

St. James'

PARISH MAGAZINE

August 2011



www.christleton.org.uk

35p

ADVERTISING AUGUST

Mon	1	10.45 am	Holy Communion at Oaklands Nursing Home
		1.20 am	Holy Communion at Tarvin Court Nursing Home
		12.30 pm	Wedding George Eaton & Helen Kippin
Wed	3	10.45 am	United Communion – followed by refreshments
Fri	5	2.30 pm	Wedding – Steve Littler & Joy Harrison
Sat	6	12.30 pm	Wedding – Roger Hewitt & Charlotte Churchill
Sun	7		Feast of the Transfiguration
		8.00 am	Holy Communion -Order 2
		10.45 am	Morning Prayer
		12 noon	Holy Baptism – Ava Philippa Redmond
		6.30 pm	Evensong <i>Prayer Link Road: Rowan Park</i> <i>Neighbourhood Link: Fran Taberner</i>
Wed	10	10.45 am	Holy Communion – followed by refreshments
		11.30 am	Holy Communion at Birch Heath Lodge

Fri 12 NB: Last day for contributions to September preferably earlier, to Janet Milton (335469) or you can e-mail your document to christletonmag@hotmail.co.uk

Sun	14	8.00 am 10.45 am 6.30 pm	Holy Communion - Order 1 Parish Communion - Order 1 Evensong <i>Prayer Link Road: Rowton Lane and Promised Land Lane Neighbourhood Link: Karen Smalls</i>
Wed	17	10.45 am	Holy Communion – followed by refreshments
Sun	21	8.00 am 10.45 am 6.30 pm	Holy Communion - Order 1 Matins Evening Communion <i>Prayer Link Road: Rowton Bridge Road Neighbourhood Link: Angela Haswell</i>
Wed	24	10.45 am	Holy Communion – followed by refreshment
Sun	28	8.00 am 10.45 am 6.30 pm	Holy Communion - Order 1 Matins Evening Worship <i>Prayer Link: Those worshipping at St James from outside the Parish Neighbourhood Link Area Secretary: Christine Abrams</i>
Wed	31	10.45 am	Holy Communion - Order 1

LETTER FROM OUR RECTOR

Have you ever watched one of many quiz shows on television, and found yourself shouting out the answers so much faster than the contestants on the show.

Almost without fail, the contestant will say “ I’m usually so much faster at home”, or “my mind has gone blank in front of the television camera”.

If you are half as cruel as me, you would, by that time be castigating the nervous contestant for their inept preparation or lack of knowledge of their chosen subject.

Well, in a similar way, I suppose you could say that our chosen subject is Christianity, and I don’t know about you, but I have often found myself suddenly being asked the most unexpected question, about my faith..... the questions about the Bible, or Jesus, or the Cross, are OK, I can usually talk about my understanding or my belief of these subjects.

But of course, most people don’t always start by asking questions about those subjects.....they want to know how OUR faith, relates to OUR life, and if I’m not careful, it is at times like that, I can become like an arctic river.....frozen at the mouth.

But it’s a valid question, and one which each of us should continually ask of ourselves,how does our Faith, relate to our life.

The decisions we make in shopping, our care for the environment, our care for each other, our use of time, talents, or money.

St Francis of Assisi lived by the principle that he should preach the Gospel to the whole of creation.....and where appropriate, to use words, perhaps even on occasion to use the words of others, which speak to us, rather like last months article written by Rev Braunston, as part of a sermon series.

Of course, we can all be taken by surprise by the occasional question, and on those occasions we may give some half baked answer, only to think several hours later....."Why didn't I say this" or, "I wished I had said that".

Sadly, for most of us, that second chance doesn't occur, and the impression we leave with those who speak with us, is the impression of our original action or statement. It is for this reason that it's vitally important that as Christians, as ambassadors for Christ, called to live out our faith in the communities in which we serve, be it workplace, school or college, in the community, or wherever else it may be, that we prepare our hearts and minds, that when we are observed, our faith will speak for itself, that when we find ourselves in conversation, at the bus stop, or in the workplace, that we may be confident in the assurance that God will guide us, and inspire us.

Christianity is a lifelong learning process, we are never too young, and never too old to learn, but we do need to be committed, we do need to have a desire and we do need to have grace, and compassion for, and with each other, and allow God to do the rest.

Your faithful Servant

Malcolm

Rose Queen Emily Freeman

Our cover this month shows Rose Queen Emily Freeman with some of her retinue outside the Lych Gate waiting to process to the Church Lawn for the annual Flower festival.

Jean and Ben Williams thank everyone for supporting the Raffle for a clock at the village show.

We were able to send £110 to The Hospice of The Good Shepherd.

Don't stop doing things

Because you are growing old

Because you will only grow old

When you stop doing things



This picture was taken at the Mothers' Union Tea Party held in June Brocklesbury's garden on 12 July when the assembled company had a delightful afternoon in the sunshine eating cucumber sandwiches, cakes and drinking tea.



•The first lecture of the season for the CHESTER LECTURE SOCIETY is on Thursday 29 September when an expert traveller, Denise Haywood, from London, will talk about Vietnam and its wonders. The October programme is also full of interest, with Hugh Beggs speaking on Celebration of Clouds, David Hunt on Incredible India, Rose Swale who walked around the world talking about Reaching for your Dreams, and David Stewart who will give the Society's 140th Anniversary Lecture on animals working for television. The Society was founded by Charles Kingsley of Water Babies fame in 1871, and is a registered charity.

•All lectures are on a Thursday evening from 7.30 to 9 pm in the Grosvenor Museum with free parking on the Castle Square. The Annual Subscription is only £20 for 18 lectures.

•Contact Margaret Croston on Chester 335955
or Anne Large on Chester 336108



Dixon's Almshouses

A vacancy exists for an upstairs flat at Dixon's Almshouses. Priority will be given according to the terms of the Trust. These state that they should be for residents of the ecclesiastical Parish of Christleton (Christleton, Littleton, Rowton, Cotton Edmunds and Cotton Abbots) who do not own any property.

If there are no applicants who fulfil these criteria, priority will be given to applicants who come closest to meeting them.

For further details please contact the Rector (01244 335663) or Mr Nigel Bromage (01244 332786).

Applications, indicating ways in which the applicant meets the terms of the Trust, should be sent to the Rector (The Rectory, Birch Heath Lane, Christleton, Chester CH3 7AP)

CHRISTLETON WEDNESDAY GROUP GETS A THANK YOU FROM THE QUEEN.

51 years ago, a group of young mums in Christleton met for coffee after collecting funds door to door for Dr Barnardos. They decided to continue to raise money for mainly local children's charities. The group grew in number and became known as "Christleton Wednesday Group".

In 2010, celebrations were planned for 50 years of charity fund raising. The daughters of a still very active early member thought that the Group deserved some external recognition. They phoned Buckingham Palace.

As a result, four of the longest serving members attended a Buckingham Palace Garden Party on 29 June, and Virgin Trains sponsored their first class rail travel to London. Pat Dewhurst, Alison Kenyon, Wendy Lewis and Margaret Wheeler were chosen by the members to represent the group at the Palace, and they had a very enjoyable and memorable day.

The Wednesday Group has raised over £3,000 (at today's values) every year for 51 years for local and national charities.

All of this has been made possible by the commitment of Group members and years of excellent support from the local community at events like quiz evenings, fashion shows, bridge drives, jumble sales, antique road shows, musical evenings and the annual Spring and Christmas lunches in the Parish Hall. Congratulations to the Wednesday Group!



Nature Notes.

The most significant wildlife sightings this month have been a very rare grasshopper warbler at Hockenhull, and an equally rare humming bird hawk moth seen in the village and along the canal. Grasshopper warblers are dull brown members of the warbler family that migrate here from Africa each spring. They usually skulk in low vegetation and are more usually heard than seen. Their song is an irregular long trilling sound, sung repeatedly sometimes for hours on end, and can often be heard best during rainy or overcast conditions. However we caught the sound of the warbler at Hockenhull on the wind, on a dry sunny day, when we were walking around the parish doing a butterfly count.

There were hundreds of butterflies to be seen, including newly emerged small tortioshell, peacock, red admiral, gatekeeper, meadow brown, ringlet, small heath, speckled wood, small skipper and holly blue. It was probably the best count we've had for many years, and indicative that much more farmland is being left fallow, or sown with wild flower seeds, and several lanes that we walked, although overgrown, were filled with abundant lowers, encouraging the growth of butterflies.

The humming bird hawk moth is a creature we've normally seen in warm Mediterranean Countries, but can occasionally turn up here. I've probably seen five since we've lived at Rowton, but to have a sighting in Birch Heath Lane, followed by two along the canal in one season was excellent. Humming bird hawk moths are insects, members of the moth family but in flight and behaviour act like humming birds, especially in



hovering over flower heads with their long proboscis probing into the flower head for nectar.

There are many interesting plants that attract butterflies and other insects, but two of the best are the various colours of buddlia (davidii) and red valerian both of which can be seen at their best in and around the village at present. The buddlia is commonly known as the butterfly bush and this seems to be a particularly good year for them, the ideal plant in this warm weather to encourage butterflies to visit gardens. The Pit is now suffering badly from lack of rain, and desperately needs more heavy rainfall to replenish the stocks lost during the dry winter and spring. Christleton has had less than 10 inches of rain since January, and the only deep water remaining in the pit is in the area created by the removal of silt in 2007. I can assure people that there is no hole in the bottom of the pit and that the lack of water depth is purely down to the lack of rainfall. Christleton Pit is simply a large hole in the ground which fills with rainwater, No rain, No water !!

Our swans have lost two cygnets since my last report, but the remaining four cygnets look healthy. They can be seen on the canal usually between The Trooper Bridge & Egg Bridge at Waverton, although as the cygnets get bigger the family will often go as far as Golden Nook Bridge at Hargrave to feed. DC

PHOTOS (left)

Top: Ringlet

Middle: Skipper

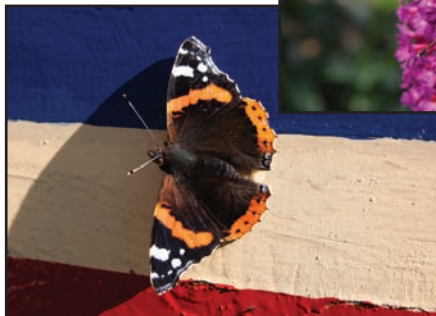
Bottom: Hawk Moth

PHOTOS (Right)

Top: Peacock

Bottom:

Red Admiral



People in the News.

Gwen Knight. Doctor of Philosophy

Congratulations to Gwen from all at St James' on receiving a Doctorate from Liverpool University for her advanced studies of the Old Testament whilst studying at Chester University College

Nancy Catherall & Jean Pryce Parry

Older members of the community will be sad to learn of the recent death's of two well known former Christleton residents, Nancy Catherall and Jean Pryce Parry. Nancy was a member of the Mayers family who can date their connection with St James' from their ancestor Hubert Mayor who is said to have come to Christleton from Bavaria in the 15thC to help build the church. The name Mayor gradually changed to Mayers, and the family's influence on the village and church has been immense. There are said to be over 44 graves in the churchyard with Mayers family buried there. It was just before she left the area through ill health that Nancy paid for the erection of a new oak cross on the lychgate to maintain that fascinating link with one family for over 500years.

Jean Pryce Parry who has recently died at Whitley Bay aged 91 was an active member of the community for many years. She was a consultant with the Cheshire Health Authority and with her husband the Reverend Fred Pryce Parry had come to live in Christleton during his retirement. Jean was a keen communicant at St James, but also one part of a group of friends from church who regularly got together, for dinner, afternoon teas, theatre visits etc. The group became known as Jack Mercer's harem, and consisted of three very active & formidable ladies Trixie Lyburn, Joyce Parker and Jean Pryce Parry (known to her close friends as P2.) Jean was a keen member of the Local History Group and Mothers Union and a valued member of the church community.

DC

The Village Show. 2011

The Trophy Winners.

Best Exhibitor-	Janet Milton
Best Exhibit-	Jayne Jenkins
Rose Bowl-	Karin Boucher
Wine/Drink.-	Ellen Frost
Produce.	Gillian Brackenbury
Baking	Janet Milton
Fruit & Vegetables	Jim Ferns
Hospital Floral	N/A
Best Plant	Edward Elliott
Floral art	Angela Haswell
Art Local Scene	June Brocklesby
Children's Overall	Isobel Bowman
Most successful Flowers.	Edward Elliott
Craft Award	Ann Wilkinson
Best 3 exhibits in Art	June Brocklesby
Best Photo in Show	Roger Croston
Best Exhibit by a child.	Isabel Gelder
Best Hanging Basket	Edward Elliott
Best Group Hanging Basket	Edward Elliott
Best Premises Basket	Christleton Village Stores
Theme Shield	Margaret Taylor
Millennium Trophy	Michelle Boyd
Best Newcomer	Andrew Longmuir
Chairman's Jubilee Award	Malcolm Cowan
Jim Siddall Award.	Graeme Lowe

Junior Vegetable Grower Izzy Bowman

Young Peoples Class Winners.

Pre School & Up to 7Yrs.

Jodie Barnard, Ted Bolton

Up to 11 yrs.

Sophie Brown, James Day, Isabel Gelder, Tess Bowman,

Kai Courtney Davies, Rebekah Day

12-18yrs.

Izzy Bowman

Congratulations to you all!



The Rector's cake.

The Rector and
Betty Gilliatt



Christleton's Little Heath Play Area declared open

Heavy showers unfortunately put paid to many families' plans of a picnic lunch and lazy afternoon, but rain failed to dampen the atmosphere of fun and informal celebration as the long-awaited refurbished play area at Little Heath (behind the Pit at Christleton) was declared open on 11th June.

After brief welcomes by Local Councillor Stuart Parker and Christleton Parish Council Chairman Steve Davies and a song by Christleton Brownies, a chainsaw carving of a swan was enthusiastically unveiled by local children. The sun then shone briefly as children explored the exciting equipment – particular favourites being the sand digger and the rock-climb bridge / slide.

Christleton Parish Council / the Trustees for King George's Fields are delighted with the complete redesign and refit of the play area which has brought this much-loved and widely-used facility into the 21st century.

The overall cost of the project was approximately £80,000, and the trustees would like to thank the following donors, as well as anyone we have neglected to mention, for their generous contributions of money, effort and resources: AFC Waverton; Ian Beech; Cheshire West and Chester Council Playbuilder Project; Christleton Fete Committee; Christleton Village Show; Churches Together in Christleton; D and B Cummings; Mr and Mrs Didsbury; The Earl of Chester's Fund; Osprey Windows; Mrs S J Palmer; St. James Lodge Charity, Christleton; Mr Charles Smeatham (the fundraising thermometer); Tattenhall Runners; Thursday Art Club; and Waste Recycling Environmental Limited (WREN).

Clare Holland

Photo courtesy of

David Cummings



The History File.

Following another successful Village Show last Saturday and the discovery of the Show Committee Minute Book for 1903, I thought I would bring the history of the show to a wider audience through the magazine. These are extracts from a History of the Village Show that I'm working on for a new publication. Our photograph shows Margaret Croston admiring the wonderful decorated cake made by our Rector Rev. Malcolm Cowan who is pictured with his wife Joyce. The cake was later auctioned after the Flower Service and raised over £100 for the Disaster's Emergency Committee's Appeal for Africa.

The Village Show. Part 1.

The first village show was held on The Rector Fields now the site of Christleton High School in 1871. We're not sure what events constituted this occasion, but we have evidence from 1872 that it was primarily a Fruit & Flower Show. In 1876 a Rose Show was held to provide funds for the new church building, and it took place on Sunday afternoon July 25th following a St James' Day Festival service, "and was attended by a very large aristocratic congregation".* The Show was deemed a great success, indeed the judges were perfectly astonished with symmetry and general healthiness of the exhibits" In class 1 the competition was open to all and cash prizes of £1, 15/- and 10/- were awarded. In Class 2 the competition open to all local cottagers paying less than £10 per annum in rent, with much smaller cash prizes to the winners. Class 3 was an open class for Roses, and in Class 4 the prize for the best bouquet was won by Mrs Lucy Ann Ince who also won the class of the Epergne dressed with flowers (a display for the centre of a dinning table). The Band of the Cheshire Militia, whose Commanding officer was her husband Colonel Townsend Ince, played for dancing until dusk'. The tea tent was well patronised, and great credit for the overall organisation given to Sam Earlam and the Rev & Mrs Lionel Garnett.

Grand Fete.

There was also a Grand Fete that year on Bank Holiday Monday August 7th, and events included a fancy fair, athletic sports, pigeon

shooting, rifle gallery, cross bows and dart guns, archery, skittles, aunt Sally and quoits. The Band of the 1st Royal Cheshire Militia also played for this event, which was held to raise funds for the rebuilding of St James' Church.

Rose Shows

The shows in July of 1881 & 1882 for which we have programmes, were Rose Shows and Sales of Work, specifically to raise the remaining funds for the completion of the church building. Entrance to the Rose Show was 1/-, and tea and refreshments were provided at a further cost 1 shilling. The show was followed by dancing on the Village Green. Transport to the Show was organised by a Mrs Barnes who ran the Favourite Omnibus and Brakes from the Bars in Chester to Christleton every hour beginning at 2.00 o'clock. The fare was 4d each way. Incidentally this was the same company who in 1911 advertised a service to Christleton to listen to the nightingales on the Woodfields, price 6d.

In August 1901 a Grand Bazaar & Garden Party was held at The Rectory, in aid of the schools, and was opened at 2.30pm by the Countess Grosvenor. This was totally organised by a Ladies Committee and was highly successful. The attractions included a Dairy Stall, Fancy Stall, Pottery, Baskets, Flowers and Herbaceous Plants, An Ideal Tea Stall, Fancy Stall 2 and Needlework. There were Menagerie Races, a Shooting Gallery, Sunlight Washing Competitions, Hat trimming competitions for men, Bran Pies etc. The event was sponsored by Lever Bros. of Port Sunlight, Wirral.

David Cummings



WHAT'S ON THIS MONTH

SUNDAY SCHOOL

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

Break for summer. Meets on the second Wednesday of the month at 7.15 pm in the Parish Hall. next meeting



CHESTER FLOWER CLUB

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

MAGAZINE CONTRIBUTIONS

Please ensure all items for inclusion in the July edition are sent to Janet Milton (335469), as soon as possible BEFORE Friday 12th August or you can e-mail this to christletonmag@hotmail.co.uk

MAGAZINE DISTRIBUTORS

The August magazine will be available for collection from church on Sunday 28th August.

St James Church

Open all day Sundays,

June, July, August and September 2011

St James Church will once again be open between services on Sundays in June, July and August for the seventh year. This will of course only be possible if you are prepared to come and help share the load! No special skills are needed – just a wish to give a warm welcome to those who visit our church – most of whom are very appreciative. Please sign up, if you are able, on the sheets at the back of church. Thank you very much.

J.B

VILLAGE TEAS Churches Together in Christleton

Village Teas will be served again this summer on Sunday afternoons commencing on 5 June and finishing on 25 September. 2.30pm - 4.30pm

Any money raised this year would be donated to Save the Family and Children Today.

We look forward to seeing you at the Methodist Church in June.

Please contact : Janet Milton (335469) Anne Collier (313409)
Sheila Roberts (336754)




save the family


children today

LEPROSY MISSION

Stamp out leprosy!

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

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

PLEASE TELL US....

If you know of any special birthdays, anniversaries or anyone celebrating a special occasion, who is a Parish magazine reader. Please inform the editor David Bull

AVAILABLE AT ST. JAMES' CHURCH

“Loop” system for the hearing impaired.

Large print books for the visually impaired and large print weekly notice sheets

Easy to follow Communion Service

Books for Children

Access for wheelchairs

Please ask any of the Church wardens or Sidesmen if you need assistance in anyway

CHRISTLETON UNDER-FIVES COMMUNITY PLAYGROUP

Registered Charity 1022817

Christleton under fives is an established pre-school playgroup attracting children from a wide area. It enjoys good and well founded links with Christleton Primary School. Children from the age of 2 1/2 years until school age are accepted. Please contact the Supervisor, Carole Penny, on 01244 336586 for further details.

MOBILE LIBRARY VAN SERVICE

The van calls weekly: alternate Thursdays & Fridays in Quarry Lane 3.15 pm – 6.0 pm. For further details of when the van is next in your area, please telephone Upton Library on 380053.

READERS

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

Parish Registers

Holy Baptism

- 5th Louise Sara Holloway daughter of Thomas Francis & Katriona Holloway
46 Quarry Lane, Christleton
- 5th Jack Richard Fearnley son of Richard Ian & Hayley Sarah Fearnley
15 Sheraton Road, Christleton
- 19th Isobel Grace Thompson Pollock daughter of David Russell Scott
Pollock & Vanessa Thompson Pollock
41 Greenfield Lane, Chester
- 26th Isobelle Grace Bird daughter of David Bird & Katie Price
3 Oakmere Drive, Great Boughton
- 26th Jack Taylor Price son of David Bird & Katie Price
3 Oakmere Drive, Great Boughton

"We welcome you into the Lord's Family"

The Wedding Service.

- 10th David Allen Kirwan & Berenice Mary Joy Hogg
11 Littleton Lane, Littleton, Chester
- 11th Thomas David Healing Hillwin Barton Road, Farndon &
Sarah Louise Coombs Pitts Cottage Brickly Lane Christleton
- "Those whom God has joined together, let not man divide"***

The Funeral Service

- 3rd Majorie Richardson Lexham Green Nursing Home Age 87yrs
- 20th Brenda Mary Ellis Thornton Manor Nursing Home Age 83

"Grant them eternal rest"

Offertories.

June	Cash	CSE	2011	2010
5th	124-49	803-50	927-99	979-61
12th	275-50	578-50	854-00	556-20
19th	199-80	590-50	790-30	1,002-23
26th	112-85	649-50	762-35	765-27
Totals.			<u>£ 3,334-64</u>	<u>£3,405-31</u>

"Of your own do we give you"

PARISH CHURCH OF ST. JAMES, CHRISTLETON

SUNDAYS	8.00 a.m.	Holy Communion	
	10.45 a.m.	Parish Communion	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	
SAINT'S DAYS	9.30 a.m.	Holy Communion	

WHO'S WHO & WHAT'S WHAT

Rector: The Rev'd. Malcolm Cowan, B.Th

**The Rectory,
Birch Heath Lane,
Christleton
01244 335663**

Churchwardens:	John Pearson	335101
	Keith Smalls	335688
Deputy Wardens	Lois Dickinson	
	Alan McAllester	
Reader	Wayne Morris	01978 263389
Sacristan:	Betty Dunning	335652
Pastoral Worker:	Berenice Hogg	336779
Sunday School:	Berenice Hogg	336779
Mothers' Union Branch Leader	Janet Brown	335785
Organist & Musical Director:	Steve Roberts	815277
P. C. C. Secretary:	Brenda Bailey	335034
P. C. C. Treasurer:	David Mercer	336155
Stewardship Envelope:	Betty Dunning	335652
Gift Aid Secretary	Nigel Seddon	335588
Bellringers	Ian Braithwaite	300565
Bellringers Secretary	Nikki Dromgoole	351124
Parish Hall Booking	Janet Milton	335469
C. M. S. Secretary	Janet Brown	335785
Children's Society Sec.	Lesley Morgan	335088
Visiting Group:	Berenice Hogg.	336779
Library	Lois Dickinson	378320
Church Flowers	Olive Hammond	336562
Magazine Editor	David Bull	332234
Magazine Compiler	Julie Coxall	336062
Magazine Distributors	Jenny Davies and Valmai Griffiths	335884
Neighbourhood Link Co-Ordinator	Janet Bowden	335705
Parish Resource		
Person for Child Protection	Alastair Holland	332819