

RIDGEWAY BROADSHEET

February 2016

HARWELL
CHILTON
CHURCHES

St Matthew's Harwell

14th Feb 2016

4.30pm

Free gift for every couple
Children's activities

Valentine's Day Service

Rector of Harwell and Chilton Revd Dr Jonathan Mobey
The Rectory | Church Lane | Harwell | OX11 0EZ
01235 799376 | rector@harwellandchiltonchurches.org.uk

Associate Minister Revd Pam Rolls
01235 834475 | pamrolls@tiscali.co.uk

Children & Families Worker Mr Peter Shields
07467 038734 | Peter@machparish.co.uk

Church Administrator & PA to the Rector Mrs Vicky Johnston
Harwell Church Office | Mon/Tue/Thu/Fri 9.30-2.30 | 01235 834256
office@harwellandchiltonchurches.org.uk

LENT GROUPS

Lent is a special time for gathering together and learning more about God's purpose for our lives and for helping and encouraging one another.

We have several homegroups meeting in Chilton and Harwell on various days and times for bible study and prayer. If you are interested to know more about this or wish to join a group during Lent please contact Jean Barton

The book we shall be looking at together this Lent is: *Life Calling - A 5-session Course on Vocation for Lent*, by Kate Bruce & Robert Warren. Here is a bit more about the course:

"Some people think that vocation is just for special people... but God calls us all to live our lives shaped and directed by his call. This course for small groups explores the meaning of vocation for everyone.

The course offers five interactive sessions:

- * Called by God: The shape of God's call in Scripture
- * Called from within: Drawing out the call and gifts that God has planted in us
- * Called out: How God sets us free from everything that stops us responding to God's call.
- * Called up: Understanding how God calls us to join in with his loving care of the world.
- * Called on: how we can grow in our sense of calling beyond the end of the course.

This course helps people to embark on an adventure with God - a journey through life in which we make a contribution to the world around us."

CHRISTINE PERKINS



Come and have a cup of tea and a slice of cake with our mission partner Christine Perkins. She will be at Chilton Village Hall on 27 February from 2:30 – 4:30pm. Find out about what it's like to live and work in South Sudan. Children are very welcome and activities will be provided.

You can also come and welcome Christine on the 28 February, when she will be speaking at the morning services in Chilton and Harwell as well as visiting our youth groups in the evening.

Christine is a former teacher at Didcot Girls School, she also worshipped at Harwell Church and led a youth group.

Since 1985 Christine has worked in East Africa, mainly in Sudan during a continuing turbulent period of the country's history. For 20 years she was a teacher in Khartoum, supported by the mission agency, Action Partners, now known as Pioneers UK. She then worked for ACROSS as an educational adviser for South Sudan. ACROSS is an international Christian organization focused on working to build communities, improve education, strengthen churches, improve livelihoods, and teach about health within South Sudan.

In December 2015 Christine returned to the UK to work for the Pioneer UK office. We are delighted that she is coming to visit us and we hope you will be able to join us too.

Love from your Valentine

Around 250 AD there lived in Rome a priest by the name of Valentine. At that time, Claudius was the Emperor, and Claudius wanted to create a large Roman army. He thought men should volunteer to join, but many men just did not want to leave home and go off to fight in wars. They did not want to leave their girlfriends and wives, so very few joined up. This made Emperor Claudius both angry and determined to do something about this. He had the idea that if men were not married, they would be more inclined to join his army. So Claudius decreed that there would be no more marriages.

Young people thought his new law was really cruel. Valentine thought it was ridiculous! One of his favourite duties as a priest was to marry people. After Emperor Claudius passed his law, Valentine kept on performing marriage ceremonies – but secretly. He would whisper the words of the ceremony, whilst listening for soldiers on the steps outside.

One night, Valentine did hear footsteps at his door.

The couple he was marrying escaped, but he was caught. He was thrown into jail and told that his punishment was death. Many young people came to the jail to visit him, and threw flowers and notes up to his window. They wanted him to know that they, too, believed in love.

One of these young people was the daughter of the prison guard. Her father allowed her to visit him in his cell. They often sat and talked for hours. She believed he did the right thing by ignoring the Emperor and performing marriage ceremonies.

On the day Valentine was to die, he left her a note thanking her for her friendship and loyalty. He signed it, "Love from your Valentine." That note started the custom of exchanging love notes on Valentine's Day. It was written on the day he died, February 14, 269 AD. Now, every year on this day, people remember. But most importantly, they think about love and friendship. When they think of Emperor Claudius, they remember how he tried to stand in the way of love, and they laugh - because they know that love can't be beaten!

Love fills our airwaves, literature, cinemas and screens. It has preoccupied people of all cultures and times and has motivated great acts of heroism and sacrifice. It cannot be banned, ignored, or forgotten. Love is stronger than death.

Christians believe "God is love, and those who live in love live in God and God lives in them" (1 John 4:16). And they see in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ the ultimate example and expression of love.

Love is the supreme good and should be celebrated. Valentine's Day is a great occasion to do just that. So this year we have a special service on Valentine's Day afternoon for those who would like to give thanks to God for and seek his blessing on their relationship. All couples welcome – details of the service on the front cover. Let's celebrate God's wonderful gift of love!

Revd Dr Jonathan Mobey
Rector of Harwell and Chilton



WEEKLY EVENTS

FEBRUARY & MARCH 2016

Mondays

9:30-11:30am Fledgelings (during term time) at St Matthew's Church Hall
7:30pm Bell-ringing at All Saints' Church Tower
8.00pm Home Group at 10 Jennings Lane, Harwell

Wednesdays

9:15-11:15am Fledgelings (during term time) at Chilton Field Community Room
10.15am Home group (during term time) at St Matthew's meeting room
1.45pm Home group (during term time) at 15 Elderfield Crescent, Chilton
7.30pm Home group at various homes in Chilton Field
7.30pm Choir Practice at All Saints'

Thursdays

7.30pm Bell ringing at St Matthew's Church Tower
7.45pm Home group at various homes in Harwell
8.00pm (1st, 2nd & 3rd) Home group (term time)

Fridays

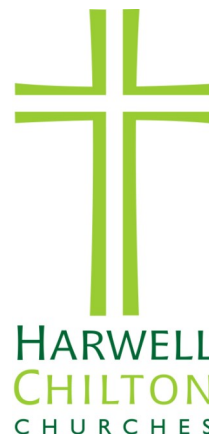
2.00pm Home group at Cherry Tree Court, Harwell

Saturdays

8.30am Prayer meeting both at St Matthew's and All Saints'

Sundays

Youth Fellowship (during term time) at St Matthew's Church Hall
6:00-7:15pm for those in school years 7-9
7:00-8:45pm for those in school years 9-13



OTHER EVENTS

3rd February 8.00pm	Night Prayer at All Saints' Chilton
6th February 10.30am	CAP Money Course, St Matthew's
9th February 7.45pm	All Saints' Women's Group. 'Loneliness' - Pam & Vicky
11th February 7.30pm	Science & Faith Group, St Matthew's Church Lounge
16th February 10.00am	Holy Communion (BCP) at Cherry Tree Court, Harwell
16th February 7.30pm	Harwell Ladies Group, St Matthew's Church Lounge
18th February 2.30pm	Evergreens, St Matthew's Church Hall
20th February 10.30am	CAP Money Course, St Matthew's
25th February 7.30pm	Science & Faith Group, St Matthew's Church Lounge
27th February 10.00am	All Saints' Art Group, Chilton Village Hall
3rd March 8.00pm	Night Prayer at All Saints' Chilton
8th March 7.45pm	All Saints' Women's Group
9th March 7.30pm	Harwell Ladies Group AGM & meal
10th March 7.30pm	Science & Faith Group, St Matthew's Church Lounge
14th March 2.30pm	Generation Gold Service, All Saints' Church
17th March 2.30pm	Evergreens, St Matthew's Church Hall

SERVICES

FEBRUARY & MARCH

Services at All Saints'		Services at St Matthew's
9.30am All Age Worship 'Christingle'	7th Feb	8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 11.00am All Age Worship 'Christingle' 6.15pm Evening Prayer
<i>7.45pm Ash Wednesday Service</i>	<i>10th Feb</i>	
8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 9.30am Morning Worship	14th Feb	11.00am Morning Worship 4.30pm Valentine's Day Service
9.30am Holy Communion	21st Feb	8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 11.00am Holy Communion 6.15pm Evening Prayer (BCP)
8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 9.30am Morning Worship	28th Feb	11.00am Morning Worship 6.15pm Holy Communion
Mothering Sunday 9.30am All Age Worship	6th Mar	Mothering Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 11.00am All Age Worship 6.15pm Evening Prayer
8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 9.30am Morning Worship	13th Mar	11.00am Morning Worship
9.30am Holy Communion	20th Mar	8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 11.00am Holy Communion 6.15pm Evening Prayer
	<i>24th Mar</i>	<i>7.45pm Maundy Thursday Service</i>
<i>9.30am Good Friday 'At the Cross'</i>	<i>25th Mar</i>	<i>11am Good Friday 'At the Cross'</i>
<i>8pm Easter Saturday Vigil</i>	<i>26th Mar</i>	
Easter Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 9.30am Holy Communion	27th Mar	Easter Sunday 11.00am Holy Communion 6.15pm Holy Communion

You are very welcome to join us for any of our services of meetings.

BCP = Book of Common Prayer

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

Baptisms & Thanksgivings

"Welcome to the Lord's family"

Charlie Reason
Alfred Stuart Mortimer
James Wickham

Weddings

"Those that God has joined together"

Lana Innes and Richard Stockton
Lizzie Quarini and Adrian Jack
Lawrence Putt and Emma Marsh
Sarah Fisher and Declan O'Leary

Funerals

"He who believes in Me will live"

Donald Leclair
Liz Lewis
Jan Plumb
Mollie Lay
Edwin Stringer
Alma Staples

EASTER TRAIL

Join us on an Easter Trail around our villages. More information on our website: www.hcchurches.org/eastertrail

CAP MONEY COURSE

After Christmas it may be more than your waistline that needs a workout! Why not come along to the CAP Money Course at St Matthew's Church Harwell. Starting on Saturday 30th January at 10.30am. Continuing on 6th and 20th February, these sessions will include a brunch and will end around 12.30pm. Book your place by contacting Vicky in the office. See the CAP website for further details. The course is for anyone who would like to look at their finances and learn how to budget, save and spend well.

THANK YOU

Thank you to Chilton Wyevale Garden Centre for their generous donation of the magnificent tree which was displayed on the top of the tower at All Saints', Chilton. It looked lovely and we had many compliments about it. We are very grateful to Chilton Wyevale for their kind gift. *Hazel King and Members of the PCC.*

Thank you to all who came carol singing around Chilton Village and/or in the Rose and Crown just before Christmas. A total of £88.11 was raised for Save the Children. Thank you also to Bill and Muriel Millar and to Shea at the Rose and Crown for their hospitality.



HARWELL LADIES GROUP

Our next meeting is on Tuesday 16th February at 7.30pm in St Matthew's lounge. Jonathan will be speaking to us. Our next meeting on March 15th will be our AGM and the final, formal meeting of the group. We may be able to arrange an informal get together from time to time. After the short AGM on the 15th March, we plan to share a meal together. If you have been a member over recent years and would like to join us then please let me know by March 7th so that we know how many to cater for.

Joan Impey

HARWELL GARDENERS CLUB

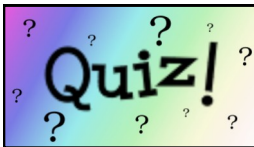
Harwell Village Hall, Monday 1st February 7.30pm. Lampport Hall & Gardens – Home of the Gnome with Andrew Mikolajski. Competition: A Garden Ornament. Contact David Drummond

CHARITY MARKET STALL

The next market will be held on Saturday 13th February in the Rose and Crown Car Park between 9am and 12 noon and will be for Young Dementia UK who are an Oxfordshire based charity providing specialist help and support to people under the age of 65 who develop this progressive degeneration of the brain. There will be a Valentine's theme. The market on 9th January raised £201 for the Chilton Lunch Club; our thanks go to the hardy souls who braved the weather!

Judy Goodall

GRAND CHARITY QUIZ NIGHT



This will take place on Saturday March 12th at 7:15 for a prompt 7:30 start. There will be a hot

supper and a delicious pudding; please bring your own drinks. Tickets cost £10 each and the proceeds will be divided equally between Footsteps and Hamlin Fistula UK. Tickets are available from Judy Goodall

UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

16th February, 2pm at Didcot Civic Hall. 'The History of Pinewood Studios' by Mike Payne.

THANK YOU

Ruth and John are very grateful to everyone who sent messages of support, expressions of sympathy, letters and cards following Edwin's death. They are much appreciated and of great comfort. Thank you.

LONELY?

Loneliness isn't something that I'd really thought about a great deal until I went to a Forum run by the Oxford Diocese in March 2015. I was surprised to learn that half of 18-24 year olds often felt lonely, according to a recent survey. Everyone can feel lonely, regardless of age/ busyness/seemingly outgoing characters. It can develop after big life events such as having a new baby, being bereaved, redundancy, retirement or becoming a carer.

Church is a great place to find somewhere to belong, and we welcome visitors to all of our Church services and events. Do take a look at the website to see what is happening, or contact me in the office if you'd like to know more about regular activities.

Esther Ranzen set up a free confidential helpline for older people in 2013. In the first two years they received over 680,000 calls; 53% of callers saying they had literally no-one else to speak to. They now receive around 1300 calls every day from lonely and isolated people. The helpline number is 0800 4 70 80 90. See their website for more information: www.thesilverline.org.uk.

The Archway Foundation is a local charity that was founded in Oxford in 1982 to help relieve some of the real distress caused by loneliness to people of all ages. They have a regular call-in café in Oxford and Abingdon, and offer a befriending service for the isolated and housebound. Find out more at www.archwayfoundation.org.uk. You can watch a recent BBC programme about loneliness on iplayer. Search for "The Age of Loneliness".

Vicky Johnston

INTERVIEW WITH PETER & JEAN BARTON

Jean and Peter Barton celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in December. Jean and Peter are authorised ministers at St Matthew's. They met in 1960 when Peter took over leading a Sunday School in Abingdon, previously led by Jean's father. Peter remembers Jean coming to a meeting about this on her bicycle one June evening. Jean was doing A-levels and Peter was working at AERE having moved there in 1956. Jean had come to Harwell in 1946 when her father Dennis Mettrick started work there.

Peter and Jean were engaged in 1962. Jean was doing a nursing course in Manchester during their engagement.

They bought a house in the summer of 1965 and decided it was about time to live in it together! So they were married on December 16th, 1965. They honeymooned in Cornwall.

On December 14th, 1966 Jean's course finished and they set sail for India on January 4th, 1967! Previously Peter had done a PhD at Imperial College London, and through a contact there he took up a position in New Delhi where an Indian Institute of Technology was being set up. Peter taught Material Science for 2 years. At the end of 1967 Fiona, their first child, was born in India.

In December 1968 Peter returned to work at AERE and they lived in Shippon. They had their second child, Kristeen, in 1969. Living in Shippon without a car was not easy, so they moved into Abingdon. Peter had been involved in Christ Church in the early 1960's and they returned to worship there with Peter being the pro-warden for a while, and then Church Warden of the Parish of Abingdon. Jonathan was born in 1971. Life became very busy for them as a family – Jean at home with three children and Peter working at



Harwell and being very involved with Church life. Jean found that being part of a Christian community was really helpful to her at this time and in 1973 a 'fishfinger lunch' group started meeting. Four mums and their children met each week for the same meal of fishfingers, mash and icecream. One mum

would take care of the children while the others read the bible and prayed together. There are still some Christian mums who meet for a fishfinger tea in Abingdon each week!

Jean then began part time work, which, over the coming years, included both medical research and secretarial work. Peter had a career change in 1986 and really enjoyed

teaching science until his retirement in 2000.

Peter explored the idea of ordination in 1994 and began Reader training in 1997. He completed a 2 year part time course in Biblical and Theological Studies at Wycliffe Hall.

Jean completed one year of this part time course and then transferred to a 3 year full time Oxford degree course in Theology at Wycliffe Hall. She was ordained in 2002 and served her curacy in Harwell and Chilton. They moved to Saddleworth in 2007 taking up a House for Duty post. They started a service for children and their parents or carers to worship God together, and this has continued to grow over the years. They returned from Saddleworth in July 2011 and in September 2012 they decided to move back to Harwell. *(And we're very glad they did! - Ed)*

Their secret of a happy marriage? Jean and Peter believe that it is about having God at the centre of their lives while continuing to learn about and promote each other's wellbeing, and being able to forgive.

Please send items to Vicky by the 2nd Wednesday of the month.
01235 834256, office@harwellandchiltonchurches.org.uk

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