



## St James first Saturday



## café



### Saturday 1st July

10:00 to 12:00



St James Church  
Beauchamp Lane  
OX4 3LF



join us for a Saturday morning chat  
with tea or coffee and a slice of  
homemade cake  
activities for children



# From the Editors

*Sally Hemsworth and Nicki Stevens*

Welcome to the June edition of the Cowley Chronicle – we hope you enjoy it.

May seems to have passed very quickly with so many Bank Holidays and church activities – and now we are finalising the June Chronicle with information on the events which took place. Congratulations on the success of the Spring Fair and the Christian Aid activities (where the playing of the Gospel Jazz Project was an inspired addition).

June is also a very busy month for church events – see Dates to Remember and posters in the church buildings. It looks like volunteers will be requested!!

We do hope you have a lovely June – remember if you have ideas for articles or, indeed, articles themselves these would be very welcome especially as the July/August edition is the double edition.

Nicki and Sally

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## MOTHERS' UNION NEWS

The May meeting of our little diocesan prayer group saw us on the move again. We met in the beautiful old parish church of Sandford-on-Thames. The church dates from the eleventh century and is dedicated to St Andrew. After our regular prayer session, we learnt quite a bit about the history of the little church and its connection with the ancient abbey of St. Mary's in Abingdon.

After a wander round the church, we went by car to the impressive Sandford village hall where there is a community shop and a lovely tearoom. Our tea was much enjoyed, especially with homemade shortbread or carrot cake. The volunteers who run the shop were pleased to see us and invited us to 'come again'. *That, I'm sure, is guaranteed.*

Our June meeting will be another 'come again' occasion, as the lovely people who we met at Littlemore church back in the winter, have invited us to take another look at the extensive work that has been done there. We are also promised a special tea. *We do seem to be getting a bit spoilt!*

Rosanne Butler

## A word from the Rectory

He has told you, O man, what is good;  
and what does the Lord require of you  
but to do justice, and to love kindness,  
and to walk humbly with your God?

Micah 6:8

For me the month of May has been like no other. It has provided opportunities that I had not expected, and it has bought the sadness of the death of a mother. As I write on the first day of June, I am glad time allows us to have conversations that we so easily miss. If you get the chance, ask the difficult questions. What do we believe happens when we die? What do we want at our funeral? What do we want done with our ashes or remains. So easily we, being very British, back away from these things.

The prophet Micah asked God what was required on him. God's message came back in simple terms: *"do justice, love kindness, walk humbly with your God"*

We may walk with people along a path or up a mountain side, but so often it is simply being alongside them. Walking with each other is such an important act. But is it part of our Christian calling?

God walking with us is a recurring image in scripture. Look at Psalm 23. *The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want..... he leadeth me beside the still waters. ....he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.*

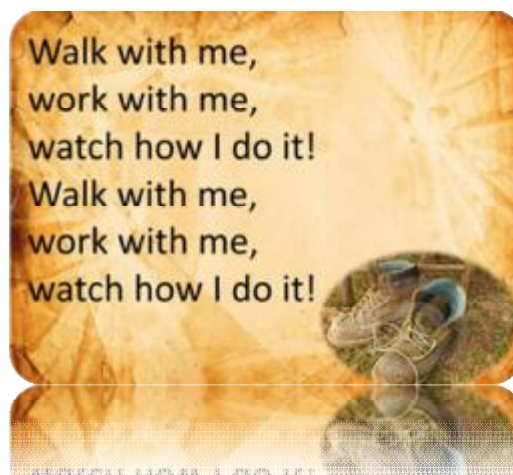
God walking with us is epitomized with Jesus walking, for 3 years, with 12, or more, disciples.

Where we are called to be more Christ like for the sake of God's world there is no doubt that walking with those we love and care for is part of the work Christ gives us. It is even more so when we walk with those we struggle to get along with. In the sermon on the mount as Jesus tells us 'If anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to them the other cheek also. And if anyone wants to sue you and take your shirt, hand over your coat as well.'" He also says "If anyone forces you to go one mile, go with them two miles."

Having arrived in Oxford, Mum journeyed with us for 10 days. They were unique days. They were special. Along the road we talked about things we could so easily have missed. Take a chance and have some of those conversations with those you walk with today.



Benson Cottage



## FAIRTRADE - where are we with it as a Church and Parish?

We must not relax now that we have earned our 'Fairtrade Places of Worship' status, as we declare we are living by the Kingdom principles of caring for those who produce, process and transport our food and other goods. We must work harder to understand more about and respond to trading issues; the impact of climate change on essential crops around the world and the role we can play in lobbying for fairer practice.



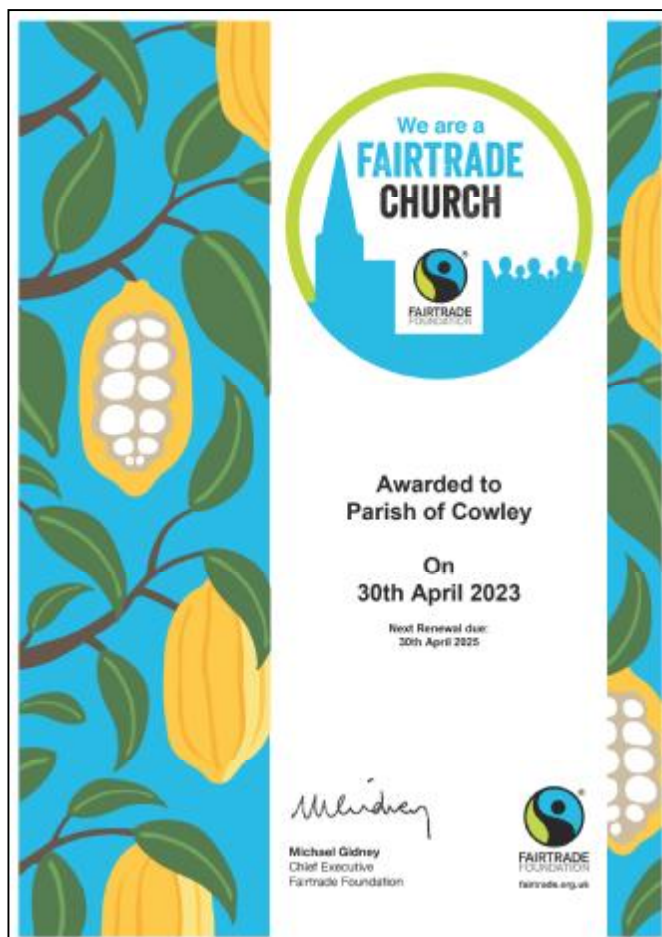
<https://www.fairtrade.org.uk/Get-Involved/In-your-community/Faith-Groups/>  
<https://www.fairtrade.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Fairtrade-Places-of-Worship-recommitment-guide-2021.pdf>

We confirm that we will stock the kitchen in both churches and St James Centre *only* with those fairtrade products which are readily available in the shops so *all such purchases for and donations to kitchen supplies should be Fairtrade, please.* Yes, it may cost us a little more, but it saves lives and livelihoods.

Any non-Fairtrade donated items of goods which can easily be found in the shops will be graciously received but passed on to the Community Emergency Foodbank. Note that the Co-op and Sainsbury's, along with Headington Fairtrade are suppliers.



As a Fairtrade place of worship, we also commit to including the fair trade message regularly in our Parish literature, displays and services and promote it whenever applicable.



## CHILDREN'S CORNER

I don't know whether you like history at school but I do know that the small amount that I learned at school was useful. But there was so much more that happened and seemed a lot more interesting when I was able to have time to read about it, after I had left school. I am still learning about many things that happened during my lifetime that I couldn't understand when they happened. Now that I can read about all the 'secrets' that were hidden away or not allowed to be talked about, what appeared to be a jigsaw with many pieces missing, suddenly changes to a richer picture. Even some stories from within our own family. There are some really funny stories hidden in the history books! Ask the librarian for one to borrow.

In fact, quite a lot of history has happened in our family over the last few weeks. In February, the first baby girl was born to one of my granddaughters (my great-grand daughter), and I had the opportunity of meeting her over the last weekend in May. During the same week, another granddaughter received her Masters (MA) degree from a University in the USA and it would have been the 65th wedding anniversary of my wife and I getting married at St James Church. That may be personal history but in all three cases different things led up to the events happening. And of course, history is happening all the while because time does not stand still.

This baby girl will grow up, learning what is good or bad. She hopefully will grow into a young lady who studies so that she may take her place in this world, learning about life and history and right and wrong. There is so much to learn even if you learn quite a lot

before you go to school, and may even be able to read. Then with further study, and a little fun and play, you will grow up to be a young person who is able to do many things if you work hard and follow the teacher and the rules correctly. If you have to stop for some reason (and it may be good to take a break) don't worry, because many people change their type of work several times and are appreciated, because they have all kinds of 'extra' experiences.

When you think your 'working life' is finished, and you have retired, you start all over again, doing even more volunteering or something entirely different. This probably could be even more enjoyable than anything else that you did when you were 'working'. You can't always get the job you would like at the time when you want it for all sorts of reasons. If you are half as lucky as I have been with my career, you will count your blessings. If at any time you feel that you have had a tough time, have a word with an older person who is living alone. They will show you how you really are blessed to be in this area with so many opportunities to learn and love - and share the blessings with them.

Even talking with them will show how much *you* care for *them*. You may be the first to talk to them that day.....and don't forget to smile.

Take care,

Uncle Ben

Editors' Note:

A great-granddaughter is the daughter of a grand-daughter, which means that Uncle Ben must be a very old man and very lucky (*which he says he is*).

# BEETLE PARTY

Saturday 17 June 2023 - 3.00-5.00 pm

St Francis Church

It's a while since we played Beetle so it's time for a party!

It's always noisy, somewhat chaotic and the best of fun: four people with a beetle card each and a dice at every table - you draw the beetle according to your dice throws (1 x 6 = body, 1 x 5 = head, 1 x 4 = tail, 6 x 3 = legs, 2 x 2 = antennae, 2 x 1 = eyes, total = 13) – everyone stops when the first person shouts that they have completed their beetle – the winner and loser from each table move up or down

Prizes for winning, losing and the most creative beetles.

Tea and cake will be served – toys out for younger children

FREE but donations of course invited – including on home-made cakes.



**Beetle party  
with cake**

01865 747 680  
[www.cowleyteamministry.co.uk](http://www.cowleyteamministry.co.uk)



**St Francis Church  
Hollow Way, OX3 7JF  
Saturday 17 June  
3:00 – 5:00  
an all age event with prizes**



# PENTECOST – SERVICE AT ST JAMES

The congregation processed from the Nave via the North Door (to avoid the steps) with a lighted candle where the Blessing was given by Mark, who had taken the Communion part of the service, and Geoff had preached. Chronicle material. The picture shows the service continuing in the churchyard,



## CHRONICLE

Editorial Team- Sally Hemsworth, Nicki Stevens

Deadline for the next edition: Monday 19 June 2023

If possible, please send entries by email to Sally at [office@cowleyteamministry.co.uk](mailto:office@cowleyteamministry.co.uk). Paper contributions should be left at Parish Office for the attention of Sally.

The Editorial Committee in no way accepts responsibility for goods or services supplied by our advertisers, errors and omissions excepted.

# COMMUNITY HUB DAY



COMMUNITY HUB DAYS

A day of free drop-in activities,  
food and information for everyone

Mondays 5 June / 3 July

### The Ark-T Centre

Under 5s  
Soft Play  
9.30-11.30am

Under 6s  
Stories and Crafts  
9.30-11.30am

Collaborative Music  
Workshop  
1-3pm

Pay-as-you-eat  
meal  
12-2pm

Adults Art and Craft  
Class  
3.30-5.30pm

Bite-size Talks and  
games  
1.15pm  
Dementia - friendly  
social  
2-3pm

### The Venue

Dementia info  
and advice  
10-11am

1d Benefits, debt &  
housing advice  
10-11am

1d debt help  
10-11am

Talking Cafe  
Activities +  
support group  
10-12pm

#### ARK-T CENTRE

Crowell Road, Oxford OX4 3LN

In collaboration with:



DONNINGTON  
DOORSTEP

OXFORD COMMUNITY  
ACTION



For more info contact: [tony@ark-t.org](mailto:tony@ark-t.org) / 01865 772095  
[ark-t.org/community-hub-days](http://ark-t.org/community-hub-days)

ArkTOxford





## COMMUNITY CAFES IN COWLEY

You may have noticed that the café at Ark-T, John Bunyan Baptist Church has been closed for the last couple of weeks because Waste2Taste has moved to Shotover View flats, Crauford Road, OX4 2SQ where there is a wonderful, well-equipped kitchen and café space, which is open to the public as well as the lucky residents of Shotover View. Sandra of Waste2Taste and Kay, the Manager of Shotover View, are excited about developing community activities as well as offering food to all local families. They are already planning work with St Francis School, which is just over the road! There will be a first Friday of the month community 'pay-what-you-can' lunch.

Meanwhile the Ark-T space is being taken over by OCA, Oxford Community Action, another member of the OX4FoodCrew and the first Monday of the month Community Hub 'pay-what-you-can' lunch days will continue.

Both organisations use food supplied by the Oxford Food Hub which distributes surplus food from supermarkets and wholesalers and have a focus on addressing food poverty in OX4 as well as community cohesion.

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## SAFEGUARDING IN COWLEY PARISH

We intend that St James, St Francis and the Anglican Asian Living Church will be safe, caring communities which provide a loving environment where there is a culture of 'informed vigilance' as to the dangers of abuse, including domestic violence and bullying.

We will challenge any abuse of power, especially by anyone in a position of trust in our churches.

We follow "statute, guidance and recognised good practice" in all our safeguarding procedures and check that all users of our premises also agree to do so.

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility – *please be sure to report anything you observe that worries you about someone's safety or wellbeing whilst at church or on-line.*

Lesley Williams 01865 779 562 07982 439 828

[safeguarding@cowleyteamministry.co.uk](mailto:safeguarding@cowleyteamministry.co.uk)

# A WARTIME CHILDHOOD

(Part 30)

As those long war years dragged on, by the end of 1944 grownups began to talk about '*the turning of the tide*'. As a little girl I realised they meant that the war might soon be over – and so it was. Spring of 1945 saw hopeful headlines in our daily newspaper of the allied troops moving through Europe on their way to central Germany. On 7<sup>th</sup> May that year, at nine o'clock, the BBC broadcast that it was all over – and the next day would be known as 'VE Day' (victory in Europe) and it would be a day off work and school so that we could all celebrate! Of course, living in the country as we did, we knew that the farmers and their workers would need to feed their livestock and milk the cows, but for the rest of us – how would we celebrate?

I still recall my daddy running up our cottage stairs after he had heard the nine o'clock news to tell me (almost asleep) that there would be no school tomorrow because the war was over. So, although I loved my schooldays, I woke up on the 8<sup>th</sup> May (just a couple of weeks before my ninth birthday) to one of the happiest days of my life!

It was a fine spring day, I remember, so after breakfast I decided that one of my best dolls needed some new clothes. I sat myself down on the step of our little cottage and had just got myself into my sewing when round the corner of the lane came a group of my friends from the village leading 'Jubilee', our lovely old carthorse, with an empty cart. One of the lads ran up our path and called "Rosanne, do you want to come and help us get wood for the bonfire?"

"Bonfire? What bonfire?" I wondered. "There's going to be a big bonfire on the Green after dark tonight," he told me. Well, I did no more than run indoors to get my mummy's permission, dump my sewing things and dash

off to join them.

Over the winter the farm workers had been cutting back the hedges in the top fields and the farmer had given permission to use the cuttings to help build the victory bonfire. Well, it took us ages to load up the cart and troop back to the village with the branches and twigs – and to our amazement, when we got there a group of men had begun to stack up lots of stuff and the bonfire was going to be *huge*.

I ran home for lunch and was thrilled to hear mummy and daddy planning to take me down to the village in the evening for celebratory drinks at The Red Lion. I was in seventh heaven, and I'll tell you why. Every Sunday after evensong (especially in the summer) we would come out of church and hear the fun and games that families were having outside the pub. In the garden, on the forecourt, *wherever*, children would be having a high old time while their parents were drinking inside. I used to beg my parents to join them, and the answer was always – 'NO'. They were never going to sit in a pub drinking while their little daughter sat outside with a bag of crisps and a bottle of 'pop'. So, it was always home for supper, bedtime, and school in the morning. However, tonight my dream would be coming true!

In the afternoon the church bells rang and that was wonderful, for they had not been rung throughout the war. Then later on – it was time to get ready for the celebrations in the village. All the dark 'blackout' curtains had been removed from the cottage windows and for the first time in years, the village had twinkling candles and lamps on their windowsills.

When we got to the pub, I joined the gang of village children already there and my parents went inside. One of the older boys had brought his bike with him and he let me sit on the

crossbar, thus making me high enough to see mummy and daddy through the window. They handed my bag of crisps and bottle of pop out to me, and I was in heaven. After lots of drinking and singing songs such as 'Roll out the barrel', 'Down at the old Bull & Bush' and practically *all* of Vera Lynn's repertoire, it got dark and the enormous bonfire was lit.

As the flames leapt into the evening sky, everyone rushed out of the pub and onto the village green with glasses in their hands.

Naturally, we children were there too. Mrs. Brain, the publican, came out with big jugs of beer and soon everyone got very merry. After years of dark, worrying nights, this was just full of pure joy.

Gradually things quietened down. 'Knees up, Mother Brown' had been sung to exhaustion and it was time for bed. My last memory of that happy day was of hearing the church clock strike twelve – as I was tucked up in bed.

Rosanne Butler

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## THOUGHTS

### CARRY THEM IN – ANY WAY YOU CAN

*"For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost." Luke 19 : 10*

Jesus never called anyone bad. He called them lost. Lost their way, lost their self-confidence, lost control of their lives and in some cases, lost their reason to live. That's why He told his disciples, "I will make you fishers of men." (Mt 4:19).

*Note – He said we are to fish for them, not hunt them down or shoot them!*

Now, a fisherman who can't catch fish won't stay in business for long. There's a little restaurant called Mr John B's, which has a rusty roof and rickety walls, but people come from everywhere and line up because the food and the service are wonderful.

When the church stops blaming its customers and starts changing its menu and its service, we'll have no trouble filling the pews.

One day, four men carried their sick friend to Jesus because he couldn't get there by himself. (Mk 2:3). They had to hold him steady, hold him tight and hold him until Jesus touched him.

There it is – most people can't get to Jesus on their own, so you will have to carry them in prayer, carry them in compassion, carry them in agreement, carry them in your car – just get them to him. Once you do, He will do the rest.

*Who do you need to bring to Jesus today?*

## INTERFAITH FRIENDSHIP WALK

Thursday 15 June 2023 organised by the Oxford Council of Faiths

Walk all the way or join along the way:

- ∅ starting at the Jewish Centre, Richmond Road, Jericho - 5.45 for 6.00 pm
- ∅ walking to St Giles Church; down St Giles and through Broad Street to St Mary the Virgin, Radcliffe Square.
- ∅ refreshments there provided by the University Church.
- ∅ continue down High Street and Iffley Road to the Medina Mosque, Stanley Road, at around 8.00
- ∅ with a meal provided by the Moslem and Jewish communities

Donations collected on the walk will be for the DEC's fund for refugees from Ukraine, Syria and Turkey.

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## PERSONALLY SPEAKING

SIGNIFICANT BIRTHDAYS: congratulations on reaching four score years to Diane Jewell (20 June) and Margaret Weller (27 June).

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**Kate Reid MCFHP MAFHP  
07952127534**

**[kate@nurturefootcare.co.uk](mailto:kate@nurturefootcare.co.uk)**

## LESLEY WILLIAMS CYCLED 560 MILES IN MAY FOR TRANSFORM TRADE

The target was 500 miles, which was reached on Saturday 27 May, with only three days in the month when she wasn't on her bike – the minimum was 8.06 and maximum 38.32, which was to Woodstock and a circuitous return.

Lesley hadn't really meant to seek sponsorship, particularly with May being the month of Christian Aid Week – just to donate herself for the 'pleasure' of the challenge – but she was encouraged by the Transform Trade Team Trek to set up an online page - <https://www.facebook.com/donate/984533992494591/> and there's also a paper form.

Lesley's target is £500; at the time of writing, the pot contains £230 plus gift aid. It will remain open until mid-June.

The Transform Trade Team Trek team distance goal was 8,000km, which is equivalent to the distance the very first fairly traded Traidcraft products covered from Bangladesh to Newcastle, Traidcraft's HQ, in the 1970s.

<https://www.transform-trade.org/trek>

# | Transform | Trade \_\_\_\_\_

Transform Trade is a global community of farmers, workers, collectives, campaigners, donors and supporters working together for trade that values people over profit.

Right now, corporate greed and destruction still dominate the world of trade. But there is another way to do business. It's called people centred trade.

Whilst Traidcraft the catalogue and on line shop has gone, elements of the brand will continue with Transform Trade being authorised by the Fairtrade Foundation to use it for Christmas - and maybe other – cards.

Transform Trade is working to support those companies which were supplying Traidcraft to find new markets and outlets; they will be able to endorse companies and license products. And they are building partnerships with the several other fairtrade organisations: Ethical Superstore, Fairtrade Warehouse, Oxfam, True Origin, JTS and the BAFTS (British Association of Fairtrade Shops and Suppliers)

While elements of fair trade have been mainstreamed, there is much more to do: a current focus is on charcoal and coffins!

# Prayer Space

A simple life is all I ask  
that God will grant this day.  
Just enough to meet my need  
and some to give away.  
Just enough and some to share  
with those whose bowl is empty.  
Compared to many in this world  
I know that I have plenty.  
I am grateful for the things I have,  
I have no need for more.  
I pray my heart will always be  
an ever-open door,  
to welcome friends and strangers  
that I meet along life's way.  
And as I do, I'm sure I'll meet  
With Christ each day.  
For I am certain beyond doubt  
that I am rich indeed.  
For Jesus gives me joy and peace  
and everything I need.

Margaret Shoemark  
(From "Dear Lord" the MU prayer book)

\*\*\*\*\*

Lord Jesus Christ,  
you came to our world as light in its darkness.  
You came out of love,  
bringing life, hope and forgiveness.  
You came not to condemn but to save,  
Not to judge but to show mercy.  
You came willingly enduring darkness,  
the darkness of loneliness and rejection, of betrayal and denial, of suffering and humiliation,  
of fear and death, of all our human sinfulness carried on your shoulders.  
Lord Jesus Christ,  
I thank you,  
I praise you,  
and I worship you.

Amen

Taken from 'Prayerfully Yours' by Nick Fawcett

Gracious God,  
when I am uncertain of the way ahead,  
give me guidance, and when I feel discouraged, give me fresh inspiration.  
May the knowledge of your unfailing love give me confidence that, whatever problems I might  
face, and whatever sorrows might befall me, I shall still find reason to believe in the future you  
hold in store.

Amen

Taken from 'Prayerfully Yours' by Nick Fawcett"

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## SMILE

### WISE WORDS

Programme your video with love.

Change your channels with compassion.

Talk to your answering machine.

Make love to your CD-Rom drive. (*Switch off the power first.*)

You could search the net for a thousand years and still not find the website that speaks to  
you!

Surf your inner-net for five minutes every night and you will always find a website that will  
give you the attention you deserve. It will probably look like this: [www.me.com](http://www.me.com).

### THE 'ME' I USED TO BE

I'm not the 'me' I used to be, the mirror tells me so.

But underneath, the face I see is the me I used to know.

Little friends I knew so well, picnics in the park,

Sandwiches and lemonade, "be back again before it's dark".

We rolled down mounds we thought were hills, leaves tangled in our hair.

But we were having so much fun – *we really couldn't care.*

Years roll by, balance gone, a walker's my trusty steed.

But how I wish I could dance again, or at least put on some speed!

But I'll go and put the kettle on and make a cup of tea – and bring back more memories

Of the 'me' I used to be!

Written by a lady in Australia

# .CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP

## Giving and Christian Stewardship

Those of us who have struggled with our weight will know well that it is not simply a case of going on a diet for the odd week or two, but of re-educating ourselves in our eating habits that will really transform our situation and bring about a permanent improvement in our health.

A similar programme of re-education needs to be undertaken with regards to Christian Stewardship. Too many still regard this means of extricating a parish from its financial problems, as a 'Crash Diet' for a week or two and not as a way of life in a response to God, a steady programme of growth in Christian discipleship.

## Christian Stewardship is a response to God

The Christian understanding of Stewardship is derived from the revelation of God to which the Bible bears witness. God is the Creator of all things and the Lord of all history. In Jesus Christ he acted to save the world. Through the Holy Spirit, he is at work in the Church and in the world – to fulfil his purposes.

### *God the Creator*

Because God is the Creator and has given men and women a special place in his purposes on earth and dominion over all other living creatures, men and women are called:

- to worship God and to give thanks for his goodness.
- to use the natural world and other living creatures in the service of God and all people and not for self-interest and exploitation.

### *God the Saviour*

Because God has made himself known most fully in Jesus Christ, and has acted uniquely and decisively in him to save the world and to give forgiveness, grace and eternal life, men and women are called:

- to put their trust in God and live in companionship with Jesus Christ.
- to follow Jesus in showing love to others; to use their minds, bodies and possessions to glorify God and to give practical help to people in need.

### *God the Holy Spirit*

Because God has formed the Church, entrusted the Church with the Gospel and given gifts to men and women through the Holy Spirit:

- the Church is called to make Jesus Christ and the Gospel known.
- Individual Christians are called to use their gifts in his service.

## A response in active giving

So – the Christian seeks to give, because God has given to us. "We love, because he first loved us".

To describe our response and love, we use the words "Christian Stewardship". We do so because the word 'steward' is used in the Bible to express the concept of responsibility for the



use of material possessions and spiritual powers.

Christian Stewardship may therefore be defined as the response which, we the Church, collectively and individually, are called to make to God for all that he has given us and done for us, above all in Jesus Christ.

In this response:

we worship God with praise and thankfulness.

we look on the universe as God's creation.

we treat the earth and its resources as God's provision for the needs of all humankind.

we regard our lives, our powers, our possessions, as gifts from God to be enjoyed and used in his service.

we seek to share in Christ's mission to the world.

Our response in Christian Stewardship is therefore active:

as we respond to God in praise and thanksgiving.

as we look on the universe as God's creation.

as we treat the earth and its resources as God's provision for the needs of all humankind.

as we consecrate our personal wealth to God.

as we regard our lives, our powers and possessions, our money and material wealth as gifts from God to be enjoyed and used in his service.

as we seek to be 'Stewards of the Gospel' and to share in Christ's mission to the world.

A Christian Stewardship Mission is an effective method of teaching the principles of Christian Stewardship and of encouraging Church people to face up to the challenge which is involved.

It means giving time to God:

In public and private prayer, acknowledging his claims on us.

Giving him the opportunity to speak to us.

Giving him service (that is, the service to our neighbour) a proper place in our daily lives.

It means making an honest assessment of our abilities and the gifts God has given us and putting them to work!

For each Christian is a member of the Body of Christ and as such has a particular function to perform – just as the ear or hand in a human body.

It means regarding our money and our material possessions as a trust from God, to be used for his work in the world.

Unless our money gift has cost us something, it is not really a thanksgiving but more like a tip. And one of the tensions in our discipleship lies in whether we live our life and give to God the odd crumb, or whether we give to God first, and then manage the rest. If Christian disciples do the first, they will never be satisfied. If they do the second, they will always have enough!



## CHRISTIAN AID

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK Sunday 14 - Saturday 20 May 2023

THANK YOU to all who were involved in our Cowley CAW:

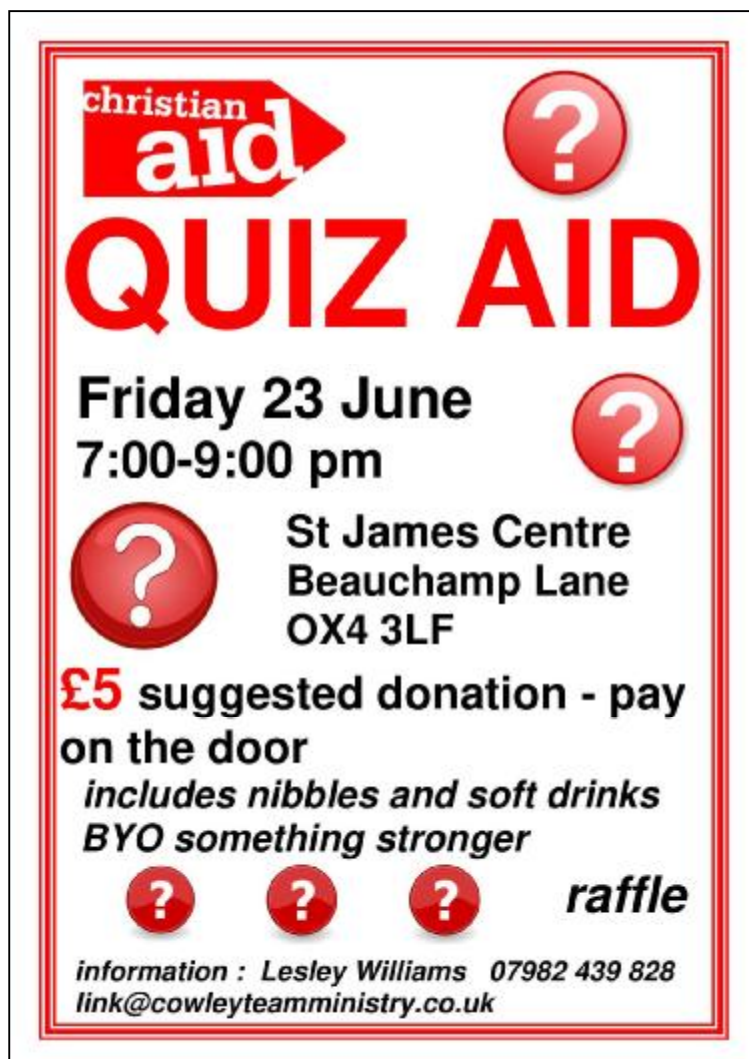
- ∅ those who labelled and delivered 'delivery only' envelopes to the 18 streets we covered
- ∅ those who offered time to person a stall in Templar's Square – although it became instead a 5 day display with bunting, balloons, banner, posters, leaflets and envelopes without any of us spending time there with it – thank you to Templars Square Management for allowing that
- ∅ St Christopher's, St Francis and Church Cowley St James Schools who each hosted a banner and bucket for loose change donations
- ∅ those who helped at and attended the WONDERFUL Big Brunch with the Gospel Jazz Project – wow! that was a special morning
- ∅ extra thanks to the four members of the band, who donated their time and talents and who really want to come back and offer us a whole concert, during the summer or early autumn
- ∅ Littlemore Road, Templars Square and Rose Hill Co-op stores who donated fruit, eggs and bacon respectively

- ø Jo Duckles, whose sermons on 14 May taught us about pigeon peas – we sourced some from a Cowley Road international supermarket and some people took them home to cook with available recipes
- ø all who donated using an envelope, the bucket, the Parish on line envelope

We're delighted to announce we have raised £910 in this year's Christian Aid Week.

You can still give direct through the on-line envelope or the QR code that takes you there

<https://envelope.christianaid.org.uk/cowley-parish-envelope>



## CHRISTIAN AID QUIZ AID

Friday 23 June 2023 at 7.00 pm

St James Church Centre

We invite you to our usual relaxed evening with table starter questions, Rosanne Butler as Quiz Master, a joker to play for double points. Raffle, soft drinks and nibbles provided – bring your own if you need something stronger.

Suggested donation £5 – but we'll take more if you wish.

# From the Archives

JUNE 1979

Marjorie Kathleen Child - Died: 3<sup>rd</sup> May 1970 aged 74 years

Many of her friends paid tribute to Marjorie Child at Oxford Crematorium on 8<sup>th</sup> May 1970. I have particular cause to thank God for her, as I have known her for just over 50 years, as she was teaching in Cowley for the whole 30 years I was there. As Head Teacher of St.

Christopher's School from 1943 to 1966 she exercised a wonderful influence over several generations of Cowley children, and her firm yet kindly discipline, based on a deep religious faith, made St. Christopher's School a happy place for both teachers and children. She was backed up by a fine staff and by the Head of Infant Department, Mrs. Violet Livingstone.

I have further cause to thank God for her, chiefly as the first organist of St. Luke's Church, from 1938 to 1944, during which time she established a fine musical tradition in that lovely church.

Many Cowley people will have grateful memories of Marjorie Child as a teacher; others will remember her association with the musical life of Oxford, and since her retirement, her service to the aged and infirm. We thank God for her life of devoted service and commit her soul to the keeping of her Lord, whom she so faithfully served by her undoubted talents and her Christian character. May she rest in peace.

A. G. Whye

JULY 2005

Artistes at St. Francis' Music Hall

Saturday, 18<sup>th</sup> June saw another evening of song with Thelma Telling and her group from St. Francis. Using music mainly written in the 1890's for music hall artistes, the small band of enthusiastic (rather than note-perfect) singers led with verse and encouraged full participation from the audience for the choruses.

Fancy dress was optional for all – the Artistes were in full regalia – with hats to rival Ascot, both in the audience and on the front line!

It was a very enjoyable evening and requests were made for further song evenings from different decades. It raised £114 towards the Heating Fund. This was somewhat ironic considering how warm the evening was!

Thank you everyone for coming and raising a happy noise!

# ADVERTS FROM OLD COWLEY CHRONICLES

**JOHN HALL**  
(Props. J. A. & J. M. Hall)  
**27 Gaisford Road, Cowley**  
**FISHMONGER AND**  
**GREENGROCER**  
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DECEMBER 1963

***Mabelle*** The little hat shop  
on the Cowley Rd.

(JAMES STREET BUS STOP)

Noted for Service, Civility, and  
the Best Selection of Smart  
Inexpensive Hats in Oxford

JULY 1954

## 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 (EXCEPT DECEMBER) – 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.

## Link to online giving!



There is a button on our website which enables our supporters to make a one off payment online. It will take you to the 'give a little' web site where you can decide how much you would like to give. You can also scan this image and go straight there!



<https://givealittle.co/campaigns/49eef694-09d1-4ee3-8810-6ac86d972e6c>

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## FROM THE CHURCH WARDEN

May must have been one of the busiest months we have experienced in a long time. We began on 6 May in the morning with the Coronation and the service being streamed in our church centre with tea and cake in the afternoon. The weather wasn't ideal but what a spectacle we witnessed on television with all the pageantry we have come to expect on these very special occasions.

The following week on 13 May was the day of our Spring Sale with Plants which turned out to be an amazing success. Thank you to all who gave their time and energy on the day.

The following week we had Lesley's Christian Aid brunch with the added attraction of The Gospel Jazz Project. The music coming out of the church centre was great and I'm sure people passing must have come in to investigate where the sound was coming from as they flocked in. So much so that more supplies had to be purchased from the local shop as the demand for food was so great. A very rewarding morning for Lesley.

A beautiful service was held on 28 May to celebrate Pentecost, the Church's birthday, with candles being lit and carried around church and continuing outside. Alexander played the organ for the service. After the service, we enjoyed birthday cake with our coffee and thank you to Mary for making this for us.

We are very proud of our pastoral care network system at St James and would mention if anyone has any concerns to pass them to Geoff or the Church Warden and they will help in any way they can. Our love and prayers are with Geoff and Mary during this time.

May God bless you and keep you safe.

Chris Woodman

## RECIPES

### Creamy salmon pasta bake (serves 4)

Stretch two salmon fillets to feed four with this easy, creamy salmon pasta bake.



Our budget-friendly recipe with peas and asparagus is ideal for midweek family dinners.

#### *Ingredients*

- 350g large pasta shells
- 1 tbsp olive oil or 20g butter
- 4 spring onions, finely chopped
- 150ml single cream
- 4 tbsp half-fat crème fraîche
- 2 sustainable hot-smoked salmon fillets, flaked
- 150g frozen peas, defrosted
- 100g asparagus, chopped into 5cm lengths
- Finely grated zest 1 lemon, plus wedges to serve (optional)
- 2 tbsp dill, finely chopped, plus extra to serve
- 2 tbsp capers (optional)
- 50g finely grated parmesan

You'll also need

22cm flameproof shallow casserole

#### *Method*

Heat the oven to 180°C fan/gas 6. Cook the pasta in a pan of salted water for 2 minutes less than the pack instructions, then drain, reserving a cup of the cooking water.

When the pasta is almost done, heat the oil or butter in the casserole over a medium heat and cook the spring onions for 1-2 minutes. Add the drained pasta, cream, crème fraîche and about half the reserved cooking water, then cook, stirring constantly, for 1-2 minutes until the sauce thickens. Add the remaining ingredients and enough of the cooking water to make a light sauce, stirring to coat the pasta. Season well.

Bake for 15-20 minutes until bubbling and golden. Scatter with the extra dill and serve with lemon wedges and a salad.





# JOHN SHREEVE'S ARTICLES FROM THE PAST

## GOD IN EAST ANGLIA

June 2012

Over recent years we have often found our holiday meanderings veering towards the East of the country, to Norfolk or Suffolk. Although the landscape is usually very flat, the rural scenery has much charm and beauty, and there are many peaceful little villages tucked away in quiet corners, full of character and history. In addition, if you are fond of looking round ancient churches – as we are, these two counties are absolutely stuffed with them. They seem to pop up round every corner. We find the smaller ones particularly attractive, although there are some magnificent large edifices in the area full of fine stonework and carvings. One such building we discovered on the main road to Norwich. At a place called Loddon, where the river Chet joins the Yare, we were blessed by a charming lady parishioner who gave us a personal guided tour round this ancient place, with obvious pride. Among its treasures were a Poor Box made from a solid block of wood and thought to be Anglo Saxon; a rare beautifully carved Font; a priest's room over the porch; and a copy of the Geneva Bible printed in 1611 (one of the earliest translations into English).

Just a few miles away we found a tiny country-church with thatched roof and octagonal tower, with a doorway of Norman origin. Sadly, this church at Heckingham had been made redundant, obviously because of its distance from the village. Yet we were still able to look inside, and it still retained some of its atmosphere. There are some surprises to be found in unlikely places. At the small village church of Seething, we found an advertisement for a Taize Service, and a comfort prayer trail inside with advice on how to approach God with personal worries and problems. Outside in the churchyard we found a substantial memorial stone to 350 American Airmen, who had lost their lives on missions with their Liberator Bombers operating from the local airfield in World War II. We tend to forget that so many American Air Force personnel were stationed in that area. We also learnt that some 500 of them had attended a special Memorial Service at Norwich Cathedral on the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of VE Day. Many of them turned up with their wives and families and still wearing their original uniforms. Obviously, their time in this country with its stresses and strains and the poignant loss of so many of their comrades, still meant much to them.

Nearly all the churches we saw were beautifully kept and maintained despite small congregations and a shortage of money. At one local church where we attended morning service, the vicar, an ex-banker, was making an urgent appeal for funds to keep the church going. I suspect that there will be some more in the area as this huge financial crisis bites harder and harder. Our ancient country churches are under siege as never before. Maintenance and repair bills have shot up over recent years and they are really struggling to keep going. Just as in our own area, the younger generation don't like old buildings. Yet there is a wealth of talent and energy both amongst clergy and lay people, trying to make a go of things despite their many difficulties. We can only pray that the Lord will bless their work.

John Shreeve

# CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL 2023

Friday 9 – Sunday 17 December

*# LOVE COWLEY*

Our first planning meeting was on Thursday 11 May, when we decided the snappy love themed title will be '# love Cowley'.

We explored ideas for the programme – generally much the same as previously but with some new ideas to explore.

The travelling trees will return as 'travelling trees of love' with an extra one to be hosted by parishioners in their homes, to add to those visiting schools, churches, community spaces and Little Stars/Seashells families.

Our future planning meetings will be on Thursdays 14 September, 12 October, 9 November, all at 9.00 in the Ranklin Room but you could join virtually on Zoom. Wouldn't you like to be involved in some way with this great Cowley outreach project? We particularly would LOVE to find someone with business connections who has time to approach local companies and shops to enter or sponsor a tree.

Contact Lesley Williams [ctf@cowleyteamministry.co.uk](mailto:ctf@cowleyteamministry.co.uk)

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## DATES TO REMEMBER

The First Saturday Café

Saturday, 3 June 2023 (note – the Café will be open the first Saturday of each month up to 2 September 2023

10 – 12 noon St James Church

Beetle Drive with cake

Saturday, 17 June 2023 from 3-5 pm

St Francis Church

Christian Aid Quiz Aid

Friday, 23 June 2023, from 7 pm

St James Church Centre

Ordination of Liam Cartwright and Josh Hordern

Sunday 25th June 2023, at 3.00 pm

University Church of St Mary the Virgin, High Street

The First Saturday Café

Saturday, 1 July 2023, 10-12 noon

St James Church

Liam Cartwright's First Mass

Saturday, 1 July 2023, 3 pm

St Francis Church

Josh Hordern's First Eucharist

Sunday, 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2023, 11 am

St James Church, followed by prosecco

Parish Feast of St James celebration

Sunday, 23 July 2023, 10.30 St James

Church

followed by bring & share lunch at St James Church Centre

# Film Club at the Centre

.Our members do love a happy ending to take home to bed on a Friday evening.

The film 'Bright Star' which was shown in May was set in England in the early nineteenth century and focussed on the romance between John Keats and 'the girl next door'. The photography was stunning, with beautiful indoor sets, lovely countryside and brilliant bonnets, but it also gave us a glimpse of how slow (and boring) life was for middle-class families. *It took three years before he even kissed her!*

Unfortunately, the film did not have a happy ending – as the poor man died from

tuberculosis – leaving behind a legacy of beautiful poetry and a grieving sweetheart.

The film planned for this month's showing is 'A Perfect English Marriage' which brings us up to date with a story of two husbands from very different walks of life whose wives die from cancer on the same day. A friendship develops between the two men (played by Albert Finney and Tom Courtney). The other star is Joanna Lumley, who plays a glamorous widow who comes into the story.

What happens next, we shall have to see on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> June.

Rosanne Butler

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## SUPPORT PHONE NUMBERS

NEEDING ADVICE OR HELP? or just want to talk?

SOME USEFUL LOCAL NUMBERS:

Citizens Advice:	08082 787 909
Oxford City Council:	01865 249 811
Oxfordshire Mind:	01865 247788
Red Cross <i>coronavirus support line</i> :	08081 963 651
Samaritans <i>available 24/7</i> :	116 123
The Archway Foundation:	01865 790 552
Mental Health helpline <i>available 24/7</i> - NHS Oxford Health:	
Adults:	01865 904 997
Children/young people:	01865 904 988
Age UK—new telephone service for older people	01865 411288

Have you been receiving a lot of scam calls on your phone, some of them quite scary? If you are concerned about them, you can obtain help by:

- phoning 03450 700 707 – that's a special department set up by the police *OR*
- Silver Lines, open 24 hrs for assistance on 08004 708 090 - this is a charity set up by Esther Rantzen, primarily to assist those elderly people in need of assistance and who live alone and are in fear of being abused.

# SUNDAY SERVICES

**ST JAMES CHURCH, BEAUCHAMP LANE**

**ST FRANCIS CHURCH, HOLLOW WAY**

8.00am	St James
9.30am	St Francis
11.00am	St James

The Parish Office in St James Church Centre is staffed by volunteers and is not covered continually.

Please leave a message and someone will get back to you.

Contact details: Tel: 01865 747680

Email: [office@cowleyteamministry.co.uk](mailto:office@cowleyteamministry.co.uk)

Out of hours tel: 01865 778596

Website: [www.cowleyteamministry.co.uk](http://www.cowleyteamministry.co.uk)

## MID-WEEK SERVICES & MEETINGS

Monday	10.00-11.30am	Little Stars Playgroup— St Francis
Tuesday	10.00am	Seashells Toddler Group— St James Church Centre
	12.30pm	Tuesday Lunch Club, St James Church Centre (numbers limited—booking essential. If interested contact Chris Woodman)

### 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)

### Curates

Revd Liam Cartwright

Email: [cowleycurate@gmail.com](mailto:cowleycurate@gmail.com)

Revd Josh Hordern

### Self-supporting Ministers

Revd Canon Mark Oxbrow

01865 461953

Email: [markoxbrow@aol.com](mailto:markoxbrow@aol.com)

Revd Max Diaz Butron

Email: [maxdiazbutron@icloud.com](mailto:maxdiazbutron@icloud.com)

## HOME AND STUDY GROUPS

Mark Oxbrow Alternate Wednesday evenings at 7.30pm, Mark's home, 13 Annesley Road (just behind the Rose Hill Co-op). Enquiries to Mark at 01865 461953

Rosanne Butler Alternate Thursday mornings, 10-11.30.. *Contact Rosanne 01865 453257*

### Churchwardens:

Christine Woodman Tel: 778078

Maureen Stone Tel 747950

### St James Church Centre Manager:

Chris Woodman Tel: 778078

### Hall Bookings:

St James Church Centre, St James Church, St Francis Church: Please contact the Parish Office Tel: 747680

### Cowley Chronicle—Editorial Team:

Sally Hemsworth, Nicki Stevens

Articles to be emailed to:

[office@cowleyteamministry.co.uk](mailto:office@cowleyteamministry.co.uk)

Paper contributions to the Parish Office.

