

# Made in Cowley

As I write, I'm sadly aware that I have just one month left with you before I leave the Parish, for a different kind of life as a University Chaplain. Although I've only been with you as Curate for just over 2 years, they've been 2 of the most significant years in my life.

In my first piece in the *Chronicle*, I wrote about my first day as Curate in the Parish. I had coffee in the Cowley

Centre and noticed people giving me "strangely intense looks in my new clerical shirt". More than 2 years on, my clerical shirts have lost their pristine new look, but people still give me intense looks

when I'm out and about. But now I understand more of the role of the parish priest, and I'm aware of the many images people project on me because of this role.

When we arrived in Cowley, Ben was a 9-month old baby. He's now a fully-fledged 3-year old toddler, with a pair of lungs to match, and a fascination with cars (more on that shortly)! And Isaac, born since we've been here, is

now walking and beginning to talk. As I look back on these 2 years, I notice that Ben and Isaac's development has paralleled my own. I've graduated from layperson to deacon to priest; I've learnt how to walk and talk as a priest. And if I can stretch the analogy even further, some of the learning was pre-programmed inside of me, but a lot came from all of you, teaching me. In these 2 years I've begun to learn how to

preach, how to lead services, how to take school assemblies, how to sit on committees, how to chair meetings, how to visit, how to sympathise, how to laugh, how to be foolish and not mind, how to listen, how to talk, and how to be me, as

a priest. Like the shiny new Minis that roll out of the BMW factory (and the Morris and Rovers before them), I will leave bearing the imprint, invisible but there all the same: "Made in Cowley".



Mark

# Chronicle

## Ministry of Healing

*A monthly service on the first Tuesday of the month,  
alternating between St James and Sr Francis Churches*

### **Healing Services:**

**Tuesday 7th Sept 7.30 pm**

**St Francis Church**

**Tuesday 5th Oct 7.30 pm**

**St James Church**



*Cowley Community Festival*

**FLOWER FESTIVAL** in St James Church

*The Pilgrimage of Faith*

**Saturday to Wednesday**

**11th to 15th September**

**20.00 - 4.00 pm**



## FAREWELL TO MARK HARRIS

**SUNDAY 26th SEPTEMBER**

**in St James Church**

**6.00 pm Evensong, Presentation  
and Party**



Mark came to the parish as a Deacon in July 2002. Many of us were present at his Ordination to the Priesthood in Henley Parish Church and at his First Eucharist a few days later. Over the last two years we have all come to value Mark's ministry among us. He has now been appointed as Chaplain to Oriel College here in Oxford.

As always we shall be making a presentation to Mark to show our appreciation of his time at Cowley. Please give any contributions, using the special envelopes provided, to Norah Shallow or Gwen Ranklin.

## Martyrs of Korea

Korea is known for its thriving Christian church. But it was not always so - in fact no Korean was baptised until as late as 1784. Christianity arrived in Korea through Christian books sent from China, and the Koreans responded warmly as soon as they heard the Good News. A Chinese priest who visited in 1794 found 4,000 Christians. This despite hard times: the Chinese priest was killed in 1801, and the Koreans were left without a priest for 30 years. Pius VII sent a bishop, Laurence Imbert, who arrived in disguise in 1837, who worked with two other priests of the same Paris Missionary Society. Christianity was strictly forbidden by this time, and so the missionaries worked in complete secrecy, rising at 2.30 am and ministering at unusual times in conditions of extreme poverty.

And the Korean Church grew! Soon there were 9,000 Christians, who could not remain secret for ever. Violent persecution broke out, and the three French priests allowed themselves to be taken, in order to avert massacre and apostasy. There were beheaded at Seoul on 21 September 1839. 78 Korean Christians died in the same persecution, among them Agatha Kim and John Ri. The first Korean priest to be martyred was Andrew Kim, in 1846. These shining Christians of the Korean Church were beatified in 1925 and canonized in 1984.

## September means wild mushroom time

Fungi flourish in warm damp autumns, so if the weather continues this warm and damp (as we go to press), there will certainly be lots of fungi about! There are a staggering 4000 or so large fungi species found the British Isles alone.

Did you know?

- Fungi are not plants or animals. Plants convert the sun's energy into food, whereas fungi feed on other plant and animal material. They don't need sunlight, but instead have enzymes which dissolve their food so that they can absorb it.

- Toadstools and mushrooms may not last long, but they are just the tip of the iceberg in any case. Or rather, they are what is known as the 'fruitbodies' of underground fungal 'hypha'. These hypha often grow as expanding discs of thread which are called mycelium. Some of these mycelium can live to be hundreds of years old.

- A 'fairy ring' is not made by fairies, but by fruitbodies around the edges of a circular mycelium.

NEVER eat fungi you find unless you are VERY sure that it is not poisonous. While only a few kinds of British fungi are in fact very poisonous, what is poisonous can kill you.

Unfortunately several edible fungi species can also cause tummy upsets for some people, even though others can enjoy them with no evident undesirable effects. Other fungi species are edible only when cooked, as cooking breaks down the toxins within the fungi.

Late summer, autumn and early winter are your best times for finding fungi. Look in beech woods, which are a very rich habitat for fungi. Pine forests, especially where trees have been felled many years ago, are also productive. Finally, sheep-cropped meadows and playing fields can also provide a mushroom harvest - to those who get there first.

If you do decide to gather wild fungi, remember to never take more than a small sample from any one location.



## Advertising Terms Explained

NEW - Different colour from previous design.

ALL NEW - Parts are not interchangeable with previous design.

EXCLUSIVE - Imported product.

UNMATCHED - Almost as good as the competition.

FOOLPROOF OPERATION - No provision for adjustments.

ADVANCED DESIGN - The advertising agency doesn't understand it.

IT'S HERE AT LAST - Rush job. Nobody knew it was coming.

FIELD TESTED - Manufacturer lacks test equipment.

HIGH ACCURACY - Unit on which all parts fit.

FUTURISTIC - No other reason why it looks the way it does.

REDESIGNED - Previous flaws fixed - we hope.

DIRECT SALES ONLY - Factory had a big argument with distributor.

YEARS OF DEVELOPMENT - We finally got one to work.

BREAKTHROUGH - We finally figured out a use for it.

MAINTENANCE FREE - Impossible to fix.

MEETS ALL STANDARDS - Ours, not yours.

SOLID-STATE - Heavy as anything!

HIGH RELIABILITY - We made it work long enough to ship it.





# Rosanne interviews Esme Forbes

*"The sun that bids us rest  
is waking,  
Our brethren  
'neath the western sky,  
And hour-by-hour  
fresh lips are making  
Thy wondrous doings  
heard on high."*

As a small girl singing that lovely old evening hymn in a tiny Oxfordshire village church, my imagination fired by pictures in my Arthur Mee's Book of Knowledge, I visualised children far away across the Atlantic Ocean waking up in a homeland of sandy beaches, blue seas and glorious sunshine. Well this week I met someone whose childhood was just like that. She too would lift her voice in God's praise in her village church, at probably the identical time that I was lifting mine. Still a romantic at heart, I found that an extraordinary and exciting thought.

Esme was a happy child, with eight brothers and sisters, born and brought up in St Philip, a village on the beautiful island of Barbados. She was a well-behaved girl – "we had to be, we were brought up to respect the things our parents said" – with a mother who taught her among other things how to be a good cook. Her father cultivated a large

vegetable garden and expected the whole family to help in its care.

Esme is "big on vegetables" and has grown them in her own garden in Fernhill Road for many years. I wonder if such healthy eating all her life has contributed to her youthful looks!

Sunday worship was an important part of family life. Morning service, Sunday school and evening prayer, with lots of singing, followed by a walk to the beach, this was their regular Sunday routine, all dressed in their Sunday best of course. Esme would sit on the beach near Reigate Point with its lighthouse and let the little waves lap over her bare toes. Did she never learn to swim? "No, I never did" she told me, "my mother always would say, "remember the sea don't have no back door", "and that was a warning that if you got in you might not be able to get our again".

In her green and white uniform she attended the local school. Just average at her lessons she preferred playtime with her friends, hopscotch, number-7-out-of-9 (a game using stones and a hole scooped out of the ground) and her beloved cricket. She has been a life long fan of the West Indian team and has watched them

play in many of the great Test venues, including Lords. She still enjoys test-match coverage on TV. Whilst still quite young, a friend taught her to sew and make her own clothes. At the age of 21 she made up her mind to join another friend in England, joining up with her here in Oxford. Esme settled here even though her friend left to live in America and subsequently back in Barbados.

The influence to stay here probably had something to do with a young man named Hubert Forbes. She was working at the Co-op bakery just off Botley Road when he, a carpenter and joiner, was doing construction work on a site nearby. They began to walk out together. Both young people living in "digs" but there was absolutely no question of meeting each other in lodgings, so regular dates at the cinema were their favourite meeting places.

Quite a large contingent of her family had crossed the ocean and settled in Manchester. They tried to persuade Esme to join them, but not only had she fallen in love with Oxford, but more importantly with Hubert. He by this time had taken a mortgage on a house in Cowley. He invited Esme to

share it with him by becoming his wife. St Luke's Church was where they were married and they continued to worship there until Hubert's untimely death in 1979.

Proudly displayed around her sitting-room are photos of the three children, two daughters, Ulita and Avril and her son James, whom Esme brought up single-handed after losing her husband. It was a sad and difficult time but she is quick to point out that they have been "good kids and helped out in every way they could". There are also photos of her grandsons, six in all, the eldest of which is studying law. It's quite dear they are the apple of their grandmother's eye.

Always a regular worshipper she has had some good and bad experiences in Oxford churches. Can you believe that she sat in a pew in one church and heard the minister preach that "black and white don't mix"? That had a profound effect on her and she never went back. But she was so sad when St Luke's had to close as she has happy memories of her time there. Best friend, Stella, told her, "don't worry, come on over to St Francis" and she never regretted it.

Now retired after a busy working life, Esme is still living in the house that she and Hubert shared. She grows her vegetables, visits friends and enjoys the "soaps" on TV. She also loves getting

together with her brothers and a "whole bunch of cousins" (as she puts it) in Manchester where they swap family stories and recall their happy childhood in Barbados.

**How would you describe yourself as a small child?**  
Full of fun – happy to be with my family.

**Have you any childhood memories which prompt you to say, "I'll never forget"?**

My Mum used to tell me "money grows on trees". One day when I was very little I went to the shop for her and I got a shilling change. I made a hole and planted it 'cos I wanted to grow a money tree for Mum, but though I watched for it, it didn't grow. I hadn't put a stick in the ground to mark where it was so I lost my shilling too.

**Has God been part of your life since childhood?**  
We grew up believing in God. My parents believed in Him so I did too.

**What do you consider the best part of modern life?**  
It is so different now. Without the prejudice there used to be, life is much easier.

**What disappoints you about life today?**  
There are a lot of things in politics that disappoint me. Some of the young people get

everything, houses and other things for free. They should get off their backsides and do some work!!

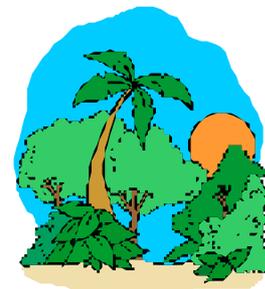
**How do you like to spend your leisure time?**

I read my Oxford Mail every day. I like my garden- that's a bit hard since my knee operation, but I have an English friend and her husband who came and dug it all over so I could plant it. I like to watch 'soaps' – Coronation Street and Emmerdale are my favourites. (I organise my cleaning to fit in with them!). I visit my friends, popping in for a chat.

**What makes you laugh?**  
When the family meet up we have a good laugh.

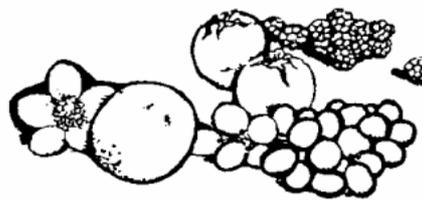
**Do you have a hero or heroine, past or present?**  
My Mum. She was a wonderful person, a very, very nice person. She was special in my life.

**Any ambitions for the future?**  
Nothing much, I live from day to day now and I hope to carry on that way.



# HARVEST THANKSGIVING

Sunday 26th September



**8.00 am**            **Holy Communion - St James**  
**10.00 am**           **Family Eucharist - St James**  
**10.30 am**           **Family Eucharist - St Francis**  
**6.00 pm**            **Harvest Evensong, Supper**  
**& Farewell to Mark Harris**

*Please speak to Norah or Stephen if you need a lift to St James.*

Tinned tomatoes, tinned ham, baked beans, coffee, tinned fruit, tinned and loose rice, evaporated milk, plain and self raising flour, corned beef, tinned vegetables, spices, salt & pepper, dried herbs, custard powder, cornflour, sugar, brown & tomato sauce, vinegar, salad cream, orange squash, gravy powder, vegetable oil, and washing powder will be collected for the *Steppin' Stone Project* (formerly The Porch) to feed the city's homeless.

## **St Francis Day 2004**

### **LICENSING AND WELCOMING OF LORNE DENNY AS A TEAM PRIEST**

with Bishop Richard

**SUNDAY 3RD OCTOBER**  
**in St Francis Church**

**6.00 pm**            **Eucharist, Licensing  
and Party**



*(There will be no 10.30 am service at St Francis on this Sunday)*

Lorne comes to the Cowley Team from St Barnabas Church, Jericho in Oxford. Lorne was ordained with Sister Margaret Anne in 2001. As a Team Priest he will have pastoral care of St Francis Church, under the guidance of Stephen, our Team Rector.

As a non-stipendary (unpaid) priest and full time English master at Magdalen College School, Lorne will be available in the parish at weekends and on some week nights during term-time.

## **THE BAPTISM**

A father was in church his five year old daughter. During this particular service, the minister was baptising a tiny infant. The little five year old girl was taken by this, observing that he was saying something and pouring water over the infant's head.

With a quizzical look on her face, the little girl turned to her father and asked: "Daddy, why is he brainwashing that baby?"



### St Michael and All Angels

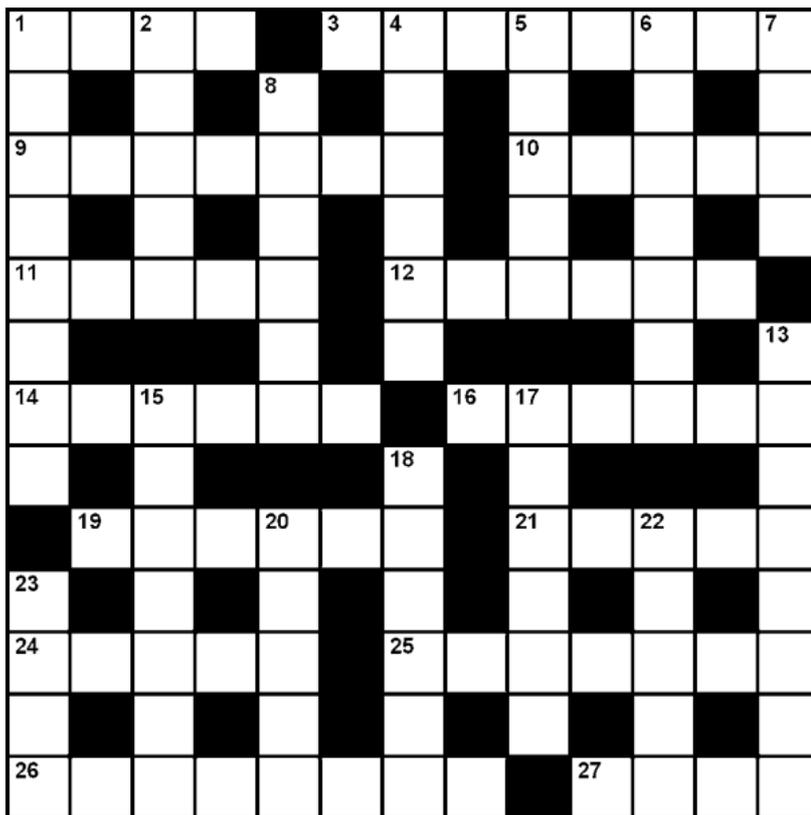
Michael is an archangel, whose name means 'who is like unto God?' He makes various appearances throughout the Bible, from the book of Daniel to the Book of Revelation. In Daniel, he is 'one of the princes' of the heavenly host, and the special guardian of Israel. In Revelation, he is the principal fighter of the heavenly battle against the devil.

From early times, Michael's cult was strong in the British Isles. Churches at Malmesbury (Wilts.), Clive (Glos.) and Stanmer (East Sussex) were dedicated to him. Bede mentions him. St Michael's Mount in Cornwall was believed to commemorate a vision there in the 8th century. By the end of the Middle Ages, Michael had 686 English churches dedicated to him.

In art Michael is often depicted as slaying the dragon, as in the 14th century East Anglican Psalters, or in Epstein's famous sculpture at Coventry cathedral. Or he is found (in medieval art) as weighing souls, as at Chaldon (Surrey), Swalcliffe (Oxon.), Eaton Bishop (Hereford and Worcester), and Martham in Suffolk. Michael's most famous shrine in western Europe is Mont-Saint-Michel, where a Benedictine abbey was founded in the 10th century.

The 'All Angels' bit of this feast-day was added in 1969 when Gabriel and Raphael were included in with Michael.

# September's Crossword



### Across

- 1 Contributions to aid the poor (4)
- 3 Robber freed instead of Jesus Christ (8)
- 9 Impregnable city assaulted by Sennacherib (7)
- 10 Leniency or compassion (5)
- 11 A valley near Jericho, meaning trouble (5)
- 12 A diplomatic representative of the Pope having ambassadorial status (6)
- 14 Small houses built of wood (6)
- 16 A food prepared from the pressed curd of milk (6)
- 19 First of the three sons of Caleb by Azubah (6)
- 21 The lion of God (5)
- 24 Tangled mass of prickly plants (5)
- 25 Home of Lazarus and his sisters (7)
- 26 Son and successor of Solomon (8)
- 27 A song of praise (4)

### Down

- 1 An agreement between nations or groups (8)
- 2 A prophet, the son of Mephibosheth (5)
- 4 Home of the altar to an unknown god (6)
- 5 Son of Lot (5)
- 6 Wife of Herod (7)
- 7 Speaks (4)
- 8 Brook which flows through the Valley of Jehoshaphat (6)
- 13 A follower of John Wesley (8)
- 15 A mark or flaw (7)
- 17 An area near a fireplace (6)
- 18 Land between the Red Sea and the Persian Gulf (6)
- 20 Mountain range containing Sinai (5)
- 22 Country of Rome (5)
- 23 Founder of the Hebrew race (4)

## August's Solution

P	U	L	L		S	C	Y	T	H	I	A	N	
I	Y	F	A		H	M						E	
N	I	C	O	L	A	S		I	S	A	A	C	
N	I	E	T		R	G						K	
A	G	A	T	E		L	A	D	D	E	R		
C			C	E							R	T	
L	E	M	U	E	L		P	R	A	Y	E	R	
E		O			S							E	
	M	A	R	B	L	E		W	E	A	R	S	
A	B		I	N		A		P				P	
C	L	I	M	B		A	G	R	I	P	P	A	
R		T		L		T		D		L		S	
E	B	E	N	E	Z	E	R			L	E	E	S

## Sunday Services

### ST JAMES' CHURCH, BEAUCHAMP LANE

8.00 am	Holy Communion
10.00 am	Sung Eucharist ( <i>exc 2nd Sunday</i> ) All Age Eucharist ( <i>2nd Sunday</i> )
1.00 pm	Cowley Asian Christian Fellowship

### ST FRANCIS' CHURCH, HOLLOW WAY

10.30 am	Parish Eucharist [ <i>Family Eucharist - 2nd Sunday of the month</i> ]
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## Mid-Week Services & Meetings

Monday	9.00 am	Morning Prayer – <i>St James</i>
	5.00 pm	Evening Prayer – <i>St James</i>
Tuesday	9.00 am	Morning Prayer – <i>St James</i>
	5.00 pm	Evening Prayer – <i>St James</i>
	8.00 pm	St Francis Discussion Group – <i>4 Long Close</i>
Wednesday	9.00 am	Morning Prayer – <i>St James</i>
	10.10 am	Mothers and Toddlers – <i>St Francis</i>
	12.00 pm	St James Prayer Group – <i>13 Clive Road</i>
	5.00 pm	Evening Prayer – <i>St James</i>
Thursday	9.00 am	Morning Prayer – <i>St James</i>
	9.30 am	Eucharist - followed by coffee – <i>St James</i>
	11.00 am	St Francis Prayer Group
	5.00 pm	Evening Prayer – <i>St James</i>
Friday	9.00 am	Morning Prayer – <i>St James</i>
	5.00 pm	Evening Prayer – <i>St James</i>
	7.00 pm	Friday Club – <i>alt Fridays at St Francis</i>

Arrangements for Baptisms, Banns of Marriage, Weddings, Confessions and Home Communion can be made with any of the clergy.

### Days Off

Stephen has Friday off; Mark has Monday off. Except in emergency, please try and respect these days of rest.

## PARISH DIRECTORY

### TEAM RECTOR:

The Revd Stephen  
Hartley,  
Cowley Rectory,  
Beauchamp Lane  
Tel: 747680  
Email: [stephen.hartley@btinternet.com](mailto:stephen.hartley@btinternet.com)

### TEAM CURATE:

The Revd Dr Mark  
Harris  
24 Beauchamp Lane  
Tel: 775098  
Email:  
[mark.harris@rl.ac.uk](mailto:mark.harris@rl.ac.uk)

### LICENSED LAY MINISTER:

Eric Uren  
Tel: 770696

### CHURCHWARDENS:

Gwen Ranklin  
Tel: 451417  
Norah Shallow  
Tel: 765199

### DEPUTY WARDENS:

Rosanne Butler  
Tel: 453257  
Helen Doling  
Tel: 779626