

THE RIDGEWAY BENEFICE

CONTACT

Childrey with West Challow: Letcombe Bassett: Letcombe Regis:
Sparsholt with Kingston Lisle

March 2015

VOLUME 3 Issue 4

Revd Leonora Hill
Rector of the Ridgeway Benefice

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NB rest day: Tuesday

Dear Friends,



Oxford Sponsored Abseil : Saturday 7th March 2015
Go over the edge to end poverty!

Christian Aid is celebrating its' 70th anniversary this year and in this season of Lent I want to draw your attention to a Christian Aid Oxford Sponsored Abseil down St. Mary Magdalen church tower on Saturday 7th March 2015.

Oxford is called the 'City of Dreaming Spires' for good reason: church towers and college spires rise tall all across the city. From the top of St Mary Magdalen there is a spectacular panoramic view of the town centre.

This will be the third year Christian Aid have held the abseil and I am delighted that Tor Saer from Westcot has registered to take up the challenge so please do sponsor her. You can give online at www.justgiving.com/torsaer

Helping to tackle poverty and injustice around the world Christian Aid is hoping to raise at least £10,000 from the event. So please support Tor and if you are in Oxford on the day why not volunteer to shake a bucket for an hour or two on behalf of the charity.

Blessings,
Leonora

The Revd Leonora A. Hill

CHILDREY

We are pleased to report we have raised £31,000 towards the target of £35,000 for our *Bringing St Mary's into 21st Century Appeal*. Thanks to Sue and Julian Worth for the most enjoyable Wine and Cheese Quiz which raised a further £600.

Our next fund raiser is on **Saturday 28th March at 7.30 at St Mary's**. It's an evening with the St James Singers who will be performing a programme of music and poetry from both sides of the Atlantic. Tickets are £10 (children free) to include a glass of wine and are available from the Village Shop and the Churchwardens.

Audience Required !

For the first time we are hosting a very special musical event with King Alfred's Academy on **Tuesday 10th March from 7.00 – 9.00pm at St Mary's**. A Level music students will perform and record their examination pieces. Come and listen to outstanding music delivered by very talented young musicians from our local community. Admission is free and light refreshments will be served during the interval. Further details from Linda Soames 751297 or John Martin on 751809

Tear Fund Lunch will be on Friday 6th March at the home of Ruth & Clifford Dinning, 13 Lawrence Close, Childrey from 12.30pm. All welcome.

WEST CHALLOW

We have now purchased a very good quality second hand piano organ for the church with the kind help of Trevor Lucas. It will be installed within the coming month.

On 28th February There will be a tidy up of the churchyard at 10am. Coffee and biscuits provided. More volunteers will be most welcome!

Friday 19th March at 7.30pm :

Dr Cynthia Johnson will give a talk at the village hall about an exhibition called "Cotton to gold" that is currently showing in London. Cyndy is the co-curator of the exhibition and a specialist in Medieval manuscripts, lecturing at The Courtauld Institute and the University of London. For more information and tickets please contact Penny Vaughan-Fowler at penny@wheelstone.com or phone 07818424264

KINGSTON LISLE

We are now out to tender for our restoration project as we continue onward towards our £300,000 fundraising target. Please join us for our third-last Family Communion on 15th March before the church is closed in April for the duration of the works!

LETCOMBE BASSETT

There is a proposal to hold lay led Compline services at St Michael and All Angels on the two Sundays of the month when there is no other service. To gauge how much support there would be for such a service, one will be held on Sunday 17th May. Further details will be given in the April Contact.

LETCOMBE REGIS

Saturday April 11th a Spring Concert will be held in St. Andrew's Church at 7.30pm. The accomplished Florian Quartet will be performing in the beautiful surroundings of our Medieval church. Tickets are £10 (children free) and include a glass of wine and canapés. The tickets will be available from Christine Birch, Denise Elliott and the Village Shop. Do join us for another enjoyable musical evening.

Saturday 28th February from 12 noon to 2pm. Soup lunch on in the village hall in aid of the Mission Aviation fellowship.

**CHILDREY METHODIST SERVICES -
MARCH**

**A Prayer for the appointment of the new
Bishop of Oxford**

Gracious Lord and shepherd of your pilgrim Church, We bless you and praise you that you have gathered us, from across this Diocese, to be one flock, within one fold.

By your Spirit, give us wisdom, courage and faith as we seek a faithful pastor who will sustain us on the journey, feed us with word and sacrament and nurture our 'Living Faith' inspiring us to follow you ever more closely. This we ask in the name of Jesus, our loving, faithful shepherd, who is the beginning and the end of all that we are and seek and do.
Amen

1 st March 11am	Rev Peter Bennett from Abingdon
8th March 11am	Libby Bolton from Wallingford
15 th March 11am	HC Rev Martin Smithson
22 nd March 11am	Family Service St Mary's Childrey
29 th March 11am	Michael Howlett from Didcot

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

FUNERAL

Jack Francis Bryan Clare 17th February Letcombe Regis
Waller

MARRIAGE

Christopher Eric Charles Hill 24th January West Challow
Alexandra Sophie Ivy Hecks

Lent Study Groups

We Make the Road by Walking by Brian McLaren

Hodder & Stoughton - ISBN: 978 – 1 – 444 – 70370 - 2

During Lent we will continue with our two book/bible groups that meet on a Monday morning and a Wednesday evening. We are reading *We Make the Road by Walking* by Brian McLaren:

A year-long quest for Spiritual Formation, Reorientation and Activation.

Mondays: 10:00 – 10:30am: Coffee, 10:30am – 11:45am: Book Group
Ridgeway Rectory, Letcombe Regis

Wednesdays: 7:45 – 9:15pm The Lesters, Childrey

N.B. No bible/book group on Monday 9th and Wednesday 11th March 2015

Ridgeway Churches

We are grateful to a number of volunteers in our communities who make every effort to ensure that our churches are open during day light hours. Whether you are interested in history or reflection, architecture, prayer or just passing by, our village churches are open for you.

(Due to unforeseeable circumstances, or renovations you may find a church locked. We apologise in advance for any inconvenience caused).

Ridgeway Benefice Church Services for March 2015

March	1st	8th	15th	22nd	29th
	2nd Sunday in Lent	3rd Sunday in Lent	Mothering Sunday	5th Sunday in Lent	Palm Sunday
Childrey	8:30am HC B	10:00am Family Communion	10:00am Family Service for Mothering Sunday	11:00am Family Service St Mary's Childrey	10:45am Family communion
West Challow	11:30am Family Baptism Service		8:30am HC A	11:30am Family Baptism Service	10:00am Blessing of Palms
Letcombe Regis	10:00am HC A	10:00am Matins BCP	10:00am Morning Prayer CW	10:00am HC B	
Letcombe Bassett		8:30am HC B		6:00pm Evensong BCP	
Sparsholt		6:00pm Evensong BCP		8:30am HC BCP	
Kingston Lisle			10:00am Family Communion		

HC A: Holy Communion in Modern English (Red Book); HC B: Holy Communion in Traditional English (Green Book); BCP: Book of Common Prayer; CW : Common Worship

NB There will be 6:00pm Evensong at Childrey on Sunday 15th March 2015

Letcombe Bassett	8th March	Holy Communion B	The Revd Paul Faint
Childrey	8th March	Family Communion	The Revd Paul Faint
Letcombe Regis	8th March	Morning Prayer	Lay led
Sparsholt	8th March	Evensong	Lay led
Childrey	15th March	Mothering Sunday Family Service	Lay led
Kingston Lisle	15th March	Family Communion	The Right Revd Peter Nott
Childrey	22nd March	Family Service	Lay led

Palm Sunday : 29th March 2015

10:00am St Laurence West Challow for the Blessing of the Palms
 10:15am Procession to St Mary's Childrey
 (On arrival squash available for thirsty walkers).
 10:45am Family Communion Service for Palm Sunday

Please send any items for Contact to:- Chic Cook 01235 751078 or email:
elizabeth@lesters.org.uk by the 12th March. Thank you!