



Come and join Messy Church  
for fun activities to think about

# Easter

toys      crafts      songs  
baking                      story

*All ages are welcome*

at St James' Church Centre,  
Beauchamp Lane, Cowley, OX4 3LF

Good Friday 30<sup>th</sup> March

10am – 11.30am

For more details contact:

Mary Bayliss 01865 778 596 [m.bayliss41@btinternet.com](mailto:m.bayliss41@btinternet.com)

or contact the Cowley Parish Church Office 01865 747 680

# A word from the Rectory



Over the past year I have promised that I will write a little about 'Money and the Church'. Some wish me to talk about stewardship, some giving, some tithing etc. Is it the right thing for me to be talking about? Well in truth yes! It is as much about theology as any other part of life. What do we make of money in a world

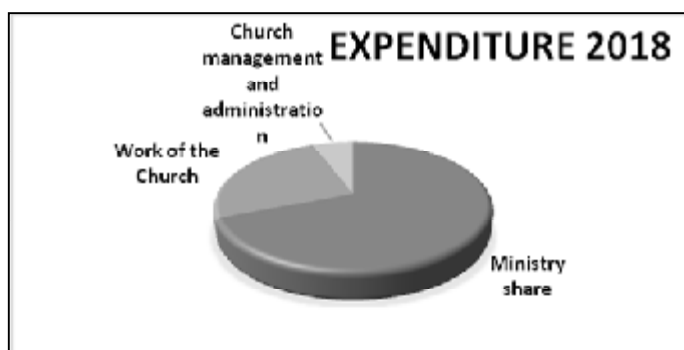
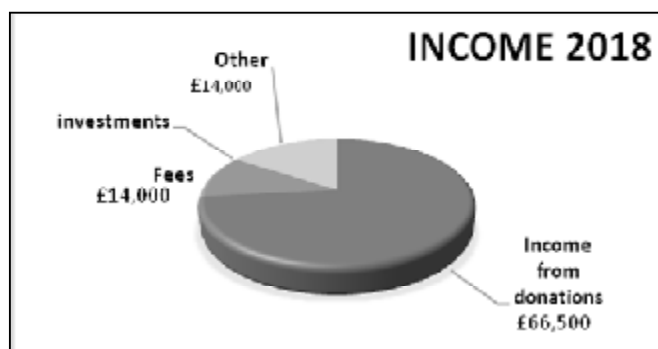
that we believe was created and sustained by God? What do we think of money in a world where God was willing to give his most precious gift, His Son, to buy back, redeem, humanity from the wages of Sin. The Bible tells us that the wages of Sin is death (Romans 6:23) and God gave his best to give us another option, life. Not just life, but the possibility of life in fullness. It's an awesome truth.

So, what does the Bible tell us about giving.

- ∅ God gives generously,
- ∅ God gives with purpose,
- ∅ God Loves A Cheerful Giver,
- ∅ And God asks that we give not from what is left over, but that we should give having thought and prayed as a first step.

Some of you will have heard about tithing. The Bibles talk about giving 10% of the harvest to God. In those days the harvest was all they had. Today we don't have a harvest but we can give from what we have. For some 10% is what God wills you to. For others it may be less, or even more! The Church of England nationally provides some teaching about tithing. I will include some of that in this, and the following month's magazine as separate articles.

Giving is not all about money it is as much about giving of time and of ourselves. But let's focus on money for the moment. What does our money go on? A detailed breakdown will appear for our annual meeting but here are some 'ballpark figures'.



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Luke 6:38 (NIV)  
2 Corinthians 9:7  
Matthew 23:23 and Luke 11:42

From the income pie-chart, you can see that we rely on the generosity of church members and visitors. It is an astounding amount that people give. We are so thankful for it. After that we get in some money from other things, but none of it comes from the national church.

Where does the money go? By far the biggest amount goes to pay for Vicars in parishes. Last year we paid just less than £57 000 towards this. Next year the total will go down as across the deanery we will have one less post to pay for. What sort of support do we get from that? Well, it pays for my post as Rector. Thankfully we have David, our apprentice vicar, paid for by the national training fund. Gemma, the Curate that will arrive in June, will also be largely paid for from another fund. In truth we do quite well out of the whole system!

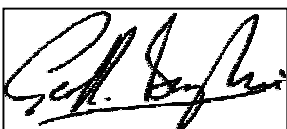
Because we budgeted very carefully last year, we will be able to take on an intern. This is a young person who gives up a year to work for the church. It is likely to cost us about £5 500 but will bring in extra hands to help around the parish. They will gain experience and we will gain from their time, energy and ideas.

But what about the future? I have hopes of getting a toilet installed at the St James Church site and of continuing to develop facilities at St Francis. As we discern the best way forward we will have to replace the temporary projection facility we have at St James with a more permanent solution. And yes, it would be brilliant to bring in some extra hands to help with the parish work, but that is currently beyond our capacity.

The spring is a brilliant time to review your own giving. There are several questions to ask.

- ∅ Am I prayerfully talking to God about the amount I give?
- ∅ Am I able to give more effectively? This might mean using the church green envelope scheme to put aside money to give on the weeks I am unable to get to church.
- ∅ Am I a tax payer? Could I gift aid the money I give so that the church gets an extra 25p for every £1 I give to the church? (have a word with Joan Coleman, or one of the ministers if you want more information)
- ∅ Am I able to give a little more than last year to help the kingdom of God grow?
- ∅ Is there something other than money I could give? My time? My skills?

We are a community that experiences so many blessings. Let's together give thanks to God for them and allow his generosity to grow inside us! Amen



Cowley team Rector

Tithing: a rich biblical model of giving (An extract from 'Give 10' a Church of England project to help us understand tithing better... <http://www.parishresources.org.uk/giving/give-10/> )

Young children always seem to have a reason why they cannot wash their faces, or go to bed on time, or an excuse to get out of drying the dishes, or tidying their rooms. But us adults are not much better - we all have reasons why we never got around to things! The issue of giving is no different so here's a quick look at

Eight common tithing myths.....

1. People on low incomes simply cannot afford to tithe, the poor and unemployed for example. (But we are asked to give what we can, not what we can't, so no one should feel guilty on a low income. But tithing is also about priorities: our first fruits or second thoughts or last minute scrabbling for something to put in the plate.)
2. I can't tithe; I am a farmer /self-employed/seasonal worker and my money comes in irregularly. (But I can put a sum aside after last year's harvest/profits or stock sale, invest it and release a tithe monthly?)
3. Tithing is for other churches; it's just not C of E! (Well the Bishops, the General Synod and many Anglicans would be surprised to hear that!)
4. 10% is beyond me, so should I give nothing at all? (No, we start where we can, maybe a half tithe and work towards a full one over time)
5. Tithing means 10% for God, 90% for me to enjoy. (The 10% reminds us that God allows us to use, or steward, 90 %!)
6. 10% is all that's asked of me. (10% is an initial target, not a limit.)
7. Tithing is barely mentioned in the New Testament (Yes, but surely our standard of giving cannot be less than the Old Testament.)
8. Tithing is hard for the wealthy who will end up giving so much (No, it's harder for people with less disposable income – i.e. The Widow and her Mite.)

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## PARISH ELECTORAL ROLL

If you are new to Cowley Parish during the past year or you have been here a while but just not committed to registering as a signed up 'member' – there's no fee but, like the political electoral roll, you benefit with the chance to vote at the APCM – now is the time to complete an electoral roll form, ready for the annual roll update next month,

Forms are available in both churches – please return one when completed to church or direct to Lesley Williams – by hand or to 9 Wykeham Crescent, OXFORD OX4 3SD.

# From the Editors

*Sally Hemsworth and Nicki Stevens*

The time between the production of the February and March editions of The Chronicle is very short. We were worried that we would not achieve a good edition in March, especially after an extra-long edition in February! But, with the help of many people, we have obtained a good mix of articles which we hope you will enjoy.

Although it is only March, and we are in the middle of the coldest spell known for many years, the Chronicle team is thinking of holidays. Can you blame us? If anyone can help with chasing articles or helping with setting the Chronicle “up” in Publisher, please let us know. We are not totally certain of dates yet, but feel extra help may be needed at holiday times.

The Mothers’ Union Quiz Night was a great success with, possibly, the most tables ever. It was a very enjoyable evening (with a marvellous spread of puddings) and we would recommend that you put the date for the Christian Aid Quiz on Friday, 29 June 2018 at 7 pm in your diary (although unfortunately puddings will not be available).

The Group Holiday is in danger of being cancelled as we really need a few more people – do contact Pat Chambers or Sally Hemsworth if you would like to come.

We look forward to receiving your articles – make them as varied as possible – these make the Chronicle special. Articles can be emailed and sent to the Chronicle email address, or delivered to the Parish Office.



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# Beware galanthophiles!

I have been on a guided walk led by the head gardener at Evenley Wood Garden near Brackley. It was a visit organised by the Friends of the Oxford Botanical Garden of which I am one. It was dry overhead but very slippery and muddy underfoot. It was half term so quite busy with families apart from our group. The main object was to see the snowdrops in this wonderful 60 acre wooded garden that have been planted since the overgrown wood was taken over by the current owners. Large areas of the weed *Rhododendron ponticum* and brambles had to be removed before bulbs including snowdrops, bluebells and lilies could be planted under the canopy of native trees. Nearly one third of the wood has acidic soil so camellias, worthy rhododendrons and azaleas can flourish and are a picture in late Spring.

Many different species and cultivars of snowdrops were flowering in drifts throughout the wood and our guide pointed them out. Some of them were quite rare such as the Lady Elphinstone which is a double variety usually having a beautiful lemon-yellow centre but can revert to green. You have to get down and gently turn the flower up to see. One of our group owned up to having 150 varieties in his own garden and contributed to the discussion.

Of course there are folks like him who are obsessed with snowdrops and pay high

prices for the rare ones. I have seen individual plants on sale by growers at an RHS Spring Show in London for £150 for a single plant. Our guide did report how some visitors have been known to bring trowels and steal plants and once saw money changing hands for stolen snowdrops in the car park.

Since the visit, I have had a look online and one company has over 100 different snowdrop varieties in their catalogue though many were sold out. One is called Grumpy because the inner white petals have two spots, which could be eyes, and underneath them a down-turned green "mouth"! There are, a great variety of prices from modest to well over £100 for a plant. As it was, I came away from Evenley with two pots at a modest price: one containing Magnet and the other, Cedric's Prolific. I hope they will flourish and spread in my modest patch.

The St James' snowdrops have been flowering well including those that we moved last year from crowded clumps to new areas. I hope to do the same this year. Come and help!

Lastly, our Plant sale is on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> May. Please think of how you can add to another great sale by sowing and growing or by splitting and potting.

Joan Coleman

# Cowley Women's Institute

Each month members from Cowley WI go out socially. At the end of January we challenged our creative skills by painting individual pieces of pottery at Unique Creations in Summertown. We were delighted with our finished objects and are already planning another visit in spring. In February we explored the second floor of the Ashmolean and gained an insight into how contact with Asia and the Americas influenced Europe. Early March brings a visit to the Weston Library. Members are looking forward to finding out about 'Women who Dared' from the exhibited Bodleian treasures.

In our February WI meeting we were taken on a tour of Oxford College Chapels by Mr Brian Lowe. It was lovely to leave our meet-

ing with a greater knowledge of our city and to have been reminded what a privilege it is to live in such a historic and beautiful place.

On the 21st of March we hold our Annual Meeting. This is where we look back on the last year, vote for our committee and President and look forward to another successful year.

Our WI meets monthly on the third Wednesday of each month. We meet from 2pm – 4:30pm in St James Church Centre. If you would be interested in joining us, we would love to meet you, so please come to a meeting to find out more.

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

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## Oxfordshire County Open Day for all praying women! Saturday, 17<sup>th</sup> March 2018

**Time:** 10am for 10.30am start - 3pm

**Venue:** St James Parish Centre, Beauchamp Lane, Cowley, Oxford, OX4 3LF

(two doors up the hill from the church - there is off-road parking round the Parish Centre and also a multi-storey car park at the bottom of the road)

**Come for all or part of the day.**

**Speakers** will include Mrs Margaret Watts, England Co-Ordinator

**Refreshments** will be provided as will a simple soup, bread and cheese lunch or bring your own if you prefer.

**Any questions telephone Alison Lockhart on 0750 366 7046**

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**REAL EASTER EGGS** - from the Meaningful Chocolate Company

[www.meaningfulchocolate.co.uk](http://www.meaningfulchocolate.co.uk)

If you are buying Easter eggs this year, they really should be REAL ones, made from fair-trade chocolate and telling the story of Easter. There will as usual be a Parish order - *please sign the noticeboard order form by Sunday 4 March - or contact Lesley Williams very quickly*

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

They are also available at the Fairtrade shops in Headington and Cornmarket, Oxford –and may be at Tesco.





# THE EGG THAT SHARES THE EASTER STORY



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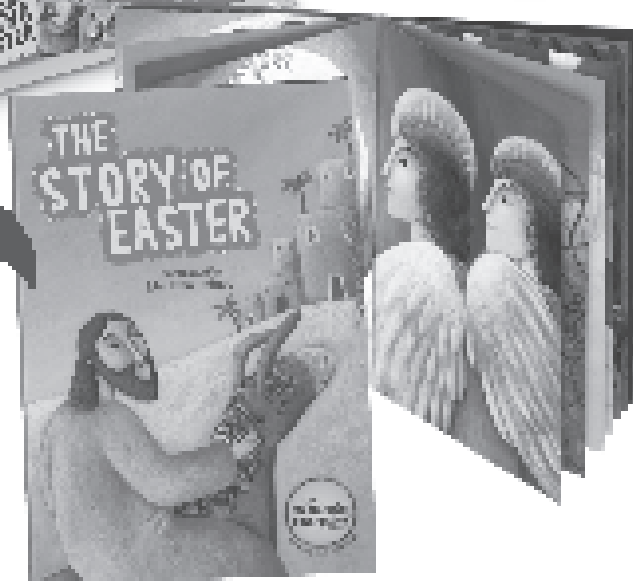
## New Design Easter Story

A 24 page Easter story-activity book  
Illustrated by Martina Peluso.

The new look 2018 Real Easter Egg range is available to order. People are being asked to buy one as a special gift for a family member or friend as a unique way of sharing the story of Easter.

Out of the 80 million Easter eggs sold in this part of the world every year, The Real Easter Egg is the only one which has a copy of the Easter story in the box, is made of Fairtrade chocolate and which supports charitable projects.

This year the Original and Dark eggs come with an A5 Easter story activity book which has 24 pages. Illustrated by Martina Peluso, the book will delight children and adults. The Special Edition comes with an olive wood holding cross keyring from Bethlehem and a simple guide to Easter.



## Where to buy

The whole range can be ordered online at [www.realeasteregg.co.uk](http://www.realeasteregg.co.uk) or from Tradecraft, Eden.co.uk, TLM trading.com, Embrace the Middle East. Christian bookshops and some cathedrals also have stock.

You can also buy the blue Original egg from Tesco, Waitrose, Morrisons and Asda.

**See the full shop list or order at**  
**[www.realeasteregg.co.uk](http://www.realeasteregg.co.uk)**

I've learned.

That anticipation is often better than the real thing.

That most things I worry about never happen.

That it is hard to argue with someone who is right.

That you can get by on charm for about 15 minutes, after that you had better know something.

I've learned.

That you need to let your children be children and that grandparent and children are natural allies.

That couples without children always know how to raise yours; that my children's birthdays make me feel older than my own.

I've learned.

That wherever I go the world's worst drivers are in front of me.

That if you've waited till retirement to enjoy yourself, you've waited too long.

That when I have a pain, I don't have to be a pain.

That whatever bank queue I get in the others move faster.

I've learned.

That you should never go to bed with an argument unsolved, that you can do or say something in a second and get a heartache for life.

That I shouldn't go shopping when I'm hungry.

That it's easier to stay out of trouble than to get out of trouble.

That a slice of bread and butter always falls butter side down

That I can't tell the difference between a £5 or a £10 bottle of wine.



## GROUP HOLIDAY

PLEASE CONSIDER JOINING THE GROUP HOLIDAY

We are still looking for people to join the Group Holiday to Eastbourne from Monday, 10 September 2018, 4 nights, on a Dinner, Bed and Breakfast basis. The holiday costs £339.00 per person based on a minimum of 30. A deposit of £50 is required.

BUT WE DO NOT YET HAVE 30 PEOPLE AND THEREFORE THERE IS A DANGER THAT THE HOLIDAY WILL BE CANCELLED.

PLEASE CONTACT PAT CHAMBERS OR SALLY HEMSWORTH IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO JOIN THE HOLIDAY OR IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO DISCUSS FURTHER.



# Film Club at the Centre

Despite a dark and stormy night in February Film Club was again well attended. The film "La La Land" was recommended by several members who had seen it on release at local cinemas. It turned out to be something of a "Marmite" event when some people really loved it, others found it strange and some enjoyed parts of it such as the music and the dancing. However, we do aim to show films which are a little different alongside tried and true favourites, and that is what keeps our members intrigued and motivated.

This month's film "Silence" is one which is very intriguing mainly because it would seem that none of our members have already seen it. Chosen for its Christian

theme (especially for Lent) it promises to be a challenging evening. It has four star rating and it was directed by Martin Scorsese, no less. It claims to be the star, Andrew Garfield's finest performance. Adam Driver and Liam Neeson are the other two main actors. It tells the story of two Christian missionaries who face the ultimate test of faith when they travel to Japan in search of their missing mentor. It is set in a time when Christianity was outlawed and forbidden. The story is based on an internationally acclaimed novel by Japanese author Shusaku Endo which examined the spiritual and religious question of God's silence at a time of human suffering.

Rosanne Butler

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## CHRISTIAN AID

Planning ahead for CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 13-19 May

Instead of a door to door collection, we will repeat the use of the Templars Square charity stall all week but this year with more to attract people: a tombola or sales table for adults plus balloons and a challenge activity for children.

SO: when spring cleaning: please declutter by bringing unwanted gifts and new items, so you don't have to store them any longer.

It won't be long before we will be asking for volunteers to man/person the stall for as much of the week as possible, particularly at peak times.

Also: there will be our latest Big Brekkie on Sunday 13 May, 8:45 am at St James Centre – *shall we have smoked salmon and scrambled egg this time?*

And a Coffee morning on Wednesday 16 May, 10:00-12:00 at 88 Temple Road, by invitation of Lyn Lord

For those who enjoyed the recent Mothers Union puddings and quiz night and were asking about the next, it's the Christian Aid Quiz Aid on Friday 29 June - write it in your diary now!

# FROM THE ARCHIVES

## COWLEY CHURCH & HOME MAGAZINE

March 1960

### THE AMAZING CLIFF RICHARD



As that veteran songsmith Cole Porter wrote: "Anything Goes". And to be sure, in this age of modern entertainment anything does go. What concerns many people is that the first thing to go is talent. Low standards and tasteless style are not only readily accepted, but worshipped.

Just as Cole Porter will always be remembered for his articulate and sophisticated songs, so this age is in danger of being branded as inarticulate and unsophisticated. All things being relative, is Cliff Richard really as good as his fans believe he is? He is way ahead of his Rock 'n' Roll rivals- but does he shine because so many of his rivals set lower standards?

#### THE FACTS

First, the facts. Young Mr. Richard (born 19 years ago as Harry Webb) is not only the tops in this country: he has pulled off a notable international distinction. He has been on a challenging "coals to Newcastle" tour of the United States. Rock 'n' Roll is essentially American. Therefore, Cliff Richard, whatever his talents, is more of an 'imitator' than an 'innovator'. He offered the Americans what they already have in abundance. But the Americans loved him. Why? This leads us to Cliff Richard, the Personality. He does not fit into the accepted Rock 'n' Roll mould.

#### ARTICULATE

He is one of the few young singers of today that I have met who can hold an articulate and intelligent conversation. Life for him is not bound to an expressive pattern of "crazy man, crazy" and "Everything is just fabulous". Success has not gone to his head. When he was voted "King of Rock" in a recent poll, he gained a victory over the singer he most admires - Elvis Presley. Mr. Richard's comment to me "It is all very flattering, but I feel a usurper. For

me, Elvis is still the tops". I was with him when a telephone message brought him the news that, during his American tour, he would be a guest on the Pat Boone TV Show. For those fans who usually besiege Cliff Richard for his autograph, his reaction may seem strange. "Quick," he cried, "Get me MY autograph book."

## BACKSTAGE

Backstage workers who have seen the world of entertainment undergo many changes have views about stars which seldom (for obvious reasons) reach the ears of those outside a theatre. They work with the stars. They see them as audiences never see them. Grease paint is not the only make-up which is rubbed off when the stars leave the stage. Yet the backstage workers have nothing but praise for Cliff Richard. "He is just the same nice kid he was when he first started," said one to me. "He will go a long way in this business." I agree. Sometime ago it became fashionable for people to say: "I like Tommy Steele."

## THE TOP

Am I falling into the same trap with Cliff Richard? I don't think so. I have seen him develop. I have seen him reach the top and stay there. He has a natural flair as an entertainer. Like Tommy Steele, Rock 'n' Roll will merely be a phase in his career. His main virtues are his humility and his sense of responsibility. As a 19 year old he holds a terrible responsibility, and it would be so easy to allow brashness to displace humility. He is the hero of today's youngsters. Even the sight of his portrait can produce hysterics.

But just as Rock 'n' Roll will merely be a phase in the Cliff Richard career, so will be the mass hysterics. For Cliff Richard is a young man who will command respect.

Fred Norris

## January 1982

### A START FOR HELEN HOUSE

The foundation Stone for Helen House was laid on Tuesday, 27<sup>th</sup> October. The ceremony was carried out by Helen's two year old sister Catherine, with help from Mother Frances Dominica.

In short speeches Mother Frances and Helen's father each thanked everyone who has contributed to the the Appeal. It is little more than twelve months since the Appeal was launched and in that time around £500,000 has been raised for building and opening the Hospice. Although the cost of building has been raised, the Appeal will continue in order to provide the running costs.

Helen House will be opened to help gravely ill children and their families before the end of 1982.

The laying of the Foundation Stone was filmed by ITV and many people most closely involved with the Appeal were interviewed. The programme will be shown in the "Jaywalking" series on Sunday, 17<sup>th</sup> January 1982

## October 1982

### HELEN HOUSE OPEN DAYS

Before Helen House opens, an opportunity will be given for all supporters of the Hospice for sick children to look around the new building. This will not be possible after the first children arrive.

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There were days when beer was 6p a pint  
My dad said with moistened eye  
My pocket money's gone before Friday  
And at weekends I often go dry

Yes!.....said my mum but your belly was full  
We had table cloths, carpets, a suite  
You held up your head when the neighbours called and your kids had shoes on their feet.

Whoa!.....said my dad I worked for all that my ale was my weekly treat upholding traditions  
of working men down the centuries, a god given right.

Oh yes! .....said my mum, did God push you over when you fell in the door of a night did he  
really say 'good lad, sup up, enjoy when you didn't know left hand from right.

Hey! .....said my dad you preach all you like whatever a mans career ask him how he'd  
spend the next twenty years if the hospital said 'no more beer'

No! .....said my mum, he'd do jobs still not done which makes the house look a mess he'd  
take his wife out for parties and meals and buy her the odd pretty dress

Oh yeah!..... Said dad

Pat Sansom

## SAFEGUARDING

In response to recent sad failings in protecting and safeguarding children, young people and vulnerable adults, the Anglican Church and therefore the Diocese of Oxford is setting in place a detailed mandatory training structure for all Parish officers and volunteers who have any contact with or the chance to influence children, young people or vulnerable adults or who have access to confidential information. The basic training (C0) for the majority of our volunteer officers is an on line awareness raising course. Those with more responsibility and contact are required to take that *and* attend a delivered course (C1) especially adapted to church life, and for certain roles it's also C2, S1 and S2.

Lesley Williams, Parish Safeguarding Officer, will be contacting all those who must be registered and trained. We plan to undertake the online course together in groups at St James Centre, in order to be able to discuss the issues, particularly how they pertain to the Parish of Cowley. We will be offering several daytime and evening and weekend times, convenient to all.

So please expect a letter if you are: vergers, sidesperson/welcomer, flower arranger, bell ringer, office volunteer, reader, chalice administrator, coffee server, church committee member, PCC member, Children's Church/Sunday Club, Little Stars/Seashells worker, Open the Book team member, church warden, choir leader, pastoral team member, prayer space leader. And be prepared to undertake the necessary training with an open heart.

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

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## 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 a recent 'Open the Book' resources order.

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

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

## RECIPE

### WINTER VEGETABLE AND LENTIL SOUP (serves 2)



#### INGREDIENTS:

- 85g dried red lentils
- 2 carrots, quartered lengthways then diced
- 3 sticks celery, sliced
- 2 small leeks, sliced
- 2 tbsp tomato puree
- 1 tbsp fresh thyme leaves
- 3 large garlic cloves, chopped
- 1 tbsp vegetable bouillon powder
- 1 heaped tsp ground coriander

#### METHOD:

1. Tip the lentils and vegetables into a large pan with the tomato purée, thyme, garlic, bouillon powder and coriander. Pour over 1½ litres boiling water from the kettle, then stir well. Cover and leave to simmer for 30 mins until the vegetables and lentils are tender.
2. Ladle into bowls and eat straightaway, or if you like a really thick texture, blitz a third of the soup with a hand blender or in a food processor.

\*\*\*\*\*

The following (from Cakes, Bakes, Puddings and Prayers by Susan Over) also seems most appropriate at this time of year.

### BLUSHING APPLE TART (serves 6)

#### INGREDIENTS:

- 110g butter
- 110g light soft brown sugar
- 2 tablespoons clear honey or golden syrup
- 4 medium-sized red-skinned eating apples, such as Royal Gala, Empire or Cox's

250g shortcrust pastry (or make your own with 110g plain flour, and 50g butter or margarine)

#### METHOD:

1. Preheat oven gas mark 6/220°C/400°F
2. Melt butter, sugar and honey or golden syrup in large pan over a moderate heat, stirring until dissolved. Remove from heat.
3. Core and quarter apples leaving peel on, then turn them in the caramel sauce. Replace on heat and simmer gently for 2 minutes.
4. Roll out pastry on a lightly floured board and cut out a circle using a deep flan tin, 21cm (9in) circumference, as your guide.
5. Arrange apples, skin side down in flan tin and pour over half the caramel sauce.
6. Place pastry circle over apples and press down edges.
7. Bake for 20-25 minutes until pastry is golden.
8. Remove from oven and allow to stand for 5 minutes. Place large serving plate over tin and invert carefully so that apples are uppermost.
9. Serve with remaining warmed caramel sauce and cream, ice cream or Greek yogurt.

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They have no shame at all; they do not even know how to blush  
Jeremiah 6:15 (NIV)

Lord, you are an awesome God and we should fall on our knees in wonder and praise at your greatness. Thank you for becoming like one of us so that you feel our human weakness and understand our struggles. Help us to be strong in a world that has strayed so far from you and keep us sensitive to the prompting of your Spirit. Amen.



# Pastoral Network

The Pastoral Network is one way we have in St James and St Frances Churches of putting Hebrews 12 v 15a into action 'Look after each other'. Every person who attends church is allocated to a member of the Pastoral Network Team who 'links' with the people on their list. These people are known as the 'Linker'. Do you know who your Linker is?

At a recent meeting of the Pastoral Network Team we decided that each Linker would do well to have a 'Buddy' so that we as a church family can get even better at looking after each other. Could YOU become a Buddy? Do you like other people? Do you notice when someone who isn't where they usually are during a Sunday service? Do you like chatting on the phone? Do you want to help other people but not take on lots of responsibility? Are you interested in other people's well-being? Do you want to show love to others? Answered YES to any of these? Well, you are the people we are looking for!

Being a Buddy would not oblige you to meet any practical needs (unless you wanted to!) but to communicate with other members of our church family.

How are folk doing? In what ways can we best support them? Who needs a friendly phone call (don't we all!)

If you're interested in finding out more please have a chat with Geoff, Mary, or any of us on the Pastoral Network team.

Jill Ling      Pastoral Network Co-ordinator

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## REPORT FROM THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

The PCC met on the 11 February 2018, the main item being discussed was the draft accounts for 2017. Following the discussion it was agreed that these should be sent to the auditor for inspection.

In addition there was discussion:

- ∅ Lent/Easter Services
- ∅ The Archdeacon's Visitation – when the churches, the registers, the official records such as PCC Minutes were inspected
- ∅ Time for God – the PCC agreed to fund an Intern starting in September
- ∅ The ordination of the curate, Gemma Beesley on the 30 June 2018
- ∅ The Link – new arrangements
- ∅ Parish Pastoral Team

The next PCC is due on Sunday, 11 March 2018. As this meeting is mainly to discuss the inspected accounts, it is hoped that PCC members will give approval via email communication.

Please note the amended dates of the Annual Meetings – set out in Dates to Remember. The next programme for Church Committees and PCC Meetings will be available for the Annual Parochial Church Meeting.

Sally Hemsworth PCC Secretary

# MOTHERS UNION NEWS

The February branch meeting began with the very happy news that two of our members, Revd Geoff and Mary Bayliss had just been made the proud grandparents of twin baby girls, Abigail and Rebecca.

It was a busy meeting with the main item being the preparation for the Women's World Day of Prayer Service at St Nicholas and St Mary's Church in Littlemore on 2<sup>nd</sup> March. This year's convenor, Mrs Ann Robinson, talked about the country on which the service is focussed and also spent some time to tell us more about the world-wide organisation and its history.

The forthcoming diocesan spring meeting, on 16<sup>th</sup> March, was discussed as it will be held in our Church Centre from 10 am to 3 pm. As host branch we are asked to help with the organisation and members volunteered to be on hand. Members are encouraged to attend as there will be a series of speakers, activities and news on the work of Mothers' Union.

Most people have come forward with their annual subscriptions but any outstanding ones should reach the Treasurer as soon as possible.

Members should note that Geoff is going to lead our March meeting which will be a quiet afternoon of prayer for lent. As was suggested at our Annual General meeting in January this year it will take the form of Holy

Communion in St James Church beginning at 2.30 pm on 19<sup>th</sup> March. It is many years since we have celebrated a full corporate communion so it should be a lovely occasion. As ever, of course, the service will be followed by tea and biscuits.

We have been allocated four tickets for the 130<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebratory service in Dorchester Abbey in July but since several more members have shown an interest in attending it is hoped that there will be a few more places available. Watch out for further news on this.

Rosanne Butler

## **Lesley Weston**

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## Easter at the Churches of:

### St James Beauchamp Lane and St Francis Hollow Way

<b>Maunder Thursday</b> March 28th	St James (PARISH EVENT)	7:00 pm Light supper 7:45 pm Maundy Thursday Service 8:30 pm Altar of repose in St Luke's Chapel
<b>Good Friday</b> March 29th	10:00 am St James (PARISH EVENT)	Messy Church- Good Friday
	1:00 pm – 2:00 pm St James Centre (PARISH EVENT)	At the cross: Reflections on the Passion
	3:00 pm Anglican Asian Living Church at St James	Good Friday Service
<b>Easter Saturday</b> March 30th	4:00 pm St Francis (PARISH EVENT)	Stations of the cross
	8:00 pm St James Church (PARISH EVENT)	Service of light with soup and Sausages
<b>Easter Day</b> April 1st	8:00 am St James	Traditional Language Communion Service
	10:00 am St James	Family Easter Day Communion Service
	10:30 am St Francis	Family Easter Day Communion Service
	1:45 pm Anglican Asian Living Church at St James	Resurrection Day Service



[www.cowleyteamministry.co.uk](http://www.cowleyteamministry.co.uk)  
Tel: 01865 747680

St James, Beauchamp Lane OX4 3LF  
St Francis, Hollow Way OX3 7JF

## COWLEY FESTIVAL OF CHRISTMAS TREES 2017 - THE FINAL RESULT

We made the targeted £2,000! With thanks to the St James Church Committee and the PCC, money from collections at the St James carol service and Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services was used to add to our total, rounding it up so that we could donate £1,000 each to SeeSaw and ROSY, who are of course delighted.

Those interested in making preliminary plans for the 'not the Cowley Christmas tree festival 2018' will meet on Wednesday 6 June, 9.30 am – to discuss bringing Christmas music and arts to Cowley

Lesley Williams 01865 779 562 07982 439 828 [ctf@cowleyteamministry.co.uk](mailto:ctf@cowleyteamministry.co.uk)

## CHRONICLE

Editorial Team- Sally Hemsworth, Nicki Stevens

Deadline for the next edition: Monday 19 March 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.

The Editorial Committee in no way accepts responsibility for goods or services supplied by our advertisers.

## FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT

Monday 26 February – Sunday 11 March  
with the theme: COME ON IN

Are we a Fairtrade church? We had hoped to apply for that status last year but are not yet consistently hitting the three necessary goals.



To be fully part of the campaign that recognises and respects our reliance on brother and sister workers around the globe by becoming a Fairtrade Church, we must register with the Fairtrade Foundation and the Parochial Church Council (PCC) must agree to:

- ∅ use Fairtrade tea and coffee after services and in all meetings and events for which you have responsibility;
- ∅ move forward on using other Fairtrade products such as sugar, biscuits and fruit;
- ∅ promote Fairtrade during Fairtrade Fortnight and during the year through events, worship and other activities whenever possible.

We currently *sometimes* have Fairtrade products in the St James Centre and St Francis kitchens but often not.....

And we haven't yet considered Fairtrade rice, wine, cleaning products. The PCC will discuss

it further. Unfairness now in world trade is rooted in centuries of exploitation which as Christians we should address.

Will you 'COME ON IN' with your own shopping, beginning this Fairtrade Fort-night?

**THE PARISH OF COWLEY**



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



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# One Small Step Diana's Story

## It starts with a Coffee Cup...

**“I had heard someone at a conference talking about how many disposable cups she had saved by using her own Keep Cup at a festival. My usage wasn't going to be comparable but it was a small step I could take ....”**



“I bought an Ecoffee Cup. I deliberately chose a design that was eye-catching - plants and birds, in pink and green.

I started using the cup after church on Sundays and, whilst irritating those on coffee duty who like to have all the coffees measured out in the disposable cups, my cup proved a talking point. The Dean of the Cathedral saw it, liked it, and as a result we approached the Cathedral shop asking if they would stock them. They now stock a wide range of designs and are delighted that it is one of their best sellers.

For me, using my cup is a great way to start a conversation with a stranger, talking about taking a little step to help save the planet. And sometimes it saves me money as the coffee chains may give a discount for using it: even on one occasion a free coffee!”



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Want to give something that really does make a difference?

Then we have some great gift suggestions for you – and at the same time you will be supporting our work with refugees, asylum seekers and migrants in Oxford by raising valuable funds.



Buy a copy of Come to our Table - the brilliant recipe book produced by members of our Women's Service.

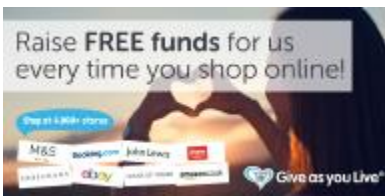
£5

*All proceeds towards supporting future activities for the Women's Service.*

Buy our greeting cards - the stunning design was created by members of our Women's Service.

Cards are £1.50 each, or set of 4 cards for £5  
(tied up with ribbon!)

*All proceeds towards supporting all our services at Refugee Resource.*



Do your online shopping with your favourite brands through Give as you Live: [www.giveasyoulive.com/charity/refugeeresource](http://www.giveasyoulive.com/charity/refugeeresource)

It is as easy as clicking on their website, registering, and then going via them to the normal online shops you use. A percentage of your shopping bill will be donated to Refugee Resource at no extra costs to yourself.

Send your gift requests to [carolynnlow@refugeeresource.org](mailto:carolynnlow@refugeeresource.org)  
or pop in to our office to pick them up

*(please note if we post them to you we will need to add postage and packaging costs)*

Find out more about our work on our website: [www.refugeeresource.org.uk](http://www.refugeeresource.org.uk)

If you would like to discuss any ideas you have you can contact Carolynn (Partnership Development Manager) by email at: [carolynnlow@refugeeresource.org](mailto:carolynnlow@refugeeresource.org)

## REFUGEE RESOURCE

This group contributed the last of the Christmas Tree Festival trees, a very bright pink one! Here is some more information about them – and the chance still to buy their recipe book and cards \*\*



We provide psychological, social and practical support for refugees, asylum seekers and vulnerable migrants to help them heal from trauma and suffering, and to build new lives as part of Oxfordshire's diverse community. In 2016-17 we supported more than 250 people from across 29 nationalities. Our services include counselling and psychotherapy, mentoring, specialist services for women, men and young people, advice and advocacy support, a hardship fund for destitute clients and bursary funding so people can access training and employment. Our services work holistically to relieve mental and emotional distress, and to empower people to connect with the local community and resources. We also provide training for other organisations responding to mental health needs of clients.

The Old Music Hall, 106 – 108 Cowley Road, Oxford, OX4 1JE

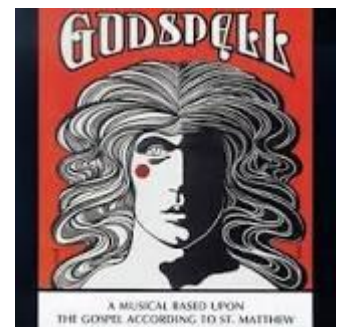
[www.refugeeresource.org.uk](http://www.refugeeresource.org.uk)

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## GODSPELL AT THE OXFORD PLAYHOUSE

Saturday 7 April, 2:30 pm

Do you remember when we staged a production of this show in the old Parish Hall? Composed by Stephen Schwartz with the spoken parts by John-Michael Tebelak, based on the Gospel of Matthew, it opened off Broadway on May 17, 1971 and has been performed around the world and turned into a film. The songs include: Prepare ye the way of the Lord, Day by day, On the willows, All good gifts, Turn back, O man.



This production is by MYCO - the Musical Youth Company of Oxford - the most amazingly talented Oxfordshire youth group, a scion of Oxford Operatic.

A Parish group booking has been made but must be confirmed – all tickets are at a special reduced church rate of £15.

*sign up by 4 March - lists are in both churches - or contact Lesley Williams quickly*

01865 779 562 OR 07982 439 828

[lesleyjwilliams@btinternet.com](mailto:lesleyjwilliams@btinternet.com)

## UNA'S CORNER

### A MIXTURE

Several people comment on my articles each month, I am always pleased to hear any comments or criticisms.

David Cook has told me that Dr Ivy Williams attended his church and he knew a little more about her. I have asked him to write a piece for the Chronicle, and he hopes to do this for next month.

A very old lady said she vaguely remembers a workhouse along the Cowley Road. Apparently no one she asked knew about it and even mocked her a little. There certainly was a workhouse along the Cowley Road.

The workhouse was on the site occupied by Manzil Way, the doctors' surgery, Restore and the mosque. It was at the back of the site, occupying the whole width of the plot, and there was a chapel on the Divinity Road side (The chapel is the only remaining original building).

Where I was born and brought up the family next door had four children, the eldest was a girl a little older than me and several years older to the next child. Pat was illegitimate the other three were from the marriage. Pat was born in the work house, her mother was destitute and there was nowhere for her to go. Unfortunately Pat was treated badly and while the younger children played she was scrubbing the kitchen floor or washing the youngest child's nappies. She was not allowed to come to my birthday parties – we used to wait until her family had gone out and smuggle in a large piece of birthday

cake. Looking back I think my parents should have reported the situation as she was so badly treated, she was a skivvy for the rest of the family.

When I was a child the workhouse was closed and the building turned into a hospital for the elderly, usually the dying. All the older folk in the area dreaded being sent to Cowley Road Hospital as they considered it a terrible place.

In fact it was a good hospital - it was spacious with very wide corridors. My mother in her old age, used to go there as a volunteer and take round to all the wards a trolley of books, the hospital library. She enjoyed doing that but I remember several of her friends said that they would not enter the place for any reason. I remember going with her to the little chapel for their Christmas Carol Service several years running.

Eventually it was demolished and gradually other places were built there and the road became a real road with a name. I remember sometimes we kids from the area would meet in the workhouse grounds to play ball games. It was all good grass to play on and it was known as the workhouse grounds for many years. I went to guides further towards the Plain and coming home after dark we used to cross over at the crossing outside Boots and walk on the other side of the road and then when we got to Divinity Road my friend would cross back and I carried on home. In those days it was perfectly safe for girls to walk in the dark but we thought the



workhouse grounds were a bit spooky. Incidentally I am not quite certain but I think that crossing was one of the earliest in Oxford and certainly the first this side of the Plain.

At that time Cowley Road was not very well lit – the blackout was over by then - there were cables right across the road with a dim light in the centre.

There were tram lines in the road but I do

not remember the trams, they were horse drawn I believe.

The Laurels in Headington was also a workhouse and I remember Guides from Headington used to take a teenage girl out for a walk in her wheelchair every weekend. I mentioned the Poor Law School in Cowley last month, that was a children's workhouse.

Una

I enjoyed reading 'Una's Corner' about Sunnyside Estate. My mother-in-law knew Dr Ivy Williams and always spoke of her fondly. Dr Ivy was born in Newton Abbott. She had an older brother, Winter, who was killed in a tragic accident. He was a Barrister.

Dr Ivy lost her sight in later life and learned to read braille. She died in North Oxford in 1966 at the age of 88.

Rita Augar

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## PARISH WALKING GROUP

The Parish Walks continue every other Monday, the next one being on the 5 March 2018 (weather permitting as this article is being prepared there is a snow blizzard outside!). We will be meeting at St James Church Centre at 1.45 pm and then deciding where to walk.

There have been two walks since the last Chronicle was issued – we walked along the Oxford Canal from Hythe Bridge Street to Aristotle Bridge and then back again, and the second walk was from St James Church Centre to Iffley – two took the muddy path to Sandford and found another walk for us to do once the towpath has dried out, and a few of us walked towards Oxford where the towpath was easier to walk along.

Please contact Sally Hemsworth at the Parish Office (01865 747680) if you want more information. If no reply do leave a message and Sally will get back to you.

# Prayer Space

Lord, in these days of mercy,  
make us quiet and prayerful;  
In these days of challenge,  
make us stronger in you;  
In these days of emptiness,  
take possession of us;  
In these days of waiting, open our hearts  
to the mystery of the cross.

Angela Ashwin

Almighty God, as we stand at the foot  
of the cross of your Son, help us to  
see and know your love for us,  
so that in humility, love and joy  
we may place at his feet all that  
we have and all that we are;  
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Celebrating Common Prayer

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## PERSONALLY SPEAKING

We suspect most people know that Geoff and Mary have become grandparents. The twins, Abigail and Rebecca, were born on 18 February on the 85<sup>th</sup> Birthday of their Great Granny – 5lbs1 and 5lbs 2. They are home, doing well and letting their parents, Hannah and Edd Wyncoll, know that they need love and attention.

We have also learned that Mrs Ann Withers, the President of the Cowley Women's Institute, is in hospital. She is always so good with her articles for The Chronicle, and we would like to send her our best wishes for a speedy recovery

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

## HAS ANYTHING CHANGED?

Since the sixth era of Creation closed  
Not one thing has been added, none removed.  
The same sun still provides light, heat and  
power;  
Our planet Earth rolls on around the sun  
To bring us our four Seasons year by year.  
The Flora and the Fauna of the Earth  
Have reproduced themselves "each of it's kind".  
Wheat-plants produce just as the first wheat-  
plant;  
The oak is still an oak, the fir a fir;  
Cattle still graze upon the plains; the fox  
Dens in the ground and monkeys climb through  
trees,  
And all, with man and all his works, return  
To the Earth and air, from which they first were  
firmed  
.. So often used but every time returned,  
With nothing added nor removed.  
Adams and Eves today still disobey  
The simple rules for their well-being given;  
Cains still kill Abels out of jealousy  
Or greed. But Seths in every age are born  
To carry on, and tell the message of  
The mystery and meaning of it all.

# DIARY DATES TO REMEMBER

## Mothers' Union

Monthly Meeting on 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of month  
from 2.15 pm, St James Church Centre  
19 March 2018: Quiet reflections for Lent  
Led by: Revd Canon Dr Geoff Bayliss

## Women's Institute

Monthly Meeting on 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of month  
from 2 – 4.30 pm, St James Church Centre  
21 March 2018 – Annual General Meeting with  
Teas, Competition and Raffle

## Gardening

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

## Charity Youth Run Café in aid of OWNS

Saturday, 3 March 2018 10.00 – 12.00  
St James Church Centre

## Parish Walk

Monday, 5 March 2018  
1.45 pm St James Church Centre – route to be  
decided

## Film Club

Friday, 9 March 2018 – "Silence"  
St James Church Centre, commencing at 6.30  
pm with coffee and cake

## Sunday Lunch

Sunday, 18 March 2018, at 12.45 pm  
St James Church Centre

## Mission and Social Planning Meeting

Monday, 19 March 2018 at 7.30 pm  
88 Temple Road

## Maundy Supper

Thursday, 29 March 2018 – watch out for  
notices on the details  
St James Church

## Messy Church – Easter

Good Friday, 30 March 2018, 10.00 – 11.30  
St James Church Centre

## PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE FOR FOLLOWING ANNUAL MEETINGS:

St Francis Annual Congregational Meeting  
Sunday, 15 April 2018, at St Francis Church, at  
12 noon

St James Annual Congregational Meeting  
Sunday, 22 April 2018, at St James Church  
Centre, at 12 noon

## Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Sunday, 29 April 2018, at St Francis Church, at  
12 noon

## REMEMBER:

Tuesday lunches at St  
James Church Centre from  
12.30 pm

# 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  
2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday All Age bring n/share lunch

## MID-WEEK SERVICES & MEETINGS

Morning Prayer	7.45am 8am	Mon, Wed, Thu at St James; Tue, Sat at St James
Monday	10.00-11.30am	Little Stars Playgroup— St Francis
	2.30pm	Parish Mothers' Union— St James (3rd Monday)
Tuesday	10.00am	Seashells Toddler Group— St James
	12.00pm	Eucharist—Ranklin Room, St James Church Centre
	12.30pm	Tuesday Lunch Club— St James
Thursday	2-4pm	Prayer Space—St Francis
	7.00pm	Cowley Parish Healing Service St Francis (1st Thursday)
	7.30pm	Local House of Prayer, St James

## HOME GROUPS

Leader	Time/Venue
Connie Uren	Alternate Tuesday afternoons at 2.30pm St James Church Centre, Ranklin Room
Friends of St Francis (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
Catherine / William Hartley	Thursdays at 8.00pm, Catherine Hartley 07792 104448 William Hartley 07751 939092

The Parish Office in St James Church Centre is staffed by volunteers and is not covered continually. Please leave a message and someone will get back to you.

Contact details: Tel: 01865 747680  
Email: [office@cowleyteamministry.co.uk](mailto:office@cowleyteamministry.co.uk)  
Out of hours tel: 01865 778596  
Website: [www.cowleyteamministry.co.uk](http://www.cowleyteamministry.co.uk)

### Team Rector:

The Revd Canon Dr Geoffrey Bayliss  
Tel: 01865 747680 (o) 01865 778596 (h)  
Email: [rector@cowleyteamministry.co.uk](mailto:rector@cowleyteamministry.co.uk)

### Self-supporting Ministers

Revd Richard Chand  
01865 701948  
Email: [richardwchand@outlook.com](mailto:richardwchand@outlook.com)

Revd Canon Mark Oxbrow  
01865 461953  
Email: [markoxbrow@aol.com](mailto:markoxbrow@aol.com)

Revd Tony Beetham  
Tel: 01865 770923  
Email: [tonybeetham1@supanet.com](mailto:tonybeetham1@supanet.com)

### Churchwardens:

Christine Woodman Tel: 778078  
St Francis : Nick Dewey  
Tel: 07952 524664

Deputy Wardens  
Margaret Martin Tel: 718532  
Vacancy: St Francis

### St James Church Centre Manager:

Chris Woodman Tel: 778078

### Hall Bookings:

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

### Cowley Chronicle—Editorial Team:

Sally Hemsworth, Nicki Stevens  
Articles to be emailed to:  
[chronicle@cowleyteamministry.co.uk](mailto:chronicle@cowleyteamministry.co.uk)  
Paper contributions to the Parish Office.