

OF HARES AND HYMNS

Walking home to Markyate from Flamstead across the fields one sunny day I felt my back start to tighten. Fearing a complete 'lockdown' I thought I'd better lie down. So in the field above the allotments I lay down in the 'gutter' between the footpath and the first row of corn. The warmth of the summer soil soon eased my aches and pains. I lay still for a moment or two relishing the breeze in the corn and the sun overhead; then I heard a rustling sound and, half lifting my head from the prone position, I peered down between the V-shape of my size 9 boots, and saw to my surprise a hare sitting about 12 ins away from my feet! I smiled at it- and it put its head on one side and looked quizzically at me, then slowly turned and just lolloped quietly away as it came !

I mention this encounter because the poet and hymnist William Cowper, way back in 1773 , wrote the hymn

'God works in a mysterious way;

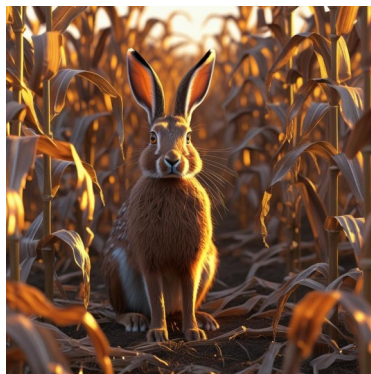
His wonders to perform.'

He was a local man born in Berkhamsted and loved to walk the countryside round here. – Hence the names Cowper Rise and Cowper Road to commemorate him. He also had a thing for haresso much so that he kept 3 as pets!

It's good to think that in this very countryside that we share he felt God moving mysteriously and the need to share this with others - just as we too continue to celebrate them every Sunday here at Markyate Baptist Church at 10.30. a.m.

Come and join us, - You will be very welcome! Bring your hares too, if you can catch them!

Jo Betts



What's On—July 2025

Friday 4th

MBC Café—open to all
10am—12pm

Saturday 5th

In person Prayer meeting
09.30am—10.30am

Sunday 6th

10.30am Communion Service
With Karen Bugg

Monday 7th

MBC Café—open to all
10.30am—12pm

Friday 11th

J&J's baby & toddler group
10am—11.30am

Saturday 12th

In person Prayer meeting
09.30am—10.30am

Sunday 13th

10.30am Morning Service
With Graham Clarke

Monday 14th

MBC Café—open to all
10.30am—12pm

Thursday 17th

Leadership Team Meeting
7.30pm

Friday 18th

MBC Café—open to all
10am—12pm

Saturday 19th

In person Prayer meeting
09.30am—10.30am

Sunday 20th

10.30am Morning Service
Jez, Katie & the youth!
12pm Members Meeting

Monday 21st

MBC Café—open to all
10.30am—12pm

Sunday 27th

10.30am Morning Service
With Tim Haines

Monday 28th

MBC Café—open to all
10.30am—12pm

Minister: VACANT

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Working days—Tues and Thur.

Deacons:

Jeremy Bottrill,
Ruth Kieran
Chris & Heidi Trew
Mark Buckley
Rob Wills

Moderator

Mary Moody

Our Vision Statment:

Growing Together by loving God, loving others & serving our community