

St. James' Christleton



BEST KEPT VILLAGE IN CHESHIRE - 2004



Parish Magazine
NOVEMBER 2004

30p

Remember in November

Mon	1	10.30 am 11.20 am	Holy Communion at Tarvin Court Nursing Home Holy Communion at Oaklands Nursing Home
Tues	2	7.45 pm 7.45 pm	Pastoral & Outreach Committee - White Haven House Group - Moor Lane
Wed	3	10.45 am	United Communion
Thurs	4	8.00 pm	Bible Study - White Haven
Fri	5	6.30 pm	Choir Practice
Sat	6		Diocesan Synod
Sun	7		The Third Sunday before Advent
		8.00 am	Holy Communion - Order 2
		10.30 am	Sunday School - Parish Hall
		10.45 am	Parish Communion with Baptism
		6.00 pm	"The Crew" Youth Group - Parish Hall
		6.30 pm	All Souls Service. An opportunity to commemorate those whom we Love but see no longer - followed by refreshments. <i>Prayer Link Road: Fir Tree Lane</i> <i>Neighbourhood Link: Bunty McLelland</i>
Mon	8	2.00 pm	Mothers' Union - Parish Hall
Tues	9	7.45 pm	House Group - Moor Lane
Wed	10	10.45 am 11.30 am 7.45 pm	Holy Communion - followed by refreshments Holy Communion at Birch Heath Lodge Nursing Home Faith & Worship Committee - Rectory
Thur	11	7.45 pm	Stewardship Committee - Lady Chapel
Fri	12	6.30 pm	Choir Practice
			NB: Last date for contribution to DECEMBER Parish Magazine to David Bull (332234). Earlier if possible please.
Sat	13		"The Crew" Youth Group Social
Sun	14		The Second Sunday before Advent – Remembrance Service
		8.00 am	Holy Communion - Order 1
		10.45 am	Remembrance Sunday Service including 2 minutes silence and wreath laying ceremony.
		6.30 pm	Evensong & Offertory of C of E Children's Society Boxes Preacher: Mrs Aelison Wilson <i>Prayer Link Road: Greystone Road</i> <i>Neighbourhood Link: Len Thomas</i>

Tues	16	7.45 pm	House Group - Moor Lane
Wed	17	10.45 am	Holy Communion - followed by refreshments
Fri	19	6.30 pm	Choir Practice
Sat	20	9.30 am	Mission Shaped Church. Speaker: The Bishop of Birkenhead
	20	7.00 pm	David Cummings Talk and Supper - Parish Hall Proceeds to Parish Hall Funds
Sun	21		CHRIST THE KING
		8.00 am	Holy Communion - Order 1
		10.30 am	Sunday School - Parish Hall
		10.45 am	Parish Communion
		1.30 pm	Parish Ramble leaves church car park
		6.00 pm	"The Crew" Youth Group - Parish Hall
		6.30 pm	Taizé Healing Service
			Prayer Link Road: Grove Gardens
			Neighbourhood Link: John Carruthers
Mon	22	7.45 pm	Deanery Synod - Boughton
Tues	23	9.00 am	Parish Ramble leaves church car park
		7.45 pm	House Group - Moor Lane
Wed	24	10.45 am	Holy Communion - followed by refreshments
Thur	25	7.45 pm	Bereavement Support Group - Badgers Close
Fri	26		2.00 – 4.00 pm Parish Hall open for preparation for Christmas Fair 7.00 – 9.00 pm
Sat	27	10.00 am – 1.00 pm	CHRISTMAS FAIR (see poster) - Parish Hall
Sun	28		ADVENT SUNDAY
		8.00 am	Holy Communion - Order 1
		10.30 am	Sunday School - Parish Hall
		10.45 am	Matins - followed by refreshments
		6.00 pm	"The Crew" Youth Group - Parish Hall
		6.30 pm	Evening Communion
			Prayer Link Road: Haslin Crescent
			Neighbourhood Link: Ann Smith
Mon	29	7.45 pm	PCC Meeting – Parish Hall
Tuesday	30	9.00 am	Holy Communion for St Andrew

The Rector's Letter

Dear Friends

Remember in November

November is a time for remembrance. It starts with All Saints Day and All Souls Day, then Gunpowder Treason and Plot on 5th, then Remembrance Sunday itself. It's a good time of year for remembrance. As the weather turns cold and wet, the leaves fall from the trees, and at times it all seems rather dank and dismal, its not surprising that our minds turn back to summer sunshine and happy holidays. But what is the purpose of memory? Memory is one of God's greatest gifts to us, for it enables us to build on the experience of the past, to increase knowledge and build a better future. So do we make the most of this wonderful gift?

At one level, memory is just to indulge in recalling happy times and events so we can enjoy them again at our leisure – and there is no harm in that as such. We look back through the photograph album of our minds and relive happy occasions which make us feel better. In the words of the old chorus: "Count your blessings, count them one by one." It is my experience that those who start by remembering what they do have, and have to be thankful for, are happy, positive people. Those who concentrate only on what they do not have, especially if they envy those who do, are miserable, pessimistic people. But memory is not just for cosy feelings – that can lead to nostalgia, which so wallows in the past that it prevents people from living in the present. The lines of the hymn traditionally sung on Remembrance Sunday are relevant: "O God our help in ages past, our hope for years to come." The memory of the blessings we enjoyed in the past, are to give us the assurance that as God has been with us then, so he is with us now, and will go forward with us into the future. But like the manna in the wilderness, God's gifts go stale on us if we try to hoard them or preserve them: we have to let go, and discover him afresh, each new day. So, as we thank God for the lives of all the saints, and all souls, it is the memory of their example, which should lead us to live better lives today, tomorrow and the next day. That is also true of Remembrance Sunday as we remember the example of sacrifice of those who gave their lives yesterday, that we might lead better, freer, lives today. Remembrance, however, also has another dimension. Surely we remember the horrors of war to ensure we do not let evil go unchallenged today, and stand up for what we believe, before it is too late. Memory is to warn us: "Once bitten, twice shy" –it is part of our physical defence mechanism to avoid what might harm us.

All of this could, and should , be applied to the international issues of today and we can draw out its implications for Iraq, Darfur and the Middle East. I wish, however, to use this letter to invite us all to consider its implications for our inheritance of faith. If we use our memories, can we appreciate how much we owe to our heritage of faith; to so much of what gives meaning and purpose, shape and value, to all of life? Western civilisation owes much of what is best to its background of Christian culture. In vast areas of public life from education to health care to social reform, we find Christian faith at its roots. Is it not time that we woke up to the fact that we are taking our Christian heritage too much for granted? We have free-wheeled on what is left for too long, and, for those with eyes to see, there are danger signs throughout society of what happens if you try to subtract God from Christian ethics. Society needs a categorical, moral imperative, because God created the world, and it is only his love and power which holds it together and makes sense of it. And what of us as individuals? How many have lost the habit of faith on which we were brought up? Are we too ready to blame other factors, even modern translations or hymn tunes, for our own lack of commitment? Is it perhaps time to heed the warning signals in our life? There may be a 'black hole' in financial pension provision, but what about the 'black hole' in our spiritual reservoir, to see us through the tough times? Have we neglected the worship, which is the life blood of faith, for reasons which are of secondary importance? So can we use our memories this month to seek to get a clearer perspective of our lives, and ensure we not only look back with thanksgiving, but work and live and worship today with a new and vital faith for tomorrow?

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Peter Lee". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Prayer of the Month:

We thank you, Lord our God, for creating the world and preserving it until now. We thank you for the regular return of day and night, and of the seasons, and for the dependability of nature and time. We thank you for memory, which enables us to build on the experience of the past; for imagination, which admits us to a wider world than we could otherwise know; and for foresight, by which we plan for the future. We thank you for your patience with the errors and sins of mankind: you have neither wearied of us nor allowed us to ruin ourselves in self-destruction, but have sent your Son Jesus Christ to break down the barriers between us and you and between each other, and to restore the broken unity of human life. Amen
November, 2004

Cover Picture

Our cover picture this month features members of the committee of Churches Together in Christleton, who were pictured on the Village Green after a recent event in the Parish Hall. Janet Bowden their co-ordinator, contributes an article to illustrate the excellent work they carry out on behalf of the community.

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN CHRISTLETON

Churches Together in Christleton was formed some years ago now. It is a group of people from different denominations in Christleton parish, and the present group consists of Roman Catholics (who meet together at Rowton Methodist Church), Methodists and Anglicans. We meet together throughout the year, to decide for example how we shall use the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity within our village, to organise Lenten house-groups, meetings or special speakers, to plan United Services such as that at the beginning of January, or a Village Songs of Praise such as that held last June (sometimes these are held out

of doors in the summer.) We produce the Community Register (see last month's magazine) which lists most of the activities taking place in our villages, and which is generally presented by way of welcome to Newcomers. We run the Neighbourhood Link scheme which attempts to link every road to the churches, and to spread information about, or greetings from them. In 1999 we were privileged to 'manage' the United Good Friday service in the Cathedral, and in that same year, helped by many villagers and friends, to broadcast a Village service for Radio Merseyside. Recently we have been pleased to host a series of talks given by speakers of other faiths, to date on Christianity and Judaism and on Islamic-Christian relations. By the time you read this, you may well have heard the third of these talks by the Rev. Bill Sykes, former Gurkha and chaplain of University College, Oxford, speaking on inter-faith relations. We are always pleased to receive suggestions of further ways in which we could work together for the good of our Community.

J. Bowden

MACMILLAN CANCER RESEARCH FUND

A sincere THANK YOU to everyone who supported the Cummings Family, in their sponsored cliff top walk along The Gower Peninsular in South Wales, for The Macmillan Cancer Research Fund. The 22 ½ mile walk took over eight and a half hours to complete, and darkness fell as the team arrived at the finish. However there was great elation with the knowledge that they had raised a large sum of money for this worthy cause. The total raised is now over £1,000.

David Cummings

THANK YOU

Jenny & Penny Ralfs, on behalf of the Chester Epilepsy Support Group would like to thank everyone who rallied round making cakes for the refreshments we served at the Charities Fayre at the Town Hall on 14 & 15 October. Your help was greatly appreciated – thank you again.

CHRISTMAS FAIR CHARITIES

The Christmas Fair is on **Saturday 27 November from 10.00 am – 12.30 pm.** All the money raised will, as usual, be divided between an international, national and local cause.

This year the PCC has decided that the international cause will be the appeal for the starving refugees of Darfur in Sudan, whose plight we have all seen in the media. Nationally we have decided to support the Samaritans, who give such time and care selflessly to help those who are desperate. Locally we shall be supporting the work of the Chester Schools' Christian worker. This work is now established in Chester, but they rely on voluntary financial support and need more funds to extend what is offered. It is so important that we play our part in ensuring and encouraging the Christian influence in our schools.

We hope everyone will respond wholeheartedly in helping us to raise as much money as possible for these important causes.

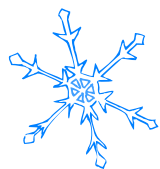
EXPLORING MUNICH

The grand procession on the opening Sunday of the Oktober fest occurred for the first time in the year 1835 in honour of the Silver Wedding of King Ludwig 1 and Therese of Bavaria. As well as the German participants in their regional costumes, guests from Italy, Croatia, Austria, Poland, Switzerland and South-Tyrol take part. The procession takes two and a half hours to pass. It is headed by the Munich "Kindl", the figure of a little monk on horseback and the procession takes place whatever the weather. For us it was a splendidly sunny and warm day with a cloudless blue sky. We joined the thousands of people in the Odeonsplatz. The festively dressed costume groups alternate with marksmen, mountain groups, military bands, colourful banner wavers, maypoles, hunting dogs, sheep (a shepherd was carrying one of his flock which had become rather tired), one carriage was drawn by no fewer than eight horses – quite a handful – acrobats, children in carriages. One amusing spectacle was a float depicting a bathing scene complete with the public baths proprietor in a bath being scrubbed down by baths hostesses. A model of the Freising cathedral was drawn by

a team of four oxen, immigrants from Transylvania and Romania wore Confirmation, Whitsun and churchgoing costumes with traditional suede coats, goldsmiths' work, and elaborately decorated shirts and aprons and fancy beribboned bonnets. One float carried basket workers, one open carriage contained the Lord Mayor of Munich with his town councillors and as guest of honour the Bavarian Minister President Dr Edmund Stoiber. As the last item in the procession (no 60) came past, our eyes were reaching saturation point. What a spectacle!

Munich Cathedral with its twin round towers is built of brick and was finished in the record time of 20 years. The story goes that the devil helped to build it. He promised the builders that he would help provided that there would be only one window. When it was finished he was invited in to see it, and as he went into the entrance he could see just the one window, but as he moved further into the building he saw many others. He was so furious that he stamped his foot and left. There it is – the footmark in the floor – many people place their foot into it. His foot was much bigger than mine!

MC



St. James' Annual Christmas Fair

Saturday 27 November
2004

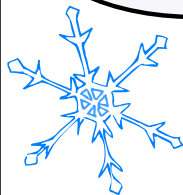
Christleton Parish Hall
10.00 a.m. start

Entrance 50p
accompanied children free

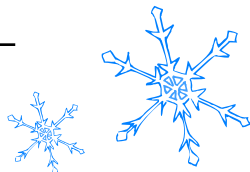
Raffle drawn at 12.15 p.m



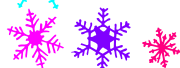
*Opening by
Rose Queen Abbi Lister*



THEME



The Snowman



Proceeds to Darfur Sudan (International)
The Samaritans (National)
Chester Schools Christian Worker (Local)



ADOPTION

Adoption Matters, the adoption service of the Chester Diocese, is seeking candidates for the role of Chair of the Board of Trustees. The vacancy has arisen due to the impending retirement, after eight years in the post, of Dr Shirley Leslie.

Applicants for this post should be able to demonstrate significant management experience in child care work, and bring additional experience from the charity, legal or allied sectors.

This is a major role within the organisation, requiring significant interpersonal skills, leadership of the highest calibre and the commitment to build on the organisation's outstanding achievements and pursue its future potential for growth. The appointment will be made by the Bishop of Chester.

Adoption Matters is one of the UK'S leading voluntary adoption agencies with a high national profile and an unrivalled record of success. The agency celebrates its 50th anniversary in 2005.

Further information about Adoption Matters, its breadth of activity and its current team are available from the website: www.adoptionmatters.org.

For an informal discussion, please contact either Norman Goodwin, Chief Executive, on 01244 390938, or Canon Christopher Samuels, Vice-Chair, on 01244671202.

Adoption Matters, 14 Liverpool Road, Chester, CH2 1AE Tel: 01244390938 Fax: 01244390067
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SPONSORED BIKE RIDE

Saturday 11 September was the day chosen for the Sponsored Bicycle Ride Day to raise money for the Historic Churches Preservation Trust, the idea being to visit as many churches as possible. Many churches throughout the Diocese participated in their own rides; others simply remained open during the day to welcome riders from other parishes. Our own church here at St James was open all day thanks to all those who volunteered to man

Christleton Parish Magazine

the church on a half-hour rota.

Having failed to persuade anybody except Joy Harrison, Gillian Brackenbury's daughter, to take part in the ride, we duly left St James at 10.00 am in fine weather heading south into a light southerly wind. St Peters, Waverton was our first stop, then on to the churches at Bruera, Aldford and Farndon. The tiny church of St Mary's, Bruera was probably the smallest church visited, built in the 10th century and beautifully kept. The grey marble pulpit at St John the Baptist, Aldford was a distinctive feature in a church very much like St James here at Christleton. We proceeded on via Shocklach to the large church of St Oswald in Malpas where money is currently being raised for roof repairs, and then on to St Chads, Tushingham. Having no graveyard here, we took a 10 minute walk across fields to the small St Chads Chapel and graveyard; an original horse-drawn hearse is kept in the adjoining garage – a real collectors item – but not used since 1920.

After lunch, we proceeded back, helped by a following wind via the churches at Bickerton, Burwardsley, Tattenhall and Har-

greave to name but a few. It was very sad indeed to see the church at Harthill closed down.

We had a most memorable day in fine weather and on minor roads with little traffic, covered 70 miles and visited 22 churches.

My thanks to all those who sponsored me and gave most generously, and for the wonderful support of all those who helped make the day possible. We raised £400 for the preservation of these beautiful old churches.

Edward Elliott.

THANK YOU

A very big thank you to Janet Brown from everyone who was at the Harvest Supper at the Bickerton Poacher on 16 October, for the time and trouble she took to arrange this for us. The atmosphere was relaxed and friendly, the food superb and the skittles amazing.

CAR BOOT SALE

Several months ago, 12 September was the date chosen for the Car Boot Sale and we can plan for most things, but unfortunately not the weather. Many people from the village had contributed goods for sale, which had been collected together with generous donations of raffle prizes. 52 posters had been distributed throughout the local area, advertisements in the local free paper and The Chronicle, a mention on Dee Radio and 250 “flyer” leaflets had been handed out at other local events.

The day dawned sunny and bright. Paul Brady, landlord of the Cheshire Cat had managed to get the grass cut on the field we were using, and by 8 o'clock three cars had arrived. At 9 o'clock it started drizzling, but we weren't unduly concerned because the sky was still blue and other cars had now arrived and everyone was busy setting out their goods for sale. Gradually, the drizzle became heavier and before too long, the rain was lashing down on to the assembled 21 car booters. It was obvious who the experienced “booters” were

because they brought gazebos & attached them to their cars to give protection from the rain, but the majority of us were inexperienced and didn't have that luxury, we simply got soaked to the skin! I think the last car to arrive had the best idea - they were a little late & simply sat in their car until the rain passed over. The “bacon butties and coffee” provided by The Cheshire Cat mid-morning were most appreciated – someone said “it was worth coming just for those”.

When it was all over and we were packing up – the rain having gone completely away and blue sky all around – several people told me how much they had enjoyed the morning and “when were we doing another one”?

Despite the atrocious weather conditions we did manage to make £300 and had almost 100 people who visited the Boot Sale and bought raffle tickets so we must have done something right. Thank you to everyone who contributed in any way, to this new venture for the Pastoral & Outreach Committee, and the money, will be donated to the Christmas Charities.

Janet Milton

**CHILDREN'S SOCIETY
ANNUAL OFFERTORY
SERVICE
14 NOVEMBER
AT 6.30 PM**

We are delighted to welcome back to St James; Mrs Aelison Wilson as our guest speaker at this years Annual Offertory Service. The Children's Society has been described as "the charity that can create lasting change for children". I do hope you will be able to take this opportunity to meet Aelison and catch up with news of the Society's latest projects, to share with her in the Society's vision "of working with children who are overlooked, ignored or rejected".

Please could all you kind box holders make sure that your box has been returned to church by the above date in order that it may be offered at the altar.

Many thanks.

Lesley Morgan.

PS: Don't forget Gift Aid declaration forms are available to help your donation go even further!

MOTHER'S UNION

At our October meeting we were very pleased to welcome our Rector's sister Mrs Anne Parsons who came to talk to us about "Life in a Vicarage". Anne had spent nearly all her life in a vicarage, her father and husband both being in the ministry and her talk was extremely interesting. Several members were familiar with the areas where Anne had lived and afterwards, over our cups of tea, we were able to have a chat to Anne and have a lovely "do you remember session".

Mother's Union will be running the Handicraft stall at the Christmas Fair and any contributions including stationary, toiletries etc would be very welcome.

Our next meeting will be on Monday 8 November in the Parish Hall at 2.00 pm.

Janet Brown



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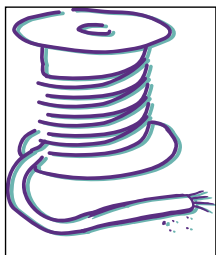
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BEST KEPT VILLAGE

It was another very proud day for Jim Partington and myself when we attended the Community Pride Competition at Nantwich Civic Hall on 11 October. Christleton not only won the Best Kept Village award for Villages with a population of 1,000 – 2,500 for the fourth year running, but also the championship award for the best kept village in Cheshire. We have been presented with a beautiful painting by Gordon Wilkinson of The Pit and Dixon Alms Houses and received a cheque for £300 to be spent on our village.



Keeping the village so nice is the result of a real community effort and it is a big thank you to everyone who makes this possible. A special thank you must go to our Village Assistant Dereck

Garner who does such a great job in keeping the village looking so neat and cared for. We will print up the marks in the magazine when they are sent to us.

Janet Brown

THANK YOU

Vera Wood and family wish to thank the many friends from the Christleton community who have sent messages of sympathy and condolence following the death of Stan. They are very grateful for the prayers, love and care shown to them over the last difficult weeks and month.

CONGRATULATIONS



To Sarah Jayne Davis of Christleton who recently announced her engagement to Nick Bradley

Gardening for Wildlife

Part 3

In the first part of these articles I wrote about loss of habitat, and a numbers of species. If everyone, who has a garden, big or small, just created two or three new elements to benefit wildlife, it would have an enormous effect on overall species numbers. Making a wildlife friendly garden can also be of great benefit to people. The joy of seeing interesting birds, butterflies, insects, mammals and rare flowers is really exciting, and can be very therapeutic and educational.

My mother had an excellent bird feeding station just outside her lounge window in her old cottage. Everyone who came to the house was captivated by seeing the large numbers of blue, great, long tail and coal tits feeding there, together with nuthatches, greater spotted and green woodpeckers, wrens, robins and dunnocks, as if they were looking at a large television screen. They became inspired by what they saw, and

began to put out nuts and fat in their own gardens, and so the benefit for birds was increased enormously. Very slowly the birds in that area are being provided with supplementary food



and water, especially when supplies in the wild become scarce.

I'm sure that many of us will have had great moral arguments about the use of chemicals, slug pellets etc, to control pests in our gardens. There is considerable evidence that the loss of some species is due to them eating poisoned bait, put down to control slugs. The song thrush is often quoted when this issue is talked about. At home we've been trying alternative methods of control, and have had some

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success. We use a simple slug catching device, which consists of small pots sunk in the ground and filled with beer. The slugs are attracted by the beer, and slip into the trap. The unwanted slugs found in the beer are then placed on the canal bank, where they can be eaten. This method seems to work particularly well to protect our new spring plants. When we have nesting blackbirds or thrushes, they control the numbers of snails themselves, and seem quite happy to feed their young on perhaps ten snails a day, together with a diet of earthworms. Evidence for the work of the thrushes can be seen by the remnants of shell being found on any hard surface, particularly on steps. We also have used a number of rotating children's windmills to deter the local mole from burrowing under our lawn and borders. This has worked successfully for several years. I'm sure that there are many other ideas like these that can work, to benefit birds and plants. I'm sure it's worth trying every measure to increase habitat for the birds and to prevent damage to plants or the garden itself. To be continued.

David Cummings

NATURE NEWS

I've had more exciting reports this month about birds of prey in the Parish. A pair of red kites being seen in the air above the village for several days during August, by different observers. These magnificent bird's, can be easily identified by their distinctive forked tails, and russet red colour. They were in great



danger of being lost to Britain, when down almost to the last female and several young males in the 1960's. Since then a breeding programme and excellent work by the R.S.P.B and the farming community in mid Wales, has succeeded in increasing numbers dramatically to more than 150 pairs. More recently young birds have been released to new areas such as The Chilterns, North Yorkshire and Scotland, where they have also bred successfully, and its now certain that the once common red kite has a very healthy future.

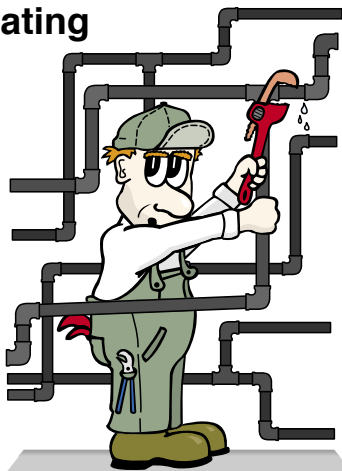
David Cummings

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LOCAL EVENTS DIARY

SUNDAY SCHOOL

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

CHRISTLETON LADIES GUILD

Held at the Christleton Methodist Church, commencing at 2pm, Tuesdays fortnightly, £1 admission includes refreshments. For further information contact Joan Webb, 375076.

All very welcome

OPEN HOUSE

Monday afternoon "Open House" is suspended for the time being.

Margaret Bass

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 WI

Come and join Christleton WI at a CHRISTMAS MORNING

in aid of the

ALZHEIMER'S SOCIETY

At The Old Farm

Mulled Wine And a Slice of Something Nice

Saturday 11 December

10 am – 12 noon

Cakes/Raffle/Bring & Buy

£2.00 All welcome

CHRISTLETON W.I.

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

CHESTER FLOWER CLUB

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

CHRISTLETON GARDENING CLUB

The next meeting will take place on 8 November for a plant swap.

Christleton Parish Magazine



LOCAL EVENTS DIARY

CHRISTLETON LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

All meetings are held at 7.30pm
at Christleton Primary School in
Quarry Lane.

***Next Meeting
Wednesday
November 24th.***

***Speaker. Roger Stephens
“The Boom of the
Bitterbump”, the Folk
history of Cheshire’s
Wildlife.***

Roger has illustrated many of
our Christleton publications,
including Christleton Pit & The
Story of Ponds, and Hockenhull
Platts. He also painted the picture
of the swans at the Pit, which has
been reproduced as cards to raise
money for the Hospice. He is
coming along to share with us his
great knowledge of the folklore of
Cheshire’s wildlife, which he has
researched and produced into a
beautifully illustrated book *“The
Boom of the Bitterbump”*.

PARISH RAMBLING TUESDAY GROUP

Tuesday 23rd November.
Cheshire. Sandstone Trail &
Delamere Forest.
8miles. Moderate
Leave Church Car Park at
9.00am Pub Meal at Utkinton.
Further details from
David & Beryl on 332410.

CHRISTLETON WEDNESDAY GROUP

Invite you to a
FESTIVE LUNCH
Friday 3 December
at 12.00 noon
In Christleton Parish Hall
Tickets £8.00 including a glass
of wine
In aid of
Claire House & Hope House
Hospices

CHRISTLETON W.I.
MONTHLY WHIST DRIVE
Meet in the Parish Hall on the
last Wednesday of the month at
2.00pm. All welcome.



LOCAL EVENTS DIARY

CHESTER BACH SINGERS

At Wesley Methodist Church,
Chester

**Saturday 6 November,
7.30pm**

CHESTER BACH SINGERS
with
CHETHAM'S Chamber Choir
and Wind Ensemble

Vaughan Williams - Five
Mystical Songs
Howells - Requiem
Venables - Awake, awake!
Spicer - The Deciduous Cross

Tickets: £10 (concessions)
and £5
Box Office Tel: 01244 335705

WINTER CHARITY TALK

In the Parish Hall
7.00pm on

Saturday 20th November 2004
Christleton, Celebrations and
Festivals

This talk by David Cummings will be wide ranging, and cover many aspects of village life using archive material from our huge village collection. Fetes, Church & Chapel Festivals, W I' events, Christleton Players, and Sport will all be featured.

Admission £6 (including light supper and a glass of wine).
Tickets from David Cummings
332410 or from Christleton Post
Office.

Proceeds towards the
refurbishment of the Parish
Hall.

MAGAZINE CONTRIBUTIONS

Please ensure all items for inclusion in the December edition are sent to the Editor, David Bull, The Old Rectory, Plough Lane, as **soon as possible BEFORE Friday 12 November.**

MAGAZINE DISTRIBUTORS

The November magazine will be available for collection from
Church on Sunday 31 October.

THE CHRISTLETON TODDLER GROUP

Meet at the Parish Hall every Tuesday from 10.00am to 11.45am. If you have a child between 0-3yrs of age then please come along. We have a baby area, book corner and larger toys for older toddlers. Each week there is an activity taking place and we finish the session with songs.

We would welcome mums, dads and carers to bring their children along to have some fun. We look forward to seeing you! For further details please phone Nikki Dromgoole on 351124.

CHRISTLETON W.I.

The next meeting will take place on 10 November when the Annual General Meeting will take place and Mrs J. McLachlan will speak on "Save the Family".

RIDING LIGHT THEATRE COMPANY PRESENTS HOPE OPERA – THE STUFF OF LIFE

As part of their extensive UK tour of churches and prisons this famous Christian theatre company will be visiting Chester on: 3rd November at St Mark's Christian Centre, St Mark's Road, Saltney. Box Office 0845 961 3000 Performance starts 7.30 pm Admission £8.00

Concessions £5.50.

Imagine a kitchen in a house down the road from you. A mismatched group of people trading tales of their great scrapes and escapes. Pushing bags of the white stuff around a table with scarred and tattooed fists. It is flour of course. They are making bread. This is a place where people live their own stories, where sharing your story could open a window on eternity. Hope Opera is a place at that table what a mix of heroes and hopeless cases Extraordinary stories told in extraordinary ways. Colourful moving unforgettable.

LOCAL EVENTS DIARY

CHRISTLETON GARDENING CLUB

Programme 2004 – 2005

Meetings will normally be held on the second Monday of the month at 7.30 pm in Christleton Methodist Church Hall. Any alterations will be announced at meetings and advertised in Christleton Post Office and Parish Magazine.

Contacts:

Mrs Judith Butt 335296
Mr Tom Dewhurst 335966
Mr Jim Ferns 332287
Mrs Ann Wilkinson 332388

13 September 2004

Mr Chris Channon – Orchids

11 October 2004

Prof Bruce Ing – Fungi

8 November 2004

Committee members – Plant Swap

13 December 2004

Mrs Jenny Hendy – Topiary

12 January 2005

Mrs Margaret Sixsmith
Jewels in the Mountains of Coral

14 February 2005

Mr Simon Jones - Bonsai

14 March 2005

Mrs Joyce Johnson - Plant Hunting in S.W. China

11 April 2005

Mr. Tom Acton - Arley Hall & Gardens

9 May 2005

Cuttings & Plantlets Swap

13 June 2005

Outing: Arley Hall

11 July 2005

Mr. John Price - Going to Chelsea

August 2005

No Meeting



November Ramble Sunday 21st.

Higher and Lower Wych, near Malpas..

This is a fairly short ramble, max 3 miles, along a very unspoilt length of rural Welsh border. Should be good for autumn colours if we're not too late! Meet 1.30 in church car park to accommodate the hour change.

December Ramble Sunday 19th.

Join us again for an exhilarating pre-Christmasscramble up Dinas Bran, Llangollen, and for mince pies and mulled wine at the top. Meet 1.30 in Church car park

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CATHEDRAL LINK

HONORARY CANONS

The Bishop of Chester has appointed two new Honorary Canons to our Cathedral: The Rev'd Gordon Geddes and the Rev'd Richard Gilpin. Mr Geddes is Vicar of Leighton-cum-Minshall Vernon, Senior Chaplain at Leighton Hospital and Rural Dean of Nantwich. Mr Gilpin is Vicar of Norley, Crowton and Kingsley and Rural Dean of Frodsham. We look forward to welcoming them both into the fellowship of our Cathedral community. They will be installed during Evensong on Monday 8 November at 5.30 pm.

The Friends Annual Lecture

Tuesday 9 November at 7.30 pm
"Benedict—a Saint and his Legacy"
Given by Bishop Brian Noble, RC Bishop of Shrewsbury & Canon Ecumenical of Chester Cathedral
Tickets £6 to include light refreshments & a glass of wine.
Nicholas Fry 01244-500958

CANON JOHN ROFF

Canon John's valedictory service will be the Cathedral Eucharist at 10.00 am on

21 November. More details next month, but in the meantime please book the date for this celebration and thank you for John's inspiring work amongst us, and for us, as our Precentor.

Saturday Holy Communion Service will begin at 09.30 am instead of 09.00.

JOHN SELLERS EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION CHRISTLETON

This ancient trust was founded on 23 December 1779 for the education of poor children in Christleton and Littleton. It was originally to provide instruction in reading, English, writing, arithmetic – and for spinning, sewing and knitting.

The primary source of income is from the rent of a field in Plough Lane, but in recent years donations from individuals and grants from other bodies have been gratefully received. It is the intention of the present trustees (comprising the Rector, Clerk, a County Council representative, two Parish Councillors), to try and increase the capital and use

the interest to provide the grants. Further donations or legacies, which could be used to increase the level of grants paid out, would be very much appreciated.

This year money has been given to the Pre-School Group, the Primary School and to the High School, but applications are encouraged from individuals in exceptional circumstances who would like to apply in confidence.

Any individual or group wishing to be considered for a grant should apply to the Clerk, in writing, before November 22nd

M Croston (Clerk)
Telephone: Chester 335955
Rookery Nook,
5 Bridge Drive
Christleton
Chester, CH3 6AW

Hand-written on the wall of Mother Theresa's room

People are often unreasonable,
illogical, and self-centred;
Forgive them anyway.

MU MAGAZINE

CELEBRATES 50 YEARS

A special publication has been produced by the Mother's Union to celebrate the 50 year anniversary of Home & Family, the Union's magazine. Fifty articles, one taken from each year since 1945, show that care for parenting and family life has always been at the heart of the Mothers' Union.

HOW THE PASSION WAS MADE

To mark the recent DVD launch of The Passion of the Christ, a documentary telling of how it was made has been released. In it Mel Gibson confesses that at one point he realized that the film was "too violent for any normal audience" and cut some of the bloodiest scenes. In contrast to the staged violence in front of the camera, the audience also heard about the severe discomfort actor Jim Caviezel had to endure off screen. Not only did he contract hypothermia while filming, but he also got struck by lightning while on the cross during filming in the city of Matera, southern Italy. 4.1 million copies of the DVD were sold on the first day

Extract from letter received from Susan Gumbrell CMS Link

Dear Friends

Water!

For the first time in five years we have water coming from taps on the compound – even to my second floor flat! It may be cold and untreated but it's wonderful to be able to have a shower and not have to carry buckets to flush the loo and do washing. The water comes from our 200ft deep bone hole and is pumped into tanks on the roof. The kitchen and staff now have running water and life is easier for the students too although we still plan to make big improvements to their toilets and bathing facilities.

End of Term

At the end of term we had our valedictory, confirmation, admissions service and prize giving. The bishop and his wife came along with hundreds of parents – we ran out of chairs. One hundred and two girls finished their secondary schooling having taken two complete sets of exams for the West African Examination Council and the National Examination Council. Most also did the KAMB exam for University entrance. Now they have a long wait. The results don't come out until October or November and securing a university place can take years even with money and

influence. Because of strikes one local university is yet to start their 2003/2004 session and have decided there will be no admission in 2004/2005! Cheating in exams and forging results are common place but Holy Innocents Junierato Convent is building a reputation for producing girls who can justify their results.

Plans for the new term
Our new term begins on 10 September and there has been a lot to sort out. The new refectory is nearly ready for use with new tables and benches and lighting. No doors or windows or paint but a good floor. It's being tiled which has been a real palaver! The first men laying the tiles did a very poor job – no straight lines, not level and the pattern wrong, but the new people are much better.

Church Activity

Recently I attended both the Diocesan Synod and the Diocesan Women's conference. It was very interesting to hear what is going on around the diocese and take part in discussions. I'm sure no church in the UK has the problem of St Mary's, Obosi, who had vultures disco dancing on their roof – the abattoir has since been moved and they have replaced the roof!

The theme of both meetings was 'In understanding be men' – hardly appropriate for the women's conference, but everyone here

loves the King James Version. It comes from 1 Corinthians 14 v 20. The NIV has '... in your thinking be adults'. What it means to be spiritually mature was the message in the sermons, discussions, bible studies and Presidential addresses. We need to know what we believe if our commitment is to be to Christ rather than to church activities. We need to deepen our understanding of God's love and grace and try to live as He wants us to. We were told that evangelism is everybody's task and that the church of Nigeria, already the largest in the Anglican Communion aims to double in size by 2006, with everyone bringing someone else into the church. Please pray for the diocese of the Niger, the Bishop, clergy and people as they seek maturity and growth.

I have been in the UK for a few weeks during the long vacation enjoying time with family and friends, a (wet) holiday in Scotland, the Olympics and having no knocks on the door! I hope you are well and untroubled and that you know God loves you.

May God bless you.
Love from – Susan

Please thank God ...

- For the water and the improvements at school
- For my health, helpers and friends

Continued on page 29

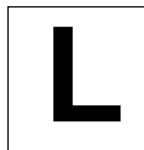
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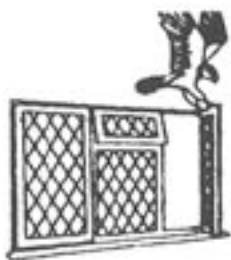
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Please pray ...

- For the staff and students at the beginning of term, especially the new first years and our two new maths teachers, Mrs Ikezue and Miss Chukwurah
- For Bishop Ken, all the church leaders and people in the Diocese on the Niger as they seek spiritual maturity
- For me as I consider my future for God's leading and me recognising it!
- For CMS as changes in practise and personnel come into effect, that more support will be forthcoming.



CHRISTLETON CRICKET CLUB

Christleton 1st team finished the season with another resounding victory over Warrington. This was the sixteenth win of the season - a fantastic record to complement winning the 1st division and reaching the final stages of the National Village Knockout competition. The club is now preparing for the 2005 season in the Premier league. Unfortunately, the 2nd X1 lost the last two games of the November, 2004

season to bad weather, ruining any chances of promotion. The 3rd team finished runners up and are promoted to the 2nd division. The Women's team won the Cheshire league, finishing undefeated. All in all, a fantastic season for the club. Chairman Gareth Davies and President Jim Partington attended the league dinner. As well as accepting the league trophy, Christleton were also presented with the 'Most Improved Club in Cheshire award'. We wish to thank the following match sponsors for September: Geoff Stanworth
Mick Rooney
Huw Davies

The Cricket Club would like to recognise the voluntary workers, who spend many hours maintaining the sports ground and adjoining King George's field. It is only through the efforts of this small number of volunteers that we are able to offer such a high standard of facilities to the local community. Finally, we would like to thank Alison Hollindale for providing such wonderful teas throughout the season. Her doughnuts are the talk of Cheshire.

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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Please ask any of the Churchwardens or Sidesmen if you need assistance in any way.

NATIONAL CHILDBIRTH TRUST (N.C.T.) OPEN HOUSE GROUP

Informal coffee mornings are held locally offering support to mums-to-be and families with young children (whether members or not) in a friendly, informal way. Please contact your local organiser Debbie Tel. 332103 for further details.

CHRISTLETON LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

Books for Sale

Christleton 2000 years of History.

136 pages of text, fully illustrated with b&w photographs, maps & drawings,

and including 8 pages of colour photographs. Laminated cover with water-colour

painting of the Church & Pump House by Phil Hodges.

£12.50 & (£2.75 postage & packing.)

Free delivery locally.

Christleton Village Trail

A self guided tour of the Village in aid of the "Well for Africa" Appeal.

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From David Cummings, 25 Croft Close,

Rowton, Chester CH3 7QQ

or from Christleton Post Office.

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 336586 for further details.

MOBILE LIBRARY VAN SERVICE

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

READERS

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

Parish Registers for September 2004

Baptism

- 5th Merren Alice Salter daughter of Ashley & Victoria Salter
21 Whites Meadow, Great Boughton, Chester.
- 5th Connor Leslie Allenby Russell son of Leslie Russell & Karen
Astle
23 Tudor Way, Great Boughton, Chester.
- 26th Isabelle Charlotte Holly Gill, daughter of Rupert & Caroline Gill
"Woodleigh" 113 Tarvin Road, Littleton

"We welcome you into the Lords Family"

The Funeral Service

- 2nd Thomas Plumbe Smith, Flat 7 "Edge Wood", Dee Banks, Great
Boughton
- 10th Alice May Farr Birch Heath Lodge Nursing Home, Christleton.
- 16th Sarah Jane Selby 16 Lincoln Drive, Newton, Chester.
- 24th William Glen Hughes 19 Langport Drive, Vicars Cross, Chester
- 27th Annie Jones 38 Greenfield Crescent, Waverton.
- 27th Doreen May Patterson Birch Heath Lodge, Christleton.
- 30th Peter Jones 17 The Crescent, Newton, Chester.

"Rest eternal grant unto them"

Offertories.				
September	Cash	CSE	2004	2003
5 th	249.20	772.10	1021.30	877.50
12 th	149.14	799.00	948.14	770.32
19 th	193.90	458.20	652.10	618.56
26 th	217.70	733.30	951.00	861.96
Totals			£ 3,572.54	£ 3,129.34

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Pamela Benson

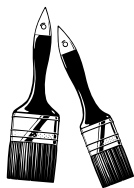
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	10.45 a.m	Parish Communion	1st & 3rd Sundays
		Family Service	2nd Sunday
		Mattins	4th & 5th Sundays
	6.30 p.m	Evensong	1st, 2nd & 3rd Sundays
		Evening Communion	4th Sunday
		Songs of Praise	5th Sunday
WEDNESDAYS	10.45 a.m.	Holy Communion	
SAINTS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

WHO'S WHO & WHAT'S WHAT

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

Wardens:	David Mercer, 13 Bridge Drive,	336155
	John Pearson, 2 Badgers Close	335101
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	Michael Phillips	01829 771357
	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
Library	Margaret Bass	335517
Church Flowers	Olive Hammond	336562
Magazine Editor	David Bull	332234
Magazine Compiler	Richard Nicholson	336004
Magazine Distributor	Margaret Dromgoole	341406
Neighbourhood Link Co-Ordinator	Janet Bowden	335705
Parish Resource Person for		
Child Protection	Susan Alexander	335077

BAPTISMS, WEDDINGS & APPOINTMENTS
BY ARRANGEMENT WITH THE RECTOR 335663