



Dogs for Good


Our Coffee Cup collection during August and September is for this charity. Dogs for Good trains dogs to help people affected by disability, dementia, autism, and other conditions and mental health challenges – to live happier, healthier, more independent lives. These are dogs that open doors, that connect people, that bring families together. Dogs that help make everyday life possible in so many ways.

Thousands of people enquire about the services of Dogs for Good every year. With our support, they can reach more of them through carefully matched partnerships, family workshops and community initiatives.

Some of you will have already met William who supports the Rush family here in Stone. He came on the Walk of Witness on Good Friday, has been to Café in the Park, and was in church last week when Jo gave a wonderful talk about what William has already done for the family.

Dates for your diary


- Sat 2nd September** – Café in the Park
- Sun 3rd September** – outdoor Evensong by Hartwell Church
- Sat 9th September** – Bucks Historic Churches Ride + Stride
- Sat 16th September** – churchyard gardening
- Mon 18th September** – Socially Crafty
- Sun 1st October** – Harvest Thanksgiving
- Sat 25th November** – Christmas Coffee and Gift Fair run by the ‘Socially Crafty’ group who meet in the church on the **third Monday of each month.**



Network Name: **SJB Congregation**

Password: **StJohnBaptist**

www.stonedintonhartwell.com/donate

We now accept online donations. You can donate at: 

Rev'd Canon Dr Phil Groves: drphilgroves@gmail.com 01296 748390
 Benefice office (Chloe): office@wychertvale.org 01844 291108
 (Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri 9am-1pm)
 Pewsheets: pewsheets@stonedintonhartwell.com
 Website: www.stonedintonhartwell.com

BELONG - BELIEVE - BUILD - WITH CHRIST AS THE CORNERSTONE



Parish of Stone, Dinton and Hartwell



Churches of: St. John Baptist, STONE; Ss Peter & Paul, DINTON; Assumption of St. Mary the Virgin, HARTWELL
www.stonedintonhartwell.com

St. John the Baptist STONE

Sunday 27th August

10:30am FAMILY COMMUNION
Led by: Revd Phil Groves



EXPLORERS will meet during the service

*Lord I pray for..... my family.....and my friends
 and my neighbours at home and at work
 - for the ones I likeand for the ones I dislike.
 For those who are ill.....for those who are sad, and for those who mourn.
 I pray also for.....those caught up in natural disasters
 and those caught up in manmade disasters such as war,
 and I pray for those who are helping others who are in any kind of need.
 Bless them all Father in their various troubles
and show me how I may help. Amen*



Benefice service: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QtSvz3ymlxo>

THIS WEEK

Tues	29th	11:00am	Café in the Park - in the Jubilee Pavilion
		7:30pm	Choir practice – in the church
Sat	2nd	10:00am	Café in the Park - in the Jubilee Pavilion
Sun	3rd	9:00am	MATINS (Prayer Book Service) led by David Pickup
		10:30am	FAMILY WORSHIP led by Revd Phil Groves
		6:00pm	OUTDOOR EVENSONG – Hartwell Church led by Revd Phil Groves and David Pickup

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Oops!

Avid pewsheet and lectionary readers will have spotted the mistake in last week's pewsheet. Amidst the excitement of a weekend away in Yorkshire the editor misread the rota of gospel readings and included the one set for today a week early. Apologies. So what shall we do this week? For once we could skip across to the old testament reading for today but as it is long we will just look at the first few verses.

Exodus 1:8-14

⁸ Then a new king, to whom Joseph meant nothing, came to power in Egypt. ⁹ 'Look,' he said to his people, 'the Israelites have become far too numerous for us. ¹⁰ Come, we must deal shrewdly with them or they will become even more numerous and, if war breaks out, will join our enemies, fight against us and leave the country.'

¹¹ So they put slave masters over them to oppress them with forced labour, and they built Pithom and Rameses as store cities for Pharaoh. ¹² But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and spread; so the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites ¹³ and worked them ruthlessly. ¹⁴ They made their lives bitter with harsh labour in brick and mortar and with all kinds of work in the fields; in all their harsh labour, the Egyptians worked them ruthlessly.

This passage follows on from the account of how Egypt prospered under the wise rule of Joseph (the one with the colourful coat). His heritage should have been honoured - but he was a foreigner, as were his people who settled in Egypt when there was famine in their own land. Egypt's prosperity rested on Joseph's wise rule, but when a new King came to power it was deliberately ignored and forgotten. The king turned the Egyptians against the Israelites by noting how they had multiplied and could "if war breaks out ... join our enemies and fight against us and leave the country" (vv.9-10). Instead of expelling them from Egypt though, his answer was to enslave and exploit them. If you read on from v.14 you will discover how the oppression gets even worse, even to the point of killing all Israelite baby boys.

What message of hope can we possibly take from this? To begin with we should not be surprised when our own secular society fails to remember blessings they have inherited from Christian influences in previous generations. Much in the way our society is organised rests on the Christian heritage of leaders who have tried to apply Biblical wisdom for the common good. This is often forgotten today at a time of national soul searching, just as it was in Egypt, yet at the same time the benefits from our Christian heritage are taken for granted.

Note also how despite increasing opposition, God's people still multiplied in number even as the Egyptians ever more ruthlessly oppressed them (vv.12-14). Our God is a faithful God who gives strength to his people to endure whatever hardships surround them; and his word continues to nourish and sustain those who seek Him.

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Outdoor Evening Service

By kind permission of Hartwell House our annual evening service at Hartwell will take place

Sunday 3rd September at 6:00pm

This traditional Common Prayer service takes place out of doors, in front of Hartwell Church in the grounds of Hartwell House Hotel. This is a special service held just once a year in a tranquil outdoor setting. Please bring your own chair.

Everyone is welcome.

Service leaders: Revd Phil Groves and David Pickup



Help needed!



We NEED more people to be on a rota for flower arranging, you don't have to be an expert just willing to try!

Come and join us to make the church look even better with a nice flower arrangement.

We also NEED help with cleaning each week as cobwebs don't mind living in our beautiful church!

Would YOU be able to help please.....?

If you want to know more or can help a little then please talk to Dee or the Churchwardens and become part of the TEAM. Thank you

Church gardening

I hope you have noticed how good the grounds are looking and that the gates to Bishopstone Road and the handrails by the steps at the corner of Churchway have been painted.

We always keep an area of wild growth to encourage the butterflies but now we have a new visitor to welcome to the churchyard. He is about 2.5 – 3 inches long.

Steve Birrell saw this when he was painting the rails around the grave to the left of the newly laid turf from Churchway steps, not sure where it lives but certainly wasn't in a hurry to run away!



KEEP YOUR EYES OPEN YOU NEVER KNOW WHAT YOU MAY SEE.

**Thankyou Steve and the team for caring for the churchyard so well - ed*

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