

Christmas Edition 2015

One of Us



It was said of Liverpool Football Club's manager from 1959-1974, Bill Shankly, that he was "a man of the people, he was one of us". It was said recently by ex Everton player and manager Joe Royle of Howard Kendall, Everton's manager on 3 occasions, 1981-87, 1990-93, 1997-98; "He was one of us: he understood us, the supporters. He gave us hope."

The same can be said of another leader of people, someone born over 2000 years ago, not in a palace but at the back of an inn. His name means "Saviour", and he was also given the name "Emmanuel" which means "God with us". Many of us have a view of God, if we believe in a God at all, as some distant Creator; meanwhile all sorts of injustices and horrors are being committed, as well as the lovely acts of kindness and love that aren't so often reported. But Christmas says that the Creator becomes a creature, the God above becomes a God alongside, God becomes "one of us".



In his life the Jesus who grew up in the northern town of Nazareth, learnt the trade of a carpenter, made a point of welcoming those left on the edge of society, the lepers, the Samaritans, the children, as well as his group of disciples, men and women, with all their strengths and weaknesses.

He loved life, told great stories, but became a victim too of injustice, betrayed by a friend, tried by a corrupt court. He truly was "one of us" and offers hope and love in our world. Have a great Christmas!

### Regeneration is continuing...



Mark Kitts, Liverpool City Council Assistant Director for Regeneration (pictured second from the right with Ann Roach, Paul Scragg, Paul Batho and Jane Corbett), spoke at the West Everton Lunch Club at the Shewsy on Wednesday November 25th and assured the local activists, agencies and organisations, schools and churches that the regeneration of North Liverpool was continuing and still on track. 3 new schools have already opened, a new Greaty market is in action, Marwood Towers will open in August next year and **the Sainsbury's store will be opening in Spring 2017.The development of** Everton Park will continue (see Wheels Park opening below), and housing sites will be explored in consultation with the local community. Sadly one of the hopes for this year, the Sky Pier building at the top of the park overlooking the brilliant view, is on hold as the costs spiralled far too high, but the hope remains for a similar facility if the funding can be found.

#### The Wheels Park opened

On Monday October 5th Liverpool's Mayor Joe Anderson officially opened the Wheels Park in the China Street Bowl. This facility was funded by money raised from the sale of the wheels park in Wavertree, and is one of 4 such facilities across the city. The opening was very well attended, with speeches from the Mayor, John Hutchison and Paul Edwards from the Friends of Everton Park, Sally Tallant from the Liverpool Biennial and others, and a fine display was put on by very skilled wheels park users.

For many years since the first Everton Park meeting of local residents in the 1980s there have been calls for a more active park and the Wheels Park certainly provides that. To be involved in the development of the Park do join the Friends of Everton Park (contact the Faith plot or e mail foep@yahoo.co.uk or visit the website www.evertonpark.org.uk).Membership is a bargain £1.

"All great achievements require time." (Maya Angelou, American civil rights activist and writer)

## **Morris' on William Henry Street closes**

After around 100 years Morris' shop on William Henry Street has closed with the sad death of Peter Morris in November. In 1965 Peter's father died, in 1999 Mrs Morris died, then his brother Thomas in 2013 and now Peter has passed away after so many years of running the famous local shop with his mixture of humour, generosity and concern for the local community, shown both in his commitment to community meetings and also in his many acts of **quiet kindness to local people. Peter's funeral on Friday November 27th was in a full St Francis Xavier's Church and was a great send off for Peter.** 



And the Everton Oscar goes to Adam Byrne

Congratulations to Adam Byrne of Shaw Street on his many fine acting performances over the past year. Adam is pictured far left in the **production of "The Hook" by Arthur Miller** at the Everyman Theatre on Hope Street. Adam has also been

in "Teachers" by John Godber at the Gladstone Theatre in Port Sunlight, "The

Boy in the Striped Pyjamas" at the Playhouse, and he will be playing the white rabbit in "The Alice Experience" at St George's Hall in February 2016. "Story-telling is such a part of Liverpool life", says Adam: "it's great to put yourself into these stories because good stories can have such a powerful effect for good."

#### Friendly Fridays still on in WECC portacabins

If you are needing advice on any matters to do with welfare rights, financial matters, or just wanting to meet up then Friendly Fridays is a great place to be. Every Friday from 12 to 2.30 pm at West Everton Community Council on Everton Brow Joanne the Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) worker is present to help with debt management, energy bills, benefit advice, the bedroom tax, etc. And WECC will be back in the old Friary in 2016.

#### From "The Master" to "Invictus"

There is good religion and sadly bad religion. On a course "A Faith that Makes Sense" run by Henry Corbett at St Peter's Church over 3 Wednesdays in November a clip was shown from the film "The Master": it shows bad religion in action, as the Philip Seymour Hoffman character seeks to brainwash his "followers". But a clip was also shown from "Invictus", a film that tells the story of Nelson Mandela's wonderful forgiveness in action. There is good religion and bad religion.

"My father gave me the greatest gift anyone can give another person. He believed in me." (Jim Valvano, coach)



Stick with me and we' II go places

#### Quiz time

1. Who sang "Scousers don't buy the Sun" and why?

2. Who grew up in Kensington, Liverpool, acted in Z Cars, wrote the script for the Oscar winning "Chariots of Fire" and died in November this year, aged 81.

3. Who painted the most expensive painting ever,

"The Women of Algiers", sold this year for £179 million dollars?!

4. Who grew up supporting Everton, has one England cap, one England goal, and was best man at Leicester **City's James Vardy's wedding?** 

5. In which country, population 120 million, in January 2014 was a tax on sugary drinks brought in by the government to combat 32% obesity and increasing diabetes in the population?









Why read novels, story books? A book is a device to ignite the imagination-Alan Bennett

There are many little ways to enlarge your child's world. Love of books is the best of all –Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis

Great books help you understand, and they help you feel understood –John Green





Beware of the person of one book –Thomas Aquinas

You know you've read a good book when you turn the last page and feel a little as if you have lost a friend –Paul Sweeney

If there is a book that you want to read, but it hasn't been written yet, you must be the one to write it –Toni Morrison



#### The value of friendship, food and conversation

The 60+ day centre meets in St Peter's Church lounge, Langrove St, while the WECC building is repaired. Tuesdays 10.30-2.30pm, with outings, bingo, dinner, stories and great conversation. Contact Marie Jamieson on 07735 501 456 if you would like to join in.

2 Colin Welland..3. Pablo Picasso 4. David Nugent 5. Mexico

Quiz answers: I.Billy Bragg wrote the song with respect to the Liverpool people who refused to buy the Sun newspaper after it had published lies about the Liverpool supporters at the Hillsborough tragedy in 1989

## Shewsy News

Our talented staff team at the Shewsy have weekly meetings to focus on what is happening and on the week ahead but those meetings can often be about reacting to people and events. So we are setting aside the first week in 2016 to plan the year ahead so that we are proactive in our response to the needs of young people and the local community. If you have thoughts on **that do contact me on the Shewsy's** number below.

In November 8 club members visited Dublin as part of the club's second exchange with other groups, this time partnering with a group from North Wales alongside the group from Dublin. John Dumbell and Ryan Fitzpatrick went as staff and said it was a very worthwhile trip for all the young people involved.

A group of 25 members took part in a trip to Farmageddon on **notorious "mischief night" on October** 30th.

In Junior Club our 5-11 year olds are a really diverse bunch with Happy Birthday being sung in 5 different languages (6 if you count Scouse!). The gender mix is 50/50 and attendance ranges between 25-35 each night. The children engage well in art, sport, games and other activities on offer.

Our links with Shrewsbury School continue to be strong and educational with 3 groups of 12 Sixth -formers visiting the Shewsy on Social Studies courses this autumn and learning about the issues facing us in our Everton community and in our city. Their feedback sheets always show how much they have

learnt and how impressed they have been with the people they have met. Next year there will be a joint expedition to Malawi with Club and school members.

Some very sad news from our



Shewsy Archive Team is that in September much loved and ever smiling member John Maddocks died, and then in early December the founding member of the Archive team Jim Kennedy (*pictured above working on his computer and sorting his photos*) died suddenly. Jim had just completed his history of Shrewsbury House 1903-1945, and like John will be much missed. But the team is determined to carry on meeting each Friday morning in the club from 11am-1pm.

For the New Year Junior Club continues Monday to Thursday 3.30-5.30pm for Primary School age children, and Senior Club is 7-9.30pm for secondary school age and older. Do give the club a ring 0151 207 0725 if you want more details.

Merry Christmas and have a Happy New Year!

Dave "Breo" Brereton, Team leader

Don't make despair convincing, make hope possible.

# **Churches'**

Christmas services Christmas services can be found on the Season's greetings card with this edition of the Everton Telegraph. Or contact St Anthony's 0151 207 0177, St Francis Xavier's 0151 298 1911, or St Peter's 0151 207 1948. Farewell to Anne and John Lawlor Anne and John Lawlor (pictured right) will be leaving Everton at the end of January as Anne comes to the end of her curacy at St Peter's and St John Chrysostom's. Anne writes: "Its been a huge privilege working in Everton. I've learned a great deal and found an amazing community that really reaches out and looks after each other. The awareness of social justice and how so many people here are concerned about these issues has made a real impact on me. It's just great to have been with people who don't just talk about issues they really work at them too. I have huge respect for the community organisations here and everything they have achieved as well as the schools and the children's centre. I have loved being a part of it and will miss everyone terribly"

Christian Unity in the New Year On Sunday evening January 24th at 6.30pm there will be a Newsham and West Everton Churches together service in the annual Week of Prayer for Christian Unity at St Francis Xavier's Church on Langsdale Street. Then in Lent there will be Churches together Lent groups meeting around the churches.

Congratulations, Father Graeme A special celebration was held for Fr Graeme Dunne at Notre Dame Catholic College on Great Homer Street in November for the 30th anni-



versary of his ordination. Here's to the next 30 years!

#### When Christmas Isn't So Merry

Christmas time and New Year can bring thoughts and feelings to the surface that we may have tried to suppress earlier in the year. We may be reminded of unhappy experiences or past mistakes. The pain of a broken relationship or bereavement may be more deeply felt. If we do think about God we may forget the forgiveness and healing that comes through Jesus. And if we go further and think about the wise men bringing their gifts to Jesus we might imagine that we have nothing to offer Him. This verse from the carol "In the bleak midwinter" can speak to us: "What can I give Him,

poor as I am? If I were a shepherd I would bring a lamb. If I were a wise man I would do my part, Yet what can I give Him? **Give my heart.**"

Wishing you peace at this special time of year Mike Sedgwick

"In faith there is enough light for those who want to believe and enough shadows to blind those who don't." (Blaise Pascal)

# Community News

Happy retirement, Jack Best wishes to Jack our Iollipop man for the Friary and then Faith Primary for many years. Now in his 80s Jack deserves a good rest! Whitechapel Christmas Opening The Centre on Langsdale Street will be open as usual on Christmas **Day through to New Year's Day,** offering food, housing advice, fun activities as always. For more details do contact the centre on 0151 207 7617 or at their website www.whitechapelcentre.co.uk .

Everton Park Fun Run Congratulations to everyone who organised and took part and supported the Blue Run in memory of Joseph Lappin on Sunday October 18th in Everton Park. Local schools, boxing clubs, residents, West Everton Community Council, Friends of Everton Park, the Shewsy, many others all contributed to a great day. Credit Union help

For savings and loans you can join Partners Credit Union on Dale Street who will offer advice and cheap loans for Liverpool residents. Contact number: 0151 258 1014.

In Harmony News In Harmony Liverpool continues to go from strength to strength and the Everton Youth Philharmonic performed at the Liverpool Hope University Cornerstone festival on November 27th, and the 7th birthday concert of In Harmony will be at the Philharmonic Hall on Hope Street on Monday March 7th 2016. Stay Well this Winter Shane Knott, Public Health Neighbourhood manager for North Liverpool, writes that if anyone needs help over the Christmas period when surgeries and pharmacies may be closed they can call NHS 111 or visit www.nhs.uk. Flu vaccinations and bowel cancer screenings are also available free for a number of eligible groups.

SPORTING HOPES FOR 2016 For our local adult football team West Everton Xaviers *(pictured*)



*above)* to win a cup this season to follow the County FA Premier League title triumph 3 years ago.

For the Stanfield Football Club junior teams to get to some more finals in their age groups under managers John Dumbell, Michael Duffy, Dean Williamson.

For England's Women's Football team to continue their good play from this year's World Cup in Canada in qualifying for the 2017 European championships with striker Toni Duggan brought up on Upper Bute Street continuing her fine form.

For the Hillsborough families finally to see justice and truth winning the day as the inquests come to a finish in the coming year.