

RIDGEWAY BROADSHEET

March 2017



“Jesus ... began to teach. The people were amazed at His teaching.”
- St Mark

See page 4 for the answer!

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WISDOM HOUSE

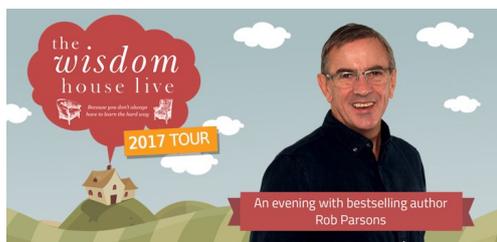
Care for the Family is a registered charity and has been working to strengthen family life since 1988. Their aim is to promote strong family relationships and to help those who face family difficulties. They run events around the country each year, and some members of Harwell and Chilton Churches went along to Parentalk in March last year. Rob Parsons is a very engaging, and humorous speaker and will be speaking at The Wisdom House event on 15th March, 7.30pm at The Kings Centre, Botley Road, Oxford.

Rob Parsons has travelled the world meeting people from all walks of life and from cultures as diverse as New York and Borneo. He has spoken to governments, companies and over a million individuals. He has written fifteen books.

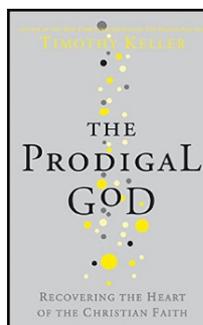
At The Wisdom House you get the chance to spend an evening with Rob as he unpacks some of the life lessons he has learnt from old and young alike, plus a few he has learnt the hard way!

With inspiring teaching, stories to touch your heart and time to laugh together, any minute of this evening could change your life... forever.

We can co-ordinate lifts if you'd like to attend with others from Harwell and Chilton. Please contact Peter Shields or Vicky Johnston to book your place and get a special rate of £4 per ticket. See careforthefamily.org.uk for more info.



BOOK REVIEW



In *THE PRODIGAL GOD*, New York pastor Timothy Keller uses the story of the prodigal son to shine a light on the central, beautiful message of Jesus: the gospel of grace, hope and salvation. Keller argues that the parable of the prodigal son, while Jesus' best-known parable, is also his least understood. He introduces the reader to all the characters in this timeless story, showing that it concerns not just a wayward son, but also a judgemental older brother and, most importantly, a loving father. In this challenging and inspiring book, Timothy Keller invites both faithful believers and curious outsiders to come to a new and totally life-changing understanding of the central message of the Christian faith.

EDUCATING OURSELVES

Would you like to find out more about Christianity - discover why people still praise and worship a man, Jesus Christ, who died on a cross over 2000 years ago? Alpha is a great way to do that, and we regularly run courses at our churches that you could attend.

Maybe you're looking to expand your understanding and knowledge of the bible, and what it teaches us about how to live in God's ways. There are lots of resources available, and learning alongside others can be a great help. We've got a number of homegroups that meet at different times and days, and all welcome new members. Please contact Vicky Johnston if you'd like more info.

RECTOR'S LETTER

On the first Sunday of March our churches will be celebrating education: the dedication of teachers and support staff, the achievements of our children and young people, and the great history of the Church's role in education.

Many of our schools and colleges and the very first universities across Europe were established by Christians and the Church. Missionary work has always been strongly linked with education, along with agriculture and healthcare. It is far more effective and empowering to teach people how to feed and look after themselves than to maintain them in a state of dependency. Freedom starts with the mind. Human flourishing requires minds that are educated.

Jesus himself was a teacher, and we have a record of some of what he taught in the accounts of his life found in the Bible, including the famous 'sermon on the mount'. Unlike many people in his day, we know that Jesus was able to read and write (both are mentioned in the Gospels), and he welcomed and taught all ages and all social classes, both individually and in groups.

The writers of the Old Testament are keen that people use and develop their minds, urging people to meditate on the Law of the Lord. In the New Testament, St Paul is another advocate of exercising and honing the mind: "Be transformed by the renewing of your mind," he writes in his

letter to the Roman Christians, "then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is – his good, pleasing and perfect will" (Rom 12:2).

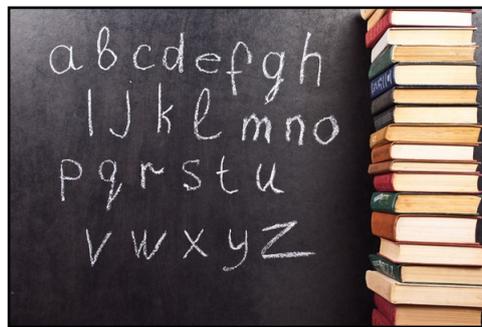
Knowledge is power and can be used for good or ill. As the very opening chapters of the Bible warn us, knowledge can promote and be used for both good and evil, and we need to be concerned with more than just our

'heads'; the 'heart' (which represents what motivates us) is fundamentally important. This is why education should be provided within the context of a moral framework; information and skills alongside the

promotion of values and virtues. It is a legal requirement, and a consequence of our Christian heritage, that our schools do this, and this critical – though easily overlooked – moral dimension of education needs to be protected and supported.

Teaching has long been recognised as a vocation, a career to which someone is 'called', and it is right and good that the Church can and should celebrate the wonder and privilege of education and all those who – by God's grace, and in the steps of Jesus – open the minds and shepherd the hearts of our children and young people, that they might truly flourish.

Revd Dr Jonathan Mobey
Rector of Harwell and Chilton



INTERVIEW WITH HANNAH CLAPP

Hannah Clapp lives in Chilton and is an Oceanographer at a local company but is also a STEM (Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics) Ambassador and volunteers at local primary schools giving outreach lessons in ocean science. Hannah also helps with All Saints' children's group, 'Pebbles', on Sunday mornings.



Q. Why did you start volunteering in schools? A. Science was my favourite subject in school and now I'm working in science I wanted to encourage and inspire children that science is fun and interesting. I registered as STEM Ambassador to get more opportunities to do this. I also think it is important to get girls interested in science and engineering subjects.

Q. What's the hardest part of working with children in schools? A. My voice usually struggles by the end of the day!

PROVERBS 22:6

Train a child how to live the right way. Then even when he is old, he will still live that way.



Q. What's the best part of working with children in schools? A. When the children get really enthusiastic and want to share what they have learnt and when they answer a question and get a real sense of achievement when they get it correct!

Q. What's the best thing about helping at Pebbles? A. Being part of the church community and helping the children learn about Christianity.

Q. What's your favourite meal? Do you like fish and seafood? A. My favourite food is definitely spaghetti bolognese. I don't mind fish but I don't eat shellfish. I think this is because at university where I studied marine biology and oceanography we did a lot of dissections of various types so it kind of reminds me of that!

EDUCATION SUNDAY

5th March - All Age Worship Services
All Saints' Chilton 9.30am
St Matthew's Harwell 11.00am

We invite you to come and give thanks for the amazing work of all those involved in educating our children, and celebrate the amazing achievements of our local schools. We'll be holding short celebration

services with perspectives from teachers, pupils & governors.



SERVICES

MARCH 2017

Services at All Saints'		Services at St Matthew's	
9.30am All Age Worship	5th March	8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 11.00am All Age Worship 6.15pm Evening Prayer	
8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 9.30am Morning Worship	12th March	11.00am Morning Worship	
9.30am Holy Communion	19th March	8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 11.00am Holy Communion 6.15pm Evening Prayer (BCP)	
Mothering Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 9.30am Morning Worship	26th March	Mothering Sunday 11.00am Morning Worship 6.15pm Holy Communion	

REGULAR EVENTS

You can find details of all our regular events and meetings on our website HCChurches.org. You can also pick up a welcome leaflet from All Saints' Chilton or St Matthew's Harwell for this information.

We also put information, and sometimes photos of our events on our facebook page: facebook.com/HCChurches/



OTHER EVENTS

1st March 7.45pm	Ash Wednesday Service, St Matthew's Harwell
2nd March 7.30pm	Science & Faith Group, St Matthew's Church Lounge
11th March 10.00am	11.5 mile Lenten walk, see HCChurches.org/walking
14th March 7.45pm	All Saints' Women's Group, All Saints' Church
16th March 2.30pm	Evergreens, St Matthew's Church Hall
16th March 7.30pm	Science & Faith Group, St Matthew's Church Lounge
18th March 3.00pm	Holiday Club Planning Meeting, St Matthew's
25th March 10.00am	All Saints' Art Group, Chilton Village Hall
31st March 4.30pm	Family Science and Faith, St Matthew's Church Hall

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

BCP = Book of Common Prayer

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

Baptisms & Thanksgivings

"Welcome to the Lord's family"

Eleanor Harris
Lottie-May Mooney

Weddings

"Those that God has joined together"

Alice Carey & Gavin Hodgson

Funerals

"He who believes in Me will live"

Joan Froud
Susan Merrifield

THE LEPROSY MISSION



The Leprosy Mission
England and Wales

Thank you to all who have handed in money phials for The Leprosy Mission. A total of

£74 has been collected this year and sent to The Leprosy Mission. Rosemary Rolls.

EASTER TRAIL

You may remember our Easter Trail from last year. See HCCchurches.org/Easter for more info about an Easter trail this year. There were a few chocolate eggs to collect on the trail last year and prizes for the best colouring.



ELECTORAL ROLL 2017



The Electoral Rolls for St Matthew's Harwell and All Saints' Chilton are being revised in the period 19th March to 2nd April inclusive.

The Electoral Roll

is your Parish Church's Register of Electors, the list of those qualified to vote at the Church Annual General Meeting at which the Parochial Church Council and the Deanery Synod representatives are elected. You also need to be on the Electoral Roll for at least 6 months to be a PCC member or Churchwarden. If you are already on the Electoral Roll you do not need to re-register. For St Matthew's Harwell forms (form E2 (SG1)) may be obtained from the table at the back of church and completed forms should be placed in the wall box near the main door. For All Saints' Chilton, forms may be obtained from Gordon Cowan (telephone 831932) or from All Saints' Church (blank forms in the red envelope at the base of the font) and completed forms should be returned to Gordon or placed in the yellow envelope at the base of the font. For both churches forms should be returned before Sunday, 2nd April. Our Annual Meetings will be on **23rd April**, 10.20am at All Saints' Chilton and on **30th April**, 11.50am at St Matthew's Harwell and all are very welcome to attend and review what happened in our churches in 2016.

GRAND CHARITY QUIZ NIGHT

All Saints' Women's Group will be holding their Annual Quiz Night on **18th March** at Chilton Village Hall. Tickets including

a hot supper and tasty pudding cost £10 per head and teams will comprise of up to 6 people. Contact Judy on 834503.



GENERATION GOLD



Our next Generation Gold service will be on **Monday 13th March** at All Saints' Chilton, at 2.30pm. This service is aimed at people of retirement age, but all are welcome. In March we'll be thinking about

windows, particularly stained glass windows, and you will have the opportunity to look at the lovely windows in the chancel at All Saints'.

In December over 40 of us gathered at St Matthew's Harwell for a bell-themed service and we enjoyed listening to bell ringing from the tower and from a group of hand bell ringers from North Moreton. As with all our Generation Gold services, refreshments were served afterwards and everyone had the opportunity for conversation with old friends and a chance to make new ones. Contact Pam Rolls on 834475 for more information.

WALKING GROUP

All are welcome to join our walking group which meets on 'even' months on a Sunday afternoon. We also have extra walks scheduled through the year, and our next walk is planned for **Saturday 11th March** which will be a Lenten pilgrimage. It will be 11.5 miles and will take at least 5 hours to complete. Following on from that, we'll be meeting again on **Sunday 9th April at 2.30pm** for one of our regular 2 hour walks. For more information see HCChurches.org/walking



MOTHERING SUNDAY

Join us on Mothering Sunday
26th March 2017



9.30am at All Saints' Chilton
11.00am at St Matthew's Harwell



www.hcchurches.org

01235 834256

CHILTON MARKET STALL



Thank you to all those who support the Charity Market Stall at the Rose and Crown, Chilton on the

second Saturday of each month. The February Charity Stall raised £415 for Young Dementia UK. **On 11th March** the stall will be raising money for the Oxford and District branch of the Parkinson's Society. They offer info, friendship and support to local people with Parkinson's, their families and carers. Come along and enjoy looking through the white elephant stall, books (we have just had a huge donation of children's books and DVD's), plants and delicious cakes which will be on sale. Judy Goodall

TREES IN ALL SAINTS' CHURCHYARD

The two large chestnut trees at the front of All Saints' churchyard have become seriously diseased with blight and honey fungus. They will be felled on **9th and 10th March**.

INTERVIEW WITH DI BAKER

Di helps in Foundation Class at Harwell School once or twice a month, and really enjoys going back into the School. She worked there from 2002-2010. Before that, she worked at Harwell Nursery School from when she started as a helper in 1974. She began her involvement with children in Harwell in 1971 when a group formed a community and started Harwell playgroup.

Di was persuaded to do a 2 year, full time Nursery Nurse course at Oxford College when her children were still at primary school. It was hard work, but well worth the effort.

In 1977 her husband got a job placement in France for a year near Grenoble, France. Di, Tony and their children went to live in France and enjoyed it so much that they stayed for 2 years. When they came back to Harwell they would house swap with friends that they'd made while in France, so that they could visit the area again. Di went to College to learn French while they were there – but didn't feel very confident speaking French. She finds listening to French easier, but when they lived in France, her and her husband would talk about their French conversations after an evening out with laughter – because they often understood different things when listening to the same person speaking French!

In 1980 Di took a job at Harwell School as a Welfare Officer, looking after a 5 year old girl. In 1987 Di started working as a Nursery Nurse at Harwell Nursery and thoroughly enjoyed it. She never dreaded

going to work on Monday mornings and can't think of anything she disliked about working with children.

Di still goes into Harwell school and has a programme of activities that she usually does through the year. January – paint/draw snowdrops, February – making pancakes, March – daffodil artwork, September – making blackberry & apple jam, then also bread rolls to eat with the jam, October – making a harvest sheaf out of bread for the Harvest service, November – making Christmas puddings.

Di & Tony have lived in Harwell ever since they got married in 1963 and really love being part of such a lovely community. Di regularly makes tea and coffee after Sunday morning services at St Matthew's, helps with Fledgelings toddler group, supports the fundraising efforts for the Village Hall, and is an active member of Harwell Women's Institute.

Di has always been to church, and was brought up going to Sunday School. She remembers pram services which used to happen in St Matthew's where Di and her friends would go for an afternoon service with their babies and toddlers. She can also remember being part of a young wives group when her children were younger.

Having a good breakfast is always important before a day at work or school, and Di has scrambled eggs when she's on a diet, but loves a full English breakfast when on holiday.



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