#### **Editorial**

Dear Villagers,

Well here we are - the second period of lockdown (and hopefully the last!). Everyone has rallied to the cause with Harlington Neighbourhood Help inundated with people volunteering to help. Sanjeev and Sunita going above and beyond (as usual) in The Shop. The Carpenters Arms are keeping us all fed with their amazing delivery service. Jo and the fantastic team at The Plaice to Eat are now delivering to the village on a Thursday and, just as we were going to press, Bakerman have told us about their Tuck Boxes of various sweet treats—see their website www.bakermancakedesign.shop/shop or call 01525 591017. Order by 11am Wednesday for delivery either Thurs or Friday. And finally a big THANK YOU to the local farmers for putting up with the extra footfall of us villagers enjoying the stunning countryside they are farming whilst we are exercising both ourselves and our dogs. It is greatly appreciated.

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.

June copy by 12th May 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

#### Distribution

Fran Plank 01525 872481

#### **Postal Subscriptions**

Betty Goodge 01525 873725

#### Treasurer

Sue Whittle 07887 708304

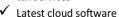
#### **Contents**

Letter from the LiFE Church	4
20/20 Churches Together	4
Virtual Walk of Witness	5
Harlington Neighbourhood Help	8&9
Harlington Village Pre-School	9
Virtual Christian Aid Week	10
LiFE Church	11
Messy Church	11
Harlington WI	12
Carpenters Arms Delivery Menu	13
Harlington Parish Lands Trust	14&15
HVH 100 Club	15
Fluffy Cloud Brain Tumour Reseach	h 16
Harlington Society of Art & Crafts	17
Harlington Methodist Chapel	21
Coronavirus - God's Wake up Call	22
St Mary's Church	23
Harlington in Bloom	23
0-4 Club	24
Crafternoon Tea	24
Harlington Village Show	25
Harlington Gardeners' Society	25
Flittabus	25
Harlington Hedgehogs	28



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## LiFE Church letter plus 20/20 Churches Together

CHURCH

An English mans home is his castle is a phrase that is often quoted. Over the past few weeks, it may even be months by the time you read this, it has been true for each one of us.

Markington A castle is a type of fortified structure with large thick walls, a moat in order to stop the enemy invading and conquering the residents. Our home may not have thick walls and be surrounded by water with a draw-bridge, only allowing access to welcomed guests but it has felt a safe place.

On March 23rd we were told to isolate and stay in our homes, only go out to do essential jobs like buying food, for medical needs, caring for vulnerable people, and for essential work. We retreated into our homes, our fortress, a place where we felt safe, secure and protected. If people came they were invited to ring the

bell and step away (at least 2 metres) leaving any items on the door step prior to being collected and cleaned to prevent any virus penetrating into the home. Our foundations have been rocked, life has changed and will never be the same again. When we have been within our four wall we have still felt isolated and lonely, desperate to see a smiling face and experience a hug, or the warmth of a human touch. We have questioned if we are safe, are we fully protected against this virus that has invaded our lives.



Where have you felt secure, loved and safe? In Gods word, the Bible, it tells us 'He is my loving God and my fortress, my stronghold and my deliverer, my shield in whom I take refuge..... (Psalm 144:2). I know that during this time I have been drawn closer to God, spending time, looking at his creation, reading his word and talking to him (praying).

How have you spent your time tucked in your home? Have you looked towards the God of hope? In this time of fear, confusion and despair, it's time to lower our draw-bridge and allow the God of hope into our lives.

Love and prayers

Carol Gibbs
Life Church.

## 20/20 Churches Together

C hurches Together in Harlington was planning a big celebration on Bury Orchard on 4th July but this has now been postponed because of Covid 19. Planning has been suspended until we know what restrictions we will be under in the summer. At some point we pray there will be a time when we can be thankful we have come through this period of distancing and isolation and can celebrate heartily as the village of Harlington.

#### Virtual Walk of Witness

It was going to be the best ever. A few years ago we started adding drama to the Good Friday Walk of Witness. Each year since we had increased the amount, added more costumes. This year it was going well. Life Church were organising. (The three churches take it in turns). They had the scripts written, costumes were made or bought, a list had gone round for people to take part. Rob Whittle had been asked to reprise his role as Jesus. And then Coronavirus - the Churches were shut. People couldn't get together.

From the churches' point of view, Easter is the worst time to be shut. We certainly get more people in at Christmas, and you can't have Easter without Christmas. But Christmas is meaningless without Easter. (I like to have at least one Easter song at Christmas, to remind us why Jesus came as a baby, and a Christmas carol at Easter, so we remember the humanity of Christ).

And there it sat. But how can we not witness at Easter? I had pictures of most of the locations – I took them to be cover pictures for Contact. As part of one day's exercise, I took pictures of the other locations and I was sent pictures of previous walks. Then people in the three churches were asked to say prayers for the locations, and read the Bible readings – no drama, time didn't permit that, since we couldn't get together. New skills were learnt by several, as they recorded on their phones, their tablets or their computers. We even had one video just for the sound track. These came to me using Dropbox, or by email. I had WAV files, MP3s, M4As, MP4s. And they all went together to produce a virtual walk. If you haven't seen it, and at last check it had had 160 views, it's still available on YouTube. Search for Harlington Methodist Church - you can find it on our YouTube channel. You may also still be able to find it through St. Mary's excellent website pages.

So have a look at our "Walk" of Witness. And next year? It's going to be the best ever! The scripts are written and costumes are prepared!



Harlington Village Magazine May 2020 Page 5

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## Harlington Neighbourhood Help

(Working in partnership with the Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity)

#### Continued support for Harlington residents affected by Coronavirus restrictions

As lockdown commenced, and the 12 week 'stay at home' notices went out there was a flurry of requests for help, 42 just to us at Harlington Neighbourhood Help, (HNH) plus others such as the NHS and Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity (BRCC) and, of course, between neighbours, relatives and friends.

These were received and managed by various means, phone calls, texts, FB messenger, notes through doors, and on-line via the Harlington Facebook pages. Most were for shopping, prescription drop-offs and pick-up, or collecting and dropping off items in the village and surrounding areas.

Various WhatsApp groups were set up and co-ordinators for particular roads were also appointed to look out for close neighbours. We have now put together a list of all volunteers from Neighbourhood Help, the additional volunteers who came forward after our last notice (often people furloughed and at home or with young children) and people who dropped in to the Village Shop to offer help with delivering shopping. We now have over 60 volunteers, plus about 14 on the NHS local volunteer list.

At the time of writing, the supermarkets are now re-stocked, restrictions on most items have been removed, and queues are shorter. Many residents have logged on to on-line shopping for the first time, or getting neighbours and family to add to their own on-line shop, and delivery spaces are freeing up there too finally. Others are starting to use delivery services, such as NHS online, for their prescriptions, to collect pensions and pay bills.

Thanks to the above, and to all of the help that neighbours have been providing informally we have not needed to use most of the new volunteers, but we will be keeping the list throughout lockdown and will do so wherever possible and will stay in touch.

One service on offer is that of a phone buddy – just someone to chat to regularly. We have had lots of offers for this from people themselves stuck at home but so far, no takers, so if you'd like someone to chat to occasionally please call us.

Good news – we were this week successful in bidding for and getting a small match-funded Ward Councillors grant, so can offer out-of-pocket and mileage allowances (45p per mile) to all volunteers we use. Also where there is a need for a small amount of financial support or to buy specific items, where there are no other funds, we may also be able to consider requests.

There is less need now for storing surplus items which are non-perishable, however if you have some, in their original sealed packaging, and in date, please take them to Sanjeev in the Harlington Village Shop. He is happy to store these.

# HNH (cont/d) Plus Harlington Village Pre-School

If you are self-isolating do not go to Sanjeev's yourself, but call HNH on the number below instead and we will collect them.

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

All calls are treated in strict confidence and shared only with your volunteer.



# 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 for a volunteer via HNH 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.

## Harlington Village Pre-School & Wrap-Around Care



# Harlington Village Pre-School and Wrap-Around Care

Situated behind Harlington Lower School, we offer sessional care for children aged 2 years & 6 months until starting Lower School. We offer a safe, friendly learning environment where children can explore, have fun and make friends. All staff are qualified to Early Years Level 3 or above, offering children the very best start to their early years education.

If your child was born between 01/09/2016-31/08/2018 and you would like them to join Pre School next academic year (any time between September 2020 & July 2021) or for more information, please e-mail staff@harlingtonvillagepreschool.org.uk for a session request form.

All forms to be returned by 29th May 2020.

We also offer Wrap Around Care for children in their final year at Pre School to children in Year 4 at HLS.

Enquiries: 07963 534038

The Conifers, Westoning Road, Harlington, LU5 6PD

# Virtual Christian Aid week 2020 – 10 to 16 May



The May Contact Magazine Cover is usually a special Christian Aid one. As we mentioned last month though, because of the (now extended) lockdown we cannot organise the usual collections, joint service (which was planned for

17<sup>th</sup> May) or the meal for everyone this year - so no bright red reminder cover!

Our village congregations have been busy going live online, sharing prayers and holding services keeping the church community burning bright during these difficult days and are working on alternative plans for the week including a service that can be accessed via the internet, and for those unable to do this, a printed copy to circulate with the relevant links.

People in the places where Christian Aid works will also be hit hard by Covid19. Many already live 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 or even running water to wash their hands.

If you'd like to contribute directly to Christian Aid here's how you can do so:

https://donate.christianaid.org.uk/Donate

For updates from Christian Aid about the week the website is:

https://www.christianaid.org.uk/appeals/key-appeals/christian-aid-week

Details of Harlington services will appear on the Harlington Village Facebook page <a href="https://www.facebook.com/groups/harlingtonvillage/">https://www.facebook.com/groups/harlingtonvillage/</a> and the church websites.

Christian Aid Co-ordinator for Harlington



Page 10 May 2020 Harlington Village Magazine

#### LiFE Church plus Messy Church



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

Following Government guidelines - Life Church will not be meeting 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.

#### **Messy Church**



The Coronavirus lockdown continues, but so does Messy Church! We can't actually meet, but we can learn the stories and still do some of the activities. If you signed up on our contact list then we will email material to you. If you haven't, then it's available on

our website <a href="https://cliveandtina.co.uk">https://cliveandtina.co.uk</a> and you can download it from there. Alternatively you can email me at clivedsalmon@aol.com.

The March Messy Church was all about mothers – you may remember that it was the day before Mothering Sunday. April is about Jesus after Easter. We learn about Jesus appearing to his disciples. The story for the celebration is about doubting Thomas, and if you want to see it check Harlington Methodist Church on YouTube. The Messy Church story is just one of the videos on this channel. Our theme for May is the Early Church, starting with Pentecost. That's a theme that needs flames and wind and lots of different languages. I wonder how we'll manage?

In the unlikely event that the lockdown no longer affects us, Messy Church meets in the Methodist Church and Halls on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday each month from 4 to 6 pm so our May meeting should be on the 16<sup>th</sup>. Otherwise we will circulate things the week before and put information on our website and Facebook.

Don't forget, children need an adult, but Messy Church is not just for children.

Clive

## Harlington WI plus Advert



Harlington WI is abiding by all National Advice during the Coronavirus outbreak, regarding social distancing and isolation. Sadly this means that our WI meetings are cancelled until further notice. We'll monitor the situation and keep you updated as to when our meetings will start again.

On Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March, we had a Craft Afternoon. Our members made a lovely selection of items including icing sugar roses, gift boxes, necklaces and pyramid cards. Thanks to Joyce, Lin and Sara for their crafty ideas! Please note this was held before the Government guidelines were put into place.

If anyone is having difficulties during this time with isolation and social distancing, please let one of our committee members know and we will do our best to help.







Our 'crafty' WI members enjoying a Craft Afternoon



#### For further information please contact Lin Merrison on 01525 757161.



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#### **Harlington Parish Lands Trust**

any people, especially those new to the village, may be unfamiliar with the history surrounding the two areas of land (Bury Orchard and New Grounds) in the centre of Harlington or how these areas are controlled, managed and used. Hopefully, the following summary will throw some light on the subject.

Harlington Parish Lands Trust is a registered charitable Trust which has an objective to ensure that the land concerned is used for recreation and enjoyment by the people of Harlington.

The Trust leases the day to day management of Bury Orchard to the Parish Council who undertake the upkeep and management of the land. New Grounds are managed by a committee which includes representatives from the Harlington Cricket team, Harlington Juniors football team and the Senior football team. In addition to which the Trust leases the land for the Scout hut and the Village Hall.



If anybody wishes to plan an event on Bury Orchard and New Grounds permission should be sought from the Trustees as the landowners.

The Trust as a registered charity is required to register accounts and associated information with the Charity Commission for public record. These can be found on the internet. The Trust is considered to be a 'holding trust' meaning the only asset is the land: and it has barely any

income. As a consequence, the work of the New Grounds Committee, the Village Hall Trust and the Scouts is totally dependent on the commitment of unpaid volunteers, to whom the village is indebted. The support of the Parish Council, in the day to day management of Bury Orchard, is vital, to keep the land in its current state for the enjoyment of all who use it.

#### **History of the Trust**

The trust has its origins in the late 1940s when villagers came together to build the village hall, and trustees were appointed to lease the site underneath.

In the early 1960s, the estate which included Bury Orchard and the site under the village hall was put up for auction. The trust then raised £1,150 to buy Bury Orchard and the New Grounds. Most of the money was raised from the sale of a barely used playing field, on what is now Robinson Crescent, and from some generous donations. At that time Bury Orchard was being regularly used for football and cricket, by permission of the landowner, and the trustees wanted to secure the site from development for the benefit of future generations.

After studying the area, it was decided that the New Grounds would be more suited for cricket and football, as the matches could be enclosed and would not interfere with the enjoyment of the open space of Bury Orchard. The next project for the trustees then, was to raise the money to improve and equip the New Grounds for playing sports which was completed in the late 1970's.

#### Parish Lands Trust (cont/d) plus HVH 100 Club

#### **Trustees**

The Trust has five Trustees, all volunteers, who have the responsibility of ensuring that the aims and objectives of the Trust are maintained for the benefit of village residents.

They are:

**John Murphy, Chairperson**. John is a retired senior civil servant. He has been a local school governor and represents the Trust on the Village Hall committee. John was also an active member of the Harlington Sports Association (HSA), which for many years provided sporting facilities throughout the village, including use of some at the Upper School, together with the licenced bar. The HSA also developed the new Grounds complex.

Mary Caldwell, Secretary. Mary is a retired senior local government officer. Mary and other parents set up Harlington Juniors in the mid 1990's when her son left the Lower School. Mary represents the Trustees on the New Grounds Committee. She is a former governor at the Lower School and Chair of Governors at Parkfields. She continues to enjoy supporting other village activities.

John and Mary have been Trustees since 1987.

**Adam Rutherford**. Adam works in finance in the city and has been involved in various groups associated with the village schools and football club over the years.

**Julia Savage, Treasurer**. Julia is an accountant and in recent years has also been treasurer at 0-4 Club, Harlington Village Pre School and Harlington Playground Community Group.

**Dave Timson**. Dave works in project engineering in the city. Dave was chair of the Harlington Playground Community Group and volunteers as a football coach at the lower school.

Adam, Julia and Dave have all become trustees in the last couple of years.



#### **HVH 100 Club**

The winner for April is number 38 belonging to Kristie Bishop of Flitwick. If you wish to be part of the 100 Club and have the chance to win £50, please contact our Treasurer, Dave Thew at <a href="hvhtreasurer@btinternet.com">hvhtreasurer@btinternet.com</a>. The money raised each month helps to fund the upkeep of the Village Hall.

Barbara Thurston, Secretary, HVH Management Committee

#### Fluffy Cloud Brain Tumour Research



Sadly our "Wear a Hat" Coffee morning was cancelled like so many other events this spring due to the BIG C but I hope you are reading your Contact magazine feeling well and staying safe.

Thank you to those of you who had planned to attend - we hope to hold future events but I think the next event will be in November. It takes so much to organise and then "unorganise". It was a strange day knowing how it usually runs and I spent the day feeling lost thinking "I should be blowing up balloons, and ferrying my plants/ craft/ raffle etc up to the hall right now". I did wear a hat and sat with a coffee thinking about all the lovely friends and villagers I meet each time we hold an event. By lunchtime I was thinking I should be flaked out and my girls counting the takings. celebrating everybody's effort and support. But it wasn't to be. I had planted my tomato seeds hoping to have some strong plants to sell and I did - but no coffee morning. So I am trying to slow them down until it is warm enough for them to go outside in my green house.

Thank you for all the kind emails saying how you had missed the event, and the donations to the charity in lieu of what you would have donated that morning. I also had a brilliant suggestion to hold a virtual coffee morning (sorry I was out of steam to organise that one), and thank you to my kind neighbour who text to say meet me at the door at 12.10, wearing her hat, so that we could share a coffee and a natter (except I picked it up too late - sorry Gill) and thank you also to a lovely neighbour who left an A4 envelope of seeds on my doorstep which will keep me occupied and should supply you all with either vegetable plants for your allotments and gardens or produce for your dinner.

Most of you will know that you can buy plants supplied by myself or other villagers outside my house - 132 Goswell End Road. The sale of these have currently raised £2,226. Keep visiting and looking, you never know what will be on sale because it depends on YOU!!! I currently have shrubs, rockery plants, one gooseberry plant and spring plants. A BIG thank you to those who bring and have bought plants in the last year. You are one AMAZING village.

Also thank you all for your continued interest and support for this charity and support for us,

Jane and Emma Barltrop and Alice Sulaj

PS. On a personal note I would like to add how grateful I am to friends who during this frightening time have texted, phoned or knocked on my door on their daily exercise, retreated half way up my drive, waited for a chat and asked if I am alright. It is very much appreciated and helps me not to feel quite so alone. And I am sure I am speaking for a lot of people in our village. This disaster has brought out the best in people and you really are the best, Harlington you are SIMPLY THE BEST!!! Thank you

#### **Harlington Society of Art & Crafts**



#### Harlington Society of Arts & Crafts

I hope that you are all keeping healthy and well during this unprecedented and difficult time we find ourselves in. At times like this it can be difficult to find anything positive. However, if you open your mind and are willing to learn something new the world is your oyster, as the saying goes.

With this in mind I would like to remind you that we have our Annual Exhibition & Sale planned for Saturday 10th October in the village hall. The theme for the competition is 'Creepy Crawlies' and is open to non-members as well as members of the society. There is also a children's competition too, so if you or your children are getting bored why not embark on an art or craft project to enter for the competition. It can be in any medium. You could paint a picture or have a go at some 3d sculpture using recycled packaging for example. The weather at the time of writing this article has turned very warm, so there are lots of 'Creepy Crawlies' outside in the garden for inspiration. You could sew or knit a caterpillar, bee or beetle. Paint a butterfly, ladybird or dragonfly. Why not let your imagination run wild! Watch out later for posters around the village and posts on Facebook for information on how to enter.

I have found out on Facebook how to migrate our page into a group to make it easier for you all to comment and share your creative work with like minded people. However, you will need to request an invitation to join the new group to do this. The new group has the same name but it is a group and not a page. It has a picture of the origami flowers below that we made at the last workshop as a header, so you will know that you have the correct

group. It can only be accessed by members so if you would like to join in with the arty crafty community in Harlingon please send a request. I would love to see what you are working on.

Happy Art & Crafting! Julie Tyler (Chairperson)





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## **Methodist Chapel Services and Events in May**

At the time of writing, we have no idea whether we will be holding services in May or not. If we do, they will be:

3<sup>rd</sup> Come and See Evening Service Martin Wallis with Holy Communion

10<sup>th</sup> Colin Quine

17<sup>th</sup> United Service for Christian Aid

24<sup>th</sup> Michael Adams

31<sup>st</sup> Rev. Arlington Trotman, with Holy Communion. This is Pentecost Sunday.

All these will be at 10 am, except the evening service at 6 pm.

Closing churches, a necessary action in view of the way Coronavirus spreads, and the ease with which it spreads, comes as a shock to the system. After all, you can pray and worship anywhere, God is where we are. We worship together to be part of a community. Beside which, Methodism at least was born in song, and one person singing on their own, in most cases, is a bit weak and wobbly, at least in my case. So we have been fragmented as a community.

Our approach has been to prepare a printable service (because some of our members are not on the internet) and to email it to those with email, and "post" a printed copy to the others. With this we send our notices, a pastoral letter, and anything else – prayer diaries for example – appropriate for each week. By including links to the internet, those with access can hear recordings of the hymns, and see other material. For services taken by our own members, there is now a Harlington Methodist Church YouTube channel (do check it out), with recordings of talks and drama available. Our other planned preachers have also prepared such printable services. We will continue with this as long as necessary. If you would like to be included in our weekly email, let me know at CliveD-Salmon@AOL.com.

**Ladies Bright Hour** and the monthly **coffee mornings** are also suspended. Obviously we can't collect for the **foodbank** either, and I would urge people who can, to contact <a href="https://dunstable.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/">https://dunstable.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/</a> Anyone in need can also contact the Foodbank.

No doubt the longer this situation continues, the more we will learn new ways for fellowship and worship together. I will post any new things we are doing on the Church and Village Facebook pages.

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



#### St. Mary's Church

#### Corona Virus – God's wake up call?

With enforced isolation, it gives you more time to stop, look and think about the way things are going. My wife is in the vulnerable group, being asthmatic and having recently survived breast cancer. I am just old!

We have the benefit of a large garden which gives significant pleasure in watching the wildlife, mainly birds, going about their daily round. No threat of Corona Virus there, only the threats of survival from nature and man. It makes you realise we humans are but one species amongst a range of creatures. However, we all share the same planet which is in distress as a result of human activities.

But Corona has put all that on hold. Pollution has dropped because of reduced activity, giving the planet chance to catch its breath. People are rediscovering society and neighbourliness. The miscreants reveal themselves for what they are, as ever.

Perhaps God is giving us all a chance to stop and consider what is really important: the chance to restart with a revised set of values.

For instance, 'Just In Time' is fine for the automotive industry as a way of reducing the cost (and physical need) of holding stocks. But it has generated an attitude, stoked by marketing, of 'I want it now', when perhaps next week or the week after would be perfectly acceptable. It also has shown itself as completely useless when fighting a pandemic when the lack of 'stock' has the whole world scurrying around for mask, aprons, chemicals etc.

I was born just as WW2 ended and my generation has an attitude towards keeping some reserves or 'stock', be it money in savings or food in the larder / freezer. This gives some resilience in the face of a catastrophe, and certainly reduces the need for any 'panic buying'.

In my childhood it was a time of shortages, but with the belief that the world would become a better place. Society was based more on meritocracy than celebrity. The basic needs of healthcare, telephones, electricity, gas, water and transport were kept in the national interest. Not hijacked for profit in the belief that the private sector could manage them better.

So, let us use this opportunity to re-set society. We cannot change the world, but we could make a start by training and employing competent people in government and the private sector to manage our essentials, take a more considered approach to when and if we need things, and build on the good society that lurks beneath and is slowly being re-discovered.

Graham Cooper

## St Mary's Church plus HiB

ell, here we are in April, as I'm writing this, unable to have church services or worship together, and social events are postponed indefinitely. It's not quite the same singing beautiful hymns or songs on your own (or with hubby), at home! We look forward to the day when we can be together again in St Mary's – or in any of the churches. I feel there may be a long journey ahead of us before then, but may we journey in faith and prayer, remembering especially all those affected by COVID-19.

We missed dear Samson coming on Palm Sunday, and our Walk of Witness around the village on Good Friday couldn't take place. But take a look at the many resources on our website, <a href="www.harlingtonchurch.org">www.harlingtonchurch.org</a>, where you can join in with a virtual Walk of Witness around Harlington, or join in with services recorded by Linda and Nigel. One of the links on the web is for a "Hymn for the Day" to listen to, or even better, join in!

You'll find our own evening service there (called Compline) for quiet reflection at the end of the day, and so much more. There is lots of information and links on our Facebook page as well.

We also been asked about our silent bells – so, just to let you know - we are waiting to have the main control board repaired. (Until then, you can hear a recording of the bells on our website!).

Best wishes to you all.

Tricia Murphy

## **Harlington in Bloom**

Harlington in

We hope you all enjoyed the spring flowering bulbs that have been planted around the village by HiB through the years? The new planters outside the old cemetery also looked beautiful.

Spring Garden judging has taken place and winners chosen.

Many congratulations to the winners, and well done!

1st - 90 Goswell End Road

Joint runners up – 18 Glebe Gardens & 8 Astrey Close

Given the current situation we have not decided on a Summer planting date yet, (usually early June), or any further work party dates, and we will be guided by ongoing advice. Sadly, we have decided to cancel our Open Gardens event on June 27th, and instead hope to organise this in 2021.

Queries - please contact Ian on 874720 or Tricia 07711 511729.



# 0 - 4 Club plus Crafternoon Tea



# Harlington We may be at home, but we can still have fun and stay in touch

We hope you are all keeping well and safe at home.

At 0-4 Club we have been thinking of ways we can stay in touch, be positive, and support each other.

For the kids, Aimee has started running online singing and story sessions. These can be found live on our Facebook page every Monday and Friday at 11am. Aimee is taking requests for songs and giving shout outs to all the children singing along at home. We hope you can join us - and do spread the word to your friends - the more the merrier!

We will keep posting things to do at home and other fun ideas on our Instagram and Facebook pages - do post and share how you guys are keeping busy and having fun at home.

Stay safe, look after each other and keep in touch over the phone & online.







Harlington 0-4 Club

#### Crafternoon Tea

ast month I rewrote my article in Contact two days after my first submis-⊿ sion, in the light of the new social shutdown. During the month it occurred to me to wonder, if the shutdown is going to go on for a long time, will I be able to buy Christmas cards, presents? It is a long time since I made Christmas cards, and in fairness, I will try to buy my usual charity Christmas cards first, because they are likely to need all the money they can get. There is plenty of time to make, if we start now, and many craft suppliers are operating mail order systems, even if shops cannot be open.

In the current state of things, we will probably not be meeting in May, but I am working on ways to keep in touch with crafters. I have Zoom, and you have my email address and phone number. Clive has just set up a website for us, and there will be Crafternoon Tea stuff on there in the future, including dates if the

lockdown is eased. If you have not come to the group, and you would like to be included in conversations, please contact me.

Tina Salmon (christinasalmon60@gmail.com), 01525 874481,

website https://cliveandtina.co.uk

## 35th Village Show plus HGS plus Flittabus



Whilst we are sorry to announce that we are cancelling the 2020 Village Show in its usual format and size, we are considering holding a smaller "get-together" event nearer the time, depending on what guidelines and updates unfold in the coming months.

Please check our Facebook page and Contact magazine for updates – and we look forward to having a very special show in 2021!

We will be posting photos on our Harlington Village Show Facebook page of some of our gardening efforts this year – and please do share <u>your</u> photos with us as well. If anyone is short of seeds, let us know, or call Tricia on 07711 511729.

Harlington Village Show Facebook page also has information and links to knitted or crocheted blanket patterns for project Linus, so do have a look and join us in making some for this worthwhile cause. Project Linus is a charity whose aim is to provide a sense of security and comfort to sick and traumatised babies, children and teenagers by giving each child their own personal blanket or quilt.

HVS Committee

# **Harlington Gardeners' Society**



Due to the coronavirus outbreak we have decided to cancel the entire 2020 programme.

This includes the Spring Social, the Annual BBQ, the Car Outing and the Coach Outing to Kew.

Due to this lack of activity it has been decided that all 2020 memberships will be valid until the end of 2021 without further payment.

Tony Roberts – HGS Secretary

#### **Flittabus**

The service is now suspended due to Covid-19 - either due to lack of drivers or government guide-



lines - please see their website, (<a href="https://flittabus.co.uk/">https://flittabus.co.uk/</a>), 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.





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# Classes taught in Harlington Village Hall

Monday Pilates 715 & 830pm
Tuesday WeightBox 915am
Wednesday © ZVMBA 815pm
Thursdays Pilates 11am
Personal Training available

Contact Ness 07732412247 or email Nessfit21@amail.com

## **Harlington Hedgehogs**



As we all stay in through this difficult time, hedgehogs are coming out! Wildlife continues to thrive in the village and now we are into the spring months, hedgehog sightings are being reported all over the village. These are plotted on the map on the right.

Keep up with putting out food and water. If you can use your spare time to build a hedgehog box or leave an unkept area of your garden (or make a previously kept area messy) this will give hedgehogs a place to nest and have their hoglets. If you want to report a sighting of a hedgehog, please join the 'Harlington Hedgehog' Facebook page. If you find a sick or injured hedgehog, please call Leighton Buzzard Hedgehog rescue on 01525 759916 or ask a question on the Facebook page as there are now 90 members all willing to give advice.



The Facebook page is not just about hedgehogs, if you have any wildlife query or interest then please post it on the page! Putting out food for wildlife is so important. We were fortunate enough to attract a fox (see photo below) as well as hedgehogs to our garden!

While we're all staying safe at home, use the time to attract wildlife with projects such as building hedgehog nesting area, birds houses, bug hotels or just learning about the wildlife that comes to your garden.

This wildlife link may give you some ideas for projects: <a href="https://www.rspb.org.uk/get-involved/activities/give-nature-a-home-in-your-garden/garden-activities/">https://www.rspb.org.uk/get-involved/activities/give-nature-a-home-in-your-garden/garden-activities/</a>. Stay safe and enjoy nature while you have time at home.

Frances Mitchell



If you have taken any photos of wildlife in your garden or the village that you would like to share, please email them to:

harlingtonvillagemagazine @yahoo.co.uk

Lois (Editor)

Page 28 May 2020 Harlington Village Magazine