

Mothers' Union
Monthly Meeting on 3rd Monday of month
from 2.15 pm
17 February 2020
St James Church Centre

Women's Institute
Monthly Meeting on 3rd Wednesday of
month from 2 – 4.30 pm
19 February 2020
St James Church Centre

Gardening
Last Saturday of the month – Gardening at St
James Church/St James Church Centre (not
December)

Snowdrop Weekends
Saturday, 1 & 8 February, 10.30 am – 3.30
pm
Sunday, 2 and 9 February, 2 - 4 pm
St James Church

Parish Walks

Wedding Preparation Day
Saturday 29th February
In the Church Centre
Beauchamp Lane OX43LF



*“A day looking at
married life and how to
get the best out of it?”*



Free to those marrying at St James
or St Francis

£10 per couple for others

Tel: 01865 747 680

office@cowleyteamministry.co.uk

www.cowleyteamministry.co.uk/our-services/weddings

RECIPE

Apple and Cinnamon Cake (recipe received
from Harriet Stevens – many thanks)

Ingredients:

Cake tin 23cm/9in
225g (8oz) butter softened
225 g (8oz) light muscovado sugar
3 large eggs
100g (4oz) chopped walnuts
225 g (8oz) self-raising flour
100g (4oz) sultanas
2 level tsp baking powder
400g (14 oz) cooking apples, grated
1 level tsp ground cinnamon

Method:

- Preheat 180 ° C/160 ° C
Fan/Gas 4 greased tin lined
with non-stick baking parch-
ment.
- Put butter, sugar, eggs, wal-
nuts, sultanas, flour and baking powder in
bowl and beat for 2 minutes.
- Spoon half mixture into tin, spread apple
and cinnamon in even layer on top. Spoon
rest of mixture. Sprinkle sugar and walnuts.
- Bake 1 ¼ - 1 ½ hours till golden. Cook on
rack. Dust with icing sugar.



COWLEY FESTIVAL OF CHRISTMAS TREES 2019

'Cowley United'

Friday 13 - Sunday 22 December 2019

Christmas tree festival charities : SeeSaw & ROSY



Grief support
for children
and young people
in Oxfordshire



Respite nursing for
Oxfordshire's
Sick
Youngsters



Data: total attendance, including general opening times, concerts, Messy church, the schools' Christingle visits and the carol service was 960 - but we must be honest that there was considerable double counting of those of us who were there many times!

The finances:

Total income from entry, donations, concert tickets, service collections: £1,653
Church expenses for estimated light & heat, photocopying, kitchen supplies: £153

leaving £1,500 to divide between ROSY & SeeSaw so £750 each.

THANK YOU to all who donated cash, cakes, time and joy.

At the 'wash up' review meeting on Wednesday 22 January, we shared highlights, successes and possible developments for the next time....

Some best moments and aspects:

- 25 members of the Anglican Asian Living Church coming in party mode to set up and decorate their tree
- the Cowley United diorama containing well over 1,000 Cowley 'people' created at the schools' prayer spaces, Templars Square 'Get in the picture'; Seashells, Little Stars, lunch club, Sunday breakfast ... and during the festival
- including the two-person high acrobats created by visiting children
- the music from Ark-T singers, Rising Voices, the Jubilee Brass (Oxford) Band and Emily Marshall's pop up singing workshop
- Christingle services with three schools; extra special to have St Gregory the Great RC school pupils, on their last day of term – they have been the first to assure us they will be back next year – their tree was wonderfully thought out and created
- our link with the Sea Cadets Christmas tree sales
- live participation in BBC Oxford's Sunday morning treasure hunt challenge

We agreed at the review meeting that there should be a 2020 festival and so set the dates but not a theme – *BUT we will go ahead ONLY if we can find several more enthusiasts to share the considerable planning and execution load who commit to join the team prior to the first meeting on Wednesday 6 May, 9.00am in the Ranklin Room.*

They may be church members or from the local community. If that could be you but you can't make daytime meetings, please talk to us.....

A list of tasks and skills required will follow in next month's Chronicle.

Lesley Williams 01865 779 562 07982 439 828 cuf@cowleyteamministry.co.uk

FLO'S - THE PLACE IN THE PARK

Rymers Lane, OX4 3JZ

EVENTS: Death Café Monday 17th February, 4:30-6pm

Part of Flo's series of conversation cafes – this session will be on death. This gathering is a time to eat cake, drink tea and discuss death. The cafe offers a safe respectful space open to everyone.

Hosted by Arne Richards, Sarah Verney and Wren Hughes for more information contact:

Arne@OxfordConcertParty.org

free entry - donations accepted – no need to book

<https://www.facebook.com/events/586622732125386/>



International Women's Day shindig with Slow Wednesdays Ukulele Band and Maeve Saturday 7th March from 7.00pm tickets £7 + booking fee

Join us for this fundraising gig and celebration of women, music and community – with Slow Wednesdays Ukulele band and the wonderful Maeve Bayton.

Our pop up bar will be open, serving drinks for the evening.

Concessionary rates are available - please contact us to arrange this. Proceeds from the evening will go towards raising funds for Mama Meet - a group supporting new mothers at Flo's

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/international-womens-day-ukulele-shindig-with-the-slow-wednesdays-tickets-86344228913>

REGULAR GROUPS – some weekly, others monthly

For pre and post-natal mothers – dads – grandparents – craft lovers

<https://www.flosoxford.org.uk/events/>

COURSES AT FLO'S

Flo's hosts a range of courses, from crafting workshops to training for educational practitioners and parents/child minders.

Please see the Flo's courses page for full details <https://www.flosoxford.org.uk/oxnest/>

FLO'S REFILL SHOP

Shop local and plastic free every Saturday and Wednesday, 12:30-5:00pm and Thursdays, 4:00-8:00pm

Flo's is a community owned and run project situated in the beautiful Florence Park. Its mission is to create a welcoming hub for families from all backgrounds to meet, work, play, learn and eat. It aims to fund the facility through community enterprises hosted in the centre.

On sale at the Refill Shop are unpackaged staple foods from Infinity Foods and SESI refill detergents for washing dishes, clothes and humans, and some environmentally sound baby prod-

ucts. All products are sold by weight or volume, which means you can buy exactly what you want, and bring back the empty container for more!

What is in stock?

pasta, muesli, brown rice, oats, raisins, red split lentils, brown lentils, sunflower seeds, pumpkin seeds, walnuts, almonds, cashew nuts, bicarbonate of soda, vinegar, coconut shampoo & conditioner, aloe vera shampoo and conditioner, olive oil soap, fig hand soap, washing up liquid, laundry liquid, fabric conditioner, all surface cleaner, toilet cleaner.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

The PCC met on the 13 October 2019 and 12 January 2020, reviewing services and action recommended by the Church Committees. The following has been agreed:

St Francis Church

Digital Projection has been agreed by the DAC, and this has been installed

The main floor had been cleaned and sealed

More tables are going to be provided at the church

St James Church

Applications for Faculties are going to be made for:

Ox and Bucks Light Infantry memorial

Digital Projection

Toilet Facilities

This is particularly important in relation to Digital projection and the provision of a toilet to allow applications to be made for outside funding.

There has been discussion on Safeguarding and a new policy has been agreed.

In addition, it has been agreed that the original Health and Safety policy did not need any change and would be reviewed in twelve months' time. Under Data Protection, a Cowley Parish Audit has been accepted. This will be under continuous review in case changes are needed.

The PCC continually review the arrangements for Pastoral work throughout the Parish, receives reports from the Deanery Synod, receives reports from the Anglican Asian Living Church, and the October Meeting received the letter from the Bishops of the Diocese of Oxford on A Christian response to Brexit.

A series of meetings have been arranged so that the 2019 Accounts can be reviewed and agreed, and dates have been arranged for the Annual Congregational meetings of St Francis and St James Churches, and the Annual parish Meeting/Annual Parochial Church Meeting – see DATES TO REMEMBER. It would be lovely to see you at these meetings.

Last but not least, a new computer has been purchased for the Parish Office – which helps the PCC Secretary a great deal!

Sally Hemsworth

Secretary to the PCC

HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY

Holocaust Memorial Day 2020 (27 January) marks the 75th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz. This year's theme, *Stand Together*, reflects on the complex roles of Christians during the Holocaust.

Don't be content in your life just to do no wrong, be prepared every day to try and do some good. Sir Nicholas Winton, who rescued 669 children from Nazi-occupied Europe

A prayer released for HMD 2020 by the Council of Christians and Jews:

God of the past, present, and future, we remember today, 75 years since the liberation of Auschwitz, the six million Jews murdered in the Holocaust, the millions of other victims of Nazi persecution, and all those who have been targeted and killed in subsequent genocides.

We remember those who, having survived genocide, share their stories with us:

We give thanks to you for the lessons of human stories, both in their suffering and in their joy.

We remember those who stood up against injustice and saved lives:

We give thanks to you for their example.

Together we acknowledge the sacrifice of those who stood together with those who suffered during the Holocaust and other genocides.

And we affirm that every life is loved by you and sacred.

Yet, during the Holocaust, too many failed to stand together with their neighbours.

Oppression stains your world and contradicts your love.

So we pray that you will inspire us now as we stand together on this day in the love that we know of God in Christ Jesus.

Let us commit to remembering:

And glorify God in our words and actions.

We make these prayers in the name of Christ Jesus who, through His life, death, and resurrection, journeys with us into the eternal hope of your truth and light. AMEN

For too long: we walked different ways.

For too long: we let what separates us define us.

For too long: we turned a blind eye.

For far too long.

When it mattered so much, we did not stand with you.

We did not see the sights you saw, hear the sounds you heard, or feel the pain you felt, through persecution and hardship and unprecedented levels of brutal inhumanity.

But now we have listened: we have come to walk more closely,

And we commit to a new relationship.

We are here to remember.

We recall the longed-for liberation, and now we seek justice and truth.

We did not walk with you into those dark places but we walk together now; we stand together now.

For it matters still.

We will stand together.

God of justice and of peace,

You call your people to stand together, in solidarity with those who suffer;

We remember before you in sorrow: all who perished in the horror of the Holocaust, all who were persecuted, and all whose suffering continues;

Turn the hearts of all who persecute and oppress, and of all who seek to divide;

Open our own hearts and minds, when they are closed in fear and hatred,

So that all your peoples may stand together and reflect your image.

MOTHERS' UNION NEWS

Although it seems a long time now since the annual Christmas party it is good to look back and recall what a very pleasant occasion it was. As ever we were lucky to have Stephen Michael (husband of one of our members) to play the piano accompanying our carols. With our readings and carols and a splendid candle-lit tea we were very much in seasonal mood at the end of 2019.

2020 began with our Annual General meeting. The Committee agreed to serve again though our dear friend, Mandy Watts, is standing down from the committee due to ill health. Members approved the annual report for 2019 and the balance sheet. Both of these documents had been typed and photocopied by Sally Hemsworth and a vote of thanks to her was noted. Two new (former) members have joined the branch. Both Marian Webster and Angela Munday were welcomed back. The meeting ended with a general discussion on the way forward. Finally, we held a bring-and-buy stall for branch funds.

This month's meeting is planned as a preparation for the Women's World Day of Prayer. This will be held at The Sacred heart Church at Blackbird Leys on Friday, 6 March. Although the Women's World Day of Prayer is not a Mothers' Union initiative we do try, as members of the church, to participate each year.

Rosanne Butler

NOTABLE PEOPLE & CHARACTERS OF COWLEY

(First published in Cowley Chronicle in August 1964)

JACK THOMAS ENDS HIS STINT

Jack Thomas was born in the Aberdare Valley on 15th August, 1899. His father was a typical miner, short and wiry, and his mother a strong personality who managed the household budget through good times and bad.

In his teens Jack was interested in trade unionism which meant to him what it still does today, getting good working conditions and decent wages for work people.

He was dismissed from his job in the mines for endeavouring to achieve these things and, as a consequence, moved to Swansea where he obtained a job in the Corporation's Highways Depot. He was married there in June 1921.

He continued his trade union activities in Swansea, but his burning ambition was to become a full-time trade union official. He often says that he had no doubts in his mind about what he wanted to be.

And so, in January, 1937, he brought his wife and two children to Cowley and took up the appointment of Oxford District Secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union.

There was little in the way of trade unionism in these parts in those days and it was a case of starting from scratch. He shudders now when he thinks of the times that he had to cycle to places like Witney, Woodstock and Thame to build up trade union membership.

Today, after almost 25 years of hard, but rewarding work, his union has a membership in the Oxford District of around 20,000.

His prodigious memory, his personality and his patience have contributed largely to his success. He has had the ability to work out a solution to most of the problems confronting him in his work.

He has also by his fairness and honesty gained the respect of many people on both sides of industry. From the beginning, his has been a seven-day-week job and often his family have said "You do far more for your members than you do for us." He gives that impression at times, but it is far from the truth. When the family is together he is the centre of it in a quite natural way. There is never any lack of conversation. He leads a very interesting life and likes to share his experiences with his family. He is very devoted to his wife and never misses an opportunity of telling anyone how much he owes to her.

John Emlyn Thomas, M.B.E., M.A.(hon), J.P. retires in August of this year (1964). Many people have said how much they will miss him, and his answer to that is, "We have built a sound foundation. Carry on the good work."





St James Church

Saturdays February 1 & 8
10:30 am – 3:30 pm

Sundays February 2 & 9
2:00 pm – 4:00 pm

cakes and refreshments
family activities

Snowdrop days

Beauchamp Lane - Cowley



Historic Cowley Parish church - open for you.



with bread,
cheese and
fruit

SUPER SOUP LENTEN FAIRTRADE LUNCH

Sunday 8 March St James
12:15 donations

NARNIA

A Journey of Discovery
returns to

Dorchester Abbey

11 January - 8 March 2020

Step through the wardrobe
into your own adventure into
the magical, imaginative and
interactive world of Narnia!

- Experience riding in the White Witch's sleigh or sit on her throne!
 - Explore the homes of Mr. Tumnus and the Beavers!
- Become one of the kings and queens of Cair Paravell!

Family activities
School visits

Weekend & half term craft workshops
Pop up tea room
Dramatic role playing

For further information and to book a school visit
contact Margaret Craig, Education Officer:
education@dorchester-abbey.org.uk

Exhibition runs from
11th January 2020 to
8th March 2020

www.dorchester-abbey.org.uk

https://www.dorchester-abbey.org.uk/narnia-2/

See website for opening times,
tickets and events

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www.Narnia.com www.facebook.com/TheChroniclesofNarnia

Claire Ewers

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FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT

Monday 24 February - Sunday 8 March 2020

Calling all chocolate fans and fighters for fairness! In 2020 the Fairtrade Foundation continues its mission to ensure that all farmers are paid fairly for their work and are able to earn a living income, starting with the cocoa farmers in West Africa.

Fairtrade Fortnight is the annual moment when the fight for change is brought to us, the masses. The focus on cocoa continues, highlighting the special role women farmers play in their journey to living incomes, with the sharing of new stories and tools to get more people choosing Fairtrade chocolate. There is information from Côte d'Ivoire and Sierra Leone of some truly inspiring women who want their stories to be heard by the UK. This Fortnight they need your help to share their stories and make the case for Fairtrade.



Try the 'how much do you really know about chocolate' quiz – 14 questions on-line
<https://www.fairtrade.org.uk/get%20involved//Current-campaigns/Fairtrade-Fortnight/How-Much-Do-You-Really-Know-About-Chocolate-Quiz>

Question 1: most cocoa is grown in Belgium - true or false?

False, of course! most cocoa is grown in West Africa – the bulk (approx. 1.5m tonnes) in Côte d'Ivoire, which produces around 40% of global supply.

There will be a selection of fairtrade chocolate bars for sale at St James Centre during the



fortnight. And still available, left over from Christmas (they got secretly 'filed') but still in date: 'Christmas blessings' 80g fairtrade chocolate bars – now only £2!

Remember that we want to become a registered Fairtrade Parish.

Supporting you through everything

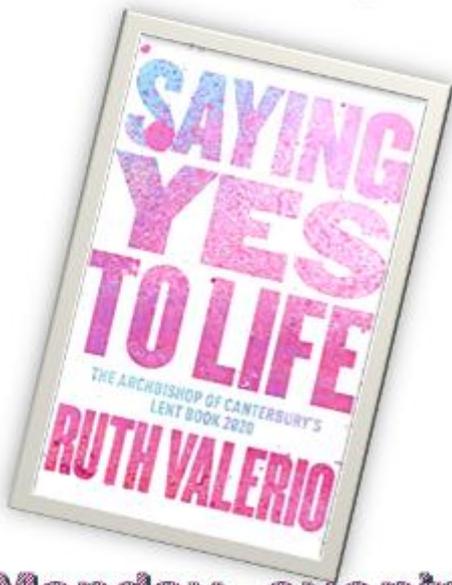
Whether you are a home user or a business, the largest independent computer support company in Oxford is here for you.

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shop@computerassistance.co.uk

Lent Book Club 2020

A 6 Week Book Club



Saying Yes to Life lifts our focus from natural, everyday concerns to issues that are having an impact on millions of lives around the world. As people made in the image of God, we are entrusted to look after what he has created: to share in God's joy and ingenuity in making a difference for good. Ruth Valerio imaginatively draws on the Days of Creation (Genesis 1) as she relates themes of light, water, land, the seasons, other creatures, humankind, Sabbath rest and resurrection hope to matters of environmental, ethical and social concern. Foundational to Saying Yes to Life is what it means to be human and, in particular, to be a follower of Jesus. Voices from around the world are heard throughout, and each chapter ends with discussion questions and a prayer to aid action and contemplation.

Monday evening

7 pm

The Rectory, Beauchamp Lane

Prayer Space

Lord God, you have taught us
that we are members one of another
and that we can never live to ourselves
alone:

we thank you for the community of which
we are part;

for those who share with us in its
activities,

and for all who serve its varied interests.

Help us, as we have opportunity,
to make our own contribution to the
community

and to learn to be good neighbours,
that by love we may serve one another,
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

The advertisement features a blue sky background with a satellite dish and a TV aerial. The text 'Shaun Guard' is at the top in blue. Below it, 'TV AERIAL SERVICES' is written in large, bold, blue letters. A list of services is provided in a blue box with white text: 'Poor reception solved', 'Aerials - supplied & repaired', 'TV's - hung on your wall or set up & tuned', 'Internet - extension points & improved wifi', 'Extra TV Points - for aerial and Sky (also in HD)', and 'Sky TV - also foreign language satellite'. At the bottom, the 'OXFORD AERIALS' logo is shown in red and white, followed by the website 'www.oxfordaerials.co.uk' and the phone number 'Call Oxford 01865 400141' in white text on a red background.

MEANINGFUL CHOCOLATE EASTER EGGS

A decade of Real Easter Eggs

The Real Easter Egg campaign has been running since 2010 and involves thousands of churches, schools and groups. It crosses all denominations and offers individuals a simple way to share the Easter Story while supporting Fairtrade and charitable projects.

The idea began in 2008 when David Marshall was given a chocolate Easter Egg. David explained: "On the side of the box it read: 'Easter is the festival of chocolate and loveliness'. I began to wonder – was it right for the manufacturer of an Easter egg to change the meaning of a religious festival in this way? Imagine the outcry if this had been done to Christmas. I searched for an Easter egg which mentioned the Christian story of Easter. It became clear that out of the 80 million eggs on sale there was not a single manufacturer who was willing to mention the religious aspects of the festival. So I started The Meaningful Chocolate Company to manufacture the UK's first 'Real Easter Egg'. For it to be a 'Real Easter Egg' it had to reflect the Easter themes of hope and new life and do three things – have a copy of the made from Fairtrade charitable causes."

The Real Easter Egg was a real struggle as all the the idea of an Easter egg left to churches, schools and fund the making of The Real

Ten years on, more than a with over 750,000 sent customers. The rest have and supermarkets. Nearly

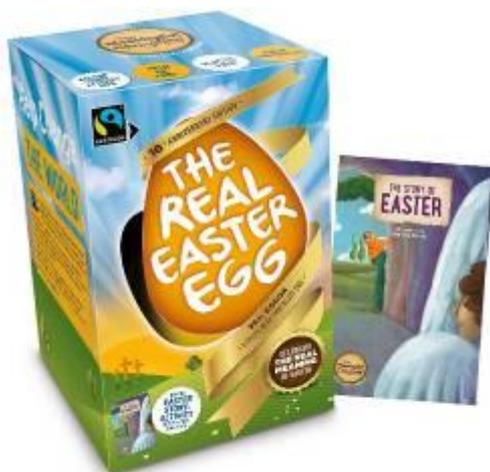
to charitable projects with Fairtrade Premium fees paid to farmers allowing them to buy everything from school books and solar panels to providing fresh water.

For Easter 2020, there are five types of Real Easter Eggs available all with new content. Each egg has an edition of the Easter story included. There is a new 24-page version in the Original and Dark eggs with activities, biblical text and a prize competition worth £200. There is a poster activity version of the Easter story in the Sharing Box and Fun Pack and a simple guide version in the Special Edition. Both the Original and Dark 2020 eggs are plastic-free and all our chocolate is Palm Oil free.

This year churches are encouraged to read more or order at www.realeasteregg.co.uk

Yes, it's time to order NOW – there's a 10% reduction offer on the standard milk chocolate egg ordered on-line until the end of February, so £3.60 instead of £3.99. Dark chocolate eggs are £5.50 and the 'special edition' is £9.99.

Order lists are in both churches and St James Centre - please sign up by *Sunday 22 February – pay later.*



and new life and do three Easter story in the box, be chocolate and support

launched in 2010. It was a supermarkets turned down connected to faith. It was groups to place orders and Easter Egg.

million eggs have been sold through the post directly to been sold through retailers £275,000 has been donated

Taste and see that the Lord is good! A worship diet



For the ministry team each day starts with morning prayer. It's part of what is known as the Daily Office, which all clergy promise to do each day. However it's not just for vicars! You can get Daily Prayer as a free app on your device, and it's already been downloaded 5 million times

I have a special love for morning prayer. When I was 28 and felt called to go to church (having never stepped inside one before), morning prayer each weekday was how I started. I joined the ministry team and a few others in my parish and it's where I learnt how to pray, learned to read the bible, and found out what following Jesus was all about. For me, morning prayer is like having a really good breakfast. It sets me up for the day and sustains my spirit. I wonder what your spiritual breakfast is? Or perhaps you feel hungry and need more to sustain you in your relationship with God? Morning prayer may be a good place to start. It has a healthy mix of bible input, personal and intercessory prayer, and the added benefit of knowing that millions of others are joining with you around the globe. It takes about 10 minutes, so it's easy to fit into a morning routine. The most important meal of the day!

Our worship together is another way we are spiritually fed. This week I dined out on the veritable feast of going to Southwark Cathedral to see our former Archdeacon Martin Gorick be ordained Bishop of Dudley. The worship was rich and sustaining, but not something I experience every week. I hope our worship here in Cowley parish nourishes you well, but sometimes it is nice to eat out once in a while. If you see there is a different service going on elsewhere perhaps pop along and see how it feeds your spirit. It may not be something you'd like in your diet every day, but it's exciting to try new things. Here in Oxford we have a very rich and full menu with the cathedral, lots of churches, plus all the college chapels.



It is one of the wonderful things about the Church, and about God, in that we can come to him in all our variety of flavours and he will feed us with what fills us best.

If you'd like to join morning prayer: 8 am Monday St Francis, Tuesday-Thursday & Saturday St James

Gemma Beesley

SNOWDROP WEEKENDS

Saturdays 1 & 8 February, 10:30-3:30

Sundays 2 & 9 February, 2:00-4.:00

There are more aconites than snowdrops this year but they are beautiful too – the church will be open – teas will be served – snowdrop information and activities – our latest offer to the people of Cowley to experience our welcome

contact Margaret Martin 01865 718 532

ELECTORAL ROLL

Following the setting up of a complete new electoral roll in 2019, this year is just one for a revision so we remove any who have died, moved away or just stopped worshipping with us and add new members. The formal notice for this will be posted on 1 March:

Notice is hereby given

that the Church Electoral Roll of the above parish will be revised by the Parochial Church Council, beginning on Sunday the first day of March 2020, and ending on Sunday the twenty-ninth day of March 2020.

After the revision, a copy of the Roll will be published by the Parochial Church Council and displayed in St James and St Francis churches for at least 14 days; a copy of the Roll will also be available for inspection on a reasonable request being made to the Electoral Roll Officer, on behalf of the PCC.

Under the Church Representation Rules, any lay persons are entitled to have their names entered on the roll if the person —

(a) is baptised,

(b) is aged 16 or over, and

(c) has made one of the following three declarations and duly applied for enrolment.

The first declaration is that the person is a member of the Church of England or of a Church in communion with it and is resident in the parish.

OR the second declaration is that the person is a member of the Church of England or of a Church in communion with it, is not resident in the parish, but has habitually attended

public worship in the parish during the preceding six months.

OR the third declaration is that the person is a member in good standing of a Church which is not in communion with the Church of England but subscribes to the doctrine of the Holy Trinity and is also a member of the Church of England and has habitually attended public worship in the parish during the preceding six months.

For those who have newly associated themselves with the Parish during this year, or who have been with us but never previously got round to it, forms of application for enrolment are available in both churches, from the Parish office and from Lesley Williams, Electoral Roll Officer. It's free!

In order to take part in the proceedings of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting on Sunday 26 April, forms of application for enrolment must be returned by Sunday 29 March.

Once it is displayed, any error discovered in the Roll should at once be reported to the Church Electoral Roll Officer.

The statutory electoral roll form gives us solely your name and address and meets GDPR (data protection) requirements. But we ask you also to complete a Parish subsidiary pro forma to tell us some personal information, which aids our communication with you, including telephone and e-mail contact details and emergency contacts. All these details are of course held securely and will only be shared with Parish Officers on a need to know basis.

DEANERY SYNOD

Reports have been received by the PCC on two Deanery Synod Meetings – 25 September 2019 and 17 November 2019, and the following matters were discussed:

25 September 2019: In the 2016 General Synod, it was agreed to increase vocations by 50%, increase young ordinands, to create a new funding formula. In September 2017 there were discussions about the Common Vision Process and “setting God's people Free”. The budget might have been tight, but the Deanery were continuing to work to this end. A goal that was set was to increase diversity which meant more ordinands from the BAME (Black, Asian, Minority and Ethnic) groups, also more younger women and less socially advantaged people to build a range of views in the Church. Maternity leave was now provided to assist women. Also there were moves to be more open to people who have dyslexia or learning difficulties. Discipleship should be encouraged as there were more people called to ministry from discipleship. This was important because 59% of Anglicans said that the Church did not equip them well for life in today's world at home, work or elsewhere.

A motion was passed indicating that there were inequalities in churches across the diocese and that a working party should be commissioned to gather data to do something about it. There was much awareness about poverty amongst the congregation and community, but not about churches.

17 November 2019: Most of the deanery synod meeting was about the mission action plan and a survey was filled out which was about what aspects of the mission plan should be given the highest priority at the moment from the perspective of using the parish, and what should be a deanery issue and a diocesan issue. This was the product of our priority and vision exploration afternoon.

Ben Vane from Grace Church announced that he has done nine Sundays and that the congregation was growing.

It was announced that Malcom Gorrick was to become Bishop of Dudley, and that Bishop Colin was due to step down in October 2020 after a 20 year long career.

Nick Dewey

CHRONICLE

Editorial Team- Sally Hemsworth, Nicki Stevens

Deadline for the next edition: Monday 17 February 2020

If possible, please send entries by email to Sally at chronicle@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.

A CELEBRATION

I was almost nine years old when the Second World War ended but I know that quite a few of our readers will smile and say “I was much more grown up than that!” However, I am sure that they, like me, will recall the unbridled relief that the whole country experienced on that day – unbridled joy that “the boys” would soon be home, unbridled joy that there would be no more black-out, unbridled joy that the rationing of fuel, food and clothing would soon be over. We even might be able to obtain a tyre for a bike without obtaining a permit!

So on 8th May this year the whole country is going to celebrate the 75th anniversary of that momentous occasion. The celebrations will continue right across the following weekend.

“How are we going to celebrate?” I asked Geoff a couple of weeks before Christmas. “Let’s have a street party in the Church Centre car park”, he suggested. “Lovely” I said, and “how about a brass band?” “I’ll leave that to you”, he replied.

Well I’ve booked the wonderful Jubilee Brass to play lots of jolly music.

We have also planned some fun and games for both the very young and the young-at-heart. We plan to hold the party on Saturday, 9th May and hope the weather will be kind. If not, we can always resort to the hall. The party will be a bring-and-share affair though we will certainly have jelly! I told Geoff that for authenticity we ought not to have ice-cream. “Oh, come on, Rosanne, let’s have ice-cream anyway!”

So please put the date in your diaries because we want EVERYONE to come along and celebrate.

Rosanne Butler

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’s that easy! We have just earned some more from our latest ‘Open the Book’ resources order – not a huge amount but useful!

Do look at the on-line shop for Easter cards and gifts – Bibles, prayer books, cards, courses, fiction, DVDs etc.

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



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
1st Sunday All Age bring n/share lunch

MID-WEEK SERVICES & MEETINGS

Morning Prayer	8.00am	Tue, Thu, Sat at St James; Mon at St Francis
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	7.30pm	Local House of Prayer, St James

HOME GROUPS

Leader	Time/Venue
Friends of St Francis (Katherine Reed)	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

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:

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

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