

# Ridgeway Broadsheet

July &  
August  
2014




Holiday Club 2014  
Mon 18-Fri 22 August 2014

# mega makers!

9am-3pm at Harwell School  
For children going into yrs 1-8 in September 2014  
Bookings: [hcchurches.org/holidayclub](http://hcchurches.org/holidayclub) or 834256

Free, but limited places  
Harwell Band Children's Church

[www.harwellandchiltonchurches.org.uk](http://www.harwellandchiltonchurches.org.uk)  [facebook.com/hcchurches](https://facebook.com/hcchurches)

**Rector of Harwell with Chilton Church Administrator**

Revd Dr Jonathan Mobey Mrs Carolyn Vickers

The Rectory, Church Lane, Office hours: Wednesday & Thursday  
Harwell, Oxon OX11 0EZ (normally 9.30am to 3.30pm)

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## SAY FAREWELL TO BISHOP JOHN

Say Farewell to Bishop John  
at the Diocese of Oxford's  
Grand Day Out!

Saturday 20th September 2014: 10.00 –  
17.00

Oxford City Centre

Come to Oxford to bid farewell to Bishop John and enjoy a Grand Day Out! We don't often get together – but on Saturday 20 September we're inviting our whole diocesan family to gather in the centre of Oxford, to give thanks for Bishop John's ministry among us, and to think about our onward journey. There'll be prayer and worship, a feast of different activities and the chance to join in a massive picnic on Christ Church Meadow. We'll end with a huge open-air Eucharist. Everyone is invited; young, old, lay, ordained, families, single people, life-long Anglicans and people new to church. Everyone is welcome!

### Timetable for the Day

10.00 Opening worship on Christ Church meadow (30 mins)

11.00 A host of workshops, speakers and activities in venues around the city centre Pilgrimage, Messy Fiesta for families, geocaching, spirituality zone, 'Living the Difference' café, events for people with learning difficulties, mini-pilgrimage and much, much more. Let loose your imagination, exploring faith through prayer, the creative art, contemporary culture, social enterprise, climate change, the natural world and forgiveness.

12.30pm Bring-your-own picnic on Christ Church Meadow

2pm Workshops, speakers and activities around the city

3.30pm Farewell Eucharist for Bishop John on Christ Church Meadow

The programme for the day is being added to all the time. For more information and

to register for further information and updates please go to [www.oxford.anglican.org/granddayout](http://www.oxford.anglican.org/granddayout).

### Getting to the Grand Day Out

The day will take place on Christ Church Meadow and at nearby venues (walking distance). You are invited to come to Oxford using public transport or the city's Park and Ride facilities. If your church is bringing a coach, a drop off point is available within easy reach of Christ Church Meadow.

### Booking for the Grand Day Out

All events at the Grand Day Out are free, but you do need to book to attend sessions. To do so, please go to [www.oxford.anglican.org/granddayout](http://www.oxford.anglican.org/granddayout).

More information

If you'd like to know more, please do speak to staff at Diocesan Church House organising the day on 01865 208277.

## HARWELL FEAST THANK YOU

Thanks once again to those who gave their time to serve on the Harwell Feast BBQ/Pig Roast stall on bank holiday Monday. This is a stall which St Matthew's organises the manpower for, drawing on people both from the congregation and from the wider community. All the proceeds go to the Feast and the stall represents an important opportunity for us as a church body to contribute to this community endeavour. The stall didn't make nearly as much money this year as it did last year due to the big difference in the weather conditions, which affected the number of attendees and how long they lingered. The profit from the stall was £2,160 last year. It was about a fifth of that this year but I guess we have to be grateful to have made a profit, and to take the rough with the smooth. Volunteers have told me that they nevertheless enjoyed the experience. *Jane Woolley*

## Why God sometimes hides the truth

At that time Jesus answered and said, "I thank thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes" (Matthew 11: 25 King James Version)

A schoolgirl once wrote to the Church of England enquiry centre with this request: 'We're doing God this term; please send all details and pamphlets.' But this is never the way in which the truth of life and of existence becomes known. 'These things' are the very issues that baffled Sophocles, Plato, Euripedes - and some of the cleverest thinkers that ever lived - the pathway to the Infinite, the quest for life's meaning and the central hope of any belief-system. "Guesswork is over all," declared Xenophanes.

How do I get forgiven? Can God ever be really known? What is the purpose of life on this world? 'These things' seem to be hidden to so many; yet we read that God 'desires all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth' (1 Timothy 2:4). How do we reason this out?

1. God's truth is revealed only to 'babes.' Read also Luke 18: 17. The actual possessors of life's deepest truths are reduced to a single category of person; not the clever or sophisticated, not the high flyers, nor indeed society's dregs as such, but simply the open-hearted, the trusting and the dependant, irrespective of their talents or intellect. Retain the heart of a child, and life itself can begin to be intelligible!
2. God's truth is revealed only in Christ. "All things have been committed to me by my Father" said Jesus (v. 27). We want to know what God is like? Then take a look at Jesus, the pivotal figure of all history; living, serving, caring, teaching, suffering and dying; now raised to the place of all rule and power. Read John 1:18, John 14:6 and Colossians 1:15-20 for a start!
3. God's truth is revealed only by relationship. The Bible doesn't begin with a set of philosophical principles explaining the existence of God. It begins with a garden.... and a family. And throughout the Old Testament we are tracing the fortunes of a family. We can note the relationship terms that feature here in Matthew 11; 'friend'.... 'Father'.... 'babes.' And Christ's words in verse 28: "Come to ME...." It is never 'It...You' but always, 'I...You.' The whole thing rests in a Person.

# July & August 2014

## WEEKLY EVENTS

### **Fledgelings**

9:30-11:30am Mondays at St Matthew's Church Hall (during term time)

### **Bell Ringing**

7:30pm Mondays at All Saints' Church Tower

7:30pm Thursdays at St Matthew's Church Tower

### **Choir Practice**

7:30pm Wednesdays at All Saints'

### **Home Groups**

8:00pm Mondays at 10 Jennings Lane, Harwell (during term time)

8:00pm Tuesdays at 13 Latton Close, Chilton (usually) (during term time)

10:15am Wednesdays at St Matthew's meeting room (during term time)

1:45pm Wednesdays 15 Elderfield Crescent, Chilton (not in August)

7.30pm Wednesdays 29 Chilton Field Way

8:00pm Thursdays at The Croft, Milton Hill, Steventon (during term time)

### **Prayer Meeting**

8:30am Saturdays at both St Matthew's and All Saints'

### **Youth Fellowship**

7:00-8:30pm Sundays at St Matthew's meeting room (during term-time)

## MONTHLY EVENTS

### **Missions Prayer Meeting**

Monday 7th July 10:00am at 'Dromore', Townsend, Harwell. No meeting in August

### **Night Prayer**

Wednesday 2nd July & 6th August 8:30pm at All Saints' Church, Chilton

### **Chilton Wives' Group**

Tuesday 8th July 7pm at Russet Dene, Dene Hollow, Chilton - BBQ

### **Connect**

Sunday 20th July 4:30pm at Chilton School (during term time)

### **Holy Communion (BCP)\***

Tuesday 15th July & 17th August 10.00am Holy Communion (BCP)\*  
at Cherry Tree Court, Harwell

### **Harwell Ladies' Group**

Tuesday 15th July 7:30pm at St Matthew's Church Hall - 'No two things' craft evening

### **Harwell Evergreens**

Thursday 24th July - Outing to Poole - pick up 9:30am at the usual places

Saturday 26th July 10am at St Matthew's Church Hall - Coffee Morning

For more information on any of these events

please check the website: [www.hcchurches.org](http://www.hcchurches.org)

or e-mail the church office: [office@harwellandchiltonchurches.org.uk](mailto:office@harwellandchiltonchurches.org.uk)

## SERVICES

July	All Saints' Chilton	St Matthew's Harwell
6th July	9:30am All Age Worship	8:00am Holy Communion (BCP)* 11:00am All Age Worship 6:15pm Evening Prayer
13th July	8:00am Holy Communion (BCP)* 9:30am Morning Worship	11:00am Morning Worship 4:30pm 'Hands Free' Worship
20th July	9:30am Holy Communion	8:00am Holy Communion (BCP)* 11:00am Holy Communion 6:15pm Evening Prayer (BCP)*
27th July	8:00am Holy Communion (BCP)* 9:30am Morning Worship	11:00am Morning Worship 6:15pm Holy Communion
<b>August</b>		
3rd August	9:30am All Age Worship	8:00am Holy Communion (BCP)* 11:00am All Age Worship 6:15pm Evening Prayer
10th August	8:00am Holy Communion (BCP)* 9:30am Morning Worship (BCP)*	11:00am Morning Worship 4:30pm 'Hands Free' Worship
17th August	9:30am Holy Communion	8:00am Holy Communion (BCP)* 11:00am Holy Communion 6:15pm Evening Prayer (BCP)*
24th August	8:00am Holy Communion (BCP)* 9:30am Morning Worship	11:00am Morning Worship 6:15pm Holy Communion
31st August	9:30am Holy Communion 6:15pm Evening Prayer	8:00am Holy Communion (BCP)* 11:00am Holy Communion

(BCP)\* = Book of Common Prayer

## OTHER EVENTS

### PCC Meeting

Tuesday 1st July 7:45pm Individual PCCs meeting at All Saints' Church

### Harwell Young Singers Concerts

Thursday 3rd July 6:45pm at All Saints' Church

Saturday 19th July 6:45pm at St Matthew's Church

### Holiday Club

Monday 18th to Friday 22nd August 9am-3pm at Harwell School  
(for children entering years 1-8 in September)

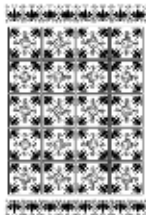




## NOBODY'S PERFECT

None of us are perfect, we all make mistakes. But Jesus came to tell us that God is always ready to forgive and pardon our mistakes. God forgives, but we often make the mistake of holding on to what went wrong – and when we do this we are doubting God.

There is a tradition that people who make patchwork quilts and those who weave Persian carpets both share: every piece they make has a mistake in it. The idea behind this is that only God is perfect and if the quilt or rug was perfect then its maker would be trying to be equal with God, and that would be a sin. Sometimes you have to look very closely to see the mistake in the pattern.



Like the quilter and the weaver, we should blend our mistakes into the pattern of our lives, not ignoring them but using them to remind us of God's love and forgiveness.

## SEW, SEW

The answers to all of the following are types of fabric or cloth. Can you say which fabric is...

1. One of the Channel Islands?
2. What felt is made out of?
3. Named after a town in France and used to make strong trousers?
4. Made from flax?
5. A jockey's racing colours?
6. A single stocking?
7. A fabric woven in little blocks?
8. The coat of an animal?
9. What an artist paints on?
10. Woven in a Scottish pattern?



**What kind of clothes are you going to make with all these tea bags?**



Baggy tea shirts.

**I bought a carpet in mint condition today.**

As good as new, do you mean?  
**No, it has a hole in the middle.**



Answers: 1.Jersey 2.wool 3.denim  
4.linen 5.silk 6.nylon 7.gingham 8.fur fabric 9.canvas 10.tartan

## FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

### Marriages

*"Those whom God has joined together"*

Gareth Lewis & Danielle Harrington

### Marriage Blessing

Nicholas and Rosemary Powell

### Funerals

*"He who believes in Me will live"*

Nigel Anthony Mobey

## CHILDREN & FAMILIES' WORKER

We are delighted to be able to tell you that following the interview day and subsequent communications between the Appointment Committee, candidates, and the Standing Committees of both PCCs, Peter Shields has accepted the offer to become our new Children and Families' Worker.

Peter is an experienced, gifted and strategic children's and youth leader with a strong faith. He has dedicated 20 years to bringing the gospel to children, the last 10 years in an inner-city environment, but is also experienced in suburban ministry. In recent years he has been setting up and running an organization working amongst 250 children and their families, schools, etc. and leading and motivating a large team of volunteers. He has extensive experience of schools work and home visiting, is creative, entrepreneurial and relational. He is married to Melanie and they have four children aged 12 and under. A major challenge will be finding suitable accommodation for Peter and his family. Please be thinking and praying about this. Peter and his family are stepping out in faith in taking up this post, and we need to bring this next stage to God in prayer. Thank you for your ongoing partnership in this exciting initiative.

## UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

DIDCOT & DISTRICT UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month at 2pm at Didcot Civic Hall. Visitors are welcome to come to a meeting as a taster before joining. The July meeting will be held at 2pm on Tuesday 15 July, the topic being The History of Punch and Judy with Alix Booth. Didcot & District U3A aims to encourage and enable older people in Didcot and District who are no longer in fulltime paid employment to help each other to share their knowledge, skills, interests and experience. There are over 25 interest groups including family history, gardening, wine appreciation, dance, science & maths, art appreciation, philosophy, play reading, creative writing, walking, bridge, crafts, books, poetry, singing, badminton, photography and 5 languages. There's something for everyone!

Tel: 07804159993

Email: [idcotdistrictU3A@virginmedia.com](mailto:idcotdistrictU3A@virginmedia.com)

Website: <http://u3asites.org.uk/didcot>

## HARWELL GARDENERS CLUB

### Summer Garden Visits:

#### Monday 7th July

Guided tour of:

Earth Trust's 'River of Life' Project  
Shillingford Bridge Hotel OX10 8LZ  
meet in car park at 7pm

Members £6:50 non-members £8:50  
(includes refreshment)

#### Monday 4th August

Garden visit to:

Radcot House, Radcot Bridge OX10 8LZ  
meet there 6:45pm

Members £6 non-members £8  
(refreshments £1:50 extra)

For further info. & to book or cancel a place on a visit contact:

Mrs Alexander on 835359

## MISSION UPDATE -

### **Christine Perkins, Pioneers International**

As former teacher at Didcot Girls School and a youth leader at St Matthew's, Christine has been supported by our churches financially and through prayer for many years. She has spent much of her adult life in Africa, mainly working in education. In 1985 she went to Khartoum in Sudan, becoming head of the primary section of an international school and taking much responsibility for the recruitment and care of teachers. She also worked with the wife of a pastor from the Nuba mountains to develop a sewing training programme and set up a small sewing business. With the creation of the new nation of South Sudan she moved to Nairobi in Kenya but maintained her links with South Sudan, travelling extensively there in support of education programmes and as the East Africa Area Leader for Pioneers International.

In her most recent letter, which can be seen in church, she asks for prayer for the work of Pioneers in East Africa and, especially, for peace and reconciliation in South Sudan. She is currently in the UK for the Pioneers International Conference and will be visiting our churches during the weekend 12th-13th July. More information on her visit will be provided in due course.

Pioneers, Christine's parent organisation, is an evangelical mission movement. It has 2,600 international members serving on 250 teams in 100 countries, covering 180 people-groups in 100 languages. It has been active for over 35 years and has a passion to reach those who are physically and spiritually isolated from the gospel of Jesus. More information can be found on the websites [www.pioneers.org](http://www.pioneers.org) and [www.pioneers-uk.org](http://www.pioneers-uk.org) and on the display in church.

## CHRISTIAN AID

From the Christian Aid envelopes in Chilton we collected £801 in total and subsequently received a further £15 donation. Thank you to those who gave and those who collected.

## CHILTON SCHOOL SUMMER FAYRE

Chilton School Country Summer Fayre - Friday 4th July from 3.30pm onwards. Come and join us at our annual Summer Fayre, this year on a Friday. Lots of stalls from Bottle Tombola, Grand Raffle, Coconut shy, Children's Crafts to fun games, Bouncy Castle, Craft Stalls and children dancing in the Arena. Plus BBQ and beer or Tea and scones. Entrance Free

## PAUSE FOR THOUGHT

### Forgive

Almighty God, most merciful  
You know our thoughts and deeds  
Our sins have been most plentiful  
Forgive, we plead!

Our hearts are far from You, O Lord  
You should be first, not last  
Our neighbours have not known accord  
Forgive our past!

Help us amend what we've become  
Direct what we shall be  
With justice, mercy, peace we come  
Humbly with Thee!

*By Nigel Beeton*

Please submit noticesheet items to Carolyn by Wednesday of the preceding week, either via the website, by email, by phone, or by leaving a note in the vestry. The deadline for Ridgeway Broadsheet items is the 2nd Wednesday of the month.