

# Editorial

Dear Villagers,

Well - as luck would have it, I accepted an offer on my house the day after writing my last editorial so it's all systems go! (I hope!).

I used to worry about writing these editorials, but found the best way to do it was after all the magazine was done and just about to go to the printers i.e. don't think about it too much!

I've loved the last 2 years as Editor, and will probably be able to edit February's Contact too but, if not, Clive will be stepping back if no one else volunteers - come on - someone must want a challenge!

Once settled in hopefully sunnier climes to mis-quote 'The Terminator' "I may be back"! Assuming I can sort out the wi-fi!

I hope you all had as lovely a Christmas as possible given the Covid-19 constraints. Let's hope with the vaccine, we can start to live normally again.

I'd like to wish you all a very Happy and Healthy 2021.

Best wishes

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.

**February copy by 12<sup>th</sup> January please.**

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

## CONTACT

Harlington Village Magazine

### Editor

Lois Fowler 15 Park Leys, Harlington

### e-mail and advertising

[harlingtonvillagemagazine@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:harlingtonvillagemagazine@yahoo.co.uk)

### Distribution

Lois Fowler / Sue Whittle

### Postal Subscriptions

Betty Goodge

01525 873725

### Treasurer

Sue Whittle

07887 708304

## Contents

Letter from St Mary's Church	4 & 5
HiB	5
Flit Vale Wild Life Trust	6
Flittabus	8
Harlington Hedgehogs	9
Story of a Pilgrimage	10 & 11
LiFE Church	11
New Year's Day Walk	12
HNH AGM	13
Harlington Remembers	14 & 15
Letters	16 & 17
Messy Church	17
WI	20
100 Club	20
HHT	20
Methodist Chapel	21
St Mary's Services	22
St Mary's Warden	23
Walking4Health	23
Brain Tumour Research	24
Christmas Trail at The Gables	24
Crafternoon Tea	25
0-4 Club	

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

# Advertisements



**StotenGillam**  
chartered accountants  
chartered tax advisers

Our aim is to provide an outstanding professional, cost effective and friendly service

- ✓ Established over 50 years
- ✓ Traditional values with forward thinking and modern technology
- ✓ Full range of business and personal accountancy and tax services
- ✓ Latest cloud software
- ✓ Free initial meeting



**Tel: 01582 608601**  
99 High Street South,  
Dunstable, LU6 3SF

Contact us today:  
[enquiries@stotengillam.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@stotengillam.co.uk)  
[www.stotengillam.co.uk](http://www.stotengillam.co.uk)  
f @stotengillam

## Washing Machines Dryers - Dishwashers Repairs, Servicing & Sales



A local family business offering a quality service at a competitive price  
Est. 1981



**Tel: 01525 860148**  
**Or Tim Downing direct on**  
**07969 545 276**

A member of the  
White Goods Trade Association  
Fully insured



## **GARAGE** service x repair

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

**Tel 01582 504929/ 07860209098.**

We repair/service **all makes and models** and no job is too big.

We have competitive rates and customer satisfaction is paramount to us.

I have customers who live in the village, who would happily provide a reference if requested.

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

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

## Advertisements

# COMPSTON ENTERPRISES

## Heating and Plumbing

Boiler Services, Complete Heating, Boiler Breakdowns,  
Washing Machines plumbed in, Bathrooms, Leaks,  
Electrical Re-wires, Extra Sockets, Alarm Systems etc. etc.

**Contact David Compston 01525 873846.**

Registered with CORGI and I.O.P.

**ESTABLISHED OVER TWO DECADES.**

**Web:** [www.compston.net](http://www.compston.net)

**E-mail:** [davidlcompston@compston.net](mailto:davidlcompston@compston.net)



**We'll get you up and running!**

We offer the very best physiotherapy care from a friendly approachable team of nine highly trained Chartered Physiotherapists

All our practitioners are Chartered Physiotherapists and members of the Health Profession Council

**We Have Moved** Daytime, Evening and Saturday appointments available

**We also offer...**  
Acupuncture, Reflexology, Pilates, Nutrition advice,  
Food intolerance testing, Therapeutic Massage,  
Massage, Reiki, Chinese Herbalist

**Amphill & Flitwick Physiotherapy Clinic**  
T: 01525 720882 F: 01525 720886  
[www.chartered-physiotherapy.co.uk](http://www.chartered-physiotherapy.co.uk)

**NEW ADDRESS: 1 Kings Road, Flitwick MK45 1ED**



---

# Letter from St Mary's Church

---

Dear Friends,

The Christian faith is not essentially about a building, a denomination, or an institution full of tradition. At its heart, Christianity is not a set of rules or a religious structure. The Christian faith is essentially about a "now" relationship with God through Jesus Christ and the essence of Christianity is not about the past but about right now.

Of course, faith has an important component that *remembers* the past. We have just been recalling the Birth of Jesus and marked it in the village with a Nativity Trail which many followed. We recall God's saving acts on the cross, for example. We remember what God has done for us in the past. But faith is only alive when it impels us to continue to live out our faith in the present, in the now. St. James said, "Faith without deeds is dead" (James 2:26).

Sometimes I find myself interrupting and starting to answer before someone has finished speaking. Oh, that is not good. But when we are tradition-bound, we do that to God. We stop listening because we assume we already know what he'll say and that he'll never say anything new in the future. We become presumptuous.

By our traditions we second-guess God about what he wants us to do tomorrow or about how he wants us to react to a situation we're faced with today. Dear friends, this is not just wrong, it is deadly!

The religious, tradition-bound Pharisees of Jesus' day resisted him more strongly than anyone else. And he didn't mince words when he confronted them. He said: "Isaiah was right when he prophesied about you hypocrites; as it is written:

'These people honour me with their lips,  
but their hearts are far from me.  
They worship me in vain;  
their teachings are but rules taught by men.'

You have let go of the commands of God and are holding on to the traditions of men....You have a fine way of setting aside the commands of God in order to observe your own traditions!" (Mark 7:6-9)

Wow! What would Jesus say to our churches today? What would he say to me individually, what would he say to *you*?

Is your own personal faith focused primarily on the past, on the traditions of your upbringing? Or is it focused on God in the present, right now? Are you listening so hard to your past that you can't hear God in the present? Are you hard of hearing — spiritually? I strongly believe God longs to speak to you and me afresh today. He is a loving God and he longs to link with us.

Cont'd...

---

## Letter from St Mary's Church (Cont'd) *plus* HiB

---

Jesus wants to renew his personal relationship with you today, this week. Not just to get together to talk about old times, but to talk about today and the fresh new tomorrow, about your future. About the exciting plans he has for you in the new year. He longs to show us new ways.

We can never let the traditions we value become a substitute for a present day relationship with the living Christ, since the essence of the Christian gospel is that Jesus is alive today!

Can I encourage you to pray right now? That might sound silly but please give it a try. Just sit somewhere quiet and surrender a couple of minutes. Be sure to ask God what he wants you to think about and what he wants you to do today. Ask what he wants you to do in this New Year. Ask God to share with you his dreams and visions for you and share your dreams with God, too. As you discuss your dreams with the God of the Future, be assured he will guide and mature them.

*Lord, I confess that sometimes I have confused traditions with present-day faith. I've coasted on the memories of the past and what I thought you were, while neglecting to earnestly seek you and your will for me in the here-and-now. Forgive me. Let me hear and enter fully into your New Year's plans for me. In Jesus' name, I pray. Amen.*

With love and prayer

**Reverend Linda Washington**

**Reverend Nigel Washington**

Joint Interim Ministers

St Mary's Church

([lindajwash@hotmail.com](mailto:lindajwash@hotmail.com), [nwashy2@gmail.com](mailto:nwashy2@gmail.com). 01525 714442)

---

## Harlington in Bloom

---



**AGM:** our AGM is due to take place on February 12<sup>th</sup> 2021 in the Parish Hall, but with things as they are, this will most likely be delayed until later in the year – we will let you know in the February Contact, and via the village Facebook page.

**Volunteers:** the more the merrier! You just come whenever you are free for any of the work parties – weeding or planting.

If you'd like to find out more, please contact Ian on 874720 or Tricia on 07711 511729.

*HiB Committee*



---

# Flit Vale on-line Talks

---



Bedfordshire  
Cambridgeshire  
Northamptonshire

Protecting wildlife close to home

Hello and Happy New Year!

Our Flitvale Wildlife Trust group has been quiet for a while. Our attempts to arrange some socially distanced walks started well with a tree walk in Maulden Woods in early October. It was then abruptly stopped again with the second lockdown. Hopefully we will be able to start walks again in spring 2021.

Impressed by the quality of Zoom talks and question-answer/chat opportunities arranged by other groups we are hoping to go ahead with two evening talks in the New Year:



**27 January 2021**

## **Talk on 'Moths' by Andy & Melissa Banthorpe**

Our County moth recorders will give an insight into these fascinating insects, including the trends in moth migration and how this is changing with climate change.

**24 February**

## **Talk on 'Future Wildlife' by Brian Eversham, CEO of the Wildlife Trust, BCN**

Brian will speculate on what our wildlife might be like in 50 years' time, if the Trust succeeds in its aims. A thought-provoking discussion of future habitats and the species which may live in them, especially in response to the warming climate.

Please contact Ann de Winter (our Event sOrganiser) on [flitvale.info@gmail.com](mailto:flitvale.info@gmail.com) if you wish to participate in these talks. She will send instructions on how to log on nearer the time.

Stay safe!

*Julia Burkett*  
*Chairwoman, Flitvale WLT Group*



# Advertisements

**bacp**

Registered Member  
379415  
MBACP

"Focus on  
positive change  
& well-being"

*Counselling for Adults and Young People  
Based at Harlington Manor*

email: [natasha@harlingtoncounselling.co.uk](mailto:natasha@harlingtoncounselling.co.uk)  
telephone: 01525 591025  
visit: [www.harlingtoncounselling.co.uk](http://www.harlingtoncounselling.co.uk)



*Harlington Counselling*

**T. R. P. Decorations**

**Partnership**

**Established 1997**

**Local Trustworthy and  
Reliable**

**Interior and Exterior  
Decorating**

**Carl: 07984357903**

**Lee: 07746093365**

**Email:**

**[trpdecorations@aol.co.uk](mailto:trpdecorations@aol.co.uk)**

**VAT No. 690 4023 51**

**GARDEN NURSE**  
caring for your garden

Friendly and reliable Gardener based in  
Bedfordshire for regular garden maintenance or  
one off jobs. RHS Certificate, fully insured.

**MOWING**

**DIGGING**

**PRUNING**

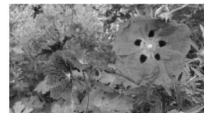
**WEEDING**

**PLANTING**

**HEDGE TRIMMING**

**CREATING NEW BEDS**

**TRAINING OVERGROWN AREAS**



To discuss your garden needs or to  
find out more, contact Clare:

**07870 415253**

**[garden.nurse@outlook.com](mailto:garden.nurse@outlook.com)**

**[www.gardennurse.co.uk](http://www.gardennurse.co.uk)**

# Flittabus Services



The Flittabus route **FL6B** from Harlington to Flitwick on Thursday mornings will continue throughout January and February and for as long as we have volunteers.

We can take up to 8 passengers under current rules. However if we have more than 8 people booked by a Wednesday lunchtime we will put on two buses. This service is free to anyone of pension age. You can hail it on the route and the driver can usually drop you off very close to your front door. The service will operate on the below amended timetable and will be subject to a number of safety measures in place to protect our passengers and drivers.

Prebooking is very strongly recommended, and you can now do this locally by calling **Sue Whittle on 07887 708304**. Helpline - 07960 388111

<b>FL6B</b>	<b>Harlington - Westoning - Flitwick (Tesco)</b>				
	<b>Emergency Timetable</b>				

## Thursday only

Harlington, Westoning Road	9.28
Harlington, Wingate Road (Bunyan Way)	9.30
Harlington, Goswell End Road (Lay-By)	9.33
<b>Harlington, Lincoln Way Shops</b>	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
<b>Flitwick, Coniston Road (Tesco)</b>	9.55
<b>Flitwick, Coniston Road (Tesco)</b>	10.55
Westoning, Church Road (Village Hall)	11.00
<b>Westoning, The Chequers</b>	11.01
<b>Harlington, Westoning Road</b>	11.05
Harlington, Wingate Road (Bunyan Way)	11.07
Harlington, Goswell End Road (Lay-By)	11.11
<b>Harlington, Lincoln Way Shops</b>	11.13
<b>Harlington, Sundon Road (Village Hall)</b>	11.15
Harlington, Sundon Road (Bury Close)	11.17
<b>Harlington, Station Road</b>	11.20

Please visit [www.flittabus.co.uk](http://www.flittabus.co.uk) for further and updated information.

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



---

## Harlington Hedgehogs

---



Happy New Year to you all and thank you for your efforts through 2020 in helping hedgehogs. We are now into a new year and hopefully a good one, not only for us but for the hedgehog population as well. I noticed a lot of the Christmas adverts featured a hedgehog, raising awareness of them, which is great! Please keep putting out extra food and fresh water as this will be essential over the next few months. Although hedgehogs will be well into hibernation, they do still come out every now and then for food/water. Those that were particularly small before hibernating will most likely be the ones to come out, so keep an eye for small hedgehogs as they may need rescuing. Any under 400g will need to be taken to a Rescue Centre.

At the start of December I listened to a radio interview with the Hedgehog Preservation Society in regards to the road awareness signs that were due to help the hedgehog population. It was shocking to hear that in England, only 4 local Councils applied for the signs, all of which were declined due to lack of evidence of their requirement. This is very disappointing. I tried for a year to get these signs for Harlington, using the information you all provided of hedgehog sightings, but the Council would not even apply for the signs. We have therefore, an alternative sign on three of our resident's private property, facing the road and I will be asking residents in key areas if further signs can be displayed.



*Official Road Sign*

I have heard on the Harlington Hedgehog Facebook page of residents making tunnels into their gardens for hedgehogs to gain access. This access is crucial for hedgehogs to roam around as many gardens as possible for food. This is something small but has a massive impact!

So, thank you again for all your efforts.

*Frances Mitchell*



*Our sign provided by Pricklebums Hedgehog Rescue in Ludlow*

*Please join the Harlington Hedgehog Facebook Page to keep informed on Hedgehog and wildlife welfare. For the Leighton Buzzard Rescue Centre please call 01525 759916.*

---

# Story of a Pilgrimage: Harlington

---

The ancient practice of Pilgrimage seems to be enjoying a resurgence. The land used to be criss-crossed with ancient walking routes, such as the Icknield Way, for pilgrims to Canterbury and St Albans.

Whilst walking the John Bunyan Trail in ‘micro’ pilgrimages of one day, or overnight trips, at the end of 2020, I found myself “champing” on the stretch from Streatley to Harlington. Champing is where a church kindly lets pilgrims sleep on a floor, or in the churchyard, with pilgrims getting their dinner at a local hostelry. Thankfully permission was granted for my ‘wild camp’ in the churchyard and I chose the branch of an ancient Yew to hitch up the basha under which to sleep.



**Why become a pilgrim?** Why put yourself through such effort and sometimes hardship? There’s a deep human urge to set out on journeys of discovery, to visit sacred sites like churches, ancient monuments, beauty spots, healing springs of water. It’s a chance to slow down to the pace of a walking rhythm, to get away from distractions and even listen to the God who we find is speaking to us already - when we listen. Jesus himself invited his followers ‘*Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest.*’ Mark 6:31

**What did I learn?** You learn about LIFE on pilgrimage: enjoying the journey, rather than rushing to the destination as the sole ‘achievement’. John Bunyan’s life and amazing novel *Pilgrim’s Progress* inspire me. In November 1660, warned that a warrant was out for his arrest, he didn’t swerve from his calling to preach at Lower Samsell Farm. Brought before the local magistrate at Harlington House resulted in 12 years in Bedford gaol. Bunyan is still honoured in St Mary’s church - a kind of reconciliation or vindication in a church that once persecuted him. Symbolically, a thick branch of the local Bunyan’s Oak now supports a beautiful wooden altar table. There’s even a stained glass window commemorating him.



**HUMILITY & DEPENDENCE** on others. Thirsty, I had to stop and knock on a door to ask for water. The householder kindly showed me the tap and trustingly left me to myself to drink. The kindness of strangers.

**THE SIMPLE PLEASURES OF CREATION** – enjoy them. Plucking sweet and bitter blackberries from hedgerows. Boiling up a cup of tea on my wood stove to the scent of wood smoke.



Innocent farm animals staring at me wide-eyed in curiosity. Looking out in wonderment from under my basha and seeing the stars in the vast dark sky.

---

## LiFE Church *plus* Pilgrimage (cont'd)

---



To know and love God. To make Him known

Everyone welcome

We continue to use Zoom for our meetings. Our Sunday services are at 6pm

### January preachers are:

January 3<sup>rd</sup> Carol Gibbs and Rosie Hughes

January 10<sup>th</sup> Vicky York

January 17<sup>th</sup> Trevor Withers

January 24<sup>th</sup> Pete Gilbert

We also meet on Wednesdays at 7pm for prayer.

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:

[lifechurchcentralbeds@gmail.com](mailto:lifechurchcentralbeds@gmail.com)

---

## Pilgrimage (cont'd)

---

Then a delightful morning surprise; the ingenuity and cheerful, *carrying on-ness* of the folk gathering for Morning Prayer outside in the sunshine, undeterred by Covid-19.

Plus an unexpected gift - the opportunity to view the beauty of the church interior.

For me the John Bunyan trail is for all, young and old, believers and seekers. Just enjoy treading the ancient paths, reflect, and pause awhile. A pilgrim way of wholeness/ holiness, healing and restoration, do-able because of people's generosity, unseen prayer, and much good will along the route.

Thank you, Harlington church of St Mary, for kindness to a stranger.

A. Goodman

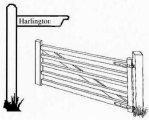
Information: [www.britishpilgrimage.org](http://www.britishpilgrimage.org)



---

## New Year's Day Walk *plus* Quote *plus* Adverts

---



Just to say that the annual New Year's day walk will not take place in 2021 due to Covid-19.

I know this walk has taken place without interruption for many years and I have personally led it for well over 10 years. However this year I consider that with uncontrolled numbers it is impossible to run this event safely.

Let's hope that we can do it again in 2022!

*Tony Roberts*

---

## Silly Quote

---

A New Year's resolution is something that goes in one year and out the other!

---

## Advertisements

---

**A&B SPORTS**  
Est over 30 years

**FOR ALL YOUR SPORTS TROPHIES,  
CORPORATE AWARDS AND ENGRAVING**



**Based in Harlington and free delivery can  
be arranged within the local area**

**Discount can be agreed on  
acknowledgment of this advert**

Please contact  
**Steve 07947 032767**

**KP Sewing  
Repairs & Alterations  
Sewing by hand or machine**

Fast & friendly service  
Quick & convenient  
Pick up & deliver  
Harlington based



*Contact Karen:*



07930 443123



[kpsewing@outlook.com](mailto:kpsewing@outlook.com)

---

# Harlington Neighbourhood Help

---

## NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



**Monday 1 February 2021 from 7.30pm**

**Key members of the Committee  
to meet at 25 Sundon Road (if allowed)**

**Everyone else welcome by zoom\***



Harlington Neighbourhood Help (HNH) started in May 2000 as a pioneer group for Bedfordshire with initial funding of £200, and at one point 80 volunteers.

We currently have 22 volunteers, drivers, and non-drivers.

The committee has 7 members including a Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, and Minutes Secretary. All are volunteers and are elected at the AGM each year.

### **What assistance do we give?**

Our very first call was for a lift to the Post Office and received a £2 donation in November 2000. Now, 20 years later, we have completed over 200 jobs this year in the village to get people to appointments, collect prescriptions, or just to pop in for a cup of tea and a chat.

We also (pre lockdown) ran a quiz at Orchard House every Monday, lead the Walks for Health and organised Flittabus trips to shops in Flitwick, Ampthill and Milton Keynes.

Transport requests are for anyone who has difficulty using local public transport. We use DBS checked **volunteer drivers** who wait during the appointment, and are reimbursed at 45p per mile. We always need more drivers.

Most very local journeys are currently free, thanks to donations.

\*If you'd like to attend the AGM zoom meeting and are not a committee member please contact Sue Whittle, Secretary, on **07887 708304**

**07849 835410**



---

## Harlington Remembers...

---

*Continuing Russell Preston's article from November...*

Rationing was not to much of a problem in the country. Food was shared between families. Currants and raisins were obtained for a Spotted Dick or Rice Pudding from the army cook house tent. The odd pig, lots of vegetables and fruit were given in return. Ralph Kent got the kitchen scraps for his pigs. A Sherman tank crashed into Ethel Stone's house at the top of Sundon Road. Local girls married troops stationed nearby. The old brickworks on the Sharpenhoe Road, now Lovett Green, were turned into an engineering and munitions works (shadow factories) to help the war effort. The cement works at Houghton Regis and Sundon ran 24/7, despite interruption from the Luftwaffe. A Doodle Bug landed in the stream narrowly missing the factory in Sharpenhoe Road.

On 19<sup>th</sup> June, 1943, a Miles Magister from Barton Airfield crash landed to the west of the parish at Wick Hearne. Old farm machinery was left in the middle of various fields to prevent enemy planes landing and broken machinery was left at Upper East End Green in order to block the road should the Germans invade.

Many villagers served second time around in the ARP, Home Guard or as Special Constables. Women were officially allowed to take part in the war effort. Nellie Nicholls and Mary Preston (known as Silvy) both worked at the Telephone Exchange in Luton. At least one villager made uniforms at the Eastex factory, Luton. Many locals were employed at Vauxhall, Commers and Kents, even hat factories were turning out uniforms. Veteran, Fred Baker and his wife Lily, helped organize the A.R.P. and Home Guard. Lily also attended WVS meetings in Bedford. Mrs Tabor and her family at The Manor played a big part in training exercises for the Home Guard, and first aid practices took place in the school and Training Room at The Manor (Harlington House). Ernie Huckle Jnr assisted the Home Guard in laying a landline between Toddington and Harlington. According to the memoirs of evacuee, Bernard Poulten, a small hut was placed on Bury Orchard near the church to store Home Guard equipment. One windy night the hut blew away leaving just the racks housing the equipment. The Vicarage and The Manor seemed to be stop off places for the Home Guard and ARP during long nights of duty. Some Harlington ladies joined the Land Army and the nearest hostel was at Toddington Park. The wives of various post holders were substitutes in case the officer was called away. Len Stone was employed as a Marshall and driven around in a Jeep. He was allowed into the planning hut situated in Sundon Road between Wood Farm and the entrance to Dyers Hall Farm. He gave advice to the operation planners regarding which roads to close and divert traffic. Across the road from the hut a pheasant's nest was discovered, some of the eggs were eaten for breakfast the next morning. (Ssh don't tell Cyril Lee!) Village ladies from the WI and WVS were busy providing refreshments and some were called up into the various services including the ATS. In 1940, on a good clear night one could see the bright lights of the capital from Bury Orchard receiving attention from the Luftwaffe.

If red flags were flying in Sharpenhoe and Harlington, army trucks occasionally provided transport for older children to various schools.

# Harlington Remembers... (cont'd)

## After the Conflict:

The German pilot, Hardy Voight, who parachuted down by the factory became friends with his capturers, Jack Peppiatt and Joe West. Hardy became a Typewriter Mechanic in Wilhelmshaven after the War. Sgt Arthur Baker died in 1949 from a leg injury sustained in the RAF during the war. Many Harlington young men were conscripted into the forces just after the conflict. Pte Derek Lawman enlisted in early 1945, died in June 1946, in Salonika, Greece. Many evacuees and their families visited the village in peacetime. A committee was set up to refurbish the War Memorial in the late 1950s. From the photographs taken, most of the village attended the commemoration service. Local builder, Martin Dove helped to organise the work. Martin died in 1968 from cirrhosis of the liver after drinking contaminated water (Liver Fluke) many years earlier in the Libyan Desert during the war.

Further information on Pte Derek Lawman is contained in the display cabinet at St Mary's Parish Church.



Admiral Sir John Cunningham addresses villagers at the War Memorial Commemoration Service in 1957. (Left)

Rev. John Strong looks on.

Luton News 1943. (Right)

Local POWs in Japanese Prison Camps.

Reg Chappell was in the same prison camp as Alf Sparvell who also lived in Harlington. Mrs Sparvell was a dressmaker. After the war, Reg married Doris Sparvell who served in the A.T.S. on a Ack Ack battery near the Mumbles at Swansea, South Wales

Many villagers contributed to this article. Thank you.

Russell Preston

 <p>Pte. Reginald Douglas Chappell, only son of Mr. and Mrs. W. Chappell, 16 Sundon-road, Harlington, is a prisoner of war in Japanese hands at Thai Camp. Now aged 23, and employed at Brickworks before the war, he was mobilised with the 5th Bn Herts Regt. when the war began, as he had joined the Territorials when he was 19. He went to Westoning School, and lived at Tingriton for some years.</p>	 <p>Pte. D. Diprose, who is 24, joined the Beds and Herts Regt. in 1940 and went overseas in 1941. Before this he worked for an engineering firm at Watford.</p>
 <p>Pte. Markyate is a prisoner of war in Malaya. He is 29, and was employed by Mr. R. Colin Large, builder of Luton, before he joined up. He is an old Markyate Country Council schoolboy, and has been serving for nearly three-and-a-half years.</p>	 <p>Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Greening, of 23, George-street, Leighton, were informed on Tuesday that their third son, Lance Sgt. Joseph Charles Greening, who was at Singapore, is interned at Taiwan Camp, Japan. He is 28 and an old British schoolboy.</p>
<p><b>TWO DUNSTABLE MEN</b></p>	
 <p>Mrs. Bird, of 43, Houghton-road, Dunstable, has been notified that her son, Gunner Edward Frank Bird, is now a prisoner at Malai Camp. Aged 22, Gnr. Bird was a member of the Territorial Artillery at Dunstable before the war, and was mobilised at the outbreak.</p>	 <p>Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Greening, of 23, George-street, Leighton, were informed on Tuesday that their third son, Lance Sgt. Joseph Charles Greening, who was at Singapore, is interned at Taiwan Camp, Japan. He is 28 and an old British schoolboy.</p>
<p>He was in the Malaya fighting, and last heard of at Singapore. In civil life he was an out-riiter's assistant with the Beds and Herts Regt.</p>	<p>He was in the Malaya fighting, and last heard of at Singapore. In civil life he was an out-riiter's assistant with the Beds and Herts Regt.</p>

---

## Letters regarding Harlington Parish Council

---

I am concerned at what our Parish Council is doing.

Firstly, regarding the Clerk moving into the East Room I cannot see why this is necessary. The cost will be borne by us. The office he has now is adequate and purpose built for the function. Perhaps, he should have considered his work environment before taking the job.

Secondly, the removal of wreaths and other items laid at the War Memorial on Remembrance Sunday after only two weeks for whatever reason is totally outrageous. Do they have no feelings or respect for those that suffered and died? Do they not care that children placed the painted stones on the memorial? Do they think that it makes the village look untidy? The vast majority of villages and towns in our area leave the wreaths until well into the next year. Toddington until late in the year.

HPC claim on their website to be 'The voice of the people'. They do not represent me, and I suspect many others in our village. These councillors, some unelected, should be asking what the residents want and not just do as they see fit. However, I am aware that some Councillors are not in agreement with what is happening.

Apparently you have to look on the HPC website or meeting agenda to see what they are up to. Not everyone in our village uses the internet. I imagine that not many of those that do look at the agenda. Who requested that the wreaths be removed? Was it the Council? Perhaps it would be a good idea to let us all know what is being proposed in the Paperchain.

*Peter Thacker*

A big 'thank you' to all who have signed the petition against the relocation of the Clerk's office to the East Room of the Parish Hall. We gave a return date of 7<sup>th</sup> December. However, if you missed that date and still want to ensure the 3 rooms of the Parish Hall are retained for residents' use, you can still return a petition form to any of the nominated collection points. If the dog ate your form before you could sign it, replacements are available from 49 Barton Road and 91 Westoning Road (where they can also be deposited when completed).



**The Wednesday Morning Games Group.**

### Harlington Parish Council News

If you want to be the first to hear the latest local news, you can subscribe free of charge to the Harlington Parish Council e-newsletter. Simply go to the HPC website (<https://harlington-pc.gov.uk/>) look on the right hand side of the page, enter your email address and click the blue **subscribe** button.

The latest Parish information will be sent straight to your inbox.

*Stewart Wilkes, Clerk to HPC*



---

## Letters (cont'd) *plus* Messy Church

---

### Lest we forget

Walking in the village on a cold, dull day, I was shocked to see that the War Memorial was bare. Where were the poppy wreaths – gone so soon after Remembrance Sunday? I later discovered that HPC had removed them. Why?

Yet again HPC have made a decision which angers residents. In this case a total lack of respect for the brave souls who gave their lives so that we are free.

Perhaps as we are now in 2021, when we all hope for a better year, HPC could review their decision to remove the wreaths after such a short time. In other words, to be more thoughtful and respectful towards residents.

*Margaret Wade, Daubeney Close*



---

## Messy Church

---



In November we looked at the story of John the Baptist. We made doves out of card and paper, and a model of John baptising out of icing and Jelly Babies. We had some live material streamed on YouTube, and we are continuing to develop the technology in the hope of being

able to get some participation. Watch for more information on the village and Methodist Church Facebook pages nearer the time.



The November Messy Church, and the Christmas Pram Service have helped us develop our broadcast abilities. There will be some more “live” material in January on the Harlington Methodist Church YouTube channel, starting at 4pm on 19<sup>th</sup> December. If you signed up on our contact list then we will email written 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](mailto:clivedsalmon@aol.com).

Our January topic will be “New Beginnings – Nehemiah’s Story”.

In the unlikely event that the Coronavirus 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 6pm. but keep an eye on Facebook, the YouTube Channel and our website.

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

*Clive*

# Advertisements



## **WHITE & FENSOME**

*BUILDING CONTRACTORS*



**Tel: 01582 594766 Fax: 01582 594866**  
**Mobile: 07860 967191 & 07899 806256**

- PROPERTY MAINTENANCE
- DOUBLE GLAZING
- EXTENSIONS
- PLASTERING
- CARPENTRY
- FENCING
- ROOFING



## GARDEN **SHEARS** BY SHEARSMITH

**GRAHAM SHEARSMITH**  
Your local gardener

**07864 831513 / 01525 873040**  
**grahamshearsmith@gmail.com**

For a year-round neat & tidy garden

# RENRAL ROOFING

## Felt & Asphalt Specialist

- Tiling
- Balconies
- Fascia and Guttering
- Re-pointing
- Repairs
- All roofing work carried out
- Free estimates
- Family firm, established over 20 years
- All work guaranteed
- Fully insured

**Contact Andy on**  
**Tel: 01525 630898**  
**Mobile: 07866 319997**



### Footcare By Elisa

Registered Foot Health Practitioner S.A.C. Dip. RFHP  
07980 501546 • [footcarebyelisa.co.uk](http://footcarebyelisa.co.uk)

**20% OFF** with this voucher

Foot Assessment	Ingrown Toe Nail
Nail Trimming	Hard Skin
Callus	Foot Massage
Corns	

Add On Services Available  
Non Chip Colour Gel Overlays  
Organic Nail Polish

Foot Clinic located in Toddington  
Mobile home visits available

Terms and Conditions: Some treatments are subject to medical conditions and may have to be altered to suit.

Your Advert  
could appear here.

Please email  
[harlingtonvillagemagazine@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:harlingtonvillagemagazine@yahoo.co.uk)  
for more information

---

## Harlington WI *plus* 100 Club *plus* HHT

---



It seems strange to be writing this in the middle of December ready for January 2021. What a year it has been – I don't think anyone could have predicted what was to happen worldwide in 2020. Now that the vaccine is being rolled out we can at last look forward to a very hopeful New Year.

Our members were given a hyacinth bulb in a jar with their Christmas cards this year and it will be lovely to watch them coming into bloom heralding the Spring. We have also hosted our first Zoom Christmas Carol Singalong for our members to join in as we couldn't have our usual Christmas meeting. Thank goodness for technology in difficult times!

We are really looking forward to the time we can welcome everyone back to the monthly meetings (remember those?) as soon as it is safe to do so. Hopefully that time isn't too far away.

Let's hope we all have a happy and healthy 2021.

*Sally Tombe*

**For further information please contact Lin Merrison on 01525 757161**

---

## HVH 100 Club

---

The winner for November was number 95 belonging to Oliver Savage who has recently moved from the village but renewed his 100 Club membership for another year. And December's winner is Ketina Orriss of Oak Close with ticket number 36. 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](mailto:hvhtreasurer@btinternet.com).

The money raised each month helps to fund the upkeep of the Village Hall.

*Barbara Thurston, Secretary,  
HVH Management Committee*

---

## Harlington Heritage Trust

---

I hope everyone had an enjoyable Christmas. No future events are planned, at present, for the HHT calendar. When we have all been vaccinated against Covid 19 and the numbers of new cases begin to lessen, let's hope our social lives will start to improve.

Details of any events that we are able to arrange will appear in this Magazine and the HHT Newsletter.

Best Wishes for 2021. Take care everyone and try to keep well.

*Barbara Thurston, HHT Secretary*

---

---

## Methodist Chapel *plus* Philosophical Quote

---

We continue to use Zoom for our services, whether we are able to be in the building or we must all worship from home. Our services are all at 10am. At present the church is open; some of our preachers lead worship from the church and others lead over Zoom.



January preachers are:

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Jan     Martin Wallis “Come and See”
- 10<sup>th</sup> Jan    Rev. Nina Johnson – Covenant Service
- 17<sup>th</sup> Jan    Worship Group
- 24<sup>th</sup> Jan    United Service for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
- 31<sup>st</sup> Jan    Rev Dr Ebute Obiabo

The United Service for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity on the 24<sup>th</sup> will be held at the chapel, with a preacher from St. Mary’s also on Zoom and YouTube. Due to the social distancing requirements, if you would like to attend at the chapel, will you please contact me in advance so that we can be sure we have enough seats and a safe environment. For the Zoom link see below - this will also be sent out through the other churches.

Our circulated material is available on <https://www.southbedsmethodist.org.uk> If you want to join us, the Zoom link is normally sent out the day before. Email me, [clivedsalmon@aol.com](mailto:clivedsalmon@aol.com), or phone 874481 to be added to the link email list. Or watch us live on YouTube, or the later recording, on the Harlington Methodist Church channel:

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCTMWR\\_QCxujkh1zHjTFcoJw](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCTMWR_QCxujkh1zHjTFcoJw)

The Christmas Pram Service was an interesting production, and is still available to be viewed on YouTube.

We will be holding a Virtual **Coffee Morning** on Zoom on **Saturday 30<sup>th</sup>** January 2021. Contact me for the link.

*Clive*

---

## Winnie-the-Pooh philosophy

---

“Supposing a tree fell down, Pooh, when we were underneath it?”

“Supposing it didn’t”, said Pooh after careful thought.

Piglet was comforted by this.”

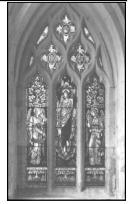


---

# St. Mary's Church Services in January

---

Well after the flurry of services in December we return to some normality in January, we hope and pray.



An audio service is issued each week and it has proved to be popular so this will continue along with the very popular Upper Room Service which is on Zoom (contact us for a link) each Sunday at 6pm.

The Wednesday morning service continues to meet each Wednesday in Church at 10am. New members are always welcome.

'A Church Near You' website is another useful Church of England site to locate local services and Harlington Church has its own page. Do take a look. You are most welcome to join us. The links are:

**Website:** [www.harlingtonchurch.org](http://www.harlingtonchurch.org).

**Facebook:** St Marys, Harlington <https://www.facebook.com/stmarysharlington/>

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

If you would like to join in a service but do not have internet access, we would be very happy to deliver a copy of the service sheet to your home each week. Please let one of us know and we will make sure one is sent to you.

We now look to the New Year and, subject to Covid restrictions being imposed, we plan the following services at St Mary's:

3 <sup>rd</sup> Jan	8am	BCP Service
	9.30am	Service of the Word
6 <sup>th</sup> Jan	10am	Wednesday Group Service
10 <sup>th</sup> Jan	9.30 am	Holy Communion
13 <sup>th</sup> Jan	10am	Wednesday Group Service
17 <sup>th</sup> Jan	9.30am	Holy Communion
20 <sup>th</sup> Jan	10am	Wednesday Group Service
24 <sup>th</sup> Jan	10am	'Christian Unity' Churches Together Service at the Methodist Church
27 <sup>th</sup> Jan	10am	Wednesday group Service
31 <sup>st</sup> Jan	9.30am	Holy Communion



---

## St Mary's Church *plus* Walking4Health

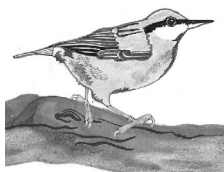
---

Depending when you receive your Contact magazine, this may be a little early...but I'd like to wish you all a Happy New Year - may 2021 be a brighter and less challenging year, for everyone.

**Christmas at St Mary's:** at the time of writing, we won't know how things have gone with our Christmas services. Having to operate a booking system for the first time ever, and with numbers limited, well, that was certainly different! Hopefully as I write now in mid December, things will go well and all those who wanted to were able to book a service. We promise we tried our best. So now that the Christmas season has almost passed, how DO groups of angels greet each other? Answer: "Halo, halo, halo!"



**Churchyard:** having been advised which areas to leave "wild" in the churchyard, a fellow villager has very kindly offered us some bird and bat boxes. Thank you so much, and we will be putting those up before the birds start nesting.



There was a lovely surprise there a couple of weeks ago when I heard a bird song I didn't recognise. Standing quietly, I looked around and saw a bird fly to the side of the tower and start working it's way up the brickwork. Have you guessed what it was? It wasn't a tree creeper, but a nuthatch. So pretty with a blue-gray back, orange belly, pointy bill, and a distinctive black stripe alongside the eye. They like acorns and beech nuts so should

find plenty of those around the trees. Keep a look out if you're near the churchyard.

**Services:** please check our website, [www.harlingtonchurch.org](http://www.harlingtonchurch.org), Facebook page or church noticeboard for up to date information on services. Take care, and stay safe.

*Tricia, Churchwarden,*  
07711 511729

---

## Walking4Health

---

**WE WILL BE STARTING AGAIN IN JANUARY!**

**So please do join us as long as the weather and restrictions allow**

After the UK government's recent coronavirus and tier announcements, we are pleased to say that walking **outdoor group activities can restart in all tiers.**

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

As always you can choose on the day.

Next dates are: **15<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> January. 12<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> February.**

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**



---

## Brain Tumour Research *plus* Christmas Trail

---



**Brain Tumour  
Research**  
Funding the fight

And the plant sales go on bringing the total to **£4057.69**. THANK YOU!

I have some lovely fresh potted herbs available at the moment - well as this goes to press: parsley, chives and rosemary, as well as all the usual shrubs etc. So please keep coming, browsing and if you can't see what you are looking for do ask. A lovely kind villager asked if I had any apples, I had stewed up the remaining apples during that week so replied "No, but I do have some ready stewed apples" so she left happily. But please don't knock saying you're "looking for a Cottage Pie" I won't be quite so obliging!!!

If anyone reading this came to my house with, what looked like, a cup of tea in a thermoflask cup and can't find it, I found one amongst the plant pot and what has been my house plant section. I have it safe and washed up in my house and am anxious to find its owner so again please knock and ask. I will be pleased to see you at 132 Goswell End Road whatever your reason for looking!!

Thank you to every one who has supported the sale of Christmas cards this year, to date you have helped to raise **£283.50** which includes donations. That is most generous. Thank you ALL for your continued support, I am sure we will make it to £300.

Wishing you all a Happy, healthy and more normal New Year, well as it can be!!

Take care,

*Jane and Emma Barltrop and Alice Sulaj*



---

## Christmas Trail at The Gables

---



We would like to thank everyone for coming along to our charity Christmas trail the weekend before Christmas and supporting The Luton Food Bank.

Special thanks must go to all our fabulous Year 4 Elves who were kept busy all night handing out gifts and guiding our visitors around the garden to find Santa.

The money raised will be advertised on our notice board in Westoning Road.

Thank you for helping making a difference to those less fortunate over the festive season.

*Jenny and Andrew Asbury*





---

## Crafternoon Tea *plus* 0-4 Club

---

We are hoping we will be able to return to the hybrid format in January. We can only have six people in the Methodist Church for a meeting – although any number can also be on Zoom – and one of those people has to be me, to run the system. If you want to be one of the five additional people, please let me know. You will have to bring your own refreshments, and wear a mask, except when you are eating or drinking, but you will be able to see and hear those on Zoom, and join in the conversations. If you want to join us on Zoom, please let me know and I will send you a link.

Crafternoon Tea meets fortnightly on Monday afternoons, between 2 and 4pm. You do not have to be working at any particular craft, we welcome any and every craft.

Our January meetings will be 4<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>, and our first meeting in February is the 1<sup>st</sup>! Further dates can be found on the website below.

**Contact: Tina Salmon ([christinasalmon60@gmail.com](mailto:christinasalmon60@gmail.com)), 874481**

**website: <https://cliveandtina.co.uk>**



This year, mostly during lockdown, I have made three “Frozen” figures (*see photo left*) Not a challenge I picked for myself, but something I was asked if I could make for someone else. The basic kit was for Olaf, but the booklet supplied in the kit covered all the main figures – Elsa, Anna, Sven the Reindeer and Kristoff, as well as Olaf. I was supplied with the materials, and I have made Olaf, Elsa and Anna.

What has occupied your hands and mind this year?

---

## 0-4 Club

---

Harlington  
0-4  
Club

We would like to wish you all a Very Happy and Healthy New Year and look forward to seeing everyone as soon as possible



Harlington 0-4 Club



harlington0to4club



Harlington 0-4 Club

# Advertisements



- Accountants who know how businesses run
- Qualified Chartered Accountant and Chartered Tax Advisor
- Friendly Accountants who listen to your needs
- A wide range of services offered

Call 01525 552250 for a FREE initial meeting

- ✉ [oliver@savageaccountants.co.uk](mailto:oliver@savageaccountants.co.uk)
- ✉ [julia@savageaccountants.co.uk](mailto:julia@savageaccountants.co.uk)
- 🌐 [www.savageaccountants.co.uk](http://www.savageaccountants.co.uk)



Company Registration Number: 09214570  
Cure your tax headaches



We help you prepare for the choices you have to make.  
NEVILLE. Because there is a difference.

## AMPTHILL

The Old Church, Flitwick Road  
MK45 2NT  
t: 01525 406132  
e: [amphill@nevillefuneralservice.com](mailto:amphill@nevillefuneralservice.com)

## LUTON

Neville House, Marsh Road,  
Leagrave LU3 2RZ  
t: 01582 490005  
e: [luton@nevillefuneralservice.com](mailto:luton@nevillefuneralservice.com)



[www.nevillefuneralservice.com](http://www.nevillefuneralservice.com)

# Advertisements

## Kinsbridge

Plumbing Heating Gas  
and Electrical Engineers

All Plumbing, Heating, Gas and Electrical work undertaken .  
Boilers , Radiators , Underfloor Heating Systems . Unvented Hot water systems , LPG  
Power Flushing ( to remove heating system sludge) Full rewires, Consumer unit upgrades  
Kitchens and Bathrooms (complete install , supplied and fitted) Landlords Certificates

Mobile: 07973842037

Web: [www.kinsbridge.co.uk](http://www.kinsbridge.co.uk)

Office : 01525 600024

Email: [info@kinsbridge.co.uk](mailto:info@kinsbridge.co.uk)

Proud members of  
**Checkatrade.com**  
Where reputation matters



551729



# James

## Plumbing & Heating

Local, reliable and quality service

-  Boiler servicing
-  Landlord Certificates
-  Boiler and central heating installation
-  Heating breakdowns
-  Heating and boiler upgrades
-  Radiator replacement or relocation
-  General plumbing work

Call for a free no obligation quote.

Mob: 07970 275358

Tel: 01582 882245

Email: [danieljames5@outlook.com](mailto:danieljames5@outlook.com)



## Nessfit

At present all classes and personal  
Training sessions are on ZOOM  
Keeping us all safe,  
well and fit in our own homes

### ZOOM CLASS INFO:

MONDAY PILATES 7.15PM

TUESDAY BOOTYBANDS 9AM

THURSDAY PILATES 10.30AM

*Personal Training sessions are all full at present, but if you wish to join a class on zoom, please send a direct message to me via WhatsApp or email.*

07732 412247 or [nessfit21@gmail.com](mailto:nessfit21@gmail.com)



# Clifford's

Country Grocers and Farm Shop



Visit us at:

**Olde Watermill Shopping Village**  
**Faldo Road, Barton-le-Clay, Beds MK45 4RF**

**[www.cliffords.info](http://www.cliffords.info)**

Email: **[orders@cliffords.info](mailto:orders@cliffords.info)**  **Facebook@Clifford's**