

NEWS FROM THE PARISHES

BUSCOT

There is an old iron strong box in the vestry at Buscot, which has remained unopened for many years. We felt that the time had come to investigate it, so we opened it with the help of a locksmith, and found some old brass vases and two interesting old registers. The first was for Banns of Marriage from 1813 to 1825 and (after a gap) from 1901 to 1980. The Iles family, so closely connected with Buscot, appear in the Register in 1819. The other was the Confirmation Register from 1908 to 1968, and records the confirmation of many young evacuees to the area during the Second World War, with as many as 38 in 1941.

COLESHILL

There are two Christmas carol services in the Benefice each year, each of which regularly attract around a hundred people. There is the traditional Service of Lessons and Carols at Buscot, and a *Celebration of Christmas* at Coleshill, which (as well as readings and carols) includes a series of children's tableaux with Mary and Joseph (plus Sugar the pony), shepherds, angels and wise men, all gathering in the sanctuary of Coleshill church which is transformed into a stable – complete with hay (see *illustrations of coleshill and Buscot carol services*).



EATON HASTINGS

Following the success of the Jazz Concert in 2014, another very well supported Jazz Concert was held on September 17th in the grounds of Eaton Hastings House, by kind permission of Spencer and Tish Cooper. It featured the Alex Steele Band and nearly a hundred people came. A magnificent sum of £1,200 was raised in aid of the church.

GREAT COXWELL

Sam Thulin, a teacher, writer and artist who lives in Great Coxwell who specialises in paintings of animals she encounters in the local countryside (and is also our PCC secretary) has produced a striking new greetings card in aid of the church (see *illustration*). Sam is currently promoting arts in Oxfordshire as an ambassador for Oxford Artweeks.



THE BADBURY BUGLE

Newsletter for the churches of Buscot, Coleshill, Eaton Hastings and Great Coxwell

Jan - April 2017



All Saints, Coleshill



St Mary's, Buscot



St Michael & All Angels, Eaton Hastings



St Giles, Great Coxwell

LETTER FROM THE VICARAGE

As I write this letter at the end of 2016, I am beginning to look beyond Christmas to the events that mark the beginning of the New Year, especially our Plough Sunday service at Coleshill on January 8th, the first of the farming festivals that we celebrate in the Badbury Group of Churches each year. This service, in which the plough and the seed are blessed and the work of our farms is commended to God, gives us an opportunity to think of the world of work as a whole, and the activities in which we may be engaged, whether they be paid or voluntary.

A Christian understanding of work sees it as an outward and visible sign of God's creative energy in humanity, rather than simply as a tool of the social, economic or political order. So we need to see work as an expression of an individual's God-given qualities, and to help others to achieve their calling and their human potential.

The ordering of economic life and, the moral questions which inform the workings of the economy lie at the heart of Christian thinking. I suggest that we need to view human work

as co-operating with God in our stewardship of the created world. This helps to steer us away from a kind of individualistic quest for self-realisation in what we do. As humans we are dependent on God for the authorship of our work; and God works through human hands.

When I conducted the Civic Service at All Saints Faringdon earlier this year (in my capacity as Area Dean) I used as illustrations the symbols of salt and light that we find in Matthew's Gospel, when Jesus warns us against placing limits on the gifts that he has given us and says "You are the salt of the earth" and "You are the light of the world." So we are called to be salt for the earth and a light in the world, individually and in the communities in which we live. We are invited to bear the light that Jesus offers us, so that we may give light to others.

So may all our endeavours in 2017 be directed towards the good of others and the building of our communities, and may we see that our creative energy comes from beyond ourselves, and needs to flow from us.

With every good wish for the New Year, from your friend and vicar, David



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CALENDAR OF SPECIAL SERVICES & EVENTS

PLOUGH SUNDAY FAMILY SERVICE *



Sunday January 8th 9.00am A service for all the family at Coleshill, in which we bless the plough and the seed for the New Year.

EPIPHANY *

Sunday January 8th 10.30am A Family Communion service at Great Coxwell celebrating the coming of the three wise men to present gifts to the infant Jesus



CANDLEMAS *

Sunday January 29th 10.30am Benefice Family Communion at Buscot, in which we mark the end of the Christmas season, and celebrate the light of Christ and his first appearance as a child in the Temple



ASH WEDNESDAY

Wednesday March 1st 7.30pm Communion service at Great Coxwell, marking the beginning of the season of Lent, when we prepare ourselves for Easter



LENT STUDY COURSE

Wednesdays March 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th and April 5th
Morning group: 11.00am-12.30pm; Evening group: 7.30-9.00pm
Study group for the Badbury Group of Churches, meeting at the Vicarage in Great Coxwell on the five Wednesdays in Lent - details from the Revd. David Williams

MOTHERING SUNDAY*



Sunday March 26th 10.30am Family Communion service at Coleshill (with distribution of posies).

PALM SUNDAY*

Sunday April 9th 10.00am Palm Sunday Procession, beginning at the crossroads in the centre of Great Coxwell village and proceeding (with donkey) to the church, as we remember Jesus' entry into Jerusalem on a donkey.



** These services are particularly suitable for families and our young people*



MAUNDY THURSDAY

Thursday April 13th 7.30pm Communion service at Coleshill – a special commemoration of the Last Supper

GOOD FRIDAY

Friday April 14th We remember Jesus' death on the Cross in our four churches



9.30am
11.30am
2.00pm
3.30pm

Good Friday Liturgy at Great Coxwell
Morning Prayer at Eaton Hastings
Stations of the Cross at Buscot
Telling the Easter Story: a service for families and young people at Coleshill*

EASTER SUNDAY

Sunday April 16th We celebrate Jesus' resurrection from the dead



9.00am
10.30am

Prayer Book Holy Communion at Eaton Hastings
Easter Family Communion at Buscot*

APRIL BENEFICE SERVICE

Sunday April 30th 10.30am Benefice Communion at Great Coxwell

No Morning Prayer at Buscot on January 1st, at Great Coxwell on March 26th or at Coleshill on April 9th

PATTERN OF SERVICES

	9am Morning Prayer	10.30am Holy Communion
1 st Sunday	Buscot	Eaton Hastings
2 nd Sunday	Coleshill	Great Coxwell
3 rd Sunday	Eaton Hastings	Buscot
4 th Sunday	Great Coxwell	Coleshill

Each Wednesday: 9am Morning Prayer at Great Coxwell.