

# RIDGEWAY BROADSHEET

March 2020



RING 0800 328 0006  
FOR HELP WITH DEBT



**Rector of Harwell and Chilton** Revd Dr Jonathan Mobey  
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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  
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**Church Administrator & PA to the Rector** Mrs Vicky Johnston  
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## CHRISTIANS AGAINST POVERTY

Christians Against Poverty are a national charity that seek to help people in debt. Their vision is to bring freedom and good news to the poor in every community through a nationwide network of CAP projects.

Through the work of Christians Against Poverty (CAP), ten people become debt free every working day. Susanna's is just one of these stories – and what an incredible story it is.

Susanna fell into debt when cancer left her disabled and unable to work. 'My partner had walked out, saying he couldn't watch me die,' she explains. 'I had no income, all the usual bills to pay, and a mortgage to pay.'

Imagine the terror of living with cancer, while facing the breakdown of your relationship and the pressures of debt all at once.

'I thought I was going to lose my house. It got to the point where I felt sick every time the phone rang. It was all too much. In the end, I attempted to take my life.'

Sadly, Susanna is not alone. Three quarters of those who come to CAP for help say they've been afraid to pick up the phone. Over a third have considered or even attempted suicide as a way out of debt.\* Thankfully, hundreds of UK churches are bringing hope and freedom to families across their communities in partnership with CAP.

'Sheila [local CAP Debt Coach] was like my guardian angel,' says Susanna. 'When she visited me at home, she walked through the door and straight away lifted the despair. The love from her and the church was everything. They helped me prioritise and make sure all the essentials were paid for. I was able to pay back everything I owed.'

Now debt free, Susanna is spending precious time with her family. She says, 'My kids have their smiley, happy mum back. I'm still here to watch my grandchildren grow up'. Plus, after being invited along by Sheila, Susanna is part of her local church where she's building friendships and growing in her faith.

\*Stats from CAP's Client report 2019, available at [capuk.org/clientreport](http://capuk.org/clientreport)



## RECTOR'S LETTER

The daffodils are coming up, and other signs of spring are around us. As flowers emerge from the bare earth, birds begin nest-building, and apparently dead trees start to produce fresh green leaves, it is good to be joining in with God's work of bringing new life and restoration.

February saw the third occasion of hosting a 'Repair Café' at St Matthew's (see page 4) at which volunteers from Sustainable Didcot restored 76 household items to use, with delicious cakes and coffee provided by Harwell Explorer Scouts.

We also report on the work of Christians Against Poverty (CAP) to restore people to a place of financial stability, and restore hope to the despairing (pages 2 & 8). We also report on fundraising for The Porch, Hamlin Fistula, and Sue Ryder Hospice (pages 6 & 7), which all seek to bring restoration and healing to different groups of people.

The Christian faith is all about restoration and healing. Jesus was famous not just as a teacher, but also a healer, who had a dramatic ministry of restoring sight, health and even life. He restored outcasts to society, and direction to those who had lost their way. He taught and embodied the principles of love and forgiveness, grace and sacrifice, that enable the restoration of relationships not just between humans, but also between us and God. He sends his Holy Spirit that humans might have the image of God

restored in them. And he promises to return again to restore all things to their rightful place, to bring justice and health to the whole of creation.

The season of Lent (meaning 'spring') is an opportunity to reflect on our brokenness and need of healing and restoration, and it concludes with the celebration of Easter and the memory of the dramatic events of Jesus' death and resurrection. Jesus' resurrection – a historical event – is also a picture of the transformation from utter brokenness to glorious restoration that is possible only by the power of God.



The Apostle Paul reassures Christians in Romans 8:11 *"The Holy Spirit raised Jesus from the dead. If the same Holy Spirit lives in you, He will give life to your bodies in the same way."*

Susanna's story on page 2 is a dramatic example of the resurrection power of Jesus, made available and transforming lives, bringing hope out of despair and life out of death. God invites all of us to experience and join in with that movement of new life and restoration.

Handwritten signature of Jonathan Mobey in black ink.

Rev'd Dr Jonathan Mobey  
Rector of Harwell with Chilton

## REPAIR CAFÉ REVIEW

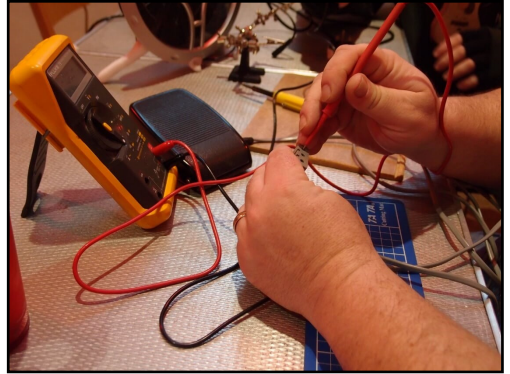
We had a very successful Repair Cafe on 15th February at St Matthew's Harwell, as part of the Big Fix 2020. Thank you to every one who came along and supported it.



In total there were 79 repair cafes across the country taking part, including several who were running their first ever event that day.



We had a great day, with tea and cakes from the Explorer Scouts, and 17 volunteer repairers from Sustainable Didcot. In total, 37 people brought 87 items to be fixed, including 24 sewing repairs, 18 tools for sharpening, jewellery, clocks, 4 bicycles, broken chairs, and 26 electrical items (including a radio shaped like a duck!).



There were only 11 things that we couldn't fix. We were also visited by the new local MP, David Johnston.

We are now compiling our records to send in to the Big Fix organisers - the aim was to undertake 2000 repairs across the country and we made a great contribution to that in Harwell!

Photos: Claire Thirlwall



## REGULAR EVENTS

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

We put information, and sometimes photos of our events on our facebook page: [facebook.com/HCChurches](https://www.facebook.com/HCChurches)



<b>Services at All Saints'</b>		<b>Services at St Matthew's</b>
9.30am Morning Worship	1st Mar	8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 11.00am Morning Worship 6.15pm Evening Prayer
8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 9.00am Family Service *CVH 9.30am Morning Worship	8th Mar	11.00am Morning Worship
9.30am Holy Communion	15th Mar	8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 11.00am Holy Communion 6.15pm Evening Prayer (BCP)
8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 9.30am All Age Worship	22nd Mar (Mothering Sunday)	11.00am All Age Worship 6.15am Holy Communion
9.30am Holy Communion 6.15pm Evening Prayer	29th Mar	8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 11.00am Holy Communion
9.30am All Age Worship	5th Apr	8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 11.00am All Age Worship 6.15pm Evening Prayer
	9th Apr	7.45pm Maundy Thursday Service
9.30am 'At the Cross'	10th Apr	11.00am 'At the Cross'
7.45pm Easter Vigil	11th Apr	
8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 9.00am Family Service *CVH 9.30am All Age Communion	12th Apr (Easter Sunday)	11.00am All Age Communion
9.30am Morning Worship (and Annual Church Meetings)	19th Apr	8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 11.00am Holy Communion 6.15pm Evening Prayer (BCP)
8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 9.30am Holy Communion	26th Apr	11.00am Morning Worship (and Annual Church Meetings) 6.15am Holy Communion

\*CVH Chilton Village Hall. (BCP) Book of Common Prayer, traditional service.

## HARWELL ALMSHOUSES

There is a vacancy in the Frances Geering Almshouse, situated in the High Street, Harwell. The Almshouse is an historic feature in the village, and comprises two houses, which are owned and managed by the charity, which was originally set up in 1730 to provide accommodation for women "in need". The Trustees are looking for a local lady requiring single accommodation and who is able to live independently.



This is an opportunity to live in a modernised Grade 2\* listed building in the centre of a thriving village community. Many facilities are within easy walking distance. There are two shops, a pub and an excellent bus service to Didcot and the surrounding areas. The refurbished village hall provides many social activities.

The cosy single floored accommodation consists of a sitting room, bedroom, bathroom, kitchen and utility area and has its own private entrance. There is a small landscaped garden at the back.

Preference will be given to those who have lived in the Parish for 5 years but in the absence of village applicants, ladies from the surrounding area would be considered.

For further details please contact Harwell Parochial Charities, via the Clerk to the Trustees: Mrs Clare Wagner, 835425 or [clare.wagner@jabrin.co.uk](mailto:clare.wagner@jabrin.co.uk)

## CHILTON CHARITY MARKET

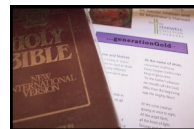
The next Charity market is on **14th March** when we will be raising money for the Sue Ryder Hospice. The market will take place on Crafts End Green from 9am till 12noon. Come and buy tasty chicken pies, cheese tarts, fruit tarts, breads, cakes, jams and marmalade and browse over books and the wide and diverse selection of white elephant goods.

The January market raised £450 for the Chilton Lunch Club and £124 towards the purchase of the tents.

Please note – the market in April will be on the first Saturday of the month, **4th April**, to avoid the Easter Weekend.

## GENERATION GOLD

Generation Gold is a service aimed at people of retirement age. We meet 4 times each year, our next service is at



All Saints' Chilton on **Monday 9th March** at 2.30pm. The service is around 45 minutes long and is followed by light refreshments. Contact Pam Rolls (see front cover) for more information or to request a lift to the service.

## EVERGREENS

Thursday **19th March**, 2.30pm at St Matthew's Church Hall, Harwell. Chris Caddy 'The Lake District'. Evergreens is a monthly meeting for those of retirement age. The talk is followed by refreshments.

## HARWELL GARDENERS CLUB

**2nd March**, 7.30pm St Matthew's Church. The History & Redevelopment of Old Camps. Adam Vetere Comp: Daffodils.



## FROM THE REGISTERS

### Funerals

*"He who believes in Me will live"*

Rosemary Rolls  
Roland Puffett  
Ted Ireson  
Scarlett Saunders  
Roger Wing  
Fred Knight  
Audrey Hastings  
Amy Smith  
Sylvia Gosney  
Ken Howard  
Vic Crocker  
Jean Campbell  
Tony Baker

### Baptisms

*"Welcome into the Lord's Family"*

Oscar Barratt  
Rosa Matei-Reich

## HOLIDAY CLUB

# Holiday Club

Save the date! This year's Holiday Club will be held at Harwell Primary school from **Monday 27th** to **Friday 31st July**, 9am-3pm every day. As in previous years Holiday Club will be completely free, though donations are always welcome. Registration for Holiday Club will open on Wednesday **22nd April** at 9am, please see our website [HCCchurches.org/holidayclub](http://HCCchurches.org/holidayclub). If you would like more information about our children and families' work you can sign up to our quarterly newsletter. Please contact Melanie (Children & Families Worker) at [ms.hccchurches@gmail.com](mailto:ms.hccchurches@gmail.com).

## MOTHERING SUNDAY

Join us on Mothering Sunday

**22nd March 2020**

To celebrate motherhood

**9.30am All Saints' Chilton**

**11am St Matthew's Harwell**



## CHARITY QUIZ



The annual charity quiz evening organised by All Saints' Women's Group will be

held on Saturday **21st March** in Chilton Village Hall, 7.15pm. Teams will consist of up to 6 players and the ticket price of £10 will include a hot supper and a delicious pudding. Please let us know if you would like the vegetarian option and if you have any food allergies. The charities we are supporting are – home, The Porch, which provides care, advice and shelter during the day for the homeless and vulnerable in Oxford, and abroad – Hamlin Fistula UK providing free treatment and aftercare for women in Ethiopia with an obstetric fistula. Tickets available from Judy Goodall or Vicky Johnston in the Church Office.

## INTERVIEW WITH LIZ ROBERTS



You can read about debt relief help from Christians Against Poverty

(CAP) in our community on page 2, but the charity also provides free money management courses – CAP Money – to help budget, save, and prevent debt.

Eight trained Coaches run a three-session course on Saturday mornings roughly once every two months in either Harwell or Chilton. The same team also run

bespoke courses at the request of agencies such as Turning Point in Didcot.

One of the Saturday Coaches is Liz Roberts. Liz works for housing association Soha and has been a churchgoer in Harwell since coming to the village 27 years ago. She says that, as soon as she moved out of home (in Essex), she left church behind, too - with one exception: "I went prison visiting with a local group of young Christians because I needed something interesting for my CV!" In Harwell, Liz volunteers for CAP because "it's such a practical way of being useful in the community, giving something back to the church which has supported me and my family (husband Tim and two now adult sons) from the moment we arrived. It's also wonderful to put CAP's mission statement –



Always Hope – into practice, helping delegates make often quite simple changes to lighten financial worries. Sometimes, it's just a matter of being another pair of - non-judgemental - eyes taking a look: it's a privilege."

"Some people who would like budgeting help may prefer a course outside their own neighbourhood so it's great that there are CAP Money courses being delivered by churches all over the country at all times and days of the week. That also makes for a really useful network for us Coaches as we get to hear the latest information and insights from a wide range of settings."

Liz encourages anyone thinking about doing the course that "you won't be preached at, in any sense. For a start, there's no religious agenda – all the Coaches are motivated by being Christians with a commitment to the community where we live and work, but anyone looking for new ideas to manage their

money is welcome, regardless of their faith or lack of it. We're also not telling anyone what to do - we're just excited to share a system that can really help people. Come and see!"

Have your questions answered, find out more or book a course at [www.capmoneycourse.org](http://www.capmoneycourse.org), from the Church Office on 01235 83 42 56 or from [harwellandchiltoncap@gmail.com](mailto:harwellandchiltoncap@gmail.com)

Please submit notices to Vicky via the website, by email or by phone. 01235 834256, [office@harwellandchiltonchurches.org.uk](mailto:office@harwellandchiltonchurches.org.uk)