

Editorial

Dear Villagers,
Harlington is a lovely village, with lots of activities, attractive flower beds and a friendly atmosphere. Unfortunately, much of this depends on volunteers, and they appear to be in short supply. The Guide Company had to close when no-one took on the leadership, the WI are desperately looking for a new President, or they will have to close (and then what will we do for teas and coffees at village events?) Harlington in Bloom needs a Chair and a Secretary.

Times change, as does the nature of work and working hours. People are expected to retire later, and the very style of volunteering, which used to represent long term commitment has been replaced by shorter one-offs. But we will all be worse off if these things go, unless they are replaced by an equivalent which provides the same sort of function.

To be more positive, I am pleased that the pavements in Church Road have now been re-laid with a complete surface, hopefully removing all the trip risks.

Clive.

Cover picture is the Carpenter's Arms and other buildings taken in August 1978. Thanks to D Rands.

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.

May copy by 10th April please.

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

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<https://harlingtonvillagemagazine.org>

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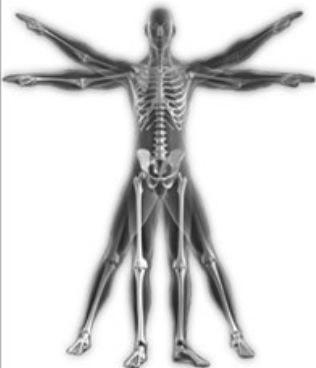
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Letter from Revs. Linda and Nigel Washington

Dear Friends,

We are writing this letter on 10th March for publication at the beginning of April. War is in full cry in Ukraine, evil stalks the country and we are all affected. By the time you read this we pray that there will peace and truth will prevail for the horrors are unbearable. The contortion of truth and presentation of lies as truth have been a feature of this war and we wonder at such self centred duplicity. We can feel helpless.

Truth was examined when Jesus was arrested in Jerusalem and truth prevailed and this is why Easter is so important to us even today. It's important because it proved that Jesus was who he claimed to be. He was God in the flesh, and he came to Earth to save us.

Three events occurred in dramatic succession on that Easter weekend: the trial of Jesus, then the death of Jesus, and finally the Resurrection of Jesus.



Jesus actually went through six trials. In that one night, he was brought before Annas (the father-in-law of Caiaphas), Caiaphas (the high priest), the Sanhedrin (the religious Supreme Court), Pilate (the governor of Jerusalem), Herod (the governor of Galilee), and then Pilate again.

At the end of those six trials, what did they find to accuse him of? Nothing. He had done nothing wrong. They brought in people to make up phony charges, to tell lies, but those didn't stick. Finally, they convicted him on one count: claiming to be the Son of God. That's the sole reason Jesus went to the cross.

Everyone who has ever been introduced to Jesus has already made some kind of decision about who he is. You either believe he's a liar or you believe he's a lunatic or you believe he's the Lord. It can't just be, "I believe he was a good teacher." He couldn't be just a good teacher, because a good teacher would not say, "I'm God, and I'm the only way to Heaven." A good person would not say that unless it was the truth.

Jesus claimed to be the Saviour of the world. In the Bible he is recorded as saying: "*I did not come to judge the world, but to save the world.*" He allowed himself to be put on trial so there would be no doubt about who he was. He could have stopped the trial at any moment; he knew he would be proven guilty and put on the cross. But he allowed it to happen. It was all part of the plan. He lived for us, he died for us and he rose for us.

Letter ctd., *plus* Heritage Trust & 100 Club

The story of Jesus is the greatest story ever told and when it is linked to our story we can have hope and we can be assured that truth, in the end, will prevail. Evil was defeated on the cross and there was resurrection, there was new life for all who believed and followed.



This is the time to follow truth in all we think and say and do. In these days may you carry peace in your hearts and live in love, may you have soft hearts and hard feet as you step out in faith, day by day.

With love and prayer for a peaceful Easter,

Nigel and Linda Washington

St Mary's Church, Harlington

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.

Sunday 15 May there is a car outing to Ashwell Village and Museum. Meet at the Village Hall car park at 12.45. Lifts will be available if required.

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.

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

HVH 100 Club

The February winner of the 100 club is no 28 belonging to Marjorie Eagling of Park Leys. The winner for March is number 78 belonging to Liz Stokes of Greenfield.

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

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

Dave Thew, Treasurer, HVH Management Committee

Flittabus

Community Transport Ltd.



Next Milton Keynes Flittabus

Tuesday 5 April 2022

Depart Harlington Village Hall Car Park 09:15am.

Return 1:00pm from Door 5 CMK

Special Excursions

Garden Excursion: Saturday 23 April 2022

Thenford Gardens, at the home of Michael Heseltine. £ 33pp.

Rutland Water and Oakham Day Out. Weds 18 May 2022

Oakham Castle and Cruise on Rutland Belle and more. £ 38pp.

To book these excursions,

Please contact Derek Wood on **07 563 170 067** or **07 715 161 621**
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Please check with Mr Wood that pickup and drop-off in Harlington is possible.

More Excursions for 2022

Sat 18 June 22	Epping and Ongar Railway
Sat 25 June 22	Black Country Living Museum
Wed 6 July 22	Brooklands Transport Museum
Sat 16 Jul 22	Southend

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

Harlington in Bloom *plus* Gardeners' Society



It was a bit of a disappointing show at the AGM open to all on 25 February in the Parish Hall with some committee members ill and we welcome their return soon! And really we would welcome some new reinforcements. We couldn't compete with graze boxes and games in the other hall!

Do get in touch or just turn up to a weeding or planting day. It is fun for all ages. We would particularly welcome some of the many new people and families who have come to the village in recent times. If you like the public bedding – please come and help, just a bit once in a while! We also really need secretarial/office help if that that is more your thing. So currently no chair and no secretary but we will share the jobs around us if we can. We wave a very sorry goodbye to Ian from chairing the committee and would like to thank him for all his marvellous work with us over many years.

We would also like to thank the unsung heroes who help during the year with watering, weeding and planting!

Judy Harfield (treasurer), Martyn Stynes (minutes sec), David Kingham, Gill Whiting, Jane Barltrop, Teresa Glenister, Steve Jackson, Anthony Price, Vivienne Dunlop, Tricia Murphy.

Vivienne Dunlop on behalf of HiB Committee <https://www.facebook.com/HarlingtonInBloom/> or v.dunlop@ntlworld.com

Late News: HiB working party Sat 23 April 10.00 am Village Hall carpark

Harlington Gardeners' Society



We have just had our first committee meeting of the year and decided that we will go ahead with a programme of events for 2022. These will include a Spring Social for members, a July coach trip to Kew Gardens (at the third attempt) which will be open to all and a members' August BBQ. Dates are not yet fixed in stone so watch this space for further information

Tony Roberts – HGS Secretary

Brain Tumour Research



Finally, despite writing on my calendar what I was going to grow when, the weather and my disposition meant all I really wanted to do was hibernate. Then at the end of February, that



glorious last weekend, I literally sprang into action and began a few trays of tomatoes, cauliflower and cabbages and I was off. My grandson visited the next day and after lunch I said to him “why don’t we go out into the garden.” Well on the way out he saw the seeds I had had sorted ready to plant and he said “lets do some growing, Grandnan” and so this new season has begun in earnest. However he remembered from last year and he sped off up the garden at top speed to the vegetable plot, when I got up there he had already dug a hole put half the tomato seeds in the hole covered them up and watered them, not bad for a 3 1/2 year old I hear you saying. Anyway I explained that it was still a bit too cold for growing seeds outside and they would need to be put in a grow house but we decided to plant the other half of the packet in a tray and have a race and see which seeds grow first, knowing my luck he will defy my explanation and his seeds will appear, I will keep you informed! I am also trying to grow some tomato plants from last seasons fruit so after googling how to go about this I will keep you informed of the progress regarding these too!

I would like to offer a vote of thanks to all those who continue to visit the plant sales outside my house it has continued to raise a steady amount. I would also like to thank Judy who sold some of her preserves at the coffee morning and came round with a very generous £35 for Brain Tumour Research. Thank you to Judy and all those generous supporters. I also had a lovely chat with Linda and Martyn on my doorstep when they went to a lot of trouble to find out where I lived using Harlington Facebook so they could deliver a donation which a friend had given them when a relative of theirs had died from a Brain Tumour, thank you so much. So today I banked a further £100 up at our local post office, I had not realised that this was possible till my friend Liz brought me some envelopes to deposit cheques and explained they would also accept notes so thank you Sanjeev for this service and no more need to travel to Leighton Buzzard to visit the Nat West there saving me time and petrol, brilliant!!

Finally a plea if anyone in Lincoln Way or my near neighbours have had a black compost lid deposited at the bottom of their garden thanks to storm Eunice I am missing one and it may belong to me I would really appreciate its safe return if you find it, Thankyou.

I will report on the success of the Wear a Hat coffee on my Drive on Saturday 26th March between 10-12 in the next issue of Contact.

So until then..... KEEP GROWING!.... KEEP PLANTING.... KEEP WEARING YOUR HATS FOR BRAIN TUMOUR RESEARCH

With thanks and love

Jane, Alice, Emma and Lewis

Easter Ads *plus* St. Mary's Family Team News

Brought to you by
Churches Together Harlington



**Easter
Family Fun**



**SMALL ANIMAL FARM
on BURY ORCHARD**
Sunday 3rd April 10am – 12pm

Refreshments

Competition
Grow a
Sunflower



Crafts
and
a Quiz
for the
family

Story
Time



Walk of Witness



Friday, 15th April
9.45 – 11.00 am

Starting at the Methodist Church
finishing with Hot Cross Buns
at St Marys Parish Church

A Good Friday Procession with Drama



Stopping at Village Hall,
Memorial,
Orchard House, Lower School,
Upper School, Shops and
Cemetery

Come and be part of
the crowd shout for
Barabbas
and boo at the
Roman Soldiers



St. Mary's Family Team News



Our Messy Family Breakfast is continuing to be enjoyable and we normally would love to welcome you on the first Sunday of each month at 9am but April 2022 will be different! So please join us...

Sunday 3rd April – Easter Family Fun!! On Bury Orchard from 10 am - 12 noon. Animal Ark coming, Face Painting, story time and craft plus refreshments in the Parish rooms! We are praying for a lovely sunny day and look forward to seeing you all there.

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

Please do not hesitate to get in touch with us if there is anything we can do for you.

With love from everyone at St.. Mary's.

Harlington Village Pre School *plus* HSAC



Harlington Village Pre School & Wrap Around Care

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If your child was born between 01/09/2018-31/08/2020 and you would like them to join Pre School next academic year (any time between September 2022 & July 2023) or for more information, please e-mail

staff@harlingtonvillagepreschool.org.uk for a session request form. **All forms to be returned by 20th May 2022.**

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

Enquires: 07963 534038

The Conifers, Westoning Road, Harlington, LU5 6PD

www.harlingtonvillagepreschool.org.uk



Harlington Village Pre School

Harlington Society of Art and Crafts



Following our AGM in February, we thankfully have a committee and three officers, including our new Chairman, Dawn Shiner.

The programme we are now setting up will include workshops on Toy Soldiers, Jewellery making and block printing as well as demonstrations by artists.

We also hope, after two years, to have an exhibition and sale of work by local artists.

If you are interested in joining us please contact

Dawn - 754093 or Mary - 754049

HNH Good Neighbour Scheme *plus* ADALHS



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?

As regular hospital appointments get reinstated as restrictions reduce we are now looking for more volunteer drivers and also anyone who can help with lawn mowing for elderly residents. We will help you get D&B registered and we pay 45p per mile expenses. It's a great way to give back and a wonderful way to get to know people in the village.

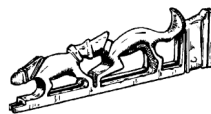
Please call us!

HNH Good neighbours line 07849 835410

ADALHS

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, 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 Tel: 01582 655785

www.adalhs.org.uk

Harlington WI *plus* Walking for Health



I am writing this on International Women's Day which seems very apt. The motto of the Women's Institute is 'Today's women working for tomorrow's world'.

When we look at what is going on in the world at the moment, this has even more meaning and poignancy.

Our meeting this month on Tuesday April 20th is Harlington WI's AGM. This is when our new committee will be chosen and approved by our members. Elaine Mountforte will also be joining us with advice on how to avoid scammers.

As you know, our current President, Lin Merrison, will be stepping down after many years. If no-one comes forward to take on this role and to take Harlington WI forward for the future, we will close.

Don't forget to 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 phone Lin Merrison on 01525 757161.

Walking4Health



Walking for Health Harlington takes place every second Friday *but watch this space as we are going to experiment with weekly walks*

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 8th and 22nd April

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

Call for any info - 07887 708304

Advertisement *plus* 0 - 4 Club

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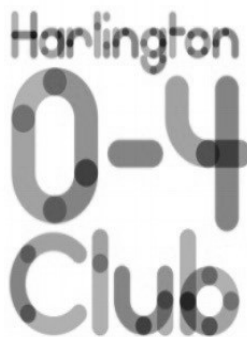


FLITWICK VILLAGE HALL

Friday mornings from 9.30 to 11.30am

 /FlitwickBedsHR/

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.



Wildlife Trust, Flit Vale *plus* Crafternoon Tea



**Bedfordshire
Cambridgeshire
Northamptonshire**

Wildlife walks & talks

Monday 25 April, start at 7.30pm – On-line Zoom talk

Banking on Butterflies* with Dr Gwen Hitchcock

Gwen, BCN's Senior Monitoring and Research Officer, will introduce us to an exciting new scientific project at Totternhoe Quarry and Pegsdon reserves monitoring butterfly populations, building an understanding of how different aspects and degrees of shelter affect these populations. This new knowledge will help in mitigating the effects of climate change on our butterfly populations.

(Links to the Zoom meetings will be provided to registered attendees closer to the events.)

*free, but donations at another event always welcome

**Saturday 14 May, start at 10.30am – Totternhoe Nature Reserve
(LU6 1QF)**

Banking on Butterflies - Field Trip**

Follow-up to our April Zoom talk, join Dr Gwen Hitchcock (Senior Monitoring and Research Officer) for a guided trip to see earthworks created for the 'Banking on Butterflies' project at Totternhoe Quarry reserve. Shaped like a giant 'E' the north and south facing sides will offer butterflies opportunities to warm and cool themselves, something climate change may be making more difficult. *(Also see - www.wildlifebcn.org/banking-butterflies-project)*

**£3.00 per adult

Open to all.

To reserve a place or for further information please email Ann at 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

Flit Vale Local Group

www.flitvale.org.uk

Messy Church News *plus* Jigsaw Library



For our February Messy Church we looked at David the Outlaw. Although he had to hide from Saul, who was jealous of him and tried to kill him, he still followed God, and wouldn't harm Saul.

We made rock cakes, drew pictures in caves, made shakers to accompany our singing and learned more about the man who became king of Israel.

Messy Church in April will be on the 16th, which is Easter Saturday and we will look at the Easter story.

Our pattern is to have the first 45 mins as activities, which you can also join on Zoom although you may need extra materials. Then we have a 45 min Celebration, which is also on Zoom, and this bit (or at least the leaders' bit of it) is also streamed to YouTube. We include some other activities in this bit for which the materials should be things you can find at home or buy easily, such as icing. Then we have tea.



The YouTube video stays on the Harlington Methodist Church YouTube Channel, if you want to follow it later, and you can get a copy of the booklet and all the other material from <https://cliveandtina.co.uk> as downloads.

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

If you want to have material, or the Zoom link, emailed, contact me on clivedsalmon@aol.com.

Clive

Harlington Jigsaw Library

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.

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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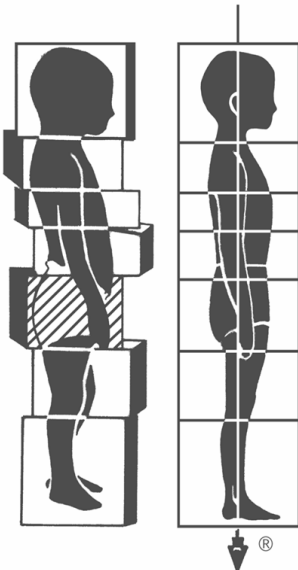
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WhatsApp: 07737523690

More info: www.rolfing.london

Ark Farm And Annual Walk Of Witness



ARK FARM AND ANNUAL WALK OF WITNESS



The month of April is busy for Church Together Harlington (CTH) this year.

We are beginning the month with a time of fun for everyone on Bury Orchard. We have invited Ark Farm, a Mobile Petting Farm, to come to Bury Orchard with a selection of their animals. We know it is a favourite with our villagers young and old as they have been here before.

We are pleased to tell you that they will be here on **SUNDAY 3rd APRIL between 10am and 12pm**. We invite you to join in some FAMILY FUN to see the animals. Have refreshments, a story for the young ones, crafts for young and old and Sunflower seeds to take home.

For many years at Easter, CTH have had a 'Walk of Witness' on Good Friday morning around the village. Since we started it has developed from a walk only, with people taking it in turns to carry a cross, to, in more recent years, a costume drama. The last time we did this was in 2019 and so we are looking forward to this year's walk as we enact the last week in the life of Jesus Christ at different points around the village.

We start at the Methodist Church at **9.45am on GOOD FRIDAY 15th APRIL** stopping at various places in the village to act out a scene from the drama.

If you or any member of your family would like to join us and take a part, big or small, you would be very welcome. The reward is a Hot Cross Bun at the finish. Please contact Rose Agnew on 01525 872933 or email r.agnew156@gmail.com

Annual Parish Meeting

This will take place on Tuesday 26th 7.30 pm in the Parish Hall

Residents are welcome to ask questions at this meeting but they must be submitted in advance to the Parish Clerk, via email, by **14th April 2022**. If you would like to raise a question or make an announcement, please contact the Clerk – clerk@harlington-pc.gov.uk

"April prepares her green traffic light and the world thinks Go."

- Christopher Morley, John Mistletoe

LIFE Church *plus* Wednesday Coffee Mornings



LIFE CHURCH
HARLINGTON

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

Everyone welcome

APRIL

3rd - Easter Family Fun from 10-12 noon (see advert for more info)

10th - David Shillitoe

17th - Early Morning Easter Service on Bury Orchard at 8.30am

24th - Rebecca Caird

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

Wednesday Coffee Mornings and Games



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.



Methodist Church

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.



April preachers are:

- 3rd 10 am Come and See Clive and Tina
6 pm Service with Holy Communion led by Rev Nina Johnson
10th 10 am Rev Dr Ebute Obiabo
17th 10 am Easter Day Service with Holy Communion led by Rev Nina Johnson
24th 10 am The Worship Group

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, 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.

COFFEE MORNING 30th April, 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”.

LADIES BRIGHT HOUR

We meet at 2.45 pm every Thursday in the Church Hall

April

- 7th Sylvia Coles
14th Rev'd Patrick Kandeh
21st Rev'd Nina Johnson
28th Diane Maple



Jo

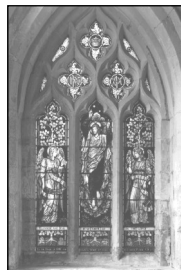
ROOM BOOKINGS

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

St. Mary's Church Services in April

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

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 APRIL we will further unfold the story of Jesus' walk to Jerusalem. Come and sing, come and be...



All Sunday services are at 9.30am except where stated.

3 rd	8am	BCP Communion
	9am	Families Breakfast Club on Bury Orchard with Ark Farm
	9.30am	Holy Communion
10 th	9.30am	Holy Communion - Palm Sunday
14 th	7.30pm	Maundy Thursday Service
15 th	2pm	Good Friday Service
17 th	9.30am	Holy Communion - Easter Sunday
24 th	9.30am	Holy Communion

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

We also 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

Facebook: www.facebook.com/stmarysharlington/

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

If you would like a chat or prayer, or would like to discuss marriages, funerals or baptisms, do call us on 01525 714442 or email Nigel: nwashy2@gmail.com or Linda: revdtoddington@gmail.com

We are here for you.

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

St Mary's Churchwarden

St Mary's Church



Churchyard: With our primroses flowering beautifully, it is very apt to have a commemorative Primrose Day, which this year falls on April 19th. As I mentioned last month, this date celebrates the anniversary of the death of the British statesman and Prime Minister Benjamin Disraeli. The primrose was said to be his favourite flower and on April 19th Disraeli's statue in Parliament Square, London, is decorated with primroses, as is his grave in Hughenden, Bucks. As for the birds, lots of goldfinches have been visiting recently and it's lovely hearing their cheerful calls to each other.

Toddington Town Band: on Sunday 8th May, 3pm in the church. The band's performances are always excellent and entertaining, and the band has become a regular feature in the calendar. You can buy tickets on the door £6, £5 concessions, family £12, which includes refreshments with tea/ coffee and cake. There is also a raffle. If you wish to buy a ticket in advance, please contact: tricia.murphy5@ntlworld.com.

Poetry for All: looking ahead to June, we are excited about an event to celebrate poetry writing and performance, which will include activities for both adults and children. Do save the date: **Saturday 11th June**. There will be children's workshops "Pizza and Poems" in the morning, with an afternoon poetry competition, and Poems and Pimms in the evening for the not quite so young! There's a chance to explore writing poetry as well as an 'open mic' session where you can read your own creation or perhaps read your favourite poem. I've just finished reading a book by a group of amateur poets. The poems aren't bad, but you can tell they're not prose.

Ukraine: things will undoubtedly have moved on since I wrote this, but we'd like to say a big "thank you" to all who supported the donations to Ukraine in March via the church. The Luton Association of Ukrainians were so moved by the tremendous support shown by local communities and individuals. and their volunteers were working so hard to ensure equipment, first aid etc. reaches those who need it most. Thank you.

Best wishes, Tricia Churchwarden

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TELEPHONE:
01525 591025

VISIT:
www.harlingtoncounselling.co.uk

Crafternoon Tea *plus* Pancake Parlour



I originally put this picture in the March Contact, but there wasn't space.

This baby blanket has been made by one of our members for her latest great-grandchild.

The picture was taken before the blanket was complete (obviously!). It is made in squares and then sewn together, rather than each row being knitted on. I have shown a picture of that sort before – see the February 2021 Contact, if you have kept it.

I have now seen the completed blanket – it looks great!

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 April meetings will be 11th and 25th. 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.

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), 874481, website: <https://cliveandtina.co.uk>

Pancake Parlour

A huge thank you to all our workers and everyone who supported us. We made 97 pancakes and raised £105 for our charity "Kids in Action". Jo

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Village Diary

April

3 rd	Easter Family Fun	Bury Orchard 10am—12 noon
4 th	ADLHAS	On Zoom see www.adalhs.org.uk
5 th	Fittabus Milton Keynes	Village Hall Car Park 9.15 am
8 th	Walk 4 Health	Village Hall Car Park 10.30 am
10 th	Contact Copy Date!!	
11 th	Crafternoon Tea	Methodist Church Hall 2 - 4 pm and Zoom
14 th	Maundy Thurs Service	St Mary's Church 7.30 pm
15 th	Walk of Witness	From Methodist Church 9.45 am
15 th	Good F'day Service	St Mary's Church 2 pm
16 th	Messy Church	Methodist Church and Halls, 4 - 6pm
20 th	WI Meeting	Village Hall 7.30 pm
22 nd	Walk 4 Health	Village Hall Car Park 10.30 am
23 rd	HiB Working Party	Village Hall Car Park 10 am
25 th	Crafternoon Tea	Methodist Church Hall 2 - 4 pm and Zoom
25 th	Wildlife talk	On Zoom 7.30 pm email flitvale.info@gmail.com
26 th	Annual Parish Meeting	Parish Hall 7.30 pm
30 th	Coffee Morning	Methodist Church Hall 10 am to 12 noon

If you want your events included here, send details to the editor by 10th April
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 MAY 2022 DATES TO THE MAGAZINE BY
10TH APRIL**

This listing is just of the dates in the magazine or others I have been told about, but there is a gap in the market if anyone feels like running a complete village diary, possibly on line, that people could use to check against clashes etc. Any takers?

April Celebrations

1st	All Fools' Day also known as April Fools Day
15th	Good Friday
17th	Easter Day
23rd	St. George's Day

"The first of April is the day we remember what we are the other 364 days of the year." - Mark Twain