

# Editorial

Dear Villagers,

Unsurprisingly, this is a very full edition, and I have had to abridge one or two bits and hold others over for January. The order of things has also changed, so that the entre pages are like a Christmas pull-out. Please get out your magnifying glasses to read the contents list.

Contributors, please note that the printers also want Christmas holidays, so the copy needs to be with them by 14th December for the January edition. Anything not with me by the 10th is likely to be left out!

We have a lot going on to celebrate Christmas. I hope you are all in good voice, there is due to be a lot of singing.

May I wish you all a Happy Christmas. I realise that this will not be the case for everyone. Please feel able to contact the Churches and/or HNH Good Neighbours if you feel you need help. 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.

January 2023 copy by **10<sup>th</sup> December** please.

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BE GREATLY APPRECIATED**

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## Christmassy Play in a Day

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December 29<sup>th</sup> 10-3pm with performance to  
friends and family at 3pm.

£30 per child

Contact Natalie on 07793116621 or  
gestalt.theatre@gmail.com



## Harlington Upper School

### VACANCIES

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

<https://www.harlington.org>

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## Remembrance *plus* Harlington Lower School

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Last month you may have noticed the poppy decorations around the village commemorating the Armistice. The inspiration for the project came from Dawn Gilbert, who wanted to see further use of the poppy wreaths, rather than just dumping them in the bin.

Dawn was joined by a group of volunteers and others from the “Crafternoon Tea” group. The poppies were taken off the wreaths from their black backing and joined together in long

strings of garden wire ready to be placed at various locations in the village.

In 2023 we hope to repeat the exercise, when we will have more wreaths to make more poppy strings. This year’s wreaths will be removed from the War Memorial just before Easter 2023. The Royal British Legion have advised the date. The wreaths will be placed underneath the Roll of Honour at St Mary’s until September, and so off we go again.

Thank you to everyone who has participated in this venture; to Dawn, to Jackie Gray for the amazing post box “Toppers”, and to the Methodist Church for the use of their hall.

(By the Poppy People)

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## Harlington Lower School

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Thank you very much to everyone who joined our Community Forum evening in October. It was lovely to meet so many members of the community and to hear your stories of the school both in the past and in the present. It was also great to hear your ideas about how the school and community can work closer together for

the mutual benefit of both. We have taken away all of these ideas and are feeding these into our development plans. If you were unable to attend the Community Forum but would like your community group to work with the school, please contact the school office at [office@harlingtonlower.co.uk](mailto:office@harlingtonlower.co.uk)

The children at Harlington Lower School have had an exciting couple of months at school so far this year. We have been learning about influential black people as part of Black History Month and took part in an Art project called ‘Take One Picture’. We are now looking forward to Christmas and are busy practising our Christmas carols and Nativity plays.

The Friends of Harlington Lower School are organising Carols on the Playground on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December. Members of the community are welcome to join us for singing at 3:45pm along with hot chocolate and mince pies!

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# Flittabus

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*Flittabus*

Community Transport Ltd.



## Next Milton Keynes Flittabus

**Tuesday 6 December 2022**

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

**Return** 1:00pm from Door 5 CMK

## Excursion on Wednesday 7 December 2022

***Festive Country Cream  
Tea at Jeyes of  
Earls Barton***

*Flittabus*



Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2022



Why not enjoy an afternoon in the popular village of Earls Barton in Northants? Visit the Jeyes Family Heritage & Pharmacy Museum, as seen on Channel 4. In 2021 Jeyes were award winners for their famous "Northamptonshire Sauce".

Through the front door you will find an Aladdin's cave full of gifts as well as books for adults and children. On the first floor you will find a maze of museums, exhibitions and archives to explore.

There is also the award-winning coffee shop that comprises four different dining areas:

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- The Walled Garden and
- Jeylato's Ice Cream Bar.

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# Brain Tumour Research *plus* HAC

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Wishing you all a happy and peaceful  
Christmas



Well I have good news..... I paid a visit to Brain Tumour Research Headquarters in Milton Keynes and I was allowed to hand pick the Christmas cards that I could offer to you. I brought back 100 packs of cards of the designs that have gone well in the past and a few of the new designs for 2022. This means that I can offer you some designs that are £3 for 10 cards, some £4 for 10 cards and the 2022 designs which retail at £4.50 for 10 cards, so don't delay get in early and get the choice and the bargains! Please feel free to knock my door 132 Goswell End Road or phone to 01525 875404 or 07763 326980 to visit, thank you. A special thank you to those lovely villagers and friends who have been seeking me out to buy Christmas cards it is so encouraging for me and helps to drive me forward; also those lovely folk who have made a donation saying they "would have spent that at the coffee morning" and choosing to send a donation, thank you.

Plant sales are still happening and again I am driven to dig up, split and pot on to provide stock for the plant sales. The house plants will be put to bed by the time you read this so you will need to knock if you are seeking a house plant. After writing this I plan to go out and make some spring bulb cauldrons, split and pot some forget me nots, they always bring a bit of cheery colour to our spring gardens, harvest my sweet pea seeds and anything else that catches my eye.

So happy autumn gardening, preparing for your spring displays and happy Christmas card writing or preparations for the Christmas season. Look forward to seeing you all in 2023 and another successful fundraising year for Brain Tumour Research.

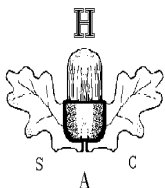
Best wishes to you all

Jane, Alice Emma and Lewis

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## Harlington Art and Crafts

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Come and join us for a Crackers evening.  
On Tuesday 13th December at 7.30pm in the Parish Hall.  
Members free, and non-members £8. Everyone welcome.  
We will be making a table decoration and a cracker suitable for a small gift.

To secure a place contact Mary on 01525 754049 or email [maryrutherford@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:maryrutherford@yahoo.co.uk)

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# Sundon Medical Centre

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***Sundon Medical Centre  
and Harlington Surgery***

**Lots of News this  
Month**



Sundon Medical Centre and Harlington Surgery are still in the process of **getting our phones upgraded**. But some technical issues have come to light, causing a delay to this being completed. I would like to apologise if this causes any issues in contacting the surgery, but this is in the process of being fixed – please bear with us.

**Flu clinics** have taken place over the last couple of months, and we have had over 2000 Sundon and Harlington patients vaccinated so far. Having your flu vaccination is important – flu is unpleasant for most people, it can be dangerous and even life threatening for some people, particularly those with certain health conditions. Vaccinations are limited, so if you would like to have your flu vaccination, please contact reception.

**Covid clinics** have successfully taken place over the last two months. These clinics are only available for a limited time; if you are 65 or over, or immunosuppressant, please check with reception for available Covid clinic dates.

We are pleased to announce that we have employed another GP: **Dr Dilan Joshi**, who started with us in November. He will be an excellent addition to our clinical team, and I hope you find he is as dedicated and valuable to patient care as we do.

In last month's edition, I explained about the **Hatters Health Network**, who are commissioned to complete services on our behalf. If you have had any services completed by the Network, I would be interested to hear how you felt about the service that took place.

As winter has now approached and the weather has changed, patients with **Chronic Obstruction Pulmonary Disease (COPD)** will be contacted by dedicated pharmacist for reviews.

I would like to remind patients that **we will be closed** on the **26/27 December** as well as the **2 January**. Also, please make sure you put in any **medication requests to Leigh-Anne** in the dispensary no later than by the **16 December** to ensure you receive your medication before the holiday closures.

And finally, I would like to thank you all for your support during this year.

**Sharlene Clarke, Practice Manager**

Sundon Medical Centre and Harlington Surgery

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## Crafternoon Tea *plus* HVH 100 Club

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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 – come and join in. You may find all sorts of crafts on the go, and if you want to learn a new craft, there may well be someone who can help. If you don't have anything you are working on at present, don't worry, the conversation and refreshments will still be open to you! Refreshments are served at each meeting.



All sorts of crafts can be used to make pictures, but this is one I haven't tried! If you remember the August article, I showed a picture of a crocheted blanket, made in panels. Well, have a look at this!

This blanket has also been made from a pattern supplied by Lovecrafts, and is not quite complete. The crafter is my sister, who took the blanket to show my mother on a day when I was there as well. It has been made as a continuous piece, starting at the bottom.

Unlike the August blanket, this is made in the intarsia style – working the colours into the design as you go along, the way I knitted Christmas jumpers some years ago. (Much of the blanket pictured in August had the “picture” elements crocheted separately and stitched on afterwards.) My sister has refused to let me see the reverse, and in this picture the number of bobbins of different colour yarns are not visible.

Our December meetings will be 5<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>. The first meeting in January 2023 will be 16<sup>th</sup> – it would be 2<sup>nd</sup>, but that is a bank holiday, and I don't suppose many would want to come. 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 a meeting.

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

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## HVH 100 Club

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The winner of 100 club for October was no 34 belonging to Mary Caldwell of Pilgrims Close.

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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## Harlington in Bloom *plus* Wellbeing Walks

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Thanks again to the Harlington Upper School students helping us out on a Wednesday. We enjoyed having you. Thanks also to all the helpers and committee members for the winter bed clearing and planting in October. Special ‘shout out’ this month to Dave Kingham who amongst many other ‘heavy lifting’ jobs dug over and prepared ready for planting.

Come and see our tree at the Christmas Tree Festival at St Mary’s. We have picked *The Holly and the Ivy* as our carol theme! 

Also a date for your diary is the AGM which is scheduled for 10 Feb 2023. All welcome. In the meantime, we wish you all a lovely festive season and a Happy New Year.



Congratulations again to our Awards winners 2022!

### ***Dates for your Diary***

10 February 2023 Annual General Meeting All Welcome 7.30pm Venue tbc

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

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## Ramblers Wellbeing Walks—Walking 4 Health

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We always aim to offer two Walks each week, 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 start 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

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# Christmas Letter from the Churches

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*In the bleak midwinter  
Frosty wind made moan*

It has been cold and bleak so far for some this winter, with people cutting back on warmth, unsure whether to spend money on eating or heating. It has certainly been a bleak winter for the people of Ukraine, where winters are so very cold and where power supplies have been deliberately disrupted by aggressive acts of war, targeting ordinary people. As a consequence, there is a bleak outlook for many in East Africa with grain supplies being prevented from leaving Ukraine, an action which makes worse the global hunger crisis, particularly in that region.

Then there are people in specific difficulties: homeless in this country for a whole host of reasons, people in other countries such as Ukraine where the bombs have caused homelessness with people forced to flee their own country.

In the bleak midwinter, we need to remind ourselves of the cheery things, the signs of beauty, the signs of hope. Remember the red berries of November, the beauty of trees in autumn, the marvellous gardens in the village, the community together at Remembrance, the welcome and hospitality offered by people to others in need, the service people give to others at work or in their own time.

In December, we remind ourselves of the gift of Jesus, who came into a bleak world, into a country occupied by foreign forces, into a poor family, into a family who became homeless and were compelled to rely on the generosity of others.

*In the bleak midwinter a stable place sufficed  
the Lord God Almighty, Jesus Christ.*

He came to bring good news to the poor and to liberate the oppressed. He came to bring hope into the world. He came to bring light into the world. So as we approach Christmas we surround ourselves with light: Christmas lights decorating our houses, colourful lights on Christmas trees, candles in churches. We also sing traditional carols that remind us of a message of hope, of happiness, and of generosity that symbolises Christmas at its best.

Above all Christmas is a time for sharing, for taking time out, for reflecting on what really matters. Finally, back again to Christina Rossetti's famous carol:

*What can I give him?  
Poor as I am  
If I were a shepherd  
I would give a lamb  
If I were a wise man  
I would do my part  
But what I can I give him  
Give him my heart*

Robert Johns, Reader,  
St. Mary's Church

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## Christmas Events, FHLSA Santa, 0—4 Nativity

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2nd	10.15 am	0—4 Nativity (Pram Service)	Methodist Church
2nd	7.30 pm	Harlington Performs Pantomime	Village Hall
3rd	2pm/7.30pm	Harlington Performs Pantomime	Village Hall
3rd	12—5 pm	Christmas Tree Festival	St. Mary's Church
4th	12—5 pm	Christmas Tree Festival	St. Mary's Church
4th	3.30 pm	Messy Afternoon Tea	Parish Hall
4th	5 pm	Christmas Tree Festival conclusion service with choir	
8th	3.45 pm	Carols on the Playground	Lower School
11th	10.30 am	Life Church Carol Service	Parish Hall
13th	7.00pm	Beer & Carols	The Carpenters Arms
17th	11am	Christmas Songs with Barbara.	Outside the Café (with mince pies)
17th	4 pm	Christmas Messy Church	Methodist Church and Halls
18th	10 am	Family Carol Service	Methodist Church
18th	6.30 pm	Outdoor Participation Instant Nativity	Village Hall
21st	6.30 pm	Carols with the Salvation Army	Outside the Hub & Spoke Café
23rd	7.30 pm	Traditional Nine Lessons & Carols with choir	
24th	1 pm	Christmas Eve crib service with Samson the donkey	
24th	11.30 pm	Christmas Midnight Mass with Bishop of Bedford	
25th	9.30 am	St. Mary's Christmas Day communion service	
25th	9.30 am	Methodist Christmas Day Family Service	

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## Friends of Harlington Lower School

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FHLSA are pleased to announce that the annual Santa round the village charity collection will be taking place on the 20th and 21st of December.



Timings and the route are still to be confirmed and updates will be posted on the village Facebook page nearer the time.

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## 0-4 Nativity (Pram Service)

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Our Carol Service for the 0—4 s and their mums, dads or other carers will be at the Methodist Church on Friday 2nd December, at 10 for 10.15 am, followed by refreshments in the Hall. Songs, music, story, mince pies. All 0—4s welcome (bring your own adult!)



# Beer & Carols

Christmas is coming!!

Tuesday 13th December 7.00pm  
(charge your glasses from 6.45pm)

The Carpenters Arms,  
Harlington



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## St. Mary's Family Team

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Another lovely Messy Breakfast in November – we were busy making our tree and decorations for the Christmas Tree Festival. Let's just say there were a lot of Angels that morning as well as lots of noise, fun, messy crafts and food!

Our December session will be in the afternoon of the 4<sup>th</sup> December at 3:30pm. We will start with our Christmas Crafts and then have a lovely afternoon tea before going into church to look at the trees and join in with the short service. We will be singing and signing "Away in a Manger" Please do come along at 3:30pm to the parish Rooms to join in a couple of hours of pre Christmas fun, food and reflection on the Reason for The Season!

**Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> December – Afternoon Tea – 3:30pm Parish Rooms.**

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.

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# The Salvation Army *plus* Instant Outdoor Nativity

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## CHRISTMAS WITH THE SALVATION ARMY 21<sup>st</sup> December at 6.30pm

Did you sing Carols outside the Shops last Christmas? I certainly did. It was an incredibly joyful evening. Meeting up with friends, sing carols and eating mince pies was great and then who should turn up to make it even more memorable but my daughter and grand-daughter from Northampton, who had decided they wanted to surprise me. It was a wonderful start to the Christmas Festivities!



AND - we are doing it again!

Yes, the Salvation Army band has agreed to come along on the **21<sup>st</sup> December at 6.30pm** to lead us in the singing once again. Churches Together in Harlington (CTinH) are supplying the refreshments and The Hub and Spoke Team will be serving them. There will be no charge for the refreshments.

If you didn't get along to the shops last year, I recommend you join us this year outside the shops in Lincoln Way and brave the weather, whatever it may be.  
Vicky Yorke, LIFE Church

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## All Age, All Participation, Instant Outdoor Nativity

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Churches Together in Harlington (CTinH) invite you to join them outside the Village Hall on **SUNDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER** at 6.30pm for **THE STORY OF THE VERY FIRST CHRISTMAS**.

This is an **all age, all participation Instant Nativity**. So please come and join in. Come dressed up, men, women and children, as

Joseph, Mary, Shepherds, Kings, Angels or come just as you are and enjoy the Christmas celebrations. You are all welcome.

We shall be enacting this short nativity outside the Village Hall and then going in for hot drinks and refreshments. This should be a fun event for all the family and we hope you will come and join us. Watch out for the posters around the village and on the Harlington Facebook Page.



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## Messy Church News *plus* Harlington Heritage Trust

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In October we looked at the first part of the story of Paul, including how he became a Christian and changed his name from Saul to Paul. We talked about where he came from and how he was educated, his part in the death of Stephen, and how Jesus spoke to him on the road



to Damascus. We made name labels, food to remember Stephen's job, footprints for the journey, "glasses" you couldn't see through because Saul was blind after Jesus spoke to him, and chains to talk about links.



Our next Messy Church will be on the 17th December, when we will think about the Christmas story. We try always to have a Zoom link for those who can't get to the chapel, and to live stream the celebration to YouTube,

which also provides a recording.

Our old material is still available. Look on <https://cliveandtina.co.uk> for written material and drawings, or on Harlington Methodist Church YouTube Channel for recordings of previous Messy Church Celebrations, and 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

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## Harlington Heritage Trust

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Saturday 10 December will be the Christmas Social, for members only. It will be held in Harlington Village Hall from 19.30 and will include food and drink.

Our first talk of 2023 will be Sunday 22 January in Harlington Village Hall at 15.00. The speaker will be Bryan Marsh on the topic of "The 1904/1905 Albert Brown Trophy Event – a pioneering motorbike race with local interest". The cost is £4 for members and £5 for non-members, including refreshments after the talk.

Other HHT events for 2023 will be publicised in the HHT members' newsletter, 'Contact' magazine and the HHT website.

## 0—4 Club *plus* Advertisement



### **HARLINGTON 0-4 CLUB**



A fun and inviting club for children aged 0-4 with toys, bubbles, Soft Play, baby area, songs and so much more!



Harlington Village Hall  
£3.50 1st child. £1 for each additional child.  
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HARLINGTON0TO4



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Arthritis and all joint pain

Whiplash/RSI/Osteoporosis/Sports injuries

Vertigo and dizziness/Posture training and ergonomics

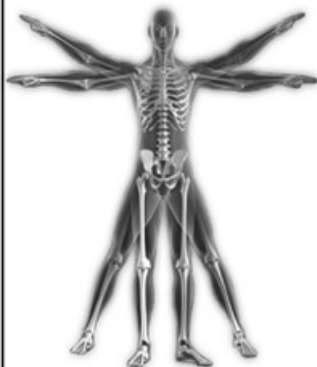
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# The Great Big Garage Sale *plus* CAB Surgeries


 Bedfordshire & Northamptonshire MS Therapy Centre  
Bradbury House, 155 Barkers Lane, Bedford MK41 9RX  
Tel: 01234 325781  
[www.mscentrebedsandnorthants.com](http://www.mscentrebedsandnorthants.com)

Thank you so much for thinking of the MS Therapy Centre once again with your very generous donation of £1000.00 from the proceeds of your Great Big Garage Sale and selling Jam and Marmalade from your home.

It was lovely to speak to you recently and I am pleased that the event was a success.

We do not receive any government or NHS funding and solely rely on donations and fundraising events to keep the Centre operating so your donation is very much appreciated.

Thank you once again.

Yours sincerely  
  
Keren Taras  
Receptionist

Thank you very much for your kind donation to Harlington 0-4 Club. The children painted this card for you.

Kind regards from  
Cara, the committee, the parents and all the children at 0-4 club.

## New CAB Advice Surgeries in Toddington

Working with the Dunstable Citizens Advice Team, we are delighted to bring a trial service to Toddington. This was something I was keen to promote, especially as it will bring advice at a time when so many are worried about coping with the cost of living increases and fuel price rises etc. However, the CAB advisers are able to provide advice on many issues, including **Benefits, Housing, Debt, Consumer, Employment, Relationships & Family** and much more!

Please share this with family, friends and neighbours that might also benefit.

Best Regards, Cllr Silvia Collins ([silvia.collins@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:silvia.collins@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk))

*If you live in Harlington and transport to your appointment is a problem, then Harlington Neighbourhood Help (HNH) have kindly offered to try and help out. Please contact them on 07849 835410*



### Toddington Advice Surgery dates:

- Monday 31st October, 3pm – 6pm
- Monday 28th November, 3pm – 6pm
- Monday 19th December, 3pm – 6pm

**To book an appointment please call the reception team at Dunstable Citizens Advice on 01582 670003**

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## LIFE Church *plus* Hibernating Hedgehogs

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LIFE CHURCH  
HARLINGTON

### DECEMBER

4th - John Doohan 10.30am - Harlington Parish Rooms

11th - Carol Service 10.30 am - Harlington Parish Rooms

18th - Open Air Nativity - Harlington Village Hall

25th – No Service

Wednesday 7pm Prayer meeting continues to meet on Zoom.

For more information check us out on our website.

You can also contact us through our website if you have any prayer requests or would like to talk to someone

[www.life-church-harlington.com](http://www.life-church-harlington.com)

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## Hibernating Hedgehogs!

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Hibernation is NOT being asleep. It's a state of torpor - core body temperature will drop, heart rate & breathing slow right down, all normal activity ceases. A hibernating hog will be completely rolled & will not be woken by touch or noise. It's not a continuous state, hedgehogs will rouse during spells of milder weather & go looking for a snack. Some might even move to a different hibernaculum (nest where they hibernate).

There is no set time for hibernation, it can vary around the country & is triggered by temperature. Some may start in early October, others, if it's fairly warm, might not hibernate at all!

Because of the physical drain keeping alive in what could be called suspended animation has on the body, hedgehogs lose around 2-3g of weight a day. It doesn't sound much - but in order to survive they need to weigh at least 650g before they start, and will be very hungry & thirsty when they emerge, which again, is temperature driven. An unseasonable warm spell followed by a cold snap can be fatal.

Please don't read this & disturb any hibernating hedgehogs to weigh them or move them! Disturbing a hibernating hog or trying to wake it can kill it. If you do accidentally disturb a tightly curled hedgehog, leave it alone & cover it back

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# Methodist Church

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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.



## **DECEMBER preachers** are:

- 4<sup>th</sup> 10 am Come and See  
6 pm Evening Service with Holy Communion led by Rev Claudia Lupi  
11<sup>th</sup> 10 am Service including Holy Communion led by Rev Margaret Newman  
18<sup>th</sup> 10 am Family Carol Service led by Rev Claudia Lupi  
25<sup>th</sup> 9.30am Christmas Day Family Worship led by Rev Claudia Lupi

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 the Zoom email list, or if you would like our printed service emailed to you.

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## **NO COFFEE MORNING .**

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## **LADIES BRIGHT HOUR**

We meet every Thursday at 2.45 pm in the Methodist Church Hall

- 1st Members Own  
8th Ann Meader from Aley Green with Christmas preserves, pickles and chutneys All welcome  
15th " A Christmas Musical Miscellany"- Again all welcome  
22nd No meeting



January 2023 - first meeting on the 5th

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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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## **Hedgehogs ctd**

up - unless you think you might have injured it with (for instance) a fork or brush cutter. If this is the case - take it straight to a vet or a rescue.  
With luck - healthy hedgehogs will survive hibernation & emerge in Spring to find bowls of water & food available to help!

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TELEPHONE:  
01525 591025

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

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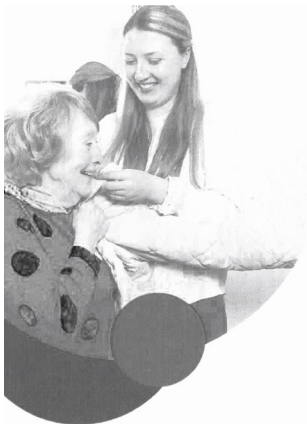
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**Home  
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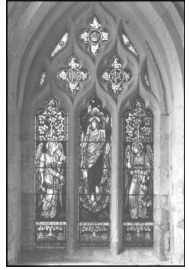
*To us, it's personal*

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# St. Mary's Church Services

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Everyone is welcome to attend the services in our beautiful village church. This very special month includes our Advent and Christmas services which are:



- 4<sup>th</sup> 8 am Book of Common Prayer service  
9.30 am Holy Communion  
3.30 pm Messy Afternoon Tea in Parish Rooms  
5 pm Christmas Tree Festival conclusion service with choir
- 11<sup>th</sup> 9.30 am Holy Communion  
18<sup>th</sup> 9.30 am Holy Communion
- Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> 7.30 pm Traditional Nine Lessons & Carols with choir
- Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> 1 pm Christmas Eve crib service with Samson the donkey  
11.30 pm Christmas Midnight Mass with Bishop of Bedford
- 25<sup>th</sup> 9.30 am Christmas Day communion service
- 1<sup>st</sup> January 9.30 am New Year Morning Praise service

(please note there is no 8 am Book of Common Prayer service in January)

Every Wednesday 10 am Holy Communion or Morning Prayer

## Other times

The church can be made available for private prayer by arrangement, please contact one of the church wardens, Tricia Murphy [tricia.murphy5@ntlworld.com](mailto:tricia.murphy5@ntlworld.com) or Neil Walter [walterfamily@btinternet.com](mailto:walterfamily@btinternet.com), or the Church Reader Dr. Robert Johns [robert@harlingtonchurch.org](mailto:robert@harlingtonchurch.org). Alternatively email [admin@harlingtonchurch.org](mailto:admin@harlingtonchurch.org)

For personal enquiries, for requests for prayer, or for enquiries about baptisms, weddings or funerals please contact Rev. Linda Washington [revtdoddington@gmail.com](mailto:revtdoddington@gmail.com) or Dr. Robert Johns [robert@harlingtonchurch.org](mailto:robert@harlingtonchurch.org) or 01525 873214.

## Further information and useful links

The church noticeboard is kept regularly up-to-date

The church website is at <https://www.harlingtonchurch.org>

The church Facebook page is: [www.facebook.com/stmarysharington/](https://www.facebook.com/stmarysharington/)

We are on A Church Near You at <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/7667/>

Remember that we are here for you.

**Dr Robert Johns (Reader), Tricia Murphy, Neil Walter (Church Wardens)**



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# St Mary's Churchwarden *plus* HNH

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## St Mary's Church



### **Christmas Tree Festival: Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> and Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> December 12 – 5pm**

Guaranteed to make you smile and add a bit of sparkle to your Christmas. Adult entry is £2.50, children free. Refreshments will be available with home made cakes, and there's also a great raffle. The Festival Finale celebration is at 5pm on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup>. This short 'service' is for everyone, but children especially, and include carols, stories and poems to which all are welcome. We will be joined by the Quintet choir and possibly by some children from the 'Messy Breakfast' group.

**Salvation Army Christmas Toy Appeal:** The deadline has been extended, so please do bring any donations of new toys, unwrapped, to the church or during the Festival, and place under our Christmas tree. It's a joy to show love and care for children in the Luton area who otherwise wouldn't receive a present at Christmas. Presents should be for children aged 0-16.

### **Crib Service: Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> December at 1pm**

This service includes the children bringing nativity figures to the crib and arranging them around the manger. If your child would like to dress as a shepherd, king or other character (or only leaves the house dressed as spiderman!) we would love to see you. Or just bring a star or decoration you've made (perhaps at our Art Attack event on November 26<sup>th</sup>). Much loved Samson the donkey can't wait to see you either. He will be joining us, and we'll have some carrots available at church as well. By the way, what did one snowman say to the other? Can you smell carrots? Think about it.....

**Christmas services and events:** please check Contact, our website [www.harlingtonchurch.org](http://www.harlingtonchurch.org), or the noticeboard outside church for other Christmas service information.

Wishing you all a peaceful and happy Christmas, Tricia Churchwarden

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## HNH Good Neighbours

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**Good Neighbours - Harlington Neighbourhood Help (HNH)**

For help or more information contact:

**HNH Good Neighbours line 07849 835410**



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# Village Diary *plus* HNH Good Neighbours

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## December

2 <sup>nd</sup>	Pram Service (0 – 4s Carol Service)	Methodist Church 10.15 am
2 <sup>nd</sup> /3 <sup>rd</sup>	Panto	Harlington Village Hall
3 <sup>rd</sup> /4 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Tree Festival	St Mary's 12 noon -5 pm
4 <sup>th</sup>	Afternoon Messy Tea	Parish Hall 3.30pm
5 <sup>th</sup>	Crafternoon Tea	Methodist Church Hall 2 - 4 pm
6 <sup>th</sup>	Flittabus Milton Keynes	Village Hall Car Park 9.15 am
8 <sup>th</sup>	Carols on the playground	Lower School 3.45 pm
10 <sup>th</sup>	HHT Members Social	Harlington Village Hall 7.30 pm
13 <sup>th</sup>	Beer & Carols	Carpenters Arms 7 pm
13 <sup>th</sup>	HAC Crackers Evening	Parish Hall 7.30 pm
17 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Songs	Outside Shops 11 am – 12 noon
17 <sup>th</sup>	Messy Church	Methodist Church and Halls 4 – 6 pm
18 <sup>th</sup>	Outdoor Nativity	Harlington Village Hall 6.30 pm
19 <sup>th</sup>	CAB Advice Surgery	Toddington (See page 19 re booking)
21 <sup>st</sup>	SA Carols	Outside Shops 6.30pm
23 <sup>rd</sup>	Nine Lessons and Carols	St. Mary's 7.30 pm
29 <sup>th</sup>	Play in a day	Harlington Village Hall 10 am

Don't forget the regular weekly things like the Wednesday Coffee Mornings and Friday Ramblers Wellbeing Walks that aren't shown here. This month check page 14 as well for all Christmas events.

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

**GET YOUR JANUARY 2023 DATES TO THE MAGAZINE BY  
10<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER**

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## HNH Good Neighbours

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### Drivers and volunteers wanted

If you are a driver with a bit of time available who could spare an hour or two every month to take our lovely Harlington residents to hospital, doctors, shopping appointments etc we would like to hear from you. You can specify how far you will travel and stay very local if it suits - Tesco's in Flitwick, Sundon Park doctors and the L&D are very regular requests for example. We will pay for you to be DBS checked and you can claim 45p per mile for all journeys made.

It is a very rewarding activity that helps our local community in many ways. If you would like to have a chat, please contact 07887 708304 or the main HNH number on **07849 835410**