

May 2015
RIDGEWAY BROADSHEET

Polar Explorers
Holiday Club



17-21 August **BOOK NOW!**

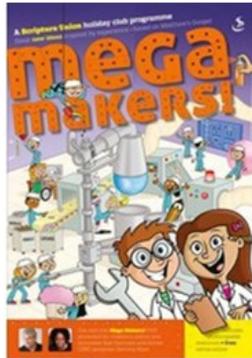
Rector of Harwell and Chilton Revd Dr Jonathan Mobey
The Rectory | Church Lane | Harwell | OX11 0EZ
01235 799376 | rector@harwellandchiltonchurches.org.uk

Church Administrator & PA to the Rector Mrs Vicky Johnston
Harwell Church Office | Mon/Tue/Thu/Fri 9.30-2.30 | 01235 834256
office@harwellandchiltonchurches.org.uk

POLAR EXPLORERS

You can now book a place on our holiday club running from 17-21 August 2015 by visiting our website www.hcchurches.org/holidayclub. The club runs from 9am-3pm each day and is completely free! It is five fun days of sport, craft, music and Bible teaching at Harwell School. It is for children going into yrs 1-9 in September, with an adapted programme for older children.

Last year, 100 children joined us for our holiday club - Mega Makers. We received these comments from parents last year about what their children had enjoyed most about the club.



Loves the sports, swimming, games & crafts.

Prof Heinz stuff & songs.

He's been singing the songs all week. Inventing things. He's looked forward to coming every day.

Love the sewing and wanted to do it every day. Loved the swimming.

Absolutely loved it. Staff were lovely and met some new friends.

The activities! Meeting friends.

Mega Machine. Team invention (junk modelling). Team song. T-shirts.

Altogether brilliant!

Learning how to play chess.

Swimming and baking.

The afternoon activities + lots of singing of songs with actions!

My daughter is usually a very shy girl in new situations but she quickly settled in and looked forward to every day.

Relaxing in the tent with friends and his cushion! Toolbox and making. Singing in the morning.



Swimming & bell ringing. Both have not stopped singing!

Prof Heinz stuff & songs.

Places are limited so we would advise booking as soon as possible. You will receive a response to confirm if you have a place.
www.hcchurches.org/holidayclub

"You are the weakest link – goodbye!"

Watching the seven-way leaders' debate recently, I couldn't help but think it looked very much like an episode of 'The Weakest Link', the quick-fire general knowledge quiz hosted by the formidable Anne Robinson in which contestants decided at the end of each round which of their number should be eliminated.

In this contest, it is the public, however, who determine, at the ballot box, how well the candidates do. By the time you read this, the nation may already have decided who is the strongest and the weakest link, and who leaves the competition with the prize.



Humans have experimented with a mind-boggling variety of forms of government, from royal succession, military coup, to the myriad versions of democracy. In an imperfect world, no system of government is perfect, but it is usually thought that democracy is the least bad option. But given that we, the people, then have to decide who governs, how should we choose where to place our cross?

We certainly shouldn't go for the party leader or candidate who is the most photogenic, delivers the best speeches, or is able to turn on the charm. Many terrible leaders of the past have had oodles of charisma. Equally, we shouldn't feel pressured to follow the crowd, or the expectations of family or friends. Many a bad decision is made as a result of peer pressure and not being true to oneself. We should instead – to the best of our ability – choose according to our consciences, informed by good sense, and concerned for the common good, and not our own vested interests.

The Apostle Paul wrote to the Philippian Christians, *'Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others'* Philippians 2:3-4

That should characterise our approach to voting, but also characterise the individual or party that we choose.

Some Christians wear bracelets with the initials 'WWJD'. It stands for 'What Would Jesus Do?', a good ethical guide in any situation. The passage I quoted from above goes on to say 'what Jesus actually did':

'In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant' Philippians 2:5-7

Jesus made himself a servant. The word 'minister' has the same meaning as 'servant', and a "Prime Minister" must surely therefore be one who is the foremost in serving others.

Jesus is the ultimate leader – at the same time a king, a military victor, and one chosen by individuals to be their Lord – and if we are wise we will choose as our ruler one who has the same servant "mindset".

Whilst on the cross, Jesus was derided for weakness. Servants can sometimes seem weak, but Jesus in his life, death and resurrection demonstrated that seeming weakness can actually be the greatest and most loving demonstration of strength.

So this General Election, place your cross where Jesus placed his. Let your cross show your love.

Revd Dr Jonathan Mobey
Rector of Harwell and Chilton

WEEKLY EVENTS

Mondays

9:30-11:30am Fledgelings (during term time) at St Matthew's Church Hall
7:30pm Bell-ringing at All Saints' Church Tower
8.00pm Home Group at 10 Jennings Lane, Harwell

Tuesdays

8.00pm Home group at various homes in Chilton

Wednesdays

9:15-11:15am Fledgelings (during term time) at Chilton Field Community Room
10.15am Home group (during term time) at St Matthew's meeting room
1.45pm Home group (during term time) at 15 Elderfield Crescent, Chilton
7.30pm Home group at various homes in Chilton Field
7:30pm Bell-ringing at St Matthew's Church Tower
7.30pm Choir Practice at All Saints'

Thursdays

7.30pm Alpha Course (see <http://hcchurches.org/alpha>)
8.00pm 1st, 2nd & 3rd Home group (term time) at 'Milburn', Wantage Road, Harwell

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 meeting room
6:00-7:15pm for those in school years 7-9
7:00-8:15pm for those in school years 10-13

MONTHLY EVENTS

4th May 8.30pm	Night Prayer at All Saints' Chilton
11th May 10.00am	Missions Prayer Meeting
12th May 7.45pm	All Saints' Women's Group, Planning meeting
14th May 7.45pm	Ascension Day Service, St Matthew's Harwell
19th May 10.00am	Holy Communion (BCP) at Cherry Tree Court, Harwell
19th May 7.30pm	Harwell Ladies Group, Meal at Pack Horse
20th May 10.30am	Harwell Evergreens, Outing to National Guide Dogs Breeding Centre, Leamington Spa. Contact Gill on 831592.
23rd May 10.00am	All Saints' Art Group, Chilton Village Hall

Sundays at All Saints'

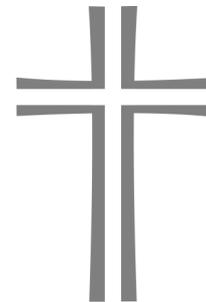
3rd May	9.30am Morning Worship
10th May	8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 9.30am Morning Worship
17th May	9.30am Holy Communion
24th May	8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 9.30am Morning Worship
31st May	9.30am Holy Communion 6.15pm Evening Prayer

Sundays at St Matthew's

3rd May	8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 11.00am Morning Worship 6.15pm Evening Prayer
10th May	11.00am Morning Worship 4.30pm 'Hands Free' Worship
17th May	8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 11.00am Holy Communion 6.15pm Evening Prayer (BCP)
24th May	11.00am Morning Worship 6.15pm Holy Communion
31st May	8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 11.00am Holy Communion

You are very welcome to join us for any of our meetings.
For more information about any of these events please
check our website www.hcchurches.org.uk or email
office@harwellandchiltonchurches.org.uk

*BCP = Book of Common Prayer



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FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

Funerals

"He who believes in Me will live"
Rose Wakeling

Weddings

"Those that God has joined together"
Rodney Frank Cox & Doreen Beckett

Baptisms

"Welcome into the Lord's Family"
Isabella Cork

COFFEE MORNING AND GRAND PLANT SALE

This event, for Christian Aid, will be held on Saturday 16th May between 10 am and 12 noon at Chilton Village Hall. This is a great opportunity to buy bedding plants, perennials and small shrubs also young vegetable plants and herbs. As usual, also on sale will be books and some delicious home-made cakes, pies and tarts. Please come and meet your



friends, stock up your gardens and relax over a cup of tea or coffee and home-made biscuits. We, All Saints' Women's Group, are delighted

that the children from Chilton School will also be selling bedding plants that they have grown to raise funds for their Gardening Club. Any enquiries or offers of help, particularly plants, please contact Judy Goodall on 834503, at 43 Crafts End or thegoodalls43@tiscali.co.uk.

CHARITY QUIZ EVENING

Thank you to everyone who supported this fun evening. We were delighted to raise £1,363.60 to be shared equally between the very local Didcot-based Balsam Family Project and Hamlin Fistula UK.

ALPHA



Alpha is a series of interactive sessions that freely explore the basics of the Christian faith. No pressure. No follow up. No charge. Beginning on 30th April with a 'taster' session, the course is held on Thursdays at 7.30pm. Each session includes a free meal, a talk, and discussion in small groups. If you are interested in taking part please contact Jonathan. More info here: <http://hchurches.org/alpha>

HARWELL GARDENERS CLUB

Harwell Village Hall May 11th, 7.30pm. 'Growing Fuchsias For Garden & Show Bench' with Joy Craig. Comp: A House Plant. Contact David on 821615.

CHARITY MARKET STALL

Saturday 13th May from 9 am till 12 noon in the Car park at the Rose and Crown, we will be raising funds for Wallingford and District Stroke Club. We will have a wide range of books and white elephant plus home-made tarts, cakes and home produce with a purple theme. We are always grateful for donations for the stall, small white elephant but no clothes. Thank you for your great support. In April we raised £257 for Malawi Flood Relief.

HARWELL FEAST



Join us at the HARWELL FEAST on BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY 25th MAY! Parade starts at 11:00am. There will be lots of stalls, a fun fair, Punch and Judy Show, falcons, dogs, vintage cars and for the hungry our very own BBQ and pig roast. Let us celebrate all the goodness summer can bring. On Sunday 24th May from 2pm there is a living history of the English Civil War Society, Marquis of Winchesters Troops taking place on the recreation ground.

ART GROUP



All are welcome to join the Chilton Art Group on Saturday 23rd May 10am — 1pm at Chilton Village Hall.

Feel free to drop-in, create a masterpiece and have a cup of tea or coffee. Materials provided.

CRYPTIC QUIZ SHEET

The latest Quiz Sheet is now out to raise funds for Christian Aid. The theme is Modes of Assisted Travel and Transport. Sheets are available in Harwell from Daphne Boddy (tel 221047) and in Chilton from Audrey Slater (tel 834558) and Judy Goodall (834503).

MISSION PARTNER

The Church Pastoral Aid Society (CPAS) is an evangelical mission agency working with mainly local Anglican churches across the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland. It was founded in 1836. The Society aims to inspire and enable churches to help every person within their communities hear and discover the good news of Jesus.

Their vision is for the local church to be a church where all ages are helped to come to faith in Christ: where all are welcomed, loved taught and trained: where all are confident in sharing their faith and clear about God's call on their lives: where they serve one another and their community, growing gifts and developing leaders through the ministry of God's word and the power of the Holy Spirit.

CPAS provide training and church resources, many of which St. Matthew's and All Saints' have benefited from. It is responsible for Ventures and Falcon Camps which are life-changing holidays attended by thousands of children and young people each year. Funding is available to ensure that no one is prevented from going on a holiday due to lack of finance.

CPAS also has sole or shared responsibility for the patronage of over 500 churches including Harwell and Chilton and assists in the appointment of clergy throughout the country.

DELIVERING TO THE CLEAVE

We are very grateful to Ruth & Edwin Stringer who have delivered the broadsheet in The Cleave for 20 years. Thank you. Please contact the office if you are able to take over from them.

MY FAITH: ESTHER CORBISHLEY



Esther Corbishley moved to Chilton Field in April 2013 with her husband Phil, with the birth of their first child imminent. They had been living in Norway for a year after getting married in Oxford in 2011. Chilton struck them as a very friendly area and they were attracted to a new build. Living near to Heathrow airport was a main factor as Phil still works for a company which is based in Norway. But they were also attracted to being near to both countryside and town, and they felt especially welcomed by the Church community in Harwell and Chilton. Esther was born in Oxford, but moved with her family to Cornwall when she was 5 years old where she made some really good friends who went to Church. So Esther, aged 6, asked her parents if she could go to Church too, and they agreed. 5 years later Esther began to think philosophically and the question of life after death began to intrigue her. She experienced pre-teen emotions which made her negative towards her school work and rules in general. A lady at her Church talked about what it meant to her personally to be a Christian and this really struck Esther who was keen to have what this lady had. The young people at the Church were encouraged to go to a local event which had a live link to a rally by Billy Graham, an evangelist from America, who had a desire to tell people about

Jesus. Esther prayed that God would take away her sin and bad attitude and give her a new life. And that's exactly what God did! She felt such a huge sense of peace and was at ease with herself, particularly when thinking about her assurance of heaven. Esther's two friends, who she had originally gone to Church to meet with, also became Christians at the event.

When Esther left school she went to study Theology in London. It was a challenging time when she thought through many aspects of her faith and found a deeper understanding of Christianity. She joined a trip to Uganda for 4 weeks which was a real



eye-opener and life-changing experience. She was able to see Christians living in great poverty who had much joy and happiness.

Following her Theology degree,

Esther did a PGCE and went to work in a primary school in East London for 5 years. This was a challenge, but an experience that Esther enjoyed. In 2007 Esther moved back to Oxford to work in a rural primary school in South Oxfordshire before marrying Phil and moving to Norway.

Esther and Phil are involved in the life of St Matthew's & All Saints' and their faith is very important to them.

If you would like to find out more about the Christian faith, why now join us for the alpha course? Contact Jonathan on 799376 or email office@harwellandchiltonchurches.org.uk.

Please submit notices to Vicky via the website, by email or by phone.

The deadline is the 2nd Wednesday of the month.

Please note that the next broadsheet will be for June.

01235 834256, office@harwellandchiltonchurches.org.uk

www.harwellandchiltonchurches.org.uk

St Matthew's Registered Charity Number 1158861