

# Editorial

Dear Villagers,

April is a busy month for the churches at least, containing Easter as it does this year. May will also be busy as we celebrate the Coronation, which will be a new experience for most of us. If anyone wants to write about their experience of a previous coronation please feel free. Tina and I recently found programmes from the last one when clearing out her mother's house.

Do join in the village celebrations, if only to get to know more people from around the village.

We had our distributors' get together last month. It is good to meet some of the people who get the magazines to your door. A village magazine requires a whole team to work.

I see that, as well as St. George's Day, the 23rd is also going to be Public Alarm day. This is a test of a new alarm system via mobile phones—does it work on non-smart phones? Ah, the wonders of technology.

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.

**May 2023 copy by 10<sup>th</sup> April please.**

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

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## 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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# Letter from the Methodist Minister

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Dear sisters and brothers of Harlington village,  
the peace of the Lord be with you all believers and no believers.

On the eve of Holy Week, I would like to address a cordial and affectionate greeting and best wishes to all of you.

We are about to enter the densest and most important days that every year we are given to live, as disciples of Jesus Christ. As did the pilgrims who, starting from the fourth century after Christ, went to Jerusalem, we too, thanks to the liturgical rites, follow the Lord in the dramatic and mysterious days which mark the end of his earthly life and, together, the culmination of his mission of salvation.



The gift that the liturgy gives us is that of following the events of Jesus' passion, death and resurrection not only as a news report or a diary of memories: faith assures us that, through the rites, by virtue of the Holy Spirit, we are inserted into those same salvation events.

The passage from death to life, which the Lord Jesus experienced in those days two thousand years ago, is also possible for us and, starting from our Baptism, it continually renews and transforms us, so that the newness of Christ also makes us creatures new.

Let us, therefore, allow ourselves to be attracted by the 'mysteries' of Easter which are: the events that convey to us the life and salvation of God, and let us ask God to live them as best we can, with his help.

Believers and no believers can together live as risen people always concerned for others even strangers who need light and care.

May we all be united and full of love wherever we go and in any situation of our life.

A big hug to you all

Claudia

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# Flittabus *plus* Harlington Heritage Trust

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*Flittabus*

Community Transport Ltd.



## Next Milton Keynes Flittabus

Tuesday 4 April 2023

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

**Return** 1:00 pm from Central Milton Keynes, Exit Door 5

## Flittabus excursions

Wed 19 April Leeds Castle £38pp

Sun 30 April Chiltern Open Air Museum Chalfont St Giles £27.50pp

Fri 19 May Cambridge £26pp

Sat 3 June Imperial War Museum Duxford £46pp

Fri 23 June Blenheim Palace £45pp

Sat 8 July Black Country Living Museum £46pp

For more details and to book please call on 07563170067 or 07715161621

Payment by Cheque Credit/Debit card or Bank Transfer

e mail [excursions@flittabus.co.uk](mailto:excursions@flittabus.co.uk)

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## Harlington Heritage Trust

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Notice is hereby given that Harlington Heritage Trust's AGM will be held on Saturday 15 April at 19.30 in the Village Hall. All members are invited to the AGM, which will be followed by the Social. Refreshments will be provided. New members are most welcome to attend the event, and if any existing members would like to join the committee, you will be most welcome.

Sunday 14 May there will be a car outing to Redbourn for a guided walk. Meet at Harlington Village Hall car park at 13.00. Lifts will be available if required. The walk starts from the car park next to the Cricket Club Pavilion on Redbourn Common (postcode AL3 7DB) at 14.00 and will last around 90 minutes. The cost is £6 per person, payable on the day.

This year's coach trip will be to Derby on Saturday 15 July, leaving the Village Hall at 09.00 – open to all. Cost £26 per person, payable by 1 June. There are many places to visit in Derby including the Museum of Making (free), and Derby Cathedral. To express an interest, please contact Janice on 01525 877419, or email [jtuckett01@aol.com](mailto:jtuckett01@aol.com). Note that this trip will only run if we have sufficient numbers.

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

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# Brain Tumour Research

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## So Year And Yet So Far



Where is this year going to? Reflecting on the year so far you will be reading this and

we will be a quarter of the way through; now that is scary. But a fair bit has been achieved as well as seeing the product of my autumn endeavours as the spring bulbs come up and we see our gardens come into life. Some of my BTR plants have looked asleep but are now beginning to bud and shoot. I can tell some of you are also getting excited because £60 worth of plants have been sold already so thank you to all those of you who visit and support. A special word of thanks to Judy who supplies many of my plants but has also set pots of bulbs this spring I have just a few tulip pots left and one narcissi but with our wear a hat event on the 25th March these may have been bought it has been a lovely display. Thanks also to Amy from Soper & Co, Toddington who donated heucheras and heathers for this charity.

I hope Harlington likes wallflowers because I have planted some seeds from a plant I had in a pot and I think every seed has come up I have 2 full trays of wallflowers that I am frantically trying to prick out so if there is anyone out there who would like to take some to prick out for themselves and make a small donation I would be eternally grateful as it would save me hours, bags of compost and room in my greenhouse!! I will also have tomatoes, aubergine and cauliflowers soon they are ready for me to prick out too, so it is all happening here.

Besides all this growing malarkey I have signed up to join forces with HLSA so that on 23rd April 11am - 2 pm I will have a gazebo on my front lawn and will be selling tools, girls bike, picnic hamper, old scythe, bellows and other items donated to BTR and items I no longer need from my spring cleaning and all of the proceeds will be sent directly to the charity so please visit 132 Goswell End Road and let's raise money to fund research and help me to declutter my home and garage!! Thank you in anticipation to you ALL!

I really do appreciate your support and enthusiasm for this charity.

Best wishes

Jane, Alice and Emma

"Sweet April showers

Do spring May flowers."

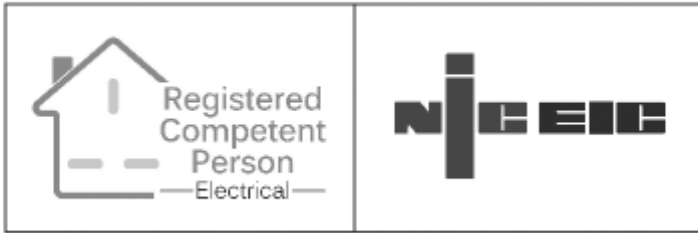
- Thomas Tusser, A Hundred Good Points of Husbandry, 1557

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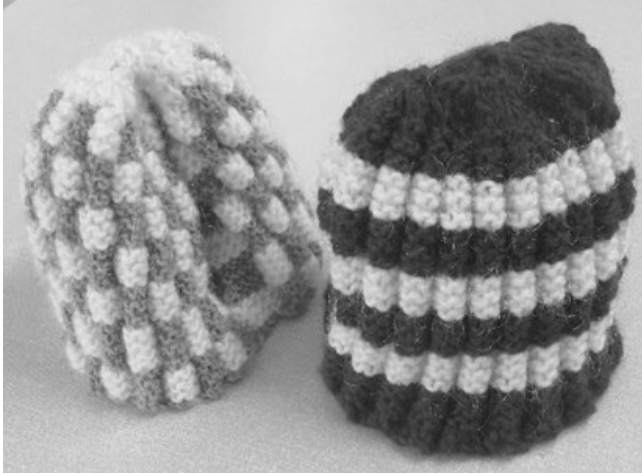
**Tel: 01525 630898**

**Mobile: 07866 319997**

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## Crafternoon Tea

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You may have seen one of these tea cosies on our recent posters – one of our regular attenders decided to try a skill she doesn't often use!

In recent weeks, we have had people bringing “new” crafts to the group. Not new, as in never seen before, but new in the sense of not the regular crafts. Two members are recondi-

tioning a dolls house, built originally some 35 years ago. New furniture and new wallpaper and carpet are required, not to mention new coats of paint on the outside. We have seen it in its constituent parts, and await the finished article, before it is delivered to its new owner.

Patchwork has also appeared – three members of the group are now involved with this – it has appeared from time to time before, but not as a regular activity. It is interesting to watch the process, from the initial choice of fabric, to the final edging.

If you would like to try something new, or have recently developed a new skill, come and be part of the group, and educate us as you learn.

Crafternoon Tea meets fortnightly on Monday afternoons, between 2 and 4 pm, at the Methodist Church on Sundon Road. You may find all sorts of crafts on the go, and we enjoy watching others' skills, even if we do not want to try them! Conversation is often wide-ranging and not necessarily about craft – come and join in. 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.

As 10<sup>th</sup> April is Easter Monday Bank Holiday, there will be only one meeting in April, on 24<sup>th</sup>. This will be the hybrid version, on Zoom as well as in person. **THIS MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 2.30pm**, due to a minor clash in bookings. Please let me know if you want the Zoom link for any meeting.

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

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# Harlington Lower School

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World Book Day was on Thursday 2nd March 2023 but we celebrated all week. Every day we opened the library at lunchtime and a member of staff read a story or two to whoever wanted to listen. On Wednesday we hosted a book swap where children brought a book in and swapped it for one that someone else had brought in. On World Book Day itself, everyone dressed as a character from a book and we talked about our enjoyment of books and reading. We also found out the results of the vote for the Harlington Lower School winner of the Lollies Award (a Scholastic Books Award for the best and funniest children's books in the UK) - our winner was "Wee? It Wasn't Me!" by Clare Helen Welsh.



In my last article I mentioned some money donated by a local resident, which we put towards the painting of a Values Tree mural. This money was in fact collected during a garage sale so our thanks must go to the whole village.

Victoria Paulding

Headteacher of Harlington Lower School

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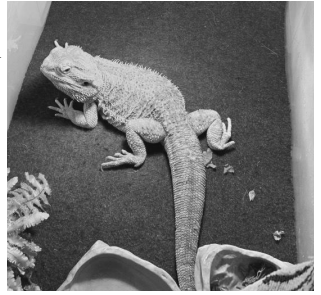
## 0—4 Club

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On 27th Feb Harlington 0-4 hosted an exciting animal encounter experience with Teaching Talons the Animal



Ambassadors. The kids got to view, pet and even hold a whole variety of animals. From tortoises and bearded dragons to Guinea pigs, rats and even a special magic show from Chip the Dog! This was made possible by a kind donation from Gwen Gray who used the proceeds



of her garage sale to support 0-4 and other village groups.

0-4 is a not for profit organisation which has been



servicing the families of Harlington and surrounding areas since 1978.

Find out more about 0-4 on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Harlington0to4/>

Here are some pics (all that include children have been agreed to be used)

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# Coronation Big Lunch *plus* Good Friday Walk

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Sunday 7th May

Bury Orchard

**From Midday following a United Open Air Service (weather permitting!)**

The Kings' Coronation is only a matter of weeks away now! As before, we are organising a village wide community lunch and hope many of you will attend.

Bring your own picnics, gazebos, blankets and chairs.

There will be a BBQ for those who prefer that option (details of a pre-order system will be advertised which will be cheaper than on the day!) And of course the obligatory refreshments with teas, coffees and cake (offers of home made cakes welcome). The ice cream machine will also be present!

The Boys Brigade band will play.

We have a Right Royal Raffle with some amazing regal prizes!

We are also ordering commemorative pin badges which will be sold for cost and details to follow. Please keep a look out for FB posts for updates.

Village groups are welcome to set up stalls to promote and raise funds.

We need help though! Please consider helping us to make this event enjoyable for everyone!

Contact us via the email below or Rita Panchal, Suzan Whittle, Kate Carroll or Lidia Kidman if you can help in any way

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## Good Friday Walk — 7th April

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Churches Together in Harlington will be holding our usual Good Friday Walk around the village with prayer and drama, starting at 9.45 am at the Methodist Church and finishing at St. Mary's for Hot Cross Buns and Tea or Coffee. If you would like to join us for this you will be very welcome.



If you would like a costume role, contact me on [CliveDSalmon@AOL.com](mailto:CliveDSalmon@AOL.com).

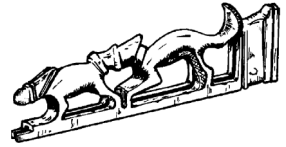
For those who can't walk all the way we hope to have a time of meditation at the chapel, followed by the chance to join the walk at the shops for the main drama and the shorter walk to St. Mary's for refreshments.

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# ADALHS *plus* HNH Good Neighbours

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## Ampthill & District Archaeological & Local History Society



Monday 3rd April 2023

### Local History Websites and Links (with Society AGM)

ADALHS Home Meetings Membership Publications Reports - Ampthill Park Contact Committee Links

## Links.

Related websites that you might like to visit.

Ampthill & District Preservation Society - Facebook  
Objectives a) To encourage the protection and conservation of local historical architecture and its historic and environmental heritage in and around Ampthill,...

Ampthill History Forum - Facebook.

Bedfordshire Family History Society  
The Society was formed in 1977 to encourage the study of Family History, Genealogy and Heraldry, primarily within the County of Bedfordshire.

Bedfordshire Local History Association  
The Bedfordshire Local History Association promotes the study of local history within and around Bedfordshire, and provides a forum for discussion and co-operation between interested groups and individuals.

Get more from the Society website, our Webmaster will show you what you are probably missing beyond the normal reports etc.

Speaker: Colin Watt

Lecture Theatre, Flitwick Library, MK45 1QJ 7.30 for 7.45pm

£2.00 for members & £3.00 for visitors is payable on the door.

The talk will also be broadcast live via Zoom to Society members.

For further details visit:

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

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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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## Harlington Surgery/Sundon Medical Centre &100

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

Well, who thought we would have snow in March! I hope all our Harlington patients have been keeping safe and warm.

Since last month, our online appointments have been used by a considerable amount by patients. While we monitor this service to make sure it's being used appropriately, we will be extending the range of our online bookable appointments and we will be providing a self-book system, where patients can book appointments direct from their mobile phone in the near future. I will provide more details on this service, once it has been more established. We are trying to give patients additional pathways to book routine appointments, as we do understand that there is an extensive demand to get through to a receptionist on the telephones.

Sundon Medical Centre also have a website, where you can also send in your repeat prescriptions (please state that it is for Harlington), ask queries, or get general information about the surgery. To access the website, go to [www.sundonmedicalcentre.nhs.uk](http://www.sundonmedicalcentre.nhs.uk).

So those of you who do not have a smart phone or who are not tech savvy, (like me!) I am hoping this will alleviate some pressure when trying to phone the surgery.

Please remember to put your prescriptions in early, due to the upcoming bank holidays.

Thank you.

Sharlene Clarke  
Practice Manager



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## HVH 100 Club

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The winner of 100 club for February was no. 97 belonging to Gwen Gray of Lincoln Way

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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# Flit Vale Wildlife Trust

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& Northants**

## Wildlife walks & talks

**Saturday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>, Pegsdon Hills (TL131307), 10:00am**

### **Walk to Knocking Hoe Nature Reserve with Dr Graham Bellamy\***

A walk round this lovely reserve looking for the Pasque Flowers and other chalk grassland plants which can be found here. We will also be looking out for birds, especially early migrants and anything else of interest.

Park at the rear of 'The View' pub or in the lay-by near The Lodge. Please do not park in the pub car park, or drive across it.

\*£4.00 per adult

**Saturday, May 13<sup>th</sup>, Nation Trust car park (LU6 2GY) at 10:00am**

### **Butterfly Walk at Whipsnade Downs with Dr Wilf Powell\***

Come and join butterfly enthusiast Wilf as we search for some of the lovely species to be found on the Downs. Parking is £3.50 for the day (ticket machines take card or cash payments) although it is free for National Trust members and blue badge holders.

\*£4.00 per adult

**Open to all, but please reserve as space is limited.**

For additional information or to reserve your place please email  
[flitvale.info@gmail.com](mailto:flitvale.info@gmail.com).

(If you don't have email, please ring Ann on 07580 178889 between 6-8 pm.)

The Wildlife Trust for Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Northamptonshire

Registered charity number: 1000412

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

Flit Vale Local Group

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

"When the April wind wakes the call for the soil, I hold the plough as my only hold upon the earth, and, as I follow through the fresh and fragrant furrow, I am planted with every foot-step, growing, budding, blooming into a spirit of spring."

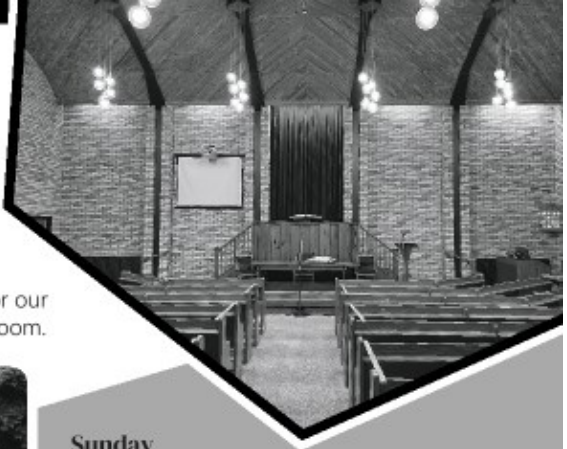
- Dallas Lore Sharp, 1870-1929

# Advertisements

## Westoning Baptist Church

We are an independent Baptist Church in Central Bedfordshire.

You are very welcome to join us for our services at the Church or live on Zoom.



### Sunday

Services 11am & 6pm

Sunday School 9.30am  
- 10.30am (term-time)

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7.15pm

📍 Large free car park on site

📺 Zoom Meeting ID: 292 960 6969

📍 Greenfield Road MK45 5JD

🌐 [westoningbaptistchurch.org](http://westoningbaptistchurch.org)



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# HVPS *plus* Flitton Flits Family Fun Runs

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## Harlington Village Pre School & Wrap Around Care

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Situated behind Harlington Lower School, we offer sessional care and education for children in their two academic school years before starting Lower School. We offer a safe, friendly learning environment where children can explore, have fun and make friends. Our experienced staff are qualified to Early Years Level 3 or above, offering children the very best start to their early years education.

We accept children who receive: 2-year-old funding, 15 Hours & 30 hours (3–4-year-old funding). Children can also pay for sessions if they are not yet in receipt of funding or require hours beyond their funded hours. We accept tax free childcare and childcare vouchers.

If your child was born between 01/09/2019-31/08/2021 and you would like them to join Pre School next academic year (any time between September 2023 & July 2024) or for more information, please e-mail [staff@harlingtonvillagepreschool.org.uk](mailto:staff@harlingtonvillagepreschool.org.uk) for a session request form. **All forms to be returned by 19<sup>th</sup> May 2023.**

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](http://www.harlingtonvillagepreschool.org.uk)

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## Flitton Flits Family Fun Runs

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**17<sup>th</sup> Flitton Flits Fun Run**

**Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2023**

**The event raises funds for the beautiful Flitton Moor local nature reserve.**

Entry forms are available at on our website: [www.FDHG.co.uk/events](http://www.FDHG.co.uk/events)

For more information, offers of help, or enquiries, please contact

David Sedgley on 01525 714961 or Andrea McCormick on 01525 717661

Or by email: [flittonflit@gmail.com](mailto:flittonflit@gmail.com)

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## LIFE Church *plus* BRCC Wellbeing Directory

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## LIFE CHURCH HARLINGTON

Sunday services at 10.30am in The Parish Rooms

- 2nd      Worship and Prayer
- 9th      Easter Breakfast and Service led by Carol Gibbs
- 16th     Trevor Withers
- 23rd     Dan Harris
- 30th     TBC

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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## BRCC Wellbeing Directory

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As we step into spring, it's a wonderful time to get out and about and enjoy the change of season. Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity (BRCC) has put together a Green Wellbeing Directory on their 'Your Wellbeing Bedfordshire' website ([www.ywb.org.uk](http://www.ywb.org.uk)). This directory features opportunities for people to get out in nature, and lists over 70 activities or places to visit across Bedfordshire already – which will continue to grow.

“Not only is nature free and available to all, but helps us to feel good too. People can also get a great deal out of joining more social activities outdoors, such as volunteering or walking groups. Our Green Wellbeing Directory makes it easy for people across Bedfordshire to find out about what's happening around them.”

**Visit our website to use our Green Wellbeing Directory and find out more about our Community Wellbeing Champions: [ywb.org.uk](http://ywb.org.uk)**

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## Methodist Church *plus* Wellbeing Directory *ctd.*

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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.



### **APRIL preachers are:**

- 2<sup>nd</sup> 10am Come and See led by  
6pm Service with Holy Communion led by Rev. Claudia Lupi  
9<sup>th</sup> **9.30am** Easter Service with Holy Communion led by Rev. Claudia Lupi  
16<sup>th</sup> 10am The Worship Group  
23<sup>rd</sup> 10am Rev. Claudia Lupi  
30<sup>th</sup> 10am Sheila Norris

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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**COFFEE MORNING** 29th April, from 10 am to 12 noon, in the hall

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### **LADIES BRIGHT HOUR**

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



- 6<sup>th</sup> Members Own for Easter  
13<sup>th</sup> TBA  
20<sup>th</sup> Vicky Yorke  
27<sup>th</sup> Sheila Norris

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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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## **BRCC Wellbeing Directory *ctd.***

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If you know of other local projects that could be added to the directory, please let us know by emailing us on [info@bedsrcc.org.uk](mailto:info@bedsrcc.org.uk) or calling us on 07984 275652 / 01234 838771.

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## Marjorie Williams R.I.P. Part 1: The early years

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On 6<sup>th</sup>. March we said our final good byes to Marjorie Williams, a much loved and respected villager and St. Mary's church member who moved into Foster Road when the houses in that road were first built. Marjorie was a very private person, so not much of her background was known. Consequently, there were some surprises when Sue, a long-standing friend from Northumberland, discovered Marjorie's partial autobiography entitled "My Story".

To many people's astonishment, having assumed Marjorie was quintessentially English, we discovered that she was in fact born in Dublin in 1935, where she spent a happy childhood, although somewhat marred by the loss at the age of 5 of her young brother, Clifford. Her mother came from Eggington, and after Clifford's death, she and her grandmother both yearned to return to England, but this was wartime so they needed permission which was initially refused because of the Blitz. Then after D-Day, in which her father participated, Marjorie's mother re-visited the British Embassy, and this time permission was granted. Marjorie takes up the account of what she describes as "The Greatest Day In My Life" in May 1945:

*Arrangements were made for us to travel on 10<sup>th</sup> May – my Father was coming home to travel across with us. The house and furniture were sold, most of my toys were given to a little girl up the road. Our sole belongings were in three tea chests! Finding accommodation in London was very difficult – so much had been destroyed in the bombing. So unbelievably, the three of us joined an Aunt and Uncle with their four children in a 3-bed semi. Although I was excited coming to London, I was apprehensive about the sea journey and began to think they would have to leave me behind.*

*Then on 8<sup>th</sup> May a neighbour (whose husband was a Japanese P.O.W.) asked if my Mother had heard that the War had ended. I rushed inside and then we heard the church bells ring. That evening we went to a Thanksgiving Service, I wearing with pride a little red, white and blue ribbon brooch of my Mother's. I was on the way to being English!*

*And so the Great Day arrived. My Father came back the previous evening and we stayed overnight with an Aunt and Uncle. Still apprehensive, we travelled on the train to the Harbour where, concerningly, all passengers were handed a life jacket. My Mother and I had a cabin while my Father sat up on deck, and we set off on a very calm sea. Relief when we reached Holyhead.*

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## Marjorie Williams *ctd.* plus Messy Church News

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*And then the 6 hour train journey through the countryside, awash with flags and bunting – a sort of Royal Progression! An impressionable young girl thinking, could all this welcome be for us? Britain was in a state of euphoria at the end of the war in Europe and people were waving at the train and carrying flags all the way down to London. I was even more impressed with Euston Station which still had its Roman Arch outside – I had never seen such a magnificent building.*

*I slept well and woke to the noise of activity outside – people were already starting preparations for a street party the following day. Truly, this was a remarkable country!*

*That evening, as I sat on the garden wall watching the final preparations, I was aware of a stiff neck. I awoke next morning to find I had mumps – and missed the Party!*

Just an insight into some of Marjorie's wonderful experiences in her early life, which she only began to share in her later years. Amazing to think that she never, ever revealed to anyone about her Irish roots, even when talking to someone who shared the same background.

Next month, the Harlington days.

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## Messy Church News

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February Messy Church marked the start of Lent, being the Saturday before Shrove Tuesday. We made Sand Pictures of the desert, and rock cakes (stones into bread!) and all sorts of other things to mark the start of Jesus ministry.



Our next Messy Church will be at 4 pm on 15th April and will focus on the time after Easter.

We try always to have a Zoom link for those who can't get to the chapel, and to livestream the celebration to YouTube, which also provides a recording.



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

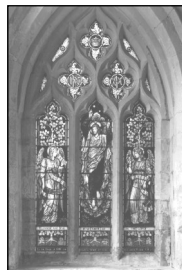
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# St. Mary's Church Services

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Everyone is welcome to attend the services in our beautiful village church. This month is very special as it includes the highlight of the Christian year, Easter. April's services are:



## Sundays and Easter

- 2<sup>nd</sup> 8 am Book of Common Prayer Holy Communion  
9.30 am Palm Sunday Holy Communion with (at the end)  
Samson the donkey  
10.15 am Family Breakfast Club members and everyone celebrating Palm  
Sunday meet Samson just outside the church  
4 pm Music and Readings for Holy Week with the Quintet Choir
- 6<sup>th</sup> 7.30 pm Maundy Thursday Holy Communion service
- 7<sup>th</sup> 9.45 am Good Friday Walk of Witness from Methodist Church  
2.00 pm Good Friday Last Hour on the Cross
- 9<sup>th</sup> 9.30 am Easter Day Holy Communion service
- 16<sup>th</sup> 9.30 am Holy Communion
- 23<sup>rd</sup> 9.30 am Holy Communion
- 30<sup>th</sup> 9.30 am Holy Communion or Morning Praise service

## Wednesdays

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 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/stmarysharlington/](https://www.facebook.com/stmarysharlington/)

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

Remember that we are here for you.

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



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# St Mary's Churchwarden *plus* Celebration Days

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## St Mary's Church



**Friends of St Mary's:** our next meeting will be on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> March, at 7pm in the church. All are welcome to come and hear about this new initiative to help care for the fabric of the church.

**Foodbank:** we collect food donations at church or you can also leave donations at the Harlington newsagents/ grocery shop. The foodbank does not currently need dry pasta or baked beans. This month, they would especially appreciate sponge puddings, tinned tomatoes, tinned fish, tinned solid meat, tinned custard, cereal bars and jam. The donated food is weighed on each drop off, and the total donated from Harlington in February was 68.2kg.

**Church kneelers/ hassocks:** we have some wonderful kneelers in church, made by locals to help cushion peoples' knees during prayer, but they are no longer widely used. So if you have a family connection to one and you'd like it for your family, email us at: [admin@harlingtonchurch.org](mailto:admin@harlingtonchurch.org)

**Services and events:** We have a special guest visiting us on April 2<sup>nd</sup>, Palm Sunday, at the end of the 9.30am service. Maybe you've guessed? Samson the donkey will be making a special journey to see us all and we're very grateful to East End stables for making this possible. Do come along and say 'hello'. We also have a Palm Sunday event later in the day at 4pm, with a celebration in song and readings, plus the Quintet Choir. What do you call a donkey wearing ear muffs?.....Anything you like; he can't hear you! Please check the Contact magazine, our website [www.harlingtonchurch.org](http://www.harlingtonchurch.org), or the noticeboard outside church for our service information.

Best wishes, Tricia Churchwarden

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## April Celebration Days

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- 1st All Fools Day
- 2nd Palm Sunday
- 7th Good Friday
- 9th Easter Sunday
- 23rd St. George, Patron Saint of England
- 23rd Shakespeare's Birthday

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# Village Diary *plus* Wellbeing Walks

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## April

2 <sup>nd</sup>	Family breakfast	Parish Hall 9 am
3 <sup>rd</sup>	ADALHS Talk+AGM	Flitwick Library plus Zoom 7.30 for 7.45 pm
4 <sup>th</sup>	Flittabus Milton Keynes	Village Hall Car Park 9.15 am
7 <sup>th</sup>	Good Friday Walk	Methodist Church 9.45 am
15 <sup>th</sup>	Messy Church	Methodist Church and Halls 4 – 6 pm
15 <sup>th</sup>	HHT AGM Harlington	Village Hall 7.30 pm
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Wildlife Walk	Pegsdon Hills 10 am
23 <sup>rd</sup>	Gazebo Sale	132 Goswell End road 11 am – 2 pm
24 <sup>th</sup>	Crafternoon Tea	Methodist Church Hall 2.30 – 4.30 pm (+Zoom)
29 <sup>th</sup>	Coffee morning	Methodist Church Hall 10 am – 12 noon

## May

- 1<sup>st</sup> Flitton Flits Fun Run  
7<sup>th</sup> Coronation Celebrations

Don't forget the regular weekly things like the Wednesday Coffee Mornings and Friday Ramblers Wellbeing Walks that aren't shown here. 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 MAY 2023 DATES TO THE MAGAZINE BY  
10<sup>TH</sup> APRIL**

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## Wellbeing Walks

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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