



Harvesting in the 1950s

South Cotswold Team Ministry

St. Mary's Church Fairford – Newsletter Sunday 31st July

Sunday 31st July – 7th Sunday of Trinity

8.00 am BCP Holy Communion

10.00 am Family Service

Coffee: Caroline New and Wendy Close

6.00 pm Healing Service with Holy Communion

Thursday 4th August

10.30 am Holy Communion

Sunday 7th August – 8th Sunday of Trinity

8.00 am BCP Holy Communion

10.00 am Common Worship Holy Communion

Sidespeople: Andy Wilkinson and Mary Mawle

Readings: Sally Salter

Intercessions: Janet Edwards

Offertory: Margaret Dibble and Heather Gorton

Coffee: Janet Edwards and Beth Bruce-Gardner

Online worship: Rev Caroline broadcasts 9am Morning Prayer Monday-Thursday and Saturday) via Facebook

From Caroline: 01285 712467 / carolinesymcox@googlemail.com

Readings for Sunday: Ecclesiastes 1.2, 12-14; 2.18-23; Colossians 3.1-11; Luke 12.13-21

We seem to be hearing a lot these days about how people ‘don’t want to work’. Now to some extent that might be true. But to a much greater extent, when we look back through history we can see that this is a complaint people who want other people to work have made throughout the centuries. A quick scan through old newspapers takes us to 1952 – “everybody was getting too darned lazy and nobody wants to work anymore”; to 1916 – “the reason for food scarcity is that nobody wants to work as hard as they used to”; to 1905 – “None want to work for wages”; to 1894 – “It is becoming apparent that nobody wants to work in these hard times.” A rallying call through the centuries, it seems!

Our reading from Ecclesiastes today echoes this sentiment from all the way back a thousand years before Jesus was born – “I hated all my toil in which I had toiled under the sun, seeing that I must leave it to those who come after me.” The writer of Ecclesiastes is summing up a particularly despairing and nihilistic mindset that nothing in the world is worth anything at all. Pleasure is fleeting and pointless. Work is hard and pointless. Wisdom is hard-won and... you guessed it... pointless.

But the writer isn’t telling us about this mindset approvingly. In fact, he is calling it out. This way of thinking, he tells us, is ‘vanity’, a Hebrew word *hebel*, which could be translated as ‘idolatry’. This mindset comes out of greed and ends in despair. To work only to pile up things to keep – riches, fame, recognition, respect... to do such a thing is always going to end in despair. Because time doesn’t allow it. We are here on earth for just a short time, and even in that short time things will grow and change, people will come and go, and the things we sought to stack up in our purpose-built barns, as in Jesus’ parable from Matthew, will disappear.

People don’t want to work when they don’t see the value of their work, or when they are not valued in it. People want to help people, they want to make a concrete difference, they want to be connected with the time and effort they put into a thing. People want to be respected and valued in their work, and have time and resources for enjoyment. Our writer of Ecclesiastes knows it well, and spells it out. And this is what God wants too!

When we approach the world, at whatever social or economic level we do so, with an attitude not of greed and desire, but of valuing people and doing meaningful and rewarding work, paid or unpaid... well then the world looks very different.

May God give us the wisdom and the opportunity to use our time well, and to offer opportunities for others to do the same, today and always. Amen.

Rev’d Caroline

From Heather

Email address: fairfordpcc@gmail.com or heathergorton31@gmail.com.

My office hours are 10.00 to 1.00 Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.
I am also continuing to work from home so you can contact me at either the office (712611) or home (712428). The office is closed on Mondays and Michelle will be in on Fridays from 10.00 to 12.00.

Blue Reading Sheets

The sheets are no longer available online. As from the 1st August I will leave copies in the church for you to help yourself.

Do please keep sending in your articles, photos and amusing stories! **Favourite recipes or garden tips welcome - do need your input!**

Contacts

Rev'd Caroline 01285 712467

Rev'd Canon Denise Hyde 01285 713285

Mike Godsal 01285 713101

Christine Benzie 01285 713395

Wendy Graham 01285 711765

Please remember the following in your prayers:

Those who are ill: Rev'd David Gray, Grace Slack

Those who have died: Gerry Willis, Johnny Dallow – formerly of Fairford, Elizabeth Finsberg, David Leech, Jenny Hing, Alison Cronin

NOTICES

Home-Start Cotswolds are running a 'Baby and Me' postnatal group at Fairford Library on Fridays, 11am to 12.30pm. Each week we cover a different topic, eg. sleep, feeding, play and communication. If you have a baby aged 0-6 months, please call 01285 885391 or email Groups@home-start-cotswolds.org.uk to book your place.

Embrace, the local support group for infertility and baby loss, is delighted to have recently celebrated its fifth birthday and, in celebration, has launched something new - "Embrace in a Box". These boxes, full of comforting goodies, are for anyone in our local area experiencing miscarriage. We have five boxes ready to give away and will create more as needed. As well as new things, the Baby Memorial Book, which Embrace and St Mary's Church introduced to the Corpus Christi chapel of the

church in 2019, continues to be available, giving the opportunity for those who have been affected by the loss of a baby to make an entry in their memory. If you would like information about Embrace, Embrace in a Box or the Memorial Book, please do get in touch on: embracefairford@gmail.com or 01285 712565

Messy Church

Messy Church is now having a summer break. There will not be a session in August so we next meet again on Sunday 11 September at 4pm. We hope you all have a great summer. For more details about Messy Church please contact Sarah Bottomley on 01285712074 or stmaryslmt@gmail.com

Vicar's Holiday

Rev'd Caroline will be on holiday from Monday 8th August to Monday 15th August. We're not going anywhere in particular, but will be having a 'staycation', travelling on day trips to different places. If you need to speak to someone while she's away, please speak to Rev'd Denise if you need a clergyperson in particular, or either Christine or Mike our churchwardens.

PRAYER AND WORSHIP

Prayers from St Mary's – Rev'd Caroline's Morning Prayer every day except Friday and Sunday from 9.00 am - www.facebook.com/stmarysfairford

Daily Hope from the Church of England - A good option for worship if you can't access the internet. It is a free phone number where you have the option of the prayer for today, hymn for today and reflections. Telephone 0800 804 8044 Sent by Andrena Miles.

Christian healing is God meeting us at our point of need. (Bishop Maddocks)

Mary Mawle 01285 712174

Ann Nicholls 01285 713063

Rev'd Denise 01285 713285. denisehyde15@gmail.com

Working for Wellbeing – from Mary Ann



- You will find W4W at Fairford Community Centre every Wednesday at the **Talking Café** for all your signposting and supporting needs. 1030am-12noon. Lechlade Talking Café coming soon!!!! We have been busy working on our Digital Program and hope to roll this out soon, with set drop-in sessions in both Fairford and Lechlade areas. For the mean time please pop into the Talking Café and I can support you on the basics of internet and devices.
- **Walking for Wellbeing** is back Sunday 3rd of July. Meeting at Fairford Community Centre at 3pm for a Walk and Talk, followed by refreshments.
- The **Fairford Crafters** meet on the first Wednesday of the month at Fairford Community Centre 2pm-4pm. Free but donations welcome. Thank you to Ann Nicholls for running this group and sharing her skills.
- We are excited to announce **Fairford Crafters evening sessions** on the last Thursday of the month. Next upcoming session is on 28th July, with further dates to be confirmed. This is a social event no skills needed with the hope we will learn and grow as the months go on.
- **Men's Shed** is coming soon- We have been delighted to have been invited to go look around the new shed next week and will confirm a grand opening date in the next few weeks. Well done to Malcolm Cutler and his team for making this become a reality.

From Ann Nicholls

Abba, Father, keep me from opening my mouth when it would be better, kinder to stay silent, help me not to slip into wilful sins, may they not rule in my life. May the words that I speak and the thoughts of my heart be always pleasing to you, for you are my security and my strength, and, if I please you then my life will be as you want it to be.

I will praise you Lord, I will speak of your wonderful works and sing of your glory. Abba, Father, through Jesus we are able to come to you, let us continually offer you our praise and worship for his glory, AMEN

Ann sent the photo below!



Find Laughing Boy Yoda!

From Alison Hobson

Wilts and Glos Standard 3 April 1858

Church Missions

On Saturday evening, a meeting was held in the Schoolroom in aid of the funds of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel. The Rev W C Dowding attended as a deputation from the Parent Society. The Rev. the Vicar [Rice] occupied the chair, and read an interesting letter he had received from the Rev Abraham Cowley of Fairford who is now labouring among the Red Indians of North America. The Rev, the deputation next addressed the meeting, and in a very amusing and instructive manner described missionary work in general, especially the North American mission. He also preached on the parish church on the following the following Sunday morning and for the same object. The collection amounted to £13 13s 6d.

This is very interesting as some of the letters from Abraham Cowley still exist, they are at Gloucestershire Archives (P141/IN/4/2). Mr Hedges, the former head master of Farmor's School transcribed these letters around 1960, copies of which are in the FHS Archive.

This is an extract from one of the earlier letters of July 1843

'In the beginning of August 1843 I left Red River with the intention of taking up permanent abode at Manitoba Lake with my beloved wife and little all. As traveling in this country differs materially from travelling in England it may be not be uninteresting to receive a few words respecting it. Previous to our departure I purchased four oxen and four carts for the purpose of hauling our luggage and some cows for milk and other domestic creatures for the convenience of life. With these Mrs C and her maid and our interpreter, and two men left Red River to go into the interior for the purpose of sounding the trumpet of the Gospel in the ears of the benighted heathen who had never been so privileged.'

ST MARY'S CHURCHYARD GUIDED TOUR
(otherwise known as the Tomb Trail)

Have you ever wondered about the people buried in St Mary's old churchyard? There are some fascinating and strange stories behind some of these people. Find out about Ebenezer's inflatable globes and wind-driven carriage, the tragic story of Doctor Cornwall's children, and the man behind the Navy List. In conjunction with Fairford History Society St Mary's are offering guided 'Tomb Trails' throughout this Spring and Summer. The £3 contribution will go in part towards St Mary's and the FHS. Group bookings can be arranged of up to about 12 or individuals can come along to the **NEXT TOMB TRAIL ON SATURDAY 3 SEPTEMBER AT 2PM**. Please contact Alison Hobson at enquiry@fairfordhistory.org.uk if you are interested.

From Sarah Lovatt who is sharing her love of insects with you all.

INTERESTING INSECTS OF FAIRFORD – 18 JULY 2022

Comma Butterfly (*Polytonia c-album*)

Unmistakable, vibrant, uniquely shaped

Found: on the Riverwalk, in the garden, hedgerows

Fond of: hops, nettles, buddleia, rotting fruits, willow

Look out for: ragged wing edges, white comma shaped mark on the hindwing.

A bit about it: Flight pattern of alternate rapid wingbeats and glides.



Cinnabar Moth Caterpillar (*Tyria jacobaeae*)

Vibrant, bold, black/gold, and out there!

Found: in the churchyard

(photo shows also the Common Red Soldier Beetle)

Dependent on: Ragwort.

Look out for: The unmistakable red and black cinnabar moth.

A bit about it: The caterpillar absorbs poisons from the plant, and is unpalatable to predators.



Hornet Hoverfly (*Volucella zonaria*)

Harmless, large, bold, colourful mimic of a hornet (especially in flight)

Found: on the Riverwalk, in the garden

Fond of: Bramble flowers, buddleia

Look out for: Spectacular – you can't miss it! It also has the hornet buzz!

A bit about it: The larvae are scavengers in wasps' nests. Not uncommon in urban areas and cities.



Common Blue Butterfly Female (*Polyommatus icarus*)

Restless, dainty and discreet.

Found: in the churchyard

Fond of: bird's-foot trefoil, grassy places, wild gardens

Look out for: Bright blue males with white wing margins. Females are brown dusted with blue, and have orange spots along the wing border.

A bit about it: The females are attracted to the scent of the males not their colour. The blue colour acts as a warning signal to other males.



Common Carder Bumblebee (*Bombus pascuorum*)

Plump, hairy and social.

Found: on Snake's Lane, in the garden

Fond of: deep flowers especially foxgloves, thistles, dead-nettles; as well as dandelions and bramble flowers.

Look out for: Rich ginger-brown hairy thorax. Striped abdomen.

A bit about it: Colonies vary in size – up to 200 workers. The queen creates a 2 cm high cup of nectar in the nest as a rainy day reserve.



<p>Black and Yellow Longhorn Beetle (<i>Rutpela maculata</i>) Large, well-marked and colourful Found: on the Riverwalk Fond of: pollen in woodlands – hawthorn, umbel flowers. Look out for: Yellow with variable black spots with always a black tip, largely yellow legs. A bit about it: Larvae develop in decaying tree stumps</p>	
<p>Spot-legged Ichneumon Wasp (<i>Diplazon laetatorius</i>) A small, barely noticeable, harmless to us, overlooked parasitoid Found: on the Riverwalk Fond of: nectar of umbellifers such as carrot and hogweed. Look out for: Its black-and-maroon colour and white spots. Scuttling movements and busy antennae. A bit about it: There are around 2,500 species of ichneumon wasps in this country. This one finds hoverfly eggs or larvae by scent, and injects its own eggs inside them, obviously leading to their demise.</p>	
<p>Gatekeeper (Hedge Brown) Butterfly (<i>Pyronia tithonus</i>) Orange, abundant, basks with open wings! Found: on the Riverwalk, fields, churchyard Fond of: bramble blossom, grasses. Look out for: the eye spot on the forewing which usually has two white pupils. A bit about it: It's often encountered around clumps of flowers growing in gateways (as well as hedgerows and field edges) hence its name.</p>	

A few of the insects spotted recently in Fairford:

Riverwalk and Hedgerows: Speckled Wood Butterfly, Banded Demoiselles, Wasp Beetle, Green Dock Beetle, Green Nettle Weevil, Great Pied Hoverfly, Scorpion Fly, Daddy Long Legs Spider, Thick Legged Flower Beetle, Cucumber Green Orb Spider, Nettle Plant Bug, Broad-Bodied Chaser Dragonfly, Common Froghopper, Speckled Bush-Cricket, Marmalade Hoverfly, Drone Fly, Thick-headed Conops Fly, White footed Hoverfly, Long Hoverfly, Ringlet Butterfly and more...

Garden: Peacock Butterfly, Javelin Wasp, Red-Legged Shieldbug, Common Flower Bug, Broad Centurion Fly, Tiger Hoverfly, Batman Hoverfly, Minute Black wasp, Ruby-Tailed Wasp, Red Admiral Butterfly, Painted Lady Butterfly, Hummingbird Hawk Moth and more...

Churchyard: Skipper Butterfly, Meadow Brown Butterfly, Red-patched fly and more..

Fairford is home to many wild bees and wasps such as digger wasps, ichneumon wasps, mason bees, leaf-cutting bees, bumblebees etc as well as a large range of other pollinators.

Sources of information:

Brock, P.D., (2021) Britain's Insects, A Field Guide to the Insects of Great Britain and Ireland, Princeton University Press

Chinery, M (2007) Insects of Britain and Western Europe, Domino Books Ltd

Chinery, M. (2012) Insects, Collins Gem

Couzens, D. (2022) An Identification. Guide to Garden Insects of Britain and North-West Europe, John Beaufoy Publishing Ltd.

A Cat in My Lap

by Karen Boxell

I know I have a lot to do,
So many things -- see them through.
There are clothes to clean, grass to mow,
Cookies to bake, seeds to sow.
But I really can't do all these things in a snap.
Because, you see, there's a cat in my lap.

He stretches and rolls and gives me a wink
From his sleepy gold eyes -- just a small blink.
I smooth his long tail and tickle his tummy.
He yawns, and purrs to tell me that's yummy.
The telephone rings. The paper boy taps.
No move do I make. There's a cat in my lap.

Bright sunlight dances across the floor
To warm my small friend just a bit more.
A happy prisoner am I in my chair --
Some moments of peace -- not a care.
I think I'll take a little nap
With this soft, furry ball, a cat in my lap!

<https://www.facebook.com/CrazyCatLadiesUnite/>



This priest decided to skip church one Sunday morning to go and play golf

He told his assistant that he wasn't feeling well. He drove to a golf course in another city, so nobody would know him.

He teed off on the first hole. A huge gust of wind caught his ball, carried it an extra hundred yards and dropped it right in the hole, for a 450 yard hole in one.

An angel looked at God and said "What'd you do that for?" God smiled and said "Who's he going to tell?"



"What's the matter, Rabbit?" asked Bear.
"I feel anxious. Like the ground is falling away from under my feet," said Rabbit.
"What do you see around you?" asked Bear.
Rabbit paused, "I see you, and the sky, the trees, flowers, birds and the grass."
"What do you hear?" asked Bear.
"Your voice, the birds singing, the rustling of the leaves as the breeze blows through
and the sound of the water flowing in the stream," said Rabbit.
"What can you smell and taste?" asked Bear.
"The flowers, and this lovely cup of tea you made for me," said Rabbit.
"Now, what do you feel?" asked Bear.
"The ground, solid beneath my feet," said Rabbit, "and love. I feel loved."

@Lara Stanton