

# RIDGEWAY BROADSHEET

May 2022



**Rector of Harwell and Chilton** Vacant

Please refer any enquiries to the Office 01235 834256

**Associate Minister** Revd. Pam Rolls

01235 834475 | [pamrolls@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:pamrolls@tiscali.co.uk)

**Assistant Minister** Revd. Jan Radford

01235 834256 | [janradford58@yahoo.com](mailto:janradford58@yahoo.com)

**Children & Families** Sarah Barrett | [SB.HCChurches@gmail.com](mailto:SB.HCChurches@gmail.com)

Revd. Brendan Bailey | [BB.HCChurches@gmail.com](mailto:BB.HCChurches@gmail.com)

**Church Administrator & PA to the Rector** Deborah Evans

Harwell Church Office | usual hours Monday - Thursday 9.00am- 2.00pm |

01235 834256 | [DE.HCChurches@gmail.com](mailto:DE.HCChurches@gmail.com)

Staff day off usually on Fridays

## LOOKING BACK

One of the things I loved about being Rector of Harwell with Chilton was the variety. Many people can picture a vicar at the front of church, preaching or leading a Sunday service, or taking a wedding, funeral or baptism, but are probably not quite sure what they do the rest of the time! Giving leadership to the local church and engaging with the wider community is a hugely varied, challenging and rewarding role. I had the pleasure of getting to know and work with a whole host of people in a wide range of activities and projects, maintaining and developing a regular pattern of worship and our beautiful church buildings and churchyards, practically supporting and nurturing faith in individuals of all ages and stages, and linking in with a range of local organisations in both villages and the wider area.

Particular highlights for me have been the following:

**Working with children and young people** – this has included developing and running our week-long, free summer holiday club for primary aged children, supporting the development of our work with pre-school children and their families through Fledgelings, and working to make our services accessible to families. With a large family of my own, I can empathise with the challenges (and also joys) that having children (and teenagers) brings, the support that families need, and the importance and opportunity to introduce the Christian faith to all ages.

**Meeting with and helping people at key points in their life** – with new babies, marriage, at times of illness, and when bereaved; it has been an honour to be invited into people's lives at these key times. I've enjoyed the many opportunities to meet new people – especially those recently moved into our expanding area – including occasionally going door to door. I am grateful nearly always to have had a warm reception, and a fair few cups of tea: "More tea, vicar?"

**Discussing and exploring together the Christian faith and its relevance to our lives and world** – through courses like Alpha and the focus we had a few years ago on Science and Faith. The Christian faith is rich and intellectually satisfying, and relevant to every sphere of life –relationships, work, technology, society, and so on. There are many great resources out there and there is so much to explore!



## LOOKING BACK (CONTD)

Working with people from different backgrounds towards a shared vision and purpose – working to bring closer together the two churches in Chilton and Harwell, and the range of people with their different ages, preferences and outlooks has had its challenges, but to love one another and work together to serve our communities and share the good news of Jesus is the calling of all Christians. And we are to do it together, complementing and supporting one another, and not as isolated individuals. I have especially appreciated working with Christians in other local churches to establish a 'Christians Against Poverty' (CAP) Debt Centre for our area, supporting the emergency foodbank, and recently establishing a Youthwork Trust (ECHO). Christ prayed that his followers would be one, and these projects have been a concrete expression of that.

There is much more I could say, and I have many stories I could tell, but space does not permit. But I should conclude by expressing my deep gratitude to God for the privilege of having been your Rector, and for the love that I and my family have experienced and the support received during my time in this most varied of roles.

May God richly bless the wonderful villages of Harwell and Chilton and the churches at their heart for the next ten years and beyond.

With love and prayers,

**Revd Dr Jonathan Mobey**  
Rector of Harwell and Chilton,  
Sep 2011 to Mar 2022

## D DAY SERVICE



### The D Day Service at the RAF Harwell Memorial Stone

On the Saturday nearest to the anniversary of D-Day, an annual parade and service is held at the RAF Harwell Memorial Stone at the Harwell Campus. The stone marks the departure point for Servicemen who were amongst the first to land on D-Day. This is organised by the Royal British Legion (Harwell Branch) and supported by the various local companies on the Harwell Campus.

This year's Service recognizes the 78<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and will take place on **Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> June**, assembly at the stone from 5pm. Legion Standards, Service Standards and Cadet Forces will be present for the start of the service at 5:30pm. Attendees should note there are no facilities at the stone.

For those wanting to know more details of the Parade or wish to lay a wreath at the Memorial can contact the Harwell Branch Ceremonial Officer Peter Davies using the email address, [Harwell.committee1@rbl.community](mailto:Harwell.committee1@rbl.community)

Peter Davies  
Ceremonial Officer  
Harwell Branch RBL

## SUNDAY SERVICES

The usual monthly pattern (adapted to take account of festivals and other special occasions) is as follows:

**9.30am All Saints Chilton** weekly – Holy Communion (1st and 3rd Sundays) & Morning Worship (2nd and 4th Sundays, with BCP Morning Prayer on the 2nd Sunday of 'even' months)

**10.30am St Matthew's Harwell** weekly – Family Praise leading into 11am Morning Worship (1st, 3rd and 4th Sundays), Holy Communion (2nd and 5th Sundays). Some weeks there will be groups for children and youth, and other weeks everyone will stay together throughout.

**10.30am Chilton Village Hall** monthly (2nd Sundays) – Interactive Worship for the whole benefice

*Those with children/youth are encouraged to come to their 'home' churches for festivals and other special occasions, to Chilton Village Hall on 2nd Sundays, and to St Matthew's on other Sundays.*

**6.00pm St Matthew's Harwell** weekly – Evening Worship (with BCP Evening Prayer on 2nd Sunday and Holy Communion on 4th Sundays)

**The Services are also advertised on the website, News bulletin and on the noticeboards at each church.**

## MID WEEK COMMUNION

On alternate Thursdays at 11.00am there is a Holy Communion Service in either All Saints', Chilton or St Matthew's, Harwell.

For example:

Thursday 9th June - All Saints'

Thursday 23rd June - St Matthew's

## ONLINE

A weekly online service continues at the present time and can be found on our website from 9am every Sunday.

If there is someone known to you that wishes to have a prayer said we would love to pray for them. Let us know through the prayer request book in All Saints' Chilton or the prayer request box in St Matthew's at the back of the church. Alternatively you can phone, or email the church office with the request.



If you could please indicate if you would like the prayer to be said at the Saturday morning prayer meeting or within the service's prayers. It would also be useful if you could indicate whether the prayer needed is for a particular situation or something that you would like us to pray for regularly.

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

## A MESSAGE FROM THE CHURCHES

On 31 March 2022 the benefice of St Matthew's Harwell with All Saints' Chilton entered its Interregnum as Rev Dr Jonathan Mobey's period as Rector finished on the 30th. We would like to reassure you that the churches will continue to provide all the normal services, including weddings, baptisms and funerals. We are blessed in our parishes with a number of clergy including Revd. Pam Rolls, Associate Minister and Revd. Jan Radford, Assistant Minister, who will play a lead role in many aspects of the ministry. Pam, Jan and others are available for pastoral support and guidance.

In addition, the Churchwardens, Eliza Wheaton and Allan Macarthur at St Matthew's Harwell and Judith Russell and Yvonne Sanderson at All Saints' Chilton, have taken on many of the overall responsibilities of the Rector alongside the Area Dean.

If you have any questions or require anything that you would normally have gone to the Rector for as a first step, please contact the Church Office (answerphone messages are picked up regularly, and messages passed on) or one of the Church Wardens. and your enquiry can be directed appropriately.

## OASIS & COMMUNITY CAFES



## HARWELL HELPS REFUGEES

Harwell Helps Refugees is aiming to work with Oxford Diocese and other local groups to coordinate the support that people can offer and to make sure that it is deployed as effectively as possible.

Check out the full list of support options and register your details at: <https://harwellandchiltonchurches.org.uk/refugees>

### Community Café

Please come along and bring your friends and family for good coffee and home made cake at **St Matthew's Church on Thursday 9th June 10.30am - 12.00pm**. Free but donations are welcome!



The Community Café usually opens on the 1st Thursday of each month, but due to the Jubilee Bank Holiday, will be delayed by a week.



## GENERATION GOLD

Generation Gold is an exciting and welcoming service for people of retirement years.

Jan and I started Generation Gold 7 years ago because we felt God calling us to minister to older people with a service which was tailored especially for them, and to help them to realise that God and the church value them – hence the reference to them being 'gold'!

Generation Gold happens once a quarter in March, June, September and December and alternates between Chilton and Harwell churches.

We welcome a growing congregation of people from both parishes some of whom are regular church members and others not. We worship God and spend time catching up with each other over delicious refreshments.

While Jan and I lead Generation Gold we are supported generously by a great team of people in both parishes who use their musical gifts and baking skills to bless our congregation.

Each service lasts about 35 minutes and is based on a different theme each time. This year we are thinking about birds from the Bible and in our June service we will be considering doves.



We sing well known hymns and sometimes learn new hymns and songs too. We have an interactive discussion during the service, hear a couple of Bible readings and a short address. We end our services with the giving of a gift to everyone to take home to remind them of our theme, and the serving of refreshments.

Jan and I look forward to welcoming you to our next service on **Monday 13th June at 2.30pm at St Matthew's Church, Harwell.** If you would like to know more, or you would like a lift to Harwell please contact us using the details below.

Rev. Pam Rolls  
Associate Minister  
01235 834475

Rev. Jan Radford  
Assistant Minister

[pamrolls@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:pamrolls@tiscali.co.uk)  
[janradford58@yahoo.com](mailto:janradford58@yahoo.com)

**...generationGold**

## FROM THE REGISTERS

### Funerals

*"He who believes in Me will live"*

**Reg East**  
**Marion Ellis**  
**Margaret Hicks**  
**Vivian Kapp**  
**Norma Carpenter**  
**Jeffrey Nesbitt**  
**Mary Howard**  
**Gordon Gilley**  
**Reginald Morrison**  
**Brian James**  
**Philip Railton**  
**Michael Russell**  
**Ken Slater**  
**Peter Byrne**  
**Daphne Boddy**  
**Petula Bollon**  
**Joyce Wilkins**

### Weddings

*'Love is patient, love is kind'*

**Zoe & Luke**  
**Sarah & Antony**  
**Charlotte & Jack**  
**Chloe & James**

### Baptism & Thanksgivings

*Like a shepherd, he will care for his flock,  
gathering the lambs, hugging them as he  
carries them"*

**Peter**  
**Barney**  
**Margo**  
**Sylvia**  
**Felicity & Max**  
**Liberty & Edward**  
**Oliver**  
**Oscar M**  
**Oscar E**  
**Lottie**

## C A P

The CAP Money team (money management coaches) are here to help as needed. They would be happy to put on a course if there is demand or signpost you to another church's online or in-person course starting sooner if that's your preference.

Please contact [harwellandchiltoncap@gmail.com](mailto:harwellandchiltoncap@gmail.com) or call 07745 802030.

Find out if the free, three session money course is for you at [capmoneycourse.org](http://capmoneycourse.org) or by contacting the local team for a chat.

christians  
against  
poverty

**CAP**

## CHILDREN AND FAMILIES



### Fledgelings

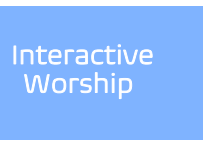
We continue to meet twice a week – at St Matthew’s Harwell on Mondays & Chilton Community Room on Wednesdays. Both are from 9.30 to 11.30 am. It’s a free-play time with refreshments for grown-ups and a snack for children. We sing songs and have a short Christian focused story reminding us of God’s amazing love for us and his world.



Like our children Fledgelings grows and grows, with up to 60 or so in Harwell and over 35 in Chilton most weeks. Mutual support and care are the hallmarks of the “Fledgelings family” with new members being welcomed and cared for by others from the group. We’d love to see you anytime – simply come along for as little or as long as you fancy. We hope to see you soon!

Brendan (07828 953568) and Sarah (07810 822653)  
[bb.hcchurches@gmail.com](mailto:bb.hcchurches@gmail.com) [sb.hcchurches@gmail.com](mailto:sb.hcchurches@gmail.com)

### Chilton Interactive service



Once a month, in Chilton Village Hall behind All Saints Church, the Chilton Interactive Service is a family-oriented time to praise God, learn together from the Bible, pray together and have fun and grow through crafts, songs and friendship. Starting with refreshments around 10.30 am on 2<sup>nd</sup> Sundays we gather from the two villages of the benefice as part of God’s family.

Homemade cakes are a regular treat to tempt us all to share together with others from the 9.30 congregation at All Saints.

Come and join us. The next Interactive is on Sunday 12 June and is followed by a bring and share picnic.



## THE GREATER DIDCOT YOUTH WORK TRUST



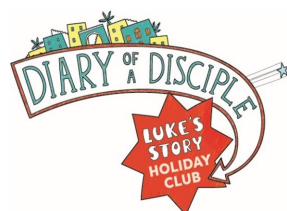
**Echo** – the Greater Didcot Youth Work Trust - aims to bring together young people from the churches in the area for worship and teaching and fun. Some of you will already have joined Soul Sport on Tuesdays.

The next big event, for those in school year 6 and above will be on Sunday 24 July at St Matthew's in Harwell for worship, teaching and barbecue. 3pm to 5pm

## HOLIDAY CLUB 2022

### Holiday Club

The ever popular Holiday Club is back this year on a mega scale. After two years of small gatherings, about 75 children will share in the Diary of a Disciple, learning about the life of Jesus from Luke's Gospel. There will be music, games, activities and the chance to learn more of the story of Jesus. Currently the list is full and there is now a waiting list. Further details on the church website.



## REGULAR EVENTS

You can visit our website to find out about our various activities and groups, catch up on news, watch recorded services, listen to sermons, find useful documents, and lots more: <http://hcchurches.org> or [harwellandchiltonchurches.org.uk](http://harwellandchiltonchurches.org.uk).

If you would like to keep up to date with news from our churches, please join our website database and 'like' our Facebook page? [facebook.com/HCCchurches](https://facebook.com/HCCchurches)

## CHURCH CLEANING



Help is always needed to keep our Churches looking clean and welcoming. If you would like to become a 'heavenly duster' or an 'altar angel' **please contact the Office on 01235 834256**

## REMEMBERING

Firstly, I would like to thank all of you who have contacted our family to express your sympathy and condolences. I can assure you it is very much appreciated and has been a great comfort to us all.

Whether it was by a card, a text message, a phone call, an email or by social media the words that you have used were most gratifying and showed how much you thought of our father and grandfather.

I have noticed however that over the years on such occasions that the same phrases or words are very often used. For example,- He was a "one off" or a "bit of a character" and more recently a much over used phrase of a "Legend".

And so, I began to think if these were appropriate for my dad. I suppose we are all one offs because we are all individual and there is only one of any such person, but some of us do have a bit more character about themselves than others, which perhaps gives them the appearance of being a one off.

Does my dad fall into that category? Well, I'm sure that if any of you got into a conversation with someone and they asked you if you knew Reg East from Harwell then I'm pretty sure you would reply with a chuckle "Oh yes, I know him!" and no doubt you could then go on to relate some story or anecdote which involved him and would be forever etched in your memory.

I expect there are numerous other stories that each and every one of you can tell

us but unfortunately, we don't have the time so I suppose you could say he was a bit of a "one off and a bit of a character". As for Legend, well I think that is something that you will have to decide for yourselves. If that is the word you think describes him best in your eyes then that's fine, I'm sure he would like that.



He was born on January 7, 1927 and grew up in Ardington with his two brothers and three sisters. During the war years he was a member of the Home Guard and I suppose he must have been the Private Pike of the platoon. On his 18<sup>th</sup> birthday in January 1945, he joined the Royal Berkshire regiment and after initial training was sent to the far east serving in India and Burma. The war ended not long after he arrived and I'm not sure whether that was because of the Atom Bomb or the fact that the 'Japs' were scared on hearing of his arrival.

He was extremely proud to have served with the Royal Berks He was also of the belief (like many of us) who believed that not only the Vale of the White Horse but anything south of the River Thames belonged to Berkshire before it was stolen by Oxfordshire.

## REG EAST

One of our regrets was that he ended his life north of the Thames in Oxford and not in his native North Berkshire.

On his return he met and married my mum and for the next six years they lived in East Challow. He played football for Ardington and had several different jobs during that time, one of which was as a bus conductor for the City of Oxford Bus Company, and I can imagine he was in his element doing that, where he could chat endlessly to everyone especially the ladies!

In 1957 we moved to Harwell when dad got a job driving lorries for AJ Robey at Rowstock Transport. I have to say that I know that this was his favourite job of his lifetime. In fact, he told me on a recent trip to the hospital that it was the worst mistake of his life when he left there to go and work in the car factory at Cowley and although he never told me, I believe that it was entirely due to finances in order to pay for my grammar school education.

While he was at Cowley he became a shop steward and no doubt expressed his opinion in his own immortal manner.



After he moved to Harwell, he soon became involved with village life. He played football and cricket for the village and when too old to play football he helped the Club by becoming their linesman for which he was awarded the North Berks Referees Association Club Linesman of the Year for 1961/62. He then took up football refereeing for a few years but gave that up so that he could go caravanning at weekends and holidays. Along with my mum and my sister they got involved with other people with the same interests and soon took an active part in all the social events that they held. And I am sure that my sister could tell us of many other stories which they all got up to on those weekends away although I am sure some of them may be best left where they are!

Although he had a limited education, he was nether the less a very knowledgeable person. He gained his knowledge from reading, from crosswords and watching quiz shows. So much so that in the 1990's we both auditioned for the quiz show Fifteen to One. But despite my Grammar school education I failed the audition but he passed. So, I went with him to the studio in South London where he appeared on the show. and although he didn't quite make the final he certainly did himself proud. He enjoyed his game or darts playing either for the Chequers or the Legion Club and I know that one of his happier moments was when he won the Club's pairs tournament partnering with his grandson Ian.

## REG EAST (CONTD)

He also played Crib and Aunt Sally as well and I expect some of you will remember the Saturday night sing songs in the Chequers when he would get up and sing some of Adge Cutler and the Worzuls songs. I'm not sure if we remember that with laughter, pride or embarrassment. Your choice! He also wrote various odes and poems and Kate Beswick is going to read one which we found amongst his writings for you shortly.



But I suppose that within the village he will probably be best remembered for his involvement with the Royal British Legion. He joined the Harwell Branch when he came to Harwell and over the years, he took on various roles. He was Branch Secretary from 1972 to 1991, and this of course was pre-computer times so that everything had to be handwritten and recorded in the relevant books, Annual subscriptions were collected by hand and dad would spend hours going around peoples house collecting their subscriptions. During his years of involvement, he also took on the roles of Poppy Appeal organiser, Standard Bearer from 1980 to 1995, and eventually the Branch President for which he remained until his dying day. He also had a spell on the County Committee and in 1993 he was awarded the Legion's Gold Badge and in 2015 a Life membership of the Legion for his meritorious service.

Both my Mum and him always supported the Club in any functions that they held, and he was Club Chairman from 1994 to 1997, and I think we all remember him saying on numerous occasions that we should use it or lose it! and he was one of the group of people who were instrumental in building the new Club house which is now the home of the Harwellian.

I think you can count on one hand, the times that he missed a committee meeting, a remembrance Sunday or the D Day memorial service and if he did then it would have had to be a reason of high importance because I know he used to arrange his life around those commitments, much to my mother's annoyance at times!

But I also have to add about his loyalty to my mum especially in later years when her health deteriorated. He looked after her, cared for her and waited on her with absolute devotion when at times he wasn't that well himself. I am not sure how he managed it because I don't think I could have done, and we all know what a challenge it must have been at times!

We will remember him.

### Charlie East

A grand total of £559.97 was raised in donations which was forwarded to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal. Thank you

