

Editorial

Dear Villagers,
Having edited this issue while on holiday, you will note the cover picture of a beach. This goes with the letter. Both St. Mary's and the Methodists are changing clergy this summer. From September the Methodist Minister will be Rev. Claudia Lupi.
I have included a clipping sent me about the Green Belt. Some may feel this to be rather political, but it is clear that politics determine much of what affects us. How do we respond? This is quite a full issue for August, which is good. Do remember to let people know what is restarting or continuing in September. I have noticed how many new people have come into Harlington during the pandemic period, and who are not aware of all that is going on, partly because meeting people has been more difficult. Finally, can I repeat the call for a new editor for the magazine. If you would like to consider this challenge, let me know. You will find much support in the role.
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.

September copy by 10th August please.

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

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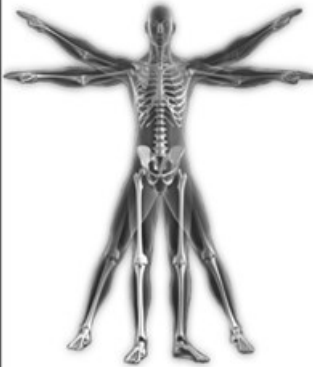
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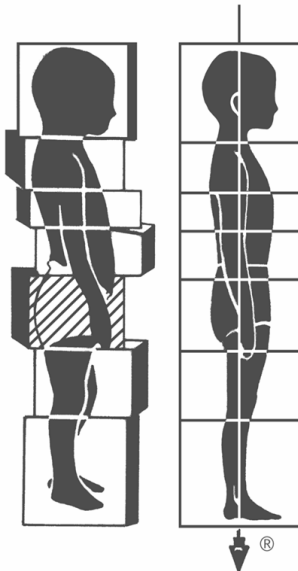
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Letter from the Methodist Church

“Go and look towards the sea,” Elijah told his servant, and he went up and looked. “There is nothing there,” he said. Seven times Elijah said, “Go back.” The seventh time the servant reported, “A cloud as small as a man's hand is rising from the sea.” 1 Kings 18: 43 – 44a

This passage is the Bible source for the line in the harvest hymn “Saw ye not the cloud arise....”

One of the places Tina and I like to go on holiday is Crantock in Cornwall. Crantock is a village with a lovely beach just west of Newquay. It is separated from Newquay by the River Gannel.

When we first went to Crantock, the river flowed out to the sea along the Pentire Head, to the east of the bay, but a few years ago that changed, and the river started to flow across the beach. Initially this didn't seem to be a big change, but gradually the whole shape of the beach has changed, The sea comes further in to the sand dunes, and these have eroded, showing where there is rock underneath. This year we have noticed that, at high tide, the beach divides into two bays.

Back in the middle 1700s, resources seemed infinite. There was a whole world to explore and exploit and new advances in materials made everything seem possible. Coal could be used in place of charcoal to make iron and steel, which allowed greater quantities to be produced. Canals, and later railways, made possible by the increased amount of iron, enabled people and goods to be transported further, faster. Raw materials were shipped in from an expanding empire, and cities expanded. No-one saw the cloud arise.

People still want to ignore Climate Change. A lot pay lip-service to the idea, but doing something significant is expensive and a major disruption to their way of life. It is getting harder to ignore, though. When temperatures reach the 40s Centigrade, we are forced to take notice. It still takes a back seat to the rising cost of living, though, and has not so far been a major feature of the current political debate, unlike taxes.

The world is ours to enjoy, but the way we treat it is more like vandalism. We have already used more than our share of resources. We need to act now, because improving things will take time, they will get worse before they get better. What are we willing to do for ourselves, our families, our neighbours?

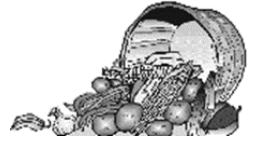
Clive Salmon

Methodist Church Steward

Harlington Village Show *plus* HAC

36th Harlington Village Show

27th August 2022



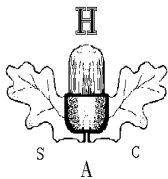
Hopefully you're all eagerly reading your Show schedules to see what you can possibly enter in the Show? And if you haven't entered before, don't worry. When you bring your entry to the village hall between 8.30-10.45am on Saturday 27th August, people will be there to guide you through the whole process. We're a very friendly bunch, and are happy to answer any questions you might have. For tips and advice about entering, check out our Facebook page, and you can also email us for more information at harlingtonvillageshow@gmail.com.

The schedule contains the Show rules and tells you more information about each class and how many items to enter eg 5 potatoes. Remember to check pot measurements in the flower classes where listed, and sizes of any flower arrangements. In the children's classes, the age groups have been amended slightly, so please check those before you enter, and write your child's age on the entry form. Each class costs 20p to enter, children's classes are free. The Show opens at 2pm and we will of course have available our usual lovely cakes and refreshments during the afternoon. If you do enter the Show, we appreciate you waiting to collect your exhibits after the presentations have taken place.

If you need more entry forms, they'll be available at the newsagents, with Sanjeev. Entry forms need to be submitted to any of the addresses given on the form **by 5pm on Thursday 25th August.**

Harlington Village Show Committee Queries: Tricia 07711 511729

Harlington Art and Crafts



On Thursday 28th July we have a Candle making workshop led by Justine of Wootton Wick Candles.

7.30 in the Parish Hall. Members £30, non-members £35.

Our Exhibition on Saturday 29th October will be open to all resident artists and demonstrators. Non-members will be charged 50p per item submitted to be hung.

The competition this year will be 'Halloween' in any medium.

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Next Milton Keynes Flittabus

Tuesday 2 August 2022

Depart Car Park at Harlington Village Hall: 09:15am.

Return 1:00pm from Door 5 CMK

Special Excursions

See flittabus.co.uk/excursions/

Kathy Brown's Garden. Fri 5 Aug 22. £ 28 pp.

Windsor Day Trip. Fri 19 Aug 22. £ 26 pp.

Kelmscott Manor, home of William Morris. Fri 2 Sep 22. £ 35 pp.

Gloucs & Warks Steam Railway. Sat 10 Sep 22. £ 38.50 pp.

Stratford upon Avon Day Trip Sat 24 Sep 22. £ 26 pp.

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Harlington Cricket Club



As we progress through a mixed start to Summer. HCC have played 10 games, won 3 and are currently sitting in 8th position just outside the relegation spots with 8 games left to play.

So far this season the top performers for batting are Mark Caldwell, 223 runs, Dan Read, 188 and Mark Price 150 scored to date. Pick of the bowlers are, Neil Smith with 20 wickets, Dan Read with 14 and Josh Allen with 11.

Fielding plaudits got to Ahmed Aftab with 7 catches and Ben Carroll who is tied with Lee Murton on 4 catches.

The next games all are critical to Harlington Cricket Club staying up;

Saturday 30 July 2022 13:30 North Crawley CC- 2nd XI Vs Harlington CC, Beds- 1st XI

Saturday 06 August 2022 13:30 Harlington CC, Beds- 1st XI Vs Open University CC- 1st XI

Saturday 13 August 2022 13:30 Harlington CC, Beds- 1st XI Vs MK Air CC

Saturday 20 August 2022 13:30 Sharnbrook & Bromham CC- 1st XI Vs Harlington CC, Beds- 1st XI

Saturday 27 August 2022 13:00 Harlington CC, Beds- 1st XI Vs Elstow CC- 2nd XI

Saturday 03 September 2022 13:00 New Bradwell CC- Saturday 2nd XI Vs Harlington CC, Beds- 1st XI

About us

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. 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

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>



Brain Tumour Research *plus* Wednesday Coffee



Help!

Did you put a donation through my door for my produce table?



I apologise I need to begin this article with a plea. On Thursday or Friday at the end of June / beginning of July I arrived home from work only to discover my produce table had gone missing and I can only presume someone thought it was on offer for a donation. I am taking the blame because I should have put a “not for sale” sign on it and as I went off to work the sad looking rhubarb was put in the garden recycling so it was an empty table and may have appeared that it was available for a donation. If you did take the table please would you return it and I will happily give you back your donation. My daughter bought it for me when my last table finally broke so it is sentimental too, I would be very grateful to see it returned.

But now to happier news I have continued to raise about £200 per week for Brain Tumour Research thanks to your support and generosity, sales from colleagues at my school and attending the Lower School summer Fayre, it was a lovely day and £51.65 was raised it may not sound like megabucks but we were thrilled especially so late in the season when most of you have bought and planted your bedding plants. We met lots of lovely new supporters and many who regularly support our efforts, we thank you all.

I must say I have been worried that I would have no plants available or any special plants for you to browse and every time I worry another crate full of plants arrive from my regular supporters, I am eternally grateful to you. One day this month 2 crates arrived I duly arranged them and was very excited to see some very unusual and different plants, when I arrived home from work the next day they had all gone along with many other plants and there was £17 through the door, fantastic work everyone.

I am now putting out runner beans and the courgettes are beginning to arrive so you can also get fresh produce from outside my house too, do come and take a look at 132 Goswell End Road.

Many thanks - Jane

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 10 am until 12 o'clock. 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.

Hedgehogs *plus* HNH Good Neighbours

With the lovely weather, many of us will be clearing our gardens and giving the lawn a good mow. Please check the grass for any wildlife such as hedgehogs and frogs. If you do find one, gently move into undergrowth and leave it – it will move on in it's own time. If you find a hedgehog during the day, it may be sick. If you have any concerns please contact a local wildlife rescue such as Leighton Buzzard Rescue, The Hedgehog Preservation Society or a local vet or if you are a member of the Harlington Hedgehog Facebook page, you can always ask for advice.

Please keep in mind hedgehogs and other wildlife when carrying out sports or DIY activities in your gardens. Take any nets in at the end of the day so hedgehogs will not get tangled, make sure there is a way in/out of your garden if you have a new fence, ensure there is a way out of a pond – although hedgehogs are great swimmers, they need to have a way out should they fall in. Make sure any holes in the ground from posts or drains are blocked/covered so a hedgehog won't fall in. These are just a few examples of where hedgehogs may run into problems as they have a great sense of smell but terrible eye sight. This is also not including any other wildlife.

A little mention for any allotment holders – please check your polytunnels or any cage/chicken wired structures for birds before you leave. A few times in the last week, birds have been trapped either through a door left open or finding a hole to fly through. The birds were waved out and flew off, but in the heat, it won't take long for them to get tired and run into issues. Plus, you don't want your prized raspberries getting eaten!

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

Leighton Buzzard Hedgehog Rescue: 01525 759916

Harlington Hedgehogs Facebook Page (now has 128 members)

HNH Good Neighbours

Good Neighbours - Harlington Neighbourhood Help (HNH)

For help or more information contact:

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Strawberry Tea

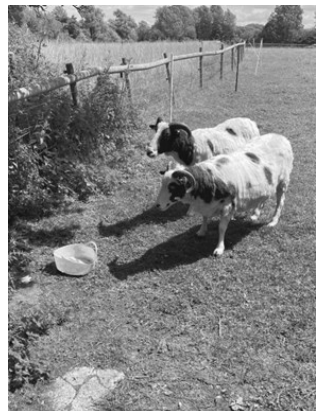


‘STRAWBERRY TEA’ AT LOWER EAST END FARM

SATURDAY 3RD SEPTEMBER AT 2PM

Come and join us for refreshments & music.
Meet all the animals especially Samson the donkey!

All proceeds towards the upkeep of St Marys Church.



Gardeners' Society *plus* BRCC



SPRING SOCIAL

We had a successful well spaced out meeting in the Village Hall with an excellent speaker who gave a talk entitled “Death in the Garden” This looked at poisonous plants amongst others.

ANNUAL OUTING

This should have been to Kew Gardens, but despite interest from both members & others we only had 16 firm bookings at the cut-off date & as this would have meant a loss to the society of several hundreds of pounds the committee decided to cancel the outing. We would like to apologise to those who had booked their places. We aim to run another outing to a different venue next year which we hope will be better supported.

MEMBER'S ANNUAL BBQ

This will be held on Saturday 6th August at 118 Goswell End Rd.

Tony Roberts – HGS Secretary

Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity

We're delighted to announce that for the second year running, we have reached the finals for the Community Business of the Year Award category for the SME National Business Awards. These are now entering their sixth year. They give businesses the opportunity to be celebrated for their achievements and hard work.

The category celebrates both Community Businesses and Not for Profit Organisations who have positively benefitted society. We were thrilled to win the national award in 2021 after also winning the regional award for Luton and Bedfordshire. To reach the finals for the second year running is a true testament to the real difference staff and volunteers at BedsRCC are making.

This year, the awards ceremony will be held at Wembley Stadium again in December for an evening of celebrating the best of small and medium businesses.

BedsRCC CEO Tracy Cowan said: *“We are hugely excited to be shortlisted as a finalist for SME National Best Community Business of the Year Award. We believe that everything we do is for our communities and I know our staff, volunteers and trustees are delighted for our hard work to be acknowledged this way. Fingers crossed for the final!”*.

To find out more about the work BedsRCC does, visit www.bedsrcc.org.uk.

Harlington in Bloom *plus* Heritage Trust



Many thanks to the volunteers who helped with the recent weeding and watering in July. A nice turnout on a hot day and new faces welcome!

We will have a gazebo at the Harlington Village Show on 27 August. Do drop by for updates and enquiries. Committee member Jane Barltrop will be nearby with plants for sale in aid of Brain Tumour Trust.

The awards evening for *winner*s, *runners-up* and *commended* of both the Spring and Summer judging will take place on the 27 of September.

Could all of last year's Harlington in Bloom show trophy winners return their trophies to 126 Goswell End Road (Judy and John Harfield) as soon as possible please? This allows for them to be engraved with the 2022 winners' names.

Dates for your Diary

| | | |
|--|-------------------|-----------------|
| 27 Aug 2022 - Gazebo and photo display | Village Hall | 2pm |
| 10 Sept 2022 - Pruning and Weeding | Meet Village Hall | 10.00 – 12 noon |
| 23 Sep 2022 – Awards Ceremony | Venue tbc | 7.30pm |

Follow us on Facebook page Harlington in Bloom <https://www.facebook.com/HarlingtonInBloom/> for calendar events, nice pics and news updates!



Harlington Heritage Trust

The talk on Sunday 18 September will be by Ann Ledger, entitled “All about Ashridge – from ancient woodland to the Canal Duke and a landscape in Trust”. The talk on Sunday 16 October will be by our Chairman, John Thurston, and is entitled “Disasters from Bedfordshire’s Skies”. Both talks will be held in Harlington **Village** Hall at 15.00. The cost is £4 for members and £5 for non-members, including refreshments after the talks.

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

Flit Vale Wildlife Trust



Bedfordshire
Cambridgeshire
Northamptonshire

Wildlife walks & talks

Saturday 6th August, 10.00am-12.00, Duck End Dragonfly and damselfly walk* with David Withers

A guided walk round the Duck End nature reserve with the reserve's ward, David Withers. This small reserve (1ha, 2.4ac) is a gem of remaining wetland, hopefully providing some unusual flora, dragonflies and damselflies. *£3 per adult

Saturday, 13th August, 10.00am-12.00 Broom Wildlife walk* with Betty Cooke

A guided walk round Broom looking for invertebrates, birds and wildflowers with Betty Cooke. Meet in the overflow car park of Jordan's Mill. *£3 per adult

Wednesday, 24th August, 7.45pm, Flitwick Moor (TL045354)

Bat walk* with Colin Carpenter

Colin will take a set walk through Flitwick Moor checking for bats. If you have a detector, please bring it. The Moor, with its different environmental areas, is rich in bat activity. How many will we see, record and detect? *£3 per adult

Sunday, 4th September, 10.00am-12.00, Flitwick Moor (TL045354)

Fungal Foray* with Steve Kelly

A combined event with the Herts and Beds Fungi Group (HBFG). Hoping for a mix of damp and mild weather to guarantee a good showing of mushrooms and toadstools. Steve and other experts will help you identify your findings and tell you more about the wonderful and sometimes weird world of fungi.

*Free but donations welcome

Open to all.

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

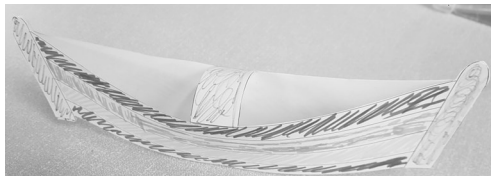
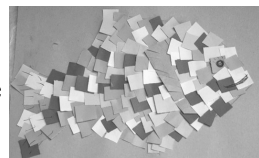
Flit Vale Local Group

www.flitvale.org.uk

Messy Church News *plus* Clipping



In June we told the story of Jesus going fishing when the disciples had already tried and not caught anything. There are two stories like this. In one of them the Bible says they caught 153 fish, so we



made lots of fish in as many ways as we could think of. We also made a boat to fish from.



Here are some pictures.

There will not be a Messy Church in August, our next meeting at the Methodist Church will be on 17th September. However, our old material is still available if you want to find things to do. Look on <https://cliveandtina.co.uk> for written material and drawings, or on Harlington Methodist Church YouTube Channel for recordings of previous Messy Churches, where you can see Tina or me demonstrate some of the activities.

Don't forget, while children need an adult, Messy Church is not just for children. If you find that making things helps you with the Bible stories, Messy Church may be for you.

Clive

SIR - The by-election results were not just punishing the Tories for partygate and other crises, but also for their destruction of the green belt.

I live in a village of some 2,300 people. Currently we have developments progressing that will double the population. They are to be built on green belt land, and will destroy old hedgerows and overwhelm the infrastructure of the village.

The Prime Minister pledged at last year's party conference that no homes would be built on "green fields", and our local MP says on her website that she wants to prevent this area from being "swamped by concrete".

Some broken promises can be reversed - but building on the green belt cannot. Come the next general election, the Tories will find that their traditional supporters - myself included - have deserted them.

David Rands
Harlington, Bedfordshire

I received the attached clipping. Some of the comments in the clipping may have been overtaken by events. Ed

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St. Mary's Family Team News *plus* Advertisement

Our first Messy Church Afternoon Tea was a very lovely afternoon, with lots of cake, craft, windmills blowing in the wind and a talk about God The father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit with the best prop ever – A Mars Bar!

Our July Messy Church Breakfast on July 3rd was also great fun. Bacon/Sausage Butties, Pastries, chocolate pancakes etc followed by the story of Breakfast on Beach – Jesus cooked fish for his disciples. An act of Friendship, Service and Love.

We have a lot planned for the new term, a mixture of afternoons and breakfasts.

Here are the dates for your diaries:

Sunday 11th September – 3:30pm for Afternoon Tea.

Sunday 2nd October – 9:00am for Breakfast – Harvest Theme

Sunday 6th November – 9:00am for Breakfast

Sunday 4th December – Afternoon Tea – Time to be confirmed – tied in with Christmas Tree Festival.

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.



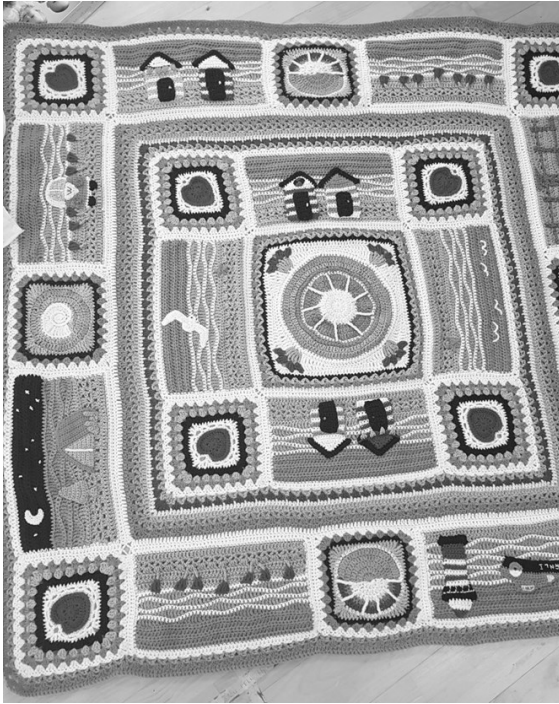
Harlington Upper School

VACANCIES

Please keep an eye on
our school website for
upcoming vacancies,
including
support staff and Invigilators.

<https://www.harlington.org>

Crafternoon Tea



From embroidery to crochet.

This started off as a kit, with weekly instructions, for one of our members, who is already an experienced crocheter. She adapted it further, to include things important to her family, for a gift – note, for example, the RNLI lifeboat. (Turn the page around for a better view!)

Lots of us can follow craft patterns, but to adapt and enhance is something many of us are very cautious about trying.

Can you “tweak” a pattern to produce something different?

Of course we don’t all have the same skills – but many of us like a challenge! We like to learn a new skill, but sometimes we just like to admire the skills of others.

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 – come and join in.

Our August meetings will be 1st, 15th and 29th – which is the Bank Holiday, but if you are not doing something else, we will be here for you. All meetings will be the hybrid version, on Zoom as well as in person. Please let me know if you want the Zoom link for any meeting.

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

LIFE Church *plus* Ramblers Wellbeing Walks



LIFE CHURCH
HARLINGTON

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

Everyone welcome

AUGUST – informal meetings led by:

- 7th - Vicky Yorke
- 14th - John and Chris Doohan
- 21st - TBA
- 28th - No Meeting

Wednesday 7 pm. Prayer meeting 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

Ramblers Wellbeing Walks—Walking 4 Health



In June we started weekly walks which proved very successful, so we are continuing these into July and maybe beyond

We always aim to offer two Walks, a short 40-minute walk around the village and a longer more strenuous walk within the village, but over fields. They are all accompanied by experienced walk leaders and there is no charge. You can choose on the day which you prefer to do. Do come and join us, get some fresh air, stay fit and active and have a chat along the way.

Walks will start as usual from the village hall car park on Friday mornings at 10.30am.

If you might be interested in training to be a walk leader do please get in touch. The training is a simple and a very enjoyable day out.

Telephone number for all enquiries: The wellbeing team on 07887 708304

Methodist Church

Our morning services continue to be available on **Zoom** and streamed to **YouTube** on the Harlington Methodist Church YouTube channel, as well as in the church, where refreshments are available after the morning service.



AUGUST preachers are:

- 7th 10 am Come and See led by Tina and Clive
6 pm Service with Holy Communion led by Rev. Nigel Bibbings
14th 10 am John Enejo
21st 10 am David and Sandra Goodwin
28th 10 am Rev. Jenny Spouge. This service includes Holy Communion

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 Zoom email list., or if you would like a copy of our printed service emailed to you.

WELCOME SERVICE

The Welcome Service for our new minister, Rev Claudia Lupi, will take place on Monday 5th September 2022 at The Square Methodist Church, Dunstable, at 7.30 pm.

COFFEE MORNING 27th August, 10 am to 12 noon in aid of our charity, Kids in Action. In the hall, but also Zoom for those who want to just “drop-in”.

LADIES BRIGHT HOUR

We are taking a break during August.
Our meetings resume on 1st September.



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

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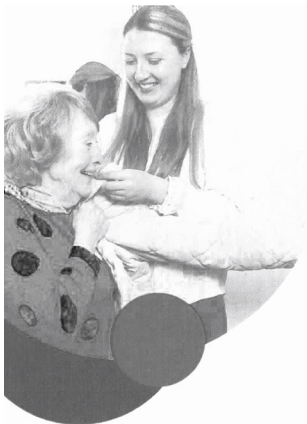
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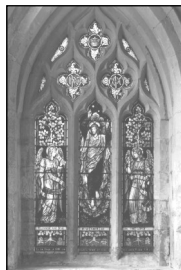
St. Mary's Church Services

Everyone is welcome to attend any of the services planned for August.

Just come and sit and be in our ancient village church.

All Sunday services are at 9.30am except where stated.

| | | |
|------|--------|--|
| 7th | 8am | BCP Communion |
| | 9am | Families Breakfast Club |
| | 9.30am | Holy Communion |
| 14th | 9.30am | Holy Communion. |
| 21st | 9.30am | All Age service |
| 28th | 9.30am | Holy Communion (Revd Canon Nigel's last service as Rector of St Mary's Church, Harlington) |



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 *plus* HVH 100 Club

St Mary's Church



Churchyard: if you have visited the churchyard recently you may have noticed the “wild” areas of grass left uncut in the churchyard. This is to encourage wild flowers to grow and seed. In an area to the right, inside the church archway, Lady's Bedstraw flowers are there in abundance. The frothy, yellow flowers have a sweet honey-like scent and flower from June to September. The name is said to be derived from the tradition of stuffing straw mattresses with the flowers, particularly for women about to give birth. Other good news is that all the baby birds appear to have fledged, and the bird bath by the south porch is getting a lot of use for washing and drinking. Do you know what birds spend all the time on their knees?.....Birds of prey of course!

Gift Day: 10th September This is our annual appeal day, and letters explaining this will be coming through your door not long before that. The church will be open from 10am-4pm, with scone and cake afternoon teas available between 2-4pm. Pop in to see us. We'll have some photos on display of the restoration work we are due to start on the south porch, and information sheets about the history of the church itself.

Recycling: a reminder that St Mary's is collecting sweet and savoury biscuit wrappers to recycle. This includes ordinary biscuit wrappers and things like Twix or Kit Kat wrappers and own brands; things like Ryvita wrappers etc, and any sweet biscuit or cake wrapper (not chocolate bar wrappers). We can't take cat pouches, or other wrappers eg for vegetables, tea and so on and cardboard should be recycled via your household bins. There is a large black bin, labelled for recycling, in the bin storage area through the side gate off Church Road. Thank you.

Best wishes, Tricia Churchwarden

HVH 100 Club

The July winner of the 100 club was no 35 held by Lucy Kennedy of Luton.

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

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Village Diary *plus* Robbie Rocket

August

| | | |
|------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1 st | Crafternoon Tea | Methodist Church Hall 2 - 4 pm |
| 2 nd | Flittabus Milton Keynes | Village Hall Car Park 9.15 am |
| 6 th | Wildlife Walk Duck End | Nature reserve 10am - 12 Noon |
| 13 th | Wildlife Walk | Broom 10 am - 12 Noon |
| 15 th | Crafternoon Tea | Methodist Church Hall 2 - 4 pm |
| 19 th | Robbie Rocket | Village Hall 10 am - 12 Noon |
| 24 th | Wildlife Walk | Flitwick Moor (TL045354) 7.45 pm |
| 27 th | Coffee Morning | Methodist Church 10 am – 12 Noon |
| 27 th | Village Show | Village Hall 2 pm |
| 29 th | Crafternoon Tea | Methodist Church Hall 2 - 4 pm |

September

| | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|--|
| 3 rd | Strawberry Tea | Lower East End Stables 2pm |
| 4 th | Wildlife Walk | Flitwick Moor(TL045354) 10am - 12 Noon |
| 5 th | Welcome Service | The Square Meth Church Dunstable 7.30 pm |

If you want your events included here, send details to the editor by 10th July.

You can do that without sending anything else, if you want.

Don't forget the regular weekly things like the Wednesday Coffee Mornings and Friday Ramblers Wellbeing Walks that aren't shown here.

**GET YOUR SEPTEMBER 2022 DATES TO THE MAGAZINE BY
10TH AUGUST**

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