

**Remembrance Day:
Sunday 12th November**

10 am

A Service for Cowley

**St James Church
Beauchamp Lane**

*They shall grow not old,
as we that are left grow old:
Age shall not weary them,
nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun
and in the morning
We will remember them*

**Hymns, Readings, Prayers,
Act of Remembrance,
Communion**



Please come and join us



Sat Nov 18th 3:30 pm

Templars square

**The Christians of Cowley
leading Carol Singing at
turning on of the
Christmas lights.**

**More details: Revd Geoff
01865 778596
rector@cowleyteamministry.co.uk**

Chronicle

November 2017

From the Editors

Sally Hemsworth and Nicki Stevens

The Chronicle sets out details of a very busy couple of months – it is very easy to double book oneself with so much going on.

Please support the Christmas Bazaar at St James Church Centre on 25th November. There will be a variety of goods on sale all to raise well-needed funding for St James Church.

Geoff is arranging another Christmas Meal on the 1st December – this was such an enjoyable occasion last year, we are sure you will wish to come – but numbers are limited so a speedy response is needed.

The two walks in October showed a different level of attendance – 3 at a Friday walk, and 10 at a Monday one. Because of this another Monday one has been arranged – 13 November 2017. Look out for the selected route – you may wish to join the group.

We are still on course for the Group Holiday in September 2018. Deposits are required in March and by that time we hope to attract more people to enjoy a four day break in Eastbourne.

The appeal for more input has attracted two new articles – Reminiscences of School Days and Personally Speaking. We would welcome your reminiscences and news on special occasions/occurrences.

The next Edition is one covering December and January. We look forward to receiving your articles by Monday 20 November

Articles can be emailed to the address given later in The Chronicle, or a handwritten copy can be delivered to Sally at the Parish Office. We would love to hear from you.

Ride and Stride 2017

Although the weather was not very good on Saturday 9th September,

Harriet Stevens, Dave Stanley, Graham Coleman (Joan's husband), Jane Coutanche and Lesley Williams visited an impressive number of churches, 103 to be exact, to raise money for the Ride and Stride annual event and boy did they do a good job. They raised £683.50 and the Parish of Cowley will get back half of this amount which is £341.75.

The Welcomers as always did a fantastic job covering the churches throughout the day, it is so vital for R/Striders (and everyone) who visit our churches to receive a warm welcome and we do this so well in the parish.

I would like to thank the R/Striders and Welcomers for giving up their Saturday and also the sponsors who so generously support this event every year.

June Smith

A word from the Rectory

Over the last month we have been talking a bit about how we are a welcoming Church. We are good, but we want to be even better!

It's more than the smiling face. It is about our relationships and even the set out of the church and the way we give people a bit of time to be themselves and to discover who we are. It is about meeting people where they are. Saying come and join us! Giving space to be young, old, quiet, noisy, still or fidgety.

At St James and St Francis we are a family Church. It is not something the Church of England has done well over the past 50 years. We have tended to describe ourselves as: Anglo-Catholic, Evangelical, Charismatic, Serious, Traditional etc. Jesus never spoke in such a way. He worked to build bridges and make us a community.

That brings me to 'Care and Prayer'. Part of being a welcoming community is looking after each other. For a Christian community that means care and prayer. At St James and St Francis we are committed to both. We are committed to caring for each other and we are committed to praying for each other.

Both parts of our church family have 'Pastoral Care lists'. There have a number of pastoral care group leaders. These are trusted members of our congregation who keep an 'eye out' for other members of the church family. They try to pick up on the things that people are celebrating and be aware of the challenges that people are facing. For our

church it has a 'light touch'. We want to be able to celebrate with people and offer support when it is needed. Over the past weeks I have asked Jill Ling to act as the co-ordinator for this group at the St James end.

At St Francis the focus currently stays with Geoff but in coming months this may change.

So where does the prayer bit fit in? When we truly care for people we pray for them. Our pastoral care leaders pray for the members in their group. As good neighbours, we will pray for our friends and family. When we hear good news, it is time to give thanks to God. At best it will be

there and then, on the spot as we hear it. Sometimes it might be later when we are alone. The story is the same when we discover needs and challenges. Let's bring the needs straight to God and pray about them.

There will be times when people want individual prayer. In the past this has been available at the 10:00 St James service. The hope is to reinstate and build on this. By the time you read this, Alison Lockhart will have been licensed and Commissioned by the Bishop as a Local Licensed Minister (Reader). She is going to take a lead in investigating how we might bring this about. So, look out for some information in the coming weeks.

What is important is seeking the path God is calling us to travel. So, do please pray with passion and listen with expectation.

Welcome, Care & Prayer



Benson Cottage

REALMS OF GLORY: A CELEBRATION OF ANGELS

Dorchester Abbey

The team that brought Narnia to Dorchester Abbey last year, this year launched the *Realms of Glory: A Celebration of Angels* exhibition on Sunday 22nd October, with an angel themed Sung Eucharist at the 10.30am service.

The interactive exhibition has massive-scale paintings from the National Gallery suspended from the rafters, with other images spread throughout the Abbey (play hide and seek!), as well as dressing up opportunities and a chance to have a photo taken with a pair of wings, so you look like an angel!

There were daily craft sessions for families during half term week, 1.30-3.30pm daily, 22 Oct - 28 Oct, which will continue every Saturday in November and early December. It promises to be a very inspiring and exciting event! It runs until 6 January 2018

*Realms of Glory:
A Celebration of Angels*
22nd October 2017 to 6th January 2018
at Dorchester Abbey

Families Themed Craft Workshops
Half-Term, 1.30-3.30pm
22/23 Oct: Angelic Angels
24/25 Oct: Stained Glass Angels
26/27 Oct: Angelic Trumpets
Saturdays, 1.30-3.30pm
28 Oct/25 Nov: Wings & Haloes
4 Nov/2 Dec: Angelic Angels
11 Nov/9 Dec: Stained Glass Angels
18 Nov: Angelic Trumpets

Come to our family friendly concert
A Celebration of Angels in Music
on Wednesday 29th November at
6.30pm

Lots to do and see for adults and children!
Have fun dressing up as an angel or another character from the stories!
Take your picture with our amazing angel wings!
Take part in one of our craft workshops.
Draw YOUR own Guardian Angel and enter our Competition!

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Lesley Weston

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Will this spell the end of all onions?

As my other half (OH) is now fully retired, we are quite on the ball this year regarding the allotment. The dying remains of runner beans have been taken from the uprights and the canes taken up and stacked. The summer raspberry fruiting stems have been cut out to join the bean remains, sweetcorn stems and squash and courgette runners and, given a dry spell, have burned well on a bonfire – and we did have our fire on a designated day!

We have had a trailer-load of manure delivered. The OH had dug over the area where our potatoes had been and he then spread the area with fork loads of said manure. He also managed to put some round the raspberries too. Luckily, this has all been going on while the weather had been kind and the ground reasonably dry. This now has had to come to a stop, not only because it has been raining but because my OH has had an operation on his hand, so no rough work while it heals. Frustratingly, I am not allowed to do much in the way of heavy work either because of a bad back! We have covered the rest of the manure pile to stop good stuff leaching out in the winter rain. I have, however, planted out my garlic cloves which do a lot better given a long growing season.

There are still crops to enjoy: parsnips, beetroot, turnips, cavolo nero, parsley. Brussels sprouts will be coming in at Christmas and sprouting broccoli will be ready come spring. Our potatoes and onions are stored in the shed but my row of leeks has been composted as they were all riddled right to the centre with leaf miners.

The Allium (onion family) leaf miner was first

seen in this country in 2002 and this is our first experience of it. There are 2 generations in the year and the only way to prevent it, apparently, is to cover your crops with a fleece barrier from March to June and September to November when the adults are flying. I can't see that that will be a complete success especially if pupae can survive in the soil. I have just planted the garlic close by the leek row and this pest also attacks any allium including garlic, shallots and onions. It is not just the tunnelling dark maggots that are the problem but the attendant rotting due to secondary fungal and bacterial infections that come in. It is a severe blow to commercial growers. Will we be unable to find any of these crops in the shops in the future?

Enough of doom and gloom! Our garden borders have been a delight this autumn with cosmos, dahlias, sedums, Michaelmas daisies, nasturtiums and chrysanthemums flowering away. I have been going round dead-heading to keep blooms coming and I am often finding spiders' webs in my hair as I bend down with my secateurs! There are also lots of frogs about and I do hope that means they are keeping the slug population down.

We have had a mild October and soon will come our first frost of the winter which will kill the non-hardy and stop further flowers. Those spider's webs will be adorned with crystals and will shine among the plants. There is a lot to see on a morning before the sun chases off the frost on one of those cloudless blue days that are all too few.

Joan Coleman

ST. JAMES CHURCH CHRISTMAS GIFT AND CRAFT FAIR

Saturday 25th November 2017

10.00 am to 2.00 pm

St James Centre, Beauchamp Lane, Cowley

Enjoy refreshments while you shop

Excellent Christmas Raffle with really good prizes

Home-made cakes and preserves

Hand-made crafts for that special gift, including
Suncatchers, hand-crafted cards and jewellery

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Claire Ewers

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Want to get more involved with the life within Cowley Parish?

We have vacancies on our PCC or, its full name, Parochial Church Council, where major decisions are made about Cowley Parish. We are a registered charity and PCC members are trustees of the charity. It sounds ominous but it isn't really. Do have a chat with Geoff.

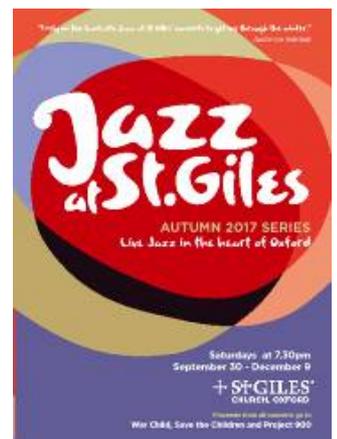
If you want to get further involved, and to be the steward of the financial aspects of the PCC, then talk to Joan Coleman, our Treasurer, who is wanting to step back and allow new blood to take over. It need not be a sudden thing, but working side by side at first to get to know what is involved. We use fantastic financial software specific for churches that not only copes with claiming the Gift Aid but can produce reports on any aspect of the finances. Joan will show you what it can do.

Come and have a look! ojcoleman@btinternet.com

JAZZ AT ST GILES

For jazz lovers: a series of 6 live charity concerts through the autumn on Saturdays at 7.30, raising funds for War Child, Save the Children and Project 900, St Giles church's own 900 year anniversary development project.

See the posters/flyers in church and
www.jazzatstgiles.com



MOTHERS' UNION NEWS

The collection of items for the Children's Hospital this month grows and grows. Gayle Williams, the co-ordinator at the John Radcliffe for charitable gifts for the children has been warned to arrive with a big empty boot when she visits our November meeting to collect it all!

Members have been so generous (as indeed have their families and friends) in making beautiful knitted blankets, tiny hats and mittens for the babies and donating lots of packs of coloured pencils, pens, colouring books, etc. for the older children who will possibly be in hospital this Christmas.

The October branch meeting was so well attended that we had to put out extra chairs and everyone was more than interested in our excellent speaker. He was Graham Sykes, a pastor at Sobell House Hospice who also spends half of his pastoral care at the John Radcliffe Hospital. He spoke movingly and amusingly about his experiences and made one almost wish one could be (a little bit) ill in hospital to have such a caring and empathetic person to visit.

At the meeting we also planned our theme for our Christmas tree for the forthcoming festival and organised help for our wine, cheese and poetry evening. Held on 20th October in the Church Centre our poetry evening was a great success. Sticking to a tried and true formula we shared a wonderful selection of poems,

old and new, and a great supper prepared by members. The profit made that evening, namely £45, is going to the Mothers Union Harvest Appeal. This is mainly to provide landowners in the Third World with seed to grow food for their needy families. Our aim in the Mothers Union is to support families around the world and we feel that this is what we, in our branch, try to do.

We are delighted to welcome Chris Lee, a Mothers Union member who has recently joined us. Our branch continues to flourish.

In November we are meeting on the 70th Wedding Anniversary of our Patron, Her Majesty the Queen, and we intend to mark the occasion. Our speaker is going to be Mr Brian Lowe whose talk will be on The Oxford of John Henry Newman. There will be plans to be made for our Christmas party and the Christmas Tree Festival. So with the aforementioned collection for the Children's Hospital, it promises to be a full afternoon.

Rosanne Butler



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Cowley Festival of Christmas Trees 2017

"Journeying"

Friday 8th – Saturday 16th December

The theme is Journeying (Mary & Joseph, the Holy Family, the Wise Men, How far is it to Bethlehem, pilgrimage, refugees, personal journeys, the journey of life, footsteps.....)

Registration forms have gone out this week so we hope all our schools, community groups, churches, businesses have begun to plan their trees. If you know of a group or family, who hasn't been involved before, that you think would like to be creative and join us, please let Lesley Williams know and take them a form. And/or anyone to come and sing/play/ perform/ busk during any of the opening times

Opening times :	Saturdays, 9 th and 16 th December	10.00 - 16.00
:	Sunday 10 th through to Friday 15 th	14.00 - 16.00
:	Wednesday 13 th	18.30 - 20.30
		Rising Voices mini-concert
	And also Saturday 9 th	14.30 – a pop-up singing worship
		19.00 – youth jazz and choral concert
	Saturday	10.30 – Messy Church Christmas

Wednesday 13TH December afternoon opening there will also be a tea party for invited guests from local residential and care homes

VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES

Door to door delivery across the Parish of the advertising cards for the CTF and the Parish Christmas services and events will start on Sunday 26th November: for those who are able, please be prepared to get your exercise walking the streets and opening gates for a couple of weeks.

CHRISTIAN AID 2017

Total for 2017 - thank you everyone who has contributed

March:	Fairtrade Super Soup lunch	£ 145
May:	Christian Aid Week	£2,088
June:	Quiz Aid	£ 202
September:	Lesley's wingwalk	<u>£ 650</u>
		£3,085



Cowley festival of Christmas trees

St James Church

Beauchamp Lane OX4 3LF

8 – 16 December 2017

choirs - live music

craft - refreshments

adults : £2.00 children : free

proceeds to : ROSY and SeeSaw

www.cowleyteamministry.co.uk

Cowley festival of Christmas trees 'Journeying'

8 – 16 December 2017

Saturday 9 & 16	10:00 – 4:00
Sunday 10, Monday 11 - Friday 15	2:00 – 4:00
Wednesday 13	6:30 – 8:30

and by arrangement at other times

live music, craft and refreshments

Templars Square shops quiz and quiz trail to the church

Saturday 9	2:30	pop-up singing workshop
	7:00	festival concert
Sunday 10	4:30	Christingle service
Wednesday 13	7:00	Rising Voices choir
Saturday 16	10:30	Messy Church - Christmas
Sunday 17	4:00	carols by candlelight



PARISH WALKING GROUP

Parish Walks are taking place. Ten people came on the last one (a record number) on Monday, 30 October 2017, and we walked along Lye Valley from the entrance to the footpath just passed the turning to Wood Farm, and came out on to the golf course. We then walked down to the Marsh – the fast walkers took the long footpath down the hill to the Marsh, and the slower group took the shorter footpath (unknowingly!) and got to the bottom first! We then followed the route of the Boundary Brook, walked along to Rymers Lane. A few of us then had a cup of tea at Templar Square. Again, the sun was shining and the company was great.

The next one is planned for Monday, 13 November 2017, starting at 2 pm. A route has not been fixed yet, but the following suggestions have been made:

1. Meet at Osney Island, Botley Road (Bus No. 5 to Oxford Station and then walk to Osney Island). Follow towpath back towards Oxford, coming out at Head of the River “pub”. If people are keen for more walking, it would be possible to walk back along the towpath to Donnington Bridge or Iffley. Or walk up St Aldates, through Christchurch Meadows, up Rose Lane and then to relevant bus stop at Queens Lane (or, again, walk back up the Cowley or Iffley Roads).
2. Walk around Radley Lake (a previous gravel pit where there was a very long fight to retain it as a nature area) – would need to travel by car to the walk start (which is at the bottom of Thrupp Lane). The Earth Trust look after the area, and there is a good path all around. Bowyer Arms in Radley Village would be available for refreshments if needed.
3. Take bus into Oxford and meet at the canal entrance in Hythe Bridge Street – walk along the towpath to Jericho and from there along Walton Street to get bus (plenty of places for refreshments in Walton Street).
4. Meet at Wolvercote and walk towards Binsey and further on to Jericho.
5. Meet at St James Church Centre, walk to Iffley and along the river to Sandford. Turn left at lock into Sandford Lane (this is the boundary for three parishes – Sandford-on-Thames, Radley and Kennington). Kennington is at the top of Sandford Lane, and the no 35 bus to Oxford is very frequent.

Look out for more information in The Link on the route to be taken on the 13 November.



Film Club at the Centre

At our fifth "birthday" event in October the new proposed programme for the Film Club 2018 was available for members. Any members who were not able to be there can pick one up at the next club night this month. The general comments on films to come were most agreeable although there were one or two "Oh – I don't know much about that one" remarks. That's what keeps our club nights interesting.

In October we not only celebrated five years in existence but we had our largest attendance to date (including a new member). We also made a handsome profit of nearly £100 for Parish funds.

This month's film will be a tribute to our late dear friend, May Morgan. This time last year

it was her wish that on Remembrance Weekend we should show "A Testament of Youth". May felt it would be a most appropriate film as it is based on the life of Vera Brittain during the First World War. When May died she left, amongst her DVDs, the very disc for us to use.

The film has a long list of stars, mainly Emma Watson as Vera Brittain herself and also such well-known names as Dominic West and Miranda Richardson. It is described as "a powerful journey from youthful hopes and dreams to the edge of despair and back again". I suggest we keep a couple of paper tissues handy this month!

Rosanne Butler.



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FROM THE ARCHIVES

COWLEY CHURCH & HOME MAGAZINE

October 1894

It is very much to be desired that gifts of various kinds will be sent in aid of the new School which has been erected for the benefit of the children in the parish. There is a large sum still required to pay off the debt. Do send something. Collecting cards may be had at the School House, or from the Vicar or Rev. J. H. Webb (curate).

November 1894

BY THE VICAR

The Parish Council Act, which comes into operation next month, is an advance in our Constitutional arrangement. Its object is to place in the hands of the inhabitants of a parish some part of the parish machinery. It only deals with a few matters, such as rights of way, allotments, footpaths, water, and what is known as social benefits, such as free libraries, recreation grounds, and things of this kind. Such things as the highways, sanitary matters, and the care of the poor are to be in the hands of the District Council.

The Parish Council Act will be a great advantage to this Parish: it will remove from the Parish Vestry much that cannot be defended by honourable men. It will create interest in quarters which have never before been brought in to play for the good of others. It will give an opportunity to many to spend their time for the welfare and comfort of their fellow-parishioners. It also has a very good side, inasmuch as it removes from the Clergy of the Parish some secular work which brings to them little that is worth retaining, and releases them from much that is unpleasant. Few men gain so much from this Act as the Clergy. It is a secular Act intended for secular purposes. It is an instrument which removes from the clergyman his troublesome parishioner. This well-known person, so well understood by those who have sufficient reason to separate the chaff from the wheat, will now be deprived of the opportunity of appearing in the garb of a well-disposed and peaceful person who wishes what is right, and who has been accustomed to appear at our Vestry meetings on every Easter Tuesday to display his own importance. There will be 15 councillors in this Parish, so that every person who wishes to serve the interest of the Parish will find a seat; if not at the first election he may be quite certain he will not have to wait long. The Parish Council is limited to an expenditure of 6d. in the £1. Its first duty will be to settle the dispute with Magdalen College about the right of way to the Parish Common. Its attention will be drawn then to our water supply, drainage and light. Although it

will not be able to carry out all the necessary things respecting these, it ought to have great influence in this direction. It ought also to promote a good feeling between the various classes and interests in our Parish, and I hope many will come to the Boy's Schoolroom on Thursday, the 8th November, at 8pm. when Mr. Thomas Mallam, the solicitor, who will have a good deal to do with the administration of this Act, will explain the meaning of the various sections of the act, and I can only hope that such a good gift, as I believe this Act will be to this Parish, will bring to us much good. I hope my readers who are voters will do as their consciences direct them if a poll is demanded at any time.

We had our Harvest Festival this year extended in length, and the services both on Sunday 21st, and on Sunday 28th, were well attended. I regret that some could not find seats on the 21st, and that the Archdeacon was prevented from coming by illness. The alms on 21st amounted to £5. 9s. 6d., and on 28th, £2. 10s. 6d., which was given to the fund for the New School. Many of my readers will have noticed with the same regret that fills my breast, that the cost of this building is £123 more than we hoped it would be, but as the building went on, some additions were thought of as advisable which certainly would of put in a claim later on. £923 is a large sum to secure for an Elementary School, because it is a subject which does not seem to put vitality into the mind and pocket of the ordinary parishioner.

It is the greatest importance to my mind that the Church should have schools to bring up the children of the poor in the fear of God, and although the struggle is sharp and lasting, I feel certain of the final triumph of those principles which a properly conducted Church school represents. You will have noticed the substantial character of the building itself, and how the whole block forms a handsome School.

We hope to open the School on Monday, November 12th, with tea at 4.30. Tickets, 6d. each, may be had from the Post Office, the School House, or the Vicarage. A concert will be given on the same evening by Mr. J. O. Andrews, of St. Kenelms, who has most generously come forward to give us a helping hand. Tickets may be had at the same places as the Tea Tickets. I hope we will have a large gathering, for I want every parent to feel that this School is built for the good of their children.

The following will take part in the Concert:-

Miss Godwin Parker, Miss Oliver, Miss Baker, Rev. H. Mare, Dr. Stewart, J. O. Andrews, Esq. Pianists: Miss Franzowitz, and Messrs. Stanford and Kirke.

Comic Songs by Mr. Hearne of Brasenose College, and Sergeant Patten.

Tickets: 2s. 6d., 1s., and 6d.

Researched by Les Hemsworth

BIBLE SOCIETY 'MORE THAN A BOOK' REGISTRATION



If you order anything on line or by phone from the Bible Society, please use the unique Parish reference number 12044 *or* select the 'Parish of Cowley' from the drop down menu when placing an order and we will benefit from the 'More than a book' cash back scheme. It is that easy! We earned £3 from a recent 'Open the Book' resources order.

Do look at the on line shop – Bibles, prayer books, cards, courses, fiction, dvds etc.

<https://www.biblesociety.org.uk/products/>

Lord you know I'm growing older,

Keep me from becoming talkative and possessed with the idea that I must express myself on every subject.

Release me from the craving to straighten out everyone else's affairs.

Keep me from the recital of endless detail and give me wings to get to the point.

Seal my lips when I am inclined to tell of my aches and pains, they're increasing with the years and my love to speak of them grows sweeter as time goes by.

Teach me the glorious lesson that occasionally I may be wrong, make me thoughtful not nosey, helpful not bossy.

With my vast store of wisdom and experience it does seem a pity not to use it all, but you know Lord that I want a few friends at the end.



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OPEN THE BOOK

Welcome to the team and thank you for volunteering to new team members Sonica Tassell, Betsy English and David Benskin.

We would still be happy to add more team members to share the joy of story-telling – alternate weeks in one or more of our three schools, an hour each time to meet, prepare, tell/enact the story along with some children, clear up and plan the next time:

Mondays	08.45	St Christopher's, Temple Road
Tuesdays	10.00	Church Cowley St James, Bartholomew Road
Thursdays	10.00	St Francis, Horspath Road

Why not come and observe in one of the schools to see if it fits your style? it's a great mission statement.

If that aspect of the project doesn't suit you at all, could you help us by producing some more basic tunic style costumes and props?

Talk to/contact: Geoff or Lesley Williams or Jill Ling or Joan Coleman

CHRONICLE

Editorial Team- Sally

Hemsworth, Nicki Stevens

Deadline for the next edition:
Monday 20 November 2017

If possible, please send entries
by email to Sally at

[chronicle@cowleyteamministry.
co.uk](mailto:chronicle@cowleyteamministry.co.uk). Paper contributions

should be left at Parish Office for
the attention of Sally.

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RECIPE

In November we are starting to think of food which keeps us warm – this sounds good! Again, this is from “Cakes, Bakes, Puddings and Prayers” by Susan Over, with some words of wisdom to go with it.



A DIFFERENT GRUMBLE (serves 4)

Fruit crumble is a good standby pudding, especially in winter but it can be awfully boring, thus earning it the nickname ‘Apple Grumble’ from one little boy visitor. Here’s a variation – with some other ideas to try – so we can enjoy a different grumble occasionally!

Ingredients

4 or 5 fresh peaches, sliced
200g (7oz) fresh raspberries

For crumble topping:

75g (3oz) butter or margarine
110g (4oz) wholemeal flour
50g (2oz) porridge oats
25-50g (1-2 oz) soft brown sugar
A few flaked almonds

Method

1. Preheat oven to gas mark 4/180°C/350°F.
2. Arrange sliced peaches and raspberries in base of medium ovenproof dish.
3. Rub butter into flour in large bowl and when it resembles breadcrumbs, add sugar and oats and mix lightly.
4. Spread crumble mix evenly over the fruit.
5. Sprinkle a few flaked almonds on the top.
6. Bake for 30-40 minutes until browned, and serve hot with custard or single cream.

Notes:

1. Wholemeal flour is the healthiest option for the crumble, but if you prefer a lighter topping use 110g (4oz) plain flour.
2. Alternative fruit bases include:
 - ø 3 large peeled and sliced cooking apples mixed with 250g (9oz) strawberries; or
 - 410g tin each of pears, drained and prunes in juice.

- ø A more traditional base is rhubarb with a touch of finely grated stem ginger (add ½ teaspoon ground ginger to the crumble mix, too).

Therefore, encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.

1 Thessalonians 5:11 (NIV)

Some time ago the only thing I gave up for Lent was criticism. By the end of Ash Wednesday I had caught myself criticising three different people to family and friends. Ouch! Grumbling and mumbling about people and situations is an ingrained habit that many of us find hard to break.

A few years ago I took part in a study course which aimed to build positive relationships in the church. One very useful exercise was ‘Avoid harsh criticism once a day’. This was not only achievable but also made us more on our guard for the rest of each day. After all, it was a bit hypocritical to resist pulling last night’s sermon apart with my husband, but then do that very thing on the phone to my friend!

Anyone who is in the limelight is likely to come under more scrutiny than the average pew-filler, but do we really expect our leaders to be perfect this side of heaven? They are human like the rest of us with stresses and strains, doubts and fears.

Next time we are about to moan about someone else, why not think about the little rhyme below and see if we can find something positive to say instead?

It can start with just a mumble,
Which then becomes a grumble,
Causing folk to stumble,
Spoiling lives.

Let’s remember to be humble
Ignore that petty rumble
And build instead of crumble!
Blessing lives.

Lord, help us to look for the positive instead of dwelling on the negative. And show us new ways to bring your light and vision into situations which now seem dark and dreary. Amen

Family-Befriending Project in East Oxford

Are you a good listener and empathetic? Are you good with children?

Our 2015 research looked at how churches are responding to the needs of children and young people in Oxfordshire, with respect to poverty, vulnerability and the gaps between needs and interventions. We found that 'struggling families' was one of the most significant issues raised by families themselves as well as churches and professionals.

In response to this, we are in the process of establishing a befriending project in East Oxford. Our aim is to recruit volunteers, or family friends, to walk alongside families with primary school aged children who are struggling. Parenting is full of challenges, and we want to be able to hold out a hand to parents who are feeling isolated, stressed or finding it difficult to cope.

We are looking for **volunteer befrienders** to join our new pilot scheme walking alongside and supporting families with children aged 5-11 going through difficulties in and around East Oxford. Could you give up to two hours a week, for a minimum of six months, and be prepared to help a family realise their own strengths as well as be changed yourself?

We will give you training and regular support.

Come to our volunteer information evening Thursday 16th November, 7pm-9pm at Viva.

To RSVP, contact Hannah Barr, h.barr@viva.org 01865 811660

Viva is an international children's charity passionate about releasing children from poverty and abuse. Doorsteps started as a research project looking at the needs of children and young people in Oxfordshire and from this has grown into three projects supporting and networking churches to reach out to vulnerable children in their area.



Christmas Party

Friday Dec 1st
7:30 pm
Church Centre Beauchamp Lane

<p><u>Starter:</u> Vegetable soup or Pate and toast or Meion</p>	<p><u>Main course:</u> Salmon cooked in butter and garlic or Turkey, pigs in blankets, stuffing, gravy or A vegetarian option (as yet undecided) (All served with vegetables)</p>	<p><u>Pudding:</u> Mincemeat crumble (gluten free available) or Fruit salad or Lemon Meringue Pie (All served with ice-cream or Custard)</p>
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Come and join us for a gentle evening. You will need to book up your menu. Geoff is cooking and again is going to try not to over cater by his usual trick of 50%! We have maximum numbers of 80 seats so get in quick!

How can you book up?

- You can contact Geoff direct.
- You can sign up on one of the sign-up sheets.
- You can contact the church office.

We hope to cover costs by donations collected on the evening. If the menu above does not fit your needs have a chat with Geoff and he will see what we can do!

REPORT FROM THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

You will see in Dates to Remember that the Church Committees and the PCC continue to meet on a regular basis. The last PCC meeting was on the 22 October 2017, which was held at St Francis Church. We now start again with the two Church Committees and the PCC meeting in November.

The meeting started with a presentation by The Revd Tim Stead, the Area Dean for the Cowley Deanery, and Trevor Jones, the Treasurer for the Cowley Deanery. They came as part of a programme where they are visiting all the PCCs in the Deanery with three primary objectives:

1. To share something of the vision behind the current Deanery 'Mission Action Plan'
2. To share how deanery finances work
3. To listen to comments, answer questions and enter into discussion about how the deanery churches can better work together.

Tim Stead outlined the way the Cowley Deanery and other deaneries fit into the Anglican church structures. The Cowley Deanery had been looking at different ways to support healthy growth and development of our church communities; serving our local communities, especially in our five 'common concerns':

Responding to poverty

Ministry in schools

Christian concern for the environment

Isolation, loneliness and mental health

Welcoming migrants including interfaith and multicultural issues.

The Deanery is also wishing to support extra-parochial initiatives.

Ways to raise money to give financial help to the churches in the deanery to undertake initiatives were discussed.

The Parish Share for Cowley is going to be reduced next year. In 2017 the full Parish Share was £55,764, but as we pay monthly by direct debit we get a 1% discount so we actually paid £55,206.36). In 2018 we should pay £50,079 (a 10.2% decrease) (figure still to be confirmed). This is mainly due to the fact that the Parish has lost Skye Denno's post of stipendary minister, but we now have an "apprentice" vicar and will have a curate in 2018, so additional help is being given.

Trevor Jones indicated that should the Parish wish to give more than the reduced Parish Share this would be very welcome as any addition would be regarded as "mission support" to go towards projects which covered the common concerns outlined by Tim Stead.

After Tim Stead and Trevor Jones had left the meeting, the PCC agreed that it would make a 2.5% contribution (£1,250) with the possibility that this would be increased later in the year.

The rest of the meeting included a review of arrangements for the Ministry Team, the licensing of Alison Lockhart on the 4th November, 11 am at Christ Church Cathedral, review of activities at the Deanery Synod on the 27th September 2017, and reports from the Church Warden and Maintenance Officer on work undertaken, most of which was following the recent Quinquennial Reports on the two churches. Geoff commented that it was really good to see that quick action was taken on the work required, most of which has now been completed.

Sally Hemsworth
PCC Secretary

PUT IN YOUR DIARY

NOVEMBER 2017

SAT 18th 3:00 pm *Carol Singing*
(Templars Square - Christmas lights switch on)

SUN 19th 12.30 for 12.45pm *Sunday lunch* (CC)

SAT 25th 10:00 am-2:00pm *Gift & Craft Market* (CC)

DECEMBER 2017

FRI 1st 7:00 pm *Parish Christmas supper* (CC)

SAT 9th 10:00 – 4:00, SUN 10th 2:00 – 4:00 *Get in the picture* (Templars Square)

SAT 9th 10:00 am *Christingle making gathering with tea, coffee and cake morning* (F)

SUN 10th 10:30 am *Christingle service* (F)

SAT 16th *Christmas Messy Church* 10:30 - 12:00 (CC)

SUN 17th 4:00 pm *Carol Service* (J) followed by tea (CC)

6:00 pm *Carol Service* (F) followed by mulled wine and mince pies

COWLEY HISTORY CLUB

You may remember that up until 2016 Cowley had a History Club. This unfortunately had to close due to lack of support. However, following an Exhibition on Cowley Now and Then, held in The Venue, Barns Road in October there is renewed interest in setting up another Cowley History Club.

A talk is being arranged for Wednesday, 22nd November, at The Venue, commencing at 7 pm. The first talk will be on Cowley Now and Then, and it is hoped there will be audience participation to exchange memories.

Please go along and support this new venture.

PERSONALLY SPEAKING

Some special celebrations in the Parish:

Mandy and Gordon Watts – Golden Wedding Anniversary, 21 October 2017

Betty Canterbury – 90th Birthday, 23 October 2017

Alison Lockhart – Licensing and Commissioning as a Local Licensed Minister (Reader) – 4 November 2017

Do you have any special occasions you would like to record in The Chronicle – please let us know?

Prayer Space

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12TH

Lines discovered on the body of an American soldier killed in action in North Africa, 1944.

Look, God, I have never spoken to You.
And now I want to say "How do you do?"
You see, God, they told me you did not exist,
And I, like a fool, believed all this.
Last night, from a shell-hole, I saw Your sky,
I figured that they had told me a lie.
Had I taken time before to see things you had made,
I'd sure have known they weren't calling a spade a spade.

I wonder, God, if you would shake my poor hand?
Somehow I feel You would understand.
Strange I had to come to this hellish place
Before I had time to see Your face.
Well, I guess there isn't much more to say.
But I'm glad, God, that I met You today.
The zero hour will soon be here,
But I'm not afraid to know that You're near.

The signal has come – I shall soon have to go,
I like You lots – this I want You to know.
I am sure this will be a horrible fight;
Who knows, I may come to you House tonight.
Though I wasn't friendly to You before,
I wonder, God, if You'd wait at your door?
Look, I'm shedding tears – me shedding tears!
Well I have to go now dear God. Goodbye,
But now I've met You I'm not afraid to die.

For the Fallen

By Laurence Binyon 1869 – 1943

For the Fallen is linked with services of remembrance all over the world.

With proud thanksgiving, a mother for her children,
England mourns for her dead across the sea.
Flesh of her flesh they were, spirit of her spirit,
Fallen in the cause of the free.

Solemn the drums thrill : Death august and royal
Sings sorrow up into immortal spheres.
There is music in the midst of desolation
And a glory that shines upon our tears.

They went with song to the battle, they were young,
Straight of limb, true of eye, steady and aglow.
They were staunch to the end against odds uncounted,
They fell with their faces to the foe.

They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We will remember them.

They mingle not with their laughing comrades again;
They sit no more at familiar tables of home;
They have no lot in our labour of the day-time;
They sleep beyond England's foam.

But where our desires are and our hopes profound,
Felt as a well-spring that is hidden from sight,
To the innermost heart of their own land they are known
As the stars are known to the Night;

As the stars that shall be bright when we are dust,
Moving in marches upon the heavenly plain,
As the stars that are starry in the time of our darkness,
To the end, to the end, they remain.

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



REMEMBRANCE DAY

November is the time to remember, especially those who have lost their lives in conflict. The following names of Cowley people are listed on the memorials in St James Church covering the First and Second World Wars and the Falklands War. You will see that we have received some lovely memories of Flight Sergeant H C S Thomas, listed on the Second World War Memorial, from Una - her Uncle Jim.

War Memorial, First World War:

Captain F H Kirkpatrick, OBLI

Captain C O Logan, OBLI

Captain R R M Brooke, OBLI

Captain C F K Carfrae, OBLI

Captain Jack Manley, RFC

2ND Lieutenant J S C Marshall, OBLI

Albert Alder

Leslie Allen

Sidney Allen

Cyril Atkins

Alfred Attwood

Alfred Banealor

Arthur Baker

James Baker

Ronald Baughan

Reginald Belcher

John Biggs

Fredrick Borough

Alfred Bradbury

George Brandish

Fredrick Brockall

Arthur Brown

Sidney Brown

William Brown

Frank Butler

Jeremiah Currell

James Conolly

Herbert Cook

Reginald Doubleday

George Druce

Frederick Edgington

William Edgington

Claude George

Charles Gibbons

Edward Goodgame

Gabriel Greenfield

Arthur Grey

Frederick Hall

William Harris

Frederick Harvey

William Hazell

Cecil Hilsdon

Edward Hudson

Aubrey Johnson

Jesse Jones

Wilfred King

Oliver King

William Knapp

John E C Martin

Frank McClusky

William Merritt

William Mitchell

Harold Morris

Thomas Neighbour

Harry Owen

Harold Peake

Frank Phipps

Leonard Reynolds

Herbert Rogers

William Rogers

Leonard Smith

Alfred States

William Trinder

Frederick Viner

Harry Wallin

Hubert Weston

Alfred Carter
William Cobb

Joseph Kent
Jack King

Henry Winter
James Young

War Memorial Second World War/Falklands:

J Ashfield
Brian Bailey
M S Beecham (RAF)
C Birmingham (OBLI)
A Birt
C Bishop
P H Bowles (RA)
E R Brown (OBLI)
S Brown
D Burrell
P Burrell
P Bushnell (RAF)
B Cambray
F Carter
N Cato
A Coomber
Norman Cooper (RAF)
T Cripps
H Curtis
Leslie Daultrey
Donald Day
George Earl
J New
Victor Elders
R Flexon
A Florey (RA)
Graham Florey (OBLI)
John E Ford (RAF)
E Foulkes (RN)
R France

A J Franklin (RAF)
William Freeman (RWK)
Eric Frith
A R Fryer (RAOC)
Edmund J Fuller (RN)
G Garner
R Gibbons
A E Giles (RAF)
Roy Gomershall
Charles Gouch
Herbert Green
Sidney Haynes
C Hazell
Leslie Hibbett
E Hicks
I Hall (RN) (Falklands)
L Hicks
G Hill
W Hilsdon (RAF)
J Hollis
R Holmes
J Holt
Kenneth Hutton
Roy Keen
Frederick Kent
A Kerry (RA)
G King
P Knights (RAF)
C Kyme
L Laurie

R Lipscombe (OBLI)
W Luther
J McCarthy
R Martin
G Moore
E Morgan (OBLI)
Dennis Morris
W Natrass
Fred Paget
Kenneth Parker (RAF)
D Perry
G Pickering (RAF)
R Plaister (REME)
F T Price (RAF)
L Probitts
William Rees
Walter Shead (OBLI)
W Stannard
Anthony Taylor
H C S Thomas (RAF)
J Thompson
Ronald Thurley
Arthur Webb
James Whalley (RAF)
B Whitbread
V White
P Withers
Bruce Young
N Bowell

FLIGHT SERGEANT H.C.S. THOMAS

The above name appears on our WW2 memorial at St James'. Flight sergeant Harold Charles Scott Thomas, Charles for his father and Scott his mother's maiden name. I knew him as Uncle Jim.

My mother was brought up in Luton where her father worked as a painter at Vauxhall Motors on the borders of Luton and Dunstable. When my mother, the eldest child, was very young she can just remember her younger brother dying of meningitis. When she was fourteen, in 1920, her brother was born and from the first moment she saw the baby soon after the stork had left him in her mother's arms she called him Jim. We were brought up to call him Uncle Jim - this caused some confusion in the family as a relation would ask something about Uncle Harold and we had no idea who that was and if we mentioned Uncle Jim then everyone was confused.

When my mother was seventeen my grandfather was laid off from Vauxhall – redundancy had not been invented then, and he got a job in the paint shop at Morris Motors in Oxford. Every Friday evening he cycled to Luton and every Sunday evening he cycled back again. He did this for a year. He became foreman painter when a Morris Oxford was hand-painted with twelve coats of paint. The original paint shop where he worked was just over the hedge at the bottom of the garden of the house that Gordon and I bought before we were married. By that time Grandpa had retired and the paint shop was only used for burning off paint and it sometimes smelt bad.

Grandpa bought a house in Garsington Road just about where the slip road to the retail park is now. Grandma was a very pious lady and one day in Cowley soon after arrival with

my mother and Uncle she met the Vicar, the Rev George Moore. Unfortunately the Vicar upset Grandma by eyeing up my mother, and after that the family went to St Aldates Church. When my grandparents became older and St Luke's had been built they attended St Luke's, the vicar had changed by then.

Uncle went to Our Lady's School and was a founder pupil of Southfield School, which I believe is now called Oxford Spires and is at the top of Glanville Road. My young brother went to Southfield when it was a grammar school as did our son Simon. One of Simon's teachers had taught Uncle Jim. After school Uncle Jim worked at Mowbray's religious book shop in the centre of Oxford. He and his friend went to Kidlington air field and learnt to fly and both gained private flying licences.

When there was talk of war with Germany but before war was declared the police called at the house and invited Uncle Jim to join the RAF Volunteer reserve. There was really no choice, had my uncle refused he would have been conscripted. So, by the time war was declared both my uncle and his friend were in the RAF. His friend survived the war and made a career in the RAF and did very well. Grandma never forgave him for surviving.

I was born in May 1937 so I was very young the last time Uncle came home on leave at Christmas 1939 along with his girlfriend, Queenie. I can just remember him. I clearly remember sitting on grandma's settee with my mother and Uncle Jim, a big man, leant over the back of the settee and kept lighting his cigarette lighter for me to blow out. I remember Mummy telling him to stop. Later I realised she was afraid my breath would dampen the wick.

I remember that Grandma and Grandpa gave me a doll's pram that Christmas. I was not a very dolly girl but I remember being pleased. Then Uncle Jim and Auntie gave me a beautiful china doll with eyes that opened and closed. She was dressed in dark pink knitted clothes, vest and knickers, a full length petticoat and a lovely full length dress plus little pink socks and shoes and a little bonnet. Auntie Queenie had knitted it all herself. I was thrilled and called the doll Sally.

No one knew where Uncle Jim was stationed although a photograph arrived with him and his friends wearing tropical kit. He wrote that he was very happy and enjoying the life and not to worry about him.

Grandpa bought a house in Fern Hill Road where there was a sideway and a garage so that Uncle could buy a car when he came home from the war. It was much nearer to Hollow Way than is the house I live in now.

I remember that we kept chickens and rabbits during the war for the table and there was often a chicken run on the lawn, a wooden structure covered in wire netting and little chicks used to run around inside. My father bought the day old chicks on cattle market days when a building opposite the market sold such things.

Grandma's sister and her husband, Auntie Daisy and Uncle Charlie lived on the South coast and for a while during the war they stayed with Grandma and Grandpa because they were afraid of invasion. It did not last too long as the sisters argued too much. I remember one morning Uncle Charlie came to our house and brought an envelope to my mother. He went away very quickly. I remember my mother sitting on the corner of the chicken run and crying and crying. I was very fright-

ened and bewildered.

I do not know what happened to the telegram or any letter which explained how Uncle Jim died. It was not amongst the stuff I inherited. It happened that the house was empty when the telegram boy came so he put the telegram through the letter box. Grandma came home from shopping. She was quite alone in the house when she picked up the orange envelope and read that her son was dead – just a stark sentence.

We learnt later that Uncle returned to his base in Cairo back from a bombing raid. He was talking to a member of the crew while the ground crew began to prepare the plane for its next flight. There was a bomb trapped in the bomb door and it exploded. Uncle died instantly, the man he was talking with died three days later.

I remember that grandma insisted that my mother ring the War Office to ask for his body to be sent back for burial. This was refused and it was explained that in hot countries bodies were buried very quickly.

This preceded a long period of mourning which lasted for many years because of the constant reminders. All Uncle's possessions and clothes were sent home, including an astrakhan flying suit - planes were somewhat different at that time. All his post was returned, one card says fancy Una being old enough to go to school. Also sent with the post were letters that had been sent to him which arrived after his death, they were painful to read.

We learned later that my Uncle had been flying bombers, Wellingtons and Lancasters. There was a hole drilled through the chest of this garment, presumably where a piece of shrapnel went through Uncle's heart.

Uncle Jim was 21 on April 15th 1941 and was killed on May 2nd of that year.

His birthday presents remained on view in grandma's house for months. Over a period of years Grandma and Grandpa were asked for money for a temporary grave marker and then a photograph of the structure was sent. After the war they were asked for money for the official gravestone and then years later came a photograph. After the war Uncle's campaign medals were sent to my grandfather in a little package addressed to grandpa. They were sent the obituary from St Aldates magazine. They were asked for money towards the painting of the organ loft in St James' as a memorial - months and months later they were invited to view the result which they did not like as they thought it was garish. After I was married in 1959 I went with my mother to the dedication of the memorial board at Southfield. My grandparents could not face that, they were getting much older.

I remember my grandmother saying with some bitterness to my mother that she was lucky to still have her two sons, she, grandma, had lost both her sons.

At Christmas we children were allowed to play with Uncle Jim's Meccano set. We used to look forward to that.

When the Falkland Island War occurred and other skirmishes the relatives were invited to view the place where their loved ones had died and where they were buried. My grandparents were dead by this time and my mother was an old lady. My elder brother and I got together and the upshot was that I wrote to the government and asked if he and I could be accorded the same privilege as we were to all intents and purposes next of kin. We were refused. Later the government made a formal announcement

that relatives of either war would not be taken to the sites of their relatives' death and burial. Presumably others had the same idea as we had.

My young brother was born in 1944 and by that time toys were unobtainable. I had very few toys as I was very young when war started. I had to give my young brother my toys including my teddy bear. One morning Ian demanded to be allowed to play with Sally, my precious doll. I refused but my mother made me hand her over. Ian played for a bit and then he smashed Sally's head into tiny pieces. I was reprimanded for making such a fuss and crying about a doll at the great age of eight. Sally was sent to the Dolls' Hospital and came back with an ugly solid china head with permanently open eyes, it was horrible. We brought Sally here when we married but I put her in the loft and her clothes, so lovingly knitted by Queenie, eventually fell apart and I had to dispose of her. Ian was not even made to say sorry, he was too young to understand I was told.

My mother was very anti German to the day she died. She blamed every German for her brother's death. Vainly I tried to explain that her brother had bombed Berlin and killed countless innocent people and pointed out that if he had not done so he would have been shot for disobeying orders and the German pilots were in the same position. I was not able to make her see sense. When Gordon had a business trip to Germany and I went along for the ride she was very upset and seemed quite convinced we would come to harm simply for being English in Germany.

This is the story of my Uncle Jim but the basic story is common throughout the world, war is a terrible thing.

Una

DIARY DATES TO REMEMBER

Mothers' Union

Monthly Meeting on 3rd Monday of month from 2.15 pm (Note new time)

20 November 2017 – Brian Lowe will be talking on The Oxford of John Henry Newman
St James Church Centre

Women's Institute

Monthly Meeting on 3rd Wednesday of month from 2 – 4.30 pm

15 November 2017 – Liz Woolley will be talking on Leisure and Entertainment in Victorian and Edwardian Oxford.

St James Church Centre

Gardening

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

St James Church Committee

Tuesday, 7 November 2017 at 7.30 pm
St James Church Centre

Film Club

Friday, 10 November 2017 – "A Testament of Youth". St James Church Centre, commencing at 6.30 pm with coffee and cake

Parish Walk

Monday, 13 November 2017, 2.00 pm
Meeting place and route to be announced

Cowley Festival of Christmas Trees 2017

Next/Final Planning Meeting – Wednesday, 15 November 2017, 9.30 – 10.30 am
Ranklin Room, St James Church Centre

Carol Singing at Templars Square (Christmas lights switch on)

Saturday, 18 November 2017 at 3 pm

Sunday Lunch

Sunday, 19 November 2017, at 12.30 for 12.45 pm, St James Church Centre

St Francis Church Committee

Sunday, 5 November 2017, at 12.15 pm
St Francis Church

Gift and Craft Market

Saturday, 25 November 2017, 10.00am – 2.00pm
St James Church Centre

Parochial Church Council

Sunday, 26 November 2017, at 12.45 pm
St James Church Centre

Parish Christmas Supper

Friday, 1 December 2017 at 7 pm
St James Church Centre

Get in the Picture

Saturday, 9 December 10.00 – 16.00
Sunday, 10 December 14.00 – 16.00
Templar Square

Christmas Messy Church

Saturday, 16 December 1917, 10.30 – 12.00
St James Church Centre

REMEMBER: Tuesday lunches at St James Church Centre from 12.30pm

Report of the Deanery Synod, St Barnabas Church 27th September 2017

Following announcements, Bishop Steven Croft took the lectern. He stated that we should be thinking about what God has called us to do. He pointed out that we are in a diocese that has 1000 churches, chaplaincies and schools. That we need to turn away from:

- ∅ A scenario of doom as a motivation for change
- ∅ Goals and tithes as they can demoralise.

We should be finding a vision for the church that can inspire and excite us. To ask ourselves what kind of church we are meant to be like and to give the answer: Jesus. As an answer to that the Beatitudes were regarded as important.

Then Bishop Stephen moved to a discussion of the Beatitudes and their importance when looking at the vision for the Deanery and Diocese moving forward. Our goal being to create a church that was:

- ∅ Contemplative
- ∅ Compassionate
- ∅ Courageous

Three session courses have been created that can be used in Advent and Lent. One is on Lazarus and the other is on the Beatitudes. Groups are being set up to work on the creation of these courses.

Two initiatives were planned.

1. To establish a new monastic community centred at St Frideswides (including housing for young people serving parishes locally and a network of people across the city sharing worship and food)
2. Renew the teaching of the Christian faith.

After a short coffee break those present got into groups to discuss the meanings of the beatitudes with reference to the three main points above. Namely what the beatitudes (From Matthew 5: 3 - 11):

- ∅ Taught us about Jesus
- ∅ Taught us about what it means to be human
- ∅ Taught us about what it means to be the Church

After this, Bishop Steven mentioned that the Beatitudes should be contemplated by us over the full course of the year.

Nick Dewey

Reminiscences of School Days

During the 1930's I attended St Christopher's together with my sister Beryl. This meant a walk from the Sunnyside estate to Temple Road each morning, returning home to White Road for lunch, and repeating both journeys for afternoon school. Mum took us of course because it was unlikely that she would have a job other than 'keeping house'. Plenty of exercise in those days, but we were on the limit of the school basin. Anyone who lived on HorSPATH Road or beyond was destined to go to a smaller school at St. Francis Hall.

About half the men on Sunnyside worked at one of the motor car plants, but those living nearer the school had a wide variety of occupations, but we were all 'working class'. This meant that there was a good mix and even some different accents that caused some rivalry, especially among the Scots and Welsh family connections. Music was considered an important part of the school day and some sort of exercise out of doors was encouraged. The Cowley Marsh playing fields were used by both Infant and junior schools so that Mr. Halsey's junior team was often the winner of the junior school trophy. Miss Judd and Miss Childs (organist at St. Luke's) kept us singing.

Apart from the school football teams there were many other club and friends teams using the facilities and you were more likely to be a player if you were larger or known to be faster than 'the others'. Monday assembly or roll call told its own story on occasions and one such was when my friend Dennis (Tubby) Banton announced that Michael Pargeter would be late for school. No explanation but it was accepted that Dennis would know because they were best pals.

About mid-morning a very sorry looking boy turned up with his arm in a sling. It was Mi-

chael who had just returned from the hospital with a broken shoulder. Apparently during a game of football over the weekend Dennis had challenged Michael and fallen on him! Ouch, crunch. That didn't stop Michael from continuing to play football and later to play rugby as full back in the first fifteen at the Oxford School (George Street). His career was spent in Barclays Bank and was a branch manager. He was best man at my wedding to Audrey, at St. James' in 1956, and a lifelong friend.

Dennis had a lifelong love for sport progressing to cricket, played for the County and was Headmaster of Temple Cowley School before his retirement. Our sons still have happy memories of their sport and musical achievements encouraged by the staff of that school during their early years

It was not unusual for the 'rag and bone man' to wander round the streets with his horse and cart collecting rags which were sold on to the mills as 'shoddy' to be dyed and re-woven into the cheaper woollen cloth (and darker colours). If you gave him a lot of old clothes you might even be paid a small sum for the trouble.

One enterprising old boy found that a good collecting point was in Temple Road outside the schools so with advance notice we carried a bag of old clothes to school. On this occasion for some reason or other mum was not with us and we were paid 'in kind'. Only adults were allowed money. Girls usually had a cheap dolly but I was given a sheath knife - a full blooded 6 inch knife that I showed off proudly when I returned home that afternoon. It wasn't in my possession for long ! I was only 7 years old! Father nearly had a fit when he heard about it.

David Cook

A Poem from the book "Seven Days – Dips into the well of Truth" by Gertrude Wood

LOVE

Love is the essence of life,
Distilled from its deepest pain,
As from its most exultant joys,
From sunshine and the rain.

Love, in evidence daily
A tender touch, a smile,
A helping hand, a cheery word
Makes life much more worthwhile.

Brotherly love is a wide,
Unselfish, and kind outreach
To bring real help where there is need
Not criticize and preach.

Love gives rise to the greatest
Accomplishments man achieves,
But the chill that comes from an unloving
heart,
Discourages and deceives.

We honour the ones we love,
And strive each other to please.
Parting is pain but love lives on,
Measured in memories.

Love, one of God's great gifts,
Is a masterful maker of peace,
When everyone follows the law of love,
The woes of the world will cease.

COWLEY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

The October meeting of Cowley Women's Institute was different from our usual routine as we watched – and a number of us joined in – a demonstration of international folk dancing. Included in the programme were dances from Israel, France, Armenia and Macedonia and the accompanying music, especially for the Middle Eastern dances, was fascinating and haunting.

A presentation about Leisure and Entertainment in Victorian and Edwardian Oxford will be given by local historian Liz Woolley at our November meeting on Wednesday, 15 November, at 2 pm in the Church Centre, and there will be a Bring and Buy Sale of stationery. We hope to see you then.

Ann Withers
President, Cowley WI

After Eight

Sundays @ 8pm

informal worship • conversation

Christ Church Cathedral Oxford

*What is the point of
being a Christian?*

15 October **What is the point of worship?**

Grant Bayliss, Diocesan Canon Precentor

29 October **What is the point of prayer?**

Edmund Nowey, Sub Dean

12 November **What is the point of caring?**

Clare Hayns, College Chaplain

26 November **What is the point of clergy?**

Sarah Foot, Regius Professor of Ecclesiastical History

www.chch.ox.ac.uk/cathedral

What's On

Elder Stubbs Market Stall

Every Wednesday from 10am-2pm you can find a market stall outside the Magdalen Arms on Iffley Road, selling the lovely produce [Elder Stubbs Recovery Group](#) make and grow. From fresh garden produce, jams, honey and cakes each week they sell a different array of products. It has also been a great way to chat to people about the work Restore does and offers.



FROM SOUTH WALES TO OXFORD: Do you have relatives who travelled from Wales to Oxford in the 1920s and 30s? The Museum of Oxford currently has an exhibition running in the Oxford Town Hall. Included is a piece of research about Welsh people migrating to Oxford for work, many of whom lived in Florence Park. They are now looking for people to interview and would love to hear from you. Contact Katherine Hughes (katherineihughes@yahoo.co.uk; 01865 776643

Florence Park Community Centre – Winter Market, Sunday, 19th November from 11 am to 2 pm. Collection of artisan market stalls selling everything from jewellery to Christmas decorations. Refreshments too.

OXFORD PRESERVATION TRUST

1066 - A Medieval Mosaic

On display 9th September – 8th December 2017 at County Hall, New Road, Oxford.

Open to the public Fridays 9 am – 4 pm

Book for your group Tour/Talk anytime by arrangement: c1066@1066.co.nz 07391 618921

www.MEDIEVALMOSAIC.com

BODLEIAN LIBRARY

Exhibition on [Passchendaele: 100 years on](#)

Open now until 26 November

Trench maps offer a contemporary view of war at its most detailed. To mark the centenary of the Battle of Passchendaele, one of the deadliest battles of the First World War, view some of the maps that tell the story of this.

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
2nd 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 staffed by volunteers and is not covered continually. Please leave a message and someone will get back to you.

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Chris Woodman Tel: 778078

Hall Bookings:

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

Cowley Chronicle—Editorial Team:

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