Editorial

Dear Villagers,

We've only just survived the Brexit fiasco when we are plunged into yet another crisis. This one of Mother Nature's doing (or let's hope so!). Obviously the Coronavirus is a big ongoing problem, with the situation and guidelines changing not just day to day, but hour by hour.

As usual, the village has rallied with lots of schemes and offers of help for the elderly and vulnerable, anyone selfisolating, and hopefully everyone 'social distancing'.

Please read through Contact this month, and see what is on offer - from help with shopping and having a friendly chat to getting your meals cooked and delivered by the fantastic team at the Carpenters Arms.

What an amazing village we live in!

Have a very Happy Easter and let's hope we all come through this safely.

Lois

DISCLAIMER

Please note that Contact Magazine does not officially endorse any advertising material included in this publication

Our preferred typeface is Times New Roman for regular articles and notices. Submissions should be suitable for A5 format. Submissions may be abridged for space reasons and inclusion it at the discretion of the Editor/Management Team.

March copy by 12th February please. PROMPT PAYMENT OF ADVERTISING INVOICES WOULD BE GREATLY APPRECIATED CONTACT Harlington Village Magazine Editor Lois Fowler Editorial Letterbox Contact Magazine 15 Park Leys, Harlington LU5 6LY e-mail and advertising harlingtonvillagemagazine@yahoo.co.uk

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My name is Jack Chauhan, I live in Harlington and own a family Garage in Luton Beech Hill Garage (Est 1977) 110 Marsh Road Luton LU3 2NL **Tel 01582 504929/ 07860209098**.

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I would appreciate it, if next time you want your car serviced/repaired that you consider me.

I can pick-up/return your car/van from the village.

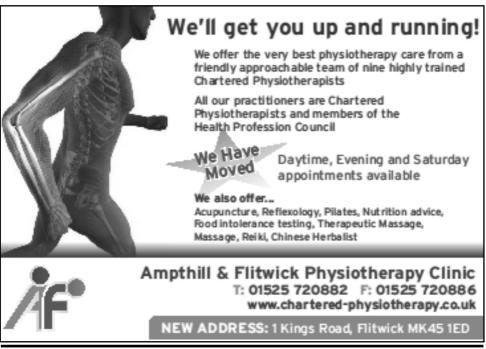
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A Letter from the Methodist Minister

As I write this it would seem our nation is in the grip of fear. Schools and public places are still open and we are being told to self-isolate if we think we may have caught coronavirus. By the time you read this the situation is likely to have changed again.

I use the term 'fear' because many of the items we expect to see on the shelves in our supermarkets are as rare as that 'must have' toy that will see some parents going to great lengths to get in order their children will not be disappointed Christmas morning. To learn that people have been fighting over toilet rolls in shop aisles would not be out of place in a comedy sketch – and yet this is evidence of how desperate we can get.

I am obviously on the database of Sainsburys because I received an email from the Managing Director that several times requests that I only buy what I need. I am aware that there will be those in our towns and villages and Harlington too, who can only afford to buy provisions for a week or two at a time. The behaviour of those intent to clear the shelves may be adding extra anxiety for them.

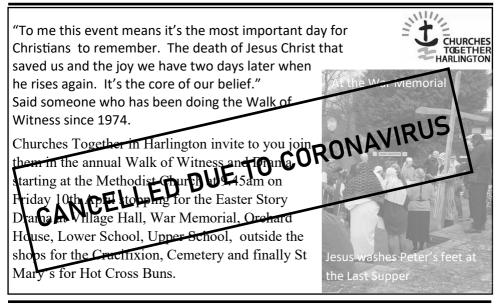
It seems to me that we can have one of two responses to where we find ourselves at this moment in time - we can go the route of making sure that 'I and mine are ok and that is all that matters' or we can look out to those around us in the community and ensure that they are ok as well. Maybe a phone chat for those who are in isolation because of health or age, those who are able to shop for those who cannot, those who have more than they need to share with those who have little or nothing. This is not rocket science just people being the best that we can be and creating and sustaining a climate of care and compassion. I know which society I would rather live in.

I am not in the position of condemnation – fear leads us to act in ways that may be less desirable. I often think that we live our lives under the illusion that we are in complete control. And yet many of us know that without any notice something can happen that completely changes our lives. We can live with fear and worry about what could happen or we can live with the confidence and hope that enables us to live in the fullest way possible, and that accepts that there are things which are beyond our control. We can take all the precautions being recommended in the face of this virus but we cannot guarantee the outcome. As a person of faith my security and my foothold is in God. This doesn't mean that I am exempted from illness or bad things happening; later this month in our churches we will be celebrating Easter which has at its heart rejection, a tortured death and love that brings new life, but it does mean that the love of God and the way of living that is seen and taught in the life of Jesus and that leads to a fullness that nothing else can match is sufficient for me. And though sometimes I might fear, my looking to God and the trust that I have offers me an alternative path.

May you be blessed by the things that money cannot buy but are lived and shared: love, faith and hope, now and always,



Walk of Witness plus Crafternoon Tea



Crafternoon Tea

What can you do with cross stitch or other embroideries? Well, this depends on how big you want to go – one of the group is making a cross-stitch bedspread – in stages, a square, perhaps 8 inches across, for each child and grandchild. Another makes cross stitch cards and small gifts.

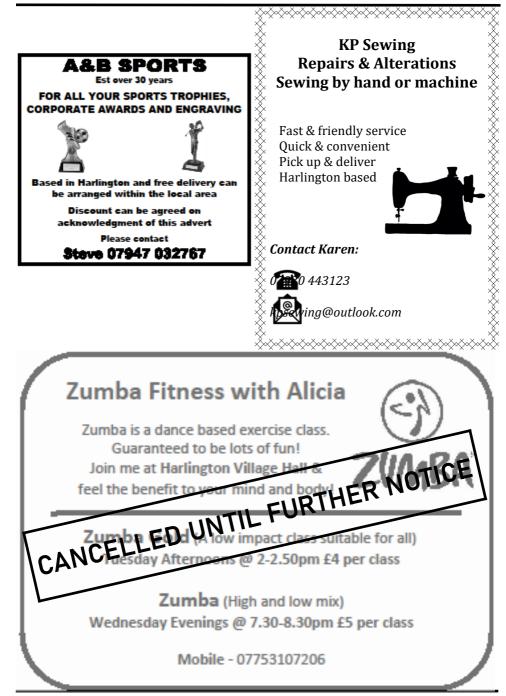
I have two cross stitch pictures hanging in my sitting room, mostly because I like to experiment with styles, and my mother has two free embroidery pictures on her sitting room wall.

Mats, tray cloths, dressing table sets, table cloths, anti-macassars (old enough to remember those?), even towels, can all be embellished with embroidery of any kind, as can blouses and skirts. You don't have to have a family history of craft, though - just try something out.

If you have not been to the group, and would like to be included in conversations, please contact me.



Contact: Tina Salmon (christinasalmon60@gmail.com), 874481



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Harlington Counselling



Harlington Neighbourhood Help

(Working in partnership with the Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity) CORONAVIRUS

As a group of village-based volunteers we usually help residents unable to use public transport to get to the doctors, hospital, dentist, optician, shops. Many of these trips are being cancelled as understandably, many of our village clients, and some of our volunteers, are now self-isolating to reduce the risk of catching the Coronavirus.

All our regular volunteers are advanced Disclosure and Barring (D&B) checked and fully insured. There is no charge for very local journeys or tasks – but we do pay out of pocket expenses so there are small charges for longer journeys.

In the current situation there are many residents offering help to each other within the village, through all the various channels, including us. In addition to this great work we are happy to hear from and coordinate any volunteers who would like to work with HNH and do things such as collecting and dropping off shopping etc, which do not need D&B checks. If you think you can help, please contact **Sue Whittle, HNH Secretary**, on **07887 708304** rather than the main HNH number.

We are also coordinating volunteers who can offer to be a contact point in particular roads or streets, but this will take a few days to get into operation. These may also be phone buddies. If you would like a volunteer contact or phone buddy (someone who will check you are ok, call to chat etc) and you haven't heard anything by March 31st, please call the HNH number. The lovely folk in our village want to help.

Finally, if anyone has any surplus items which are non-perishable, in their original sealed packaging, and in date, please take them to Sanjeev in the Harlington shop. He is happy to store these items - like having our own food bank. If you are self-isolating do not go to Sanjeev's yourself, but call HNH instead.

If you, or someone you know, needs help with something you cannot do yourself, or if you want to volunteer, please give us a ring. If your call is not answered straight away, please leave a message and we will get back to you.



Help line 07849 835410



If you wish to volunteer call our Secretary: Sue Whittle 07887 708304

PLEASE BE SAFE. HNH **does not** cold call. If you arrange via HNH for a volunteer to call at your home, you will be given the time they will arrive, and their name. If in doubt ring our phone line - and remember to keep at the recommended social distance of at least 2 metres. We can drop and pick up, pre-arranged, at your doorstep.

Christian Aid Week 10-16th May 2020 *plus* A Poem



As you may know, Harlington volunteers traditionally organise collections, a service jointly with all three churches, and a meal of some sort (breakfast, dinner or soup lunch) during Christian Aid week.

Because of the Covid-19 situation a decision has been made that we will not be participating in this way this year in order to safeguard the health and safety of our volunteers and those who participate and give.

Christian Aid is working on alternative plans that will allow people to take part by post, text and online. If infection rates start to develop as they are in Europe, then people in poorer countries will be hit even harder. Many are already living with reduced health resilience because of extreme poverty, or in overcrowded humanitarian camps and in countries which do not have the healthcare infrastructures needed to combat widespread disease.

For updates from Christian Aid please the website which is: <u>https://www.christianaid.org.uk/appeals/key-appeals/christian-aid-week</u>

Thank you

Christian Aid Co-ordinator for Harlington

The Real Pam Ayres - by Duncan Willox

I wish I was the real Pam Ayres, You'd think I was so funny, And with my rhyming couplets I'd be earing pots of money. With me accent and me pauses I'd be perky, I'd be pert, And to be a little naughty Word order I'd invert.

When I said I'd tradesmen in, You'd know a verse was coming, I never should have let those men Fiddle with me plumbing. I'd talk about my body, How it's sagging round the edges, I've no longer got the clearance When I'm leaning over hedges.

I'd write about my husband, You'd think his grievance real, But when I unleashed me unbridled lust The spokes would fly off his wheel. I'd lament the damage to me teeth, Each filling and occlusion, More will.i.am than Shakespeare, You'd be under no illusion I'd confide, if asked to represent mankind, On a voyage deep in space, I'd say, "can I take me chickens, So I don't feel out of place", And when we came to lift off, I'd don my helmet without fuss, I'd be up the gangway in me wellies, Then say, "I think I'll go by bus".

I'd say, "when we goes on holiday, I'm always packing half our flat, We actually live in a house, But not much rhymes with that. And have I packed me vibrating thing? I always likes to check -Well it gives me so much comfort, Massaging me neck"



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Messy Church plus Harlington in Bloom



While we know the backgrounds of some of the disciples, we don't know what most of them were before they followed Jesus. There are even different versions of their calls by Jesus, and different list of names.

We know that Andrew and Simon Peter were brothers and fishermen, as were James and John, and both sets of brothers had boats, although not quite like the boats in our sand pictures. Jesus told them that they would fish for people. Matthew (also called Levi) was a tax collector in a tax booth, Nathaniel, sitting under a fig tree, was brought to Jesus by Phillip.

In our February Messy Church we made fish in various materials, including marzipan, coloured pictures of boats with paint or sand, and made a tax booth, and miniature fig trees. In our celebration, we heard some of the stories of the calls of the disciples and sang songs about them.





We then had tea, including the peach flan we made, because peach slices in jelly look a bit like fish(!)

For colour pictures of the February and March Messy Churches, see the Methodist Church's Facebook page.

In view of the current advice on Coronavirus, we feel we must suspend our Messy Church meetings at present. We do this with heavy hearts and much regret. We will come back as soon as we can. In the meantime, I hope to post some details for a virtual Messy Church on the HMC Facebook page or website.

Our next get together will be publicised in due course.

Clive

Harlington in Bloom

The strong winds put paid to a few of our lovely Spring flowers, but weren't they a picture? A bit of colour at a time of year when we could all do with a bit of cheering up.



Our first tidy up of the year took place in March, as well as the

judging of the Spring front gardens – look out for the results in May's Contact. Our next work party is still going ahead on **Saturday 25th April**, meeting at 10am by the Village Hall. More help always welcome. However, please do not feel you have to come if you are self-isolating or at all worried about the situation.

OPEN GARDENS: planned to be held on **Sat 27th June** has now been **CANCELLED** until further notice.

Contact Ian on 874720 or Tricia on 07711 511729.

HiB Committee

LiFE Church plus Harlington Hedgehogs



Loving God... Loving His people... Loving the world

Because we need to follow advice and minimise the risk to everyone and do all we can to combat the spread of this virus amongst our communities, Life Church will not be meeting on Sundays for a while but we are still going to connect and care for each other in other ways.

As we are part of the Pioneer Network and linked into the Midlands area Hub we are encouraging folk to link in to talks each Sunday from Open Heaven Church Loughborough via Youtube.

You can find their website at: openheaven.org

The live stream will start at the same time as their normal corporate gatherings, and will allow space for worship, a talk and reflection.

Live streams will start at 10:30 (family worship) and 16:30 (18-30's) with talks starting at 11:00 and 17:00.

In these unprecedented times we all need to be looking out for and caring for one another. Please contact us at Life Church

lifechurchcentralbeds@gmail.com

if there is anything you think we may be able to help with.

Harlington Hedgehogs

After the winter, hedgehogs will be getting ready to come out of hibernation, if they haven't already. There has been at least one report in the village of two hedgehogs seen feeding, so now is the time to start putting food back out (meaty cat food/biscuits – not fish flavour) and water - hedgehogs will be hungry!

Thank you to residents who have been kind enough to display hedgehog awareness posters to try and bring our hedgehog population to the attention of drivers driving through. This may slow drivers down and prevent hedgehogs deaths in our village.



The Harlington Hedgehog Facebook page will assist with surveying the number of hedgehogs seen locally and hopefully we will look forward to seeing higher numbers than last year. The facebook page allows villagers to share tips on how to care for hedgehogs and other wildlife that may need assistance. Please join if you are interested! (Leighton Buzzard HedgehogRescue: 01525 759916)

Frances Mitchell

Harlington WI plus Advert



Harlington WI met on Tuesday February 18th for their monthly meeting in the Village Hall. Our President Lin Merrison welcomed members and visitors and we sang Jerusalem.

INSPIRING WOMEN Once the business part of the meeting had been completed, Lin welcomed our speaker for the evening **Wendy Warren**. She explained how her business had started by wanting to work while also looking after her children. She was interested in jewellery so she sourced items that she liked and could sell. She added scarves to compliment her jewellery that would be popular with her customers. She was interested in tying them in different ways in order to dress up or dress down an outfit. This proved so popular that Wendy was able to open her shop in Harpenden and run her website.

Wendy showed us, by tying knots in various ways and folding scarves differently, you can change a scarf quite easily for all sorts of occasions. There are videos on her website (wendywarrenjewellery.co.uk) that show some examples plus written instructions under 'How to' in the drop-down menu.

The audience really enjoyed the demonstration and loved looking at all the items for sale. It was a very entertaining evening enjoyed by all.

The raffle was won by our member Pat King.

Unfortunately until the CoronaVirus situation is sorted, we have cancelled all further meetings until further notice. We will let you know when they resume.

For further information please contact Lin Merrison on 01525 757161.



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The Carpenters Arms Delivery Service



"We're all going into an isolation break We won't see you for a month or two But don't you worry cause We've got a **takeaway** Which we will deliver to youuuuuu"

Delivery starting – Monday 23rd March 2020

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MENU

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Our Small Appetites are reduced to £6.00

Cottage pie Popcorn chicken with chips or mash Cod goujons with chips or mash

To Order Please Call: 07955 599706

Harlington Community Directory

CHURCHES

PARISH CHURCH: (Minister Revs. Linda & Nigel Washington):.....<u>lindajwash@hotmail.com</u> 01525 714442 ST JOHN'S CHURCH RC

Secretary: PaulaGlen:	.parish.holyfamilyandstjohn@northamptondiocese.	org01582 502400
METHODIST CHURCH Senior St	teward: Tina Salmon	01525 874481
BAPTIST CHURCH Contact: Sue	Yule	01582 875410
LiFE CHURCH Key Leader: Carol	Gibbswww.lifechurch-beds.co	o.uk 07890 692574

EDUCATION

HARLINGTON LOWER SCHOOL, Westoning Road	harlingtonlower@cbc.beds.sch.uk_01525 752500
FRIENDS OF HARLINGTON LOWER SCHOOL Secretary: C	Claire Street <u>fhlsa99@gmail.co.uk</u>
PARKFIELDS MIDDLE SCHOOL Toddington Head:	
James Hughes	.parkfields@cbc.beds.sch.uk 01525 872555
HARLINGTON UPPER SCHOOL, Goswell End Road, Head:	
Shawn Fell	enquiries@harlington.org 01525 755100

HISTORY AND ENVIRONMENT

HOBBIES, ARTS AND CRAFTS

CRAFTERNOON TEA Tina Salmon	christinasalmon60@gmail.com 01525 874481
GESTALT THEATRE (Adults) Natalie Bishop	gestalt.theatre@gmail.com 07793 116621
HARLINGTON GARDENERS' SOCIETY, Tony Roberts	
HARLINGTON IN BLOOM Tricia Murphy	tricia.murphy5@ntlworld.com 01525 754241
HARLINGTON PERFORMS Natalie Bishop,	
HARLINGTON SOCIETY OF ARTS & CRAFTS Julie T	yler07718 230940
JIGSAW LIBRARY Tricia Murphy	
SEWING AND KNITTING FOR CHARITIES, Vicky You	ke <u>v.yorke@sky.com</u> 01525 872267

LAW AND ORDER

AMPTHIL AND FLITWICK AREA,	www.police.uk/bedfordshire/70 General Enquiries 101
BEDFORDSHIRE POLICE	www.bedfordshire.police.uk 1234 841212
STREET WATCH, HARLINGTON	<u>harlington@street-watch.org</u>

LIBRARIES

BARTON LIBRARY Bedford Road, Barton MK45 4PP	01582 881101
FLITWICK LIBRARY Coniston Road, Flitwick MK45 1QJ	01525 715266
TODDINGTON LIBRARY 9 Market Square Toddington LU5 6BP	01525 873626

TIMES Barton, and Toddington Tuesday, 9am – 1pm

Wednesday, 2pm – 6pm

Friday, 9am – 1pm and 2pm – 6pm

Thursday, 9am – 1pm

Flitwick

Tuesday – Friday, 9am – 6pm Saturday, 9am – 4pm

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Harlington Community Directory

LOCAL SERVICES
The SHOP & Post Office, Lincoln Way01525 872504
HEADSTRONG, HAIRDRESSERS Lincoln Way01525 875008
THE LOUNGE Lincoln Way01525 876977
MEDICAL SUNDON MEDICAL CENTRE, 142-144 Sundon Park Road, Luton
General Enquiries
HARLINGTON SURGERY Westoning Road (Operates with Sundon Centre)
Book on Line:www.to.ddingtondoctors.co.uk DENTIST 23 High Street Flitwickwww.flitwickhighstreetdental.co.uk 0715550/717288
DENTIST 19 Dunstable Street, Ampthill www.ampthilldentalpractice.co.uk 403205
PHYSIOTHERAPISTS 7 Station Square, Flitwickwww.chartered-physiotherapy.co.uk 720882
MEETING PLACES
HARLINGTION METHODIST HALLShmc.bookings@ntlworld.com 01525 754527
HARLINGTON PARISH HALL http://www.harlington-pc.gov.uk 01525 875933
HARLINGTON VILLAGE HALL
MEN & WOMEN'S GROUPS
WOMEN'S INSTITUTE Lin Merrison, 103a Westoning Road01525 757161
LADIES BRIGHT HOUR Barbara Letting 77 Westoning Road01525 875105 LIVING TESTIMONIES (Ladies Christian Fellowship) Lorraine Landon01525 875595
LIVING TESTIVIONIES (Ladies Christian Fellowship) Lorraine Landon
POLICTICAL PARTIES CONSERVATIVE PARTY
Mid Beds Conservative Association Shefford <u>office@midbedsconservatives.uk</u> 01462 811992
LABOUR PARTY Mid Beds Labour Partywww.midbedslabour.org.uk
LIBERAL DEMOCRATS Central Beds Liberal Democratswww.centralbedslibdems.org.uk
PRE-SCHOOL
HARLINGTON 0-4 CLUB (Playgroup) Aimee Boothroyd (co-ordinator)07825 272007
HARLINGTON VILLAGE PRE-SCHOOLstaff@harlingtonvillagepreschool.org.uk 07963 534038
SOCIAL AND WELFARE SERVICE
HARLINGTON NEIGHBOURHOOD HELP07849 835410
CITIZEN'S ADVICE BUREAU Community House, Court House, Woburn Street, Ampthill MK45 2HX Mon – Thurswww.citizensadvice.org.uk 402742
ARAGON HOUSING
ROYAL BRITISH LEGION - Graham Woodbridgegraham_woodbridge@hotmail.co.uk 01525 635650
TRANSPORT
MID-BEDS LINK-A-RIDE COMMUNITY TRANSPORT <u>http://www.link-a-ride.co.uk</u> 01525 840511 (for people with personal mobility problems)
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HARLINGTON DRAMA CLUB now GESTALT CHILDREN'S THEATRE
GESTALT THEATRE (Children's, and Youth) Natalie Bishop <u>gestalt.theatre@gmail.com</u> 07793 116621
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2 nd BROWNIES Jane Stynesjanestynes@googlemail.com 01525 753612 1 st GUIDES Mary Gadsden, 74 Brian Roadjanestynes@googlemail.com.01525 872915
BEAVERS, CUBS, SCOUTS, EXPLORERS, NETWORK
Group Scout Leader: Barry Denton, 'Tuctin', 76 Goswell End Road01525 630824

Harlington Village Hall plus HVH 100 Club

 \bigcirc n 20th March the executive members of Harlintgon Village Hall Trustees convened an emergency meeting.

With so many restrictions from the government, and advice from our Village Halls advisor at the BRCC part of Central Beds Council, it became clear that we couldn't maintain the hall under the conditions laid down. The outcome for us as Trustees was very difficult, but with all the evidence and a steep decline in bookings, coupled with concern over the spread of the Coronavirus pandemic. We were left with no other option other than to close the Hall.

We have supported the Village and beyond since 1950 with a myriad of activities, and hope that we will continue to do so in the future. The officers look forward, and appreciate your continued support and together we will get through this but the time scale is undefined.

Our staff are very important to us and we will put in place measures to retain their services. All other expenditure will be scaled back to a minimum level, and we are having talks with our contracted services with regards to reducing our outlay.

So on Monday 23rd March the Village Hall will close for the foreseeable future.

Thank you again for your support, please look after yourselves especially the elderly and vulnerable, and if you can stay healthy.

Warmest regards

Andy Bishop Chair Harlington Village Hall Trustees

HVH 100 Club

14

The winner for February was Cara Thurston-Lack of Leagrave with ticket no. 81, and Rik Stokes of Greenfield (Ticket no. 53) was the winner for March.

If you wish to be part of the 100 Club and have the chance to win £50, please contact our Treasurer, Dave Thew at <u>hvhtreasurer@btinternet.com</u>. The money raised each month helps to fund the upkeep of the Village Hall.

Barbara Thurston, Secretary, HVH Management Committee



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HHT plus Harlington Society of Art & Crafts

Unfortunately due to the current situation our AGM & Social Evening which was to be held on Saturday 18th April has been cancelled. The car trip to Ashwell Village and Museum on Sunday 17th May has also been cancelled.

The **car trip** on **Sunday 28th June**, to **Harpenden** hasn't yet been cancelled but obviously the situation is changing from day to day and we will keep you informed.



Likewise for our annual **Coach Trip on Saturday 18th July** which will hopefully take us to the historic and beautiful city of **Winchester**.

Barbara Thurston HHT Secretary

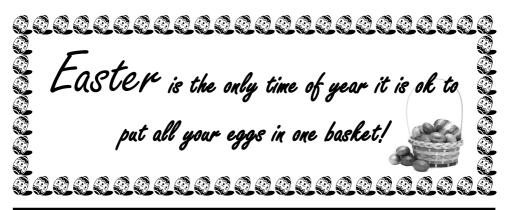
Harlington Society of Art & Crafts



On 11th March we held our 'Origami Flower' workshop with Arlene from Arloarts. Destpite the threat of the dreaded Coronavirus, it was well attended. (It takes a lot to deter keen crafters!). Arlene, with the help of her daughter Zoe, provided plenty of

intricate patterned and brightly coloured origami paper, which we transformed into beautiful flowers. Bright green tissue paper and natural string wrapped around the blooms finished of this very enjoyable evening of crafting. Look out on Facebook to see our fantastic results!.

Obviously now, due to the Coronavirus situation there will be no further meetings until the situation improves, and unfortunately we have had to cancel the Jewellery Workshop with Lyn and Emma, which was due to be held on 22nd April. We will keep you updated. In the meantime, keep well and safe.... And to misquote Bruce Forsyth..." Keep Crafting"!



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CALL TODAY: 07908 464618 01525 752792

Methodist Chapel Services and Events in April

In the light of the Government advice that people adopt social distancing, the Methodist Church nationally has decided to suspend services and other activities until further notice.

We are aiming to maintain contact with people through social media and other means, and will be providing worship mate-

rial for use by individuals, which we will distribute electronically or otherwise for those not on the internet.

We are also hoping to develop more creative ways of keeping together while apart in conjunction with the other village churches who are in the same position.

Like many others in the village, members will be helping those who can't get out, mainly through Harlington Neighbourhood Help.

Information will be made available through our Facebook page and website, and through the village Facebook page, and also through our notice sheet and notice board.

Our primary point for contact will be Tina Salmon 01525 874481, or email christinasalmon60@gmail.com.

Ladies Bright Hour Weekly Fellowship

CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

Methodist Events

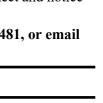
COFFEE MORNING - Cancelled until further notice

ROOM BOOKINGS

Contact Trevor Caveney if you are interested in booking any of our Halls, Rooms or the Church. The Halls are suitable for meetings, groups, clubs and particularly good for children's parties. Reasonable prices

Tel 01525 754527 or hmc.bookings@ntlworld.com

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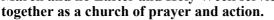




St. Mary's Services for April

ear all, We hope and pray that you are well in these challenging days and send our love and prayers to you all.

In light of recent Government Corona Virus guidance, and in line with advice from our Archbishops, it is with a heavy heart that we confirm that all services of public worship at Harlington Church are cancelled until further notice. There will be no Sunday service on Sunday 22 March and no Easter and Holy Week services, but we are called to come



This dramatic announcement to cease public worship, includes Church midweek meetings, meetings in homes, and Sunday services. We are advised not to physically gather - but we can gather as a community, in isolation, in our homes to pray each day when we all stop, pause, and pray for those in the medical field, the sick, our Government, our neighbourhood and neighbours, and family. Shall we agree to stand together at 12 noon and 7pm in the evening each day to pray?

At the moment, the ceasing of public worship is with the exception of weddings and funerals but new defined requirements have also been issued by the Church of England for these events. On any occasions when one or two of us meet, we are to adopt strict social distancing rules and to implement the hand-washing and no physical contact rules, and if we have any of the CoronaVirus symptoms, to isolate immediately.

We will inform you as quickly as possible when the public worship situation changes and assure you of our deepest care and concern for you.

We are planning how we might continue 'being church' during this crisis. We hope that the church can be open each day, at least for an hour, so that people can individually pray and light a candle if they wish. Details of this will be confirmed shortly. Clergy are encouraged by the Church of England to include prayers for the church, and for the community and beyond during Morning Prayer each day. So, please, if you have any specific prayers you would like us to say to support you, do let us know via the contact numbers or emails below.

We are also keen to support those in particular need. Requests for help, support or prayer can be made to the Ministers Rev'd Nigel and Linda Washington or Dr Robert Johns on the contact links below and Tricia has already issued hers. Tricia Murphy, Church Warden is also co-ordinating with other village community groups to form a support network for the people of Harlington, so if you have time, resources or skill to offer, please let Tricia know.

For further information and updates for prayer and worship resources, please check online at this Church's website <u>www.harlingtonchurch.org</u> or *A Church Near You website*, the Church of England website, or the St Albans diocesan website, or on St Mary's church facebook page. Information will be uploaded and updated, over the coming days.



St Mary's Services for April (cont/d)

The Ministers and pastorally trained members of Church are available to pray and chat with you by phone, and are also looking to introduce other ways of 'social distance' communicating (Skype, What's App and so on, depending on competence and facility). There are other options that we are also investigating as a means to make sure everyone is looked after and the Gospel continues to go out to the neighbourhood.

On Sunday at 7pm we are being asked by the Archbishops to show solidarity with others across the nation, by putting a lit candle in our windows to reflect the light of Jesus Christ, to shine out to all around, offering, as He does, love and an eternal hope. Please join us in doing this.

This is a defining moment for the Church of England. Are we truly a church for all, or just the church for ourselves? We encourage you to help us to be a special sort of church in Harlington, and beyond, in these coming months: hopeful and rooted in Christ, shining forth to those around us in the offering of prayer and praise, and overflowing in generous service to the world.

Please, therefore, join us in this great challenge; and pray for our Government and nation, for each other, and especially for those who work in our health and emergency services.

Finally, put your hope in God, love one another deeply from the heart, look out for one another, as we become Christ's example in the community and in our homes.

With love in Christ and with our prayers

Revds Nigel and Linda Washington 01525 714442

Linda 07715 603557 linda@harlingtonchurch.org or revdtoddington@gmail.com

Nigel 07722297299 nigel@harlingtonchurch.org or nwashy2@gmail.com Robert Johns robert@harlingtonchurch.org

St Mary's Church will be open at the following times for independent, solitary prayer, not public worship or services:

- Sundays 9.45-10.45 am
- ◆ Tuesdays 9.00-10.00 am
- Wednesdays 9.00-10.00 am
- Thursdays 9.00-10.00 am
- ◆ Fridays 10.00-11.00 am



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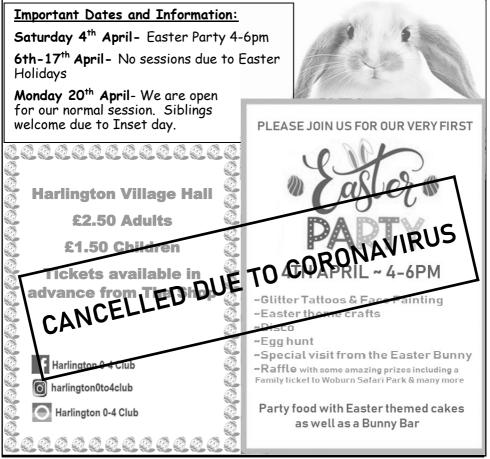
0 - 4 Club & Easter Party



Harlington 0-4 club is a playgroup held in **Harlington Village Hall** for children aged nought to four.

We run our playgroup on **Mondays** and **Fridays 10-11.30am**. Each session costs £4 per family or £3 per family for members. Your first session is free and no booking is required.

Mums, dads, grandparents and carers are all welcome to come and play with their children and enjoy a chat and a cup of tea with other parents. Each of our sessions are different. We provide a range of activities for the children including crafts, cooking, trikes and ride-ons, play-dough, small world play, dressing up, stories, songs as well as many other activities. We also have a dedicated baby area.



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35th Harlington Village Show *plus* HGS



Here we go again, planning and planting for our 35th Show to be held on Saturday 29th August. The committee have just about finalised the schedule, and all the vegetable and fruit classes remain the same as last year. For those of you who want to get started already,

here is a preview of the Handicraft and Photography classes:

Handicrafts

A knitted doll (The doll will be to a pattern, and the schedule and our Facebook page will include a link to a knitted doll pattern. More information to follow).

A sewn item to welcome a new baby.

A card commemorating 125 years of the National Trust.

An origami flower.

An object to decorate your garden.

Photography

"Flowers"

"Fruit"

"Vegetables"

There will also be photography classes for children aged 8-11 and 12-16 years.

Schedules are delivered to all homes in Harlington at the beginning of July. Who can enter the Show? Any Harlington resident, as well as members of Harlington WI, Harlington Gardeners' Society, or children who attend either the Lower or Upper School. Don't forget to check our Facebook page. For information contact Tricia: 01525 754241, tricia.murphy5@ntlworld.com

HVS Committee

Harlington Gardeners' Society



SPRING SOCIAL The Spring Social, which was to have been a talk by Michael Brown entitled "Beath in the Garden - Poisonous Plants" plannet for Friday 24th April has unfortmanivoen killed off by the Coronavirus!

Hopefully we will reschedule this event when things return to normal.

ANNUAL COACH TRIP

Further updates on the proposed Coach Trip to Kew Gardens on Saturday 27th June will follow in due course. *Tony Roberts – HGS Secretary*





e: ampthill@nevillefuneralservice.com

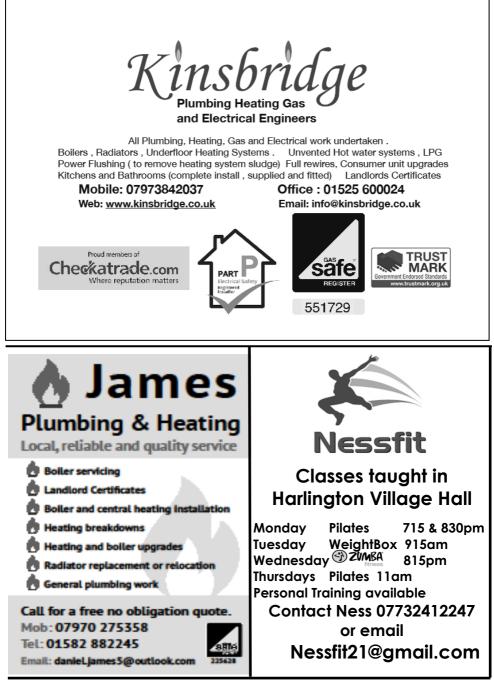
t: 01582 490005

e: luton@nevillefuneralservice.com

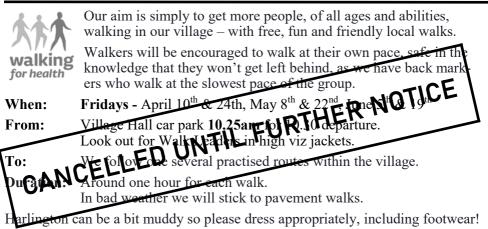


www.nevillefuneralservice.com

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Walking4Health plus Flittabus plus ADALHS



Just turn up - no need to book.

Any queries, please contact Suzan Whittle, Walk Co-ordinator and Leader on 07887 708304, <u>suzanwhittle@hotmail.com</u>

Flittabus

What a shame—we were all set to announce that the Traffic Commissioner has agreed to two permanent service routes from Harlington to Flitwick (with one



of them now going to Ampthill too) then ... Unfortunately, since we heard this news, the service will be suspended due to Covid-19 - either due to lack of drivers or government guidelines - please see their website,

(<u>https://flittabus.co.uk/</u>), call the Flittabus help line on 07960 388111 or me, Sue Whittle, Secretary, Harlington Neighbourhood help on 07887 708304 for updates or if you have any questions.

ADALHS



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