

The background of the cover is a photograph of a canal scene. A large, light-colored stone archway frames the top and left sides of the image. Through the arch, a canal flows towards the viewer. On the left bank, there are brick buildings, one of which has a blue sign that says 'VEGAM'. On the right bank, there are lush green trees and bushes. A narrowboat with several people on board is visible in the canal, moving away from the viewer. The water reflects the surrounding greenery and the archway.

St. James'

Christleton

PARISH MAGAZINE

July 2016

www.christleton.org.uk

35p

Journal for July

Sat	2	9.30 am	Coffee Morning at Ring 'O Bells for entries to be made for Village Show
Sun	3	Thomas the Apostle Sixth after Trinity	
		8.00 am	Holy Communion (BCP) followed by Breakfast in Parish Hall Crew Day Out
		10.45 am	Holy Communion (CW)
		06.30 pm	Evening Prayer
Mon	4	10.45 am	Holy Communion at Oaklands N Home
		11.20 am	Holy Communion at Tarvin Court
		02.00 pm	Mothers Union - Parish Hall
Wed	6	10.45 am	United Holy Communion (BCP) - followed by refreshments
		6.30 pm	Choir Practice
Fri	8	4.00 pm	Set up Village Show - Parish Hall
		7.00 - 9.00 pm	Non perishable exhibits in the Village Show to be delivered to Parish Hall
Sat	9	09.00 - 10.30 am	Exhibits in Village Show to be delivered to Parish Hall
		02.00 pm	Village Show
Sun	10	Seventh after Trinity	
		08.00 am	Holy Communion (CW)
		10.45 am	Annual Flower Service outside (weather permitting) followed by Barbeque. All welcome
		06.30 pm	Holy Communion (CW)
Wed	13	10.45 am	Holy Communion (BCP) - followed by refreshments
		11.30 am	Holy Communion at Birch Heath Lodge

		06.30 pm	Choir Practice
Fri	15	Last day for contributions to August Magazine, to Janet Milton (325529). You can attach your Word document and e-mail to: christletonmag@gmail.com	
Sun	17	Eighth after Trinity	
		08.00 am	Holy Communion (CW)
		10.45 am	Holy Communion (CW)
		04.00 pm - 06.00 pm	Messy Church - Parish Hall
		06.30 pm	Evening Prayer (BCP)
Mon	18	12.00 - 12.30 Start	Luncheon Club - Parish Hall
Wed	20	10.45 am	Holy Communion (BCP) - followed by refreshments
		06.30 pm	Choir Practice
Sat	23	11.00 am	Wedding - Christopher Smith and Karen Harkness
Sun	24	St James Ninth after Trinity	
		08.00 am	Holy Communion (CW)
		10.45 am	Holy Communion (CW)
		06.30 pm	Evening Worship
Mon	25	07.30 pm	PCC Meeting - St James
Wed	27	10.45 am	Holy Communion (BCP) - followed by refreshments
		06.30 pm	Choir Practice
Fri	29	12.00 noon	Wedding - Sean Carter and Sian Dutton
Sun	31	Tenth after Trinity	
		08.00 am	Holy Communion (CW)
		10.45 am	Holy Communion (CW)
		06.30 pm	5th Sunday Service

Message from our Rector



How do you measure success?

The Parish Church of St James, Christleton, is a church which has been a symbol of Christianity throughout the ages, and bear in mind just how different the village would have looked one thousand years ago, or even one hundred years ago.....with only a small amount of cottages, and farm buildings.

And yet, through faith, through belief and through working together as a worshipping community, this church not only remains here today, but is the success it is today.

We are a successful church because, we are aware of who we serve,.....the community, Jesus tells us to serve each other, and in so doing we serve him, to love each other, and in so doing, we reveal his love in the world.

And they are things which we here in this church are good at. Just a few months ago we had a concert here, none threatening as far as religion was concerned to many of those who attended, and yet.....at the end of the concert, I was standing at the door, and many people passed comment to me, I was told things like, "I used to come here regularly.....I'm going to try and start coming again", other comments about how beautiful the church is, from people who live locally, but simply never give a thought to coming along..... but they tasted, they have been inside, and have seen the beauty of this place.....the jewel in the crown of Christleton.....and from now on.....they will speak of this place as being their church..... because that's the way it works.....and in truth, comments such as those, are the real success of events like that evening.

We must recognise of course, the work and effort of so many people throughout the years who have worked and witnessed in this community.....and all for the love of God.....those who have lead the

Sunday schools here, those who have organised and staffed outreach groups, and all the many other events and services.....and I don't intend to name names because they didn't seek glory for themselves in what they did, and continue to do, but they did recognise a need and in love sought to fulfil that need in love.

One thing we should try to avoid is allowing our own agenda to creep into our witness,of course it would be wonderful to think that as a consequence of any programme of outreach, our church suddenly became full with people responding to our invitation to come and taste.....but every time action has been taken to reach outit has been successful. I speak to many people who ask me which church I'm from.....and many of those people say, things like, "I was at Sunday school there" or "I was in the choir there" or simply that they have been here to worship.....and they may not come here now.....they may not go anywhere at present.....but the seed has been planted.....through the work and witness of those at that particular point in time.....the seed has been sown.....

We plant, and God does the rest, in his time.....not ours.
And it's right that we continue to seek ways of reaching out to our community, seeking to reveal God's love
This is precisely what our Gospel reading reveals to us.
The imagery of the vine and its branches, is one which we can easily identify. Even in the times of the new testament, the scholars reading psalm 80, could not have misunderstood the true meaning "thou didst bring a vine out of Egypt; thou didst drive out the nations and plant it".

Even the most unpoetic person would have known that the "real vine" was not a horticultural plant, but rather..... a people.....whom God had delivered from oppression to freedom. There is a deliberate intent to convey to the reader, an image with which they could easily identify, the vine was common, and was well cultivated, well pruned, to ensure maximum fruit yield. And so when Christ describes himself as the true vine, he describes that living, growing plant, firmly rooted, not in soil but in the love of God.

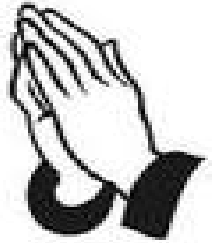
With those branches which grow up, and spread out, constantly drawing all it needs to grow and produce fruit from the stem. But as with all things in the garden, there is a need for constant care, pruning and cutting back, to enable new growth, to allow the vine to bear not only much fruit, but also good fruit.

Yet it must not be supposed that the growth of the church will simply be a horticultural operation, of course there will always be a need for dressing and pruning of the vine, but there is also the fruitfulness "If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish and it will be given to you".....to bear fruit then is not simply to have our evangelical efforts triumph,it is to be with the Lord in witness, both in word and deed, in action and in passion, in suffering and in joy, in defeat and in victory, in death and in resurrection.

This manner of bearing fruit glorifies God. We are called to share in that mission, we are the branches of that vine.....of Jesus Christ.....by our faith and trust in Him, we become part of him, and he us, there is no separation. All we are, we are with Christ, all we say, we say with Christ, and all we do we do for and with Christ. So some of the things we did as a church in times past, may not be the most effective evangelistic methods for today, we may need to think through how we seek to reach out.....in today's world.

But that doesn't mean that any of us are unable to respond, what brought each of us into the way of faith, who was important in our journey, as we think about it, we may suddenly realise that we, can do for others, what was done for us. We all have so much to offer, some may think, "I'm too old to be involved," or "I'm too shy to be involved" well to those people, I would ask.....to be involved in what All that happened on a Spring evening was we sat and listened to a wonderful concert, is anyone too old, or too shy for that. And even if you're not as young as some of the others.....you have one thing that some others don't possess,,,,,,experience, you have seen many things, many changes, you will have seen what works and what doesn'tand so as this imagery of the vine being pruned is refreshed in our minds, we can begin to

realise that sometimes we can't continue to do things in the same way as was done in times past. But we do continue, we do continue to seek to ensure that that our part of the vine here in Christleton is healthy, does bear fruit, even if we may not see the fruit, we know that through our efforts, through our work and witness here in this community, we do continue to reach out, supported in prayer and guided by those with experience, So let us continue to move forward as one community, and one church, in love, in grace and in humility, and may all we do be to Gods glory.



Your faithful Servant,
Malcolm



**THE PARISH OF
ST JAMES,
CHRISTLETON**

New Hymn Books

There is a plan to buy new hymn books for use in St James' Church in the not too distant future, the final choice of book has yet to be made.

You are invited to dedicate a book in memory of a loved one or in celebration and thanksgiving for an event such as a special wedding anniversary, birth of a child, etc.

A bookplate will be placed in the book indicating the dedication and a donation of £10.00 per book is suggested.

For more information contact Elizabeth Inall

Tel: 336500;

email: Elizabeth@Inall.co.uk



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.

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 Club Secretary - 01745 856126.

MAGAZINE CONTRIBUTIONS

Please ensure that all items for inclusion in the **AUGUST** edition are sent to christletonmag@gmail.com or, if you do not have access to email, please give or send them to Janet Milton(325529), as soon as possible **BEFORE** Friday July 15th

MAGAZINE DISTRIBUTORS

The **AUGUST** magazine will be available for collection from Church on Sunday 31st July

MONTHLY LUNCHEON CLUB

Meets in the Parish Hall on the 3rd Monday of each month at 12 noon for a 12.30 pm start. There is no charge but donations are welcome. For further details contact Janet Milton (325529) or Christine Abrams (335562)

RSPB CHESTER GROUP

Meetings are held from September to April in Christleton Parish Hall, usually on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7.30pm. Occasional field trips.

Details from Norman on 01244 335670 or www.rspb.org.uk/groups/chester



The History File

Battles for the Somme

On July 1st 2016 we commemorate the centenary of one of the most calamitous campaigns of WWI. The area around the river Somme was the main area of the conflict on the Western front for Christleton men and, from the early days of the War, as the troops moved into France, they passed through the Pas de Calais towards the area known as the Somme. Captains Hartford and Forster, both serving with the Cheshire Regiment, were the first to die in the early days of October 1914. A total of nine men from the Parish however, were killed between July and August 1916, during the main battles for the Somme. The British regiments at this stage were made up mainly of volunteers, "Haig's Army", who joined up after attending recruiting meetings in their local area. Many were "Pals" Battalions, groups of men from towns and cities, for example "Liverpool Pals", who were really enthusiastic for action and marched into battle not knowing what horrors were ahead of them. They were eager to serve their community and country. Siegfried Sassoon, the poet, said that, "The Battle of the Somme started on a beautiful heavenly day. The skylarks were singing as they flew heavenwards, and unknown to them thousands of our soldiers were on their way there too".

More than one million were killed or wounded, 400,000 of them British. This was one of the worst engagements in the history of our warfare, with scenes of utter devastation everywhere. Some of the place names we read on gravestones in the churchyard would also be engraved on the hearts of many families in the village. Lochnagar, Delville Wood, Loos, Beaumont Hamel, Thiepval, Longueval, Gullimont are just some of those names, and our men were spread out across the front line, in their various regiments.

William Fleet, George Jones, George Maddocks, and Norman William Keith Hill were all with the Cheshires. John Griffiths, Royal Irish Rifles; Company Sgt Major Frank Davies, Frederick Mulliner and Edward Foster all served with the Manchester Regiment; Edward Porritt, Kings' Liverpool, and Thomas Weaver, Durham Light Infantry. Our most senior serving Officer, Lt Col. Edward Townsend Logan, from Christleton Bank (The Abbotts Well), 3rd Cheshire, but leading 15th Battalion Durham Light Infantry, was killed at Loos. Later, Albert Parker, Kings Liverpool, was killed in the battle of Cambrai, where tanks were used for the first time, followed soon afterwards by the

Reverend Walter Handley from Stamford Heath, who was killed at Arras. In 1918 John Dean and William Taylor died on the Marne; and, almost at the end of the conflict, Thomas Meacock, Royal Field Artillery, Andrew Bruce Hill, Royal Warwickshire Regiment, Perciful Boughey, R.A.S.C., and Cecil Wright, Cheshire Yeomanry and Kings Shropshire Regiments, lost their lives in this same area of France.

The bodies of many of these brave young men were never recovered, and remain where they fell on the battlefields where they fought. Several are commemorated on Memorials like the one at Thiepval. This huge arch, which stands high on a hill and is visible from all around, is a memorial to the offensive on the Somme, and contains the names of 73,000 British and South African soldiers who fell between July 1916 and 20th March 1918 and who have no known grave. There are over 120 Commonwealth War Grave Cemeteries on the Somme, with hundreds of much smaller memorials scattered across the region. It is a tribute to the Commonwealth War Graves Commission that these memorials are beautifully kept and maintained to honour those who gave their lives in far off lands. Losses on the Somme were shockingly high: 420,000 British, 200,000 French, and between 450,000 - 600,000 Germans. It was said that the British troops were badly led in this battle but, after a long period of attrition, they were a much more effective force at the end of it. DC



CONGRATULATIONS

Best wishes to Netta Dew on her 90th birthday Sunday 26 June.

BELATED CONGRATULATIONS to Janet & John Milton on their Golden Wedding Anniversary 18 June.

CHRISTLETON GARDENING CLUB

On Monday 11 July there will be 'A Walk on the Wild Side – birds, mammals and insects of Cheshire' with Jack Swan. Meeting in the Methodist Church schoolroom starting at 7.30 pm. Visitors welcome.

David Cummings
presents
Heritage Walk in the Christleton Parish
1st July 2016

Friday Morning 1st July 10-00- 12noon 'The Heroes' Trail

A walk around St James Church, the churchyard, and the village, looking at many visible aspects of WWI and its effect on the village community. We will be visiting the graves of several of our heroes, learning about their stories, looking at where they lived, and the buildings they would have known & loved in the village.

Please ring David on 332410 to book a place, or e-mail cummings.d@uwclub.net

Churches Together in Christleton

SUMMER SUNDAY TEAS

In the Methodist Church Schoolroom

From 5th June
Until 25 September 2016

EVERY SUNDAY

FROM 2.30 pm UNTIL 4.30 pm

Everyone Welcome

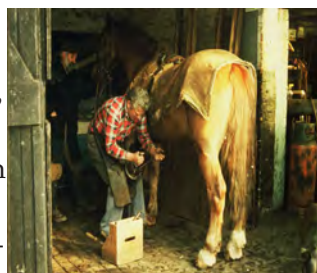
Proceeds to Railway Children



Christleton Festival June 27th to July 11th 1976

Forty years ago this year Christleton hosted a Festival of events to coincide with the Chester Festival. The event was inspired by the previous years Festival of British Villages when Christleton was chosen to be one of eleven villages to host such an event. The 1976 festival included some notable events, and enabled many talented Christleton residents to showcase their work. Among the highlights were;

A dramatised performance in costume of Handel's oratorio "Saul" in the church, produced by Margaret Davies, with Edward Hewison organ, and Ron Smith on the piano. Ken Stark from the church choir was a soloist. St James' Church was also the setting for a recital of Schumann lieder given by distinguished Welsh tenor Rowland Jones, with Ron Smith providing the keyboard contribution. A lunchtime organ recital in the church was given by Brian Heald, and the final event was a "Songs of Praise" led by the St James' Church Choir and the St Cecilia Singers. The organist was Brian Heald, conductor Ron Smith, and the service led by Rector Charles D Mack. A Viennese Evening took place in the Parish Hall, led by Ronald Hugh Smith & the St Cecilia Singers. There was a lively programme of music by Johann Strauss, Lehar, Zellee etc, and a Viennese style buffet, with wine and dancing.



Two Comic Operas, "The Maid-mistress" & "The Wedding breakfast" were also performed in the Parish Hall, soloists included Claire Heald and Enid Whittle. Christleton Primary School was the venue for a "History of Christleton" a slide and sound show presented by Head-teacher David Cummings, and the children had compiled their own "Village Trail" an informative guide on points and places of history and natural history in the village. The school field was the venue for an open air Japanese style Raku Kiln, where pots made by the children, were fired and glazed in the unique "Raku" way. The "Chronicle" described it as being one of the highlights of the Festival. The children also held a

Festival of Dragons, making dragon models, from clay and cardboard, collages, paintings and writings and other creative work. This was a competitive festival judged as part of inter- house competitions. The older children also gave displays of Maypole and Country Dancing on the Village Green.

Members of the Darby & Joan Club & WRVS Helpers were also guests of the School, when they were entertained by pupils presenting music and dance items. This included a performance of the rock musical “Joseph & The Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat, produced by David Cummings, with dancers trained by Betty Flanagan.

Dorothy Colley director of Chester Arts and Recreation Centre, hosted a display of art, pottery and sculpture at Iris Cottage on Village road. George Thompson was the artist, Jean Knowles the potter, and Brian Burgess a sculptor.

Pam Lowe held a Coffee Morning in aid of The Chester Adoption Society, and the W I hosted a Painting Competition with the Monday and Wednesday Painters in the WI Hall. The WI also held a Barn Dance in their Hall to raise funds for the Institute, and a Country Market on the Village Green, where plants, flowers and other home grown produce were for sale. They also hosted a whist drive during the final week. Christleton Village Blacksmith Barry Crump and his assistant, Tony Mellor, gave displays and information on shoeing and everyday life in the smithy as part of the Festival.



The event was organised and co ordinated by Ronald Hugh Smith, St James' Organist, who claimed that the success of activities in Christleton was due to the good community spirit. “There has always been a very good community spirit in the village and that is why there are such a lot of activities going on” he said. “Also there are so many talented people around”.

DC June 2016 Ref; The Chronicle Friday Julyn 9th 1976.

An IMPORTANT note for your diary

Christleton Village Show 2016

Is on Saturday 9th. July

**In Christleton Parish Hall
Village Show**

Christleton Village show is open to all residents in the Parish of Christleton – Christleton; Littleton; Rowton; Cotton Abbotts; and Cotton Edmunds as well as the many who have links to the parish through the schools and churches etc and villagers who have moved to surrounding villages like Guilden Sutton, Barrow, Waverton etc.

The 2016 Schedules should now be available from Christleton Village Stores, the Ring O Bells as well as St James Parish Church, Christleton Methodist Church and committee members.

As usual there are new categories to choose from as well as familiar ones so there is great choice to start planting, 'crafting', sewing, painting etc. It doesn't cost much, is great fun and there are lots of trophies to win. You will also be helping with a worthy cause. After expenses all remaining proceeds are given to charity

Once again Hayley at Drakes Hairdressers has agreed to be a collecting point for completed Entry forms, making getting your forms in on time so much easier. This is in addition to the Entry form collection point at Judith Butts house –Greenmantle, Plough Lane. There will also be a Coffee Morning on 2nd July in the Ring O Bells for entries to be made. We are appealing this year for help to Set Up the show on Friday at 4-00 and dismantle after 4-00 on Saturday Evening. This usually takes about 1.30mins. PLEASE contact any of the committee if you can spend even part of the time helping .

If you have any queries or if you would like to help on the day (PLEASE) ring any of the committee below.

Chris Marsland – 335424, David or Beryl Cummings - 332410, Janet Brown – 335785. Charles Smeatham – 335209. Margaret Croston – 335955, Sue Haywood – 01829 741814, June Pearson - 335101, Judith Butt – 335296, Sue and Lewis Rees; Christine Abrams -335562, Edward Elliot - 336659; Sarah Donald, Jim Ferns and Claire Gelder

Manley Mere

3 July 2016

Crew Day Out

Share a Picnic

**Explore
Bring the Family**

**All are invited to join the crew on their annual day out to Manley Mere. We will meet at Manley Mere where we will have a shared picnic, after which, the adventurous can go off on the trail.
(Old clothes essential)**



**Further details Contact
Tina Lightfoot
tina.lightfoot@googlemail.com**

So get a bigger frying pan

Two men went fishing. One man was an experienced fisherman, the other wasn't. Every time the experienced fisherman caught a big fish, he put it in his ice chest to keep it fresh. Whenever the inexperienced fisherman caught a big fish, he threw it back. The experienced fisherman watched this go on all day and finally got tired of seeing this man waste good fish. "Why do you keep throwing back all the big fish you catch?" he asked.

The inexperienced fisherman replied, "I only have a small frying pan." Sometimes, like that fisherman, we throw back the big dreams, big opportunities that God gives us. Our faith is too small. We laugh at the fisherman who didn't figure out that all he needed was a bigger frying pan; yet how ready are we to increase the size of our faith?

Whether it's a problem or a possibility, God will never give you anything bigger than you can handle. That means we can confidently walk into anything God brings our way. Remember: You can do all things through Christ (Philippians 4:13).

The Five Fingers Prayer

1. Your thumb is nearest to you, and without it you are helpless. So begin your prayers by praying for those closest to you, without whom you, too, would be lost. They are the easiest to remember. To pray for our loved ones is, as C. S. Lewis once said, a "sweet duty."
2. The next finger is the pointing finger. Pray for those who teach, instruct and heal. This includes teachers, doctors, and ministers. They need support and wisdom in pointing others in the right direction. Keep them in your prayers.
3. The next finger is the tallest finger. It reminds us of our leaders. Pray for the next President of the USA, the UK Prime Minister, the national

leaders in Europe, the leaders in business and industry, and administrators. These people shape our nations and guide public opinion. They need God's guidance.

4. The fourth finger is our ring finger. Surprising to many is the fact that this is our weakest finger; as any piano teacher will testify. It should remind us to pray for those who are weak, in trouble or in pain. They need your prayers day and night. You cannot pray too much for them.

5. And lastly comes our little finger; the smallest finger of all. Which is where we should place ourselves in relation to God and others. As the Bible says, "The least shall be the greatest among you." Your 'pinkie' (as the Americans call it) should remind you to pray for yourself.

By the time you have prayed for the other four groups, your own needs will be put into proper perspective and you will be able to pray for yourself more effectively.

The FIFA World Cup Final that England won

England's only major international soccer success came 50 years ago this month, when they defeated West Germany to win the FIFA World Cup Final in London. Alf Ramsey's team beat the Germans 4-2 in a controversial match that featured a memorable disputed goal – Geoff Hurst's shot that hit the bar and bounced just behind (or possibly on) the line.

The final goal for England is remembered as much for the commentating of Kenneth Wolstenholme as for Hurst's powerful finish. "They think it's all over," he said. And a split second later, as the ball hit the net: "It is now."

So England won the £30,000 solid gold Jules Rimet trophy – but it nearly didn't happen, because the trophy had been stolen months earlier when it was on exhibition at Central Hall in Westminster, London. It disappeared while a church service was taking place in another part of the building, but was later recovered.

CHRISTLETON VILLAGE SHOW

Saturday 9th July 2016, 2 pm



Do you grow, or sew? Can you make, or bake? Whether you cook, or just want to look, the Show needs your support! Classes for flowers, art, crafts, produce, photography, and more. You could win a trophy! Enjoy delicious home-made refreshments, and enter the raffle for some great prizes!

Held in the Parish Hall, and open to all ages and abilities.

Schedules and entry forms available from Drakes Hairdressers, Christleton Village Stores, Ring O' Bells, or download from www.christleton.org.uk

High Days and Holy Days for July

3rd July **St Thomas the Apostle – confused and doubting**

Thomas, one of Jesus' 12 apostles, was an impulsive, confused, honest sceptic. Jesus could understand and work with such a man. Thomas' impulsiveness was evident when Jesus prepared to visit Lazarus in Bethany. It was a dangerous trip to make, because of the Jews, but Thomas urged his fellow disciples: "Let us also go, that we may die with Him." (John 11:16) Instead, Jesus brought Lazarus back to life.

Thomas' confusion is shown in later talks with Jesus. He was not really sure where Jesus was going long-term (John 14:5). But Jesus accepted this confused commitment, and began to untangle it, patiently explaining: "I am going to my Father", and "No one comes unto the Father but by me."

Finally, Thomas' honest scepticism is revealed after the Resurrection, which he flatly refused to believe - unless he could touch the wounds of the risen Jesus. Sure enough, Jesus appears - but instead of scolding him, shows him the wounds. Thomas responds: "My Lord and my God" (John 20.26ff).

Thus Doubting Thomas' honest doubts, turned to honest faith, have become a reassurance for thousands of men and women across the centuries, who also want to follow Jesus, but who require some proof of this amazing event - the Resurrection. In Doubting Thomas' complete affirmation of faith, after meeting the risen, crucified Christ, they can find support for their own faith.

Ancient legends tell how Thomas went on to India as a missionary. There are rumours that Thomas even built a palace for a king's daughter in India, and thus he is the patron saint of architects. It is believed that he was martyred by a spear on 3rd July, 72 AD in Mylapore, near Madras. 46 ancient churches in England were dedicated to him.

15th July St. Swithun (or Swithin) - saint for a rainy day

St. Swithun is apparently the saint you can blame for rainy summers. It is said that if it rains on his special day, 15th July, it will then rain for 40 days after that. It all began when Swithun was made Bishop of Winchester in 852 by King Ethelwulf of Wessex. It was an important posting: Winchester was the capital of Wessex, and during the 10 years Swithun was there, Wessex became the most important kingdom of England.

During his life, instead of washing out people's summer holidays, and damping down their spirits, Swithun seems to have done a lot of good. He was famous for his charitable gifts and for his energy in getting churches built. When he was dying in 862, he asked that he be buried in the cemetery of the Old Minster, just outside the west door.

If he had been left there in peace, who knows how many rainy summers the English may have been spared over the last 1000 years. But, no, it was decided to move Swithun. By now, the 960s, Winchester had become the first monastic cathedral chapter in England, and the newly installed monks wanted Swithun in the cathedral with them. So finally, on 15 July 971, his bones were dug up and Swithun was translated into the cathedral.

That same day many people claimed to have had miraculous cures. Certainly everyone got wet, for the heavens opened. The unusually heavy rain that day, and on the days following, was attributed to the power of St Swithun. Swithun was moved again in 1093, into the new Winchester cathedral. His shrine was a popular place of pilgrimage throughout the middle ages. The shrine was destroyed during the Reformation, and restored in 1962. There are 58 ancient dedications to Swithun in England.

25th July St James the Apostle - apostle to Spain

James and his brother John were sons of Zebedee and fishermen from

Galilee - the 'sons of thunder', as the gospel writers describe their impetuous characters and fiery tempers.

James stands out on three accounts: he was one of the three disciples who witnessed the Transfiguration of Christ. Jesus took him, along with Peter and John, to 'watch' with him in the garden of Gethsemane. Finally, he went on to be the first apostle to die for the Christian faith, when in AD 44 King Herod Agrippa put him to the sword in Jerusalem at Passover time.

In the centuries following his death, James became associated with the evangelising of Spain, and as a powerful defender of Christianity against the Moors. The heyday of the cult of Santiago de Compostela was from the 12th to the 15th century, and the pilgrimage to Compostela became one of the most important of medieval Christendom. This in time transformed the iconography of James, and his emblems became the pilgrim's hat and the scallop-shell of Compostela. Over 400 English churches have been dedicated to James.

Looking at God

From the Vicar - The Battle of the Somme

On the 1st July 2016 we commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Battle of the Somme and remember those who fought and died during the battle. The Somme was one of the deadliest battles of the First World War. During five months of combat, the total number of men killed, wounded and missing reached over one million.

A century later the battle scars still remain. It's still difficult to make sense of what happened and see God's place in the conflict. It challenges any image of a safe, problem-solving God who protects at all costs from pain and suffering. As Jesus' prayer in the Garden of Gethsemane demonstrates, God is to be found alongside in the pain: 'Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not my will, but yours be

done.’ (Luke 22:42). Geoffrey Studdert-Kennedy, the chaplain popularly known as ‘Woodbine Willie’, served at the Somme said: ‘We have taught our people to use prayer too much as a means of comfort: the comfort of the cushion, not the comfort of the Cross.’

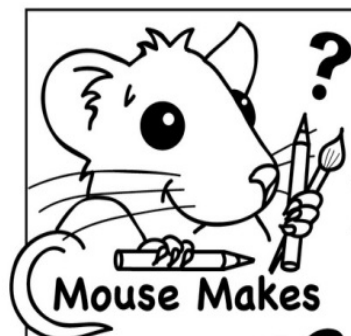
He is saying that prayer in itself won’t save us from suffering, as it didn’t save Christ from the cross. But it does enable us to fight evil in a way that will transform the situation, like Jesus going to the cross.

Looking at your Church – and Christians in action worldwide

Iraqi priest: ‘There’s a struggle happening in the whole world’
Until about two years ago, many Christian priests in Iraq would urge their congregations to stand firm in the face of increasing pressure, and to maintain their churches in that country. After all, the Christians had been there for 2000 years.

No more. Since the violent arrival of Islamic State in Iraq and Levant (Isil) extremists, more and more priests have changed their mind. Now, as Fr. Martin, an Assyrian priest explains: “I tell them one thing. If you are thinking about leaving, go now, do not wait.” Christian leaders in Iraq reckon that the population of Chaldean Catholics, Syrian Orthodox, and members of the eastern Assyrian church and others has dropped from 1.3 million people 20 years ago to less than 400,000. In the past two years Isil has displaced more than 200,000 Christians from the northern region of Nineveh. Many are now in refugee camps in Baghdad.

Fr. Martin goes on to point out that the Christians in Iraq feel caught in the confrontation between Islamic extremism and the West. “When newspapers published cartoons about the Prophet Muhammad, it was in Europe, but gangs tried to assault Christians here. (If) something happened in Belgium or in Holland, I paid here. There’s a struggle happening in the whole world and we will be burned in this fire in the future.”
Source: Daily Telegraph 16 May.



WHO AM I?

The last letter of one name is the first letter of the next name.

J _ _ _ S

- Mary's first child
Luke 1:30-31
- Hannah's son
1 Samuel 1:20

7 _ _ 1

- He wrote the second Gospel
- Followed Elijah
2 Kings 2:15

A _ _ 7

- The first man
Genesis 2:20
- Baby in a basket
Exodus 2:1-10

_ _ _ S

- A wise king
1 Kings 4:29
- He built an ark
Genesis 6: 13-14

H _ _ _

- Wrote the 28th book of the Bible



WHICH BOOK IN THE BIBLE...

- ... is the **first**?
- ... is the **last**?
- ... has the **most** chapters?
- ... is the **last** in the Old Testament?

How many books are there in in the Old Testament, the New Testament, and the whole Bible?



FIND THE BROTHERS

BENJAMIN	HARAN
ISAAC	MOSES
AARON	JOSEPH
GAD	SHEM
JAPHETH	JAMES
JACOB	ASHER
JOHN	ESAU
CAIN	ISHMAEL
PETER	ABEL
ABRAHAM	ANDREW

DID YOU KNOW?

In the Bible there are: 31,173 verses, 1,189 chapters, 773,692 words.

The longest word is in Isaiah 8:1

The longest verse is Esther 8:9

The Bible was originally written in Hebrew, Aramaic and Greek


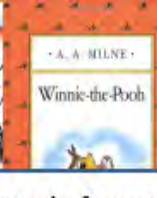

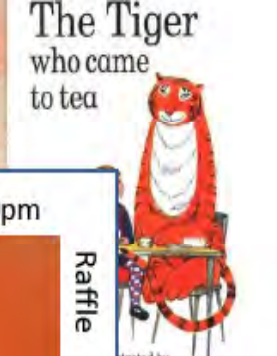



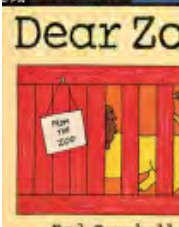


Can you find **JESUS** and all the Apostles in the word search?



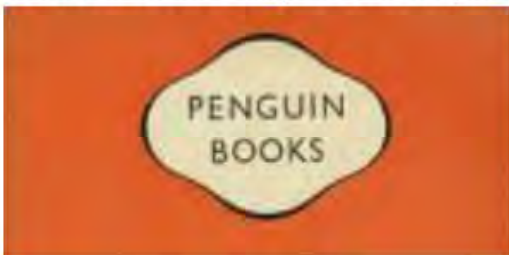
ANDREW
JOHN • JAMES
THOMAS • MATTHEW
• SIMON • THADDEUS
BARTHOLOMEW • PETER
PHILIP • JAMES • JUDAS

J O J E S J U D P H T E J
M J U D M A T T H E W A E
A O D J A M E S I M O N S
T H A D D E U S L E H D U
T N S I M S T H I W O R S
N O T H O M A S P E T E R
A B A R T H O L O M E W S

Bedtime Stories' Fancy Dress
 Performance Poetry
 BBQ


Parade from the Village Green 1.00pm



CHRISTLETON'S B.F.F.
(Big Friendly Fete)

FICTION PRIMARY SCHOOL PLAYING FIELD **FICTION**




Saturday 25th June 1.30pm



Admission: Family £5; Adult £2; Child/OAP £1; Under 5s Free

Traditional Games Music Entertainment

Spitting Feathers Bar
 Prosecco Bar
 Café
 Raffle



THE SAINT & THE MONSTER

St Columba, whose feast day is 9th June, was born in Ireland and came to Scotland to be a 'pilgrim for Christ'. He founded a monastery on the island of Iona in 563. The monastery at Iona became a centre of learning and many missionaries were trained there. Columba carried the message of God's love throughout Scotland and monks from his monastery carried the message into England.

St Columba wrote a number of hymns and is said to have transcribed, or written out by hand, some 300 books in his lifetime.

And what has he got to do with a monster? Well, it wasn't the Loch Ness monster but a monster that was living in the River Ness. St Columba is said to have driven away this monster who was attacking a swimmer, with the sign of the cross and the words "Thou shalt go no further, nor touch the man; go back with all speed."

MONSTER MUNCHIES

75 g (3 oz) margarine
3 normal size Mars Bars
(thinly sliced)
3 large tea cups Rice Crispies
100 g (4 oz) chocolate cake
covering (melted)



Grease and line a swiss roll tin. In a heavy based saucepan, gently melt the margarine. Add the Mars Bar pieces and stir until no lumps are left.

Take the pan off the heat and stir in the Rice Crispies – adding more if the mixture will take it. Spread the mixture in the tin and press it down evenly with the back of a spoon.

Cover with the melted chocolate and leave to set. Cut into 24 bars when cold – or cut into less

bars if you are feeding a very greedy monster!

How does a monster count to 17?



On it's fingers.

Parish Registers

Holy Baptisms

15 May 2016 Harper Lily Wilson Daughter of Ross Wilson and Kate Jackson (99 Manchester Road, Knutsford)

Holy Matrimony

14 May 2016 Johnathan Dover and Helen Louise Johnson (1 Elm Bank Cottages, Whitchurch Road, Rowton)

28 May 2016 Mark Stephen Cunnington and Sophie Louise Caldcott (8 Boundary Court, Tarvin Road, Broughton)

Funeral

09 May 2016 Dale Robbins – 33 Fir Tree Lane, Littleton

09 May 2016 David Ferris Wade of Orchard Manor Nursing Home

The Methodist Church launches updated resource

The first major update to Called By Name, considered one of the Methodist Church's 'most important' publications, has just been released.

This fully illustrated book of hymns, prayers, Christian art and images from contemporary life was originally published in 2005.

It has served as a key resource in helping both lifelong and new Methodists understand the distinctive meaning of the Methodist Church.

PARISH CHURCH OF ST JAMES, CHRISTLETON

REGULAR WORSHIP

SUNDAYS:	8.00am:	Holy Communion
	10.45am:	Holy Communion (1st & 3rd & 5th Sun days)
		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)
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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.

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 jandmcowan@gmail.com (The Rector's day off each week is normally Friday)	335663
Administration:	Janet Milton (Janet is your initial contact point for Baptism, Wedding and Appointment requests)	325529
Other local clergy who may assist:	Rev'd Gill Hibbert	336544
Churchwardens:	Tina Lightfoot Bettie Gilliatt	07557 352592 335645
Deputy Wardens:	Chris Platel	332466
Verger:	John Milton	325529
Sacristan:	Betty Dunning	335652
Organist:	Vacant	
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:	Betty Gilliatt	335645
Electoral Roll Officer:	Brenda Bailey	335034
Churches Together Representative:	Jan Bowden	335705
Parish Safeguarding Co-ordinator:	The Rector	335663
Messy Church:	Rev'd Malcolm Cowan	335663
CREW Youth Group:	Mike & Tina Lightfoot	328436
Church Library:	Valmai Griffiths	335884
Church Flowers:	Olive Hammond	336562
Bellringers' Secretary:	Nikki Dromgoole	351124
Parish Hall Bookings:	Janet Milton	325529
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 Adverts	Ann Smith	332434
Magazine Distributors:	Jenny Davies, Valmai Griffiths	335884

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



Dancers on Green Festival 1976



Confirmation

Holiday Soothies

For dealing with motion sickness, ginger capsules are your new friend. Available from any health store, they do a wonderful job in calming upset tummies.

For fever or frayed tempers, take some camomile tea bags with you. Camomile tea doesn't just calm your nerves; cooled down, the tea also soothes sunburn.

July 2016 @ St. James, Church Christleton