

RIDGEWAY BROADSHEET

February 2019



All Age 'Christingle'

Sunday 3rd February

9.30am All Saints' Chilton

11.00am St Matthew's Harwell

Family friendly services
where 'Christingles' will be made
and taken home



Rector of Harwell and Chilton Revd Dr Jonathan Mobey

The Rectory | Church Lane | Harwell | OX11 0EZ

01235 799376 | JM.HCChurches@gmail.com

Day off usually on Wednesdays

Associate Minister Revd Pam Rolls

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Day off usually on Fridays

Children & Families Mrs Sarah Barrett | SB.HCChurches@gmail.com

Mrs Melanie Shields | MS.HCChurches@gmail.com

Church Administrator & PA to the Rector Mrs Vicky Johnston

Harwell Church Office | Mon/Tue/Thu/Fri 9.30-2.30 | 01235 834256

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Services at All Saints'		Services at St Matthew's	
9.30am All Age 'Christingle'	3rd Feb	8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 11.00am All Age 'Christingle' 6.15pm Evening Prayer	
8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 9.00am Family Service at CVH* 9.30am Morning Prayer (BCP)	10th Feb	11.00am Morning Worship	
9.30am Holy Communion	17th Feb	8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 11.00am Holy Communion 6.15pm Evening Prayer (BCP)	
8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 9.30am Morning Worship	24th Feb	11.00am Morning Worship 6.15pm Holy Communion	
*CVH Chilton Village Hall			

REGULAR EVENTS

You can find details of all our regular events and meetings on our website www.HCChurches.org. You can also find information on pages 4-5 of regular groups.

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

OTHER EVENTS IN FEBRUARY

2nd February 10am	CAP Money Course, St Matthew's Harwell
6th February 8.30pm	Night Prayer, All Saints' Church
7th February 7.30pm	Christianity Explored, St Matthew's Harwell
12th February 7.45pm	All Saints' Women's Group, All Saints'
14th February 7.30pm	Christianity Explored, St Matthew's Harwell
16th February 1.00pm	Sustainable Repair Café, St Matthew's Harwell
21st February 2.30pm	Evergreens, St Matthew's Church Hall
21st February 7.30pm	Christianity Explored, St Matthew's Harwell
23rd February 10.00am	All Saints' Art Group, Chilton Village Hall
28th February 7.30pm	Christianity Explored, St Matthew's Harwell

RECTOR'S LETTER

We're all different.

I'm writing this in the midst of the political turmoil surrounding Brexit, of entrenched positions and rebellions. Politicians and campaigners of widely divergent views each make their contribution to what is turning out to be a fiendishly difficult issue to resolve. With such divergent views about the desirable destination – let alone the best route to take to get there – it is difficult to imagine how a breakthrough can happen; how any deal can be done. Christians are told to pray for our leaders, and there is no more important time to do so than now.

But my main point is to acknowledge our diversity. We are all different. Different in age, sex, education, income, interest, political views, and so much more. No human is the same as another, and our uniqueness is part of the wonder and glory of being human. It is good that we have different interests, skills and experiences; different opportunities and circumstances. Together, if each plays to their strengths, we can achieve amazing things. Like a body with its various limbs and organs – as the Apostle Paul likens the Church – the whole is so much more than the sum of its parts. Our variety is a great strength.

But it is also a great challenge. How can we live together in peace when we disagree – often passionately – about things? How can we find a happy solution to an issue that has people taking up polarised positions? One approach is the compromise – a classic British tactic, and

the food and drink of moderate politics. Another approach is for the views of the biggest or loudest or strongest to prevail – the most powerful get to decide. Who will be the winner?



Photo by Josefin on Unsplash

But maybe there is another way. Perhaps it is not a question of a 'zero sum game' where in order for someone to win, someone else needs to lose, or for an outcome with which no one is really happy. It must be possible – speaks the optimist – for everyone to be a winner.

At the heart of the Christian faith is the winning of a victory, but a victory which can be of benefit to all. It required the crossing of party

lines, a costly identifying with an erstwhile opponent, and the making of sacrifices. It was motivated by love and a desire for peace and unity. In becoming one of us, and taking upon himself on the cross our selfishness and rebelliousness, God in Jesus redefines the cosmic mathematics. No need for compromise, no weighing of votes or an arbitrary pass mark to make the grade. Just a game-changing act of undeserved generosity by the King of kings that means everyone can be a winner.

This is the win-win deal needed by all of us, without exception. There is no other option for any of us. Because we're all the same.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jonathan". The script is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'J'.

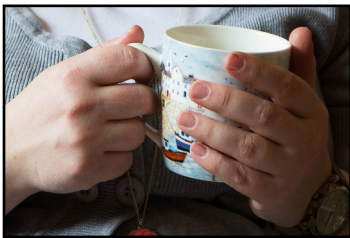
Rev'd Dr Jonathan Mobey
Rector of Harwell with Chilton



Fledgelings is our baby and toddler group. We meet on Monday mornings at St Matthew's Church Hall and on Wednesday mornings at Chilton Field Community Room from 9.30-11.30am. 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 times in homes around the village. Homegroups 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.



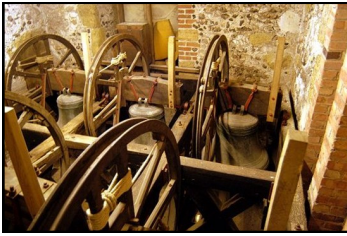
All Saints' Women's Group meet monthly in All Saints' on the 2nd Tuesday of each month to hear from a speaker on a variety of topics. The group also arranges a monthly charity market stall at the Rose and Crown, an annual quiz night, and annual plant sale.



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, CSW, Mission Aviation Fellowship, Scripture Union and A Rocha.



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 from the age of 11 are welcome.



Pebbles Family Service is at Chilton Village Hall every 2nd Sunday of the month. Meeting at 9am for breakfast, an informal service starts at 9.30am, set up in a café style with crafts for children, followed by tea, coffee & cake. Each family decorate a pebble with their surname on, which is handed out each service.



Other groups Various activities and groups occur throughout the year, including meals, the Alpha Course, and a children's Holiday Club. We have regular working parties in All Saints' Churchyard. We also run regular 'CAP Money' courses and walks with our 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 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 is held alternately at All Saints' and St Matthew's.

POPPY APPEAL

House to house collections in Chilton and Harwell villages, plus the boxes and collecting tins in Harwell Village and Campus and the Curie Avenue shops and businesses raised a total of **£4,535.67** for the 2018 Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal. Thank you to everyone for their generosity and a special thanks to all of the house to house collectors and the businesses who had boxes for us. Peter Cox, Harwell Village Poppy Appeal Organiser and Hazel Benton, Chilton Village Poppy Appeal Organiser.



CAROLING COLLECTION



Thank you to all who supported the carol singing in the Rose and Crown and around Chilton in December. We raised a total of **£137.08** for Save the Children Fund. Pam Rolls.

REPAIR CAFE

Come along to the Didcot Repair Café at St Matthew's Church Harwell on **Saturday 16th February**, 2-5pm. Bring along broken electrical equipment, computers, clothes, clocks, bikes, toys and blunt tools/knives. Refreshments and family craft on offer.



CHARITY MARKET STALL

On **Saturday 9th February**, the charity we will be supporting is Young Dementia UK, an Oxfordshire-based charity which provides great support and helps to enable individuals with early-onset dementia and their families to have a brighter future.

Thank you to everyone who supported the stall in December. An amazing amount of £675 was raised for the Oncology Unit at the Churchill Hospital. January's stall was for The Oxfordshire Association for the Blind.

The market is held on Crafts End Green between 9am and 12 noon. There is an amazing selection of white elephant goods, books, some plants and a wide selection of cakes, pies, breads and jams. Offers of small white elephant goods are always welcome.

We look forward to seeing you there. Contact Judy Goodall on 834503.

ALL SAINTS' WOMEN'S GROUP

Our next meeting will be on **Tuesday 12th February** in All Saints Church at 7.45pm. Our speaker will be Rosanna Keene from Harwell with her Guide dog "Daisy". Visitors are warmly welcomed.



HARWELL GARDENERS CLUB

Harwell Gardeners will be meeting for their monthly meetings in St Matthew's Church Harwell in 2019. They will be meeting on Monday 4th February at 7.30pm. Competition: Photo - A fabulous Flower. Contact Janice Markey on 832802.

FROM THE REGISTERS

Weddings

"Those God has joined together"

Barbara Nell & Thomas Clague

Funerals

"He who believes in Me will live"

Catherine Margaret Ullmer

Catherine Ellen Rushton

Ruth Ramm

Joan Williams

Thanksgiving

"Welcome into the Lord's Family"

Lydia Elena Carina Quarini Utili

HUMPHRY STEVENSON GATE, CHILTON

The Parochial Church Council will shortly be making a final decision regarding possible replacement of the gates leading from the car park to All Saints' church. Generous donations have been gratefully received but a further £450 would be required for work to go ahead. Humfrey Stevenson was a much loved church warden and the gates given in his memory have provided a welcoming entrance to the churchyard for the past 30 years. If you would like to see the area restored to its former glory and make a contribution towards the cost of the new gates, will you please contact our Treasurer Stuart Gibson (via Vicky in the Church Office, see front cover). Thank you very much

DELIVERY

Could you help deliver the Ridgeway Broadsheet? Please email Vicky if you could help. There are 8 editions each year plus Easter & Christmas cards. Thank you.

CHARITY QUIZ EVENING

A date for
your diaries!

On **Saturday
30th March**

All Saints'
Women's
Group are

holding their annual Quiz Evening in Chilton Village Hall – 7:15pm for a prompt start at 7:30pm. Teams of up to 6 people; tickets are priced at £10 each which includes a hot supper and a tasty pudding.

Please bring your own drinks and glasses.

The charities we will be supporting this year are Hamlin Fistula UK which provides free treatment and support to women in Ethiopia who have obstetric fistula, and All Saints' Chilton to help pay for the path that now provides safe wheelchair and pushchair access into the church or to help pay for ramped access into the church.

Please let us know if you have any dietary requirements and we will try to cater for them. Tickets available from July, 43 Crafts End, 01235 834503 or email thegoodalls43@outlook.com



EVERGREENS



Harwell Evergreens meet monthly in St Matthew's Church Hall. The group is aimed at those of

retirement age. The talk on **Thursday 21st February** will be by The Royal Life Saving Society with reference to how to use a defibrillator. There will be light refreshments following the talk. Contact Gill 831592.

INTERVIEW WITH JULIA WOHLGEMUTH-SHAW

When Julia was born in a small village in East Germany in the mid-seventies, it would have been very hard for her parents to imagine that she might end up one day living in the English countryside. Just travelling to the other side of Germany was nearly impossible for most East Germans behind the Iron Curtain. This was especially true for families who were involved with the church and who experienced disadvantages in many aspects of their life. Julia's mother, for example, had not been allowed to go to University because of her faith. And with Julia's father, grandfather, great-grandfather, aunt and sister all being vicars in the Lutheran church there could have been no question about her family's commitment to the church.

This all changed a few years later of course and Julia was able to enjoy the freedom that came with the breakdown of the Communist regime.

After finishing a degree in theatre studies at the University of Leipzig, Julia came to England for the summer in 1999 to improve her English language skills and fell in love with the country. In 2000 she returned to London to work where she met Lawrence, now her husband. They now have 4 children, aged between 12 and 4 years old.

In 2013 Julia and Lawrence moved to Chilton so that their children could attend the Europa School at Culham. As the children are growing up bilingually, the Europa School UK was the perfect choice with lessons being taught in both English and German.



For Julia, Sundays have always involved going to church – and when they moved to Chilton she started going along to All Saints' Chilton. Although she is also part of the German Lutheran congregation in Oxford who meets once a month, Julia feels also very much at home at the Anglican church of her adopted country.

Julia likes being part of the church community and has always felt very welcomed into the congregation of All Saints'. She has really enjoyed seeing more young families join the church in Chilton. Each week they have a Sunday group 'Pebbles' in which Julia helps, and sometimes teaches in. The 'Pebbles' group is mainly for children of pre-school age and younger school children and is always happy to see new faces. Julia's children especially like the monthly Pebbles family service

(although Julia suspects the chocolate cake and croissants might play a part in that!).

Before her children started school and nursery, Julia also very much enjoyed taking them to Fledgelings, the church baby and toddler group. Sometimes she went on a Monday in Harwell, sometimes on a Wednesday in Chilton, and often she went twice a week because there was always a friendly chat and a relaxing cup of tea to have!

Harwell and Chilton churches regularly run Alpha courses, and Julia joined a group in the spring of last year. She found that it really helped to affirm her faith. She has also attended a homegroup on a Tuesday morning in Chilton with other young mums, and they are currently going through Alpha.

Please submit notices or enquiries to Vicky via the website, by email or by phone.
01235 834256, VJ.HCChurches@gmail.com