

# Chronicle

June 2017

**Are you in  
year 6, 7, 8 or 9?**

**Have you thought  
about being  
Confirmed?**



**Geoff is going to be running a  
course over the next months.  
Please let him know if your are  
interested. Times will be  
organised to fit when people  
can make it.**

Come and join  
us, for a

Pudding Party,



Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> June,

at 7.30pm in The Rectory.

Donations of a pudding or for The  
Mothers' Union AFIA would be greatly  
appreciated -

*Away From It All* is a Mothers' Union holiday  
scheme, to help people who are experiencing  
stress in their family life. Mothers' Union  
normally helps with part of the cost of a holiday  
or with travel expenses, but sometimes can pay  
for the whole trip. The funds are limited but we  
will always help as much as we can.

All are welcome.

# From the Editors

*Sally Hemsworth and Nicki Stevens*

Another edition of The Chronicle is delivered – and it is time to consider whether you wish to renew your subscription. The cost will remain the same as last year - £4 for an A5 copy, and £5 for an A4 copy. You will find a sheet within The Chronicle (and copies will also be available in both Churches and the Church Centre) which we hope you will fill in to reserve your copy. Chris Knevetts has agreed to collect the slips from St James end of the Parish, and Norah Shallow will continue to collect from St Francis.

You will see that we have taken the liberty of asking for volunteers to search out interesting articles or give the Editorial Team ideas on what you would like.

The next edition, the last one of the current subscription, covers July/August – so please help to make this a “good” one!

The lists put up to determine the interest in a Group Holiday/Walking Groups/a theatre trip to London have been gathered in – numbers showing interest are small but we will review and see what can be done.

As you know, the Chronicle is always available on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month, with the paperwork being collated in the week before this. So if you wish to submit something think 20 something of the month and you will not be far out. Only ten issues a year – so holidays allowed!



## Lesley Weston

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## A word from the Rectory



As summer approaches, many of us will be thinking about holidays. Holidays close to home or abroad. Holidays that are very active or very restful. Holidays that are culture filled or just opportunities for time out.

As many of you will know, early in life I was involved in teaching outdoor activities. One of the sports I never mastered was surfing. The idea of picking up the power of a big wave and travelling long distances as it carried me was always tempting. Sadly, I never spent enough time near suitable water. For the dinghy sailor, big waves were often a killer. Broken masts and equipment were the usual sign of an encounter with too much rough stuff.

For the Christian the picture of the surfer can be very useful. We are never called to do things in our own strength. We are always called to come alongside the work that God is already doing. How does John put it?

*The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit.' (John 3:8)*

God is at work all the time. As people of his family we are called to work with him. When he spoke to Israel through Isaiah he said these words.

*See, I am doing a new thing!  
Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?  
I am making a way in the wilderness  
and streams in the wasteland. The  
wild animals honour me,  
the jackals and the owls,  
because I provide water in the  
wilderness and streams in the  
wasteland, to give drink to my  
people, my chosen, the people I  
formed for myself that they may  
proclaim my praise. (Isaiah 43 19-21)*

Just as a surfer strives to come alongside the power of the wave, so we are called to come alongside God's already active mission. As we do this we pick up on His power, the power of the Holy Spirit. It is not our job to make the wave but discover it, learn about it and become part of it.

That might sound like a recipe to just sit and wait. It isn't. The surfer goes out looking for the wave. They then invest energy into getting in tune with it. We are called to do the same, to find God's waves and get in tune with them.

As the month of June comes in, we come to the end of a short season focussed on praying for God's kingdom to come. In a place where God is King. We, God's people, should always be looking to live in a way in tune with him. To do that we need to know him and seek to follow. Learning from his word, from each other from whatever other resources come our way.



Benson Cottage

Come and join us at the Church of St Mary and St John to the confirmation of some of our family.  
Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> July 6:30 pm.  
Bishop Steven Presiding



# NEWS FROM ST FRANCIS

Our little church of St Francis was full to overflowing as we said our final farewell to our beloved Skye and her lovely family. And we felt full up in our hearts too, full of a great sadness in our hearts and minds that this thing had come to pass. Such was the impact that this lady and her lovely family had made upon us over the years. We knew that it was quite normal for our clergy to move on to new posts but found it very difficult to come to terms with it none the less. Her great love for St Francis and all of its members shone through very clearly and infected everything that she did. This, plus her innovative ideas held us enthralled.

Her great fondness for all the children amongst us and her keenness to do more for them and

value them was plain to see.

When she joined us we were top heavy

with elderly people, which was a recipe for the death of the church eventually, unless checked. And she set about immediately to reverse this situation. Helped by her fun days and many all age services things began to change quite quickly. Young families and children were valued and wanted. And so St Francis grew in fellowship and love together.

John Shreeve



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# NEWS FROM OLD MARSTON

This lovely old church, steeped in history, is about as different from St Francis as you could possibly wish for. Those of us who attended Skye's induction by the Bishop of Oxford were fascinated by this ancient building, just as we were by the old-fashioned wording of the service itself. Skye was licensed into 'the Cure of Souls' in that place, and had to promise to pray regularly for her new congregation, to give them communion frequently and obey her Bishop in all things. In addition she had to promise to obey the laws of our Queen Elizabeth. Quite a lot of obedience involved here. But obedience tempered by love

She had to go through the ceremony of knocking on the church door and being invited in and also ringing the church bell. Then several members of the congregation came forward to offer her things that would help her in her work. And we as a congregation had to promise our commitment to her at all times. So it was a two way process.

The Bishop gave a very wise sermon involving all of us and our faith. We then broke off for refreshments at the old school next door.

John Shreeve

# SKYE'S INSTALLATION

I arrived at St Nicholas' Church in Old Marston on the bike and really enjoyed the ride. The weather that day was not bad at all, and Old Marston itself was really beautiful. The Church of St Nicholas was larger than I expected and had in places on its inner walls some ancient art. It had stood there possibly for longer than St James in Cowley.

After meeting a few familiar faces, the place became jam packed and it seems that Skye's new community really pulled out the stops to ensure that things were going to go swimmingly. There was even a Choir who set the tone beautifully through some hymn singing before we began. The quality of the voices was truly angelic.

Sitting near the front as it turned out was a good move as I managed to be in a position to enjoy the power of the voices of the congregation members behind me as well as the Choir and had a full overview of the proceedings. I was rather pleasantly surprised to see that our Bishop's Mitre was bright in colour and although it was obviously approved by the Church it depicted a scene that was full of hope and love, really bringing the message of faith to the people in ways that make more sense in these times. The Bishop made a joke about the date (a star wars joke) "May the 4th be with you!" and Joel showed off his T-shirt that had a similar science fiction theme to it.

Then, between some well-known and rousing hymns (that I really enjoyed singing to because in a big congregation you can really lose yourself in the singing!) the proceedings happened. Skye was given officially and ceremoniously ministry over the whole of Marston and ownership over

the Church was entrusted to her. The service was not static and she even moved to the door to place her hand on the lock to show that the place was being given to her in the service.

I could not avoid being overcome with emotion as this was a serious time in Skye's life that I had the privilege to share. I was losing a vicar but Marston was gaining a Vicar that had been prepared for office through having managed very successfully, our own church of St Francis (which means that we have all had a part to play in her preparation for the role). When one era ends another one begins and accepting the goodness that we have been able to give Marston through the work that Skye has done with us is part and parcel of us helping a Kingdom to grow.

The reception that was held afterwards was fantastic and there was a real community spirit, and the food and tea that was laid on was brilliant too. One of those things that is quite so special about the Church is the ability of the community to get together and make big formal social gatherings happen.

It may have been sad to see her go, but it was also lovely to know that she had taken a position in a Church that has a reputation for hanging on to their vicars for 25 years which means stability and security for her and her family for a long, long time.

On my way back I felt a certain degree of pride that in some small way. I, and all my fellow members at St Francis, had done so well in preparing someone to take over that role at Marston.

Nick Dewey

# Summer is a-coming in!

Our Plant Sale on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> May was a great success raising over £1,150 for parish funds. We were amazed to see tables cleared of the herbaceous and bedding plants after only 30 minutes! A great BIG THANK YOU to all who helped on the day either selling in the hall or working in the kitchen, to those who made cakes and marmalades, contributed raffle prizes, books and bric-a-brac, and above all, those who brought in lots of lovely plants to sell. It does attract people from the community to come and get healthy, well-grown plants for their gardens. They also know that we ask low prices and our Plant Sale is now an annual institution. It certainly keeps me busy in the first few months of the year!

I have now had a bit of time to sort out the greenhouse and set it up for my growing year. I have seven different tomato varieties and five different chillies to tend. I have not yet finished planting out things in the garden and the allotment but I will be on top of it all soon.

I have a problem with the garden in that the new planting of perennials in the last year or so is fast bulking up leaving little space for popping in the odd annual. Also there are a lot of seedlings coming up too, mainly of cosmos, which I love. They keep flowering all the way through the summer, if you keep dead-heading. As I write, my back garden is full of spikes of foxgloves, another of my favourite flowers. They range in colour from the native deep pink through various pinks to white. Most of them are self-seeded and the different pinks show cross pollination as, originally I had only the native deep pink and the white ones.

My roses are also at their peak with big blousy blooms chosen for their form and their scent.

Sadly though, they do not attract bees and butterflies. I do try to have flowers, in the rest of my plantings, that are favourites for these insects. Our small Viburnum tree is literally buzzing at the moment with both bumble and honey bees after nectar in the small pink flower clusters. (There are two sets of beehives, to my knowledge, very close by.) It is a pleasure just to stand underneath and listen.

I have grown annual dahlias from seed this year and the plants are now on the allotment in colour groups. I am taking part in a survey of bumble bees. Once the red, purple and white single flowers are blooming, I am to watch them on a regular basis and take photos of any bumble bees that descend. The data is collected through a smartphone app. I am finding it difficult to actually take a picture of a bee as they really move fast. I shall have to practise!

My Other Half is now retired! - and I have proposed a project for him. I have given him a half-moon edging tool and the challenge of getting the path edges to our allotment clean and straight. I should really have dropped hints and for him to suggest the project as I have a feeling that my challenge will not be taken up with great enthusiasm! Still, he now will have lots more time to get things done. Earthing-up the potatoes is on the immediate list as is hand-weeding around the onions, which he enjoys.

So I shall look forward to the summer and start as I mean to go on by going to the first RHS show at Chatsworth in Derbyshire in the first full week of June. I shall be going with my two younger sisters who are keen gardeners too.

Joan Coleman



As the half term break fell in the week between Ascension Day and Pentecost Sunday, we decided to join in The Archbishop of Canterbury's, Justin Welby, invitation to all Christians around the world to pray as one, for people to know Jesus Christ better. This initiative is called Thy Kingdom Come. So on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> May we had Messy Church Thy Kingdom Come.

The theme was the **Ascension to Pentecost** story, inspiring us to pray together and tell everyone about Jesus (Acts 1:3—2:4). As usual, there was a time for crafts and activities, placing little flags on a map of Cowley to show people who we are praying for, making a bracelet with 5 knots reminding us to pray for 5 friends or family, Pentecost cakes, Pentecost streamers, Pentecost flames on a headband, Lord's Prayer cubes, Tell everyone about Jesus, twirlers, and decorating people to put in the "Upper Room" to show them waiting for the Holy Spirit to come. This was followed by a short time of story, songs and a prayer.

Many thanks to everyone who came- to enjoy the activities, run an activity or welcome people in. It was great to see all ages joining in and having fun together.

The next Messy Church, we are suggesting, is Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> July which is St James' Day.

Mary Bayliss

## CHRONICLE

Editorial Team- Sally Hemsworth, Nicki Stevens

Deadline for the next edition: Monday 19 June 2017

If possible, please send entries by email to Sally at [chronicle@cowleyteamministry.co.uk](mailto:chronicle@cowleyteamministry.co.uk)

The Editorial Committee in no way accepts responsibility for goods or services supplied by our advertisers.

## GARDENING PARTY

HELP REQUIRED – COME AND BOOST THE NUMBERS LOOKING AFTER THE AREA AROUND ST JAMES CHURCH AND ST JAMES CHURCH CENTRE.

LAST SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH – 9.30 AM ONWARDS AT ST. JAMES CHURCH CENTRE.

Come and have fun, fresh air and exercise as we prepare the St. James Church Centre garden for another beautiful spring and summer showing. If possible bring your own tools but some will be available. Both heavy and light work available plus coffee and cake.



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## MOTHERS' UNION NEWS

Gayle Williams, a charming lady from the Oxford Children's Hospital, came to talk to us in May about the wonderful compassionate work taking place around the clock there. Gayle is one of the charity co-ordinators for the Children's Unit. We at Mothers' Union were able to present to her two full bags of beautiful knitwear for the Special Baby Unit – cot blankets, tiny caps, mittens and sweet little jackets for the premature and sometimes very sick babies in their care. Added to this our members brought a substantial array of toiletries and coffee and biscuits to support and sustain anxious parents who arrive at the unit with sick children. During her talk Gayle did point out that a long hospital stay can be tedious and boring for older children and we discussed with her how we might help. We have now decided to make a collection of colouring books, coloured pencils and new story books to offer to them at Christmas. Anyone (not just Mothers' Union members) who would like to help with our collection could be part of our project so please consider this later in the year.

Our June meeting on 19th promises to be a special treat as Mr Caddy from Abingdon is coming to give an illustrated talk on English Medieval Cathedrals. Since this is such a fascinating subject we hope that visitors will want to join us. As ever we will be delighted to welcome them.

On June 27th at 7.30 pm Mary Bayliss is planning a Mothers' Union open evening at which she will serve wonderful puddings. Her puddings party, supported of course, by fellow members is a special evening to raise funds (donations) for a Mothers' Union charity close to our hearts, namely Away From It All. This is a scheme to provide holiday breaks especially for families who for a variety of reasons have not been able to get away for a length of time. A bucket and spade holiday for small children or even a quiet break for people with a particular need, these are the kind of things Away From It All Funds.

Rosanne Butler

# Christian Aid Week 2017 (May 14-20)

**BIG BREKKIE** Sunday 14 May, 08.45 - 09.45 St James Centre

31 of us enjoyed bacon butties - special scrambled egg for vegetarians - and fresh fruit added to the usual Sunday croissants, toast, juice and tea/coffee for a very congenial hour between our Sunday services. Catherine Hartley won the breakfast quiz - the first of the all correct answers drawn - with a fairtrade goodie prize: £181

**COFFEE MORNING** Wednesday 17 May, 10.00 - 12.00 88 Temple Road

A wet but well attended, happy morning, with delicious homemade cakes, hosted by Lyn and David Lord: £171

**TEMPLARS SQUARE BUCKET COLLECTION** 20h total, spread through the week

We were granted use of the very smart charity stand outside Bon Marché/the BHF charity shop with a digital screen. We had a display board, bunting, banner, balloons and leaflets - and buckets. We were there for Sunday afternoon; 12.00-2.00 each weekday; all day on Saturday. We enjoyed greetings from friends and some positive conversations - but there were also a few negative ones, on the theme of migration and refugees. It was an educational experience, described in more detail in an article by Rosanne. Liam and Phil, regional members of staff at the Christian Aid office in Oxford, supported us with the rota of 16 collectors.

It was good to have a presence in the Centre but the result was disappointing - an average £16 per hour which is just over half of that collected from 10 local roads by 6 of us last year. We have already begun making suggestions about how we could increase the total next year..... with balloons and cakes to give away, in exchange for a donation - and hopefully some more creative ideas! £320

**THE PARISH SCHOOLS**

All three Parish schools joined us in the commitment to raise funds for Christian Aid Week's refugee emergency fund

Church Cowley St James - a wear red day £290

St Christopher's - a cake sale £210

St Francis - dress as a member of staff day (an idea from the children) £159

**ST JAMES CONGREGATION + FRIENDS**

including one very generous donation £655

TOTAL as at 28.05.17 = £1,986

*With special thanks to all who helped at Templars' Square and organised the special events, including in our schools!*

# DIARY DATES TO REMEMBER

## Mothers' Union

Monthly Meeting on 3rd Monday of month  
from 2.30pm.

19 June 2017 – Speaker will be Mr Chris Caddy on  
English Medieval Cathedrals  
St James Church Centre

## Women's Institute

Monthly Meeting is on 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of month  
from 2 – 4.30 pm

21 June 2017 – Garden Party, a floral Bring and Buy  
Sale, and a Cream Tea  
St James Church Centre

## Gardening

Last Saturday of the month – Gardening at St James  
Church/St James Church Centre

## Mission and Social Planning Meeting

Monday, 5 June 2017, 7.30 pm  
88 Temple Road

## Film Club

Friday, 9 June 2017 – "Chariots of Fire"  
St James Church Centre, commencing at 6.30 pm  
with coffee and cake

## Parochial Church Council

Sunday, 11 June 2017 at 12.45 pm  
St James Church Centre

## Lunch at the Centre

Sunday, 18 June 2017 at 12.45 pm  
St James Church Centre

## Pudding Party Night

Tuesday, 27 June 2017 at 7.30 pm  
The Rectory, Beauchamp Lane

## Christian Aid Quiz Aid

23 June 2017, 7.00 pm  
St James Church Centre

## Weston-Super-Mare Coach Trip

Saturday, 8 July 2017, leaving at 8 am.

## Open Garden

Saturday, 15 July 2017, 2 – 4 pm  
Shirley Costar's home, 187 Oxford Road, Garsington.

## Rising Voices Concert

Saturday, 22 July 2017, at 7.30 pm  
St James Church or Church Centre

## Messy Church

Tuesday, 25 July 2017, 10 am – 2 pm  
St James Church Centre

## Cowley Festival of Christmas Trees 2017

Next Planning Meeting – early September 2017 (date  
to be arranged)  
St James Church Centre

## Saturday, 9 September 2017

Ride and Stride  
Open Doors  
Wedding Festival

REMEMBER – Tuesday Lunches at St James Church  
Centre from 12.30 pm.

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# NO SHAKE OR RATTLE BUT ROLL IF YOU LIKE

Golly, what a jolly couple of hours Pam Treadwell and I spent on 17<sup>th</sup> May collecting for Christian Aid in Templar Square! After having devoured unbelievably gorgeous cakes and coffee at Lyn and David Lord's house I set off to the office at the shopping centre wondering how it would all work out. I was put in the care of Barry who seems to know what makes everything tick and escorted down to the Christian Aid stand. No sooner had he assured me that there were chairs for our comfort than Pam turned up. Armed with our buckets (which we were not allowed to shake or rattle) we were off.

I have an indefatigable opinion that most people are nice and especially those in Cowley – and, yes, they certainly are. People were so generous and about three out of every four that passed me came up with cash. One lady even found to her delight that the new plastic £5 notes slip neatly through the slots in the bucket.

The most delightful people stopped to chat. Pam met half her relations and had a great time. One lady introduced herself as a Christian who had already helped with a Big Brekkie at her church but still wanted to give. On questioned about which church she told me Holy Trinity, Lime Walk in Headington. Whilst she and I were chatting a charming elderly gentleman stopped to pop some cash in, in memory of his little grand-daughter who had died, aged two, of a rare form of cancer. He

showed us a photo of this dear little girl on his i.pad and we agreed that she is certainly a little angel in God's heaven.

Two jolly ladies from Blackbird Leys (one pushing a buggy stopped and we discussed their Christian faith. By this time what with Pam and me the lady from Headington and these two we decided we had got enough to form a prayer group. I was very moved when an Indian couple with an elderly mother emptied their purses and pockets and the gentleman remarked that if we do not help then nothing can be done.

Another lady who was visiting Cowley to spend a day with her grown-up son told me that she is involved with Christian Aid in Newbury. I told her that I was not expecting a contribution but she insisted. By this time my bucket was getting so heavy I could hardly hold it.

Added to this one of my old pupils stopped to give together with her two adorable toddlers, and one lady whose five children I taught donated and passed on lots of news of what they are up to now.

Finally the icing on the cake was when a smart young lady remarked as she tossed coins into the bucket that my purple T-shirt was just my colour and looked very nice. My cup (or should I say my bucket) runneth over.

Rosanne Butler

# BOOK OF THE MONTH

We have not had a Book of the Month for ages – feel free to write to us about any books which you have found of particular interest.

I am going to write about 84 Charing Cross Road by Helene Hanff – the version I obtained was published by Sphere, [www.littlebook.com](http://www.littlebook.com).

A few months ago the Film Club showed the film 84 Charing Cross Road – I had seen it a couple of times before and had also seen the play, many moons ago at the Oxford Playhouse when [Miriam Karlin](#) played Helene Hanff. The last time I was in London I made a point of walking down Charing Cross Road to see No. 84! (It is now a coffee house but it is still the original building in a road undergoing a lot of changes).

In 1949 Helene Hanff wrote to Marks & Co, Booksellers of 84 Charing Cross Road in search of the rare editions she was unable to find in New York – and the book sets out the letters between Helene Hanff and the staff in the shop, particularly Frank Doel.

Imagine my surprise when the book had a second part “The Duchess of Bloomsbury Street, which is the diary Helene Hanff keeps when she comes to London. The sad thing is that by the time she comes in 1971 Frank Doel has died. However, she meets up with his family and many of the staff who worked at the bookshop, publishers, etc and it is an interesting account of her visit.

I read it when I was on holiday recently - well, I read it in an afternoon! I found myself a quiet corner and started to read and did not move until I had finished it (Les thought he had lost me!) I can thoroughly recommend it.

Sally Hemsworth

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## CEF: Community Emergency Food Bank

[www.cefford.co.uk](http://www.cefford.co.uk)

Jane Benyon is once again going a sponsored walk to raise money for CEF. This time they will be walking from Hull to Liverpool, which is a 143 mile trip. She and her husband with their dog Moses will set off on the 20<sup>th</sup> June and finish on the 2<sup>nd</sup> July.

The numbers of people coming to the foodbank continues to be high and a rise in numbers is anticipated during this time of uncertainty during the Brexit negotiations.

If you are able to sponsor her, she would be most grateful if you could complete the sponsorship form – this form will be available at both churches and the St James Church Centre. If, however, you prefer to receive a form via email contact Jane on [info@cefford.co.uk](mailto:info@cefford.co.uk) and she will send it to you electronically.

Like last year, Jane intends to write a weekly blog which she will post on line [www.cefford.co.uk](http://www.cefford.co.uk) so do follow her progress. She feels it is always encouraging to know someone is following their progress.

# FUTURE CHRISTIAN AID EVENTS

QUIZ AID for Christian Aid Friday 30 June, 7.00 pm, St James Centre  
 (note change to previously announced date – one week later)

It's quiz time again – with the famous Rosanne and Frank quiz-master team, a joker to play, nibbles and soft drinks – but by all means bring your own 'something stronger' if that will ease the grey cells, and a raffle of course.

Just £4 per person – arrive with a ready-made team of 6 maximum – or join one when you arrive.

Information from Chris Knevett 01865 778 754 or Lesley Williams 07982 439 828

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WINGWALK for Christian Aid Saturday 2 September 2017 at 12 noon

As there was no Christian Aid abseil this year, I decided I should undertake something just a little more challenging. At the on line auction during the recent Dorchester-on-Thames festival, I 'won' a wingwalk at Chiltern Park Aerodrome, Ipsden, near Wallingford. That means being strapped into a rig, standing on top of a biplane and enjoying a 10 minute flight, which includes steep climbs and a low level fly past for the benefit of spectators. This is assuming that my doctor will declare me fit! I would love you to come and cheer!

The auction fee I paid for the experience went to the Dorchester Festival 2017 charity – the Sue Ryder Home, Nettlebed. But I will be inviting your sponsorship of this somewhat crazy undertaking for Christian Aid on a paper form and I will also have a Just Giving page for Oxfordshire Outdoor Learning Trust, of which I am Secretary – it provides bursaries for underprivileged children young people to attend outdoor learning weeks at the Oxfordshire Outdoor Centres (Yenworthy Lodge, Woodlands, Kilvrough Manor) with their schools

Lesley Williams lesley-jwilliams@btinternet.com  
 07982 439 828

# FROM THE ARCHIVES

COWLEY CHURCH & HOME MAGAZINE

June 1894

## THE PARISH CHURCHYARD

Those persons who have friends resting in the Churchyard, and who do not attend the services in the Church, ought to send a donation to one of the Churchwardens, or the Vicar, or Rev. H. Webb (curate), towards the fund for keeping the graves properly.

During four Sundays the alms will be given from the Church for this purpose, and the money sent can be put in the alms bag at any of the services.

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The Vicar wishes to draw the attention of Churchmen to the manifesto of the Bishops. It puts clearly the real issue before the minds of those who read it. The present Government cannot disestablish the Church, their supporters mainly consist of persons who hate our country, our habits, and our religion. Mr. Asquith, who has charge of the Bill now before Parliament, is a Dissenter of the modern type; he is like Mr. Acland in one particular, that his interest in religion is mainly displayed by his hatred of others. I will not venture to say what both these men would do to the funds of the English Church if they could. At present they are unable to do much mischief. If the time should come when they will have the power, I can only hope that God will raise up true men to fight them in some lawful way. The following is the manifesto:-

### THE DISESTABLISHMENT OF THE CHURCH IN WALES: MANIFESTO BY THE BISHOPS

The following manifesto, signed by the two Archbishops and the whole of the Suffragans of the two provinces, with the exception of the Bishop of Worcester, was recently issued:- The introduction into Parliament by Her Majesty's Government of a Bill for the Disestablishment and Disendowment of the Church in Wales makes it our duty to address the Church. A proposal is made to dismember the Church and to deal with a portion of it in a way detrimental alike to the spiritual, moral, and temporal well-being of many of our parishes.

Its provisions for disestablishment are such as to weaken the Unity of the Church; to endanger the whole relation which ought to exist between the Welsh and English dioceses, for the purpose as well as legal discipline and jurisdiction as of joint deliberation, and consequently for the security of spiritual teaching. Its plan of Disendowment is to alienate for secular purposes those ancient gifts by which the service of God and the pastoral care of Christian people have been for centuries maintained in every parish.

We cannot but look upon these gifts as the heritage of the poor. The poor at once would be denied their legal right to free place in their parish church, to the spiritual services which they have been always able to claim, from the baptism of their children to the burial of their dead, and to the residence among them of a pastor to visit them and minister to their sick and dying.

This proposal relies partly on a statement historically untrue that the Church in Wales is an intruded Church, and partly on the assertion that it is the Church of a small minority; both these things, it is said, make it an alien Church which should now be despoiled.

The fact is that our Church has had a continuous corporate life in Wales longer than in England. Were it dispossessed in Wales an ancient and religious race would be deprived of their earliest, most

sacred institution. The Church there has passed through the same difficulties as in England. Its vigorous quickening in Wales as a spiritual body, fully commensurate as that is with its admitted material development, is due to the spirit and action of the Welsh people and clergy.

That we are ignorant of the real proportions of the religious bodies is due to the persistent refusal of opponents to allow their allegations to be verified by an official census. But there is no proof that Churchmen form a marked minority of the population. Desiring to deal with principles, not particulars, we leave to others to show in detail what would be the economic effects of the Bill. The collection of the unaltered tithe by public officials, and its irregular dispersion, the offer of glebe to parishes for objects which should be and are otherwise provided, the diversion of philanthropic gifts and subscriptions to the necessary maintenance of the Church, the cost of Board schools consequent on the inevitable surrender of so many Voluntary schools – these and many more results we leave to be treated by others. But the direct financial provisions are such as to reduce the Church to penury, and ultimately to leave her with practically no pecuniary resources for her reorganization and work in the future.

The certain conclusion is that the public worship of God would be impeded, the rights which establishment secures to the poor would be extinguished, and the many benefits which endowment brings to their door would be lost.

We therefore wish the poor as well as the rich frankly and fully to consider these things. We desire especially that instructed laymen, no less than clergymen, should reflect how little knowledge of these things exists, and how easily ignorance is misled; and that they should themselves lay the facts openly before the people.

We recommend the clergy, while using every proper opportunity to instruct their parishes, not to take advantage of their position to treat the subjects in sermons; but to keep the house of God sacred from contention even in a good cause. For the present let them never omit the prayer for Parliament, and let them simply after the collect of the day add this: "O Lord, we beseech Thee, let Thy continual pity cleanse and defend Thy Church, and, because it cannot continue in safety without Thy succour, preserve it evermore, by Thy help and goodness, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."

Every man has an interest in the good government of his country. It is not for us to say one word as between the legitimate divisions of political opinion. But the issue now raised stands alone and distinct from Questions of party. And we are bound as trustees of a sacred heritage to call upon every Christian man, Churchman or Nonconformist, who values the inheritance of his fathers, and observes the spiritual work proceeding in his own times, to consider, in God's sight, how the vote he records may preserve or alienate gifts given ages ago, and used ever since for God's service and the people's welfare, may make or avert the most momentous change in our Constitution, may help or hinder the Church of Christ which has come down to us as the spiritual and inspiring force of the nation.

*(Here follow the thirty-three signatures.)*

Rev. G. Moore

Researched by Les Hemsworth

# Update on St James Old School Beauchamp Lane

Most of you will be aware that conversations have been taking place over the future use of the Old School in Beauchamp Lane.

As we go to press, at the beginning of June, the property has gone back onto the market. There is a deadline for bids in early July (the date can be confirmed with Martin Conway at Marriotts).

Just to set the scene. It was used by the school until 1977. At that point there was a commitment that funds raised by the sale of the site would be invested in the current school site in Beauchamp Lane. This would ensure a Christian voice in education into the coming years. Under this commitment, the trustees have to serve those aims. We are therefore tied by charity law. There are no constraints in the deeds of the property for usage. This means it is still open to all bidders. If you know of anybody who might be interested in the site do please point them towards it, and us. Importantly, do please hold the sale in your prayers. Getting the right usage is very important.

The details for the property can be found on the Marriotts' website: [www.marriottsoxford.co.uk](http://www.marriottsoxford.co.uk)

(Link to web site advertisement: <http://www.marriottsoxford.co.uk/portfolio/st-jamess-school-beauchamp-lane-cowley-oxford-ox4-3lf/>)



## Prayer Space

A prayer for Pentecost

Spirit of God, with your holy breath  
you cleanse the hearts and minds of your people;  
you comfort them when they are in sorrow,  
you lead them when they wander from the way,  
you kindle them when they are cold,  
you knit them together when they are at variance,  
and you enrich them with many and various gifts.  
We beseech you daily to increase those gifts which  
you have entrusted to us;  
that with your light before us and within us  
we may pass through this world  
without stumbling and without straying

Erasmus (1466-1536)

Claire Ewers

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# COWLEY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

A delicious lunch to celebrate Cowley Women's Institute's birthday was enjoyed by members and friends in May.

At the meeting afterwards the two Resolutions which were to be debated at the National Annual meeting in Liverpool in June [Alleviating Loneliness and Plastic Soup – keeping microplastic fibres out of our oceans] were discussed and received unanimous support.

Our birthday meeting ended with a delightful demonstration of flower arranging, followed by tea with, of course, birthday cake.

We meet again at 2 pm on Wednesday, 21 June, at the Church Centre where we will be holding a Garden Party, with fun, games, competitions, a floral Bring and Buy Sale, and a cream tea.

Ann Withers

President, Cowley WI-

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## DID YOU KNOW?

The Oxford Mail and Times are offering a service so that you can sign up and discover the latest Public Notices in your area – and you can sign-up for alerts at [www.oxfordtimes.co.uk/announcement/public\\_notices/](http://www.oxfordtimes.co.uk/announcement/public_notices/)

Orinoco Scrapstore is based at the Bullingdon Community Centre, Peat Moors, off The Slade, Headington, and is open 11 am – 4 pm on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. More information can be obtained on [www.orinocoscrapstore.wordpress.com](http://www.orinocoscrapstore.wordpress.com) /telephone 01865 761113 /email: [mail@oxorinoco.org](mailto:mail@oxorinoco.org).

Their mission is to banish boredom and save the planet using creativity and play to inspire the reuse of materials. Over its 23 year history Orinoco has saved lorry loads of interesting resources from ending up in landfill. Their Scrapstore in Headington sells scrap items for art, crafts, play and creative projects as well as new art materials, refurbished tools and DIY stuff.

You don't have to be a member to shop with them, just come along to the store and join in. They are here for everyone: mums, dads, children, young people, teachers, childcare professionals, artists.

They:

- ∅ Collect suitable waste materials from businesses for potential reuse. If your company is paying good money to throw stuff away it's worth calling us to see if we can help find a better use for your rubbish.
- ∅ accept usable garden and workshop tools.
- ∅ hold a monthly 'Swap Shop' on the second Saturday of every month. This is an opportunity to bring usable household items you no longer need and give them away. You can take things away too... All for free.

## RECIPE

Do you shop at the Co-op? Well currently there is a free book called FOOD and in there is a marvellous centre piece telling you what food is available each month of the year (in case you do not know this already!). Get your edition of FOOD and read all about it!



Strawberries – why does this fruit come to the fore (if you are a tennis fan you will know the answer). Perhaps you like strawberries in their natural state with sugar and cream, or you might like to make strawberry jam, perhaps the following recipe will be to your taste (it seems to include both ideas)

### Easy Strawberry Tart:

Ingredients (serves 8)

150g (5 oz) caster sugar

225ml (8 fl oz) water

4 tablespoons strawberry jam

4 tablespoons cornflour

1kg (2 1/4 lb) sliced fresh strawberries

1 (23cm / 9 in) digestive biscuit base

Method (preparation 20 minutes/cooking time 1 minute)

Mix together the sugar, water, jam and cornflour in a medium large saucepan. Boil for one minute. Remove from heat.

Stir in the sliced strawberries, and toss until well coated. Pour into the digestive biscuit base.

Chill until well set. Serve topped with whipped cream.



## WHAT'S ON DURING JUNE

### CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL

Andrew Chamblin Memorial Concert

Tuesday, 6 June 2017 at 8 pm – Free entry

The eleventh annual Andrew Chamblin memorial Concert will be performed by Professor John Butt, OBE, who will play an hour-long programme of Baroque organ works by Bach.

Friends' Summer Party

Saturday, 10 June 2017 at 2 – 4.30 pm

Walk in the Cathedral and Deanery Gardens and hear Professor Simon Hiscock presenting an account of the history of the Oxford Botanic Garden and discussing his vision for its future as a garden of science in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Followed by cream team in the Great Hall.

Tickets £18. For more information or to apply for tickets, contact Elizabeth Harrison, Friends of Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford, OX1 1DP, or email [cathedralfriends@bt.connect.com](mailto:cathedralfriends@bt.connect.com)

### DORCHESTER ABBEY

Choral Society – Byways of Beethoven

Saturday, 10 June 2017, 19.30 – 22.00

Source: Benson Choral Society/01865 407395 (evenings)

Sense and Sensibility - Waynflete Singers concert (tickets now on sale)

Saturday, 17 June 2017, 19:30

Source: [ticketsource.co.uk](http://ticketsource.co.uk)

# Film Club at the Centre

Another good club evening was enjoyed in May when it was proved that an excellent western does not have to be lots of cowboys and Indians galloping across the prairie. Despite some people on holiday and some not too well we had a full audience and donations raised nearly £70 for parish funds.

The film for June is one which has been requested by a number of our members. Most people have already seen it but it is such a classic that it is well worth reviving. The film on June 9th (the day after the election) will be "Chariots

of Fire". The music alone is so familiar and won an academy award for the composer Vangelis. The film won a further three Oscars. It takes us back to the 1924 Olympic Games. For two iconic British athletes, Eric Liddell and Harold Abrahams, the Games presented challenges on the track and in their personal lives. Like many good films it is based on a true incident and all that surrounds it. We look forward to another good club evening.

Rosanne Butler

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## CTF 2017

Friday 8th – Saturday 16th December

Planning is under way: as usual at this stage of the year, we have the dates, an outline of the programme – although we have still to review the opening times, and the core organisers although also as usual we love to be joined by at least a couple more people – particularly someone to spend time on social media and websites to get the word out to the Oxford and world. And someone with sales skills who enjoys approaching companies for sponsorship. Neither of those role holders would need to attend meetings if they couldn't or didn't want to!

The theme is something about Journeys (Mary & Joseph, the Holy Family, the Wise Men, pilgrimage, refugees, personal journeys, the journey of life.....) but we have not yet come up with the zappy 2-4 word title

The next planning meeting will be in early September – date still to be fixed to ensure maximum attendance.

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## INTERESTING ACTIVITIES

Bee-Keeping:

Families have the chance to find out about bee-keeping at a workshop being held at the Oxford City Farm, Cornwallis Road, Florence Park where a "Meet the Bees" event is being held on June 17 at 11 am – a two hour event. Entry is by donation. Email [phil@oxfordcityfarm.org.uk](mailto:phil@oxfordcityfarm.org.uk) if you wish to attend.

Barracks Lane Community Garden, Barracks Lane (off Cumberland Road), OX4 2AP

Open Garden Days run every Saturday from 1<sup>st</sup> April – 28<sup>th</sup> October 2017 from 11 am until 4 pm.

11 am – 1 pm: Coffee and Read the Papers: Chat with friends and maybe try some gardening. The large sandpit is open all day for younger visitors.

1 – 2 pm: Bring a picnic or packed lunch and eat in the cabin or garden.

2 – 4 pm Activities (see [www.barrackslanegarden.org.uk](http://www.barrackslanegarden.org.uk) for more information).

# FALKLANDS ISLANDS ADVENTURE - a very different Easter

It has taken me a while to put my thoughts on paper about this wonderful experience....



Why the trip? My special nephew Matt is an Army Captain (ISS – Signals) and is deployed to Mount Pleasant, FI for just over a year, May 2016 – July 2017, with his wife Rachel and my great-nephews Daniel (7) and Gideon (4). I just *had* to visit them.....

How? On an indulgence (for families) flight from Brize Norton to Mount Pleasant – the base housing 3,000 service personnel and contractors, built after the 1982 war – refuelling on the way out at Ascension Island and on return at Dakar, Senegal. We were delayed for 24h flying out because of a huge storm over Ascension, which caused further serious damage to the runway that was already due for rebuilding in 2020, and for 3 days for the return, whilst the alternative route was found. The plane is an ‘air tanker’ – painted forces grey but crewed by Thomas Cook – quite basic but with far more leg room than a commercial plane, for the comfort of bulky soldiers! And a large hold to take supplies and equipment.

Impressions Have you found the Falklands on a map? A tiny, rocky group of islands dropped in the

South Atlantic; a British Overseas Territory. How did anyone ever find them? The first British landing was in 1690, a French settlement in 1764 and British one in 1766. And *why* did they settle there? For such an insignificant colony, they have had a colourful history. There are still only 2,000 inhabitants : 1,600 in Stanley, 200 scattered around East Falkland, many of whom are contract workers from UK and elsewhere, including St Helena; 200 on West Falkland and a few of the tiny islands. The roads are unsurfaced apart from some stretches of the Stanley to Mount Pleasant route: the island’s contract company has to surface one mile of the 35 mile distance each year – and it’s ad hoc as to which mile they choose – they were just finishing 2017’s mile when I was there – it did join with one of the previous years but is certainly not continuous!

There are lots of sheep – the second source of income after fishing and along with tourism – some cows and horses; undersea oil is being investigated and is likely to be developed. But they rely on supplies, mainly from the UK , by air (flights are twice a week) and ship – every 3-4 months. All the shops – the base NAAFI & in Stanley (amazingly, there’s a Waitrose!) - were out of several items such as



crème fraiche! Most fruit and vegetables are expensive; wine is cheap.

**The 1982 War** I had to relearn the disturbing details of the lead up to and the 74 days of conflict. Whilst there, I read '74 days' – the diary of John Smith, a Stanley resident, with amazing detail of life during the occupation – some amusing but much of it shocking – and the town came within a day of being wiped out, before the Argentine surrender. It was very moving to live the experience and realise just how much had to be cleared and rebuilt across the island – but life has never been the same for them. Matt, Daniel & I hiked the route of the battle of Mount Tumbledown, which included some 'yomping' over the rough terrain, with no marked paths. There are several poignant memorials and weapon dumps along the way.

**The Stanley museum**, founded by the diarist John Smith, is excellent with sections on the settlement's early history, the wildlife, shipping and fishing, the War and the Antarctic (FI is still a stopping off point for expeditions as well as cruise ships). We visited Darwin, Goose Green and San Carlos – such tiny, peaceful settlements – it was impossible to imagine the impact of the invasion on the farming, fishing residents.

**Wildlife & geology** There is very little vegetation apart from tussac grass but the rocky landscape is striking and the coast, beaches and skies are stunning. I got close up to lots of Gentoo penguins and just a couple of solo Magellanic but most of those, the Kings and the Rockhoppers had migrated north. We had an army helicopter trip to Cape Dolphin where we hoped to see sea lions and seals ..... but didn't; and our whale watch was cancelled because of strong winds – there's a lot of wind! But I did see dolphins – Rachel and some friends stood in the sea with them



but it was too cold for me. There are lots of birds and tiny wildflowers and beautiful lichen. The temperature and rainfall are in fact very similar to the UK – it's just very exposed

**Life on the base** I had only ever visited the family for day trips in the UK so it was interesting to experience a little of forces life. The children were still in school when I arrived so I got to explore it (but not teach!) and share their end of term Easter bonnet parade and treasure hunt.... then to help tidy the school polytunnel and produce Link in the school office! Rachel is the School Business Manager! The school is very well resourced as they must always be ready for an influx of children. One sadness was that I didn't worship at the base church as we were out and about on Good Friday and Easter Day.

Altogether a happy, educational, inspiring experience – which is still going round in my head.

Lesley Williams

**THE HILL END CENTRE – FFENNELL FESTIVAL** Saturday 24 June, 10.00-10.00

*'A place of possibilities'*

'Celebrating the past, present and future' of what many of you will have known as 'Hill End Camp' on the Eynsham Road, just before Farmoor. The outdoor school site, founded by the ffennell family – Raymond, his wife Hope and daughter Hazel – in the 1930s, along with Wytham Woods, was bequeathed to the University of Oxford by Raymond ffennell and has been leased, originally by Oxford City Council and latterly by Oxfordshire County Council, and run as an OCC facility.

As from 1st July, it will become a charitable trust – still offering the same inspiring and exciting opportunities to children, young people and the people of Oxfordshire.

The ffennell Festival will offer the opportunity to explore the site – the updated but still basic dormitory buildings, the swimming pool, the toadstool ring at the top of the hill as well as many new facilities – along with participation in a range of activities for all ages (see the poster) and live local music, 12 noon-7.00 pm. Then

there will be an evening gig, 7.00-10.00 pm, featuring Andy Williams (from Hot Chocolate) and his band Plus Quint Starkie.

The ticket cost is just £5 for the whole day and evening and free for under 16s, free parking.

Book on line: [www.hillend-oec.co.uk](http://www.hillend-oec.co.uk) or buy tickets from Lesley Williams





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Tickets will also be available on the gate for £6

Lesley Williams, Chair – Friends of Hill End [friendsof-hillend@gmail.com](mailto:friendsof-hillend@gmail.com)

## UNA'S CORNER

It is lovely that Una is in touch with the Chronicle Team on a regular basis, and some of the things she has corresponded about are shown below. Many thanks Una – we look forward to more news/stories in the future.

Most important is that Una's email is changing as the server she has been with forever is going down. Her new email address is [Una.deanery@gmail.com](mailto:Una.deanery@gmail.com).

She has also let me have the following:

"I wish to thank all my friends at St James' and the Lunch Club for all the good wishes on my birthday, the card, the singing and all the goodwill. Thank you all very much."

"I am sure a number of us remember Linda and Peter Hunter, faithful members of our church and a very caring and helpful young couple. We heard from Linda on Saturday that Peter had died, he was fifty one.

Peter was driving a large lorry and felt bad pain in his chest, he drew into the side and called an ambulance. The paramedics worked on him for forty five minutes and then he was flown to Norwich Hospital here he was pronounced dead on arrival. It was, of course, a heart attack.

Please keep Linda and Peter in your prayers."

Una has many memories of Old Cowley and the following is one of many which will follow in future editions of The Chronicle:

In my grandfather's and father's time a number of Cowley men were college servants. A number of them were chefs, including some of my own family. In the long vacation these chefs used to go down to the hotels on the South coast and work as carvers in the big hotels. The men had to leave some money for the wives and families to live on and the amounts varied. One man who had several children plus one which would be born while he was away gave his wife a sovereign before he went off for the Summer. She was the richest woman in Cowley!"

## Shaun Guard

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# SUNDAY SERVICES

## ST JAMES CHURCH, BEAUCHAMP LANE

8.00am Holy Communion  
10.00am Sung Eucharist  
1.45pm Anglican Asian Living Church  
Sunday Lunch – the date varies so watch for notices

## ST FRANCIS CHURCH, HOLLOW WAY

10.30am Parish Eucharist  
2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday All Age bring n/share lunch

## MID-WEEK SERVICES & MEETINGS

Morning Prayer	7.45am 8am	Mon, Wed, Thu at St James; Tue, Sat at St James
Monday	10.00-11.30am	Little Stars Playgroup— St Francis
	2.30pm	Parish Mothers' Union— St James (3rd Monday)
Tuesday	10.00am	Seashells Toddler Group— St James
	12.00pm	Eucharist—Ranklin Room, St James Church Centre
	12.30pm	Tuesday Lunch Club— St James
Thursday	2-4pm	Prayer Space—St Francis
	7.00pm	Cowley Parish Healing Service St Francis (1st Thursday)
	7.30pm	Local House of Prayer, St James

## HOME GROUPS

Leader	Time/Venue
Connie Uren	Alternate Tuesday afternoons at 2.30pm St James Church Centre, Ranklin Room
Friends of St Francis (John Shreeve)	2nd & 4th Tuesday afternoons at 2.30pm St Francis Church
Geoff Bayliss	Alternate Wednesdays at 10am St James Church Centre, Ranklin Room
Mark Oxbrow	Alternate Wednesday evenings at 7.30pm Mark's home, 13 Annesley Road (just behind the Rose Hill Coop). Enquiries to Mark at 01865 461953
Rosanne Butler	Alternate Thursday mornings at 10.00am St James Church Centre, Ranklin Room
Catherine / William Hartley	Thursdays at 8.00pm, Catherine Hartley 07792 104448 William Hartley 07751 939092

The Parish Office in St James Church  
Centre is open:

Tuesday, 2—5pm  
Wednesday, 10—1pm  
Friday, 9—2pm

The Parish Office is currently staffed by  
volunteers and members of the ministry  
team.

Contact details: Tel: 01865 747680  
Email: [office@cowleyteamministry.co.uk](mailto:office@cowleyteamministry.co.uk)  
Out of hours tel: 07501 908378  
Website: [www.cowleyteamministry.co.uk](http://www.cowleyteamministry.co.uk)

### Team Rector:

The Revd Canon Dr Geoffrey Bayliss  
Tel: 01865 747680 (o) 01865 778596 (h)  
Email: [rector@cowleyteamministry.co.uk](mailto:rector@cowleyteamministry.co.uk)

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### Churchwardens:

Christine Woodman Tel: 778078  
Vacancy

Deputy Wardens  
Margaret Martin Tel: 718532

### St James Church Centre Manager:

Chris Woodman Tel: 778078

### Hall Bookings:

Church Centre: Pat Sansom Tel: 778516  
St Francis Church/St James Church:  
through Parish Office

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