

In celebration of the:  
**Feast of St James**

**The  
Big  
Sing**

followed by strawberry cream tea  
Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> July  
St James Church Centre  
4 pm

There is a list for you to suggest hymns at the back of the Churches



**Come and join us for:  
Simple Tea and Scones  
on the  
Rectory Lawn  
Saturday 25<sup>th</sup>  
August  
2:00 to 4:00 pm**



July / August  
2018

# From the Editors

*Sally Hemsworth and Nicki Stevens*

As you know, in last month's edition of The Chronicle there was a form for renewal of subscriptions. As mentioned the cost remains the same as last year – an annual fee of £4 to cover 10 issues for A5 copy, and £5 for A4 copy. The next edition will be coming out on 2 September 2018, so it would be helpful if you could return your form at the latest by the 25 August (although we will do our best to ensure late comers receive The Chronicle!!)

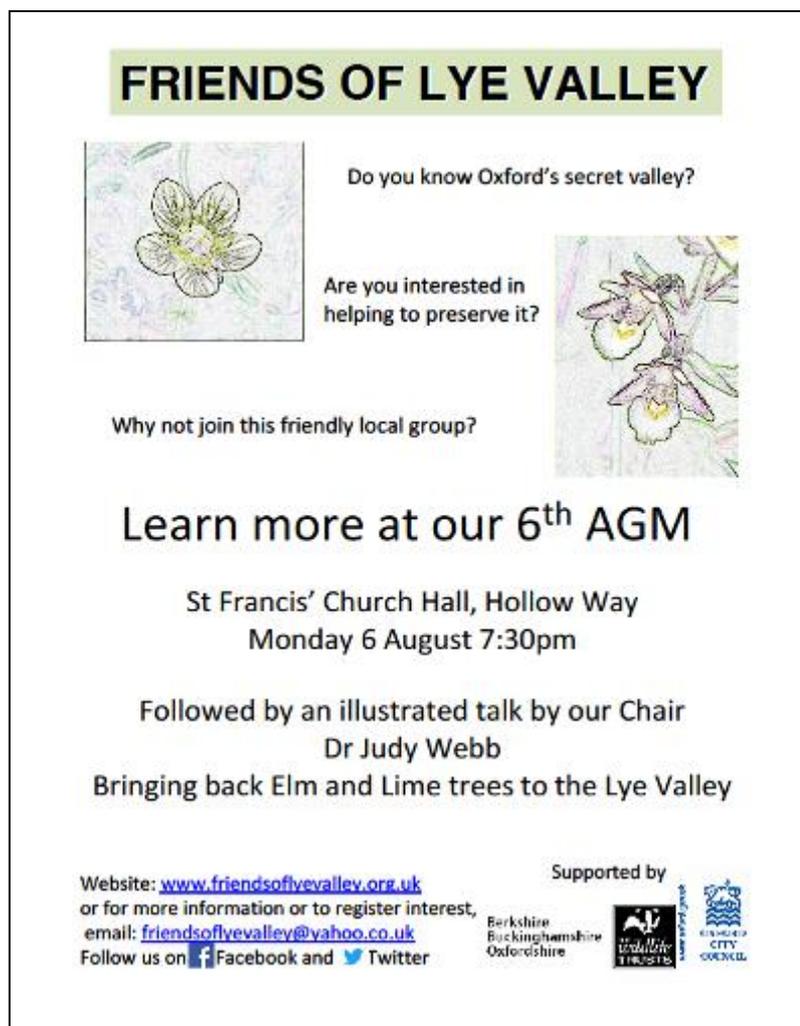
The form gives you an opportunity to offer your support – and we hope you will put forward your ideas for articles, etc. and any other help you would like to give.

There are a lot of activities taking place over the next two months – we hope you enjoy the rest of the summer (including the football and tennis!!), and we will be back in print at the beginning of September.

**Why was Cinderella dropped from the Ladies' England team? Because she'd run away from the ball.**

---

**Player: Sorry boss, I had an open goal but I still didn't score. I could kick myself.**  
**Manager: Don't bother, you'd probably miss.**



**FRIENDS OF LYE VALLEY**

Do you know Oxford's secret valley?

Are you interested in helping to preserve it?

Why not join this friendly local group?

**Learn more at our 6<sup>th</sup> AGM**

St Francis' Church Hall, Hollow Way  
Monday 6 August 7:30pm

Followed by an illustrated talk by our Chair  
Dr Judy Webb  
Bringing back Elm and Lime trees to the Lye Valley

Website: [www.friendsoflyevalley.org.uk](http://www.friendsoflyevalley.org.uk)  
or for more information or to register interest,  
email: [friendsoflyevalley@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:friendsoflyevalley@yahoo.co.uk)  
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## A word from the Rectory



sing to the Lord, all the earth.  
Sing to the Lord, praise his name;  
proclaim his salvation day after day.  
Declare his glory among the nations,  
his marvellous deeds among all peoples.  
From Psalm 96

You get some of the strangest views as you sit looking out of a window. Early one Sunday morning, as

I sat at the computer in my study, I looked up and saw a bonny red fox moving around the rectory garden.

It simply clambered over the high garden wall to get in. Mooched around a little. Went up to the far end of the garden and in one leap stood on top of the wall and was away. My guess is that it was a vixen, looking for food, for ever growing cubs, somewhere very nearby. Not a problem for me, but it may have been for Howard my predecessor who I believe kept chickens!

As you look at the world there is always something new to see. It does not mean that it has just appeared but that our eyes



and mind have just noticed it. Our faith is the same. Our understanding of Jesus grows as we see more of his world, delve deeper into his word (the Bible) and open ourselves to the Holy Spirit. As we do that a new song shines out of our lives.

The writer of the book of Lamentations says this:

*The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.*

3:22-23

So too, there can be a newness, and vitality, in the world we see around us. God's world is full of surprises. We need to keep our eyes open to see them.



Benson Cottage



book

there were objects to keep your eyes open for.

You may remember the I-Spy series of books. Each had a theme. Inside

This summer why not play I-Spy and look for places where the kingdom of God is growing. Then send us a post card that tells us about it!

# 5<sup>th</sup> Cowley Guides

The Guides have been busy so far this term. In their patrols they have completed the following Go For Its:

Camp Out  
Globalistic  
Green  
Lights, Camera, Action  
Life Wise

These included activities such as making film clapper boards, cooking popcorn over tea lights, making smores, splatter painting and many more.

The Guides have also been working on World Guiding and World Issues interest badges making peace mobiles, recycling cards and finding out about the environment.

We have one Guide who is working on her Baden-Powell Challenge Award and has almost completed this.

We have two Guides, Amy Prosser and Izzy Mackinnon, who have completed their Baden-Powell Challenge Awards and will be having a celebration and presentation of their awards at the end of June. This award is being phased out by Girlguiding and we are extremely proud of the Guides who have just completed these. They have had to work hard to complete 10 different clauses and have run a Guiding bake off, a sports night an evening all about Diwali, a bring a friend to Guides evening, helped out at city farm for a day as well as completing interest badges and 3 months of community service. To finish the award they have to attend a weekend away run by the county team with Guides from all over the county attending.

Cynthia Retter



## 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 earned £3 from an '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/>

# Go on your Baden-Powell Adventure

On Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2018 to Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2018, Izzy and I went to Blewbury to complete our Baden-Powell Adventure. We had to be at the Village Hall for 10 in the morning! The theme for this adventure was 'Wind in the Willows'. This is because the author Kenneth Grahame used to live in Blewbury. We did a variety of activities ranging from pond dipping to croquet, the adventure playground and a tour of the village. It was a lovely relaxing weekend and I enjoyed it very much. We met lots of new guiders and had a lot of fun with them. For me the funniest part of the weekend was when the organiser Karen said we were going to get ice cream from the post office next door where she worked. I have never seen anyone including me move so fast. We came home with a badge and a certificate.



# Summertime and the livin' is NOT so easy!

My garden was at its best at the end of May with the roses in their abundant first flush and loads of foxgloves, two of my favourite flowers. I have been busy adding to the borders with annuals such as sunflowers, cosmos and dahlias. I regard dahlias as annual as I have a poor track record of being able to over-winter the tubers and of preventing slug and snail attack as they pop up in the spring. I am also popping in the odd tomato plant at the back as I have decided not to grow any in the greenhouse this year. I must admit that they are struggling a bit due to the lack of rain we have had over the last week or two and the fact that we were away for some days. Coming home, the bindweed had had a field day so untwining it and pulling it up was an urgent job.

Another annual I am adding is Cleome or spider flower. It has elegant flowers of white, pink or purple, which look like daddy-long-legs on a tall but elegant stem. I had seeds of all pink flowers which looked great on the allotment last year. I was too late in getting the seeds growing to a size for selling at the Plant Sale but I will be trying to get some for next year. Germination is a bit of a hit and miss affair. The flowers last for a long time going well into autumn. It will replace the height the foxgloves give earlier in the year. Another tall plant is the Verbena bonariensis which I have grown from seed

again this year but I have regrowth from last year's plants too. I should have some for next May's Plant Sale.

Today, on the allotment, I have been constructing a Heath Robinson affair of a netting cage to cover my new strawberry bed, to the scoffing derision of my Other Half! I don't care if it looks mad as long as it can do the job of keeping those pesky pigeons off. I had to replace four plants as they had been pulled up by the birds after the first fruits.

Talking of fruit, I have been picking our early raspberries and the red currants are nearly ready. We will soon have peas, broad beans and beetroot to harvest too.

I lost the argument this year that it was time to dig up our first spuds. Three plants yielded few tubers so we will wait a little longer for our own early potatoes. Meanwhile the Other Half was in "I told you so" mode!

We are in for continuing dry conditions so watering will be needed. So early evenings on the plot with the watering can is a delight in the summer while other folks are stuck in with the World Cup. Mind you, when the tennis starts.....

Come down to the Elder Stubbs Festival on Saturday 18th August.

Joan Coleman

# The Bible's Big Story

As a child I was given a Bible Story book which was full of wonderful stories and pictures from the Bible. Each week in church we hear different stories from the Bible – Daniel in a lions' den, Jesus stilling a storm, Peter and John healing a lame man etc. But have you ever thought about the BIG story behind the whole Bible – a story which begins in Genesis, continues through Revelation and is still being written! How does Moses' journey in the desert connect with Jesus' travelling around Israel and St. Paul's sea journeys around the Mediterranean? Is there a connection between Daniel's visions and the visions that John, the author of Revelation, had?

If you would like to discover the BIG story, a story which even includes you, that is written in the many pages of our Bible – and to do this in just one day - then please come and join us on Saturday 22 September at St. James Church Centre. Our facilitator will be the International Director of CMS, Paul Thaxter, who has told this BIG story in many parts of the world.

Mark Oxbrow



**YOU'RE INVITED**  
to a dynamic day of discovery that will give you a fresh way to look at the Bible. Using multimedia, colourful symbols and humour, Paul Thaxter from CMS will take us on a journey from Creation to Christ, exploring who's who, what's what and where we all fit into the Bible's Big Story. **You won't want to miss it!**

**CHURCH MISSION SOCIETY**  
*The call in action*

**Saturday 22 September 9.30am. - 4pm.**  
**St. James Church Centre, Beauchamp Lane, Cowley**  
**Facilitator: Paul Thaxter, Church Mission Society**  
**Lunch provided      Donations welcome**

# Cowley Women's Institute

Our secretary came back from the National Annual Meeting in Cardiff with great news. The resolution Mental Health Matters had gained overwhelming support from WIs across the UK. We now look forward to supporting this campaign.

Unfortunately, our visit to St Mary's Church at Chalgrove had to be postponed. However, we have rescheduled this visit for early July, so we will not remain disappointed for too long.

At our June meeting, Anne Ambler gave us a very informative talk on Osteoporosis leaving us more aware of how best to maintain and protect our bones.

We are holding a garden party for our members at our July meeting where we hope to be celebrating fine summer weather, playing games and eating homemade cakes.

It would be lovely to have more members in our WI. If you would like to find out more, please come and have an enjoyable afternoon with us. We meet from 2pm – roughly 4:15 pm in St James Church Centre the third Wednesday of each month (except August).

Sarah Lawrence, Secretary to Cowley WI  
[wicowleyoxford@yahoo.com](mailto:wicowleyoxford@yahoo.com)

## CHRONICLE

Editorial Team- Sally Hemsworth, Nicki Stevens

Deadline for the next edition: **Monday 20 August 2018**

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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Claire Ewers

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## SAFEGUARDING

As Christians, we are all of course committed to protecting and safeguarding children, young people and vulnerable adults; we are on track in ensuring that all our current Parish officers and volunteers who have regular contact with or the chance to influence children, young people or vulnerable adults or who have access to confidential information or who visit parishioners in their homes comply with the latest Anglican training requirements.

There are just a few people who still need to follow the Basic awareness course (C0) so there will be one more group session at St James Centre – date yet to be set – Lesley Williams will contact you.

The Foundation course (C1) can be taken on line at home and it is a much better presentation than the C0, which thankfully is due to be revised, but there will also be a face to face delivered C1 on Saturday 7 October, 10.00 - 12.30 at St James Centre, organised through the Diocese. All those who must take this qualification – children and young people's workers, those visiting homes on behalf of the Parish, Church Wardens, leaders of group activities – are asked to diary this and keep it free and sign up when requested. We will also be inviting other local and Deanery churches.

In the future, all new volunteers for the Parish will be required to complete some forms and take the C0 course. Anyone else who recognises that Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility is welcome to study a course – speak to Lesley Williams, Parish Safeguarding Officer.

Lesley Williams 01865 779 562 07982 439 828 [lesleyjwilliams@btinternet.com](mailto:lesleyjwilliams@btinternet.com)

### THE PARISH OF COWLEY



is working towards becoming a Fairtrade parish – where possible, we use only Fairtrade products please support us in this

**Shaun Guard**  
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The advertisement features a background image of a TV aerial against a blue sky. The text is in various colors (blue, red, white) and fonts. The company name 'OXFORD AERIALS' is in red with a red arrow graphic.

# Positive Disagreement or Negative Distrust

Oxford is full of small 'study centres' where academics hide away to research everything from astronomy to xenophobia. Since I have lived in Cowley I have discovered quite a few of these and am always interested to find out exactly what they do. Most of you will know St. John the Evangelist Church on Iffley Rd. which now serves as the chapel for St. Stephen's House theological college and hosts a whole range of concerts and art exhibitions under the umbrella of SJE Arts. But if you look a little more closely at the signs by their entrance you will see one that says, "Solomon Academic Trust: Centre for Muslim-Christian Studies". As I now find myself serving as the chair of the board of Solomon Academic Trust let me introduce you to this centre.

Originally established in Edinburgh, this study centre moved to Oxford ten years ago and found a home on Iffley Road. The creative idea was to bring Muslim academics and Christian academics together in one place to study together and to teach students together. Does this mean that the Muslim and Christian scholars are finding that they actually agree about everything. Definitely not. That was not the plan. The beliefs of Muslims are very different from our Christian beliefs. But they are finding ways in which they can disagree positively – if that makes sense!

We live in a world constantly threatened by wars that grow out of suspicion and distrust. They also grow out of a lack of understanding of each other. Many of these wars are be-

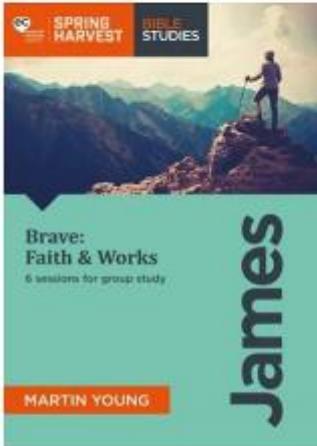
tween people of different faith communities, Muslims and Christians, Hindus and Buddhists, Jews and Muslims. The vision of this small study centre just outside our parish is to overcome this negative distrust, to help us all to disagree with each other in a positive peaceful way, and to enable greater cooperation so that together we can build a better world for the next generation.

So what do they actually do? Well some of the time our staff hide away in their studies, read ancient books (often in Arabic or other languages), write their own books and deliver academic seminars (that I do not understand!). But that's only the beginning. That leads on to much more interesting things like briefing the British Army before they go to serve in Muslim countries so they understand the context in which they are working, talking with groups of six-formers to help them think about how they can relate to people of another faith at college or at work, or advising a mission organisation about how it can most effectively present the good news of Jesus in any context.

The work of the Centre for Muslim-Christian Studies is a long-term project. It will not stop wars tomorrow but our vision is to influence a new generation and to build understanding, tolerance and respect which will shape a better world for us all. If you would like to know more please do ask me or visit our website at <http://cmcsoxford.org.uk/>

Mark Oxbrow

## Monday Home Group Cowley Rectory



Starts  
4th June  
2 pm.

This a small  
quiet gentle  
group.  
Ideal for  
those who

have not been part of a  
group before or are  
getting back into it.  
Do have a word with  
geoff if you fancy joining  
us!

**St James Church Centre  
Beauchamp Lane OX4 3LF**

For more information or to get involved  
youth@cowleyteamministry.co.uk

## A Youth Run Coffee Stop

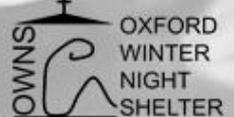
Tea Coffee cakes etc.

# Saturday July 21<sup>st</sup>

## 10:30 to 12:00



Serving God,  
Cowley and Headington  
Cowley Team Ministry



**Raising funds for the**

Come and join Messy  
Church for fun  
activities to think  
about



## Creation

**Crafts, Songs, Story and Toys**  
All ages are welcome

at St Francis Church,

225 Hollow Way, Cowley, OX3 7JF

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> July 2018

10am – 11.30am

For more details contact:

Mary Bayliss 01865 778596,

Email: [m.bayliss41@btinternet.com](mailto:m.bayliss41@btinternet.com)

or contact the Cowley Parish Church Office 01865 747680

2018 Pilgrimage to

the Holy Well and Church at Binsey

Friday 19 July

The Eve of the Feast of St Margaret of Antioch



Pilgrims make their own way (by foot, bicycle, public transport, car, etc) to The Perch. At 6.45pm the Bishop of Oxford leads pilgrims to the Well and Church for Liturgy & Choral Eucharist, at which he presides and preaches. Pilgrims then return to The Perch or depart.

The Perch offers a simple 'pilgrims' supper' \*, in addition to its usual menu. Your church may have a local co-ordinator organizing a pilgrimage from your parish.

For full details see [osneybenefice.org.uk](http://osneybenefice.org.uk)  
or contact [binseypilgrimage@gmail.com](mailto:binseypilgrimage@gmail.com)

\*This can be taken either before or after the Eucharist at the church, and needs to be booked a few days before via your parish co-ordinator or through the email address above.

# Film Club at the Centre

Film club evening in June saw our biggest audience yet and with three new members joining we can safely say that we are flourishing. The film, "The Book Thief", was enjoyed by many members. Remarks like "That was the best film we've had so far" and "what a stonking good film" were very reassuring as the story was a poignant one with some pretty gruelling scenes in a small German town during World War Two.

The July film, "Gosford Park", received an Oscar for the best original screenplay and a Golden Globe Award for best director. Set in the year 1932 it is packed with acting talent from the likes of Dame Eileen Atkins, Dame Helen Mirren, Dame Maggie Smith, Emily Watson, Michael Gambon, Stephen Fry, Alan Bates and many more. At Gosford Park, the magnificent country estate of Sir William

Cordle and his wife, a shooting party gathers. Below stairs there is a huge team of servants that bridge generations, class, sex and tragic personal history and culminates in a murder – or is that two ...?

For August we are showing a regular musical. This year's choice is "The Benny Goodman Story". Based on the life and amazing climb to fame of the much admired band leader whose virtuosity led to him playing in a classical concert in Carnegie Hall in 1938. Although the film was first released in 1955 it has stood the test of time remarkably well and should send our members and their guests home humming some wonderfully memorable tunes. Steve Allen and Donna Reed are the stars.

Rosanne Butler

---

## AN APPEAL FROM THE FOOD BANK

The following items are currently needed by the Food Bank as they are running a bit short:

Tins of Fruit

Tins of Puddings

Tins of meat

Tins of veg, not baked beans and Tomatoes

UHT (long life) Milk

Coffee

Drinking Chocolate

Jam

Spreads

Sugar

Fruit Juice (long Life)

BASIC toiletries e.g. toothbrushes, shower gel, shampoo, soap, toilet rolls

There are collection boxes at both churches and the Church Centre for donations. Please help.

# BEETLE DRIVE REPORT

15 of us assembled at St Francis Church at 6.00 on Saturday 16 June and had such a fun couple of hours rolling and encouraging wayward dice and drawing stylish beetles with cries of:

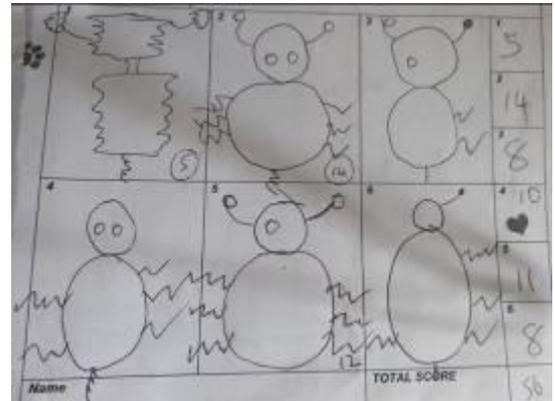
*"p-l-e-a-s-e give me a 6"*

*"I only need a 2"*

*"legs, I need legs"*

*"oh no, not another 5"*

*"this is too stressful"* filling the air



The champion beetle was Shirley Costar with Andrew Swallow and David Benskin as runners up; the wooden spooner was Betty Canterbury, and the most artistic beetles were drawn by Marion Webster, complete with football boots and boxing gloves!

Half way through the competition we enjoyed delicious puddings, cheese and biscuits and banter. We are sure the event will be repeated – come and join us next time!

For those who like something evangelcial and charismatic!

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**SPRING HARVEST 2019**

Geoff and Mary Bayliss often take a group to Spring Harvest. They plan on going again next spring (Minehead: Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> to Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> April) Bookings open 8 am June 13<sup>th</sup>

**UNLIMITED** WHEN YOU PRAY... #SH2019

If you are interested pick up a leaflet or contact Revd Geoff Bayliss

Costs vary but the basic prices start at £139 per person (sharing a room and you providing food)

Revd Canon Geoff Bayliss is the Area Dean for Cowley Deanery

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

**Alpha Bytes**

Wednesdays  
10.00 - 11.30am  
6<sup>th</sup> June - 11<sup>th</sup> July  
St James Church  
Centre OX4 3LF

Alpha

Speak to Mary or Jill

Missing out on evening Alpha Course?  
This is for you!

Alpha is a series of interactive sessions that freely explore the basics of the Christian faith. No pressure. No follow up. No charge.

Toddlers and Babies welcome!  
Toys, coffee, snacks

## RECIPES

### SODA BREAD

#### Ingredients

170g/6oz self-raising

wholemeal flour

170g/6oz plain flour

½ tsp salt

½ tsp bicarbonate of soda

290ml/½ pint buttermilk

#### Method

1. Preheat the oven to 400F/200C/Gas 6.
2. Tip the flours, salt and bicarbonate of soda into a large mixing bowl and stir.
3. Make a well in the centre and pour in the buttermilk, mixing quickly with a large fork to form a soft dough. (Depending upon the absorbency of the flour, you may need to add a little milk if the dough seems too stiff but it should not be too wet or sticky.)
4. Turn onto a lightly floured surface and knead briefly.
5. Form into a round and flatten the dough slightly before placing on a lightly floured baking sheet.
5. Cut a cross on the top and bake for about 30 minutes or until the loaf sounds hollow when tapped. Cool on a wire rack.

\*\*\*\*\*

The following is (from Cakes, Bakes, Puddings and Prayers by Susan Over).

### ANGEL FRUIT TARTLETS

#### INGREDIENTS:

##### Pastry cases:

175g (6oz) plain flour

75g (3oz) butter

50g (2oz) caster sugar

1 egg yolk

##### Fillings:

175g (6oz) mascarpone cheese



1 tablespoon caster sugar

1 level teaspoon finely grated orange zest

Various prepared fruits eg halved seedless grapes, tinned mandarin segments, sliced fresh strawberries or raspberries, tinned or fresh pineapple pieces

Apricot jam, sieved if necessary, for glaze.

#### METHOD:

1. Preheat oven to gas mark 5/190°C/375°F. Lightly grease a shallow 12 hole bun tin.
2. Rub butter into flour until mixture resembles breadcrumbs, stir in sugar.
3. Add egg yolk and enough water to bind into soft dough. Wrap and chill for at least 30minutes.
4. Roll pastry quite thinly and cut 12 pastry circles to fill the tin. Prick bases with a fork and line each case with foil to prevent rising
5. Bake for ten minutes. Remove foil and bake for a further 5 – 10 minutes until golden.
6. Leave tartlets in tin to cool for a few minutes, then remove carefully and cool on wire rack.
7. Beat cheese with sugar and orange zest until smooth, then divide between cases and arrange fruit on top, either using one variety to one case, or a combination in each.
8. Warm a heaped tablespoon of apricot jam with 1-2 tablespoons of water. Brush over fruit (optional).
9. Chill for a few minutes before serving to allow jam to set.

Are not all angels ministering spirits sent to serve those who will inherit salvation?

Hebrews 1:14 (NIV)

\*\*\*\*\*

Lord, it is exciting to realise afresh that we are surrounded by your angels.

Help us to keep our ears and eyes open to receive the messages you send

And show us how to work with the angels to build your kingdom here on earth.

Amen

## GARDENING PARTY

**HELP REQUIRED – COME AND BOOST THE NUMBERS  
LOOKING AFTER THE AREA AROUND ST JAMES CHURCH  
AND ST JAMES CHURCH CENTRE.**

**LAST SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH (EXCEPT DECEMBER)  
– 9.30 AM ONWARDS AT ST. JAMES CHURCH CENTRE.**



Come and have fun, fresh air and exercise as we prepare the St. James Church Centre garden for another beautiful spring and summer showing. If possible bring your own tools but some will be available. Both heavy and light work available plus coffee and cake.

## THE 'IT'S NOT COWLEY FESTIVAL OF CHRISTMAS TREES' ARTS EVENT

here *should* have been a preliminary meeting back on Wednesday 6 June to discuss what we might do for the community in the lead up to Christmas 2018 without the Christmas tree festival but the only person who had put it in their diary was George Hedges from SeeSaw – many apologies to him for our total non-attendance!

Lesley Williams is keen that there should be some Christmas Arts in Cowley, perhaps in liaison with Templars Square, the ArkT Centre and the other churches..... so she will be calling a meeting sometime soon, hopefully with representatives from those settings. Please let Lesley know if you can be involved and/or if you have creative ideas about what it could include in the way of music, drama, visual art..... and where.

Lesley Williams 01865 779 562 07982  
439 828 [lesleyjwilliams@btinternet.com](mailto:lesleyjwilliams@btinternet.com)



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## UNA'S CORNER

### COINCIDENCE

I had thought that this month I would write about my confirmation which took place in St John's Church in the Iffley Road, known to all of us as the Cowley Fathers' Church.

When I was about twelve I and my elder brother who was about seventeen were enrolled in the confirmation classes. My young brother was only five and had to wait his turn which caused him great grief. In those days we had a Church Army sister working in the Parish. She was a lovely lady, very small. She wore a uniform in pale grey with pale blue trim. Even her overcoat was in those colours and her neat little hat. She looked very good. She was Captain of the Guide Company. I was in a different company but saw Sister Shields at Guide events and she wore the Guide uniform, other than those occasions she always wore her grey and blue. More recently we have had Church Army sisters. I remember that the last one married the curate and they became RCs and Philip became a teacher. Neither of those sisters wore uniform. The classes were segregated - Sister Shields took the girls in St Luke's and Father Whye took the boys in the Vicarage. There were about twelve of us girls. The boys met in the old Vicarage - a large rambling white stone house about where the flats are now. The Rev George Moore lived there and farmed the Home Farm; when he went the Revd Maurice Beauchamp was appointed Vicar and Father Alec Whye was his curate. I do not remember Father Beauchamp. I do remember an

elderly priest, white haired and rather small. We called him little Mr Drew. He was a house in lieu priest which meant he was provided with a house in return for work in the Parish. He always managed a short Greek quote when he preached. He visited my grandparents often and they were firm friends. In the Chancel of St James' to the left facing the altar there is a loose square of carpet under which is a memorial stone to Father Beauchamp.

I digress. The actual confirmation was a mass affair, all the candidates from the east of the city were confirmed together - I suppose it was what I now know as the Deanery. The services were held in different churches on a rota basis. We were assigned to the Cowley Fathers' Church. There must have been between twenty and thirty of us. At the actual confirmation we all stood in lines at the front of the church and the questions were asked of us all by the Bishop and we answered in unison. The Bishop then progressed through us all, he would place his hands on the head of one candidate, then on the next, then on the third and then pronounce the words of confirmation. He went through all of us like that. It was a bit impersonal. We did not take Communion at that service.

We had one more confirmation class after that and Father Whye took the girls. He slouched across the pew and talked to us. He explained how we took Communion, holding out both hands one resting on the other and then holding lightly to the base of the chalice