# **Ridgeway Broadsheet**



November 2014



Sunday 9th November: Remembrance Sunday



In Chilton there will be an Act of Remembrance during the morning service at 9:30am in All Saints' Church. In Harwell the Parade will form up at Townsend at 10:30am and set off for the War Memorial for the service there at 10:45am. After the service the Parade will continue to St Matthew's Church. Following the church service members of the RBL will march to a short ceremony at the War Graves in Harwell Cemetery. In addition, a short ceremony will be held on Tuesday 11th November at 11:00am at the War Memorial in Harwell.

# 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) Telephone: (01235) 799376 Office telephone: (01235) 834256 rector@harwellandchiltonchurches.org.uk

#### ALL SAINTS' CHURCHYARD

Chilton Churchyard Working Party Part 2 on **Saturday 8 November**. A big thank you to all those who helped out on 4th October. While much was achieved the rain forced us to stop work so there is still plenty left to do. We would love to see lots of people come and give a helping hand for as long as you like as there are lots of jobs to be done such as raking leaves, weeding, trimming, resetting a gate post. All you need to do is bring yourself and your favourite tools, not forgetting the gardening gloves. Thank you. For more details please contact Judith Russell on 01235 832484.

#### HARVEST THANKS

All Saints': Harvest Sunday was a beautiful autumn day and many people of all ages came along for a cream tea and gave donations for the harvest produce in All Saints' Chilton. An amazing £455.40 was raised for Tearfund. Thank you so much to all who supported this event and also to those who helped in so many ways including decorating the church, baking cakes and scones, preparing the church and clearing up, to name a few things. Thank you also for the donations of tins and dry goods for the Didcot Foodbank given at the morning service.

**St Matthew's:** This year the Harvest Lunch was again enjoyed by many village people and we made £335.30, which will go to 'Tearfund'. All tins and nonperishable goods went to the Didcot Foodbank. Many thanks to all the people who helped to make it a successful day.

**Didcot Foodbank** would like to thank Harwell Primary School, St Matthew's, All Saints', and everyone who contributed to the Harvest Festival.

Margaret and Mel Gibson.

#### GETTING UNDER THE SKIN OF THE NEW TESTAMENT

...with David Wenham (formerly tutor in New Testament at Wycliffe Hall and at Trinity College, Bristol).

An opportunity to think about Jesus and the New Testament - the history, the literature and their relevance for today. Each evening will last from 8-9.30 pm at St Andrew's Church, Orchard Road, Dean Court, Botley (directions can be found on at www.standrewsdeancourt.org) and will include a talk/ presentation and opportunities for discussion and questions. The evenings will be accessible to those without a lot of Bible knowledge, but will hopefully contain plenty to interest and stimulate those who already have some background in biblical study.

The autumn program is 4 Wednesdays: **October 8th** 

Walking where Jesus walked: the gospels in their context

#### October 29th

A bird's eye-view of the first gospel: Mark November 12th

Jesus and the Old Testament: Matthew and the Sermon on the Mount

November 26th

Son of God - really?! John's view of Jesus

In the spring we hope to look at the writings of Luke (including the magnificent book of Acts) and Paul. For more information email geoff.maughan@btinternet.com.

#### COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER AND PA TO THE RECTOR

Part-time permanent post, from January 2015. Job description, terms and application form on the website: http://hcchurches.org/copa or enquiries to the Rector, Jonathan. Fire has long fascinated and enchanted. We love the magic and romance of candlelight, the homely warmth of an open fire, and the raw power of a raging, crackling bonfire. Fire also features prominently in our calendars. The unfortunate Guy Fawkes will once again be commemorated this month with a customary incineration, and the season will be marked with gunpowder in the skies as we 'ahh' and 'ooh' at firework displays.

But fire can of course be scary and destructive.

A few minutes of research on the BBC website revealed the following fire-related stories reported in the space of just 24 hours. Fires in a woodpile in Essex, straw bales in Lincolnshire, a hotel in Yorkshire, a car in Dartford, a church in Shetland, a laboratory in East Anglia, and a flat and an industrial estate in Wales. And of course there was our local claim to fame: the fire at Didcot B power station.

I have a vivid and abiding memory of a man being brought into A&E screaming in agony. He had extensive burns that resulted from



throwing petrol onto his garden bonfire. Whilst terrible accidents still happen, as a result of building regulations, fire retardant materials, smoke alarms, and improved education, fatal fires are mercifully less common than they once were.

Preventing fires is always better than trying to extinguish them.

The Bible speaks often of fire. Fire is used to represent the presence of God, in all his awesome holiness. Think of Moses and the burning bush, the pillar of fire going before the Israelites, or the tongues of fire on the Day of Pentecost. Fire is used to represent the destroying fire of judgement. Fire is also used to refer to the power of the tongue.

"Consider what a great forest is set on fire by a small spark. The tongue also is a fire..." James 3:5-6.

Our words are powerful things and can be used both for great good or terrible evil. We don't just have to be 'preachers of hate' to set a fire going. Passing on gossip about a neighbour or colleague, putting someone down with a stinging rebuke, or letting someone have both barrels of our unrighteous anger, can cause terrible harm.

But the cure is not simply to keep a tight rein on our tongues. The problem needs to be traced to and stopped at its source.

It has been suggested that the Didcot power station fire was caused by faulty wiring. What is the source of the 'fire in our tongues'? The human heart. As Jesus said, "the mouth speaks what the heart is full of" (Luke 6:45). In other words, to prevent the destructive fires started by our words, we need new hearts. And that is just what God promises to his people, "I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you" (Ezekiel 36:26).

Preventing fires is always better than trying to extinguish them. A faulty junction box should be replaced or re-wired before any harm is done. God, in his grace and wisdom, offers divine re-wiring of hearts to all who turn to him.

Revd Dr Jonathan Mobey Rector of Harwell with Chilton

#### WEEKLY EVENTS

#### NOVEMBER 2014

# **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', Chilton

# Fledgelings

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

# Home Groups

8:00pm Mondays at 10 Jennings Lane, Harwell 8:00pm Tuesdays at various homes in Chilton 10:15am Wednesdays at St Matthew's meeting room (during term time) 1:45pm Wednesdays at 15 Elderfield Crescent, Chilton (during term time) 7:30pm Wednesdays at 29 Chilton Field Way, Chilton 8:00pm 1st, 2nd & 3rd Thursdays at 'Milburn', Wantage Road, Harwell (during term time) 2:00pm Fridays at Cherry Tree Court, Harwell

# Prayer Meeting

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

# Youth Fellowship

Further info from the Rector, Jonathan: 799376.

# OTHER EVENTS

# Coffee Morning

Saturday 1st 10am-12noon Harwell Evergreens at St Matthew's Church Hall the usual stalls and a raffle; all are welcome

# PCC Meetings

Tuesday 4th 7:45pm Combined PCC Meeting at St Matthew's Church

# Connect

Sunday 16th 4:30pm at Chilton School

'Connect' is a free family event. All welcome. For children there are crafts and hot food; for adults tea and cake and a chance to relax with other local families. For everyone an interactive 'thought for the day' on a Christian theme, and music. It is informal, interactive and fun.



#### SERVICES

November	All Saints' Chilton	St Matthew's Harwell
Sunday 2nd	9:30am All Age Worship	8:00am Holy Communion (BCP)* 11:00am All Age Worship 6:15pm Evening Prayer
Remembrance Sunday 9th	8:00am Holy Communion (BCP)* 9:30am Morning Worship	10:45am Harwell War Memorial 11:00am Morning Worship 4:30pm 'Hands Free' worship
Sunday 16th	9:30am Holy Communion	8:00am Holy Communion (BCP)* 11:00am Holy Communion 6:15pm Evening Prayer (BCP)*
Sunday 23rd	8:00am Holy Communion (BCP)* 9:30am Morning Worship	11:00am Morning Worship 6:15pm Holy Communion
Sunday 30th	9:30am Morning Worship (Toy Service) 6:15pm Evening Prayer	8:00am Holy Communion (BCP)* 11:00am Morning Worship (Toy Service)

#### \*Book of Common Prayer

#### MONTHLY EVENTS

#### **Missions Prayer Meeting**

Monday 3rd 10:00am at 15 Elderfield Crescent, Chilton

#### **Night Prayer**

Wednesday 5th 8:30pm at All Saints' Church

#### Chilton Wives' Group

Tuesday 11th 7:45pm at All Saints' Church—Hilary Groves will be talking about her research into the lives of Chilton servicemen who died in the Great War

#### Holy Communion

Tuesday 18th 10.00am Holy Communion (BCP)\* at Cherry Tree Court, Harwell

#### Harwell Ladies' Group

Tuesday 18th 7:30pm at St Matthew's Church Hall -Talk by Jenny Gibbons on 'The Donkey Sanctuary'

#### Harwell Evergreens

Thursday 27th 2:30pm at St Matthew's Church Hall - Christmas shopping trip to Torchwood shopping Centre, Solihull. There should be spaces so if any non-Evergreen members are interested, could they please contact: Pete or Jennie Greenaway 834817 or Margaret Gibson 832206 by Sunday 9th November.

For more information on any of these events please check the website: hcchurches.org or e-mail the church officeoffice@harwellandchiltonchurches.org.uk

The Church Army is a mission community of people who are transforming lives and neighbourhoods throughout the United Kingdom and Ireland and across the world. It is committed to bringing people to a living faith in Jesus Christ by sharing the Christian faith in words and action and enabling the wider church to do so.

The CA's vision centres around the DARE strategy with the aim of growing its impact nationwide and seeing God's kingdom extended. It is made up of four strands:

- Doing evangelism
- Advocating evangelism
- Resourcing evangelism
- Enabling evangelism

Church Army was founded in 1882 by Wilson Carlile with a vision to train ordinary Christian men and women to reach those most in need with the gospel. Carlile started to hold open air gatherings where he would encourage grooms, coachmen and other working people to share their faith in both words and action. As Church Army grew Carlile also focused the charity's work on the slums of Westminster – one of the darkest spots in London. In 1883 Church Army was officially recognised by the Church of England.

The work continued to develop with the opening of training colleges (starting in Oxford) to train Christian men and women to share their Christian faith, to work with people living in the slums, to provide residential care for men and women, and to work alongside people in prison. Criticized for its unorthodox approach, Wilson Carlile commented "We do not seek to drag the Church of England into the mud but to bring some of the social mud into the church."

As we mark the centenary of the beginning of the First World War it is good to reflect on the part that Church Army played in it, including the provision of much-needed recreation huts for the armed forces, many of which were adjacent to the trenches. At their peak these huts welcomed more than 200,000 men each day. Alongside this Church Army also operated ambulances, mobile canteens and kitchen cars.

Today Church Army is a world wide family made up of nine independent Church Army societies; in Africa, Australia, Barbados, Canada (called Threshold Ministries), Jamaica, New Zealand, USA, UK and Ireland and Vanuatu. These nine societies work in more than 20 different countries. Each society lives out the calling of the founder, Wilson Carlile, to reach out to those outside the church with the Good News of Jesus Christ, to serve the poor and to resource the wider church in evangelism.

For further information please look out for the displays in our two churches in November and visit Church Army's website at www.churcharmy.org.uk

#### FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

Baptisms/Thanksgivings

"Welcome into the Lord's Family"

Cameron Livingstone

#### Marriages

"Those that God has joined together"

Michael Dix & Kristy Collins

Funerals "He who believes in Me will live"

> Martin Fishenden Pauline Lay

#### TOWER FLOODLIGHTING

Since 2000 St Matthew's has been floodlit at Christmas, with money provided by the parish. We hope that again the inhabitants of Harwell will want to see their church providing light amidst the gloom! It costs about £200 to pay for the electricity, at about £5 a day. Contributions will be very welcome, in £2 coins in the wall safe just inside the door, any time during November. All £2 coins put here will be used for the floodlighting and will NOT be put into the general church funds.

#### HARWELL GARDENERS'CLUB

Monday 3rd November 7.30pm at Harwell Village Hall. Talk by Paul Hervey Brookes - 'Trade Secrets' behind the scenes of Chelsea Show Gardens. Competition: Autumn Foliage Raffle & refreshments. Visitors £1.50. Monday 1st December AGM & Party More information: David Drummond 821615

#### 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 Civil Hall. Visitors are welcome to come to a meeting as a taster before joining.

The November meeting will be held on Tuesday 18th November 2014 at 2pm at Didcot Civil Hall when the topic will be 'Flanders and Swan' with James Mitchell & Graham O'Connor.

It's never too late to expand your horizons... The University of the Third Age offers the opportunity to share your knowledge, experience and talents with others and learn from them in friendly surroundings. Why not come along to the next meeting of the Didcot & District U3A and find out what we are all about. A member of our committee will be on hand to make you welcome. Tel: 07804 159993. http:/u3asites.org.uk/Didcot Email: didcotdistrictU3A@virginmedia.com

#### CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Didcot Choral Society will be holding a Concert in St Matthew's on Saturday 6th December at 7:30pm. Tickets £10. Concessions £8. For more information: www.didcotchoralsciety.org Tel: 07915 094842.

#### CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT

#### Sunday 7th December Harwell

4.00pm: family-friendly 6.30pm: Nine Lessons and Carols Sunday 14th December Chilton

4.00pm: family-friendly

6.30 pm: Nine Lessons and Carols Traditional candlelit carol services with mince pies and mulled wine after the later services.

# Please donate a toy for the children at the Oxford Women's Refuge

This Christmas, St Matthew's and All Saints' are once more supporting the Women's Refuge in Oxford by helping to provide toys for the children there. These toys will be given to women to give to their children on Christmas Day.

As you might imagine, women (and the children they bring with them) tend to flee to the refuge with very few belongings. So toys are scarce and cash is tight for these families.

Unfortunately, domestic violence is particularly prevalent over the Christmas period, so the refuge often experiences an influx then. Having a decent toy to give at Christmas can make an enormous difference to these mothers and children.

In addition, the toys will be used at the Refuge residents' children's Christmas party, and also throughout the year, as the Refuge likes to give each child a present of a toy on arrival if at all possible.

We will be holding our special advent **"Toy Services" on Sunday 30 November** at 9.30am at All Saints' Chilton and at 11am at St Matthew's Harwell at which we would be really grateful if you could donate a toy for the refuge. This is a service particularly appropriate for children, whom we find really connect with the idea of giving a toy to less fortunate children at Christmas time.

The toy should be **brand new** please, not second hand, and **unwrapped** (NB no wrapping paper donations required). The age range of toys required is for children aged 0-15.

The refuge would particularly like toys for small babies (NB cuddly toys are

acceptable, again provided they are new) and for 11+s as these tend to be the least well catered for. For the older children, anything that they can "do" e.g. a science or craft kit or game, as boredom is a real fact of life in a refuge. Toys with violent connotations (e.g. swords, guns, etc) would not be a good idea, for obvious reasons.

Anyone unable to make the service is welcome to hand their toy in to the Church Office by Thursday 27 November. The office is open Wednesdays & Thursdays 9.30-3.30 and is up the spiral staircase near the back of St. Matthew's Church, Harwell.

If you would like advice about what toy to buy, feel free to contact: Jane Woolley on Tel 221030 or janemn.woolley@hotmail.co.uk.

Chilton PCC would like any monetary gifts to be donated to the **SeeSaw** Charity which provides grief support for the children of Oxfordshire. Thank you.

Please submit items for inclusion in the Ridgeway Broadsheet to Carolyn by the second Wednesday of the month, either via the website or by email, by phone, or by leaving a note in St. Matthew's vestry. Thank you.

#### www.harwellandchiltonchurches.org.uk