





Parish Magazine
March 2006



MARK IN MARCH

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Wed 1 ASH WEDNESDAY 10 45 am United Communion Mass and Imposition of Ashes - St Werburgh 7.00 pm Fri 3 WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER Stuart Wilkes Organ Tour - St James 10.30 am 10.30 am Service at St Paul, Boughton 7.30 pm Service at St Mark, Saltney 6.30 pm Choir Practice Sun 5 The First Sunday in Lent 8.00 am Holy Communion - Order 2 Sunday School - Parish Hall 10.30 am 10.45 am Parish Communion - Order 16.00 pm The Crew Youth Group Evensong with Lent Sermon Series - followed by 6.30 pm refreshments Prayer Link Road: Sandrock Road Neighbourhood Link: Margaret Wheeler Wed 8 10.45 am Holy Communion followed by refreshments United Lent Worship - St James 7.45 pm Fri 10 6.30 pm Choir Practice NB: Last date for contributions for April Parish Magazine, preferably earlier, to David Bull (332234).

| Sun 12 | 8.00 am 10.45 am 6.00 pm 6.30 pm | The Second Sunday in Lent Holy Communion - Order 1 Family Service - followed by refreshments The Crew Youth Group Evensong with Lent Sermon Series Prayer Link Road: Skips Lane Neighbourhood Link: Pat Hawkes |
|---------------------|---|--|
| Mon 13 | 2.00 pm | Mothers' Union - Parish Hall |
| Wed 15 | 10.45 am 7.45 pm | Holy Communion - followed by refreshments United Lent Worship - St James |
| Fri 17 | 6.30 pm | Choir Practice |
| Sun 19 | 8.00 am 10.30 am 10.45 am 6.00 pm 6.30 pm | The Third Sunday in Lent Holy Communion - Order 1 Sunday School - Parish Hall Parish Communion - Order 1 The Crew Youth Group - Parish Hall Evensong with Lent Sermon Series Prayer Link Road: Stamford Lane Neighbourhood Link: Julia Carr |
| Wed 22 | 10.45 am 7.45 pm | Holy Communion - followed by refreshments United Lent Worship - Methodist Church |
| Sun 26 | 8.00 am 10.45 am 6.00 pm 6.30 pm | Mothering Sunday: The Fourth Sunday in Lent Holy communion - Order 1 Family Service - followed by refreshments The Crew Youth Group Evensong with Lent Sermon Series Prayer Link Road: Tarvin Road Neighbourhood Links: Roger Bellamy, Huw and Lesley Morgan |
| Tues 28 | 9.00 am | Church Ramble Group leave car park for Sandstone Trail |
| Wed 29 March - 2 | 10.45 am 7.45 pm 006 | Holy Communion - followed by refreshments United Lent Worship - Methodist Church |

The Rector's Letter

Dear Friends

Come back in Lent

You may have noticed the adverts from utility companies inviting former customers to come back to them for their supply. With the 'open market' they claim many customers were 'lured away' from them by the promise of cheaper provision, easier access and so on. Now they have discovered the hidden charges and lack of ability to deliver, they are realising they were better off where they started and coming back to their original supplier. They also claim that this way people are better able to keep warm, keep in touch and the price is up front. Lent offers a much better way to come back.

The Parable of the Prodigal Son (or the Lost Son), has been described as the Gospel in miniature. The Prodigal takes his inheritance and sets off to enjoy himself, and make his own way in life. Having wasted his inheritance on lavish life styles he is reduced to poverty in a far off land. At last he realises what he has lost, and turns to come back to his father. The father never turned his back on his son, but was waiting, arms open, for him to return. It was the son who turned his back on the father, but as soon as he turned to come back his father's welcome was waiting. So it is with God and us. In so many ways, and so easily, people are lured away from God by the promises and attractions of an uninhibited life style, by secular materialism, by self importance or whatever. So often the promises prove empty and false. We only have to witness the arid wastelands of our soulless, secular society, running out of resources, and with no compass to guide. Unlike commercial companies God's promises are real, and based on his self-giving love for each and everyone of us.

Lent is a time in the Church's year when we are invited to come back to God as the son came back to his father in the parable. 'Repent' is a word that means 'turn'. If we, like the lost son, instead of moving away from God, turn to come back, we find he has always been there, looking for us and waiting. Lent is a time for secret growth. Just as in nature early growth is unseen, preparing to break out in the warmth of the sun, so there is a stirring in our heart and soul as we turn to come back to God. That is something each one of us can only do for ourselves. At the same time our Lent Programme,

which starts appropriately on 1 March, which is Ash Wednesday, hopefully helps that process and enables us to share it together. Sermons on Sunday evening in Lent will be on subjects of your choice. Subjects can be suggested on a card left in the box at the back of Church or given directly to me. A short sermon will be followed by 'comeback' to enable questions and discussion. Then on each Wednesday of Lent, Churches Together in Christleton have organised reflective worship for times of guiet reflection and devotion. Leaflets detailing these have been distributed to every house in the Parish. I am also inviting any adults interested in being Confirmed to come to the Lady Chapel on Monday 6 March at 7.45 pm with a view to Confirmation in May. Anyone already Confirmed, who would like to join us as a 'refresher', would be very welcome. Then Monday 3 April is the date for our Annual Parochial Church Meeting. We hope to keep this fairly 'light' with Cheese and Wine after the meeting, and opportunities to share memories of the past year (with photographic presentations) and plans for the future. There is so much we could be doing to welcome and enable people to come, and/or comeback, into a living relationship with God in Christ, to renew and revitalise his Church in this Parish. I hope and pray Lent will provide opportunity for us all to make that happen personally, and as Christ's Church.

Yours sincerely

Prayer of the Month:

"A time to come back" by Joyce Huggett

Peter Lee

You are our peace, O Lord.
From the thousand wearinesses of our daily life, from the disappointments, from the nervous and senseless haste, we turn back to you and are at peace.

The clamour dies, we are alive in the sunshine of your presence. Even so come, Lord Jesus, to this soul of mine. Amen

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Visitors from Chile at St James

n Sunday 5th February, the Rev Danny Morrison & his family were welcome visitors to St James'. They work with many poor families in a church at Vina del Mar, a holiday area south of Valparaiso, Chile. When they began their mission there they had just 20 parishioners. This has now grown to over 120 members over three years, and there is now a lively church community including many young families. The Morrison Family live within the community to help practice the message of the gospels in their lives, and the children attend local schools. Ben & Lisa Bentham and boys are colleagues and friends of the family. Whilst Mrs Morrison and the children attended Sunday School in the Parish Hall, Rev.Danny took part in Holy Communion, and later gave a power point presentation on their life in Chile at Evensong. The family were entertained to lunch by Church members at The Cheshire Cat.



Written in March
The cock is crowing,
The stream is flowing,
The small birds twitter,
The lake doth glitter,
The green field sleeps in the sun...
There's joy in the mountains;
There's life in the fountains'
Small clouds are sailing,
Blue sky prevailing;
The rain is over and gone.
William Wordsworth

In order to arrive at that which thou knowest not,
Thou must go by a way that thou knowest not,
In order to arrive at that which thou possesseth not
Thou must go by a way that thou possesseth not.
St John of the Cross

Magazine Distribution

n behalf of all the local magazine distributors and those who work to make the magazine the success that it is. I would like to say a very big thank you to Margaret Dromgoole who is retiring from being in overall charge of the distribution network. I will be taking over this role from Margaret and hope that I will receive your continued support in making sure that the magazine reaches as many people in the parish as is feasible. I should also remind you that the annual subscription of £ 3.50 is now due and should be handed to vour distributor as soon as possible. If you know anyone who wishes to receive a regular copy of the magazine, please do contact me.

Pat Nilssen 11 Littleton Lane. 336013

ST JAMES CHURCH, CHRISTLETON ELECTORAL ROLL 2006

he annual preparation of the electoral roll is now taking place. If you wish to be included in the current roll and have not already registered in the last 12 months, please submit a completed application to the Rector, or alternatively forward it to Pat Nilssen, 11 Littleton Lane, Littleton, Chester, CH3 7DJ. As the Annual Parochial Council and Vestry Meeting will take place on 3rd April 2006, final entries for inclusion in the 2006 roll must be received no later than 17th March.

Welcome

The most welcome guest is the one who knows when to go home.

CHRISTLETON LADIES GUILD - PROGRAMME 2005 - 2006

Meetings held in Methodist Church every other Tuesday Contact Joan Webb 335518

Coach booked

March 28 Mary Birchall – Flower Arranger

April 11 David Cummings – Chester 1890's photographs

April 25 Joan – Number Quiz

May 9 Arley Hall Trip 11.00 – 5.00 Gardens Open

12.00 - 5.00 Hall Open. Coach booked

May 23 True or False

June 6 Lyme Park Trip Coach booked

June 20 Rena – Word Search

July 4 Mike Stansfield – Gracie Field

July 18 Southport 10.30 – 5.30. Coach booked

PARISH COUNCIL CONCERNS

t the January meeting Councillor Butt reported on the submission of a proposal to build an incinerator on Ince Marshes by Peel Holdings, owners of the Manchester Ship Canal. This would be an enormous site with commercial prospect of exporting electricity and of waste produce being brought in from other areas of the British Isles and other countries for disposal at this site. There were particular concerns on the public health aspect of this proposal and this issue was not fully addressed in the consultation document. There are two organisations CHAIN (Cheshire Against Incineration) and RAIN (Residents Against Incineration – part of Helsby Village Action Group) who are mounting campaigns against the proposal. Councillor Butt would attend the next meeting of CHAIN and report back.

Councillor Burke requested a prompt decision on the alternative entrance to Styal pathway in order for the work to be done within the current financial year or the funding could be lost.

Tree felling in Plough Lane in connection with the new footpath was due to commence and the whole project is expected to be completed by end of March.

Surface noise on A55 – Councillor Burke reported a number of complaints. This project should have been reviewed in the year 04/05 and is being investigated again. Huntington Parish Council have invited Christleton Parish Council to support their petition in getting some action on this matter. Christleton Parish Council supports this and resolved that a copy of the petition be placed in Christleton Post Office for the residents of the Village to sign.

The Chairman reported receiving concerns from the driver of the Mobile Library regarding residents parking in the lay-by during the hours when the Library visits the Village.

Itwas agreed that monies be budgeted for the following major projects for the financial year 2006/2007 – Cutting Birch Heath Common, Pump House Improvements, Playing Fields Improvements, Litter Bin Play Area, Additional Repairs to Play area, Dredging the Pit, Replacing Jubilee Bench. The precept for the year would stay the same.

A clean audit had been received from the External Auditors for the return for the financial year 2004/2005.

A letter was to be sent to the leader of the Chester City Council, voicing the members' concerns on the issue of double taxation grant of Parish Councils.

It was agreed to tidy up the wet area by the gate of the Little Heath Play Area and to lay gravel and roller it in at this area.

Discussions had taken place with contractors on the best way of tackling dredging The Pit and various methods had been put forward. A further meeting is scheduled, together with investigations into having water analysis carried out, and whether it would be necessary to remove the fish for this work to be completed.

The poor state of the paintwork to the telephone box at the top of Birch Heath Lane was brought to the attention of the members and BT were to be asked to repaint it, reminding them that it is in a Conservation Area.

The next meeting of the Council will be on Tuesday 7 March in the Methodist School Room at 7.30 pm. Members of the public are welcome to attend.

Bogus Callers in this Area

lease be aware that bogus traders are operating in this area. Whilst most traders using cold call methods operate legally, some are out to exploit customers especially the vulnerable. If you have callers at your property check their identity and obtain a valid receipt with company address. Offer to pay by cheque as many demand cash only.

Please also take this opportunity to check on any vulnerable members of our community.

BE VIGILANT

If you see anything suspicious please note descriptions of persons along with any vehicle registration numbers.

Call the Police on: 0845 458 0000 In Emergency Call 999

Mickle Trafford Police Office 0845 458 6394

Chester Trading Standards 01244 602424

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People in the News



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Congratulations to Helen Strange

Leading young Chorister at St James,' Helen was delighted to be awarded a runners up medal, in the recent Young Local Musicians Competition, sponsored by the English Speaking Union at Stanley Palace. Helen a student at Christleton High School also sang solo parts in the Church Choir's performance of Vaughan Williams "Christmas Oratorio" at The Festival of Light in December. She has sung with the St Cecelia Singers, and in several musicals, Screws & Cons. West Side Story, Bugsy Malone, and was narrator in Joseph & His Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat. **David Cummings**



Congratulations to Pat Nilssen

Pat recently invited many friends and neighbours to a wonderful party in the Parish Hall, to celebrate her 50th Birthday. She would like to thank everyone who attended the party and made it such a special occasion. And a thank you for all the genererous donations given which resulted in a marvellous total of £430 raised for The Children's Society.

and Congratulations to Ruby Wolfendale

who was 85 on 29th January

SOUTH AFRICA

Lorraine Booth, of St Peter's Church, in Waverton, Chester, recently took part in a USPG-organised visit to Umzimvubu Diocese, in South Africa, where USPG is helping the Anglican Church to run agricultural projects to benefit impoverished rural communities. Here is part of Lorraine's report:

The trip was brilliant! The welcome was incredible and the worship was wonderful to witness.

Many of the churches are what we would call huts. Inside they are colourful, welcoming and – more importantly – well used. The agricultural projects we saw were very inspiring; the people so want to be able to support themselves.

Travelling around, the difference in housing was striking: small round traditional huts, painted white, green or pink. State-built breeze-block houses; bungalows such as you would see in England. Such is the contrast in wealth.

The roads were mostly in a poor state of repair; and it was rare to get water out of a tap. The trip made me realise how much we take for granted in England.

Meanwhile, the AIDS message was everywhere and it was apparent that a lot is being done to educate and advise the people. The outreach workers we met were some of the friendliest and happiest women I have met, and they were so caring about their work. One of the workers had already lost eight members of her family to the disease

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.For more than ten years Action-Aid Recycling has been collecting mobile phones and empty printer and Fax cartridges. It then sells them to 're-manufacturers' for a second lease of life.

.ActionAid Recycling is, for example, helping companies harness mobile phone technology to provide farmers in poor countries with up-to-the-minute market prices via the Internet. Farmers can now decide on the day if the price is good enough to warrant the lengthy journey to market. Proceeds raised go to ActionAid's work.

.Recycle your phone or cartridge by : ordering an envelope from Action-Aid Recycling on 0845 3100 200 e-mail :

recycling@aarecycling.org.uk or visit www.actionaidrecycling.org.uk

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Nature Notes

ur Christleton Cygnet CL26 was among the mute swans affected by the problems at Southport Marine Lake (Look North News Jan 06). Eleven swans died, of what is assumed to be lead poisoning and many others including CL26, were taken

into care at Stapeley Grange, the RSPCA Centre in Nantwich. I don't have news of progress at the time of writing. The Christleton pair took up residence again at the Pit at the end of January, and I hope to build their nest in the middle of the month.

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The RSPB Big Garden
Birdwatch which took place at the end of January, was almost a non event locally, as I suspect many birds seemed to be sheltering from the intense cold.-7C at times, although numbers did increase after the census was completed. There seems to be a continued absence in the fields/hedgerows of wintering native species, lapwing, song & mistle thrush, reed bunting, yellowhammer, chaffinch, linnet, greenfinch, even starlings, but there have been occasional welcome

sightings of brambling (a very rare visitor) bullfinches and long tailed tits. Great spotted woodpeckers can be seen foraging for insects on dead branches, and who give themselves away by giving a sharp piping warning call, but they haven't yet started drumming. During a visit to West Kirby Marine

Lake I was delighted to see a flotilla of colourful mergansers, saw billed ducks that live on small fish, and aquatic vegetation, together with two pairs of goldeneye, small diving ducks wintering here from their home in Scandinavia or Russia. They incidentally live in tree

holes rather like woodpeckers. Our resident kingfisher is being seen regularly again along the canal, now that the trees have lost their leaves, and large black cormorants, fish eating birds [rather like a large black heron] can be seen sitting on trees along the canal, or gorging themselves on fish at The Pit. Three buzzards can be seen on most days circling in the air currents above the canal at Rowton.

David Cummings

LOOKING AROUND LONDON

As we looked out over the Thames from the terrace of the House of Lords we were saddened to think about the young whale that had perished that weekend. We were celebrating 200 years to the very day



(23 January) that Pitt the Younger had died. He was Prime Minister and Chancellor of the Exchequer at the same time, Prime Minister for 19 years out of 22, drank three bottles of Port a day, and died at the early age of 46. William Haig gave a wonderful account of Pitt's life and achievements. Afterwards we were invited to go into the public gallery and listen to the debate on Identity Cards. The House of Lords gave it thumbs down.

We visited The Actors' Church in Covent Garden – St Paul's. Work on the Church began in 1631 and was completed in 1633. In1795 there was a terrible fire. The Parish

records were saved as was the pulpit, the work of Grinling Gibbons. Later, some restoration was carried out by Butterfield, who built our own Church.

The connection with the theatre began as early as 1663 with the establishment of the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane, and was further assured in 1723 with the opening of the Covent Garden Theatre - now the Royal Opera House. In May 1662 Samuel Pepys noted in his diary the first "Italian puppet play" under the portico - the start of Punch and Judy. The painter JMW Turner and WS Gilbert of Gilbert & Sullivan fame, were baptised there. Among those buried at St Paul's are Samuel Butler, Grinling Gibbons and Thomas Arne (the composer of "Rule Britannia"). Memorials in the church are dedicated to many famous personalities of the 20th century, including Charlie Chaplin, Noel Coward, Gracie Fields and Ivor Novello. The ashes of Ellen Terry and Dame Edith Evans rest in St Paul's

George Bernard Shaw based the opening scene of Pygmalion – the play that formed the basis for My Fair Lady – under the portico.

Margaret Croston.

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David Mercer 336155

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St. James' Christleton Parish Magazine

From the Archives

An old postcard of Hockenhull Platts

few months ago I had a delightful surprise, being loaned an old picture postcard of Hockenhull Platts printed in 1924, which shows the water of the river Gowy passing through the first bridge on the Christleton side, where the pond is today. This is the first photographic evidence to confirm stories I have heard locally about the changing of the channels of the Gowy, by Italian prisoners, after the end of WWII. Many local men recall swimming in the Gowy at this point, and I know from my own experience

that the old stream bed runs through the wet meadow, and which today is covered by a dangerous mass of floating vegetation. Eric Beech and Colin Williams both clearly remember the bridge in this state, and I've heard of several visits to the area recently of former Italian prisoners of war, coming back to relive some of their past. Although prisoners in a strange country, they each talk about being well treated by local people, especially by the farmers for whom they worked. The postcard was kindly loaned to me by Mr & Mrs Thomas from Farndon, and is hand tinted, a method of colouring photographs, before the now common colour processing came in during the 1950's.

David Cummings



March - 2006

THE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY



I have received the following letter from The Children's Society thanking us for our gift of £600.33, the magnificent sum raised from our Christingle Service.

Lesley Morgan

"Thank you for your recent gift to The Children's Society. Our important work with over 50,000 children throughout the country could not develop without your generous contributions. Your valuable support helps children whose needs may be ignored and overlooked by other services and enables them to deal with life's harshest challenges, to develop their own selfbeliefs and to face the future with confidence. Marlicah, a teenage runaway, would like to thank you for the difference made to her life: "The Children's Society is brilliant. It's given me a bit of a kick-start to make

something of my life. I'm now going to university to become a social worker, so that I canhelpother children who've been through similar problems to me"

DIAL HOUSE Disability Rights Centre

Could You Claim Extra Money?

My name is Angela Robinson, and as an experienced disability rights adviser working on a project for Dial House in Chester, my aim is to increase awareness of the benefits which disabled and older people in rural areas of Chester District could be entitled to claim.

Benefits such as Attendance Allowance, Disability Living Allowance, Incapacity Benefit, may be awarded to people who are having difficulties because of their age or disability.

To find out if you qualify and to arrange a free confidential appointment please contact me on 01244-345655. Leave your name and telephone number if I'm not in the office and I will contact you as soon as possible.

This project is about putting money that YOU may be entitled to in YOUR pocket.

Worship a Faith Journey

t the Bishop's Blue Coat Church of England High School we are entrusted with the care of over 1,000 young people and 70 staff. Our worship together is central to this task and underpins all that we do as a school with a distinctive Christian ethos.

However it is a daunting task to provide experiences of worship which engage young people and nurture them in Christian faith - like parents and families we too have to contend with teenage rebellion and the peaks and troughs of enthusiasm, but in much greater numbers.

In the current climate of 'fresh expressions of Church' we have the opportunity (and challenge) of providing worship which enthuses out students and staff with a desire to explore their own spirituality. This is an immense responsibility, it both terrifies and thrills us.

We have strong team who plan and lead worship, we have a passions for worship and we have so many good ideas. For example we are planning a day when pupils can use drama, music and ICT to create a Eucharistic liturgy that engages with their experience. We already have

a worship band to teach us new songs and yes... we do sing together in worship in the lower school.

Our vision is clear and our energy is almost boundless - but we need your support through prayer. We would be so grateful if the Churches whose young people come to the Bishop's High School were to pray for us on a regular basis. We need those prayers to support us in difficult times, to help us to discern God's will as out work develops, and to celebrate with us the blessing of being part of a special worshipping community

Please support us with your prayers and share with us our faith journey. We will let you know each term how we are progressing. This term we are working to nurture our voluntary Communion services, and we are planning our worship in Lent and also *Footsteps*, our worship and celebration evening with the children who will be joining us in September and their families.

Thank you for your continuing support. There are bookmarks available to help you. Please pray for us!

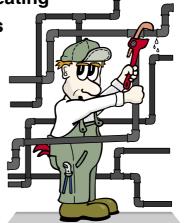
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LOCAL EVENTS DIARY

SUNDAY SCHOOL

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

CHRISTLETON LADIES GUILD

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

All very welcome.

CHRISTLETON METHODIST CHURCH

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

CHRISTLETON W.I.

Meets on the second Wednesday of the month at 7.15 pm in the Parish Hall. The next meeting will be on 8 March - "Canine Care" by Nicole McIIvee

CHRISTLETON GARDENING CLUB

The next meeting will take place on **13 February** with a talk on "Clematis" by Mr Matthew Powell.

CHRISTLETON W.I. MONTHLY WHIST DRIVE

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

MAGAZINE DISTRIBUTORS

he April magazine will be available for collection from Church on Sunday 26 March..

St. James' Christleton Parish Magazine

LOCAL EVENTS DIARY

CHESTER CATHEDRAL 25 MARCH, 2006 7.30 P.M.

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CHESTER BACH SINGERS
AND
ORCHESTRA
CONDUCTOR: MARTIN BUSSEY

BACH: ST.MATTHEW PASSION

TICKETS:£16, £14, £12, £9, (CONCESSIONS AVAILABLE) FROM CHESTER GATEWAY THEATRE TEL:01244 340392

CHESTER FLOWER CLUB

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

CHRISTLETON WEDNESDAY GROUP

Invites you to a SOUP & SWEET SPRING LUNCH At Christleton Parish Hall on Wednesday 22 March 2006 12 noon

In aid of The Adolescents' Unit Fund at the Countess of Chester Hospital

Cost: £6.50 per person [includes glass of wine] Tickets available from any member

BEND

I got a package envelope in the mail the other day that had written on the front, "Photographs: Do Not Bend."

Underneath the postman had written: "Oh, yes they do."

MAGAZINE CONTRIBUTIONS

lease ensure all items for inclusion in the April edition are sent to the Editor, David Bull, The Old Rectory, Plough Lane, as soon as possible **BEFORE Friday 10 March**.

You can e-mail this to

christletonmag@hotmail.co.uk

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CHRISTLETON RAMBLING GROUPS



St James' Tuesday Rambling Group.

Tuesday 28th March

Cheshire; Sandstone Trail & woodland walk. Frodsham Hill & Helsby 7miles.[moderate+] Pub Meal. Depart Church Car Park at 9.00am.

Tuesday 25th April

The Lake District; Keswick.
Combining a trip by Lake Steamer & walk around Derwentwater.
8miles [moderate] Picnic needed.
Depart Church Car Park at 7.30am

Churton / Sibbersfield Ramble

A 4 mile flat ramble on well marked paths/tracks/minor roads with views of the Sandstone Ridge and Welsh hills.

Meet at 2.0pm in the Church Car Park Sunday, 12th March.

Further details contact Liz McClure 409414

Little old lady seeks handsome young man

An advert appeared in a student newspaper of a university: "Sweet little old lady wishes to correspond with good-looking university student — six-footer with brown eyes wanted, answering to initials J.A.D. Signed: his mother

LOCAL EVENTS DIARY

Christleton Local History Group

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Wedneday. 29th March 7.30pm at the Primary School.

Chester in the 1890's.

A catalogue of Photographs by
Valentine Co. of Dundee;
Speaker; David Cummings

Weds. 26th April 7.30pm.

Llangollen to Ellesmere Port by Canoe.

The history & wildlife of the Shropshire Union Canal. Speaker: David Cummings

Charity Talk& Supper for Christian Aid

At 7.00pm Saturday 29th April 2006. The Parish Hall David & Beryl Cummings Press ent Reef and Rain Forest. Afully illustrated talk about the Great Barrier Reef, ancient Rainforests, & the wildlife and scenery, of the Gold Coast of Australia. Tickets are £6. These will be available in April, and includes a glass of wine and light supper. Tickets from David Cummings 332410, & Christleton Post Office.

GROSVENOR MUSEUM SOCIETY LECTURES

Monday, MARCH 13th

Peter Boughton

The sparkle of silver and gold...an introduction to the Grosvenor Museum's Silver Gallery.

Thursday, APRIL 6th

Jeremy Cragg

The saving of Erddig Hall...the house of the Yorke family.

Monday, MAY 8th

Dan Garner

The Chester Amphitheatre Project..... discoveries from recent excavations.

All meetings take place in the Grosvenor Museum Lecture Theatre, at 7.30pm

Entrance : Members free.

Non-members, suggested donation : £4

Details of membership from

Ken Holding (312689)



Choir

Two choir members recently got married. They met by chants.

CHRISTLETON SPORTS CLUB

an update by Jim Gillson , Club Chairman

At the recent AGM, the Ron Mayers decided to resign his post as Chairman of Christleton Sports Club after many successful years. As the new chairman I feel it is important to inform parishioners of current developments. As many will be aware, the Sports Club was formed by members of the local parishes. to serve sporting ambitions. The clubhouse in use today was built by parishioners in 1973. Since then the club, comprising of football and cricket sections has attracted boys. girls and men from the village to play in the teams. Our club president, Terry Dandy, is actively involved in the day to day running of the club.

Today the football section is enjoying the highest standard of football played by any amateur club in Chester. With a semi – final of the Cheshire Cup coming up in early March, the first team continues to look for trophies. A reserve and a youth team ensure the development of young talent. The volunteers who maintain the ground were rewarded for their efforts two years ago, when Cheshire football association voted the pitch one of the finest in the county.

The Cricket section is going from strength, with the first eleven currently in the highest position of all the clubs in Chester! Playing in the Cheshire County Cricket league the

club boasts three league teams, as well as an 'Over 40's' midweek team. Most importantly the long term future of the club is in good hands. Our junior section is expanding rapidly and has been awarded the highly sought after Clubmark award in recognition for the quality experience youngsters receive at the club. The volunteer groundsmen regularly receive acknowledgement for the ground being among the best in the county.

The Sports club remains at the heart of sporting life in Christleton and is well supported by members of the parish. All members of the community are welcome to become involved at the Sports Club, whether playing or as a spectator. Socially, the club holds regular events. The next of which being a Sportsman's Evening on March 24th, where we will welcome the Chairman of England cricket team selectors, David Graveney, who will be speaking. Tickets are still available, but are going fast.

For many years the clubhouse has been hired for weddings, anniversaries, birthdays and by local groups for local and occasional meetings. If you would like more information about youth or men's sport at Christleton Sports Club or would like more details of the Sportsman's Evening in March, please contact: Sports Club Chairman Jim Gillson on – Tel 332982

Christleton Sports Club is available for functions and local interest groups – full bar and good parking

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When did you last actually TALK with your spouse?

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ne in five couples goes through the week barely talking to one another, according to a recent survey. Nearly one third of people work '9 to 8' instead of '9 to 5' and when they do get home, half spend at least two hours of every evening in separate rooms, putting children to bed, doing household chores, watching TV, or talking on the telephone. It all means that millions of us simply 'exist' together, rather than live together. This despite the modern striving to achieve 'a healthy work-life balance'. Two thirds of people questioned said that more time together in the early part of their evening would benefit the state of their relationship. The At Home Society. which commissioned the survey,

has suggested seven ways to 'recover the evening' together.

- 1. Always change out of work clothes once at home. This marks the end of the working day.
 2. Developapost-workroutine. Create something with your partner that you can look forward to during the day.
- 3. Ignore the dust. Successful and satisfying relationships can only happen when there is time to nurture them.
- 4. Accept compromise. If young children prevent the early evening relaxation hour, push this back to after they have gone to bed. Think quality rather than quantity.
- 5. Try not to bring work home.
- 6. Consider priorities. Happy people put quality time at the top of their list of priorities.
- 7. Learn how to resolve conflict. People who deal with disagreements by withdrawing, ignoring their partner's feelings and escalating the intensity of the argument head towards failed relationships.

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Well I never

typical day for a typical man involves sleeping for eight and a half hours, watching television or a DVD for three hours. and playing sport for just 18 minutes.A typical woman will sleep for eight hours and 45 minutes - ten minutes longer than men. But she will watch 30 minutes less of television a day (making supper?). and do just 11 minutes of sport. So says research from recent National Statistics. It has also found that 25 per cent of men and women are obese. That compares to just 13 per cent of men and 16 per cent of women in 1993.



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It's a funny old world

unny how we set our clocks to arise at 6:00 a.m. so we can be at work by 8.00 a.m. - but on Sundays we can't make church for 11.00am to praise the one who gave us the jobs! Funny how we call God our Father and Jesus our brother. -but find it hard to introduce them to the rest of our family. Funny how much difficulty some have learning the Gospel well enough to tell others, -but how simple it is to understand and explain the latest gossip about someone else. Funny how small our sins seem, =but how big 'their' sins are. Funny how we demand justice for others, =but expect mercy from God for ourselves. Funny how we can't think of anything to say when we pray,= but don't have any difficulty thinking of things to talk about to a friend. Funny how we are so quick to take directions from a total stranger when we are lost, = but are hesitant to take God's direction for our lives. Funny how so many church goers sing 'Standing on the Promises', but all they do is sit on the premises. Funny how people want God to answer their prayers,=but refuse to listen to his counsel. Funny how we sing about

March - 2006 25

heaven= but live only for today. Funny how people think they are going to heaven = but don't think there is a hell. Funny how it is okay to blame God for evil and suffering in the world= but it is not necessary to thank him for what is good and pleasant. Funny how when something goes wrong, we cry, "Lord, why me?" but when something goes right, we think, "Hey, it must be me!" Oh wait...maybe all this isn't so 'funny' after all.

Addendance Figures

ew attendance figures show mixed picture for church-going Figures just released by the Church of England for 2004 show a mixed picture for trends in church attendance. Regular Sunday church attendance fell by one per cent - largely offsetting a similar increase the previous year. But weekly and monthly churchgoing held steady and the number of children and young people at services rose by two per cent. The new statistics confirm that more than 1.7 million people attend Church of England church and cathedral worship each month while around 1.2 million attend each week - on Sunday or during the week - and just over one million each Sunday.

CATHEDRAL LINK

ф

Grand Charity Concert

Bishops High School King's School and Newton Primary With Chester String Orchestra

On Friday 3rd March in the Cathedral at 7.30 pm

Tickets £6, concessions £3
and family tickets £15
Available from the Cathedral Shop or from the above mentioned schools, or contact Derek Jackson on 01244 350297

Proceeds to be divided between the Song School and Chester Rotary Charity

"Picturesque Chester: The City in Art"

An Illustrated Talk
by
Peter Boughton BA FSA FRSA
AMA
Keeper of Art and Architecture

7.30 pm Tuesday 21 March The Lecture Theatre The Grosvenor Museum

INTERNATIONAL CHURCH MUSIC FESTIVAL

15 - 18 June 2006

Janet Walker is desperately seeking host families to accommodate choirs from the Ukraine, India, Poland and Bratislava who will be taking part in the above Festival. Could you accommodate one or more of these singers by providing bed and breakfast and a packed lunch? They will need to be brought or sent to the Cathedral for around 8.00 am each day and collected after each evening's event. The problem is that we cannot confirm we will host the choirs unless we have beds available for them.

The aim of the Festival is to promote good relations and better understanding between the USA and Western Europe, and Eastern European and Third World Countries whilst sharing a wonderful international event.

Forms are available from Vergers or Sidesmen, or from the Cathedral Office. If you need further details, please contact Janet Walker on 01928-733326 or email janet.walker@care4free.net

Quiet Day for Lent

The Rev'd Julia Hedley will be leading a quiet day for the beginning of Lent on Monday 6th March from 10 am to 3.30 pm

at Chester Retreat House The cost for the day will be £14 to include lunch and refreshments. Please Ring Valerie Fisher on 01244-321801 to book a place

Saints' Windows in the Cloisters POLYCARP

Associate of, converted by, and disciple of Saint John the Apostle. Friend of Saint Ignatius of Antioch. Fought Gnosticism. Bishop of Smyrna (modern Izmir, Turkey). Revered Christian leader during the first half of the second century. The Asia Minor churches recognised Polycarp's leadership and chose him representative to Pope Anicetus on the question of the date of the Easter celebration. Only one of the many letters written by Polycarp has survived, the one he wrote to the Church of Philippi, Macedonia. At 86, Polycarp was to be burned alive in a stadium in Smyrna; the flames did not harm him and he was finally killed by a dagger, and his body burned. The "Acts" of Polycarp's martyrdom are the earliest preserved reliable account of a Christian martyr's death. Patronage earache, dysentery Saints Day: 23 February

MRS ANNETTE MOOR

Was appointed Cathedral Chief Executive, Administrator and Chapter Clerk From 1 January 2006.



MICHELANGELO

Michelangelo Buonarroti was born on 6th March 1475 and was one of the world's greatest painters and sculptors. His greatest work is the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel in the Vatican in Rome. It took 4 years to paint, lying on his back on scaffolding 20 metres above the floor. The project was huge as the curved ceiling is 1000 square metres. Michelangelo painted over 3,000 figures to fill the space.

When it was finished in 1512 the ceiling showed nine stories from the Book of Genesis. The most famous of these is the Creation of Adam where the touch of God's hand wakes the newly created Adam.



You can read the story of how God made Adam and Eve in Genesis, chapter 2. The Bible story talks of the 'breath of life' but Michelangelo shows it as a touch, as God reaching out to us all.

March - 2006

ANGEL PUZZLE

All the answers to this Bible quiz are to do with angels.

- This angel came to tell Mary that she would give birth to a baby and name him Jesus (Luke, chapter 1).
- Angels came to warn him to leave Sodom (Genesis, chapter 19).
- This type of angel has 6 wings (Isaiah, chapter 6).
- He saw an angel in the furnace with Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego (Daniel, chapter 2).
- Who beat his donkey because it would not go past an angel in the road (Numbers, chapter 22)?



Who is the fastest runner in the Bible?

Adam, because he was the first in the human race

What colours would Michelangelo paint the sun and the wind?

The sun rose, and the wind blue.

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LEPROSY MISSION

Stamp out leprosy!

Please donate your used stamps so that money can be raised for Leprosy Mission. Stamps should be trimmed to quarter inch border around the stamp, and can be left at the back of Church.

PLEASE TELL US...

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

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ance in any way.

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MOBILE LIBRARY VAN SERVICE

The van calls weekly: alternate Thursdays all day and alternate Fridays in Quarry Lane 11.15 am – 12.45 pm. For further details of when the van is next in your area, please telephone Upton Library on 380053.

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CONTRIBUTORS

The best way to send contributions to St. James' Parish Magazine is to e-mail the document.

Attach your Word document and e-mail it to

christletonmag@hotmail.co.uk

Parish Registers for January 2006

Baptisms

22nd Thomas James Richard Parkin son of James & Claire Parkin 129 Butterbache Road, Huntington, Chester.

"We welcome you into the Lords Family"

The Marriage Service

21st Philip Murray Jourdan McNair 5 The Square Hadham, Hearts & Dorothy Colley Walnut Lodge, Village Road, Christleton.

The Funeral Service

29th Bernard Francis Gough Windrush, Plough Lane, Christleton.

(Burial of Ashes).

30th Kenneth Noland 4 Smithy Court, Quarry Lane, Christleton.

31st Peter Jerrold Witter 25 Beaconsfield Street, Boughton, Chester.

Offertories

| January | Cash | CSE | 2006 | 2005 |
|---------|--------|--------|-----------|-----------|
| 1st | 115.25 | 557.00 | 672.25 | 792.66 |
| 8th | 222.36 | 533.70 | 756.06 | 1443.75 |
| 15th | 232.97 | 648.50 | 881.47 | 868.75 |
| 22nd | 292.00 | 439.06 | 731.06 | 665.44 |
| 29th | 175.45 | 797.50 | 972-95 | 966.05 |
| Totals | | | £4,013.73 | £4,736.63 |

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[&]quot;Those who God has joined together, let not man divide"

SHOPPING & SERVICE GUIDE

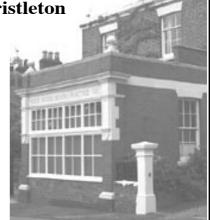
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|------------|------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| | 10.45 a.m | Parish Communion | 1st & 3rd Sundays |
| | | Family Service | 2nd Sunday |
| | | Mattins | 4th & 5th Sundays |
| | 6.30 p.m | Evensong | 1st, 2nd & 3rd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

WHO'S WHO & WHAT'S WHAT

| Rector: | The Rev'd Canon K. Peter Lee, M.A. | | |
|---------|---|--|--|
| | The Rectory, Birch Heath Lane, Christleton 335663 | | |

| Wardens: | David Mercer, 13 Bridge Drive, | 336155 |
|---------------------------------|--|--------------|
| | Lois Dickinson, | |
| | 8 Old Mill Court, Mill Lane, Upton | 378320 |
| Reader | Wayne Morris | 01978 263389 |
| Reader Emeritus | John Roberts, Cerisy, Birch Heath Lane | 332207 |
| Verger | David Ellis | 336879 |
| Sacristan: | Betty Dunning | 335652 |
| Sunday School: | Berenice Hogg | 336779 |
| Mother's Union Branch Leader | Margaret Renner | 332005 |
| Organist & Musical Director: | Steve Roberts | 815277 |
| P. C. C. Secretary: | Margaret Croston | 335955 |
| Treasurer: | Cec Rydings | 336483 |
| Stewardship Envelope: | Betty Dunning | 335652 |
| Gift Aid Secretary | Martin Wheeler | 336644 |
| Bellringers | Ian Braithwaite | 300565 |
| Bellringer Vice Captains | Ian Crossan | 332280 |
| Parish Hall Booking | David Mercer | 336155 |
| C. M. S. Secretary | Janet Brown | 335785 |
| Children's Society Sec. | Lesley Morgan | 335088 |
| Visiting Group: | Gill Hibbert | 336544 |
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| Church Flowers | Olive Hammond | 336562 |
| Magazine Editor | David Bull | 332234 |
| Magazine Compiler | Richard Nicholson | 336004 |
| Magazine Distributor | Pat Nilssen | 336013 |
| Neighbourhood Link Co-Ordinator | Janet Bowden | 335705 |
| Parish Resource Person for | | |
| Child Protection | Susan Alexander | 335077 |

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