



CAMINO DE SANTIAGO PILGRIMAGE TREK

possibly 20-27 March 2021

but quite likely to be postponed until

October 2021 – decision to be made in December

Fundraising for the Traidcraft Exchange

Lesley Williams reports on her next challenge: this time with Global Adventure Challenges, to fulfil a long-held wish to make a Camino pilgrimage visit to Santiago de Compostela. This means committing to raising £1330 for Fairtrade Exchange, on top of a considerable amount to cover flight and accommodation expenses which she is paying herself. So now that the Ride and Stride and the Christian Aid abseil are done, she is putting her mind to serious fundraising with ideas needed for events and other opportunities, rather than straight sponsorship, to achieve that.....but is currently waiting to see whether we will be going ahead in March after all.

The trek is the final 116km/72 miles, 5 days of the full pilgrimage route, starting from Sarria, with a grading of tough and challenging! I have walked further than that during and since lockdown but not on consecutive days.

The group of 20 trekkers has met with the staff from Traidcraft Exchange on a second Zoom session when we learned about the probable deferral and from some members how far ahead they are on their fundraising.... and more about Traidcraft's work which, like most charities, has had to focus on recovery from the impact of COVID-19.

Based on our individual fundraising target, it helps to know that :

- every half mile buys enough rice to feed a family of four for a month
- every mile buys enough sanitizer, masks, gloves and soap for that family
- every four miles raises enough to help a small business to recover, providing secure employment for the future
- every eight miles raises enough to set up a farmers' cooperative, enabling them to save together to build a resilient future

Traidcraft Exchange exists to do two things:

- to support people to harness the benefits of trade
- to fight against injustice in global trade

It's a simple mission, but it is changing lives all over the world.



SAFEGUARDING IN COWLEY PARISH

As a Parish, we are committed to the Christian care, nurture of, and respectful pastoral ministry with, all children and all adults but particularly those who are vulnerable in any way.

So we ensure that our policies and practice on the selection and training of all those staff and volunteers with any responsibility within the Church are in line with safer recruitment principles, including the use of Disclosure and Barring Service criminal records checks where applicable.

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

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

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

Our 'Promoting a safer church' action plan has helped to clarify our procedures and systems. There is the danger that we *think everyone knows what they should do* but we have not fully checked on that; it's not possible during this hiatus.

Of course during the period of lockdown and beyond, it is also very difficult to check on the wellbeing of our families but we hope any in need of help will contact us. The schools have done an amazing job and are still managing to do so.

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility – *please be sure to report anything you observe whilst at church or one of our events that causes you concern for someone's safety or wellbeing.*

It is just as important during this strange time when life is still not back to what we think of as normal; the situation throws up its own safeguarding and welfare issues.

Please remain aware.

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

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JOKES

- Q. Who was the faster runner in the Bible?
A. Adam, because he was the first in the Human Race.
- Q. What did Adam say on 24th December?
A. It's Christmas, Eve.
- Q. What kind of car did the disciples drive?
A. A Honda - because the Bible says that they were all in one Accord.
- Q. Who was the greatest financier in the Bible?
A. Noah. He was floating his stock while everyone was in liquidation.
- Q. Who was known as a mathematician in the Bible?
A. Moses. He wrote the Book of Numbers.
- Q. When is the first tennis match mentioned in the Bible?
A. When Joseph served in Pharaoh's court.
- Q. Why didn't they play cards on the Ark?
A. Because Noah was standing on the deck.
- Q. Who was the greatest comedian in the Bible?
A. Samson. He brought the house down.
- Q. How long did Cain hate his brother?
A. As long as he was Abel.
- Q. How did Noah see inside the Ark?
A. He used floodlights.
- Q. What was Boaz like before he got married?
A. Ruthless.
- Q. Why was everyone so poor in Bible times?
A. Because there was only one Job.

* The above jokes were taken from:
The Leprosy Mission's 'Bible Fun' Tea Towel



CHRONICLE

Editorial Team- Sally Hemsworth,
Nicki Stevens

Deadline for the next edition:

Monday 23 November 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.

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Animal encounters

I was clearing the tomato pots from the greenhouse when I noticed a big fat earthworm exposed on the gravel. Next thing, a frog jumped in and started the ingestion of the worm. I watched fascinated as the worm slowly was taken in. It took a few minutes as the total volume of the worm was about half of the body mass of the frog. He made it though!

We have had other visitors making themselves known. When getting some potatoes from storage in the shed, I noticed that something had been having a nibble. Though I couldn't find the actual guilty creatures, there was evidence of nest building in the ravaged hessian sack and droppings galore. The other piece of evidence was the smell as house mice do smell! I regret not having a cat any more.

We certainly have had rats a couple of times. Once, attracted by the falling seeds from the bird feeders and another time being confronted by big round eyes when I took the top off the compost bin. It quickly made itself scarce but had done a good job in turning the compost over! I didn't know what the attraction was as I am scrupulous in making sure that no cooked food or meat nor bones get in there. Gloves are advised in handling the finished product as rats spread Weil's Disease in their urine though it is fairly uncommon in the UK and more likely from water and if you have cuts on your hands.

On the topic of compost, it amazes me how the bright red brandling worms, rarely found in soil, proliferate in the compost and merrily get on with breaking down the weeds, grass cuttings, kitchen peelings, shredded paper and cardboard to the crumbly black stuff that I can use in pots and as a soil conditioner. Mind you,

they have help from slugs, snails, beetles, woodlice, fungi, bacteria and many other creatures.

We have kept our bird feeders out all summer but visits have become rare since young have fledged and there is more food out in the fields and hedgerows. But now is the time to start full feeding mode. The feeders have been cleaned and disinfected and are now filled. We keep the bird feed in the shed and I suppose it was that attracting the mice.

During the lockdown, watching the antics of birds was a delight, especially seeing a male blackbird feeding two young alternately who looked bigger than dad as they ruffled their feathers and flapped their wings with beaks wide open. I also saw twice a family of five magpies having a whale of a time playing tag in and around the garden furniture.

I love birds but they have the habit of sowing brambles after they have been at blackberries! I have had many a prickly hand whist weeding!

I have also found several hazel bushes appearing and I am suspecting the squirrels laying down stores for the winter and not coming back to retrieve the nuts.

The one creature I have not seen evidence of in recent years, is the hedgehog. I am sad about that. We had one with babies once who had made a nest in a black bin liner containing the dried skins of onions in the garage. We hadn't tidied away after harvesting the crop from the allotment. Great to see, but I am afraid my children disturbed mum too much and they moved house!

Joan Coleman

Adverts from the Archives

PERSONAL

NEW HAIR brooms sweep clean, Hopkins' sweep better.
 ALGIE, replaced teaset at Hopkins', please forgive, S.
 £10 LOAN? Join Hopkins' Tool Club.
 GLADYS, cheer up, Hopkins' wallpapers will.
 DETECTIVES, rotting fence, creosote, Hopkins'.
 KITCHEN cabinet? Ply and mouldings at Hopkins' Stores.
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 Mrs. MUSSOLINI, don't argue husband, try Hopkins' frypan.
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February 1939

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Sundays from Oxford: 8 and 10.15 a.m.; 12.30, 2.15 and 7 p.m.

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February 1939

Annual Parish Meeting/Annual Parochial Church Meeting. 10 October 2020

At the Annual Parish Meeting, two Church Wardens were appointed:

Nick Dewey

Christine Woodman.

They will hold these positions until the next Annual Parish Meeting which it is hoped will be in April 2021.

At the Annual Parochial Church Meeting, a detailed report on the activities of the church during 2019/2020 and the financial accounts for 2019 were received. The following appointments were made:

Lay Members of the Deanery Synod:

Nick Dewey

Christine Lee

Christine Woodman

Lay Members of the Parochial Church Council:

Joan Coleman

Sheila Collett

Sally Hemsworth

Marie Paterson

Norah Shallow

Maureen Stone

Andrew Swallow

Margaret Weller

Lesley Williams

Co-opted member:

Sunita Masih (AALC)

We are allowed twelve members which means that there are three vacancies. It is hoped it will be possible to co-opt people on to fill these vacancies.

The Church Committees will remain as in 2019 as it has not been possible to hold the Annual Congregational Meetings. The position is as follows:

St James Church Committee:

Joan Coleman

Val Goodall

Sally Hemsworth

Christine Lee

Jill Ling

Margaret Martin

Margaret Weller

Lesley Williams

Christine Woodman

St Francis Church Committee:

Lydia Barker

Sheila Collett

Shirley Costar

Gwen Denny

Faith Hunter

Lyn Lord

Norah Shallow

Maureen Stone

Andrew Swallow

The OXFORD ABSEIL

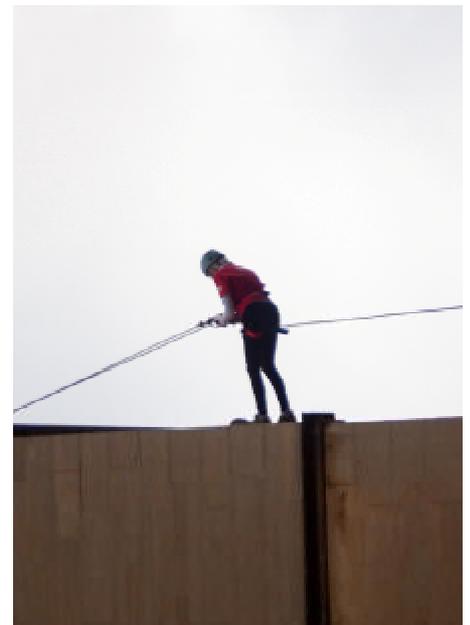
Saturday 17 October 2020



St Mary Magdalen Church (Mary Mags) tower, central Oxford

After a four year break, I did wonder whether I'd be nervous....but I loved it as usual! even climbing over the tower parapet! I've several times in the past enjoyed descending headfirst from a tree but decided it wouldn't be such fun all that way down the tower so I reverted to my fun bouncing away from the wall... filmed from the base by Jo Duckles. It's all over so quickly; I'd have loved a second go.

As we have had only one Big Brekkie this year, a minimal Christian Aid Week virtual coffee morning in May and no Quiz Aid evening in June, I hope you may use this opportunity for your annual Christian Aid giving. There are still paper sponsor forms available in both churches until 8th November or you can use the Just Giving on-line page: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/lesley-williams-abseil-oxford-2020>



But if both those ways are impossible for you, give me a ring/ email and I will add you to the sponsor form and collect the donation from you by arrangement later.

My original fundraising target was £500; at the time of writing this (27/10/20) I have easily topped that, at £700, plus gift aid on the paper form, guesstimated at £75£775!

After the £700 sponsorship for September's Ride and Stride, that's a real thrill – again, THANK YOU so much to all donors

01865 779 562 07982 439 828 lesleyjwilliams@btinternet.com

SAMARITAN'S PURSE – OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

<https://www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/>

Because of the pandemic and difficulty with shopping no pre-printed boxes were purchased this year. However, several people have been asking whether we are collecting gift shoe-boxes and Lesley Williams has indicated she is willing to deliver the boxes to the collection places – the dates for this are between 9-16 November. Please liaise with Lesley Williams if you have boxes to be delivered/or if you wish to donate items so that either boxes can be made up at the Parish Office or the goods taken to the collection places.

At the collection places, all boxes are opened and checked to ensure the items donated are acceptable. In the past difficulties have been experienced as if one box is found to have a “wrong” item the whole consignment can be refused so great care is taken about this.

It is possible to give money on-line - £20 would include the £5 transport contribution and you choose the gender, age and gifts. Details are on <https://shoebonline.samaritans-purse.org.uk/step/1>.

However, in the past many people have donated smaller amounts through the Parish Office (via me) and I have made the donation on-line. I am very willing to do this again so please let me know if I can be of help. You can leave a message at the Parish Office or Chris Woodman is willing to liaise with me.

Sally Hemsworth



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IN REMEMBRANCE



Remember those who have gone before'.
(This is taken from a memorial in a church in Germany to civilians killed in bombing during WW2)

From The Anxious Dead

O guns, fall silent till the dead men hear
Above their heads the legions pressing on:
(These fought their fight in time of bitter fear,
And died not knowing how the day had gone.)

O flashing muzzles, pause, and let them see
The coming dawn that streaks the sky afar;
Then let your mighty chorus witness be
To them, and Caesar, that we still make war.

Tell them, O guns, that we have heard their call,
That we have sworn and will not turn aside,
That we will onward till we win or fall,
That we will keep the faith for which they died.

Bid them be patient, and some day, anon,
They shall feel earth enwrapt in silence deep;
Shall greet, in wonderment, the quiet dawn,
And in content may turn them to their sleep.

John McCrae (died in base hospital 1918)

In Flanders Fields

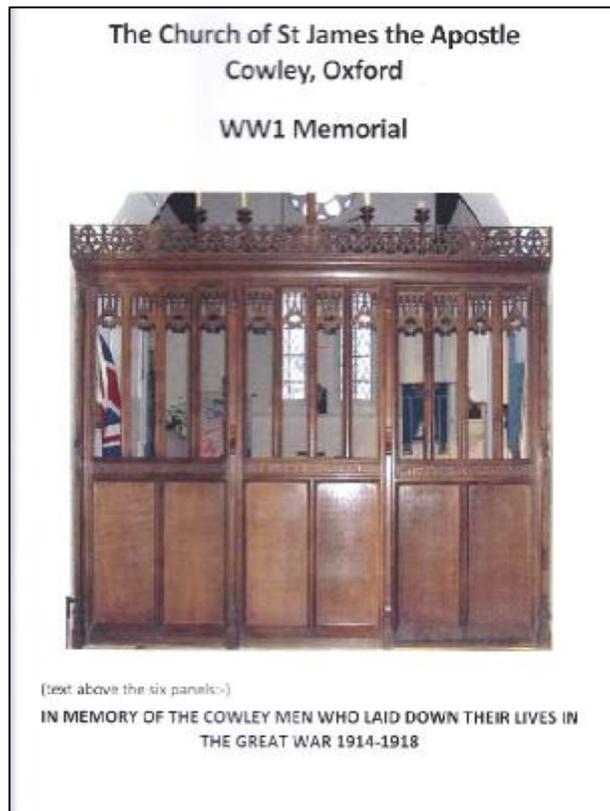
In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset flow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.

John McCrae

St James Church – WW1 Memorial
In memory of the Cowley Men who laid down their lives in
The Great War 1914-1918



Lest we forget all the men and women who gave their lives for us

A printed copy of the research into the names of the Men of Cowley has now been made showing details of those named on the WW1 Memorial. The book lists those that could be identified, some of their background, their families and their place of burial. So many mourned in the small streets and roads of Cowley Parish. All so young and never forgotten especially by their families.

Sheila Tree

Sheila Tree and Derek Powles, who researched the information in the above book, have donated a copy to the Parish of Cowley, and it will be available for people to see.

Details have been found on the majority of those listed on the Memorial Board, but they have been unable to trace anything on the following – CAN YOU HELP?

Frederick BOROUGHS
Frederick BROCKALL
Arthur BROWN
Sidney BROWN
William BROWN
Gabriel GREENFIELD
Jack KING
Harold PEAKE

They have indicated that the names recorded on the memorial board in the church are not by any means all the local boys who died in WW1 and that is a task perhaps for further research.

MEMORIAL TO THE OXFORDSHIRE & BUCKINGHAMSHIRE LIGHT INFANTRY

The background to this is that 4th (TA) Battalion, The Oxfordshire & Buckinghamshire Light Infantry set off to France on 11th January 1940. After time spent training and building defences South of Lille they moved towards the Belgian border. They met the swiftly advancing Germans on 15th May near Waterloo. Retreat began on 17th May and the 4th Bn arrived in the hill-top town of Cassel on 25th May. This they defended vigorously with the 2nd Glosters as part of the efforts to slow the German advance towards the Dunkirk beach head. On the night of 29th May with supplies and ammunition running short they were ordered to evacuate only to be captured during the day which was the start of a long and arduous journey into captivity for the remainder of the war.

The memorial is made of local Hornton Ironstone. It was dedicated at Cassel on 20th May 2006 in the town square where it joined a similar memorial to the Gloucestershire Regiment unveiled in 1993. It was replaced by a new, more durable, memorial in slate in a better location in Cassel in 2017. The new memorial was dedicated by the Chaplain of St George's in Ypres in front of the mayor and old comrades on 27 September 2017.

The Cowley of Parish was asked to take the renovated sign because of the strong link between St James Church and the old Cowley Barracks (built 1873) when there would have been little but fields between the Home Depot of what was then the Oxfordshire Light Infantry and their local church.

A Faculty was obtained to install the renovated memorial on the north wall of St James Church, and the work was completed about two weeks ago.



The following photographs show the different parts of the memorial as it is difficult to read the above:





The following picture shows where it was originally erected in Cassel, France:



ELECTORAL ROLL

The abbreviated display version of the revised roll of 116 is in both churches. The full version with personal contact details is held securely in line with GDPR regulations

Now the APCM has been held, it is open again for further registration so if you meant to register as a Parish member in this way, and have not, it is now possible. If you would like the necessary form contact Lesley Williams, the Electoral Roll Officer. Her telephone numbers are 01865 779 56 or 07982 439 828, and her email is lesleyjwilliams@btinternet.com

CHURCHES OPENING FOR WORSHIP from 5 July

Holy Communion in one kind only

8.00am St James

9.30am St Francis, St James

11.00am St Francis, St James

PRIVATE PRAYER IN OUR CHURCHES THIS WEEK

Wednesday 2.00—4.00 St James

**ALL OTHER ACTIVITIES
SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER
NOTICE—FACEBOOK DAILY
PRAYER TAKES PLACE
MONDAY—SATURDAY 12
NOON,**

**LOCAL PROGRAMME NOT OPERATING AT MOMENT—
LOOK OUT FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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

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.

Contact details: Tel: 01865 747680

Email: office@cowleyteamministry.co.uk

Out of hours tel: 01865 778596

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The Revd Canon Dr Geoffrey Bayliss

Tel: 01865 747680 (o) 01865 778596 (h)

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Team Curate:

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Email: curate@cowleyteamministry.co.uk

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Revd Canon Mark Oxbrow

01865 461953

Email: markoxbrow@aol.com

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Christine Woodman Tel: 778078

St Francis : Nick Dewey

Tel: 07952 524664

St James Church Centre Manager:

Chris Woodman Tel: 778078

Hall Bookings:

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

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Paper contributions to the Parish Office.