

# Editorial

Dear Villagers,  
This is a very full issue. Spring is just around the corner, and more and more things are happening.  
I like to live in a busy and active village with a lot going on. It will only stay that way if people are willing to join in and to help run things. Times change, and there is not the pool of volunteers there once was. People have to retire later, there are fewer early retirees. We can give lots of reasons for not wanting to take the roles. But if the current crop of wonderful volunteers aren't supported by new people willing to join in, then many things will stop and we will all be poorer for it.  
We don't always have a lot of space, but if you have photographs of favourite scenes around the village, please send them in. This month's cover picture comes from Harlington in Bloom, yet another group of volunteers willing to spend their time helping make the village a better place to live. We should all be grateful to people like them.  
Clive.

## 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 is at the discretion of the Editor/Management Team.

**April copy by 10<sup>th</sup> March please.**

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BE GREATLY APPRECIATED**

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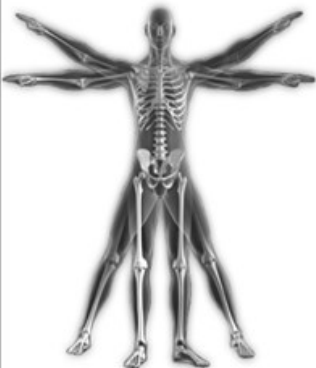
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## Letter from Rev. Nina Johnson, Methodist Minister

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Before becoming a minister in the Methodist Church, I worked for a few years as a landscape gardener. Living in the leafy London suburbs there was always plenty of work for us – mostly garden maintenance. And whenever I think of March my first thoughts still go to those years. The first week of March heralded the start-up of the regular maintenance work and if the weather allowed, the lawnmowers would make the first cut of the season.

We did work throughout the winter as well. I actually started the job one cold January and spent the first week hand digging a large plot of garden to remove weed roots. The winters could be quite hard both in terms of the temperature and also the nature of the work that we had to do. And if conditions were such that we couldn't actually do any work in gardens, we would be servicing the machinery and tools – one year we even gave all the mowers a new coat of Hayter green paint.

I became a gardener really by sheer fluke – it certainly had never entered my thinking and I had never had any interest in gardens before. But it became a real joy – we worked hard but we had a good laugh and various strategies to keep us going on even the most monotonous of tasks.

March always marked a new beginning; the promise of longer days and the warmer days ahead. Winter was over and it would only get better from this point onwards – until the start of the next winter of course!

I have just finished reading a book on *Wintering*. The author interweaves the aspects of winter in the natural world with those times in our lives when we experience our own winters; caused by illness, bereavement, or a myriad of other things that take us into difficult times. And in the book we are encouraged to find a way of acceptance, rest and retreat rather than powering on with some kind of denial and pretence. She also suggests that as with the natural world, there is often a circular rhythm to our wintering rather than a linear one. I found the book helpful and insightful as I reflected on my own past couple of years, and the decisions and future plans that are in place for me.

As I write, we are on the cusp of all the covid restrictions that are currently in place being lifted and by the time you are reading this letter they probably will have done. To many it may feel that the 'wintering' that we have experienced with covid has now come to an end and the 'spring' with all its promise is at last here. For others, the fear or realisation that the virus is still amongst us, and now largely unchecked, may actually prolong the experience of wintering and push spring further down the line.

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## Letter ctd., *plus* Harlington in Bloom

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In the church calendar we are at the beginning of Lent; perhaps traditionally held as a season of wintering for faith, but I believe, to prepare for the fullness of life in resurrection – but that is for the next edition of Contact and writer if they so choose! But in my understanding Lent is not a time for life-denying discipline, but creating space and time to see and engage with the things that are life-giving. Ultimately for me that is held within the love of God and within the love that we are called to live. I still hope and dream for a time when love and compassion become the most prized way of seeing and being as we relate to others and the world. It won't stop winters, but it would lessen the degree and severity of those that we negatively impose and subject others to.

So, let us look and see in this season, this month of promise and flourishing, the things that enable us to live in the hope that it offers.

Nina

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## Harlington in Bloom

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At the time of writing for the Contact copy deadline, we have not held the AGM on the 25 February. So news of the new committee will follow next month. Thank you to those who came and hope you had a good time.

In March, we will be holding the Spring Garden judging. Should be interesting this year as at the time of writing,

snowdrops, daffs and crocuses seem to be popping up quite early which is a general trend recently mentioned in the national news.

There is no entry procedure. Village Spring Front Gardens are judged kerbside, nominated in a first round and subsequently adjudicated in a further round. It's just a bit of fun and a plaudit for spring gardeners.



*Vivienne Dunlop on behalf of HiB Committee <https://www.facebook.com/HarlingtonInBloom/> or [v.dunlop@ntlworld.com](mailto:v.dunlop@ntlworld.com)*

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## Trip to Milton Keynes *plus* Flittabus

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I've just discovered the Tuesday Flittabus to Milton Keynes. It's been well advertised, I'd never used it before, but certainly will again. It sets off promptly at 9.15 from the Village Hall car park, but sadly, both times I've been, it's only half full, what a waste.

The driver goes directly to Milton Keynes, no crawling round villages and when he puts his foot down we're there before 10.00. The pick up is at 1 pm same place. We don't want The Centre Milton Keynes to go the way of some high streets, so it needs our support.

Even if you haven't got much shopping to do, there's the beautiful Cornerstone Ecumenical Church with a lovely little round chapel for quiet prayer, and the new(ish) Art Gallery where I saw an excellent Dame Laura Knight Exhibition a little while ago. It's not all avant garde stuff!

There's time for coffee and a snack lunch, endless cafes to choose from including a very reasonable one at the Cornerstone.

The bus picks up down Westoning Road en route to the Village, and drops off too. It runs the first Tuesday of every month, free with a bus pass, no driving, no parking, no hassle. Try it.

Jo Golby

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*Flittabus*

Community Transport Ltd.



### Special Excursions

#### **Kew Orchid Festival: Saturday 5 March 2022**

The Kew Orchid Festival is an annual event at the Princess of Wales Conservatory in Kew Gardens.

#### **Thriplow Daffodil Festival. Saturday 19 March 2022**

Join us for fun activities for all the family. Amble through over 100 stalls to find that something special. Enjoy hot drinks and homemade cake at the Village Tearooms.

#### **To book these excursions,**

Please contact Derek Wood on **07 563 170 067** or **07 715 161 621**

or e-mail [excursions@flittabus.co.uk](mailto:excursions@flittabus.co.uk) for more details.

Please check with Mr Wood that pickup and drop-off in Harlington is possible.

For more info either call us on our Helpline **07 960 388 111** or go to our website at [flittabus.co.uk/home-2/](http://flittabus.co.uk/home-2/)

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# Harlington Heritage Trust, 100 Club, St. M's Family

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## Harlington Heritage Trust

The AGM and Social will be held on Saturday 9 April at 19.30 in the **Village Hall**. Light refreshments will be provided. New members are most welcome.

This year's coach trip will be to Winchester on Saturday 16 July, leaving the Village Hall at 09.00. Cost £20 per person, payable by 6 June. To book a place please contact Janice on 01525 877419, or email [jtuckett01@aol.com](mailto:jtuckett01@aol.com).

Other 2022 HHT events will be publicised in the HHT members' newsletter, 'Contact' magazine and the HHT website.

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## HVH 100 Club

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The January winner of the Village Hall 100 club is ticket number 20 belonging to Clifford Stone of Westoning Rd

If you wish to be part of the 100 Club and have the chance to win £50, please contact me at: [hvhtreasurer@btinternet.com](mailto:hvhtreasurer@btinternet.com).

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

*Dave Thew, Treasurer, HVH Management Committee*

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## St. Mary's Family Team News

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If you haven't been along yet to our Messy Family Breakfast we would love to welcome you on the first Sunday of each month at 9am.

Breakfast provided by us, normally continental but you never know when a bacon or sausage sandwich might appear! Followed by a craft time and a story. We aim to be finished by 10:20/30 but you will always be welcome to stay for coffee as we join the Sunday morning congregation for a cuppa !

Contact Rebecca on 07877 342640 if you would like more information.

Here's what's coming up!

Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> March – The Good Samaritan

Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> April – All things Easter.....and probably chocolate.... Watch this space for some exciting news for our April Session.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if there is anything you need from us!

With love from everyone at St. Mary's.

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# Brain Tumour Research

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**WEAR A HAT 2022**  
Saturday 26th March 10-12



on the drive !!

January Blues over, I hope! Despite the beautiful weather I have found it particularly hard to get motivated and felt very down in the doldrums, I do hope you haven't all been suffering that as well. But we are now into February, again a beautiful start to a new month and so mild too, I do hope it will leave you all inspired as my first day of the month has. My grandson Lewis and his Mum Alice visited and at Lewis's request we headed for the Spinny this afternoon or "Pinney" as he refers to it to build a den. It was a lovely time choosing suitable fallen branches to prop up against a standing tree and make ourselves somewhere to sit to share a finger of fudge and celebrate our labours. It was so lovely to take a step off this rat race of a life and just enjoy each other's company in the fresh air noticing the obvious signs that spring is on its way with daffodil plants beginning to show themselves on a sunny and quite warm day for February.

I would have liked to offer a similar opportunity to take a morning out to share a coffee/tea and cake and together raise funds for Brain Tumour Research whilst "Wearing our hats", as we have done in past years, but while the country is loosening its restrictions I do not feel able to take on the responsibility to organise such an event just yet and be responsible for the welfare of all those who support. So I apologise to those of you who would be willing to attend, please be patient I would like to resurrect this tradition at some point. Maybe you would be happy to join me in donning a hat and taking some time out on Friday 25th March (Official wear a hat day) or on Saturday 26th March (when I usually hold my coffee mornings) I am more than happy to serve coffee/tea on my drive on the Saturday in the fresh air if anyone would like to join me between 10-12 noon, you never know there might even be some cake!! If it is anything like last year I will probably be out there all day gardening away chatting to people and explaining why I am wearing a rather ostentatious hat whilst I am gardening! So please spare a thought on either those days for those who have and are suffering a brain tumour or those that we know who have died from this disease and for their families left trying to make sense of it all.

Knowing I can always count on your kind thoughts and support, thank you all.

Best Wishes

Jane, Alice and Emma

132 Goswell End Road Harlington



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# Harlington Cricket Club

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We are a small, village cricket club in the heart of Bedfordshire. We play on Saturdays through the Summer season in Division 3 of the Four Counties Cricket League. Our first game of the 2022 season will be away at Westcroft on 30<sup>th</sup> April.



In the winter we play in the Bedfordshire Indoor Cricket League, sponsored by Bedford Blues in Division 3, last Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> February we had a thrilling 6 wicket win over Ickwell CC. HCC restricted Ickwell to 102 all out and rattled the runs off with 9 balls to spare! This gave HCC the 3 game points and leaves us sitting second behind Sandy CC in Division 3. Our next game is Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2022 at Bedford College 11am vs Wilden CC.

Time to dig out that kit bag

As the Ashes fades into a distant memory, thoughts turn to the fast approaching 2022 season. We are pleased to announce that our adult winter program starts Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> February 9-10pm at Stockwood Park Academy in Luton.

The 1st net for new members is free and £5 a session thereafter.

We are also looking for Umpires, this is a rewarding day (with tea and a fee!) for anyone interested in becoming one. The ECB have developed an online training programme to allow Stage One in Umpiring to be completed at home whenever is suitable for the individual. The course can be done in one go, taking around 2 hours or picked up and put down at leisure until completed. Once finished a downloaded certificate will be available. The course can be booked onto at:

<https://booking.ecb.co.uk/c/express/d6609648-2e75-4845-bacf-95d27461e382>

We all know the benefit of umpires in the game, and whether those people taking this course wish to progress further or just do a few overs during their own game it will all help improve cricket.

As an added incentive, anyone who takes and completes the course before the season will go into a prize draw for a Northants Steelbacks Royal London Cup game.

We welcome all ages and abilities, if you would like to join our friendly, sociable club, please get in touch with Matt Bailey on 07709173120 or by email: [matthew\\_evan\\_bailey@hotmail.com](mailto:matthew_evan_bailey@hotmail.com)



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# Harlington Village Show *plus* Pancake Parlour

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## 36<sup>th</sup> HARLINGTON VILLAGE SHOW

27<sup>th</sup> August 2022



What makes a village Show so enjoyable – is it the WI cakes; the joy of winning a prize; displaying YOUR craftwork, baking, photo, painting, vegetable or flower etc. Or do you go for a natter with family and friends, or perhaps to see fellow villagers you haven't seen for a while? Or maybe it's just the raffle? Whatever it is, it's wonderful that so many of you take the trouble to enter, or come to support those who do.

After the Show cancellation in 2020 and the uncertainty in 2021 (although we eventually enjoyed a successful Show), the committee have begun planning for 2022.

Some classes remain the same whilst others will change every year. Vegetable and fruit classes are likely to be the same as last year. Flower classes will have the addition of a sunflower head class, which is something that children might enjoy growing as well. For cookery, we're currently researching a recipe for a Queen Elizabeth cake, which will be printed in the schedule. There will also be a vanilla swiss roll, flavoured shortbread and vegetarian pastry. For flower arranging, classes will include foraged flowers and foliage for novice exhibitors, a wreath, and a "Platinum Jubilee" arrangement.

We hope lots of you will get involved this year and help to make it a great Show. Our Facebook page will give details of the classes and ideas for exhibiting, as well as any recipes and craft information. Do send us photos of things you are growing or making – we'd love to see them. Our email address: [harlingtonvillageshow@gmail.com](mailto:harlingtonvillageshow@gmail.com). There will be information on other classes in the April Contact magazine.

Harlington Village Show Committee    Queries: Tricia 07711 511729

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## Pancake Parlour

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Pancake Parlour will return on 1st March after the long break because of Covid, and with the assistance of our friends from St. Mary's and the Life Church.

Methodist Church Hall

3.30 pm to 6 pm

Proceeds in aid of our charity, Kids in Action.

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# HNH Good Neighbour Scheme

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## HARLINGTON NEIGHBOURHOOD HELP GOOD NEIGHBOUR SCHEME



You probably know that HNH volunteers, who all live in the village, drive Harlington residents to medical appointments, the vets, and the shops e.g. Tesco and that we pick up and drop off prescriptions and shopping. We also support the Flittabus and Walk for Health. You need to make only very small donations for this to pay for fuel.

***But did you know we can also take you to the theatre, just out for an old-fashioned drive, to the café or garden centre? More fun things?***

We now have 20 volunteers, so do please ask us if you need to get somewhere. We also mow lawns, pay paper bills, post letters, walk dogs and are happy to just pop in for a chat with you or someone you love. We have plenty of capacity for more and many of our volunteers are patiently waiting to help so please do call us!

**HNH Good neighbours line 07849 835410**

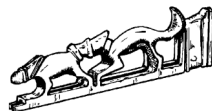
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## ADALHS

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### **Ampthill & District Archaeological & Local History Society**

#### **Programme 2022**



The situation for members and venues is still not clear. Once Government guidance permits we will then review the situation with our members for the remainder of the season.

Monday, March 7th 2022

**The Pyghtle Works, Baillie Scott & Sir Albert Richardson**

Speaker - David Fowler

Monday, April 4th 2022 & AGM

**Tudor Houses; Architecture and Ways of Life**

Speaker - Adam Smith

New members would be very welcome and guests too once we return to hall meetings. If you would like to join us then please follow the link on the meetings tab on our website or alternatively contact the secretary. For non Zoom meetings, a hall meeting fee of £2.00 for members & £3.00 for visitors is payable on the door.

For further details: [clive.makin@ntlworld.com](mailto:clive.makin@ntlworld.com) Tel: 01582 655785

[www.adalhs.org.uk](http://www.adalhs.org.uk)

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## Harlington WI *plus* 0 - 4 Club

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theWI  
INSPIRING WOMEN

At last spring approaches with lighter evenings and (hopefully) warmer weather to look forward to.

**We are still looking for a new president to take over from Lin when she steps down. Sadly, time is running out and it will mean that Harlington WI will have to close if no one comes forward.**

On Tuesday March 16th, we are collaborating with Harlington Upper School to join in a discussion about ‘plastic soup’, the plastic waste that is polluting the oceans worldwide. Our Resolution Evening should be really lively and interesting. There is also a chocolate tasting as an extra incentive to come along and join in!

On Tuesday April 20th we will be having our AGM, when our new committee will be approved for the next year. If you think you could help and would like to join the committee you would be very welcome. We need new people with new ideas. Of course this is all dependent on finding a new President.

If all goes well in April, our meeting on Tuesday 17th May will be a Games Evening with a fish and chip supper.

Our meetings in the Village Hall start at 7.30 pm. Visitors are very welcome to come along and give us a try. We are still observing current guidelines regarding Covid for everyone’s safety.

Look out for Sara’s newsletters for more details and any updates on all our activities.

*Take care and hoping to see you soon, Sally Tombe.*

**For further information please call Lin Merrison on 01525 757161.**

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## 0 - 4 Club

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Harlington  
0-4  
Club

We run our playgroup on **Mondays** and **Fridays 10 - 11.30** (term time only). Sessions cost £3.50 for one child with £1 for each additional child. Children under six months are free with an older sibling. Mums, dads, grandparents and carers are all welcome to come and play with their children and enjoy a chat and a cup of tea with some of the other parents. Each of our sessions are different. We provide a range of activities for the children including crafts, cooking, trikes and ride ons, play dough, small world play, dressing up, stories, songs as well as many other activities. We also have a dedicated baby area.

**Please see our Facebook and Instagram pages for up-to-date guidelines on any current Covid restrictions. It is very important to us that our families stay safe and well.**



# Advertisement *plus* Art Attack & Sports Quiz Night

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Refreshments!  For all ages!

St Mary's Church  
Harlington

*An Eggstra Special  
Kid's Spring Art Attack!*  
with a springtime theme

26th March 10am - 1pm  
splash some paint • have some fun

£1 per family  
**FREE EASTER EGG**



## Sports Quiz Night

Friday 11th March - Harlington Village Hall

Doors open at 7pm - Starts 8pm



**Bar • Curried Goat • Pizzas**

**£10** entry (children free)

**Includes:**

First drink, food & 5 x £1 raffle tickets

**A great night out!**

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# Wildlife Trust, Flit Vale *plus* Crafternoon Tea

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Bedfordshire  
Cambridgeshire  
Northamptonshire

## Wildlife walks & talks

Monday 14 March, start at 7.30pm – On-line Zoom talk

### **The Mystery of Scientific Names\* with Judith Knight and Bob Hook**

Join us for a light-hearted talk and find out there are good reasons for the names, and how many names can be unravelled without too much research! There are some funnies, too, (did you know that there is a slime mould beetle named after George W Bush?) and some bits of mythology. Judith will also look at a mixture of plants, insects, mammals, and birds. She will spend a couple of minutes talking about Linnæus.

\*free, but donations at another event always welcome

**Links to the Zoom meetings will be provided to all registered attendees closer to the events.**

#### **Open to all.**

To reserve a place or for further information please email Ann at [flit-vale.info@gmail.com](mailto:flit-vale.info@gmail.com) or ring or text on 07580 178889.

The Wildlife Trust for Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Northamptonshire

Registered charity number: 1000412

[www.wildlifebcn.org](http://www.wildlifebcn.org)

Flit Vale Local Group

[www.flitvale.org.uk](http://www.flitvale.org.uk)

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## Crafternoon Tea

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Crafternoon Tea meets fortnightly on Monday afternoons, between 2 and 4 pm, at the Methodist Church on Sundon Road. Conversation is often wide-ranging and not necessarily about craft. Our March meetings will be 14<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>. If you cannot get to the church, but are happy to use Zoom, we have that facility as well – please let me know if you want the Zoom link.

You do not have to be working at any particular craft, we welcome any and every craft, and all logics for crafting! If your hands don't happen to be occupied at the moment, it doesn't matter. If you want to try a new craft, we will endeavour to find you the materials and tools, and even someone to help, if that is what you need. If you just want a companionable afternoon, in a warm space, with refreshments, we can supply that. (Ctd page 25)

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## Messy Church News *plus* Jigsaw Library

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What is Messy Church? Why is it “Messy”? Would I like it? Would I be welcome?

Messy Church is a name that comes from 2 things. The first is that messy activities are fun. It’s fun to paint, use glue, play with clay, cook, draw, model, and you can get messy doing any of them. Second and more important is that edges can be messy. Am

I a part of that? What does it mean to be a part? Sometimes we forget that there are people around who might just like to come along once in a while to join in.

So Messy Church provides messy activities and has messy edges, just like a drawing which you’ve coloured in, but gone over the lines.

Would you like to come along and be part of the mess? It’s Church, Jim, but not as we know it!

Our March meeting will be on the 19th at 4 pm. We will be messy about an aspect of Lent. We won’t do everything, but there will be enough to try. We’re still live and virtual with material on <https://cliveandtina.co.uk>

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

If you want to have the material, or the Zoom link, emailed, contact me on [clivedsalmon@aol.com](mailto:clivedsalmon@aol.com). Clive

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## Harlington Jigsaw Library

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First of all, a warm welcome to our new borrowers and I hope you enjoy making the jigsaws. There is now a wide variety of subjects and sizes available, from fairly easy to very difficult, and for children or adults.



You have all been very kind and generous with jigsaw donations recently, and I do find it hard to say ‘no’ especially when the puzzles are good quality and with a lovely illustration or picture. But until I have a proper reorganisation, I am currently a bit limited for storage space. So please, if you have a puzzle you wish to donate at the moment, may I suggest taking it instead to a local charity shop, as they would be really grateful for your donation.

Please contact me if you’d like to borrow a jigsaw. Just call/ text or email your request; approximate size, “normal” or larger pieces etc and I will then deliver to your home. You’re welcome to collect if you prefer. When returning a jigsaw, just let me know if there are any missing pieces or any other problem.

Thank you. Tricia 07711 511729

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## Harlington Upper School

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<https://www.harlington.org>



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## Advertisements

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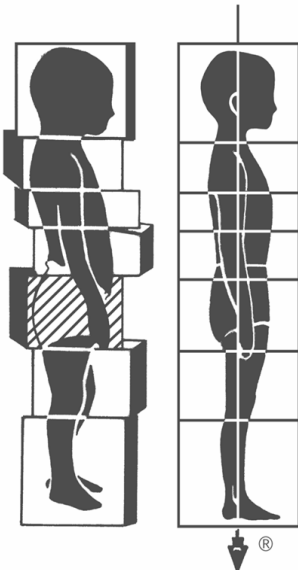
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To enquire email: [luke@rolfing-london.com](mailto:luke@rolfing-london.com)

WhatsApp: 07737523690

More info: [www.rolfing.london](http://www.rolfing.london)

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## Friends of St Mary's *plus* Walking for Health

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We hope that there will be like-minded people who value the church building and its long history of serving and caring for the community of Harlington. We would really appreciate help to maintain and cherish the building. To this end, we are organising a social evening in church where you can find out what being a 'Friend' might involve. Please see the information below and do come along if you can. If attending, please RSVP if possible, and if unable to attend but you'd like to know more, please do email us.

**Friends of St Mary's Church**

We would like to invite you to a special evening to launch the "Friends of St Mary's"

**Friday 25<sup>th</sup> March, 7pm in the church**

Learn more about the creation of a team to support this Grade 1 listed building. Celebrate the history of the church through the centuries, our plans for the future, and our hopes of sustaining this beautiful building for years to come. Wine, soft drinks and nibbles



RSVP email: [friends@harlingtonchurch.org](mailto:friends@harlingtonchurch.org)

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## Walking4Health

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**Walking for Health Harlington** takes place every second Friday.

It is a great way to stay fit, enjoy the village, meet fellow residents and now to also stop off for coffee, cake and conversation at the cafe after!

The leaders aim to offer 2 walks each time - a short 40 minute walk around the village and a longer more strenuous walk within the village but over the fields.

The starting point as always is from the village hall car park at 10.30am.

Dates for walks next month are the 11th and 25th March

We would love you to join us as a walker or volunteer!

Call for any info - 07887 708304

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# LIFE Church *plus* Wednesday Coffee Mornings

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LIFE CHURCH  
HARLINGTON

Sunday services at 10.30am in **The Parish Rooms**

Everyone welcome

We are a friendly group who meet together on a Sunday morning to worship and pray. Each week a different speaker helps us explore what the bible teaches us about living today.

Look out for Special events, with St. Mary's and the Methodist church, in the lead up to Easter that will be advertised on Facebook and in Contact next month.

## **MARCH**

6th - Pioneer Sunday

13th - Carol Gibbs & Rosie Hughes

20th - Trevor Withers

27th - Polly Oliver

Wednesday 7pm Prayer meeting continues to meet on Zoom.

If you have any prayer requests or would like to talk to someone please contact us on the address below

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

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## **Wednesday Coffee Mornings and Games**

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If you have not been before and would like to join us for coffee/tea, a chat or a game of table tennis we would love to see you. We meet every Wednesday in the Parish Hall from 10am until 12oclock. The Games



Group section have begun playing table tennis again and you are very welcome to join us. We also have a small snooker table, and if anyone would like to come perhaps to play different indoor games eg chess, card games or Scrabble, please do come along any Wednesday morning to see us and have a chat. Doreen Gatward and Valerie Bates.



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# Methodist Church

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We are holding all services in the church, and our services continue to be available on **Zoom** and streamed to **YouTube** on the Harlington Methodist Church YouTube channel. For those in the Church, refreshments are available after the morning service.



## March preachers are:

6th 10 am Come and See Martin Wallis  
6 pm Service with Holy Communion led by Rev Patrick Kandeh  
13th 10 am Colin Quine  
20th 10 am Service with Holy Communion led by Rev Nina Johnson  
27th 10 am Rev Dr Ebute Obiabo

Our circulated material is available on <https://www.southbedsmethodist.org.uk> or by email. If you want to join us on Zoom, 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 either email list. Or you can watch us live on YouTube, or see the recording later, on the Harlington Methodist Church YouTube channel.

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**COFFEE MORNING** 26th March, 10 am to 12 noon in aid of our charity, Kids in Action. Live in the hall, but with Zoom for those who want to just “drop-in”.

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## LADIES BRIGHT HOUR

We meet at 2.45 pm every Thursday in the Church Hall

### March

3rd Sue Blain  
10th Sandra Goodwin  
17th Jan O'Brien  
24th AGM with Nina  
31st Members Own  
Jo



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## ROOM BOOKINGS

Contact Trevor Caveney if you are interested in booking any of our Halls, Rooms or the Church, subject to COVID rules. The Halls are suitable for meetings, groups, clubs and particularly good for children’s parties. Reasonable prices. Tel 01525 754527 or [hmc.bookings@ntlworld.com](mailto:hmc.bookings@ntlworld.com)

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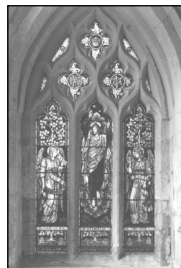
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# St. Mary's Church Services in March

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**YOU ARE WELCOME. Just come sit and be....**

Spring is springing and the great story unfolds so this is a really good time to welcome new worshippers who would like to join a service and follow Jesus' journey. We are pleased when new people join us on a Sunday morning. The more the better. We assure you of a very warm welcome and this March we will further unfold the story of Jesus. Come and sing, come and be...



All Sunday services are at 9.30am except where stated.

- |      |        |  |
|------|--------|--|
| 6th. | 8am    | BCP Communion                              |
|      | 9am    | Families Breakfast Club                    |
|      | 9.30am | Holy Communion                             |
| 13th | 9.30am | Holy Communion                             |
| 20th | 9.30am | Holy Communion                             |
| 27th | 9.30am | Holy Communion ( <b>Mothering Sunday</b> ) |

**2nd ASH WEDNESDAY.** A service will be held in church at 10am and 7.30pm

There is a weekly Church information newsletter issued by email. Let us know if you would like to receive this.

We have a **Wednesday Morning Service** which starts at 10am. All welcome.

A Quintet **Upper Room Service** takes place **each Sunday at 6pm**. Join people from across the quintet of churches 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 a zoom invitation to the Upper Room.

Please check the **Church Noticeboard** and websites for updates.

The church is also available for Private Prayer by arrangement. Please contact Linda or Nigel or a churchwarden for access and for more information.

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

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/stmarysharlington/](https://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, do call us on 01525 714442 or email Nigel: [nwashy2@gmail.com](mailto:nwashy2@gmail.com) or Linda: [revdtoddington@gmail.com](mailto:revdtoddington@gmail.com)

We are here for you.

**Revd Linda and Revd Canon Nigel Washington, Ministers and Dr Robert Johns**

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# St Mary's Churchwarden

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## St Mary's Church



**Churchyard:** today (10<sup>th</sup> February), I was delighted to see the first 2 primrose flowers in the churchyard. A sure sign that Spring is on the way. There is also a specific commemorative Primrose Day, which this year falls on April 19<sup>th</sup>. This date celebrates the anniversary of the death of the British statesman and Prime Minister Benjamin Disraeli. It is said that the primrose was his favourite flower, and Queen Victoria sent a wreath of primroses to his funeral. Meanwhile, someone keeps sending me bunches of flowers with the heads cut off. I think I'm being stalked!

**Recycling:** just a reminder that we are still collecting biscuit wrappers – sweet and savoury – to send to Terracycle. This also includes biscuit based bars eg Twix, Kit Kat, and own brands, plus cake wrappers which are plastic – from larger cakes or individually wrapped cakes. If you're not sure, pop the wrappers in anyway and I'll forward those I can't recycle to another collector. (Cardboard should be recycled in your own bin). Leave the wrappers in the labelled bin at church (near to the 'normal' waste bins) which is through the side gate on Church Road. Many thanks to those who have already dropped some off.

**Restoration Work:** we have now had meetings with the stonemasonry company which will undertake the work around the south porch. Restoring buildings like churches is their specialist area and there are many 'rules' to follow which determine the precise type of materials to be used. Timescale will depend on many factors of course, but it would be amazing if we could start in the Summer. To try and look after the church building in the best way we can, we are also exploring the possibility of a Friends of St Mary's group. If you'd like to know more, we have an information evening organised. Please see our invitation in this edition of Contact. For further information, message us via email: [friends@harlingtonchurch.org](mailto:friends@harlingtonchurch.org)

**Art Attack:** Following the huge success with our Christmas themed children's art attack event, we are pleased to announce our Spring themed art attack, 26th March, 10am to 1pm at St Mary's Church. Children of all ages are welcome to come along and splash some paint around and help decorate the church with fabulous, colourful, Spring themed art. All art materials supplied and all children will receive a FREE Easter egg! So come along, express yourself and have fun too. Refreshments will also be available.

Best wishes, Tricia Churchwarden

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Director



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[natasha@harlingtoncounselling.co.uk](mailto:natasha@harlingtoncounselling.co.uk)

TELEPHONE:  
01525 591025

VISIT:  
[www.harlingtoncounselling.co.uk](http://www.harlingtoncounselling.co.uk)



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## Healing Rooms *plus* Crafternoon Tea *Ctd.*

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### ***Healing Rooms Flitwick? What is that all about?***

In previous editions of Contact you may have seen the advert for Healing Rooms Flitwick, so we thought we should tell you more about ourselves. We are a group of volunteer Christians from local churches from Dunstable to Flitwick, who offer a listening ear and confidential prayer for all needs.



Two members of Westoning Parish Church had the idea of showing God's love through prayer for people in a safe space and heard about Healing Rooms England and Wales, an established national organization who were already providing opportunities for prayer to those struggling with life's challenges. They were meeting in cafés in many parts the country and so they were contacted about helping to start the Flitwick group.

Subsequently, a team was trained and in November 2019 Healing Rooms Flitwick was successfully launched in a local café. People were welcomed to a designated area within the café, and we were privileged to see many answers to prayer.

During the Covid period we transferred to offering online appointments via Zoom and continued to provide a safe, caring and confidential environment. This also allowed us to meet with people from a wider geographical area.

More recently we have added a venue too where you can meet us in person for a chat and/or prayer in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere. This is on Friday mornings between 9.30 and 11.30 at Flitwick Village Hall, where no appointment is necessary.

We believe that Jesus heals today and if you would like prayer, for any reason, you can contact us at [flitwick@healingrooms.org](mailto:flitwick@healingrooms.org)

You can also find us on **Facebook/FlitwickBedsHR/**

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## Crafternoon Tea *ctd.*

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*(Ctd. From page 14)*

We now have some patchwork fabric, as well as the embroidery silks and Aida fabric. Anyone like to try patchwork?

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

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# Village Diary

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## March

1 <sup>st</sup>	Pancake Parlour	Methodist Church Hall 3.30pm to 6 pm
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Ash Wednesday Service	St Mary's 10 am and 7.30 pm
4 <sup>th</sup>	World Day of Prayer	Methodist Church 2 pm
6 <sup>th</sup>	Family Breakfast	Parish Hall 9 am
7 <sup>th</sup>	ADALHS	On Zoom see <a href="http://www.adalhs.org.uk">www.adalhs.org.uk</a>
10 <sup>th</sup>	Contact Copy Date!!	
11 <sup>th</sup>	Walk 4 Health	Village Hall Car Park 10.30 am
11 <sup>th</sup>	Sports Quiz	Village Hall 7pm for 8 pm start
14 <sup>th</sup>	Crafternoon Tea	Methodist Church Hall 2 - 4 pm and Zoom
14 <sup>th</sup>	Wildlife talk	On Zoom 7.30 pm email <a href="mailto:flitvale.info@gmail.com">flitvale.info@gmail.com</a>
16 <sup>th</sup>	WI Meeting	Village Hall 7.30 pm
19 <sup>th</sup>	Messy Church	Methodist Church and Halls, 4 - 6pm
25 <sup>th</sup>	Walk 4 Health	Village Hall Car Park 10.30 am
25 <sup>th</sup>	Friends of St. Mary's	St Mary's Church 7 pm
26 <sup>th</sup>	Coffee Morning	Methodist Church Hall 10 am to 12 noon
26 <sup>th</sup>	Wear a Hat Coffee	132 Goswell End Road 10 am to 12 noon
26 <sup>th</sup>	Art Attack	St Mary's Church 10 am to 1 pm
28 <sup>th</sup>	Crafternoon Tea	Methodist Church Hall 2 - 4 pm and Zoom

## April

3 <sup>rd</sup>	Family Breakfast	Parish Hall 9 am
4 <sup>th</sup>	ADLHAS	On Zoom see <a href="http://www.adalhs.org.uk">www.adalhs.org.uk</a>

If you want your events included here, send details to the editor by 10th March. You can do that without sending anything else, if you want.

Don't forget the regular weekly things like the Wednesday Coffee Mornings that aren't shown here.

**GET YOUR APRIL 2022 DATES TO THE MAGAZINE BY  
10TH MARCH**

**NOTE THE EARLIER DATE!!!**

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## March Celebrations

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1st	Pancake Day—Shrove Tuesday
1st	St. David's Day
2nd	Ash Wednesday
17th	St. Patrick's Day
27th	Mothering Sunday