

MISSION HALL OUTING TO BARTLEMAS FARM IN THE 1890'S



Christian Missions to Victorian Cowley

Emily Greig

In this talk, a view of a parish in east Oxford, just beyond Magdalen Bridge, will be uncovered as it began to develop after 1850. The first people to live in Cowley St John were mostly artisans, college servants and tradesmen - respectable working-class folk. However, there were pockets of poverty too. Numbers lived only just above destitution and alcohol abuse was common. Christians sought to improve conditions but, across the country, this was an era of significant religious rivalry. Cowley St John was also caught up in a battle for hearts and minds. The ministry of a well-resourced, visionary Church of England vicar will be contrasted with a Nonconformist mission supported largely by the ordinary, middling sort. The latter mission left few lasting traces but closer study has revealed that non-university educated people were often more confident, assertive, and effective in ministry than might be supposed. Struggles experienced by the poor in late Victorian Oxford are glimpsed through the work of both missions



**THE TRUSTEES
OF THE
MISSION IN
MAGDALEN
ROAD COWLEY**

Hanne y History Group

8.00 p.m.

Monday 27th

February

**Hanne
y War**

Memorial Hall

OX12 0JL

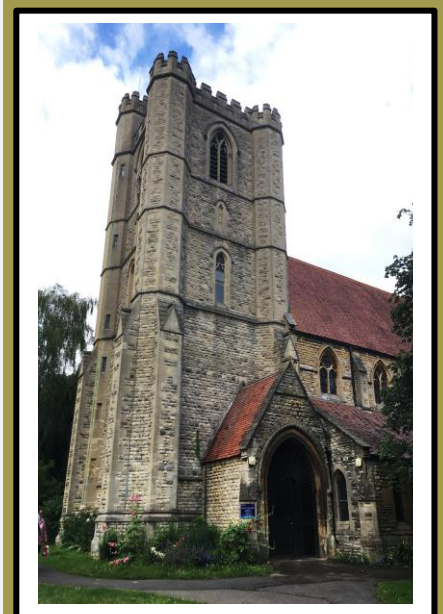
Visitors

welcome @ £3

per person -

Please arrive by

7.50 p.m.



**THE ENTRANCE TO THE 1890
CHURCH OF COWLEY ST JOHN
TODAY**