

Church Update -- March 2022

Dear Friends - just a quick update to the church family - and in particular those of you we don't get to see so often for a variety of reasons. First and foremost I hope you are keeping well, and if you haven't managed to avoid the virus, then I trust you weren't too poorly with it. It certainly seems pretty rife in Tewkesbury at the moment.

For you information the latest edition of Crosspoint has just been issued and if you don't receive a paper copy then it is available on our church website. It was a little late this spring but will be back to the normal print date in June. This was only our second issue since November 2019 - the lost 2 years.....

A couple of notices that were confirmed too late for Crosspoint - there will be a concert by Tewkesbury Chamber Choir at church on Saturday 23rd April at 7pm. Tickets are £6 and all proceeds are for church funds. If you would like tickets they are available on Sunday mornings or do email me if you would like any reserved. Camerata will also be performing one of their superb concerts again at our church on Saturday 25th June at 7.30pm. More details to follow.

Also on Saturday 23rd April we shall be having a Table-Top market from 10am to 1pm featuring a variety of stalls including crafts and produce, jewellery and toiletries etc. Most of the stalls are visitors who wish to feature their products and if successful we hope to repeat these markets every month/bi-monthly. Refreshments will be available - no entry charge - please come along if you can, and tell family and friends about it. We would love this to be a huge success in our church building and something that could feature regularly in Oasis next year (see below).

Can I highlight a mistake in this edition - the FairTrade stall is open at church on the first Sunday of the month following worship, and for the third Saturday of the month during the coffee morning.

Most of you will be aware that we lost our longest serving member in December. Nesta Harris died just before Christmas and her thanksgiving service will be on Thursday 19th May. Sadly we also hear of the death of Joyce Cooper and Sue Edlin, Roy's wife. We have sent love and prayers to all families. I have been asked by Nesta's daughter to speak at her thanksgiving service with regard to Nesta's time at our church over 60 years..... I would appreciate any information and/or anecdotes about Nesta and Harold that you can recall so that I can share these at the service. I am grateful for those of you who have already been in touch.

Our "Welcome Space" progresses slowly but with some positive giant steps forward - we now have some guaranteed funding which confirms we can set the plans in motion (the approval of plans and putting the job out to tender) - and we have developed good relations with several potential partners to the scheme. This new enterprise will be known as Oasis.

I am checking the keyholder list for our church (it is necessary for all keyholders and keycode holders to complete a Safeguarding form) so if you have a church key (and aren't a church officer) or have access to the keycode (if it was before December

2020 then I do not need to know as the code was changed then) please can you email me so our list maintained accurately.

I would also like to mention a Thanksgiving and Remembrance Service we are holding at Tewkesbury on Sunday 3rd April at 4pm. We will be remembering all our loved ones who have died whether it be recently or in years gone by. Names will be read out and candles lit - everyone is welcome, and whether you are able to come or not, if you would like a name mentioned at the service please email me. Please come along if you can - and spread the word to those outside the church family - all are welcome.

Please pray for our minister, Jayne, as she prepares to go on sabbatical from the beginning of June for 3 months. She has had a difficult week, after a fall at church last week, resulting in a torn knee ligament, and then this week, suffering a bout of gastroenteritis. At present she is deputising for the Circuit Super - John Hellyer - as he, too, is on sabbatical at present, so her workload is particularly heavy at the moment.

Finally I send greetings and blessings to all -

Jean (Davies)
Pastoral secretary and Crosspoint editor