

RIDGEWAY BROADSHEET

July & August 2016

Join our walking group on
Saturday 16th July 4pm and
Monday 29th August 11am
See HCChurches.org/walking



Rector of Harwell and Chilton Revd Dr Jonathan Mobey
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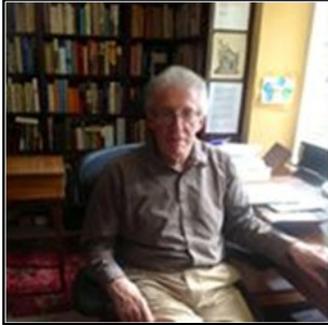
Children & Families Worker Mr Peter Shields

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

MICHAEL ARMSTRONG 1934 - 2016



Michael, as many of you know was a much loved head teacher at Harwell Primary School, from 1981 to 1999. Sadly he died in

March this year and we are hoping to hold an afternoon to celebrate his life, at Harwell Primary School on Saturday 3rd September from 2pm. There will be time to write in the book of condolences and record your own memories, share photographs and anecdotes and talk about the man who inspired so many. Tom, his eldest son is hoping to join us and we plan to share the DVD of his funeral with those who missed it or who would have liked to be there. For many years, while at Harwell and after his retirement, Michael taught teachers at The Middlebury Bread Loaf School of English in America. His course, 'Describing the imagination', inspired many of his students, to think about the richness and value of stories, especially and originally those written by young children. He wrote several books about children as writers and was well respected in the educational world.

During his time at Harwell Michael shared his love of music and the school became rich in music and the performing arts. Michael wrote plays and, with his son Tom an opera, *The Buried Moon*, which the children performed to great acclaim. Music became a central part of school life with choirs, orchestras and lessons in violin and woodwind. He also inspired us

all to take children's writing much more seriously, to read stories more closely, to talk to children about them and to try and understand the thought processes behind them. Stories were shared, published and celebrated every Friday in assembly.



Through his example he encouraged all of us to put the child at the heart of everything we did, both in and out of the classroom. Children led the way and loved working with him, whether writing, painting, solving problems, making go karts, an Archimedes screw or a child sized pinhole camera. Pupils who worked with Michael, now adults and parents themselves, still recall the joy of exploration and discovery, of talking to someone who fully appreciated the seriousness of their writings and who always had time to listen to them.

It will be a good time to visit the school; to meet with old school friends, share memories, note the changes that have taken place since Michael's time (during Peter Cansell's headship and now with Bryn Gibson) and reminisce. It would be helpful to have an idea of numbers wishing to attend so that we can offer refreshments (01235 835393).

Sue Greatbanks

Running the Race

A few years ago, whilst working as a GP, I had a visit from a man who had ruptured his Achilles tendon, that which attaches the calf muscle to the heel. He was rather embarrassed to explain that it happened during the Dad's race at the school sports day. Out of condition and sprinting from a cold start, his hope of sporting glory was cruelly cut short by a 'pop' in the back of his leg and a humiliating crash to the ground.

School sports days with their egg-and-spoon, sack and other races, are very much a summer tradition. Summer and sport are closely associated for many people, whether it be following Wimbledon, the Tour de France, the US Open, cricket Test Matches, the Summer Olympics, family rounders, or welly-wanging at the village fete.

The Apostle Paul was fond of describing the Christian faith in terms of sport. Writing to a first-century church in the Greek city of Corinth, the location of an annual Games, second only in importance to the ancient Olympics, he says

Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize. Everyone who competes in the Games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last; but we do it to get a crown that will last forever.

1 Corinthians 9:24-25.



So how is the Christian life like a race?

For a start, it only lasts for a time. Some get to run a great distance, others much less, but we each have a limited time on this earth, that we should "live aright", as the funeral service puts it.

Secondly, it needs commitment. As with studying for exams (another summer tradition!), long-term relationships, parenting children, or pursuing a career or significant project, the Christian faith

takes day-in, day-out commitment and focus. Every day we have to choose whether to press on or 'throw in the towel'.

Thirdly, it has a goal. If we decide to don the kit and get down onto the track in the

full view of the crowd of spectators to join the Christian race, we are doing so because there is a prize to be won, a 'crown' as Paul puts it.

Thankfully, It does not depend on our performance, since it is a team sport, but we do need to be on the team. Jesus, through his life, death and resurrection, has won the prize for us, which will be shared with all the team members.

So if you are worried that taking part risks rupturing a spiritual Achilles tendon or worse, fret not. The eternal crown is already in the hands of the victorious team captain.

Revd Dr Jonathan Mobey
Rector of Harwell and Chilton

WEEKLY EVENTS

JULY & AUGUST

Mondays

9:30-11:30am Fledgelings Toddler group (term time) St Matthew's Church Hall
8.00pm Home group at 10 Jennings Lane, Harwell

Tuesdays

9.30am Home group (during term time) at Shimna, Church Lane

Wednesdays

9:15-11:15am Fledgelings Toddler group (term time) Chilton Field Community Room
10.15am Home group (term time) at St Matthew's meeting room
1.45pm Home group (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
7.30pm Alpha Course at Harwell Village Club (RBL)
7.45pm Home group at various homes in Harwell
8.00pm 1st, 2nd & 3rd Home group (term time)

Fridays

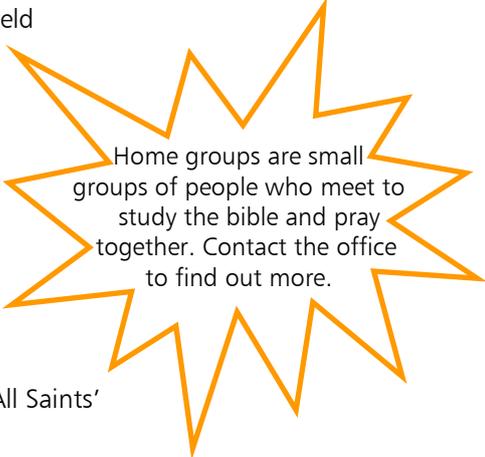
2.00pm Home group at Cherry Tree Court, Harwell

Saturdays

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

Sundays

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



Home groups are small groups of people who meet to study the bible and pray together. Contact the office to find out more.

OTHER EVENTS

6th July 8.00pm	Night Prayer at All Saints' Chilton
12th July 7.45pm	All Saints' Women's Group at All Saints' Chilton
14th July 7.30pm	Science & Faith Group, St Matthew's Church Lounge
16th July 9.30am	Holiday Club Planning Meeting, St Matthew's Church Lounge
16th July 4pm	Walking Group, see website for details
16th July	Meet the Sharlands at Chilton Village Hall
19th July 10.00am	Holy Communion (BCP) at Cherry Tree Court, Harwell
21st July 2.30pm	Harwell Evergreens, St Matthew's Church Hall, Peter Shields
28th July 7.30pm	Science & Faith Group, St Matthew's Church Lounge
30th July 10.00am	All Saints' Art Group, Chilton Village Hall
3rd August 8.00pm	Night Prayer at All Saints' Chilton
6th August 10am	Evergreens Coffee Morning, St Matthew's Church Hall
16th August 10am	Holy Communion (BCP) at Cherry Tree Court, Harwell
29th August 11am	Walking Group, see website for details

SERVICES

JULY & AUGUST

Services at All Saints'		Services at St Matthew's
9.30am All Age Worship	3rd Jul	8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 11.00am All Age Worship 6.15pm Evening Prayer
8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 9.30am Morning Worship	10th Jul	11.00am Morning Worship
9.30am Holy Communion	17th Jul	8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 11.00am Holy Communion 6.15pm Evening Prayer (BCP)
▶ 8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 9.30am Morning Worship	24th Jul	11.00am Morning Worship 6.15pm Holy Communion
▶ 9.30am Holy Communion 6.15 Evening Prayer	31st Jul	8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 11.00am Holy Communion
9.30am Morning Worship	7th Aug	8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 11.00am Morning Worship 6.15pm Evening Prayer
8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 9.30am Morning Prayer (BCP)	14th Aug	11.00am Morning Worship
9.30am Holy Communion	21st Aug	8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 11.00am Holy Communion 6.15pm Evening Prayer (BCP)
8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 9.30am Morning Worship	28th Aug	11.00am Morning Worship 6.15pm Holy Communion

(BCP) Book of Common Prayer

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

Weddings

"Those that God has joined together"

John Clements & Christine Paice
Adrian Peedle & Emma Redding

Funerals

"He who believes in Me will live"

Percy Talbot
Steve Boddy

SHARLANDS VISIT



David and Heather Sharland are CMS Mission Partners who are supported prayerfully and financially by our churches. They are coming to visit us on the 16th and 17th of July to tell us all about their work in Arua, North West Uganda. They work in community development, David in Agricultural Development and Heather in health care and training. We would like to invite you to hear about their work at **Chilton Village Hall on Saturday 16th July** - time to be confirmed. They will also be with us on Sunday 17th July, 9.30am at Chilton & 11am at Harwell. Contact the Church office for more information.

BARNDANCE

Charity
Barn Dance
1st October
2016
7-11pm



Organised by
All Saints'
Church,

Chilton as part of the annual Harvest Festival. Live music with "the Shady Grove String Band" plus experienced caller – tickets (£10 per adult and £7.50 per child) to include a baked potato plus choice of toppings – all proceeds to Tearfund - see www.tearfund.org. Tickets available now from the Church Office. HCChurches.org/Barndance

FEAST BBQ

The Harwell Feast Committee would like to thank all the volunteers who helped to make the BBQ at the Feast a real success – it would not happen without them. The BBQ and Pig Roast together made £3184.91 for the Feast, and everything was well and truly sold out towards the end of the afternoon.

POPPY APPEAL

Could you be our Poppy Appeal Organiser for the annual house to house and business collections in October? Contact branch@harwellrbl.co.uk.

EVERGREENS

Harwell Evergreens coffee morning on Saturday 6th August at St Matthew's Church Hall from 10-12noon. Come along for some cake, coffee and a natter with friends.

PRAYER SPACES

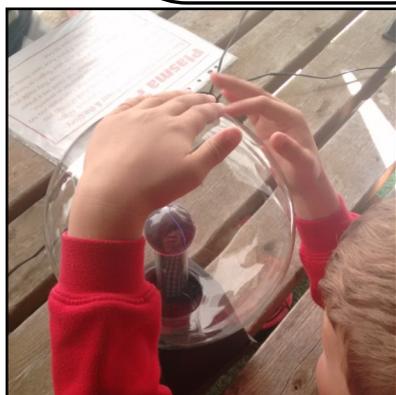
Prayer Spaces have returned to Chilton Primary and Harwell Primary Schools. There are four areas to the tent - we've had calm jars, writing in the sand the things that we are sorry for, scratch cards and a bubble tube to think about others that we'd like to pray for, and some plasma balls to think about how amazing God and our world are. Here are some quotes from the children:

My favourite areas were all of them but especially the calm jars. They were calm. I liked coming to prayer space. It's so fun I want to come again.

I liked the sand because I have been bullied and it helped me a lot.

I liked the Wow zone because I found it peaceful and it made me realise that you need to be grateful.

The Plasma Ball made me wowed. And the scratch cards made me determined to help others.



CHARITY MARKET STALL

The Charity we will be supporting on Saturday 9th July will be Theatre For A Change, Malawi .

Theatre For A Change runs a number of programmes to improve the health and rights of women and young girls in Malawi. Two examples are The Girls' Education Challenge which gets marginalised girls to attend school to improve their learning, and the Child Protection Project which gives outreach and support for sexually exploited girls.

Jenny Benton, Hazel and Richard's daughter, has been working with the charity in Lilongwe for two and a half years. She will be home for a few weeks in July and will be helping to man the stall. Please come and say hello to her and find out more about what she and the charity do.

Donations of cakes, home produce and small white elephant items will be really appreciated – contact Judy Goodall on 01235 834503.

ALL SAINTS' WOMENS GROUP BBQ

This will be held on Tuesday July 12th at 7pm. Please note earlier time. At Russet Dene, The Lane, Chilton. Tel 834503.

CHRISTIAN AID PLANT SALE

All Saints' Women's Group are delighted to say that the final total raised for Christian Aid is £1,760.83. This includes the £179.05 raised from the sale of Cryptic Quiz Sheets. Thank you to everyone who supported the sale, and especially thanks to those who grew and donated plants, baked cakes and helped on the day.

INTERVIEW WITH PHILIP GARNER

At our recent Songs of Praise event we heard from Philip Garner.

When being introduced, friends would often say something like 'this is Phil, his dad is a vicar', from which came the reply 'Oh nice to meet you, are you going to follow in your father's footsteps and become a vicar too?' Annoying and ridiculous!



If you have Christian parents does it make you a Christian? "Well," Philip says, "I grew up in a family full of Christians and to anyone looking I probably appeared to be one - attending church and being kind and well behaved, etc". But it wasn't until Philip went to a school Christian Union (CU) meeting where a visiting speaker talked about creation and space, that he realised that his Christianity wasn't personal. Up until that point he hadn't realised that there is a blockage between man and God. "We need to offer a simple three-part prayer saying sorry to God for my sin, thank you for the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ and asking Jesus Christ to come into my life. Then by reading the bible, Jesus can become our guide and role model, our Lord," says Philip.

How did you become a Christian? When Philip was 11 years old, just after the CU meeting, he went into his room and quietly prayed that prayer to God. He was very aware that people had been

praying for him, and after he decided to commit his life to God he told his parents. The following Sunday, his father asked him to stand up in the Church service to tell everyone what had happened. He believes that it is very important to publicly announce this decision of faith.

How has being a Christian made a difference in your life?

Philip's choice of hymn was Be Thou my Vision – and this is the big change that he sees in his life. He believes that Christians are to demonstrate Jesus Christ – that we're called to do the things that God would have us do, rather than everything we'd like to do. Philip admits it's an ongoing struggle, and so to help him, he receives daily bible verses to his mobile phone. When he thinks about what Jesus did by dying that dreadful death on the cross for him – he feels totally unable to pay back the amazing gift – so instead tries to pass on some of this kindness to others – demonstrating Jesus Christ.

*Be Thou my Vision, O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art;
Thou my best Thought, by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.*

You can view a video of the Songs of Praise event in the news section of our website: HCChurches.org/songsofpraise.

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

www.harwellandchiltonchurches.org.uk