offering an opinion or a criticism.

However, as a Community, that is the risk we must continue to take. We must continue to take the risks, and face the challenges, but we should always remember that supporting and encouraging each other will only encourage us to take the risks that are necessary to move forward and fulfill God's calling to each of us.

For all that has been, and for all that will be.....with all its pain and joy, thanks be to God;

For all that we offer and support, and wherever that may lead us; Thy way, not mine O Lord.

Your Faithful Servant,  
Malcolm.



### **Try to help the people**

A big, burly man visited the pastor's home and asked to see the minister.

"Sir," he said in a broken voice, "I wish to draw your attention to the terrible plight of a poor family in this district. The father is not doing very well, the mother is also poorly, and the nine children are starving. They are about to be turned into the cold, empty streets unless someone pays their rent, which amounts to £200."

"How terrible!" exclaimed the Pastor. "May I ask who you are?"

The sympathetic visitor applied his handkerchief to his eyes. "I'm the landlord," he sobbed.

**Bible Verse:** 2 Cor - 2:5 "We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ".

# WHAT'S ON THIS MONTH

## SUNDAY CLUB

Held in the Parish Hall from 10.45 am – 11.45 am each Sunday during term-time, except when Family Service is held at St James. For further details please contact Berenice Kirwan, 336779.

## CHRISTLETON METHODIST CHURCH

We meet for Informal Prayers and a Simple Lunch on the first Thursday of each month at 12 noon. All welcome. There is no charge for the lunch but a donation to cover costs would be appreciated.

## CHRISTLETON W. I.

Meets on the second Wednesday of the month at 7.15 pm in the Parish Hall. Further details may be obtained from the Secretary, Miss Ida Rogers, Chester 350060.



## CHESTER FLOWER CLUB

Meetings are held in Christleton Parish Hall on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 1.30pm. Details of any events can be obtained from the Secretary, Mrs Lilian Hopley. Telephone Chester: 07803964548.

## MAGAZINE CONTRIBUTIONS

Please ensure all items for inclusion in the **September** edition are sent to Janet Milton (325529), as soon as possible **BEFORE** **Friday 14 August** or you can e-mail this to **christletonmag@hotmail.co.uk** or **christletonmag@spraff.net**

## MAGAZINE DISTRIBUTORS

The **August** magazine will be available for collection from Church on **Sunday 26 July**.

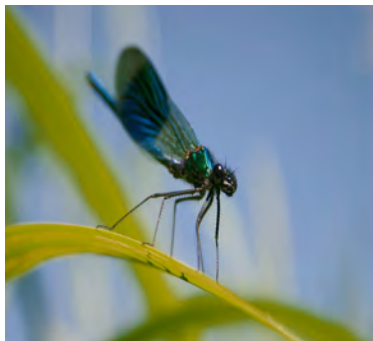


# Nature Notes

Having been away on holiday in June I haven't been able to record much wildlife locally. However it is clear that the conditions have been perfect for growing and the vegetation at Hockenhull Platts has just gone wild, making it now almost impossible to walk around the reserve.

Forty years ago the grasses and reeds were much lower, just over Wellington boot height, and it was possible to take children from school onto the reserve to see orchids and other wetland plants. That same vegetation is now almost 5ft (1.75m) high and the flowering plants such as orchids, meadow sweet and common valerian lost among a jungle of grasses and reeds. Few butterflies

are on the wing, but the banded agrion and common blue damselflies are in profusion on the pond and river, and are best seen on warm sunny days about mid-day. The otter family are still very active, with fresh spraints being found on every visit, which is so encouraging to realise that they are now firmly back in this area.



On the other hand there have been fewer signs of water vole this year to date, which is rather worrying.

The swans successfully bred six cygnets, but during the first

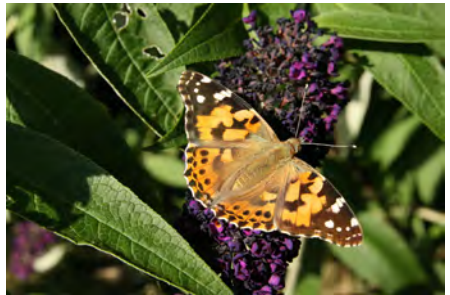


two weeks, four of them were predated, which is a very high loss for this particular cob. He has been an excellent parent over the years and our survival rate has been one of the best nationally, 4.5cygnets surviving to adulthood each year. The national average is 2.5. I simply don't know the reason for the

loss this year. It could be the presence of aggressive mink, a hungry heron or even pike along the canal. I guess that we are fortunate to have any cygnets at all after the sad events of 2014 when we lost the pen to a mink, so even two surviving cygnets is a bonus.

Sitting in the village one evening last week, it was apparent that the swifts have had a wonderful breeding season, with thirty or forty screaming around the skies at any one time in a huge party. By the time you read this article they will probably all have left the village for their winter home in Africa, returning again next year around about the 7th May. (First seen on the 5th May in 2015)

**Stop Press** - First sightings have been made in 2015 of the amazing painted lady migrant butterflies. These beautiful creatures first emerge in Morocco North Africa in early spring, and after a tortuous flight across sea and land including breeding stops in Portugal, Spain and France, occasionally, if the weather is right make as far the UK. This year looks to be the most promising for several years to see these amazing creatures in our area. DCbrown hare. I've seen more this year than any year that I can remember, and several friends who walk the countryside around the village tell me it's their experience too. Several groups of leverette's have already been seen, a really good indicator of success. We saw this hare from very close range a week ago. He was a real poser, and I got several excellent shots. DC



**Bible Verse:** 3 John 1:11 "Dear friend, do not imitate what is evil but what is good. Anyone who does what is good is from God. Anyone who does what is evil has not seen God".  
John 8:34 "Jesus replied, "I tell you the truth, everyone who sins is a slave to sin".



# WARFARE

“The weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds.” (2 Corinthians 10:4).

Paul is saying, There Is a War Going On - A lot of people don't seem to understand that to be a Christian is to engage in a warfare. And the Bible describes that warfare. When Paul wrote to a young preacher named Timothy, he said, “This charge I commit unto thee, son Timothy... that thou by them mightest war a good warfare” (1 Timothy 1:18). He was saying, “Young preacher, you are in a battle, in a warfare, and it is not going to be any picnic.” Paul wrote to this same young preacher, “Endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ” (2 Timothy 2:3). Soldiers engage in a warfare and many of the Lord's people don't know how to engage in this warfare.

Revelation 12:7 says, “There was war in heaven.” We think about Heaven as a place of peace, but God talks about a war there. Now doesn't it stand to reason that on this earth Christians are going to be engaged in a warfare? Paul was always conscious of this warfare. At the end of his life's journey, he said, “I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith” (2 Timothy 4:7). Ephesians, chapter 6, verse 11: “Put on the whole armour of God....”

God is saying to every Christian, ‘Put on the armor.’ Why an armor? Because we Christians are soldiers. Why armor? Because we are in a battle. A spiritual war is going on, God says. So, “Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.”

Now verse 12: “For we wrestle not against **flesh** and **blood**, but against **principalities**, against **powers**, against the **rulers of the darkness** of this world, against **spiritual wickedness** in high places.” This is not a battle against people. This is not a battle against mere human beings. We are in a warfare against supernatural forces. This spiritual conflict, is a great agelong struggle. It is about who shall have the supremacy, Christ or Satan. It is a struggle for the souls of men. It is a battle to keep people out of Hell. It is a struggle to get people saved. It is a warfare, a conflict until the final finish. And every one of us is engaged in it. Do we realize that we are in a warfare?

Some great Christians have entered into this warfare and have been so close to God that they knew they were in a conflict. Thank God for

men of God who have been willing to go against the tide and against tradition and against common opinion and go against the way that many other people were thinking.

The average Christian is not a soldier. He or she doesn't have on any armor and not really engaged in a spiritual struggle. They are not fighting anything, not really standing for anything. The Bible makes it clear, that God's people are in a spiritual struggle against the forces of evil. And there are supernatural forces that operate in the realm of darkness, and we are to penetrate them with the light of Christianity.

We are in a warfare. That ought to keep us Christians from folding our hands and taking it easy. That ought to make us sit up and take notice. "Woe to them that are at ease in Zion" (Amos 6:1). And while the Christian church and the people of God are taking it easy, the forces of evil are at work as never before. God help us to realize we are in a warfare, therefore in a battle.

"The weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds."

We Have the Weapons and Our Lord did not leave us without something to fight with. He says a Christian can be dressed up in an armor. With the weapons the Lord has given us, we have the weapons to win. Moses, on the mountaintop, lifts his hands toward God. He has no sword. He does not touch an Amalekite. He is not actually engaged physically in the conflict. He reaches his hands toward God; and when he does, down in the valley, Joshua and the children of Israel literally put to flight and slay the Amalekites.

When his hands grow tired, they fall down to his side. When they fall, the Amalekites begin to win. God says to Aaron on one side and Hur on the other, "Hold up the hands of Moses toward Heaven, because when his hands are lifted toward God, the children of Israel win; and when they are not lifted toward God, the children of Israel lose."

The conflict was not being won by what went on in the valley but by what went on upon the mountaintop. The weapons of our warfare are not physical but spiritual. Many a Christian is trying to fight a spiritual battle with carnal, fleshly, worldly weapons. We will not win that way. Sometimes when there is a conflict in a Christian's life, he or she sets about winning it with physical weapons. It is not done that way. And the church, in its conflict against the forces of evil, is not going to win with physical weapons. We can have the finest buildings in the

world, we can have the most beautiful church in the world, but that will not win the battle. It is a spiritual battle.

So, 'the weapons of our warfare are not physical, but are mighty through God.' What are they? The Lord has given us something to fight with. It is amazing, astounding, pathetic and pitiful how little the average Christian uses the weapons the Lord has given him to fight this warfare.

First of all, there is the Word of God. There is absolutely nothing in this world like it. Chapter 6 of Ephesians tells us that one of our weapons is "the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God." Can you imagine a fellow going off to fight and not having a sword? He is to have it in his heart, in his life and in his mind. But the average Christian does not use the weapon of the Word of God.

When the Devil came to tempt Jesus in the wilderness, three times from one Old Testament book, Jesus said, "It is written.... It is written....It is written." And when Jesus met the Devil, He unsheathed His sword and fought the Devil with the Word of God.

There is no other way for the Christian to fight. That is why any Christian who does not have the habit of daily reading the Word of God for his own benefit is not going to be a strong Christian. Imagine this verse in your spirit, **"Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the Lord; and in his law doth he meditate day and night. And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water...." - Vs. 1-3.**

Listen! A tree planted by a river is an evergreen. It reaches its roots down into the moist soil, draws food from that soil, and stands strong by the riverbank.

"...that bringeth forth his fruit in his season [he is a fruit-bearing Christian]; his leaf also shall not wither [He doesn't turn one color one day and another color the next. Now listen to this]; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper." God said, "The Christian who delights himself in this Book, whatsoever he doeth—whatsoever he doeth—shall prosper.'

If you will make this Bible the Book of your life, 'whatsoever you do shall prosper.'

Listen! God has given you the weapon of His Word. Get out that old Bible, open it up every day, and read it for yourself. If you don't do it,

you are a soldier without a sword. 'The weapons of our warfare are not physical, but are mighty through God.'

What else has He given us? We have the Holy Spirit as a weapon in this spiritual warfare. Think of the power of the Holy Spirit. And every Christian has the Holy Spirit. We are so scared that someone is going to think we are a little bit **Pentecostal**. I am scared to death that they are not going to think that we are! It will not be good if anyone give vent to the flesh and act the fool, because it will not be real. But, as Christians, we have the Holy Spirit of God in us. Paul, writing to the church at Corinth, said:

**"What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? "For ye are bought with a price." (1 Corinthians 6:19-20).**

We are the dwelling place of the Holy Ghost. The Spirit of God dwells not in temples made with hands. He dwells in saved people. And think how powerful He is! and Acts 2:2: "Suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind." That is what we need in our lives, our community and our church, the power of the Holy Ghost. We have the weapons, and they are mighty and These Weapons Are Mighty Through God

The Word of God says, "Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might." Notice it is in "his might," not our strength but His, thank God. Notice again, **"Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the Lord of hosts" (Zechariah 4:6).**

These are not ordinary days. Our enemy is not an ordinary foe. Just ordinary human weapons will never win the victory. We have the same powerful weapons and the same mighty God today that Moses had when he won the victory from the whole Egyptian nation. David slew Goliath with a slingshot and a smooth pebble from the brook, but God's power was in it all. I would rather have a slingshot and God than the mighty sword of Goliath and have to depend on the power of the flesh.

God's weapons in warfare are sufficient for every test. The mighty power of God can melt the hardest hearts of men. His power can overcome the awful Goliath abroad in the land today. We need not quake and fear in the presence of the enemy. God's Word says, **"Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved**

**us” (Romans 8:37).**

Dear friends, we are “more than conquerors.” No foe can stand against the church of Jesus Christ if the church is appareled in the armor of the Lord and fighting with His weapons.

We Have Guaranteed Victory that is what it says to us “The weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds.”

God is guaranteeing that if you use His weapons, you will win. They are “mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds.” Use them, and things will fall before you, is what He is saying. They are mighty through God. I am so glad that victory is guaranteed.

We read in Revelation 12:11, “They overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and **by the word of their testimony.**” All through the Bible you see that guarantee. Before Jesus died, He said He would rise again. He guaranteed He would come forth in victory. God guarantees victory if you will use spiritual weapons.

My friends, do not look at the circumstances. “For we walk by faith not by sight” You might have made an attempt at being a Christian before. You may be what we call a backslider. Or you might never have been saved. But just know that, in Jesus Christ there is victory for you.

“The weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds.” (2 Corinthians 10:4).

We need to pray and it is only when we learn to war and take the fight to the enemy shall we see victory in every part of our lives.

**Dear Brothers and Sisters we invite you to come and join us in warfare ONCE a month at the Christleton Parish Hall starting at 7.00 pm. We need break-through in every area of our life therefore we need to overcome the devil by the word of our testimony.**

**WARFARE ----- PARISH HALL**

**TIME --- 7.00 PM**

**DATE --- 26th AUGUST**

**VERSE TO MEDITATE UPON FOR OUR FIRST WARFARE -**

**PSALM 139 : 23-24 “Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts” “See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting!”**

## PRAYER

OUR Lord returns here in the Sermon on the Mount a second time to speak of prayer. The first time He had spoken of the Father who is to be found in secret, and rewards openly, and had given us the pattern prayer (Matt. 6:5-15). Here He wants to teach us what in all Scripture is considered the chief thing in prayer: the assurance that prayer will be heard and answered. He uses words which mean almost the same thing, and each time repeats the promise so distinctly: 'Ye shall receive, ye shall find, it shall be opened unto you;' and then gives as ground for such assurance the law of the kingdom: 'He that asketh, receiveth; he that seeketh, findeth; to him that knocketh, it shall be opened.' We cannot but feel how in this sixfold repetition He wants to impress deep on our minds this one truth, that we may and must most confidently expect an answer to our prayer. Next to the revelation of the Father's love, there is, in the whole course of the school of prayer, not a more important lesson than this: Every one that asketh, receiveth.

In the three words the Lord uses, ask, seek, knock, a difference in meaning has been sought. If such was indeed His purpose, then the first, ASK, refers to the gifts we pray for. But I may ask and receive the gift without the Giver. SEEK is the word Scripture uses of God Himself; Christ assures us that we can find Him. But it is not enough to find God in time of need, without coming to abiding fellowship: KNOCK speaks of admission to dwell with Him and in Him. Asking and receiving the gift would thus lead to seeking and finding the Giver, and this again to the knocking and opening of the door of the Father's home and love. One thing is sure: Our Lord does want us to count most certainly on him that asking, seeking, knocking, cannot be in vain: receiving an answer, finding God, the opened heart and home of God, are the certain fruits of prayer.

That the Lord should have thought it needful in so many forms to repeat the truth, is a lesson of deep import. It proves that He knows our heart, how doubt and distrust toward God are natural to us, and how easily we are inclined to rest in prayer as a religious work without an answer. He knows too how, even when we believe that God is the Hearer of prayer, believing prayer that lays hold of the promise, is something spiritual, too high and difficult for the half-hearted disciple. He therefore at the very outset of His instruction to those who would learn to pray, seeks to lodge this truth deep into their hearts: prayer does avail much; ask and ye shall receive; every one that asketh, receiveth. This is the fixed eternal law of the kingdom: if you ask and receive not, it must be because there is something amiss or wanting in the prayer. Hold on; let the Word and the Spirit teach you to pray aright, but do not let go the confidence He seeks to waken: Every one that asketh, receiveth. 'Ask, and it shall be given you.' Christ has no mightier stimulus to persevering prayer in His school than this. As a child has to prove a sum to be correct, so the proof that we have prayed aright is, the answer. If we ask and receive not, it is because we have not learned to pray aright. Let every learner in the school of Christ therefore take the Master's word in all simplicity: Every one



that asketh, receiveth. He had good reasons for speaking so unconditionally. Let us beware of weakening the Word with our human wisdom. When He tells us heavenly things, let us believe Him: His Word will explain itself to him who believes it fully. If questions and difficulties arise, let us not seek to have them settled before we accept the Word. No; let us entrust them all to Him: it is His to solve them: our work is first and fully to accept and hold fast His promise. Let in our inner chamber, in the inner chamber of our heart too, the Word be inscribed in letters of light: Every one that asketh, receiveth.

According to this teaching of the Master, prayer consists of two parts, has two sides, a human and a Divine. The human is the asking, the Divine is the giving. Or, to look at both from the human side, there is the asking and the receiving—the two halves that make up a whole. It is as if He would tell us that we are not to rest without an answer, because it is the will of God, the rule in the Father's family: every childlike believing petition is granted. If no answer comes, we are not to sit down in the sloth that calls itself resignation, and suppose that it is not God's will to give an answer. No; there must be something in the prayer that is not as God would have it, childlike and believing; we must seek for grace to pray so that the answer may come. It is far easier to the flesh to submit without the answer than to yield itself to be searched and purified by the Spirit, until it has learnt to pray the prayer of faith.

It is one of the terrible marks of the diseased state of Christian life in these days, that there are so many who rest content without the distinct experience of answer to prayer. They pray daily, they ask many things, and trust that some of them will be heard, but know little of direct definite answer to prayer as the rule of daily life. And it is this the Father wills: He seeks daily communion with His children in listening to and granting their petitions. He wills that we should come to Him day by day with distinct requests; He wills day by day to do for us what we ask. It was in His answer to prayer that the saints of old learned to know God as the Living One, and were stirred to praise and love (Ps. 34., 66:19, 106:1). Our Lord wants to imprint this upon our minds: prayer and its answer, the child asking and the father giving, belong to each other.

There may be cases in which the answer is a refusal, because the request is not according to God's Word, as when Moses asked to enter Canaan. But still, there was an answer: God did not leave His servant in uncertainty as to His will. The gods of the heathen are dumb and cannot speak. Our Father lets His child know when He cannot give him what he asks, and he withdraws his petition, even as the Son did in Gethsemane. Both Moses the servant and Christ the Son knew that what they asked was not according to what the Lord had spoken: their prayer was the humble supplication whether it was not possible for the decision to be changed. God will teach those who are teachable and give Him time, by His Word and Spirit, whether their request be according to His will or not. Let us withdraw the request, if it be not according to God's mind, or persevere till the answer come. Prayer is appointed to obtain the answer. It is in prayer and its answer that the interchange of love between the Father and His child takes place.

## ‘A Plea from the Verger’

As you know, there are 4 bins at the back of St James in the churchyard –

**2 green for garden refuse only** – ie grass/dead flowers only not plastic bags

**1 black for other refuse** – ie plant pots but not grass/flowers

**1 blue** which was retained from the old collection system – this will be removed shortly

Cheshire West & Chester Council have stated that because we are not a commercial business or residential property they are unable to supply us with extra bins. When the bins are full, refuse is being left on the floor & this is encouraging vermin which is becoming a Health and Safety issue.

Please refrain from filling the bins to ‘over flowing’.

Your co-operation in keeping the ‘bins area’ tidy would be very much appreciated.

Thank you. *John Milton - Verger*

### Amazingly, most people can actually!

Olmy srmatt poelpe can raed tihs.

Cdnuolt blveiee taht I cluod aulaclyt yednatnrd waht I was rdanieg. The phaonmneal pweor of the hmuan mnid, aoccdnig to a rscheearch at Cmabrigde Uinervtisy,

It deosn't mttair in waht oredr the ltteers in a wrod are, the olmy iprmoatnt tihng is taht the frist and lsat ltteer be in the rghit pclae. The rset can be a taotl mses and you can sitll raed it wouthit a porbelm.

Tihs is bcuseae the huamn mnid deos not raed ervey lteter by istlef, but the wrod as a wlohe. Amzanig huh? Yaeh, and I awlyas tghuhot slpeling was ipmorantt!

Bset whesis,

Brain lalnl

(Agloopies if yvo'ue seen this bfoere.)

## **Obituary - Alan Keith McAllester**

Alan was a well-known figure locally, worshipping at St James for over forty years and a valued friend to many people in the congregation as well as in the City of Chester, and throughout the county through his work as Diocese Registrar. Alan suffered a great deal from ill health in recent years, but despite this always remained positive and cheerful. As he walked around the village in his tweed jacket, check shirt and cords each day, he kept an eye open for the wildlife along the canal and at The Pit, and reported each Sunday what he had seen. He was particularly fond of our village swans & cygnets, noting where they were each day, and was always concerned about their welfare. On his retirement he had been determined to do a great deal of walking, particularly in the Scottish Highlands & Islands, and was keen to take up an interest in wildlife photography, but his illness meant that he was mainly restricted to walking familiar routes around the village each day and recording what he could see locally.

Alan was proud of his Scottish roots and tartan, a keen Scottish dancer, a man with a Welsh birth and a Liverpool upbringing. After reading law at St Peter's College Oxford, he began his articles in 1964, and joined Birch-Cullimore in Chester as an assistant solicitor in 1967, becoming a partner in 1972. That was the beginning of a fifty year distinguished career in legal practice, particularly in Ecclesiastical law, in which he excelled, and made him well known and respected well beyond the diocese. Alan contributed a great deal to the development of this subject over forty years and had an encyclopaedic knowledge of the law itself, its arcane procedures and (of supreme importance) how to make it even vaguely palatable to harassed clergy and Churchwardens convinced this tiresome body of learning exists only to complicate their lives and obstruct progress in their congregations.

Alan was the supreme professional, known as "The Oracle" to his colleagues in Chester, and everyone always spoke with great respect about his work, and commitment to every case

he worked on. His work ethic was second to none, and he was always available for help and advice, even in retirement. He was extremely thorough, and his work was his passion, attempting to make life easier for the parishes, the clergy, the wardens seeking faculties, and the PCC's with crisis, making them all feel that they mattered.

His influence went far beyond the diocese of Chester as he became a significant figure in the Ecclesiastical Law Association. He was a go to figure to be relied upon for wisdom and complete integrity. He offered strategic input at a number of points in the reform and modernisation of the whole system.

Alan was, above all, a wonderfully effective and valued Registrar because he realised in a profound way that the work was not merely legal, but spiritual too. That it was about life in the messy, complicated, sometimes dysfunctional, yet still wonderful body of Christ. That it was ministry.

Alan had that particularly attractive quality in a lawyer- he was a serious person who did not take himself too seriously. We remember him with deep admiration, affection, gratitude and above all delight, conscious that he died in faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. That makes this an au revoir moment only- surely the best comfort of all in our painful sense of the loss of a very fine man. DC

With thanks to His Honour Judge David Turner QC Chancellor of the Diocese of Chester for permission to use extracts from his Tribute to Alan in this obituary.



**THE MONTHLY  
CHRISTLETON**

From 12 noon for 12.30 serving:



**LUNCHEON  
CLUB** IN PARISH HALL

**Monday  
17th August**

**FREE lunch  
(donations  
welcome)**

All welcome, but please book a place by calling:  
Liz: 409414, or Janet: 325529, or Christine: 335562, or sign the list in Church.  
(It may be possible to arrange transport for those who need it - just ask.)

# theWI

## INSPIRING WOMEN

**Christleton W.I.**

invite you to join us for a cup of tea  
or coffee with scone on

**Wednesday 12th August, 2015**

between

**2.00 pm and 4.00 pm**

at

**Christleton Parish Hall**

*All Welcome*

**Bible Verse:**

Romans 16:1-3 "I commend to you our sister Phoebe, a servant of the church at Cenchreae, that you may welcome her in the Lord in a way worthy of the saints, and help her in whatever she may need from you, for she has been a patron of many and of myself as well. Greet Priscilla and Aquila, my fellow workers in Christ Jesus."

# **The History File**

## **Christleton 2015 Fete**

Congratulations to Dawn Sturgess and the Fete Committee for an excellent 2015 Village Fete. The weather helped of course, but it was wonderful to see so many people of all ages enjoying this annual event in the village calendar, which dates back to 1870, when it was started by Canon Lionel Garnett to celebrate village life and raise funds for the running of the school. The Wirral Pipe Band led the exciting and colourful procession through the village before new Chester MP Chris Matheson crowned the Rose Queen on the stage. Isobel Holland made a wonderful Rose Queen, her delightful smile lighting up the occasion, and she made an excellent speech to welcome everyone to the Fete. She was accompanied by attendants Amelie Beech, Abigail Egan, Joshua Stone, Charlotte Hodgson, Molly-Skye Hover, Phyllbie Yates, Olivia Tilley and Freya Williams. The 2014 Rose Queen Erin Brackenbury and her attendants also took part in the procession and opening ceremony, which is part of the Christleton tradition. The Fancy Dress theme this year was Zoo, and the competition judged by Steve Unwin and Karen Guthrie from Chester Zoo. The younger children from the Pre School looked delightful in their zebra costumes.

The Primary School field was very welcoming, with a variety of colourful gazebos surrounding the arena. Several new green gazebos were donated this year by Councillors Mr & Mrs Stewart Parker, and are a welcome addition to the Fete stock. Thankfully the days of storing, and assembling large wooden structures covered with thick gauge polythene have long gone.

There were a large number of excellent stalls, games and attractions around the edge of the arena. Visitors were entertained during the afternoon by the Wirral Pipe Band, Finn Hibbert a singer from Saltney, the Vale Royal Falconers and The Instinctive, a rock band formed from students at Christleton High School. The afternoons entertainment, ended with the announcement of the winners in the Grand Draw, which had some wonderful prizes.



Events like the Fete, need sponsors to help cover the costs of the day, and the main sponsors this year were CNS IT Ltd-Business IT Services, The Little Carpet Shop, Prodo Digital, Ring O Bells, Thomas Property Group and the University of Law, together with support from Bedtime Bedz, Spitting feathers, Phil Sturgess and Phil Wilcox. All proceeds from the Fete go to local organisations. Special thanks to David Harker, Staff & Governors of the Primary School for their continued support of the Fete, and use of the Hall and Field. DC

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## Eddis Box

We were very sorry to learn of the death of Eddis Box on 2 July who, many older members of the congregation will remember, was part of our community together with his wife Dora, two sons and two daughters.

They lived at Brook Lodge on the corner of the A41/Rowton Lane before making their final home at Market Deeping, Lincolnshire. They kept ponies and were great country lovers. They were also a musical family and the girls Diana and Amanda played their instruments on many occasions in St James. Sons Mark and Jonathan went on to distinguished careers in medicine and commerce. *Alf and Margaret Croston*

\*\*\*\*\*

## Stop Press

Raffle Prizes not collected at the Village Show  
Blue Ticket 251 - Grand Hamper  
Yellow Ticket 301 - Child's Toothbrush  
Please ring **David** on **332410**  
If you have either of the above tickets



## A Spotlight on



A member of St James's congregation

Name: Jenny Davies

Live: Toll Bar Road

Nationality: British

Originally from: Lache Lane, Chester

Occupation: Taught at The King's School

Family: Daughter of Jim and Cynthia Siddall.

2 Sisters 1 Brother, 5 Nephews

Interests: Maps, Travelling, Reading and Gardening

Favourite Quotation: "Cognito ergo sum"



CHRISTLETON

"I think therefore I am" *Rene Descartes*

Things that may surprise the reader:

Freeman of the City of Chester.

Queens Guide.

Taught at Ballarat Grammar School, Australia.

A Crossword addict!



CHURCHES TOGETHER IN CHRISTLETON

# **VILLAGE TEA ROOM**

IN THE METHODIST CHURCH SCHOOLROOM

From 7th JUNE  
until 27<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2015

**EVERY SUNDAY**

**FROM 2.30 P.M. UNTIL 4.30 P.M.**

EVERYONE WELCOME

*PROCEEDS TO STARLIGHT granting wishes to terminally ill children*

Mark 9:37 "Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, and whoever receives me, receives not me but him who sent me

## **The Marble Church and the Canadian War Graves**

We recently paid a visit to the 'Marble Church' [it's actually white limestone] at Bodelwyddan the last time was for our eldest Grandsons Confirmation this time to have a second look at the 83 Canadian war graves.

My wife knows very little about her Father. She was born in Battersea evacuated at the age of 9 she returned at 11 to Mayfield School which had been evacuated to a big house in the Surrey countryside. At the age of 14 her Father was killed in a German rocket attack. Because of this our Daughter decided to do some research.

My wife's father George Carr was also born in Battersea in 1888 the son of a painter and decorator. At the age of 11 he went to Feltham Industrial School. There is a conflicting history about this place, set up in 1858 to house 700 poor boys along the lines of a work house, the first of its kind in the country, to teach young boys a trade. It turned into a borstal in 1910. He appears to have been taught the trade of shoe making and when he left the school obtained an apprenticeship for him. He subsequently had a number of jobs. From this the impression is that work was difficult to obtain in the early 1900's.

In 1907 and out of work he asked the school to include him on one of the schemes which sent young people to a life in the Canada. After leaving he regularly wrote to the school telling them of his progress and it's from school records that most of the early information has been obtained. When he was 27 he had his own shoe repair business in Flaxcoombe, [my wife can remember him repairing their shoes] then the first World War broke out and in 1915 he enlisted in the Canadian Overseas Expeditionary Force, and returned to England to undergo military training. He was assigned to the 46th Battalion and eventually ended at Ypres. They were later transferred to the Somme where he was wounded a bullet entering his right wrist and exiting his elbow he was sent back to England and eventually ended up in Kinmel Camp. *Ben Williams*

## **The Kinmel Camp Riot**

Kinmell camp was a huge facility set up in 1914 at the start of the war as a military training camp; there are still the remains of practice trenches in the grounds of Bodelwyddan Castle. As well as huts and tents it had its own railway station and cinema. There was a hospital with 1300 beds. In December 1918 No. 9 Canadian General Hospital moved in and remained until June 1919.

After the Armistice as many as 15,000 Canadians waited at the camp for their passage home. Over winter, conditions were difficult with overcrowding and shortages of coal and food. On March the 4th and 5th 1919 a riot took place involving more than 800 men when a ship assigned to take the troops home was diverted elsewhere. Five Canadian soldiers died in the violence and were buried at the Church although one was later re-buried in Canada. Most of the Canadians buried at the Church were victims of the influenza pandemic [Spanish Flu] which killed around 250,000 in Britain alone.

George Carr left the camp two or three days before the riot broke out. He subsequently obtained permission from his commanding officer to marry and obtained demobilisation to Britain in 1919. His wife, my wife's mother came from Whitby and was working at the Queen Hotel. We can only guess how they met perhaps he came by train into Chester, they initially lived in City Road before eventually moving to London. What an interesting life, pity he didn't live long enough to tell my wife about it. *Ben Williams*

## **HOLY DAYS IN AUGUST**

10th Laurence of Rome – and the gridiron

16th Laurence Loricatus - the saint who couldn't forgive himself

30th John Bunyan – the man who wrote Pilgrim's Progress

**Bible Verse:** Matt 15:11 “What goes into a man's mouth does not make him ‘unclean,’ but what comes out of his mouth, that is what makes him ‘unclean.’ “

# Parish Registers (June)

## The Funeral Service

1st	Pamela Elizabeth Stanton	35 Roslyn Road, Vicars Cross	71yrs
8th	David George Christopher Hicks	30 Manor Drive, Elton	71yrs
11th	Alan Keith McAllester	11 Toll Bar Road, Christleton	72yrs
14th	William John Threadgold	Orchard Manor Nursing Home, Upton	85yrs
20th	Joan Margaret Dille	"The Hollies" Beechfield Gardens, Southport	84yrs (Burial of Cremated Remains)
23rd	Kitty Tilston	26 Woodfields, Christleton	81yrs
23rd	Anne Broad Davies	Netherwood House, Whitchurch Road, Christleton	80yrs
24th	David Douglas Johnson	39 Toll Bar Road, Christleton,	87yrs
26th	William Garnett Roberts	Hawthorn Road, Christleton	78yrs
28th	Ruby Wolfendale	Orchard Manor Nursing Home, Upton	94yrs (Burial of Cremated Remains)

"Grant them eternal rest"

## Offertories

June	Cash	C.S.E.	2015	2014
7th	184-66	551-00	735-66	784-60
14th	93-60	427-50	521-10	903-78
21st	183-60	380-00	563-60	432-99
28th	109-05	635-40	744-45	745-51
				857-38
<b>Totals</b>			<b>£2,564-81</b>	<b>£3,728-26</b>

"Of your own do we give you"



# PARISH CHURCH OF ST JAMES, CHRISTLETON

## REGULAR WORSHIP

SUNDAYS:	8.00am:	Holy Communion
	10.45am:	Holy Communion (1st & 3rd & 5th Sundays) Morning Worship - a less formal service for all (2nd Sunday) Morning Prayer / Mattins (4th Sunday)
	6.30pm:	Evening Prayer / Evensong (1st Sunday) Holy Communion (2nd & 4th Sundays) Evening Prayer / Evensong (BCP) (3rd Sunday) Evening services on a 5th Sunday vary - see notices.
WEDNESDAYS:	10.45am:	Holy Communion (BCP) (United service on 1st Wednesday)

Special services take place at festivals and at other times, and other variations occur, so please check the diary at the front of this magazine, also the church notices and the Christleton website. A 'United' service is where Churches Together in Christleton congregations come together.

'Book of Common Prayer' (BCP) services use the older traditional language, other services are 'Common Worship' using modern language.

Children are welcome at all of our services. Sunday Club, Messy Church and the Crew Youth Group also available for younger members. There is a good organist at St James and a robed choir sings at many of the services.

Refreshments are generally served after the 10.45am Sunday service in the Parish Hall across the road, and are also served in the church after the 10.45am Wednesday services. Once a month on the 1st Sunday breakfast is served in the Parish Hall from about 8.45am. These give splendid opportunities for fellowship and you are invited to join in.

## **WHO'S WHO & CONTACT NUMBERS**

Rector:	Rev'd Malcolm Cowan, B.Th. The Rectory, Birch Heath Lane, Christleton, CH3 7AP (The Rector's day off each week is normally Friday)	335663
Curate:	Rev'd Barbara King, B.Ed. 17 Cathcart Green, Guilden Sutton, CH3 7SR	300756
Administration:	Janet Milton	325529
(Janet is your initial contact point for Baptism, Wedding and Appointment requests)		
Other local clergy who may assist:	Rev'd Gill Hibbert	336544
	Rev'd Elizabeth Inall, MA	336500
Churchwardens:	Carl Cumiskey	330028
	Bettie Gilliatt	335645
Deputy Wardens:	Chris Platel	332466
	Keith Smalls	335688
Verger:	John Milton	325529
Pastoral Assistant:	Melanie Efobi	336072
Sacristan:	Betty Dunning	335652
Organist & Choir Master:	Steve Roberts	815277
PCC Secretary:	Brian Inall	336500
PCC Treasurer:	Brian & Lorraine Lewis	534323
Gift Aid Secretary:	Nigel Seddon	335588
Planned Giving Envelopes:	Betty Dunning	335652
Deanery Synod Representative:	Berenice Kirwan	336779
Electoral Roll Officer:	Brenda Bailey	335034
Churches Together Representative:	Jan Bowden	335705
Parish Safeguarding Co-ordinator:	The Rector	335663
Pastoral Worker / Visiting:	Berenice Kirwan	336779
Sunday Club / Messy Church:	Berenice Kirwan	336779
CREW Youth Group:	Mike & Tina Lightfoot	328436
Church Library:	Gwen Knight	336236
Church Flowers:	Olive Hammond	336562
Bellringers:	Ian Braithwaite	300565
Bellringers' Secretary:	Nikki Dromgoole	351124
Parish Hall Bookings:	Clare Holland	332819
Children's Society Sec:	Lesley Morgan	335088
Church Missionary Society Sec:	Janet Brown	335785
Mothers' Union Branch Leader:	Janet Brown	335785
Magazine Editor:	David Bull	332234
Assisting Magazine Editor:	Huw Morgan	335088
Magazine Distributors:	Jenny Davies, Valmai Griffiths	335884
Magazine Photographs:	David Cummings	332410
Magazine Compiler:	Ike Efobi	336072

(Phone numbers have Chester code: 01244 unless stated otherwise)

# Shalom!!!



Scenes from the Fete procession in the village



Scenes from the Fete procession in the village

**WARFARE ----- PARISH HALL**

**TIME --- 7.00 PM**

**DATE --- 26th AUGUST**

**VERSE TO MEDIDATE UPON FOR OUR FIRST WARFARE**

**PSALM 139 : 23-24 “Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts”  
“See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting!”**

*August 2015 @ St. James, Church Christleton*