

Readings for this Sunday 11 December

8am Holy Communion	James 5. 7-10 Matt. 11. 2-11 Lectionary pp 6-7
10am All Age Communion and Blessing	James 5. 7-10 Matt. 11. 2-11 Lectionary pp 6-7
6pm Open Worship	To be chosen

Readings for next Sunday 18 December

8am Holy Communion	Rom. 1. 1-7 Matt. 1. 18-end Lectionary pp 8-9
10am Holy Communion	Rom. 1. 1-7 Matt. 1. 18-end Lectionary pp8-9
4pm Nine Lessons and Carols	Special readings

Parish Register

Funeral

13 December – Joan Holland
St Hildeburgh's at 10am followed by burial at Newcastle

Weekly Beacon



News from St Hildeburgh's The Parish Church of Hoylake Sunday 11 December 2022 The Third Sunday of Advent

THE COLLECT

O Lord Jesus Christ,
who at your first coming sent your messenger
to prepare your way before you:
grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries
may likewise so prepare and make ready your way
by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just,
that at your second coming to judge the world
we may be found an acceptable people in your sight;
for you are alive and reign with the Father
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

WOW! Last Weekend's Christmas Tree Festival

Last weekend's Christmas Tree Festival was a tremendous success. The event opened on Friday evening, with Santa switching on the lights and an amazing performance by the Rock Choir. On Saturday and Sunday, people came from both near and far to the Festival to admire the thirty decorated trees and hear a great line up of musical acts, including Holy Trinity School Choir, Paul Parsons, the Mockbeggar Morris, Hoylake Choral Society and the Concourse Singers. Festival goers diligently examined the decorated trees and voted for their favourites in different categories. **The results were: Most Fun Tree - Island Electrical Most Elegant - Red Rocks Most Original - Kids Planet.** The Festival was rounded off by a lively and well-attended Christingle Service at 4.00pm on the Sunday. Around three thousand pounds was raised for the Festival charities: AgeUK Wirral, Claire House and the Charles Thompson Mission. There are far too many people to thank individually for their hard work making the Festival such a success - almost a thousand people attended. So, a HUGE thank you goes to all who made this year's Festival possible: THANK YOU!

A big 'Thank You' also to the following businesses and groups for taking part:

Island Electrical	Red Rocks Nursing Home
Peter James Law	Cameo
Woodlands Care Home	Wax Lyrical
Quirky	West Haven Care Home
Connectors	The Guild
Mulberry Tree Nursery	Choir
RNLI	Kids Planet Day nursery
Old Garden Care Home	Hoylake School of Dance
Cottage Hospital Nursing Home	Holy Trinity Primary School
Pilates	Morrisons and Claire House
Slimming World	Scouts
Hearts 4 refugees	Springview @ Clatterbridge
Guides	Hospital
Rainbows	PoppyWillow Crafts
Mum's n Tots	Jane Robson Crafts
Christine Walker	Luna Cole Jewellery
Abbeyfield/Lear House	Brenda & Quirky knitting
Voyagers	Concourse Singers
Brownies	Hoylake Choral Society
Terry Bailey Plumbing	Paul Parsons
Jill's Cookshop	Mockbeggar Morris Dancers
Caldy signs	



CHRISTMAS SERVICES AT ST HILDEBURGH'S



Photo courtesy of Nigel Hall

- | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| 4 December at 4pm | Christingle |
| 18 December at 4pm | Nine Lessons and Carols |
| 24 December at 4pm | Crib Service |
| 24 December at 11.30pm | Holy Communion |
| 25 December at 8am | Holy Communion |
| 25 December at 10am | Holy Communion |
| <i>No evening service on Christmas Day</i> | |
| 28 December at 10am | Holy Communion in the Lady Chapel |

WIRRAL STRING ORCHESTRA

Neill Jackson writes:

Wirral String Orchestra have their Christmas concert at StHildeburgh's on Saturday 17th December, 7.30pm. Lots of favourite pieces will be heard from music from Handel's Messiah, Christmas music by Leroy Anderson and even a movement from Saint Saens Carnival of the animals. You shall also hear Corelli's Oboe concerto arranged by Barbirolli, Boyce Symphony No. 2 and music by Orlando Gibbons and Rutter (including a new piece) as well as many traditional carols. The orchestra will be joined by the chorus for the first time since 2019 and Richard Lea the organist from the Liverpool Metropolitan cathedral will join us.

You can book tickets by emailing nejvla@hotmail.com or calling 07981152344 and leaving your name and number and how many tickets you require. You can also buy them from Maccomb's pet store on Market Street in Hoylake and the Tee Rooms on Banks Road in West Kirby. All tickets are £8. We look forward to seeing you on Saturday 17th December. *Neill*

A date for your diary - Jan 28th - New Year Concert - Nutcracker, Blue Danube Waltz, Shostakovich, Dvorak.

CHURCH OFFICE

Please note that the Church Office will close for the holidays at 12noon on Thursday 23 December and open again at 10am on Tuesday 3 January 2023. Voicemail messages can still be left on the Church Office phone - 0151 632 5339.

Best wishes to everyone for Christmas and New Year.

Jill

FLOWER OF THE WEEK: CHRISTMAS CACTUS **133rd in a series.**

Text and Schlumbergera buckleyi photograph by Peter Surridge.

Christmas houseplants have featured in this series twice before, in December issues of the Weekly Beacon in both 2021 and 2022, but the Christmas cactus has never been the sole subject of this column. That is now rectified and is no less than the plant deserves. With its prolific, long-flowering blooms and graceful form, it is one of our best-loved houseplants and one of the easiest to grow.

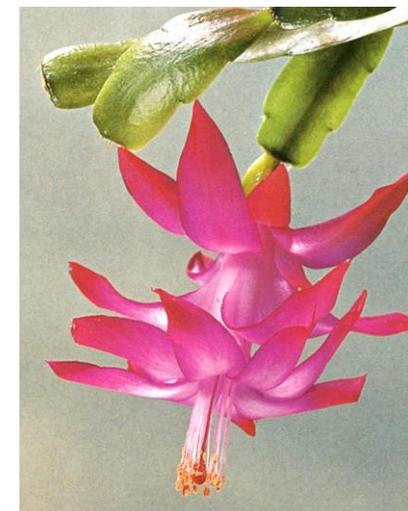
Schlumbergera, to use its botanical name, grows as an epiphytic cactus on trees in the mountains of Brazil. The true Christmas cactus is *Schlumbergera buckleyi* (pictured), a red-flowered hybrid bred in from two of the Brazilian species, *S. truncata* (pictured) and *S. russelliana*. Blooms of other types can be deep pink, orange or white. Those of the variety Gold Charm are yellow in autumn but sometimes develop shades of pale pink while Bristol Beauty has purple flowers.

Each fleshy, oak-shaped leaf – segments of stem, to be precise – produces one or more new leaves at its tip, eventually creating long, arching branches. Then, in late autumn or early winter, a bud emerges from the tip of the newest leaf and develops into a trumpet-shaped flower 5cm-7cm (2in-3in) long with pointed petals swept upwards and long stamens.

In British homes, the plants like strong, bright light for most of the year but some shade from the fiercest summer sun. Once a plant is in a position where it grows well, it is best not moved from there. Normal room temperature will suit the plants but not if the room gets cold at night because fluctuating temperatures often cause the flower buds to drop. Watering should be left until the surface is nearly dry then given copiously, along with a fortnightly high-potash feed except during February and March, when watering should be reduced. The leaves can be kept shiny by sponging with warm water. When the roots fill the pot, the plant can be moved in spring into a pot 5cm (2in) deeper and wider, in a soil-based compost such as John Innes No 2, using a clay pot if possible.



Top left: Schlumbergera buckleyi.



Top right: Schlumbergera truncata.

New plants root readily from leaf cuttings taken in spring. Cut off a single leaf, make a slit 1cm (0.5in) long from the wound along the base of the mid-rib, and insert the cut end of the leaf at an outward angle into the surface of a pot of gritty compost. A few leaf-cuttings can be inserted in a circle into the same pot, all angled outwards, to produce a well-rounded display.

Christmas cacti do not suffer from any significant pests or diseases.

Schlumbergera is named for Frédéric Schlumberger, an avid collector of cacti in France in the 19th century.

That is the last in this Flowers of the Week series, which has appeared continuously in the Weekly Beacon since May 2020.

Peter Surridge hopes to restart the series next year.

BACON BUTTIES AND COMMUNITY CAFÉ

Bacon Butties and the Community Café will both continue as usual all through the holidays including:

**Bacon Butties -
Tuesday 27 December and Tuesday 3 January**

**Community Café -
Friday 30 December and Friday 6 January**

On 30 December the Community Café menu will consist of Hot Pot rather than the usual menu.

All are welcome.

50/50 CLUB

Liz Ardus writes:

November's 50/50 Winner was Chris Page number 78
Congratulations Chris.

It's not too late to join and be in with a chance of our bumper Christmas pay out. This is currently £156 to be drawn before the big day. Contact me on 632 3544 or look for me in church. You can pay £12 (for the year) by cheque, made payable to Hoylake PCC, or cash, or by card in church or by bank transfer. Thanks

**Don't Forget
the Bacon!!**

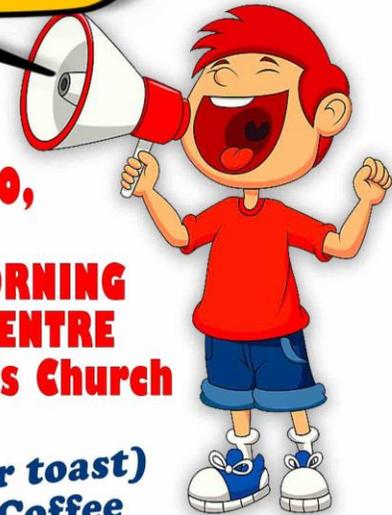
**Every TUESDAY
from
10.30am to 12.00,
we have our
BACON BUTTY MORNING
in our CHURCH CENTRE
at St Hildeburgh's Church
in HoyLake**

**Bacon Butties (or toast)
a cup of Tea or Coffee
& a great chance to chat**

ALL are Welcome!

NO CHARGE (but donations welcome)

... see you on Tuesday?



SHARING FOOD AND WARMTH

in Hoylake and Meols

EVERYDAY

Warm Space – every morning, St Luke's Church opens its space as a warm place to be. Hot drinks available. 9am-12noon.

MONDAYS

Honesty Café – lunch is offered at St John's Church. 11.30am-1.30pm.

TUESDAYS

Bacon Butties – enjoy a hot drink and a bacon buttie or two at St Hildeburgh's Church. 10.30am-12noon.

WEDNESDAYS

Coffee Morning – enjoy a hot drink and access the Store 4 All (food and essentials) at St Luke's Church. 10am-12noon.

Coffee Afternoon – enjoy tea, coffee and biscuits at St Andrews URC Meols, 1.30pm-3.30pm

THURSDAYS

Bacon Butties – enjoy a hot drink and a bacon buttie or two at St John's Church. 10.30am-12noon.

Community Shop – food and essentials are available from The Life Tree community shop at Quirky Café. 10am-4pm.

Community Lunch – lunch is offered on the 4th Thursday of the month, 12noon-2pm at St Luke's. Book by calling 632 4986.

Coffee and Cake – enjoy a hot drink and a piece of cake at Hoylake Evangelical Church, 2pm-4pm from Dec to Feb.

FRIDAYS

Community Café – enjoy a warm space and a hot lunch at St Hildeburgh's Church. 10am-2pm.

Food and Friends – enjoy a soup lunch and a time to chat and meet new people at St Luke's Church. 12noon-2pm.

SATURDAYS

Community Shop – food and essentials are available from The Life Tree community shop at Quirky Café. 1pm-4pm.

Bread is available from Quirky Café when it's open. (Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, 9am-4pm)

If you are not able to access the Community Shop when the Quirky Café is open, pop a note with your contact details into the post box outside the Quirky Café and someone will be in touch to ensure you get the food you need.

All are welcome to share food and warmth at any of these places. They're all offered on a 'pay if you can' basis and are run by volunteers.

St Luke's Church – Market Street, Hoylake

St John's Church – Birkenhead Road, Meols

St Hildeburgh's Church – The King's Gap, Hoylake

St Andrews URC – Greenwood Road, Meols

Quirky Café – 124E Market Street, Hoylake

Hoylake Evangelical Church – 3-5 Birkenhead Road, Hoylake

St. Hildeburgh's Parish Church

Stanley Road, Hoylake

TUESDAY 13th DECEMBER 2022

commencing 7.30pm
(Doors open 7.00pm)

Caldy Rugby Club Choir Off Pitch



Director of music:
JAN LYON

Will perform both traditional & contemporary

Festive Songs
with some sing-a-longs

FREE ADMISSION & REFRESHMENTS

supplied by our sponsors



Tel: 0151 632 4724
61 Birkenhead Road, Meols

donations to

Hoylake & West Kirby Lifeboat Stations



Contact St Hildeburgh's

Vicar

Rev'd PAUL ROSSITER

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Tel: 0151 632 5339

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Church Website



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Weekly Beacon

A condensed printed edition of the Weekly Beacon is available at the back of church. If you receive the Weekly Beacon by email, please leave the printed copies for those who do not have internet access.

If you wish to contribute an article or place a notice in the Weekly Beacon please e-mail sthildeburgh.parish.office@gmail.com

All advertising and notices are accepted at the discretion of the Editor. **Photograph policy.** We frequently take photographs at St Hildeburgh's for publicity purposes – such as printing in this "Weekly Beacon". If for any reason you would prefer us not to use photographs of any children who may accompany you to church, please mention this to our Vicar, Rev'd Paul Rossiter.