

Editorial

Dear Villagers,

Summer is here at last! I am never sure if that means brilliant sunshine or torrential rain, or (probably) both if June is anything like May. Now is the time to appreciate the benefits of living in a village in beautiful countryside. Please help to keep it that way and make litter pickers redundant.

The run-up to the Village Show has started. Are you going to take part?

Having had the fun of the Big Lunch picnic, I wonder if anyone would like to take on a relaunch of the Village Carnival. I know such things are ever more difficult to run in the light of increased regulation (anyone else remember sitting on the back of a flatbed lorry and being driven, albeit slowly, around the village?)

And finally, on the subject of volunteers, there is still a vacancy for the role of editor. Who would like to try their hand at this challenge?

Have a good month.

Clive.

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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.

July 2023 copy by 10th June please.

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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>

Letter from the Life Church

In December 2022 we had a new addition to our family, a kitten. This was unexpected and unplanned. Our previous cat had passed away just a few weeks previously and we had decided to wait before we took on another pet but following a discussion with a local gentleman who had kittens he wanted to settle into new homes, a purchase was made.



Bella, the kitten has brought us lots of fun and enjoyment over the past few months. She is a pretty grey colour with yellow eyes and black whiskers. She always wants to climb to the highest place possible and doesn't like anything to be left on a table or shelf. We have a dish with pebbles and shells surrounding a candle and she will continually come and route out the shells knocking them to the floor.

She stayed in the home for the first months of her life, having only experienced the great outdoors through the safety of a window or from a cat basket on her trips to the vet. On the chosen day we opened the patio doors and waited, expecting her to go running outside ready to explore the unknown. She just sat at the threshold and looked, unsure and very hesitant. She eventually went out onto the patio when we went and sat outside with a cup of tea to enjoy a bit of warm sunshine. She stayed with us and would only follow Pete when he went further into the garden. She continues to always be around us in the garden and not keen to explore any further, she loves jumping up and trying to catch flies but always runs back to find where we are.

Watching and enjoying the journey with Bella reminds me of my journey with God. I can clearly remember the day I stepped out from working within a hospital setting with all the security it has and people around to help me in my role as a nurse, into working within a community setting where you visit alone and go into unknown places. Life has its times when we have to step out into the unknown. It maybe a new job, a new school, a situation you have never experienced before. It can feel very overwhelming, lonely and difficult to take that first step.

I often think and reflect on the story of Joshua, where he is often told by God to be strong and courageous and step out as he wasn't alone. Joshua had seen that God had been with Moses and he would be with him. I experience the closeness of God as I walk through my life in all situations and I know he will be with me in whatever the future holds.

Let's all encourage each other with stories of what God has done and how we have experienced him. As with Bella, she has the confidence to explore the garden as she knows we are there with her. We can step out in our journey with con-

Letter *ctd.*, plus HHT & Wednesday Coffee

fidence as we know God will be with us.

Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

Joshua 1:9

Carol

Leader Life Church.

Harlington Heritage Trust

Sunday 11 June there will be a car outing to Ashridge Gardens. Meet at Harlington Village Hall car park at 12.45. Lifts will be available if required. The postcode is HP4 1NS. The cost is £9 per person, payable at The Bakehouse (café) on arrival.

This year's coach trip will be to Derby on Saturday 15 July, leaving the Village Hall at 09.00. **Open to all, not just HHT members.** Cost £26 per person. 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. 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.

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.



Harlington Village Show *plus* HNH

37th Harlington Village Show

Saturday 26th August 2023



The planning is continuing apace as the Show committee make decisions about what to test and trial you with this year! The Show, as usual, is on August bank holiday Saturday and we have had a real mix of weathers through the previous 36 years. Sun certainly helps on the day, but we hope you'll support us whatever the weather! There's also plenty of time left to be creative. Exact information about measurements, instructions etc will be given in the schedule.

Handicraft classes: *A lap blanket (knitted, crocheted or patchwork); An item made from 2 fat quarters; A gift card for a special birthday; A book folded hedgehog*

Children up to age 9: *A painted rock or pebble; A miniature garden; 3 decorated biscuits.*

Children 9-13: *A hand puppet (eg made from a sock or glove); 3 flapjacks; Design a character for a computer game (any medium, max A4)*

Cookery: *Camilla's Tea Loaf (to recipe); My favourite biscuits x5; 5 cheese straws; 5 pieces of flapjack; 1 loaf of soda bread.*

Photography: *Holiday Fun; Beautiful Harlington; Flower Power.*

Visit our Facebook page or Instagram to see example photos of the classes. Flower arranging classes will be listed in the July Contact.

If you'd like any advice about entering the Show or how to display your entries, please do contact us at harlingtonvillageshow@gmail.com. The printed schedule delivered to every house in July will give some advice. Also send us photos of things you are growing or making – we'd love to see them, and they can be added to our Facebook page or Instagram.

Harlington Village Show Committee Queries: Tricia 07711 511729

HNH Good Neighbours

Good Neighbours - Harlington Neighbourhood Help (HNH)

For help or more information contact:

HNH Good Neighbours line 07849 835410



Brain Tumour Research



Another great month!



The gazebo sale was a wow! It was a bit hit and miss as the weather forecast was suggestive of a miserable cold and wet day, not the sort of day you would want to be outside and sat inside a tent for 4 hours but it turned out dry and even had warm moments. There were plenty of visitors and many generous donations so that by the end of the day £192.78 had been raised, Thankyou to FHLSA for organising the day, Liz for helping out set up and supporting, those who provided items for the table and those who visited. I met so many lovely people, learnt so much about my dad's and great uncle Arthur's tool chests including one tool that was engraved with his name and dated 1916 I retracted this tool from the sale and will offer it to a family member as a keepsake.



It was also quite bizarre that I was also asked if I had doll's clothes and garden canes and I was able sell other items surplus to my requirements so my decluttering has begun and I am considering another garage sale in the summer. So if you like tools, bric-a-brac etc., look out for further articles and posters. Liz has also offered to serve home made cakes, tea and coffee, should be fun and hopefully another successful fundraiser.

Plants are going well and since January £305.23 has been donated. Amazing! Vegetable and fruit plants have begun to arrive I must have in excess of 12 varieties of tomato plants available, purple sprouting broccoli, leeks and strawberry plants thanks to, I think, Duncan, Mick and Linda and Jean and Roy. I fetched a car full of house plants, herbs and garden plants from my 90 year old friend Pat, who lives in Luton, before the gazebo sale and most of those found homes at that event. My 84 year old friend Mary has been busy growing on more than 100 bedding plants including petunias, geraniums, lobelia and many others she plans to share some with me for my plant stall, I also have marigolds promised, chillis, aubergine etc and who knows what else might turn up!

So keep visiting, be brave and happy gardening! Then watch out for the produce if you would like home grown veg without the effort of growing and watering visit 132 Goswell End Road. Rhubarb is already available and if you would like a recipe to tempt you into growing tomatoes the Marmande variety are superb for slicing, frying in a little olive oil, sprinkle some balsamic vinegar over the tomatoes, some pepper and slide onto a slice of toast and, hey presto, a delicious, simple lunch. Enjoy.

Thank you supporters. Jane, Alice and Emma

Flittabus *plus* Jigsaw Library

Flittabus

Community Transport Ltd.



Next Milton Keynes Flittabus

Tuesday 6th June 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 21 Jun St Albans £22pp

Fri 23 Jun Blenheim Palace £45pp

Sat 8 Jul Black Country Living Museum £46pp

Sat 15 Jul Brighton Day Trip £30pp

Fri 28 Jul Ham House and Gardens £40pp

Sat 12 Aug Eltham Palace and Gardens £45pp

Wed 20 Sep Stratford upon Avon £28pp

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

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e mail excursions@flittabus.co.uk

Free Harlington Jigsaw Library



Just a reminder that Harlington has its own Jigsaw Library which you are welcome to borrow from – for free. There is a wide range of sizes and subjects, with jigsaws for both adults and children. Just contact me, and you can collect at a time to suit you, or I will deliver to your door. Unlike Tesco, there are no delivery charges!

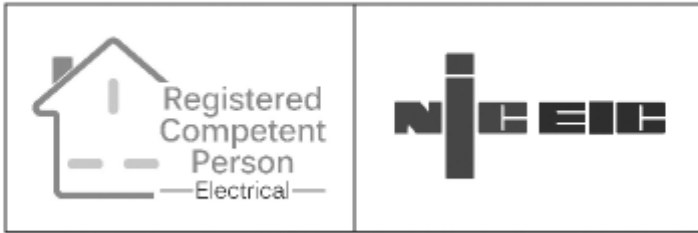
When returning a jigsaw, just let me know if there are any missing pieces or any other problem. If you have a puzzle you'd like to re-home, charity shops will be grateful for your donation.

As borrower numbers have fallen recently, and the jigsaw storage takes up quite a bit of space, I plan to continue with the library until at least the Summer, and then review if it will close or continue. Thank you. Tricia 07711 511729

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Harlington Lower School *plus* Thanks



We have had another exciting half term at Harlington Lower School, namely our celebrations for the coronation of King Charles III. We had a day of celebratory events, including

dance workshops from the decades of the King's life, writing information for a time capsule and creating portraits of the King. The children also decorated pebbles



which will be set into the ground outside the school building as a long-lasting legacy and memento of the occasion.



At lunchtime the children enjoyed a whole-school indoor picnic in the school hall. Thank you to the FRIENDS for their support both in paying for the dance workshops and for organising the pebble decorating and helping with the day.

Our next community event will be the Summer Fayre on 1st July from 11am to 2pm on the field at Harlington Lower School. We hope to see as many members of the community there as possible.

Thanks

Thank you to the organisers of the Coronation Big Lunch picnic and to all who took part and helped make this a special village event. Rita, Sue, Kate and Lidia have organised various events for us, and without such volunteers, and your support of them, we would miss out on a lot of fun.

As anyone who is involved in voluntary work will tell you, it is hard to find people prepared to spend their time on a regular commitment, or on one-offs, but without such people we miss the fun.

So thanks from us all.

Harlington Juniors U12s *plus* Quotes

Harlington Juniors U12s secured a third title in three seasons on Saturday with an emphatic 4-1 win over Stotfold Juniors U12 Blacks .

Harlington U12s sat on top of the league losing only one league game all season. Wixams and Stotfold pushed Harlington all season. The boys from the village are coached by Karlos Williams, who has been involved in coaching for over 20 years. He only got involved after members heard he was a level 2 coach and his son Alfie Williams was at Harlington Lower School. He took his first training session. It was brought to his attention, was his training too advanced? Karlos responded with wait and see.

His record speaks for itself.

<u>2020 to Present</u>	
Games played	61
Wins	42
Draws	10
Loss	10
Goals for	245
Goals against	101

Out of his team, 3 players have gone on to have a trial at Luton town; Owen Gerrie, Ikobi Nwankwo and at present his own son Alfie Williams.

Karlos has coached and managed:-

- Dunstable Hawks FC
- Tottenhoe
- Dunstable Town u18's
- Dunstable Town reserves
- Dunstable Town first team.

After securing the title on Saturday 29th April his first words were, "Here's hoping for much the same next season."

John

June Quotes

"It is better to be a young June-bug than an old bird of paradise"

- Mark Twain

"I wonder what it would be like to live in a world where it was always June."

- L. M. Montgomery

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Crafternoon Tea *plus* Letter

In April, I mentioned the members who were reconditioning a doll's house (remembering that the article was written in March!). Here it is, nearly complete. This photo was actually taken in March, but after the press date for Contact. Here the front is much improved from the state it had been in when we first saw it – I have pictures of that, too. By the time we met at the end of March, it had been given to its new owner.



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 the skills of others, even if we don't 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.

Our June meetings will be 5th – which will not be on Zoom – and 19th, which will be on Zoom as well as in person.

If you would like to try something new, or have recently developed a new skill you would like to share, or if you would simply like to spend time with other people who are craft-minded, come and be part of the group.

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

Letter

I have noticed yet a further eyesore at our local railway station.

Network rail have replaced the mellow coloured tactile paving with a garish bright yellow miscreation, with no regard to the fact that this Victorian station, with heritage, has sadly and systematically been devastated over the years

I recognise the need for tactile paving, of course, but there was nothing wrong with what was already there and at the time of writing the new plastic fixture is only Platform 4 - the length of which is never fully used.

Also, ours is the only station between Bedford and St. Pancras which has this..

Grumpy Old Guys & Gals *plus* HLS Summer Fayre

Grumpy Old Guys and Gals



Discussion group at the Parish Hall on
Tuesday 20th June.

A couple of hours to speak about
things which annoy you both locally
and elsewhere in the world.

Starting at 10am.

Tea and coffee will be provided.

Speak your mind to others and let that
grey matter be jiggled about .

Banter, jokes and a quiz .

All welcome.

Just turn up.



Letter *ctd.*

I have written to Network Rail and Govia to try and stop any more.

I have tried over the years to challenge so many disrespectful changes that take place without consultation at this station; I once invited a manager from First Capital Connect (in that iteration) who turned up and saw for herself (to no subsequent avail).

There have been attempts in the past to establish a rail passenger group in the village to take the train company and Network rail to task, but it has not gained traction.

I am now prepared to try and re-start such a group. We need to restore the beauty and heritage of our station.

If you are willing to join me to campaign for sensible decisions - keeping the ticket office open for a start as it is threatened with closure – please contact me at: nick.crago@googlemail.com

Kind Regards Nick

Flit Vale Wildlife Trust



Wildlife Trust for
**Beds, Cambs
& Northants**

Wildlife walks & talks

Saturday, June 3rd, Flitwick Moor and Folly Wood (TL045354), 10.30am-3.00pm

Bioblitz at Flitwick Moor

A joint event with the Bedfordshire Natural History Society. Come and join us at this lovely reserve and see what can be found on the Moor! Families welcome (all children must be accompanied by a parent/carer). All equipment will be provided and help given with identification of finds.

No charge, but donations welcome

**Saturday, June 24th, Strawberry Hill Farm, Bedfordshire at 10.00am
Visit to Strawberry Hill Farm, Knotting, with Dr Gwen Hitchcock***

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*£4.00 per adult

**Wednesday, July 12th, Flitton Moor at 7pm
Flitton Moor wildflower walk***

A gentle evening stroll through the grazed meadows and varying environments of the moor on the edge of Flitton identifying local flora. A nice dry warm evening is almost guaranteed!

*£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.

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

The Wildlife Trust for Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Northamptonshire
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Flit Vale Local Group

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

Tuesday

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7.15pm

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🌐 westoningbaptistchurch.org



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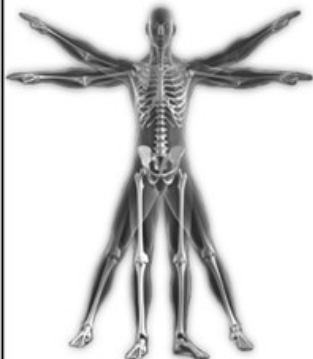
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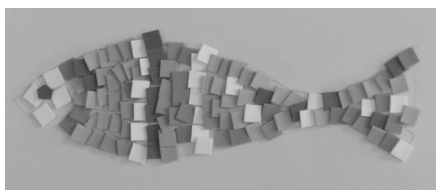
Clinical Psychology/Deep Tissue Massage



Messy Church News

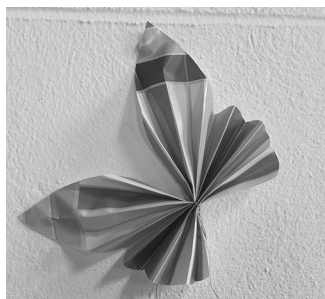


In April our Messy Church met just after Easter, so we looked at what happened on Easter Sunday and in the weeks which followed. We made clay crosses (this was one of the messy bits!), and we made butterflies—sorry you can't see the colours - which we often use to think about new life. There were also egg shaped fruit pies, and empty



tombs from bagels and cream cheese!

Mosaic fish reminded us of the picnic on the beach and footprints helped us think of the walk to Emmaus. And, of course, after our Celebration there was tea.



Our next Messy Church will be at 4 pm on 17th June when we will be returning to the story of St. Paul, this part has shipwrecks.

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

Harlington in Bloom



The summer term has got off to a great start with 4 students and a teacher from Harlington Upper School coming on board as they work alongside Judy and Gill, HIB committee members, helping out on some Wednesdays gardening currently on the dry bed at the rear of Orchard house. Their help is really appreciated with their

enthusiasm and willingness, the committee thank them for their support and the village should be very proud of our young people, they are a credit to their school, families and friends and maybe our budding future Alan Titchmarsh or Frances Tophill!

Winners for the best spring garden can now be announced and the committee is delighted to award 88 Goswell End Road 1st place. Take time to visit this beautiful and colourful spring garden, it is truly an inspiration.

2nd place goes to 20 Lincoln Way; this garden brings pleasure every year with its colourful borders and neatly attended garden. Finally 3rd place goes to 19 Brian Road, another cheerful inspirational garden. There were 24 nominations for best spring garden so congratulations Harlingtonians for making Harlington an uplifting, colourful and great place to live.

If you would like to help Harlington bloom this summer we will be planting up the summer bedding planters on 3rd June. We meet at Harlington village hall at 10am. Please bring your trowels, the more villagers that turn up the quicker the job is completed I think the fastest we have planted up was about 40 minutes, the challenge is on!

Future weeding dates for the year are planned for: 8/7; 9/9 and 11/11. Again we meet at 10am at the village hall we plan to work for no more than 2 hours so if you can spare up to 2 hours come and be part of the care of Harlington's floral borders and planters you can be assured it will fill you with pride that you are contributing to our appearance and floral tribute to our community, come and volunteer!

And finally summer judging of front gardens/hanging basket/container/allotments/ dry garden/commercial/public buildings will take place the week beginning 17/7/23 so come on Harlington, get gardening and feel the pride that you are contributing to the appearance of our village, the health and well being of those who live and visit here as they enjoy your garden.

The committee would like to thank Vivienne Dunlop for her dedication to her role as publicity for Harlington in Bloom and appreciate her need to stand down currently but hope she will be able to return to the committee soon. We will en-

St. Mary's Family Team *plus* HVH 100 Club

What a wonderful afternoon we all had at the outdoor Churches Together service followed by the Coronation Big Lunch. The weather was perfect!

Our Messy Church Breakfast was a week later when we looked at the story of Jesus' Ascension into Heaven with the disciples looking on in amazement.

All the normal breakfast items were back on the menu.

Our next session is Sunday 4th June for Breakfast. Breakfast followed by Craft, Story, Prayers and of course, lots of fun and mess! So please join us on the 4th June for Breakfast from 9am in the Parish Rooms.

Contact Rebecca on 07877 342640 or cairdclan@ntlworld.com 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 on team!

HVH 100 Club

April winner of the 100 club was No. 62 belonging to Jacqui Cant of Glebe Gardens.

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

Harlington in Bloom *ctd.*

deavour to promote our work through the Contact magazine but may struggle to maintain our Facebook page currently due to lack of IT skills, please bear with us as we attempt to address this issue.

Our thanks

Jane Barltrop

pp Harlington in Bloom Committee

LIFE Church *plus* Harlington Gardeners' Society



LIFE CHURCH
HARLINGTON

Sunday services at usually at 10.30am in The Parish Rooms

JUNE

- 4th - Vicky Yorke
- 11th – Carol Gibbs
- 18th - Rose Agnew
- 25th - Paul Wilson will be sharing about his recent trip and work with World Vision

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

Harlington Gardeners' Society



ANNUAL COACH TRIP

Just a reminder to book your place on the coach for our trip to Wisley on Saturday 17th June. The cost of the coach is £22 with free entry to the gardens for HGS members. We would welcome new or non-members to join the trip. Please book your place with Roger Allen on 01525 875525.

MEMBER'S BBQ

This will take place on August 5th at 5pm at 118 Goswell End Rd. More details later.

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.



JUNE preachers are:

4th 10 am Come and See Led by Martin Wallis

6 pm Service with Holy Communion Led by Rev. Joanna Sherwood (nee Flahey)

11th 10 am John Enejo

18th 10 am Service with Holy Communion Led by Rev Claudia Lupi

25th 10 am Worship Group (Action for Children)

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

COFFEE MORNING 24th June, from 10 am to 12 noon, in the hall

LADIES BRIGHT HOUR

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



1st tba

8th Rosemary Barratt

16th Members Own

22nd Ivor Mitchelmore

29th Rev. Claudia Lupi

ROOM BOOKINGS

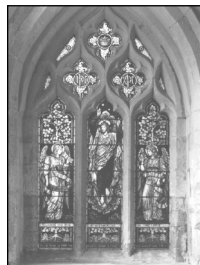
Contact Trevor Caveney if you are interested in booking any of our Halls, Rooms or the Church, subject to COVID rules. The Halls are suitable for meetings, groups, clubs and particularly good for children's parties. Reasonable prices. Tel 01525 754527 or hmc.bookings@ntlworld.com

"What is one to say about June, the time of perfect young summer, the fulfilment of the promise of the earlier months, and with as yet no sign to remind one that its fresh young beauty will ever fade."

- Gertrude Jekyll, On Gardening

St. Mary's Church Services

Everyone is welcome to attend the services in our beautiful village church. On the second Sunday of this month there will be a great opportunity for the Benefice to get together for a communion service with Bishop Richard at Westoning, so no service at St. Mary's on that day. If anyone needs a lift to Westoning please let Robert, Tricia or Neil know. June's services are:



Sundays

- 4th 8 am. Book of Common Prayer service
9 am Family Breakfast Club in Parish Rooms
9.30 am Morning Prayer service
- 11th **9.45 am** Benefice Holy Communion led by Bishop Richard at Westoning Parish Church
- 18th 9.30 am Holy Communion
- 25th 9.30 am Holy Communion

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 or Neil Walter walterfamily@btinternet.com, or the Church Reader Dr. Robert Johns robert@harlingtonchurch.org. Alternatively email 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 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/

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)

St Mary's Churchwarden

St Mary's Church



Easyfundraising: some of you may have heard of this website already but if not, bear with me! It's a way of raising 'free' donations for the church at NO extra cost to you, when you shop online. There are 1000s of retailers who will give a % of what you spend as a donation to your nominated good cause (St Mary's Church, Harlington, Beds). It's a very simple and straightforward way of raising funds, whenever you shop. You need to register with the easyfundraising website using your email address and a password, and the name of the good cause you are supporting. If you're able and happy to support our restoration fund via easyfundraising, we would be so very, very grateful. For a link which can raise an extra £5 when you join, or for more information, please do contact me: tricia.murphy5@ntlworld.com

Social events:

- 1. *Midsummer Dinner* on Saturday 24th June** in church at 7pm, starting with Pimms and canapes, followed by a 2 course meal, tea/ coffee. Bring your own drinks, and there will be a raffle. Numbers are limited for this so please register your interest via the email given above.
- 2. *Afternoon Tea* at East End Stables on Sunday 9th July** from 2.30-5pm. Donkey and horse rides, musical entertainment, afternoon tea, raffle. Parking available. What bird becomes fluffy and absorbent if you put tea in front of it?.....An owl!
- 3. *Concert* organised by the Friends of St Mary's on Saturday 15th July.** Barton Community Choir and local band 'The Cheats' perform live in church. Entry free but donations welcome. Bring your own food and drink. More info to follow in next month's Contact magazine.

Church bells: did you hear the church bells ring out on Coronation Day? The bells in Harlington chimed before and after the service, and also when Charles was crowned. There had been a national campaign leading up to the coronation, aiming to get all of Britain's 38,000 church bells ringing for the King. I really do hope this was a success - and it will have been achieved through the dedication of bell ringers around the country. (Our 8 bells are programmed electronically!).

Please check the Contact magazine, our website www.harlingtonchurch.org, or the noticeboard outside church for our service information.

Best wishes, Tricia Churchwarden

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Village Diary *plus* Toddington Rambling Club

June

3 rd Planting	Harlington Village Hall 10 am
3 rd Wildlife Walk	Flitwick Moor 10.30 am
4 th Family breakfast	Parish Hall 9 am
5 th Crafternoon Tea	Methodist Church Hall 2 – 4 pm
6 th Flittabus Milton Keynes	Village Hall Car Park 9.15 am
11 th HHT Car Outing	Village Hall Car Park 12.45 pm
17 th Messy Church	Methodist Church and Halls 4 – 6 pm
17 th HGS Coach Outing	Wisley
19 th Crafternoon Tea	Methodist Church Hall 2 – 4 pm (plus Zoom)
20 th Discussion Group	Parish Hall 10 am
24 th Wildlife Walk	Strawberry Hill Farm 10 am
24 th Coffee morning	Methodist Church Hall 10 am – 12 noon
24 th Midsummer Dinner	St. Mary's 7 pm

July

1 st Summer Fayre	Harlington Lower School 11 am to 2.30 pm
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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 JULY 2023 DATES TO THE MAGAZINE BY 10TH JUNE

Toddington Rambling Club

We are small independent walking club with about 86 members. Although this club was originally formed by Toddington residents the majority of members now live in Harlington & the surrounding villages. For many years we have organised the annual Harlington New Year's Day walk.

We walk most Thursdays and Saturdays with an occasional walk on Sundays, with a range of distances from 3 to 10 miles, both easy-go & brisker walks. You are welcome to walk with us for free on a trial basis & if you decide to join the annual subs are only £5 per year.

Visit our website <http://www.toddingtonramblingclub.co.uk> for the latest programme. The walks for April included Woburn Sands, Westoning, Steppingley & Deacon Hill. We have a holiday planned for the Elan Valley in Wales this summer. If you require further information please do not hesitate to contact me on 01525 753235 or at 120 Goswell End Road, Harlington.

Tony Roberts - TRC Chairman