

Editorial

Dear Villagers,

Well, despite few clubs actually meeting, there still seems to be a very full Contact this month. Thanks go to Russell Preston for his article 'Harlington Remembers'. I had hoped to print it in full but there was so much else to go in, I've had to serialise it! So the second half next month.

It looks like Andrew Parish will be helping Allan Boldero with St Mary's Church Clock and Bells. Andrew will be writing an article about them for December's Contact, including some exclusive photos. I also hope to include the photos of some spectacular vegetables that have been grown which I haven't had space for this month.

At the time of writing this, no one has volunteered to take over editing the magazine. There must be someone out there brave enough to give it a go! Come on - don't be shy!

In the meantime, keep well and stay safe.

Lois (Editor)

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.

December copy by 12th November please.

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BE GREATLY APPRECIATED**

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Letter from St Mary's Church

Dear Friends,

Have you released your angel yet?

One day the great Michelangelo attracted a crowd of spectators as he worked. One child in particular was fascinated by the sight of chips flying and the sound of mallet on chisel and chisel on marble. The master was shaping a large block of white marble. Unable to contain her curiosity, the little girl inquired, "What are you making?" Michelangelo replied, "There is an angel in there and I must set it free."

Are we so very different? Are we not each presented with our own block of marble in life and given a mallet to chip away.

How's yours coming on?

Every Christian at their confirmation or conversion is, in effect, handed a large cold white marble block. We must then take the mallet in hand and set to work. Religion is not our goal but we must first start there, perhaps, for guidance.



Now there are many names for religion. At times we do call it religion but we often use other words and images to describe it. Sometimes we call it our faith. Some say they have an inner faith. Jesus spoke in terms of the Kingdom of God. People say they are members of the church and others that they are the Church, Christians, or Disciples. There are many names with varying nuances of meaning but in the end they all describe a similar thing. We are a people of Faith, faith in Christ to be sure, but faith is the essence nonetheless.

We are not a business or institution though some would try and reduce us to that. We do not sell or produce anything. We advocate no earthly cause. We serve no worldly authority. We follow Jesus because he was someone special; he was a master sculptor and he is an inspiration.

When we follow him carefully we can chip away faithfully and effectively and what we produce, if rooted in the Master Craftsman, can be beautiful beyond compare. Look carefully and you will see.

Sometimes we come to a church building and we gather and establish our style of doing things. We worship and practise our faith. But we just as well could have met on a hillside or cave...or in the village bus shelter or on Bury Orchard, or at the village shop or the doctors. In such places, this is where Jesus was often found, chipping away.



Have you released your angel yet? No? Well follow this formula as a guide. Gather with other sculptors and learn the way, whenever you get the chance. (There's probably a church with plenty of marble not far from you now!) But then do not forget to start chipping away carefully, each day of your life; give with all your heart, forgive, love your neighbour, and put God at the centre of every stroke you make.

Then watch something really beautiful emerge.

With love and prayer

Nigel and Linda, *Joint Interim Ministers, St Mary's Church*

Betty Mary Longman 22nd July 1928 – 23rd August 2020



Betty, the Nurse, who ended her career as a Matron at St Mary's Hospital, Luton

I was privileged to attend Betty's funeral, who for the past 48 years lived at 2 Monmouth Road. She moved there from Bunyan's Close, and had previously come from Bushey, Hertfordshire with her parents and friend Hope Harris.

I first met Betty at Harlington's Parish Church where she was an enthusiastic member of the choir. Betty loved music - in her lounge was a beautiful baby grand piano and a harp - she played them both. She also played the harmonica and it makes me smile to think of her playing it. In the 1980's Betty did a Pastoral Counselling Course and she encouraged me to join it. It was the start of a journey for me for which I shall be forever grateful. Betty went on to join St Mary's Parish Church in Westoning and made many friends there, in particular the Rev'd Canon Margaret Bettis and Rev'd Nigel Washington who both officiated at her Funeral.

Rev'd Washington said at the funeral: "We are sad at her passing but we are also grateful for her long well-lived life and thankful to have been blessed by her along the years". I am but one who can say that she encouraged and guided me. Since Betty's death there have been many who have spoken of their fondness for her. She was a deeply respected lady. Intelligent, wise, sensitive and compassionate, her counsel was always shrewd and helpful, forward thinking and altruistic and yet I think she would be surprised by such compliments, for she was naturally humble and quickly would resort to a smile, a laugh and a twinkle in the eye if praised.

She was also a highly qualified, vocationally committed lady, personable and principled, determined and resolute, proud and happy; and length of life did not dim these attributes. As a nurse she must have shone hope and happiness in touching so many lives in a long and successful career".

Betty in later life became a bit of a globe-trotter! She brought back many wonderful memories of her family, who live in Canberra, Australia. Once she detoured one of her occasional trips to New Zealand to ensure she was the only Longman to have gone to every family wedding in Australia. Their memory of her was as someone who seemed to be one of those pure, unchanging touchstones you rarely meet in life: positive, generously pragmatic, in control but not pushy.

When the family visited her in Harlington, the children were delighted to meet the tortoise, hear Betty play the harp and feed them with what seemed like the entire contents of Waitrose: she wasn't sure what they liked, so got something of everything.

The family wrote on a card to go with their flowers at the funeral: "a bright light has gone from our lives, but the lovely memories remain." With much love Jon, Sarah, Rachel, Richard, Mags and family

I can only agree with the statement made in Jon Longman's Eulogy "a truly remarkable lady who has a special place in all our hearts".

Vicky Yorke

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Flittabus Services



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07960 388111

as drivers may not be in a position to pick you up if seats are all pre-booked. Please visit www.flittabus.co.uk for further and updated information.

Flittabus Community Transport is a not for profit organisation run and driven by volunteers.

FL6B		Harlington - Westoning - Flitwick (Tesco)	
		Emergency Timetable	
Thursday only			
Harlington, Westoning Road	9.28		
Harlington, Wingate Road (Bunyan Way)	9.30		
Harlington, Goswell End Road (Lay-By)	9.33		
Harlington, Lincoln Way Shops	9.36		
Harlington, Sundon Road (Village Hall)	9.38		
Harlington, Sundon Road (Bury Close)	9.41		
Harlington, Station Road	9.43		
Westoning, The Chequers	9.48		
Westoning, Church Road (Village Hall)	9.50		
Flitwick, Coniston Road (Tesco)	9.55		
Flitwick, Coniston Road (Tesco)	10.55		
Westoning, Church Road (Village Hall)	11.00		
Westoning, The Chequers	11.01		
Harlington, Westoning Road	11.05		
Harlington, Wingate Road (Bunyan Way)	11.07		
Harlington, Goswell End Road (Lay-By)	11.11		
Harlington, Lincoln Way Shops	11.13		
Harlington, Sundon Road (Village Hall)	11.15		
Harlington, Sundon Road (Bury Close)	11.17		
Harlington, Station Road	11.20		

Flit Vale Wildlife Trust *plus* Advertisements



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Northamptonshire

Saturday 7th November

We are offering a mini-event in November. Groups will be limited to six and advance booking is essential. Social distancing will be observed. Mask wearing is optional.



Geology Walk with Derek Turner, BNHS Geology Group

Starting from **Maulden Church Meadows**

Two sessions: **10.00-12.00 or 13.30-15.30**

(if there are insufficient bookings the two sessions will become one morning session)

Bookings: Email flitvale.info@gmail.com or ring Ann on 07580 178889 between 6 & 8 pm or at weekends.

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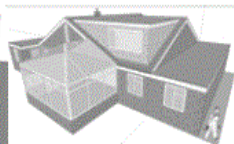
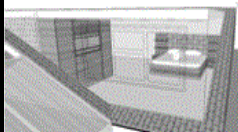
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Harlington Spokes Cycling Club

When lockdown was announced on 23rd March, like most people, I had more time to review my lifestyle choices and decided that one of the best ways to deal with the pandemic was to eat more fruit and veg to aid the immune system and eat less sugar - which is really hard and not successful as yet! Also, to be able to cycle up the hill past The Carpenters Arms Pub without my husband saying “I thought we were on a bike ride”? not a.... “take your bike for a walk dear!”

Whilst pushing my bike up the hill one day, I bumped into Rob Whittle, a villager and keen cyclist, who suggested if I invested in a good pair of road tyres I would go much faster and from that day onwards I haven’t looked back! Rob and I have gone further and started a “**Harlington Spokes Cycling Club**” and Facebook page.

Christmas this year could be a quiet and indeed difficult time for many, but aside from these serious thoughts, getting fitter and not feeling alone is really important. Companionship and being with other like-minded people - not over fit or Speedy Gonzales makes exercise really fun. So.....

Get Fit For Christmas cycling/running times

Every Monday – 8:30 am (contact me for start point) a gentle walk/run equating to 3.5 miles/ 5k.

Every Tuesday at 8:30 am, I will be riding 3 mile circular routes in Harlington as many times as needed up to 15 miles in total. You are welcome to join any time we reach the Village Hall car park as we do our laps. Please email me if you would like to drop into this ride and can’t make the 8.30am start.

Every Wednesday at 9.00 am Rob and I will be cycling 8-10 miles on either road or mountain bikes, for beginners and intermediates meeting at the Village Hall.

Every Friday at 8:30 am (contact me for start point) A gentle walk/run equating to 3.5 miles/ 5k.

Most Sundays 3pm Rob will lead a group of intermediate level riders upwards. Average 15mph and will include enjoying a drink in a pub along the way. Ladies, Gentlemen and 16+ welcome.

Sounds like fun? If you would like to join us, please contact

Claire Hills – clairelhills@hotmail.com

Robert Whittle – 07831 276284

Or join our Facebook page **Harlington Spokes Cycling Club**

We follow the British Cycling guidance on group activities and conform to current Covid 19 Legislation.



LiFE Church *plus* Charity Cycle Fundraiser



To know and love God. To make Him known

Life Church still continues to meet via Zoom:

Sunday service at 6pm for worship, sharing and teaching
and **Wednesday at 7pm** for prayer

Everyone welcome

If you would like to join in with any of these, please contact us for the Zoom link.

If you have any prayer requests or would like to talk to someone the address is below.

We are also planning some exciting alternative Covid Safe Christmas Celebrations with our friends in St. Mary's and the Methodist Church. Look out for details in next month's edition of Contact and Harlington Facebook page.

lifechurchcentralbeds@gmail.com

Michael Asbury - Charity Cycle Fundraiser

This summer village resident, Michael Asbury, took on a cycle challenge to ride 360kms off-road in and around Bedfordshire to improve his fitness and those of his friends and family, while raising money for his Uncle's charity in South Africa (The Sean Williams Living Creatures Trust). This is the length of the Kruger National Park.

For a person with Downs Syndrome, cycling is a particular challenge due to imbalance in their ears. Only a handful of people with Downs Syndrome are able to ride a two-wheeled bike. Thanks to many generous sponsors he raised £2050 which will help support this charity in our challenging times.

If you would like to make a donation to this worthwhile cause please visit the link below:

https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/andrew-asbury?utm_term=N664ePzYN

Thank you

The Asbury Family



Michael crossing the finish line in Tabor Close where our lovely neighbours came out to cheer him through.

Crafternoon Tea *plus* Walking4Health

This afternoon (12th October), Crafternoon Tea met in a hybrid format. I hosted the meeting from the Methodist Church, with two other people in the Church itself, and three others on Zoom. I knew that our attendance would be low today as several people had contacted me in advance to say that they would not make it. However, we will continue to use this format in the future, on condition that it continues to be permitted. We can have five people plus me in the church, socially distanced, and as many on Zoom as care to join in, so if you want to be part of the group, please let me know. For those in the Church, priority will be given to those who do not have internet access at home.

We are not providing refreshments, and those in the church must wear masks.

Crafternoon Tea meets fortnightly on Monday afternoons, between 2 and 4 pm. If you want to join us – either on Zoom, or in the building if there is space – please let me know and I will make sure you are included. You do not have to be working at any particular craft, we welcome any craft.

Our October meetings will be 12th and 26th, further dates can be found on the website below:

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



The picture (right) shows patchwork appliquéd to a hessian bag.

Walking4Health - Harlington

A safe way to stay fit, enjoy the village and meet fellow residents

We continue to walk every second Friday so please do join us while the weather and restrictions allow!

We now have two walk leaders for each walk – one being a 90 minute hack over mixed ground via the public footpaths, and the other a shorter, 30 to 40 minute walk around the village, which is ideal if you want to stay close by or have limited ability.

As always you can choose on the day.

Next dates are: **6th and 20th November** and **4th and 18th December**.

We start as usual from the village hall car park at 10.30am.

One of us will be there rain or shine even if just to cancel or walk one to one!

The Walking for Health Team,
07887 708304



HNH *plus* HiB

(Working in partnership with the Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity)

Harlington Neighbourhood Help Good Neighbour Scheme Update

We are looking for more Driver Volunteers

As we reported last month, we are now driving a small number of clients to appointments again where other options are not available. This includes trips to the L&D, vets, opticians, dentists and doctors surgeries.

As a few of our driver volunteers are still isolating we need some extra support, particularly from anyone with a vehicle that allows clients to keep their distance. We usually ask passengers to sit in the back seat where possible and we provide masks, antibacterial wipes and 45p per mile to cover expenses.

Please get in touch if you can help. Your insurance must cover you and ideally you would be D&B checked.



07849 835410



Sue Whittle, HNH Co-ordinator

Harlington in Bloom



Autumn Planting: you will probably be reading this just before we complete our Autumn planting on October 31st. The week preceding will have been spent clearing the Summer bedding, which truly marks the end of Summer.

Helpers will be meeting at the Village Hall at 10am – come with trowels and gloves if you have some. We will be planting out wallflowers, pansies and bellis. Do get in touch if you'd like to join us, or just come on the day.

Presentation of Awards: Unable to host an Awards Evening this year, trophies were presented to individual winners by the HiB President, David Barrick, in early October. Thankfully, it was a sunny day for our trip around the village!

Volunteers: 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. We are looking for a new volunteer to water the planter at the top of Goswell End Road. Do get in touch for more information.

HiB Committee



*Sanjeev & Sunita. The Shop Harlington
Best Commercial Premises Award*

Harlington Remembers

From, *Harlington Heydays and Highlights*. Edna Wilsher

'When the end of the war was announced I was home on leave. I had about eighteen months more to do to the end of my service. There were many soldiers to be brought home for demobilisation and others, younger lads mostly, to be sent out for the clearing up process. Harlington village wasted no time in celebrating the announcement that the war had come to an end. They gathered on the Square to dance to music that was provided. My friend Topper was also home on leave and as the boys were not yet home there was a shortage of male partners and people hung back, perhaps too shy to take to the "floor" just outside the Manor in the central part of the village. So Topper and I gave demonstrations of ballroom dancing and included the Jitterbug, frowned on by some of the older members of the community. I thought my mother would be cross with me, but no, this time I was excused and she did not say 'I never know what she's going to do next!' Maybe she had resigned herself to it at last.

All this time that the war had been on, my very first friend of early childhood days, Joan, had been doing her bit for her country, making uniforms for the Army and Air Force at a firm called Eastex in Luton, a very responsible task indeed, for what would our boys have done without their Service clothes to wear? Everyone served their country in the village in their own respective way.

When an Armistice service was held in Harlington Parish Church after the war I was again home on leave, this time just for the weekend, so I was able to attend still in my khaki uniform. One other person in Service uniform was also present, a soldier, Aubrey Baker who was serving in the Army. His parents lived along Barton Road, opposite the lovely hills. It was a proud but humble moment for us when our names were read out during the roll call of those in the Services.'

It would appear from Edna's book that sometime after the war a service was held in the Parish Church to celebrate both VE Day and VJ Day. Aubrey Baker was in a Japanese prison camp and had returned home. No mention was made of Reg Chappell who may have still been in a Japanese Camp in Thailand along with Alf Sparvell, or Laurence Beasley, men of the *Forgotten Army* in the Far East. When Reg came home he was in a bit of a state and was nursed back to health by Doris Sparvell (Topper, whom he later married). Pte. James Gillet, was captured at Singapore, dying shortly after coming home in Adelaide Cottages. Ernie Morgan, POW No. 70617, was detained by the Germans in Stalag 12b from August 1944 to June 1945.

Hence 21 years after the Great War, Harlington had to prepare once again for conflict. The firing range over the Sundon Hills used in the first war was still there as were houses and farms at the bottom of Harlington Vale. *The Tasker's* Little Giant engine at that time now powered a large sheet of steel was used to scrape down the chalk face at the Carner Hill Lime Works. The only difference being that the chalk was transported over the hill to the Sundon Cement Works in Dumper Trucks for processing instead of going through the village to the station. (See *Old Harlington in Camera*) The Rising Sun gained an additional window above the tap room that would allow officers to view the firing range while drinking G&Ts.

Harlington Remembers (Cont/d)

Doctor O'Donnell MBB, held surgery on Tuesdays and Fridays in Clark's Old Bake House now 27 Sundon Road. War Weapons Week raised £189 8s 1½ d.

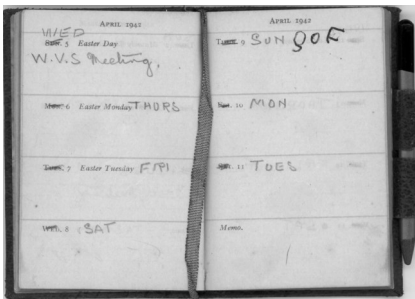
Stella Inwards (ne'e Giles) collected a huge ball of string as part of Saving for Britain campaign.

Farms become more valuable for food production allowing the owners at the war's end to purchase the land at a subsidised rate. POWs became useful on farms and some married into local families. Harlington men did not contribute (100+) so heavily as in the Great War.

The station once again played an important role but in a slightly different manner. Rubbish wagons from London would stand in the sidings overnight before delivery to the tip at Sundon. One of these smelt very heavily, upon closer inspection it was found to be full of dead monkeys! Once again troops for war games began to use the station which was bombed on 1st Oct 1940 at 4.55am. Three bombs fell 400 yards north of the station on the west side of the line. "Give us some gum chum," was the cry from local boys as they followed American G.I. trucks around the village. "Only if you have a sister mister," came the reply. American graffiti was found on the inside of Piggot's Farm. Drunken G.I.s from the three pubs would use the path behind Sunnymeade Villas in Sundon Road and the Military Police would 'lay them out and carry them off.' The Americans and Canadians had camps down Sundon Road but so far no cap badges have been found to identify which units took part in the exercises.

Around 40, teachers and pupils from The William Morris Memorial School, in Walthamstow, were billeted in the village. Juniors attended the big school in Church Road and Infants in the Old Chapel, Sundon Road. The evacuees were billeted by Parish Clerk, Bill (Bert) Brown. (see Bernard Poulten's memoirs) No doubt various

troops lodged in the village. Many tents were erected down Sundon Road and we were splitting at the seams between 1942 and late spring 1944 with troops training for D Day. Much of the training used live rounds sometimes at night with Search Lights. There were quite a few accidents! During refurbishment a 303 round was found embedded in the front of one of the council houses along Barton Road. Polish Troops would not take the caps off (preventing detonation) the 2 inch mortars. They would end up sticking out of the ground like mushrooms!



Lily Baker's re used diary found in her sewing basket a few years ago.

Many villagers contributed to this article. Thank you.

Russell Preston

Due to space constraints we've had to split this article - the second half next month.

Letters regarding the Parish Hall East Room

Being isolated since March, and an unsociable bugger, it was only recently that I was aware of the possible shenanigans regarding the Parish Hall East Room.

If people are unhappy about a situation, then do something effective about it.

Options may include:-

- Lobbying the Parish Councillors to take a particular stance on an issue
- Demanding a Parish meeting, from which a vote might show no confidence in the Councillors (who are the ones who instruct the Parish Clerk)
- Petitioning the District Council to hold a governance review of the Parish Council (7.5% or more must sign such a petition and it may cost.)
- Having words with your District Councillor(s) who happen to have experience of HPC
- Standing as a Parish Councillor (because it rarely comes to a vote). I did.

Some time ago I suggested a list be produced of those jobs which had to be done, and a second list of those which it would be desirable to do. This was to curb 'empire building' and to keep staffing cost and the precept reasonable.

HPC has one of the highest precepts in the County, and other Parishes, some much larger than Harlington, seem to manage on much less. It is amazing how a pain in the pocket concentrates the mind, especially when Council Taxes take over half your State Pension..

In the end, it is up to you. You get what you deserve, and if you are not prepared to work on behalf of your community, then others will do as they wish. As the quote goes "All it takes for evil to succeed is for good people to do nothing".

Graham Cooper

SOS - Save Our Space - SOS

The campaign against the threatened loss of the Parish Hall East Room is not over yet! The Parish Council effectively decided in principle, last year, to spend your council tax money on providing the Clerk with a nice new, bigger, office in the East Room. They met opposition then and have since used Covid-19 as a reason to *temporarily* relocate the office. Can you imagine it ever being moved back? Apparently the villagers would be able to use the vacated office space instead of the East Room. According to the HPC website, it's remote from the toilets and kitchen and 'there is a lack of heating!' Well that's a good deal for the village, isn't it?

Needless to say, the council don't want to consult with you, the parishioners. Was it mentioned in the Paperchain for instance, either last year or this time around? It was not. They are consulting with St Mary's church and us. It seems the council rule book on consulting states:- Tell them what we want. Ignore their objections and solutions to our problem. Keep on regurgitating our intentions. Then we can say we consulted and do it anyway.

Cont'd

The East Room (Cont'd)

Are you happy with this situation? Once this piece of village amenity is gone – it will be gone for good.

It may not affect you now, but it will be to the detriment of village life in the future. If you are not happy with this, why not tell your councillors? Their contact details are on the HPC website.

The Wednesday Morning Games Group

I understand that the proposed take-over of part of the Parish Hall is still on-going. Therefore it was interesting to see that Central Bedfordshire Council are taking the opposite view and are canvassing residents to have their say to aid planning recreational facilities for the future. They say they are ‘consulting residents, businesses and organisations’ on their draft strategy. They go on to say

‘There are a number of areas where there are choices to be made and priorities to be set. We think that involving residents before taking decisions is the right thing to do’

Perhaps Harlington Parish Council should take note!

https://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/info/81/leisure_and_countryside/850/consultations_on_leisure_facilities_and_physical_activity_strategies

A Concerned Parishoner

St Mary’s Church and Parish Hall use

St Mary’s Church has had rights to use the Parish Hall for at least 150 years, probably more. For the past 2 months whilst HPC have kept the Parish Hall closed, the church building has been kept open for all, with the church organising Covid secure services which adhere to current strict Government and Church of England guidelines. Services have been held for Harlington villagers – regular services, plus funerals, memorials, and a wedding.

This pattern of worship is now being hampered by members of the congregation being barred from using the East Room of the Parish Rooms and the essential toilets which are alongside. This despite detailed Covid risk assessments being presented to the Council with assurances that cleaning and sanitising will be meticulous. In truth only one or two people use the toilets each service, when needed, but the knowledge they are there is such an assurance to those in the congregation. St Mary’s is keen to serve the village with services and pastoral care but to do this it needs access to the facilities we have used for generations. After extended discussion with HPC, the plan was to begin Sunday access from October 18th.

However, at Full Council on October 12th, HPC resolved to ‘close’ the Hall to all users, meaning it is now only used by HPC employees. This despite a long-standing Conveyance agreement, signed by HPC and the Church (when ownership of the Hall passed to HPC), which gives St Mary’s use of the Hall on Sundays. St Mary’s is still trying to resolve this issue with HPC.

Neil & Tricia Churchwardens, on behalf of St Mary’s Church

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Harlington WI *plus* HHT

theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN

Putting pen to paper for the November Contact I was in a bit of a quandary as to what to write. With everything postponed until the WI and Government guidelines allow, I was searching for inspiration.

So here is my ode to Harlington WI:

*The virus is still with us,
The guidelines always there,
Our monthly meetings still on hold
It really isn't fair!*

*The programme we had organised
Now unable to proceed,
The speakers have been cancelled,
It's serious indeed!*

*Our members have to be kept safe,
The village Hall is shut,
The numbers keep on rising,
The rules tell us "Stay put!"*

*We're hoping that before too long
Our meetings will resume,
We'll get together face to face
And not rely on Zoom!*

*So let's all hope that sometime soon
We'll sing Jerusalem,
We will renew our friendships
And we will meet again!*

As soon as we can hold our meetings safely and within all the guidelines, we will be in touch.

In the meantime, take care and stay safe.

Sally Tombe

For further information please contact Lin Merrison on 01525 757161.

HHT

As said in the previous Contact Magazines, due to Covid 19 continuing, all remaining items on this year's HHT Programme for November and December are cancelled. Hopefully, as the pandemic diminishes, we will be able to re-instate some of these events in 2021. Just to remind members there will be no Programme Card with the HHT December Newsletter. Instead events for 2021, if we can go ahead at any time, will be listed in future editions of the Newsletter and in this Magazine. All Memberships will now cover both 2020 and 2021; no fees will be charged for next year.

Quarterly Newsletters will continue to be distributed in the normal manner.

The Trust's AGM will be postponed until the Government advises that these kind of events can take place.

Take care everyone and keep well.

Barbara Thurston, HHT Secretary

Methodist Chapel *plus* HVH 100 Club

Our services continue to be on Zoom and live streamed. We are leaving it up to the preacher and the congregation as to whether they come to the church or join us from home. Anyone is welcome to join us in church. We are projecting the Zoom participants onto the screen in church, and showing the church participants on Zoom. The congregation has to be socially distanced, to wear face coverings, not to sing, and to leave immediately the service finishes, without time for conversation in the building. This comes quite hard.



We seem to have got our live streaming sorted; check out our YouTube channel, Harlington Methodist Church, either to see the service while it is being streamed, or to watch the recording later.

November preachers are:

- 1st Nov Martin Wallis – “Come and See”
- 8th Nov Remembrance Sunday - Details still under discussion
- 15th Nov Rev Nina Johnson
- 22nd Nov Rev David East
- 29th Nov Tina and Clive Salmon –
“Come and See” for the first Sunday of Advent

Our circulated material is available on <https://www.southbedsmethodist.org.uk>
If you want to join us, our service time is 10 am, with the link normally sent out the day before. Email me, clivedsalmon@aol.com, or phone 874481 to be added to the link email list.

The Ladies Bright Hour, having tried meeting under Covid Secure conditions, have decided to pause again.

Our monthly virtual Coffee Mornings will continue on the last Saturday of the month. Again, contact me to be added to the list.

Clive

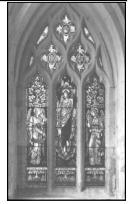
HVH 100 Club

The winner for October is Diane Stone of Westoning Road with ticket number 6
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*

St. Mary's Church Services in November

Sunday service at 9.30am: there will be a service at 9.30am every Sunday throughout November except on the 8th Nov when there will be a gathering after the Service of Remembrance at the Memorial at 11.10am. Social distancing will be observed in these services and face masks will need to be worn.



On Sunday 1st Nov at 5pm there will be a service of **In Loving Memory** when there will be an opportunity to remember those who have died, those we still love but no longer see. The names of those to be remembered and read out during the service should be forwarded to a minister (see below).

Within the quintet of churches including Toddington, Chalgrave, Westoning, Tingrith and Harlington, we continue to offer a **Recorded Service** each week. The service is produced with the wonderful musical support of Nicholas Hopton and editing skills of Robert Johns and can be viewed from Sunday onwards on our Facebook and Website pages.

Wednesday service at 10am: there is a service in church which is normally led by Revd Elizabeth Bradley.

A Quintet **Upper Room Service** takes place **each Sunday at 6pm**. Join people from across the Quintet in an hour when you do not need to stray from your home. There's music, scripture, reflection and prayer, in a time where you can just sit and listen. Contact a minister for an invitation to the Upper Room.

WEDDINGS, BAPTISMS and FUNERALS

St Mary's Church is the parish church for the people of Harlington and we are keen to support villagers in times of sorrow and in times of celebration. To that end we are able to offer Funerals, Baptisms and Weddings. Please speak to a minister. Details are below.

Useful links are: Website: www.harlingtonchurch.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/stmarysharlington/

A Church Near You: <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/7667>

If you would like a chat or prayer, or would like to discuss marriages, funerals or baptisms please call us on **01525 714442**. or email nwashy2@gmail.com.

Revd Linda & Revd Nigel Washington, Ministers & Dr Robert Johns, Reader

1st November Holy Communion at 9.30am In Loving Memory at 5pm
(A service remembering those we love but see no longer)



8th November Remembrance Service at 11.10 after
Act of Remembrance at the Village Memorial

15th November Holy Communion at 9.30am

22nd November Holy Communion at 9.30am

29th November Holy Communion at 9.30am

Midweek Services continue at 10am each Wednesday

Church Warden's Report



QUIZ: Thanks to all those who joined in with our Zoom Quiz Night. An interesting and challenging range of questions which led to much laughter and puzzlement too! Who amongst us knew where Henry III kept his pet polar bear in the 13th century? Well done to our winners – a truly impressive final score. We also had a Quiz in cookery todayit was a piece of cake!

PRAYER WEEKEND: Thursday 24th September 2pm to midnight on Saturday 26th. Churches Together in Harlington organised a weekend of prayer with the theme “Draw Closer to the Heart of God” ending with a service in the Methodist Church on Sunday 27th. Spending time in an actual tent for an hour or two - our Prayer Tent - provided a time to reflect and pray - for family and friends and for challenging situations around the world.

BELLS: I'm afraid that at the time of writing the bells are silent once more – yet another fault with the circuit board. The board went for repair on the 8th October and hopefully by the time you read this all will be well. The photo shows some of the 8 bells in situ in the tower. Of the 8 the oldest dates from the 15th century, 2 are dated 1590, 1 is dated 1697 and 1 is dated 1715, which was then recast in 1900. We have a potential new “assistant” to help our current expert care for the clock and bells, and we would like to say “thank you” to Andrew Fishpool for taking such an interest.



(Andrew will be writing an article for Contact next month - Ed)



FOOD BANK: The last 4 deliveries to the food bank totalled approximately 300 kilos! Please donate sealed, in date, tins or packets, as they cannot store fresh and frozen products. A recent request was especially for puddings – rice, sponge etc. They have plenty of ordinary rice, pasta and baked beans! Many thank again to Sanjeev and Sunita at The Shop for kindly being a collection point for the village.

For information about services and other events, please visit our website www.harlingtonchurch.org, Facebook page or church noticeboard. Or please give me a call.

Best wishes,

Tricia. Churchwarden, 07711 511729



Brain Tumour Research *plus* Harlington Hedgehogs



Inspired!!

So having watched Gardeners World tonight I thought how similar my experience has been to Kate Garraway: A desire to make a beautiful garden to relax and find peace in. A desire to produce flowers and memories that would linger and live on. A desire to plant flowers and plants that would provide hope and now a desire to provide plants that not only remind us of Pete but also raise funds to prevent others suffering - to raise awareness of the Brain Tumour charity and the great work it achieves.

I will continue this dream despite these difficult times. There will always be plants, seasonal fruit and vegetables as I and my supporters are able to supply. Please continue to support us.

Sadly another coffee morning is cancelled but I will still have Christmas cards available. If you wish to purchase any please give me a call on 01525 875404. 10 cards for £4.

Thank you for your continued support.

Jane, Emma Barltrop and Alice Sulaj



Harlington Hedgehogs



We have all noticed a drop in temperature as we are now heading into autumn and so looking out for smaller hedgehogs is important. The smaller ones may be late hoglets and finding it difficult to put on the required weight before hibernation. Keep putting food (meaty/ biscuit cat or dog food – not fish flavoured) and plenty of water.

This will help the smaller hogs gain the weight they need over the next few months.

If you are not able to put out extra food, another way you can help is by having a messy area in your garden. This will encourage natural food for the hedgehogs. You can also build a small log pile with an entrance where a hedgehog may take up residence in preparation for hibernating (a wooden box or pet carrier would work just as well!). There is still plenty of time over the next few months for hedgehogs to gain weight and find a home but we can all help them with these small extras. Keep watching the hedgehogs over the coming months in preparation for when the colder weather starts, so you will know if you have any particularly small hedgehogs which may need rescuing when we get the first hard frosts.

Please note that before the next edition, we will have had bonfire night – if you plan to have a bonfire PLEASE check the wood pile before lighting it – better still, completely move it so you can be certain there are no hedgehogs or other small animals asleep in there.

Frances Mitchell



Wedding Congratulations *plus* Messy Church

It's great to announce some good news this year!

September 26th 2020 was a very special day for Richard Hughes and Fiona Tomalin. After weeks of uncertainty as to whether their wedding could go ahead, Richard and Fiona made their vows and became Mr and Mrs Hughes.

Richard has lived in Harlington all his life. You may recognise him from Poplars Garden Centre where he has worked for many years.

The ceremony took place at Elim Pentecostal Church, Northampton, Fiona's home church where, despite social distancing and mask wearing, we were made to feel very welcome.

We wish them a very happy future together.

Rosie Hughes



Messy Church



We are not expecting to be able to hold Messy Church before Christmas, but will continue at least with the same virtual arrangement we have used since lockdown. Having reopened the building we experimented in September with a different approach, but unfortunately could not get it to work. We're going to try again, so look out for some "live" material in November. 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.

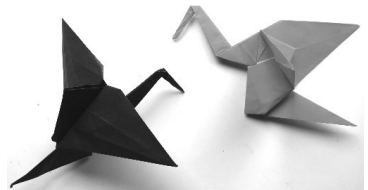
Our September material included making a crane, the bird not the machine, as part of the stories relating to Creation and Harvest. If you pull the birds tail, it's wings flap. Paper cranes are also used in Japan as a symbol of peace.

In November, our theme is John the Baptist, whose birth came just before Jesus's, and who is the forerunner for Jesus.

In the ever more 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. This would be 21st November, but keep an eye on Facebook and our website.

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

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