

RIDGEWAY BROADSHEET

June 2019

Car Treasure Hunt Sunday 16th June

See page 6 for more details



Rector of Harwell and Chilton Revd Dr Jonathan Mobey
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Day off usually on Wednesdays

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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 | Tue/Thu/Fri 9am-3pm | 01235 834256
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2019 SOCIAL EVENTS

We have put together a programme of events for the coming year. Please make a note of the dates.

Tuesday 4th June	Women's Social Evening
Monday 10th June	Men's Curry Evening
Sunday 16th June	Car Treasure Hunt
Thursday 4th July	Women's Social Evening
Saturday 20th July	Trip to Motor Museum, Gaydon
Saturday 20th July	Walk, followed by supper
Wednesday 28th Aug	Day in Oxford
Wednesday 4th Sept	Women's Social Evening
Saturday 7th Sept	Trip to the Seaside
Saturday 14th Sept	Ride & Stride Event
Saturday 21st Sept	Walk
Friday 4th Oct	Women's Social Evening
Saturday 5th Oct	Tear Fund Quiz and supper
Saturday 19th Oct	Pilgrimage walk to Oxford
Monday 4th Nov	Women's Social Evening
Saturday 16th Nov	Ceilidh (barn dance)
Wednesday 4th Dec	Women's Social Evening
December (tbc)	Christmas Market visit, Winchester
Wednesday 25th Dec	Christmas Together Lunch
Sat 25th Jan 2020	Games Night, St Matthew's



For more information please contact Vicky
in the Church Office 01235 834256 or
social.HCChurches@gmail.com

RECTOR'S LETTER

Loneliness is a modern epidemic, with up to a fifth of all UK adults feeling lonely most or all of the time. It is reported that around 200,000 older people have not had a conversation with a friend or relative in more than a month.

But loneliness can affect anyone – from teenagers and young adults to new parents, carers and the recently bereaved, from students starting at university to older people and those with disabilities, from those moving to a new area of the country to refugees.

Loneliness is a lack or loss of companionship that is linked to a range of damaging health impacts, like heart disease, stroke and Alzheimer's disease; it can be as bad for health as obesity or smoking. The Government has identified loneliness as one of the greatest public health challenges of our time, and – as part of a cross-Government strategy to tackle it – has appointed a Minister for Loneliness.

But loneliness is nothing new. "It is not good for the man to be alone." So said the Lord God seeing Adam alone in the Garden of Eden (cf Gen 2:18).

The creation was only perfect once human relationship was established, mirroring the relationship at the heart of a Triune God. Humans are social creatures who need to be connected with others. We are made for relationships – not just with God, without whom our hearts cannot find rest and fulfilment – but with other people.

The first human relationship in Genesis is between Adam and Eve, but that is not to say that the marriage relationship is the best for everyone. There are lots of types of fulfilling human relationships including between friends, between neighbours, and between family members. Many find themselves single through choice or circumstance, and many find contentment in singleness.

Jesus himself – the only person in all history who was a perfectly balanced human being – never married, but he did seek out and nurture other relationships. He called to himself a group of disciples, and chose from that larger group three men to be his closest friends. As well as giving to those relationships he received support from them, for example when he was under extreme emotional and spiritual pressure in the Garden of Gethsemane before his arrest and crucifixion. He was also committed to his family, and even whilst dying on the cross made arrangements for his widowed mother to be taken care of by one of his closest friends.

Jesus established the church not as an organisation or movement but as a family. He charges his followers to love each other as

he has loved them. The Apostle Paul later speaks of the church as being like a body with many parts, but so interconnected and interdependent that if one part suffers the whole body suffers, and that if one part rejoices the whole body rejoices. Stub your toe and your whole body reacts! The church at its best embodies loving, accepting relationships that provide support – "carrying one another's burdens" – and friendship. Our social programme (page 2) is one way that we seek to facilitate that important aspect of church life. It is through loving human relationships that we often encounter God and experience his love and acceptance.

It is not good to be alone. But it is because God has come to us in Jesus, given His Spirit to live in the hearts of believers, and adopted them into a family of faith, that we can know deep and enduring companionship and love.



Rev'd Dr Jonathan Mobey
Rector of Harwell with Chilton



WEEKLY GROUPS

Mondays

9:30-11:30am Fledgelings Toddler group (term time) St Matthew's Church Hall
8.00pm Home group in Harwell

Tuesdays

9.30am Home group (term time)
7.30pm Home group

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
1pm-3pm Fledgelings Toddler group (term time) Chilton Field Community Room
1.45pm Home group (term time) in Chilton
7.30pm Home group at various homes in Chilton Field
7.30pm Choir Practice at All Saints'
7.45pm Home group in Harwell

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 at St Matthew's Church Hall
7:00-8:30pm for those in school years 7-13 (during term time)

REGULAR EVENTS

You can find details of all our regular events and meetings on our website <http://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](https://www.facebook.com/HCChurches)



Services at All Saints'		Services at St Matthew's
9.30am All Age Worship	2nd June	8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 11.00am All Age Worship 6.15pm Evening Prayer
8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 9 for 9.30am Family Service *CVH 9.30am Morning Prayer (BCP)	9th June	11.00am Morning Worship
9.30am Holy Communion	16th June	8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 11.00am Holy Communion 6.15pm Evening Prayer (BCP)
8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 9.30am Morning Worship	23rd June	11.00am Morning Worship 6.15pm Holy Communion
9.30am Holy Communion 6.15pm Evening Prayer	30th June	8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 11.00am Holy Communion

CHILTON FAMILY STEAM DAY

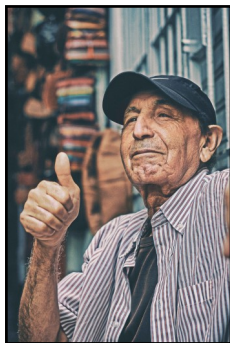


Come along and see the Children and Families Workers and their team at the Chilton Family STEAM day on **Saturday 8th June**, where they will be providing a free activity for children.

You can contact Sarah & Melanie by emailing SB.HCChurches@gmail.com or MS.HCChurches@gmail.com

* Chilton Village Hall (see page 7)

FEEDBACK



What do you think of the Ridgeway Broadsheet?

We would love to read your feedback. Please either send feedback through to Vicky in the Church Office (address on front cover) or via our website:

www.HCChurches.org/Broadsheet

GENERATION GOLD & EVERGREENS

Come along to our Generation Gold Service at St Matthew's Harwell on **Thursday 20th June, 2.30pm**. This service is combined with the Harwell Evergreens' Annual Service.

The theme for the service is 'Pentecost and

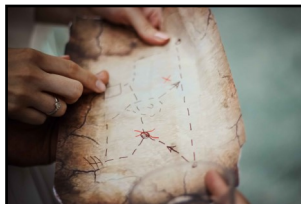
the birthday of the Church'. We'll sing some well known hymns, hear Bible readings and light a birthday candle on a special birthday cake! The service will last around 35 minutes and will be followed by light refreshments.

Please contact Vicky in the Church Office, or Pam Rolls (see front cover for contact details) for more information, or if you'd like a lift to the service.



SOCIAL EVENTS

We've got a few social events lined up for the coming year. Do pop into All Saints' Chilton or St Matthew's Harwell to pick up a card with all the dates and events for the coming year.



CAR TREASURE HUNT - Sunday

16th June,
2pm, meet at Chilton Village Hall car park.

Teams are a car

-full of up to 5 people - bring your own team, or link with others when you arrive. Each team will be given a "clue sheet" with a route to follow, questions to answer and "treasure" to collect. The route will take around 90 minutes to 2 hours, and we will all meet up together in a certain location for refreshments afterwards, to check answers/treasure bags, and to award prizes - on the basis of number of correct answers, treasure and time taken to complete within the speed limit! Come and join the fun! No car required - if you don't have a car or prefer not to drive, there will be space in another car which you can join.

Email social.HCChurches@gmail.com to register - or just turn up on the day!

GRAND PLANT AND BOOK SALE FOR CHRISTIAN AID

The Village Hall was buzzing at this annual event in May, and on the day an incredible



£1,672.70 was raised. Our thanks go to everyone who contributed and helped and especially to the Guides who cheerfully carried boxes of books and plants on Friday evening - it was truly a Community event. The flower stall itself raised **£510**.

FROM THE REGISTERS

Weddings

"Those God has joined together"
Benjamin Griffiths & Emma Sawyer

Funerals

"He who believes in Me will live"
Peggy Crocker
Marjorie Whillock

Baptisms

"Welcome into the Lord's Family"
Mollie Phillips

CHARITY MARKET STALL



**Brain Tumour
Research**

The next charity market at Crafts End, Chilton on **Saturday 8th June**, 9am-12noon will be for Brain Tumour Research. There will be plenty of plants of all kinds for sale in addition to the usual wide selections of books, cakes, pies, jams and other home produce and our fabulous white elephant stall. The charity market continues to raise incredible sums of money. In March we raised **£592** for The Porch supporting the homeless and vulnerable in Oxford and in April **£545** for Against Breast Cancer. Thank you all for your support!

Thanks!

GARDENING CLUB

Monday 3rd June, Garden visit to Foxington, Britwell Salome. See local posters for details.

FIRST AID CAFE

Harwell Scouts
First Aid Cafe

Saturday 15th June
1pm until 4pm
St Matthew's Church Harwell

There will be basic life support skills being demonstrated as well as an AED. A café will run at the same time so come down learn a new skill and have a coffee. Contact aesl2@harwellscouts.org.uk



CRYPTIC QUIZ SHEETS

The last cryptic quiz for Christian Aid was won by Barbara Anderson from Harwell with a perfect 50 out of 50. Well done!! This quiz has so far raised **£185**. The next quiz sheet will be out in September.

QUIZ NIGHT

All Saints Women's Group would like to thank everyone who supported this very enjoyable evening in March. 112 tickets were sold and **£1,317** was raised which was divided between the two charities – Hamlin Fistula UK which provides free treatment and support to women in Ethiopia who have suffered obstetric fistula and All Saints' Chilton to help pay for the improved access to the Church. Thanks to everyone who cooked and baked for the evening, and congratulations to the winners, Peter and Hilary Groves and their team.

INTERVIEW WITH VICKY JOHNSTON

I grew up in the near-by village of West Hanney, and went to King Alfred's School in Wantage. Just two months after starting at King Alfred's, my eldest sister Lucy died after a long battle with depression.

Tragically, two months before GCSE exams started, my older brother David died in a car accident.

I can remember feeling very much on my own after David died - my parents had each other, and my sister Sue was married with 2 wonderful children. And then there was me.

Easter Sunday was 6 weeks after David's death, and that day in 1996 will always remain in my memory. I was staying with my good friend Anna for the weekend and we got up early for a 6am service at the top of a hill to celebrate Jesus being raised from the dead. I remember asking about breakfast, but was assured that we'd eat when we got back after the service. I couldn't wait that long - and found myself eating lots of little chocolate easter eggs after I fainted!

That afternoon, Anna was talking to me about all the great things about being a Christian. I had been brought up going to church weekly, believed in God, and that Jesus had died on the cross and had risen again, but I didn't want to be limited by rules and going to church and reading my bible. Anna was so enthusiastic about her faith - she loved that she could always talk to God, that she knew that God loved her so much, that He had a plan for her life - a life in all its fullness. I wasn't convinced.

However, that evening I went along to a church service with her and felt very sad at the thought of returning home, and to the

prospect of my GCSEs and being alone. I really didn't think I could face it. Getting up each morning was such a struggle - I didn't see any point in making myself get through each new day.



I prayed to God that evening, offering my very broken life to Him, asking for His help to get me through each day. I didn't have much to offer, but I also knew that I just couldn't manage without His help.

It has been such an encouragement to me, to know that God sees and knows everything, and he still loves me! He

loves me so completely and can see my future. Being in relationship with Jesus has given me purpose in life and I'm glad to say that I find it much easier to get up each morning now than I did 20 years ago.

I met my husband Phill at Oxpens College where we both did a GNVQ in Business straight after our GCSE's. We got married in 2002, and had an amazing honeymoon in Australasia for 3 months. We then lived in Abingdon for 13 years before moving to Harwell after I started work for the church.

Following a particularly difficult struggle with depression last year, I started horse riding again. It is a real passion of mine and makes me feel very alive. I ride out twice a week, and although I ride out on my own, I love the connection that I have with the horse. It gives me space to be 'in the moment' and enjoy being in nature, getting exercise, fresh air and often a different perspective on things.

Loneliness is something that anyone can feel - young or old, living with others, or living alone. I would say that for me, being part of the local church has been a great way to get to know others and has been a huge support when I have gone through difficult days.

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