

# Consider

Christ Church Aughton Parish Newsletter

No 538 ~ October/November 2018

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Curate's reflection . . .

## Aughton - 'The Oak homestead'

I LOVE local history and have been intrigued to read 'Some notes on Aughton', by the Rev. W. A. Wickham written on 26th November 1908'. The article gives a brief summary of Aughton in the 1900s, the then newly built 'modern Christ Church' is mentioned along with 'its trim, well-kept churchyard, and its school-house'. There is also reference made to the public-house which could easily be The Royal Oak pub. Amazingly, Aughton or 'Acheton' which means 'The Oak homestead' appears in the Domesday Book.

Reading this brief history of Aughton and looking over archive photographs of the 1900s it is easy to see how much of the landscape has changed. The windmill, which stood proudly on Colinmander Gardens, has disappeared, as has the site of old race course, which was situated, down the hill towards Maghull.

However, one thing that has remained the same is 'Christ Church' with its strong tower visible for many miles. Like an oak tree with deep roots, Christ Church often fondly referred to as the 'little Cathedral on the hill' stands as a faithful witness to God's unchanging, unconditional love



for this community.

In the Bible there are several references to Oak trees as a symbol of strength and endurance. The strength of the oak does not come from what you can see of it above the surface; rather, its enduring strength comes from the roots that cannot be seen by the naked eye. The root system reaches down to where there are ample supplies of water and nutrients in the soil that feed the tree and provides the anchoring base that allows the tree to withstand all kinds of assaults, from the wind, from the rain and from the shaking of earthquakes.

Sometimes the landscape of our lives can change quickly and without warning and we can be left feeling shaken and unsure of our future. Unless we have deep roots like an oak tree it can be hard to face challenges and to overcome them. With this in mind we will be starting a new group in the Royal Oak pub on Wednesday's 8pm. This will be a really friendly and informal group who will be meeting to have a drink and discuss life and all it throws at us as individuals and as a community. If you are interested to find out more why not go along.

*St Douglas*

## Thank You

A big thank you to everyone who came and supported our annual tower open day on **Saturday 22nd September**. The Bellringers are still in need of extra help on Sundays. Please let us know if you can help. It was lovely to welcome so many local new people into church. If you missed out on coming in to see our beautiful church then you have another chance on **Friday 23rd** and **Saturday 24th November**. On both of these days the church will be open for anyone to come and enjoy the peace and quiet before the mad rush of Christmas begins. Thought provoking prayer stations will be available if you want to take some time out to contemplate and pray.

## Forthcoming events at Christ Church; October and November

### Girlie Night In'

Our next Girlie Night In' is **Friday 19th October**. This month we are working hard to raise awareness of poverty in local communities. We will be joined by a speaker from debt advice, volunteers from the Junk Food Café project in Skelmersdale and representatives from our local foodbank. If you want to know more come along 7.45-10.00pm. Entry is free tin donations please to food bank.

On **Friday November 16th** we will be hosting a 'Girlie Night In' beauty night with Tropic. The Tropic Brand offers a vegan, cruelty free and 100% naturally derived range of luxury skincare and beauty products to suit all skin types. A representative from Tropic will be coming along to explain the background and ethos of Tropic. There will be demonstrations of facials and makeup. All ladies will be given the opportunity to touch, feel and smell all the award winning products. A percentage of the proceeds will be given to Macmillan.

## October/November 2018

### Sunday, 21st October

8.15am: Holy Communion  
10.45am: Family Service  
4.00pm: Confirmation Service at St Michael's, Aughton

### Sunday, 28 October

8.15am: Holy Communion  
10.45am: Family Service  
4.00pm: Holy Communion

### Wednesday, 7th November

2.00pm: Holy Communion in the Ministry Centre

### Sunday, 11th November

8.15am: Holy Communion  
10.45am: Remembrance Service  
4.00pm: Evening Prayer

### Sunday, 18th November

8.15am: Holy Communion  
10.45am: Family Service  
4.00pm: Holy Communion

### Sunday, 25th November

8.15am: Holy Communion  
10.45am: Family Service  
4.00pm: Holy Communion

## Harvest Thank you

Thanks to everyone for sending your harvest donations. We had an overwhelming response this year. All food and plants have now been distributed to the elderly in our community and donations have also been taken to Ormskirk and Skelmersdale food banks.

We will be continuing supporting the work of Food Bank and West Lancs Debt advice with a Knit and Knatter coffee morning on **Monday 12th November**, 10.00am-12 noon in Cafe Vista. All welcome.

## Light Night Party

Are you looking for a fun, non scary alternative to 'Trick or Treat? Then bring your family to our Light Party! **Wednesday 31st October** from 5.00pm to 6.30pm at the Ministry Centre then an Illuminating Light Trail around our local

area until 7.00pm. How many treats can you collect? Featuring party food, crazy games, music, crafts and of course plenty of sweets and treats!! Refreshments for adults too. Come dressed up as 'The Good, The Brave and The Bold!' Prizes for the best costumes! Pumpkin Carving Competition! Bring your carved and lit pumpkin for judging! Bring a torch and hi-vis clothing if you can. This is a **FREE** event and everyone is welcome!

## **Remembrance weekend at Christ Church**

### **10th and 11th November**

To mark 100 years since WW1 on **Saturday 10th November** 7.30-9.30 pm in the Ministry Centre we will be hosting a special proms night with the Salvation Army Band. Come dressed in your red, white and blue, bring your flags and singing voices as we join in the proms classic songs. This will be a ticket only event. Tickets can be purchased from the Ministry Centre Office ( 01695 424530) £5.00 per ticket. All money from this event will be going to support the work of the British Legion.

Join us on **Sunday 11th November 10:45am** for our special Remembrance Parade service. Come and hear about Noel Chavasse, one of only three soldiers awarded the Victoria Cross twice.

## **Festive weekend at Christ Church 23rd-24th November**

### **Festive Tea dance for over 60s**

On **Friday 23rd November** we are hosting a festive afternoon tea in the Ministry Centre. For over 60s. Come and listen to Christmas classics and enjoy coffee and cake . Tickets will be £3.00 and can be purchased from the Ministry Centre Office ( 01695 424530).

## **Festive Family Christmas Party**

On **Saturday 24th November** join us for a family Christmas party in the Ministry Centre 2.00pm-4.00pm. Party games, food, crafts and a visit from Santa will all be included in the ticket which can be purchased from the office. Tickets £3.00 per child or £5.00 for siblings.

## **Do you enjoy meeting people and have a few hours to spare?**

Café Vista is a key part of our ministry at Christ Church and is run by a wonderful team of volunteers. We are looking for extra help to cover the afternoons (1.00-3.30pm). This role would be particularly suitable for someone (minimum age 16) who is looking to gain some work experience or for someone who has a few hours spare.

We are looking for friendly, reliable people who will be welcoming to customers. You should be able to carry out instructions as well as being able to use your own initiative. You won't be required to do any cooking.

Please contact **Vicky Sime** at the Ministry Centre if you are interested.

## **News**

### **We're not just here for the beer!**

On Monday evenings between 7.00-9.00pm a group from Christ Church meet to discuss life and faith in Wetherspoons, Ormskirk at Table 49 (if it's free).

The invitation for people to join them is always open whether you're reading this now or in Wetherspoons on a Monday evening. Discussions can be varied and often centre around how we live our lives, and the difficulties that people may have, how the church can provide meaningful help and support in many situations and whether it has lost its relevance to ordinary people. We look at current affairs such as this week's climate change news and our response to it. It's

informal, enjoyable and an opportunity to discuss more meaningful stuff.

We also give people an opportunity to request prayer by placing packs on the tables which invite people to respond either in person or by writing confidentially and enclosing in the pack or emailing. To date we have had over 200 prayer requests primarily from younger people.

If church on Sunday isn't for you, maybe Wetherspoons on a Monday fits you better. See you there!

## **Christ Church School**

*Our Headteacher Mr Kennedy writes*

It really has been a wonderful start to the Autumn Term. As I mentioned in the last edition, it has been especially exciting to welcome all of our new Reception class who have now settled in well to their school life. It was also lovely to see so many of our new parents enjoying the coffee mornings at the Ministry Centre and special lunches during the first week.

The children across school have had lots of exciting things going on in school already this year. All of the year 6 children went to Aughton Quarry in September to plan their story for English and they enjoyed the experience to continue their learning in an outdoor setting. Year 3 have enjoyed a fantastic trip to Ribchester to find out about the Romans. When searching the school grounds during the first week of term, they also uncovered a

Roman time capsule which has allowed them to study the past through looking at artefacts! Year 3 have also all started learning the ukulele and we are looking forward to hearing their class performances. Year 5 have enjoyed their trip to Liverpool to discover how the Ancient Greeks have left a lasting mark on society through studying architecture.



Year 1 headed to Blue Planet and Year 4 to Speke Hall for their first class trips of the year. Every class in school has also enjoyed a visit to the Life Bus this term to learn about staying safe and our athletics coach has been working with every child in school on key athletic skills in P.E.

We have also started all of our extra-curricular clubs during and after school and our football team have enjoyed playing their league games finishing 4th overall. A special mention must go to our cross country team as 16 children competed in a team event. The boys and girls teams both won their events with another of our teams finishing 3rd. So, all in all, it has been a very exciting start to the year.

## **News from the Scout Group:**

*Annette Marshall writes:*

The Beavers have been working towards the Explore Badge and have had a visit to Ruff Woods. The Cubs have had fun making and launching rockets and using electrical circuits as part of the Science Badge. The Scouts have had an International Night and are currently working on the Air Activities Badge. The Explorers held the 'Nomad's Bake Off' and produced Victoria sponges in all shapes and sizes. They have also been orienteering with a difference around Aughton, using near field communications to give the clues.

## **From the Registers**

### **BAPTISM**

16th September: **BENJAMIN LLOYD SMITH**

### **WEDDING**

13th October: **HANNAH KING and LEWIS TARBAIT**

### **FUNERAL**

20th September: **EILEEN SUMNER of The Serpentine, Aughton**