

Editorial

Dear Villagers,

Lockdown continues to ease but not enough unfortunately, to see the re-opening of the village pub gardens and Bury Orchard playground. Let's hope it won't be too much longer.

The front cover this month was drawn by James Marriot who is just 7 years old - definitely a talented artist in the making! If you would like to submit a photo or drawing to be featured on the cover (of the village, surroundings or something topical), please send it into the Contact Magazine email address. Don't forget it will be greyscale, so something with a lot of colour won't necessarily have the same impact when converted.

Contact is also regularly being published on-line now - <https://harlingtonvillagemagazine.org>.

Well done Clive Salmon for organising that.

I hope you all keep safe and well.

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 at the discretion of the Editor/Management Team.

August copy by 12th July please.

**PROMPT PAYMENT OF
ADVERTISING INVOICES WOULD
BE GREATLY APPRECIATED**

CONTACT

Harlington Village Magazine

Editor

Lois Fowler 15 Park Leys, Harlington
LU5 6LY

e-mail and advertising
harlingtonvillagemagazine@yahoo.co.uk

Distribution

Lois Fowler / Sue Whittle

Postal Subscriptions

Betty Goodge
01525 873725

Treasurer

Sue Whittle
07887 708304

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Methodist Musings from Reverend Joanne Sherwood



During the period of lockdown church buildings have been closed along with many other public buildings where people gather. Christians and indeed people of all faiths or none who are used to meeting together in one place, have had to adapt in order to keep in touch.

Much as we love our places of worship and the sense of constancy they bring us in an ever changing world, the 'Church' is essentially the people. Some of the Methodist congregation have been meeting on Zoom for worship and I know similar things are happening with folks from St Mary's and Life Church.

Hardly anyone had heard of Zoom back at the beginning of March and now it seems that all generations are getting in on the act—keeping in touch with family and friends during this time of separation. The covid-19 crisis has brought about countrywide acts of kindness and a renewed sense of community in many places. In a village that already has a great community spirit, helping neighbours is perhaps more the norm and long may this continue.

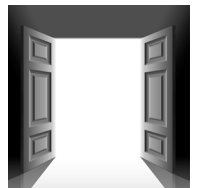
I have joined a couple of the Harlington Facebook groups to give me a view of village life today, as well as reminisce about the past. The Queen's Silver Jubilee in 1977 stands out in my mind. We had a street party in Tabor Close where I used to live, as did Lincoln Way and Brian Road amongst others. I still have my Harlington Jubilee badge and the embroidery I entered into the young peoples' craft competition.

At the beginning of the year, the Churches Together in Harlington were preparing a village event planned for 4th July which sadly has had to be postponed. Who knows when it will be safe for villagers to mingle in larger groups, but it will be a great day when community gatherings can happen again.

Just as I write, the announcement has been made that churches can open their doors on a limited basis for private prayer. Methodist Church Connexion has produced detailed guidelines on the re-opening of its buildings in due course, which involves completing satisfactory risk assessments and putting in place the correct hygiene protocols to protect everyone who enters our buildings. (That's enough of the boring bits)! We do, however, look forward to opening the Chapel doors once again for worship and community use when it is safe to do so.

May God Bless you and keep you safe in His loving care.

Reverend Joanne



Fran Plank - a HUGE Thank you *plus* WI

When I came to the village 43 years ago, Contact was a duplicated magazine sold and distributed to the minority of the village. Some years later a decision was taken to change the model, to circulate it as a free magazine to the whole village and to cover the cost with money from the churches, Harlington Parish Council and adverts. One big change that happens when you do this is that you have many more copies to distribute. We started to use a commercial printer and someone was needed to be there when the copies were delivered.

Fran “at the Post Office” took on the role of Distribution Manager. She received the copies from the printer, counted them out for each of the distributors and delivered them to those distributors, making sure that rounds were covered for holidays, illness etc, and generally ensuring, so long as the editor got the copy to the printer on time, that Contact would be out for the beginning of each month.

This has **never** been an easy task. A thousand plus copies of a magazine is not a small or light bundle, but over the years Fran has done this faithfully, come rain, shine or car thefts.

However, all good things must come to an end. Covid-19 has made things particularly difficult, as many distributors are unable to deliver, rounds have had to be revised and Fran herself was isolating. She has therefore decided to retire from the role. The Contact team want to thank her for everything she has done over all the years. In other times we would aim for a presentation at some event – but this ‘Thank You’ will have to suffice until we can all get together again.

Thank you, Fran.

Clive, on behalf of the Contact Team



Harlington WI



Harlington WI is abiding by all WI National Advice during the Coronavirus outbreak, regarding social distancing and isolation. Sadly this means that our WI meetings are cancelled until further notice.

We will monitor the situation and keep you updated as to when our meetings will start again.

We hope that you're all keeping safe and well during the lockdown. Hopefully, over the next few weeks, as some of the rules are eased, we'll be able to run a programme that will fit in with the guidelines as they appear.

For further information please contact Lin Merrison on 01525 757161.

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Flittabus services from Harlington *plus* HGS



We need your views and input regarding the future of our two Harlington Flittabus services – to Milton Keynes monthly on a Tuesday, and to Ampthill and Flitwick weekly on a Thursday.

Linda Horn, the Acting Chairperson of Flittabus has contacted us on behalf of their committee as they are now thinking about when and how they might be able to resume any services. As you may know, all the drivers are volunteers, and Flittabus exists purely to provide transport for the community. There is, as yet, no date for starting the service again, or any decisions made on whether all of the scheduled services will resume exactly as before right from the start.

However, we are contacting as many people as we can who were using the service suspended in March, to see if they would still use it and how they feel about it. We would very much like wider views, and to contact anyone we may have missed through this article.

We would like your feedback / views on the following:

1. How do you feel about using public transport in the near future?
- worried, anxious, completely against it or fairly relaxed?
2. How essential is it for you to be able to use Flittabus?
3. What measures do you think we should take to ensure the safety of passengers? (We are working on measures to address the safety of drivers).

So far we have discussed use of masks, limiting the number of passengers, driver protection – any other thoughts and ideas are most welcome.

Please respond to Suzan Whittle on suzanwhittle@hotmail.com

or by phone on 07887 708304

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

'Covi, the little green dinosaur' update



Update on 'Covi, the little green dinosaur' fundraising storybooks



We are SO excited to update you with such great news! Since our launch on 17th May, we have sold over 250 copies of the first Covi book, already raising over £400 for NHS Charities Together!

The second instalment in the series, 'The Adventures of Covi, the little green dinosaur' was published in June and is entitled '**Covi's Big Day Out!**' This book follows Covi as he tries out different frontline professions and then takes his friends on a day out in a London Bus! The book is dedicated to our much valued frontline workers including shop workers, bus drivers, police, railway staff etc.

The new book again features work from several of our village children and we thank them for their lovely contributions.

You can buy both books now online via Amazon in digital (£2.99) and paperback (£6.99) formats. Just go to Amazon.co.uk and search "Covi". In addition, the paperback books are now available locally in 'The Shop' in Lincoln Way, the "Dinosaur shop" (Earth Fossils & Gemstones at Barton Watermill) and at Poplars Nursery.

We also now offer a "Bundle" of books – when you order in excess of 5 books you will pay just £5.50 for each one. These are great gifts for birthdays, family gifts etc and will serve as a lasting legacy for the 'C-generation' children.

Please contact Susie via email susiecullenauthor@gmail.com to arrange for your bundle!

Thank you for your wonderful support,

Susie, Chay & Kaitlyn



Kaitlyn Powell

Susie Cullen



Chay Winter

Crafternoon Tea *plus* HVH 100 Club

What is your craft activity at present? At our last Zoom meeting, someone was making cross-stitch Christmas cards, and also going on were children's clothing, soft toy making, and squares for blankets. One of our members is making a rug on a peg loom, and others are doing tapestries – some new, some old! Whatever your craft, you are welcome to join us. Even if what you produce is waiting for you to be able to get it where it should be – unable to get to your friend's to give her that new jumper, to your favourite charity with the twiddle muffs – we are here for you!

We will continue to use Zoom for our meetings until we are able to use the Church building again – and as far as I can see, that is not going to be any time soon. Although the building can be open for private prayer, according to the government, no groups can meet as yet.

Our dates for Zoom meetings in July are 6th and 20th. If you have not come to the group, but you would like to be included in Zoom meetings, please contact me. The dates are also on our website, should you lose your copy of Contact, and I will put other information there – free patterns, etc

Tatting is a craft that goes back at least to the 17th century. It is made with thread on a shuttle, plus, for more complicated patterns, a ball of thread – which may or may not be the same colour.

Illustrated here are a table centre mat, a single colour motif for applique, or a dressing table set, the start of a bookmark (the long piece), and the start of another motif in variegated thread (on the table centre).



Contact: Tina Salmon
(christinasalmon60@gmail.com), 874481,
website: <https://cliveandtina.co.uk>

HVH 100 Club

The winner for June is Kay Ratcliffe of Christian Close with ticket number 39. If you wish to be part of the 100 Club and have the chance to win £50, please contact our Treasurer, Dave Thew at hvhtreasurer@btinternet.com. The money raised each month helps to fund the upkeep of the Village Hall.

*Barbara Thurston, Secretary,
HVH Management Committee*

LiFE Church *plus* Flapjack Friday *plus* HHT



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

As part of the Pioneer Network of churches we are able to link into our Midlands Area Hub Church in Loughborough to join in with their Sunday services at 10.30am & 4.30pm

You can find their website at: openheaven.org

We are continuing to keep in contact with each other through Zoom meetings.

On a Wednesday from 7-7.45pm we have a catch up with each other and time for prayer.

Then on a Sunday at 6pm we are taking turns to lead a bible based discussion.

If you would like to join in with any of these, have any prayer requests or would like to talk to someone please contact us at.

lifechurchcentralbeds@gmail.com

Flapjack Friday - a Thank You

I would like to say a huge THANK YOU to a certain lady in Tabor Close, who every Friday, has made the whole Close an individual cake (her flapjacks are to die for!) and delivers them personally. It's known as "Flapjack Friday".

This has been done from the start of the lockdown and she finished at the end of June. Such a kind gesture.

Thank you from us all.

Tracey Goodenough



Harlington Heritage Trust

Sadly, we are sorry to inform you that the coach trip to Winchester on Saturday 18 July is still cancelled. With the uncertainty of social distancing/restaurants etc. reopening, we are not in a position to advertise this trip.

There is no event for August.

Keep safe everyone.

Barbara Thurston
HHT Secretary

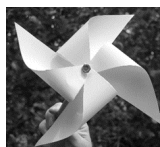
Messy Church *plus* Jigsaw Library



The Coronavirus lockdown continues, but so does Messy Church! We can't actually meet, but we can learn the stories and do some of the activities that we would have done. 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

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

The May Messy Church was about Pentecost and the early church and if you want to see the story, checkout Harlington Methodist Church on YouTube. (The June story, about Abraham, will be there too).



One of the activities was to make a windmill, another was to make a flame headdress. We also told the story of Peter meeting Cornelius. He was a Roman, and so Peter, a Jew, wasn't supposed to go into his house. Peter learned that God wanted people who weren't Jews to follow him as well. This story is so important that it's repeated three times in the book of Acts (properly called The Acts of the Apostles).



In July we are going to look at homes, with the main story being about Mary and Martha disagreeing when Jesus paid them a visit.

In the very unlikely event that the lockdown no longer affects us, Messy Church meets in the Methodist Church and Halls on the 3rd Saturday each month from 4 to 6 pm, so our July meeting should be 18th. More likely, we will circulate things during the week before (to give time if you need to get things in advance) and put information on our website and Facebook.

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

Clive

Harlington Jigsaw Library

The jigsaw library is open, but only via phone or email contact at the moment. So, just call/ text or email your request; approximate size, small or large pieces and I will then deliver to your home. Anyone can join. Welcome to all of you who are new to the library and have completed their first jigsaw! So why not give it a go if you are staying indoors or would like something different to do. Simply contact me when you have finished – including a photo of the finished article if you'd like to, just to celebrate!



Tricia 07711 511729
tricia.murphy5@ntlworld.com

Harlington Hedgehogs *plus* 0-4 Club



Over the last month, there has been an increase in the number of hedgehog sightings in the village. One resident has reported around five visiting just their garden, ranging from large adult hedgehogs to young ones. This means our village is providing a great environment year on year for hedgehogs to thrive and along with the additional food and water being put out, this will continue to help our hedgehog population.

As we are all staying at home, you may be using your gardens more for activities such as football, badminton etc as well as building/DIY projects where you may be putting in a pond, upgrading your garden fences etc. Please keep in mind hedgehogs and other wildlife when carrying out sports or DIY activities in your gardens. Take any nets in at the end of the day so hedgehogs will not get tangled, make sure there is a way in/out of your garden if you have a new fence, ensure there is a way out of a pond – although hedgehogs are great swimmers, they need to have a way out should they fall in. Make sure any holes from posts are blocked up so a hedgehog won't fall in. These are just a few examples of where hedgehogs may run into problems as they have a great sense of smell but terrible eye sight.

Enjoy the lovely weather enabling you to stay outside later in the evening and hopefully therefore capturing a glimpse of your hedgehog visitors – they are so interesting to watch.

Leighton Buzzard Hedgehog Rescue: 01525 759916

Harlington Hedgehogs Facebook Page (now has 95 members)

Frances Mitchell

0-4 Club



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 is 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 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 Directory

CHURCHES

PARISH CHURCH: (Minister Revs. Linda & Nigel Washington):.....lindajwash@hotmail.com 01525 714442
ST JOHN'S CHURCH RC
Secretary: PaulaGlen:.....parish.holyfamilyandstjohn@northamptondiocese.org 01582 502400
METHODIST CHURCH Senior Steward: Tina Salmon.....01525 874481
BAPTIST CHURCH Contact: Sue Yule.....01582 875410
LiFE CHURCH Key Leader: Carol Gibbs.....www.lifechurch-beds.co.uk 07890 692574

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HARLINGTON SOCIETY, John Harfield, 126 Goswell End Road.....01525 874184
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HARLINGTON P3 Pete Hughes.....07763341426

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HARLINGTON IN BLOOM Tricia Murphy.....tricia.murphy5@ntlworld.com 01525 754241
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Thursday, 9am – 1pm
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Flitwick

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

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PARISH COUNCIL Chairman: Cllr Ann Freeman

Clerk: Stewart Wilks, Parish Council Office, Church Road, LU5 6LE.....01525 875933

Email: clerk@harlingtonpc.gov.uk Website: <http://www.harlington-pc.gov.uk> Office Open 9.am – 2.00pm daily

CENTRAL BEDS COUNCILLORS: Mrs M Walsh, Silvia Collins

MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT: Nadine Dorries (Con) House of Commons, London, SW1A OAA02072194239

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DENTIST 19 Dunstable Street, Amphill..... www.amphilldentalpractice.co.uk 403205

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MEETING PLACES

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HARLINGTON PARISH HALL..... <http://www.harlington-pc.gov.uk> 01525 875933

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PRE-SCHOOL

HARLINGTON 0-4 CLUB (Playgroup) Aimee Boothroyd (co-ordinator).....07825 272007

HARLINGTON VILLAGE PRE-SCHOOL.....staff@harlingtonvillagepreschool.org.uk 07963 534038

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HARLINGTON NEIGHBOURHOOD HELP.....07849 835410

CITIZEN'S ADVICE BUREAU Community House, Court House, Woburn Street, Amphill MK45 2HX

Mon -Thurs.....www.citizensadvice.org.uk 402742

ARAGON HOUSING.....<http://www.aragon-housing.co.uk> 033 123 5544

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION - Graham Woodbridge.....graham_woodbridge@hotmail.co.uk 01525 635650

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GIRL GUIDING UK: BROWNIES & GUIDES

2nd BROWNIES Jane Stynes.....janestynes@googlemail.com 01525 753612

1st GUIDES Mary Gadsden, 74 Brian Road.....01525 872915

BEAVERS, CUBS, SCOUTS, EXPLORERS, NETWORK

Group Scout Leader: Barry Denton, 'Tuctin', 76 Goswell End Road.....01525 630824

Please let us know if you notice any mistakes / amendments - thank you. Harlingtonvillagemagazine@yahoo.co.uk

Fluffy Cloud Brain Tumour Research



Oh my Goodness!!

OK so I am unable to give you breakdown for May but since I last wrote an article for Contact plant sales have increased by £599.72 - taking the total to £3546.76. I am forever grateful and continually surprised and amazed by everyone's generosity and kindness.

Thank you to every one who has provided plants. There has been an amazing array of bedding plants: marigolds, sunflowers and petunias, shrubs and perennials, house plants, vegetables and herbs. Those who have pricked out plants; those offering plant pots for sale and garden related items such as hanging baskets; those who came to my rescue when my grow house blew over in the strong winds and the whole contents were strewn over my drive (that was a dark day!); those who have visited and purchased so many plants. If you paid 50p per pot and we raised as much as we did then we have sold nearly 1200 plants!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY HARLINGTON AND WESTONING AND WHEREVER ELSE YOU HAVE TRAVELLED FROM!!

If you are still looking for plants for your garden or would like to grow vegetables please visit **132 Goswell End Road**. I still have the following on offer:

Vegetables: courgettes, patty pans, marrows, peppers, chillies, aubergines and maybe some beans in a week or two.

Salad: Lettuce and tomatoes.

Herbs: Basil.

Flowers: Marigolds and there will always be some SURPRISES!!

You are all an amazing bunch!! Please take care , stay well and continue to keep gardening and in a month or so I hope to have produce available for a small donation.

Jane and Emma Barltrop and Alice Sulaj

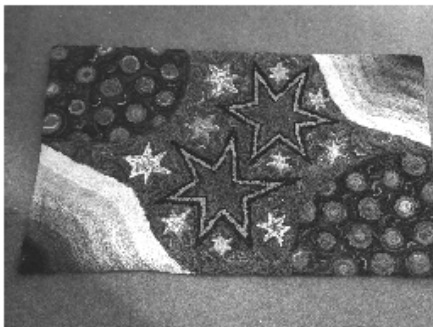


Harlington Society of Art & Crafts



Harlington Society of Arts & Crafts

I hope everyone is well and safe during these strange and challenging times. If you feel jaded and need a lift be inspired by Shirley Spottiswoode. Shirley is a very talented artist and crafts person. Her talents include painting, screen printing, linocuts and rug making. She was due to come and give a talk/demo about rug making to the society on 15th July, but for obvious reason that cannot take place. However, if you would like to see Shirley's work check out her website <https://www.shirlevspottiswoode.com/> which she says her grandson has kindly set up for her. The link is also on our new Facebook group page. Search Harlington Society of Arts and Crafts and make sure it has a picture of the origami flowers we made in a previous workshop. Those were the days!



I am ever hopeful that our Annual Exhibition & Sale will take place on Saturday 10th October. The theme for the competition is 'Creepy Crawlies'. There is a children's competition as well as an adults one. Fingers crossed it will go ahead, but even if it doesn't just have a go at creating a piece of fantastic piece of art or craft. You just might surprise yourself and we would love to see your results on our Facebook group page <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1897252073743034/>

There are plenty of 'Creepy Crawlies' in our fantastic gardens and beautiful countryside. So have a go!

Stay healthy and safe!
Julie Tyler (Chairperson)



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Methodist Chapel *plus* a Poem

The building is shut, but the church is OPEN. We are continuing to worship together and, since the week after Easter, have been meeting via Zoom. We are working to develop this to include live streaming, to make it easier for other people to join us without needing passwords. Have a look at the Harlington Methodist Church channel on YouTube.



We are not yet opening the building but watch out for more information. This is a rapidly changing situation.

With our Zoom services, some use Windows, some Android, some Mac, some iPads, but all join in worship. Some Sundays our preacher joins us to give the talk, expanding on the written reflection which we still circulate to everyone. Our circulated material is available on <https://www.southbedsmethodist.org.uk>. If you want to join us, our service time is 10.00 am, with the link sent out by 9.30am. Email me, clivedsalmon@aol.com, or phone 01525 874481 to be added to the link email list.

July preachers are:

- 5th Come and See led by Tina and Clive
- 12th Worship Group
- 19th TBC
- 26th Andrea Als-McLean

Ladies Bright Hour is not meeting but are keeping in contact by phone.

We held one Virtual Coffee Morning on Zoom. This gives a time to just chat, as you do. You have to provide your own refreshments, though. At least I got Tina to make cheese straws!

We may arrange another, depending on what is happening about lockdown.

Clive

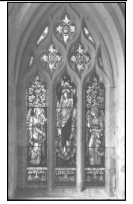
Taking Chances *by* Duncan Willox

When I die is that it?
or may I linger just a bit,
to smell the rose I never smelt,
to feel the breeze I never felt,
to let a smile light up my face,
to take someone in warm embrace,
or can there be no backward glance,
do I want to take that chance?

Copyright Duncan Willox

St. Mary's Church

At the time of writing this article, our church continues to be closed but we are taking gentle steps forward to open soon for private prayer. It will be wonderful to be able to return to our church building for quiet time with God. But before we can do this, there are many practical issues to consider before we can open. Our hope is to open for one or two set times each week for an hour or so. The times will be published on our notice board, web site and facebook page, so please look out for updates. It may be that if you have been socially isolating for medical reasons and would prefer to go into church at a separate time from other visitors... please get in touch, so we can help.



Under the most recent Government guidelines we are also now able to hold 'small funerals' in church, although numbers able to attend will be limited.

In all things we need to pay very careful attention to social distancing and cleansing routines. If you would like to go into church to pray, to be still with God, please contact Revs Linda or Nigel on 01525 714442 or Tricia (Church Warden) and we will look to facilitate this.

In the meantime, we, as church, continue to 'meet' regularly for our online services and gatherings, to which you are all welcome:

- our weekly pre-recorded service, which is released each Sunday, is available to watch throughout the week and can be accessed through the church website: www.harlingtonchurch.org A link to the service is also issued on our church 'St Mary's Harlington' Facebook page.
- 9am each Sunday, we host 'The Upper Room' online zoom service which goes out live. This is a service of prayer, reflection, testimony, and worship, led by members from the Quintet of churches.
- 9.30am each Tuesday, we host Morning Prayer online via zoom.
- 10.30am Tuesdays mornings, we host Virtual Church Coffee Morning (time may occasionally change) .

If you would like to join any of our zoom events, please contact Linda or Nigel to request the access information:

linda@harlingtonchurch.org; nwashy2@gmail.com.

We are here for you and are keen to offer you our care and support. Do please contact, even if just for a chat or a prayer.

*Rev Linda Washington, Rev Nigel Washington (ministers),
and Dr Robert Johns Reader*

St Mary's Church Warden *plus* HNH *plus* W4H

Part of the churchyard is looking quite wild at the moment, which is rather lovely. I like the natural look with wild flowers and grasses, and it's a haven for all kinds of insects and wildlife, so perhaps we'll think about keeping part of it "wild" in the future. I hope some of you may have seen the beautiful primroses there earlier in the year – maybe over the wall from Bury Orchard? The churchyard is open, and you are welcome to stop there awhile, or walk through on the pathway, but help us by kindly respecting the grounds and memorials.

The bells still await repair and we are looking forward to the work being done, and to hear them ring out again. We try to access grant funding to help with repairs when possible, and normally raise funds through our social events, but if the bells are something you'd like to help with, you can be part of our Bells fundraising team. "An appeal for a peal!" Donations can be left either at 43 Barton Road or 14 Daubeney Close. Just label your envelope "St Mary's Bell Repairs". Or contact me on 754241.

Thank you for your kind and generous support.

Best wishes, Tricia. Churchwarden, St Mary's



Harlington Neighbourhood Help

(Working in partnership with the Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity)

Help during Lockdown

No new news since the last update in the June Contact. Some of our extra volunteers are now returning to work and we are starting to prepare for hospital appointments being booked back in. We will be buying a stock of masks and gloves and cleaning equipment for volunteers cars for when that happens.

We continue to get shopping, drop off and collect prescriptions from local doctors and the pharmacies in Toddington, Barton and Flitwick, and do errands around the village, collecting in parcels etc.

HNH want to say a very big thank you to everyone who has helped since lockdown commenced, in whatever capacity, it's a wonderful village to live in, and we've been able to help others in surrounding villages too.



Help line
07849 835410



Walking4Health

We are starting to consider when we might start this up again, watch this space



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We're not sure whether it will be inside or out but as soon as we get the re-opening guidelines we'll be back in action!

We would like to thank everyone for the support they have shown us during these challenging times.

We can't wait to welcome you back and show you all the things we have been doing – please keep checking Facebook and the boards outside the pub for when we can open !!

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Warm chicken & Bacon Salad £10.00

Halloumi Sweet chilli Stack chips and Salad £12.00

Harlington in Bloom *plus* 35th Village Show



Summer Planting: We were out around the village, beavering away, on Saturday 6th June. Sourcing plants wasn't quite as straightforward this year, but they were finally ready, and we're looking forward to the colour they'll bring to the village.

We are also very grateful to the folk who keep the planters watered – you're all amazing, thank you so much!

Weeding & Maintenance: Saturday 11th July. We will again be organising via a rota. If you are a volunteer and don't hear from us, then please get in touch.

Summer Judging: this will take place during the week commencing 6th July, looking at floral and low maintenance gardens, hanging baskets, containers, public and commercial buildings, and of course the allotments.

Note: we have a new ruling that 1st prize winners will not be eligible to win a first prize two years running.

****Awards**:** last year's winners, please return your trophies this month, to any of the committee, or contact us on the numbers below.

If you'd like to volunteer to water, weed or maintain HiB planting around the village, please contact Ian on 874720 or Tricia on 07711 511729.

Happy Gardening to all, from the HiB Committee

35th Harlington Village Show

We have some lovely photos from local gardens to look at on our Facebook page, and there are also photos from the Village Shows held in previous years. Please also share any of your gardening photos with us – we'd love to see them, and see how you're doing!

We still don't know what July will bring in terms of Covid-19 updates and guidelines, so we'll wait patiently for at least another year before we organise our Village Show again.

It's very unlikely that things will improve enough to allow us to have a "pop up" Show this year, which we had initially wondered might just be possible. So, remember to check our Facebook page as we carry on updating our news, and posting more gardening photos.

HVS Committee



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Flit Vale - Wildlife Trust Local group



**Bedfordshire
Cambridgeshire
Northamptonshire**



It was with sadness that our group had to cancel our programme of talks and walks planned so far this year. Running events and maintaining social distancing rules has just made it too difficult. We will of course keep you informed if the situation changes.

Our committee has been keeping in touch with one another and most of us have been out and about, noting the wildlife on our local patches. I expect many of you have been doing the same.

Personally, I have been following the progression of flowers in the hedgerows and verges when I go out running and cycling from Pulloxhill. The dominant colour for the last two months has been white mainly due to the umbelliferous species filling the ditches. These include frothy cow parsley, the more stately umbels of hog weed and towering above 'forests' of the infamously poisonous hemlock (look for reddish-purple blotches on the tall hollow stems).

There are splashes of colour such as the scarlet of poppies, purple of wild geranium and common mallow, red campion, blue of speedwells and green alkanet and yellows of buttercups, dandelion-like species and spring cinquefoil. Great swathes of ox-eye daisy along verges. Scented elderflower came early in the hedgerow at the end of May so my annual cordial is already bottled. If you can get out on the local chalk down lands, there are large numbers of orchid species around at the moment.

Last month we started sending out an e-newsletter to those who are on our emailing list. If you would like to received a monthly copy, then let us know (flitvale.info@gmail.com). We are very happy to receive comments and photos about local sightings to include in future issues

To help you plan your own wildlife outings, the following websites are helpful for giving news about opening of properties, reserves, footpaths, parking etc. Also up-to-date statements on Covid-19.

<https://www.wildlifebcn.org/>

<https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/>

<https://www.greensandtrust.org/>

<https://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/>

*Julia Burkett,
Chairman, Flit Vale Local Wildlife Group*

The Wildlife Trust for Bedfordshire,
Cambridgeshire and Northamptonshire
Registered charity number: 1000412
www.wildlifebcn.org