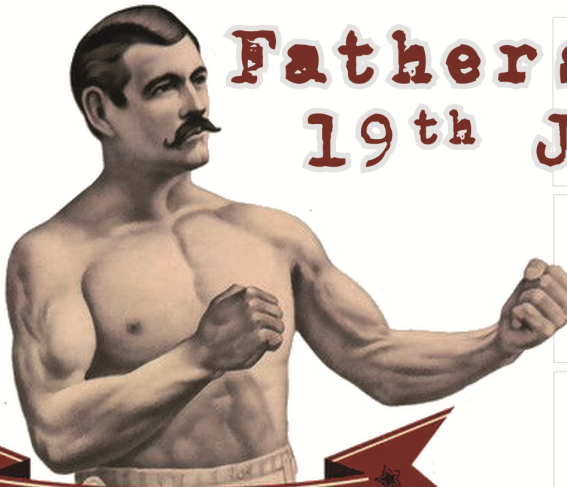


RIDGEWAY BROADSHEET

JUNE 2016



Fathers Day
19th June

ART OF MANLINESS



CELEBRATE FATHER'S DAY WITH US. **FREE** COPY OF
SORTED MAGAZINE FOR EVERY DAD.

SEE INSIDE FOR DETAILS.



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PRAYER

The ancient Egyptians did it. The Aztecs did it. The Incas did it. Muslims do it. Christians do it. Jews do it. Hindus do it. Sikhs do it. Zoroastrians do it. In fact, it seems to be such an innate part of human nature that even atheists sometimes find themselves doing it. Talking to the divine through prayer is one of the most universal & enduring of all human behaviours.

Once again, St Matthew's & All Saints' will be assisting both our local primary schools as they hold a "Mindfulness Week" - part of their obligation to the spiritual & moral development of the children. These are a chance for the children to slow down, to look inward & to look upward, and - if they feel moved to do so - express their thoughts & feelings in a variety of multi-sensory ways. Past experience has proved how beneficial the children & schools have found the whole experience. But don't just take our word for it. Here are a few of the typical comments by the children:

My favourite zone is the 'Please' zone because it took some of my worries away and helped me to think of others far away. It made me feel calm, happy and content. I feel much happy because the sorry place lifted something off my shoulders.

My favourite one was the mirror because it was nice to think I am special in my own way and that is priceless. I also liked the bubble one because it made me feel good and get my thoughts out.

Like billions of other people throughout history, you've probably found yourself wanting to pray but not knowing how. Why not go to www.thykingdom.co.uk to see how life transforming the words of one simple, but dangerous, prayer can be.

You may not be aware, but Harwell and Chilton Churches have been praying for you! We systematically pray for each street within our villages each week during our Sunday morning services. We also have Saturday morning prayer meetings in both our churches. We would love to pray for you! If there are things that you would like us to pray for you or family or friends, please either contact Vicky in the church office, or leave a prayer request in one of our churches (can be left anonymously).

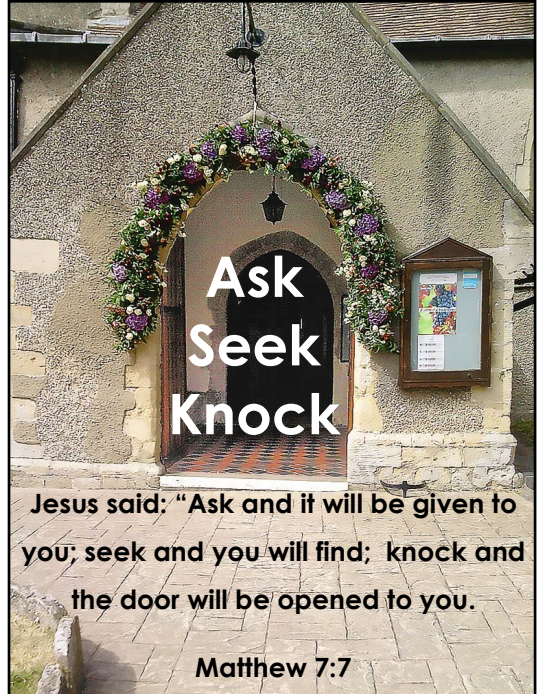


Photo of St Matthew's by Kate Evans

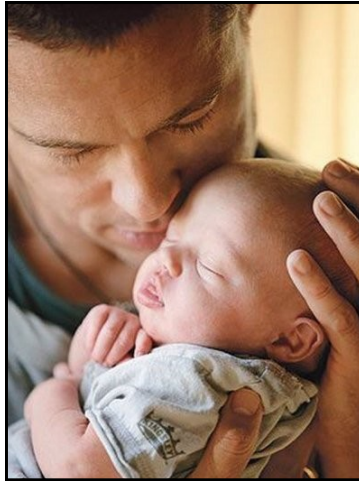
It is hard being a good father, grandfather, stepfather or other father figure. It is much harder in fact to *be* a Dad than *become* one!

But what *is* a good father?

It is widely acknowledged, whether we look at scripture, academic research or day-to-day experience, that fathers make unique and irreplaceable contributions in the lives of their children. Research shows that children with good dads are usually more at ease with other people, have more confidence to do well at school, and are happier.

And fathers have a crucial role to play in the spiritual nurture of their children. Research carried out by the Church of England in 2008 showed that an overwhelming number of dads – 88 per cent – felt that they were responsible for the spiritual care of their child. More dads than mums in fact. Dads clearly want to accept responsibility not only for the physical and financial well-being of their child, but also for their spiritual well-being.

Normal child development includes a child beginning to ask deep questions about life and explore spiritual things. The commitment and encouragement of both parents, and other significant adults, makes a huge difference to that development. How well-equipped do we feel for the task?



Our Father in heaven understands the challenge, and equips us for this God-given work.

God sets the pattern for all earthly dads, and men who walk in his footsteps are following the perfect example.

His affirming love is sacrificial
His guidance is based on wisdom
His discipline is rooted in love
His support comes from a giving heart

The Apostle Paul tells us that every family in heaven and on earth derives its name from God; he is the ultimate Father, able to empower all earthly fathers – all of us in fact – to be the people we need to be and do the things we need to do, strengthened “with power through his Spirit” (Ephesians 3:15-16). We just need to ask our Father in heaven, who loves to “give good gifts to those who ask him” (Matt 7:11).

All fathers, grandfathers, stepfathers, father figures and their families are invited to a celebration and BBQ on Father’s Day, Sunday 19th June, held at Chilton Primary School from 4.30-5.30pm. More information on page 6. It is good and right to celebrate these special men and what they mean to us.

Rev'd Dr Jonathan Mobey
Rector of Harwell with Chilton



Fledgelings is our baby and toddler group. We meet from 9.30-11.30am on Monday mornings at St Matthew's Church Hall and on Wednesday mornings at Chilton Field Community Room. There are refreshments available, lots of toys and a short 'see and know' session where we sing and then have a craft activity. No charge.



Homegroups meet at various different times in homes around the village. They are a great place to get to know others in the church, and grow in your faith as you study the bible and pray with others. Jean Barton is our homegroup co-ordinator and can help you find a group to join.



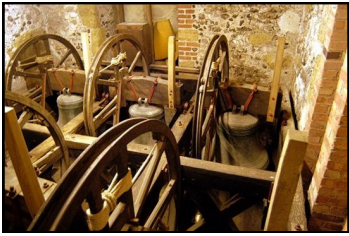
All Saints' Women's Group meet monthly in All Saints' on the 2nd Tuesday of each month to hear from a speaker on a variety of topics. The group also arranges a monthly charity market stall at the Rose and Crown, an annual quiz night, and annual plant sale. Contact Judy Goodall.



World Mission Group helps our churches to look outwards to the needs of the wider world and partner with others engaged in God's mission, through Mission Partners such as The Leprosy Mission, the Sharlands, Christine Perkins, John Abu Bakker, Barnabas Fund, Mission Aviation Fellowship, CPAS, BRF and Church Army.



Music is a big part of church life. There is a choir at All Saints' who practise on Wednesday evenings, and a celebration choir at St Matthew's who sing for special occasions. We have an orchestra that plays in St Matthew's twice a month, a harp and strings group, a brass group, organists, pianists, and a worship band.



Bell-ringing practice takes place on Thursday evenings at St Matthew's, and on Monday evenings at All Saints' by arrangement. Our bells are rung each Sunday morning before our main services (9.30am in Chilton and 11.00am in Harwell) and for weddings and some funerals. New members are welcome.



Science and Faith A group meet fortnightly on Thursday evenings in St Matthew's lounge to explore the relationship between science and faith. Has the Big Bang pushed God out of the universe? Is evolution compatible with religious faith? Are humans more than biological machines? Is cloning ethical? See website for info.



Men's and others groups Various activities and groups occur throughout the year, including meals, the Alpha Course, film marathons and cinema trips. We have regular working parties in All Saints' Churchyard and for other projects. We also run regular 'CAP Money' courses and have just launched a Walking Group.



Evergreens are a group for those of retirement age, who meet each month in St Matthew's Church Hall on the 3rd Thursday of the month. Various speakers come and talk to the group, and during the year activities such as coffee mornings, a shopping trip and an annual Christmas meal are arranged.



GenerationGold is a church service which is held quarterly, mainly for those of retirement age, but everyone is welcome. It is a short service followed by tea and cake and they are held alternately at All Saints' and St Matthew's. Our next service is on 16th June at St Matthew's.

Contact Vicky on 834256 or see HCChurches.org for more information.

FATHER'S DAY: 19TH JUNE

You are invited to join us in honouring those men who have the awesome responsibility that comes with the title of "Father"

Sunday 19th June Chilton Primary School 4.30pm - 5.30pm

BBQ / Challenges / Inspiration / Devotion
Sometimes simply showing up is the greatest gift we can give our children. As our way of saying THANK YOU to all those dads who show up on Father's Day we have a FREE gift of the excellent Sorted magazine (rrp £4.50) for every dad who's there (see www.sortedmagazine.com).



WALKING GROUP

June sees the launch of a church walking group that aims to run a roughly six to eight week pattern of local walks that are open to all. No membership fees, no need to book, no need to plan your own route. Just turn up on the day at the agreed start time and place and join in! Children, friends, relatives, neighbours and well-behaved dogs are all welcome!

- Sunday 5th June 3-5pm
- Saturday 16th July 4-7pm
- Monday 29th August 11am-2pm

See www.HCChurches.org/walking

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC) MEMBERS

At the Annual Parochial Church Meetings (APCM), Alex Reich & Naomi Gibson (Chilton), and Christina Wood & Mel Gibson (Harwell) were all elected to serve as Churchwardens.

Elections were also held for Parochial Church Council (PCC) members and following the APCMs the members of the Church Councils for Harwell and Chilton in addition to Jonathan Mobey, Pam Rolls and Jan Radford (Curate) and the Churchwardens, are as follows:

Harwell PCC: Peter Barclay-Watt, Jean Barton, Juan Bowerman, Hazel Connelly, Sid Gale, Martin Gibson, Tony Hughes, Andrew Keene, Frances Taylor, Michelle Walker, Jane Woolley. Deanery Synod: Gordon Gill, Lizi Bowerman & Mel Gibson.

Chilton PCC: Helen Brook, Phil Corbishley, Stuart Gibson, Steve Hale, James Hellem, Hazel King, Carina Lobley, Liz Morris, Carol Pigott, Sylvie Thompson, Deanery Synod: John Pigott.

GOOD NEIGHBOURHOOD SCHEME

Didcot Good Neighbourhood Scheme are looking for volunteers to visit people who have registered with the scheme and live in Harwell. To volunteer, or request home visits for yourself, contact 07592 326777 or www.dgns.org.uk.



HARWELL GARDENERS CLUB

Garden Visit on June 6th Adwell House, Thame. Meet there at 7pm To book or for more info contact Ruth Alexander on 835359.

FROM THE REGISTERS

Funerals

"He who believes in Me will live"

Eric Dowding

Ellis Downes

Baptisms

"Welcome into the Lord's Family"

Rupert Birkett-Jones

THANK YOU

Peter McNiven (Mac). Betty and family sincerely thank all friends and neighbours for their prayers, offers of help, and kindness in so many ways during Mac's illness. We have been shown amazing tender loving care by Carers, Nurses and Doctors enabling Mac to be nursed at home as he wished. Thank you too for all the lovely cards and messages, and to those who came to the Thanksgiving Service, and for donations to the Motor Neurone Disease Association, in excess of £500. May God bless you all.

GARAGE SALE THANK YOU

Thank you to all those who came to our garage sale we raised £100 for the All Saints' Church path fund. Carol Pigott.

EVERGREENS

On Thursday 16th June we have our annual service in St Matthew's Church at 2.30pm with GenerationGold. All very welcome to attend. We have tea and cake served at the Church Hall afterwards. Tel the office, 834256 for more info.

U 3 A

Didcot Civic Hall Tuesday 21st June, 2pm.
Chrissie Harper: 'Owl Conservation' (live owls)
www.u3asites.org.uk/didcot

D - DAY SERVICE

On the Saturday nearest to the anniversary of D-Day, an annual parade and service is held at the RAF Harwell Memorial Stone at the Harwell Campus. The stone marks the departure point for Servicemen who were amongst the first to land on D-Day. This is organised by the Royal British Legion (Harwell Branch) and supported by the Harwell Campus management.

The 2016 Service will take place on Saturday 4th June 2016 at 5.30pm. Legion Standards, Service Standards and Cadet Forces will be present and assembling at 5.00pm. Attendees should note there are no facilities at the stone.

Those wanting to know more details of the Parade or Service or wishing to organize a wreath to lay during the Service can contact the Harwell Branch Ceremonial Officer Peter Davies on Harwell.committee1@RBL.community

SWING INTO SUMMER



Bringing all your favourite songs including Autumn Leaves, Blue Moon, Chattanooga Choo Choo and I got Rhythm.

St Matthew's Church Harwell

11th June 7.30pm

Tickets £10 including refreshments

From yksanderson@yahoo.co.uk or at the door

Proceeds to Cancer Research and Harwell Village Hall Refurbishment Project.

GEORGINA GREER'S FOUR PATHS

Georgina was born in Northern Ireland in a house beside a crossroad. Her life, as she sees it, has taken four paths.

Her first path is the time she spent at home growing up until the age of 18. Her father had 11 children so it was a very busy household! Georgina really wanted to train as a nurse but at 14 was encouraged to leave school because she would be more useful out in the workplace. She worked for 2 years in a linen mill which was noisy and damp, and not a terribly enjoyable experience. She then worked in a woollen mill which was nearer home and offered 6 hour shifts which were better. She worked there for 2 years but was very keen to leave home.

She joined the women's RAF and received nursing training, which was her second path. This was followed by 2 years in Singapore which she very much enjoyed. There was a lively Church Youth Club and they swam a lot, went on picnics and enjoyed a good social life. She left the RAF in 1959 and her father died in 1960. Georgina then worked in a children's home in Belfast for 2 years. She met Robin whilst here and they were married within 2 years.

Georgina's third path was married life. They had their first child in Belfast and then moved to Castlewellan where Robin was the Parish Priest and they had their other 3 children. It was a deprived area with a great deal of unemployment. It was also a strong area for the IRA, and they were very affected by the troubles there.

Their eldest son was the victim of a hit and run when he was 11 and was very unwell. There were many people praying for him and to the surprise of doctors, he made a full recovery.

Towards the end of their time in Ireland, some men entered their home and searched for money to steal. Both Georgina & Robin suffered injuries and were tied up.

Robin & Georgina spent 37 years in the parish, and they were very happy there. When Robin retired in 2002 they came to live in Harwell – Georgina's fourth path in life.

Robin died in 2006 and after her family left, it was the first time that Georgina had ever spent alone. The nights were at first full of fear, until she felt the presence and peace of God with her.

Music and prayer have been a very big part of Georgina's life. She regularly talks to God throughout the day. And she has seen so many answers to prayer. When her son was in hospital after the car accident he had brain damage. She would sit beside his bed singing and talking to him and praying to God. He made a remarkable recovery and went on to get a degree in physics and maths.

Georgina says "I have had a good life with some bad and sad times but early in my life I placed myself in God's hands and he has taken care of me".

Put thou thy trust in God, in duty's path go on. Walk in his strength with faith and hope, so shall thy work be done.

Paul Gerhart b.1607 John Wesley b.1703

Please submit notices to Vicky via the website, by email or by phone.
01235 834256, office@harwellandchiltonchurches.org.uk

www.harwellandchiltonchurches.org.uk