

# Editorial

Dear Villagers,

You will see that this issue contains a tribute to Christine Ward and the notice of the funeral of Mrs Audrey Gammon. We are always willing to include such items where we can, together with happier things, wedding anniversaries, births or marriages. These two fitted well with our publishing cycle.

A friend commented to me recently that someone they knew had been buried before they had even heard they had died. It can be difficult for such news to go around these days, but do consider how you might let the wider world know.

Continuing the gloom, ever had the feeling that “they” are trying to stop Harlington people from escaping the village? When there are roadworks on the last road out....

Finally, note that HJFC have taken on the Booksale. Give them your support. Clive.

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## Contents

Letter from St. Mary's Church	4
Harlington in Bloom	5
Christine Ward	6
Brain Tumour Research	8
Harlington Village Show	9
ADALHS	10
Crafternoon Tea	11
Harlington Ramblers Wellbeing Walks	11
Harlington Juniors Football Club	13
Poem—It's Raining	13
Flittabus	14
Christine Ward Thanks	14
Mrs Audrey Gammon	15
Harlington Gardeners' Society	15
Harlington Lower School	16
Booksale (HJFC)	17
Inner Wheel Quiz Night	17
Flit Vale Wildlife Group	18
Harlington Village Hall 100 Club	18
Messy Church News	21
Life Church	22
Harlington Heritage Trust	22
Jigsaws	22
Methodist Church	23
St. Mary's Churchwarden	24
St. Mary's Church Services	25
Village Diary	28
Wednesday Coffee Mornings	28

## DISCLAIMER

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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.

**May2024 copy by 10<sup>th</sup> April please.**

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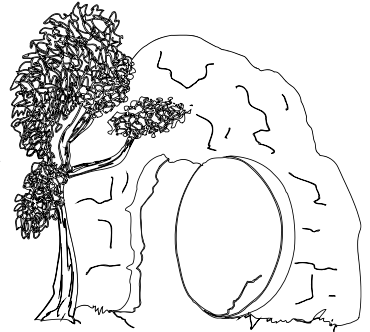
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## Letter from St. Mary's Church

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April this year is unusual in that Easter is already behind us. Did you know that there is an Act of Parliament that says that Easter Day must be “on the first Sunday after the second Saturday in April” (Easter Act 1928 section 1)? But, as you know, this year Easter Day was on 31st. March, so this is another example of one of those many Acts of Parliament that has never been implemented. I am intrigued to know why the Act was passed in the first place, since it was obvious that the church was going to raise strong objections, for the date of Easter has always been traditionally fixed by reference to the lunar cycles of the Jewish calendar. Incidentally, the Orthodox Church calculates Easter by the Julian calendar which means this year the Orthodox Church Easter will be celebrated on Sunday, 5<sup>th</sup> May. How confusing!

What is not confusing is the Easter message. At Easter we celebrate the risen Christ who suffered agonisingly for us, who died for us, and gave us the wonderful gift of eternal life. He offers hope for humankind. That message is needed more and more in a world in which there is so much agony and suffering. In the weeks after Easter (or of Easter), our readings at St. Mary's from the Acts of the Apostles remind us of those gallant early Christians who shared the good news despite extreme hostility and persecution, who shared all that they had with each other, and who demonstrated that Jesus was alive and was with them in all that they did. No wonder they achieved the astonishing success of growing from a small Jewish sect into a global faith.



This year in the Anglican church, the weeks in April and the first part of May are officially the seven weeks of Easter when we can celebrate wholeheartedly the good news of the resurrection. In St. Mary's, we have a particular additional cause for celebration with the announcement that the Rev. Mark Edwards will soon be joining us as Priest-in-Charge of the Benefice of Harlington, Tingrith and Westoning. We pray for him and his family as they move from Gravesend, in the Rochester diocese, to their new home in Westoning vicarage. Mark starts in June, so if you want to meet him, why not come along to a service then?

Robert Johns

Reader, St. Mary's Church

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# Harlington In Bloom

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We have held our first committee meeting since the AGM. Minutes of the last committee meeting were discussed and approved. Matters Arising were discussed in the body of the meeting. Your current committee are: David Kingham (Chair), Judy Harfield (Hon Treasurer), Rosemary Tuohy (Hon Secretary), Martin Stynes (Minutes Secretary), Vivienne Dunlop (Publicity and Social Media), Teresa Glenister, Steve Jackson, Anthony Price, Gill Whiting.

One item discussed was the possibility of running another Village Open Gardens in 2025. Always very popular for visitors but sometimes nail-biting till the last minute for the committee to know that we have enough confirmed gardens in the village to open. If you interested, do let us know. We would need all kinds of help on the day as well as the Open Gardens and usually a few awesome Cream teas available too! It's great fun for all the family. Contact Vivienne in the first instance [v.dunlop@ntlworld.com](mailto:v.dunlop@ntlworld.com)/ 07758575715 or via our facebook page messenger. Or any committee member, of course.

We will be putting forward nominations for the Spring Gardens Awards following kerbside viewing of the village front gardens in late March. We are swapping round the routes we look at this year, so a fresh eye is guaranteed! So if you see people peering at your front garden from the path and making the odd note about your daffodils and bluebells, don't panic! The nominations will go to a judge, (independent of HiB) who will do their own viewing in early April.

We will be welcoming sponsors again for our activities to make the village decorative. While Harlington Parish Council pays for the main bedding plants for the village, sometimes we need a little extra for maintenance or capital expenditure on equipment such as the bowser and irrigation systems, extra bulbs, planter renewal etc. Would you like to be a sponsor? Contact Rosemary Tuohy (Secretary) 07793 016207 or [rosemarypc86@gmail.com](mailto:rosemarypc86@gmail.com) for further information.

## ***Dates for your Diary (Some dates may be amended or added nearer the time)***

Wed 3 April	HiB Committee Meeting@ Judy H's	7.30 pm
Sat 13 April	HiB Weeding/pruning work party. All Welcome	10.00 am
Sat 1 June	Summer Planting. All Welcome	10.00 am
Fri 27 Sept	Awards Evening All Welcome	7.30 pm
Sat 26 Oct	Winter planting All Welcome	10.00 am
Sat 9 Nov	War Memorial Tidy Up for Remembrance Sunday	10.00 am

*Vivienne Dunlop on behalf of HiB Committee <https://www.facebook.com/HarlingtonInBloom/> or [judy.harfield@apertech.co.uk](mailto:judy.harfield@apertech.co.uk) (Treasurer); Rosemary Tuohy (Secretary) 07793 016207*

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## Christine Ward

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Christine Ward, was born on the 14<sup>th</sup> July 1940 in Port Glasgow and went to Clune Park school, then to Port Glasgow High. She was brought up with her grandparents. She started work two weeks before her 15<sup>th</sup> birthday in the May Pole Store in Port Glasgow where she worked on the butcher's counter.

She was a Sunday school teacher and sung in the choir. She was also an assistant girl guide leader.

Her Granny, who she was very close to, died in 1955 and she came on holiday to England for the first time in the August of 1956 and really enjoyed it.

She left Scotland in January 1962 with her mum, step dad and her sister Anne and moved into Sundon Road Harlington. Nanny then went to work in Luton's May Pole Store until September 1962 when she left to go to Sainsburys. She joined the Harlington Methodist chapel as a Sunday school teacher in 1962.

For her job at Sainsbury's, Nanny had to go to Blackfriars in London to do some work related training for 3 weeks and was asked to show her trainer a chump chop – she nearly failed her course as she only knew these as Jigots! (Still not sure what either of these are.) She did pass the course and went onto work on the butchers counter until 1967.

Nanny was quite mischievous in her youth although many of you who knew her wouldn't have thought that. She snuck out one night to go to bingo in Luton with her friend Julie Dyke but didn't tell her mum or stepdad. This was the night she met Grandad, on the first Sunday that he came out of the army. After bingo she went back to Julie's house in Luton as she was going to catch the 21.30 train back to Harlington. As fate would have it, she needed to use the toilet and back then the nearest toilet was in Park Square. As she came out she bumped into granddad, they got talking and he asked her if he could walk her home, she said 'I live in Harlington, but you can walk me to the train station' which he did. Things must have been going well because that evening she asked him to join her at the Sainsburys dance on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Feb. The rest as they say is history!

They married on the 9<sup>th</sup> July 1966 in the Methodist chapel, their friend Stella played the organ at the service, after the knot was tied they popped into the Fox pub on Darley Hall, Breechwood Green where they were given a cheque and a bottle of champagne by the air crew from Luton airport. They went on honeymoon in the September to Caister on Sea with Grandad's Mum and Dad!

Their first home should have been in Lilley Bottom but 10 days before they were married this was broken into. They were then given a cottage at Diamond End where they stayed for a short while before being offered a house at 14 Robinson

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## Christine Ward *Ctd.*

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Crescent Harlington in June 1967 and Mum (Annie) was born in August 1967. Uncle Stephen then came along in 1969 and their family was complete in 1971 when Uncle Robert was born. Nanny went to work at Orchard House as cleaner when Uncle Robert went to Lady Zia Warner School as she needed to be home when the taxi used to drop him off home.

Nanny, Grandad and Uncle Robert left Harlington in 1987 and moved back to Scotland and Grandad started work at Erskine Tractors. After 13 months Nanny wanted to move back to England (probably due to the weather) and Grandad applied for a job with Collins Brothers in Great Gransden, which he got, and they moved soon after. Nanny started working at Potton Timber as a cleaner and she was then employed in the canteen. She loved that job and the people she worked with and used to speak about them all the time.

Janice and Dave were neighbours of Nanny and Grandads and mum took Janice under her wing and used to call her her other daughter. They then left Gransden 1999 when Grandad was 60 and they came back to none other than Harlington, No. 2 Robinson Crescent in fact, where she had a job cleaning at the Upper School. She used to say that she was the “best Scrubber but she had no red hat!” She joined the WI in 1999 and was also a part of Bright Hour where she would make teas for everyone. She was asked to be a pastoral visitor and loved going to see everyone including the ‘older’ people.

She and Grandad Celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary in the Village Hall in Harlington in 2016.

As she got older herself she felt she had to slow down a little but still loved a good party. She loved her garden and really enjoyed the simple things in life. Nanny was very much looking forward to my wedding in July this year, she used to always ask, when are you going to get married, you are getting married, what’s taking you so long? She became slower with her dementia and just before Christmas 2023 she was admitted to hospital.

The Church was very important to her, she loved her friends and adored her family especially her two grandsons and she would do anything for anyone, someone who you could really depend on. Many of you will have your own personal stories and memories of our nanny if you feel happy to share them please do, if not remember the good times that you have shared and smile, she would have wanted that.

Christine Ward, a wife, mum, Nan and a good friend to so many who will be missed by all those whose lives she has touched.

*From the eulogy given by Aden, her Grandson*

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# Brain Tumour Research

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**Brain Tumour  
Research**  
Funding the fight

## March Onwards



This will be a brief update on our activities to raise awareness and funds for Brain Tumour Research. March is the charity's biggest month, on Friday at 11.00 am, a minute's silence was held to consider all those and their families affected by a Brain Tumour and all those striving to research and find a cure. At the end of the month, Thursday 28th March 2024, it will be wear a hat day, so if you get your copy of the Contact before then please don a hat and join in and tell people you meet why you are wearing it, and if you would like to donate to the charity please check out their website or you can pop your contribution through my door, 132 Goswell End Road and I will ensure the charity receives your donation.



I paid in another £120 this week thanks to donations and plants bought from outside my house. There has been a surge of interest and £49.50 worth of plants sold to date. I am getting excited now and have begun some work in my garden tidying and sorting my greenhouse in readiness for the growing season. I have pricked out wallflowers and Love In A Mist. I have set some geraniums, leeks and Busy Lizzies. The geraniums and leeks are already beginning to grow. My next plan is to start my tomatoes so get ready Harlington, get ready to garden!

A special thank you to Celia for passing on all her old currency and information of the banks who will accept this and in turn make a payment to charities. To Kate and her mum Judith who have sent propapacks, propagating equipment to start seedlings, for me to sell. When these strong winds dissipate I will put them out with my shelving for pots and house plants and the other items being stored in my garage. Thank you to all those contributing their plants for me to add to my display: I have received a beautiful Rose this week, hellebores and sedums. And thank you to those who visit and make generous contributions to the charity. There is little point me providing this service without your support so thank you so much for your interest and encouragement.

Best wishes

Jane and Emma Barltrop and Alice Sula



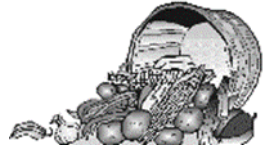
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# Harlington Village Show

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## 38<sup>th</sup> Harlington Village Show

Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> August 2024



What makes a village Show so enjoyable – is it the teas; the joy of winning a prize; displaying YOUR craftwork, baking, photo, painting, vegetable or flower etc. Or do you go for a natter with family and friends, or perhaps to see fellow villagers you haven't seen for a while? Or maybe it's just the raffle? Whatever it is, it's wonderful that so many of you take the trouble to enter, or come to support those who do. Entering for the first time might seem a bit daunting, but someone will be on hand to guide you when you bring your entries on the morning of the Show.

If you have a query about any of the classes listed below, please message us via our Facebook page.

**Childrens' classes.** Pre School: 3 decorated biscuits; a pair of binoculars made from cardboard tubes; a rainbow collage in any medium. Ages 5 -8: 3 chocolate chip cookies; a decorated bird feeder made from a recycled carton; a rainbow collage in any medium. Ages 9-13: 3 chocolate chip cookies; a decorated bird feeder; a decorated planter made using a tin can (400gm size approx)



**Photography**: Creatures in my garden; Sunrise, sunset; My family & other animals.

**Craft**: a material tote bag, any size; a twiddle muff (possibly to a given pattern or website link tbc); fingerless mittens or gloves; a Christmas greetings card.

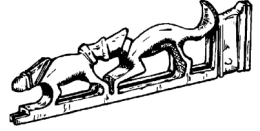
**Flower arranging** classes will be given in the May Contact. The novice class will be flowers & foliage in a mug.

Look out for Show posters nearer the time, and schedules will be delivered to your home in early July. The schedule will also contain a few tips on showing and preparing for the Show.

HVS Committee

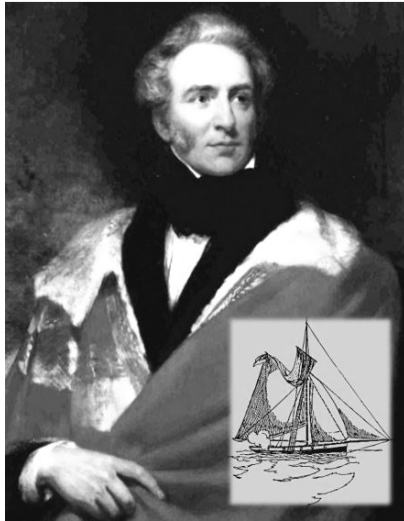
“Our spring has come at last with the soft laughter of April suns and shadow of April showers.”

*Byron Caldwell Smith*



Monday 8th April 2024

## Earl de Grey of Wrest, Sailor



In landlocked Bedfordshire, it is hard to conceive that the owner of Wrest Park played such an important part in the history of British sailing. Yet Thomas, Earl de Grey, had a house at Cowes, a succession of seagoing yachts, and chaired the first meeting of the Royal Yacht Squadron. The talk covers much unpublished research into his fascinating and unexpected story.

Speaker Richard Luscombe

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

Members free, visitors very welcome £5.00 payable on the door. The talk will also be broadcast live via Zoom to Society members.

**The Society's AGM will precede the meeting.**

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



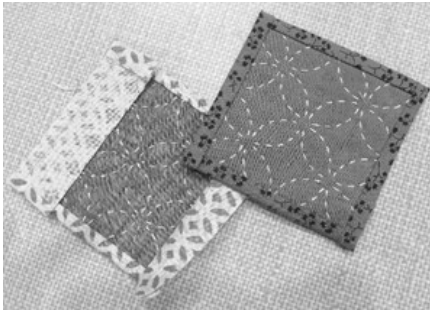
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## Crafternoon Tea *plus* Wellbeing Walks

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Crafternoon Tea meets fortnightly on Monday afternoons, between 2 and 4 pm, at the Methodist Church on Sundon Road. There are likely to be all sorts of crafts on the go, and we are happy to share what skills we have with others. We have materials, tools and magazines available, some always on the premises, and some which can be brought in if required, so let me know if there is something you are likely to want.

Our April meetings will be 8<sup>th</sup>, and 22<sup>nd</sup> on Zoom as well as in person, and refreshments are served at each meeting.



This is a combination of two skills – quilting (on a very small scale) and Sashiko, which is a Japanese embroidery technique. The products shown here are coasters. A top layer, of sashiko embroidery on plain fabric, quilted with a very thin layer of wadding, and a patterned lower layer, and edged with yet a third fabric, which, in these instances, are also patterned. The whole thing is approximately 5 inches

square. The Sashiko templates are about 4 ½ inches square, and come in several designs that I have seen – they belong to a member of the other craft group I belong to. I can think of other ways in which the embroidery might be used, and may look into acquiring some templates for myself – or for the use of the group. Have you tried something new recently?

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

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## Harlington Ramblers Wellbeing Walks

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The Harlington walks happen every Friday morning and start from the Village Hall Car Park at 10.30am. They are a great way to stay fit, enjoy the village, and meet fellow residents. It is almost impossible not to feel good when we're walking outdoors – it's a natural mood-booster and a tonic for mind and body.



Whether you used to enjoy walking but have lost your fitness or want to get started to improve your wellness, we're all in it together. We're a friendly bunch so you'll get the warmest of welcomes. Everyone walks for their own reasons, whether to ward off illness, manage health conditions or boost their wellbeing. Yet we all get more out of it by walking together.

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## HJFC Looking After Wildlife & Poem

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Harlington Juniors FC looking after wildlife around Bury Orchard and the New Grounds by erecting 10 Bird Boxes and a Hedgehog House



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## It's Raining!

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It's raining!  
I mean really raining,  
"cats and dogs", "stair rods", my dear parents used to say,  
much nicer, though less graphic, than "pissing it down."

I remember, as a child, afternoons in the cavernous classroom,  
with the drumming of relentless rain,  
the droplets racing each other down the huge window,  
diverging and merging,  
looking for the fastest line,  
like lightning seeking the succour of mother earth.

It's good to hear again the rain's percussive beat,  
as it turns the trees on the hillside into mysterious misty contours,  
crystal droplets cascade through the leafy canopy,  
while the smell of wet earth intoxicates the air,  
a sea of circles jostles for space on the lake,  
and the full-bodied river will tumble and chatter.

Yes, after weeks so parched and scorched,  
it's raining, it's really raining!

© Duncan Willox  
22.08.22

*Do you remember that summer when we couldn't wait for it to rain?*

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## Flittabus *plus* Christine Ward Thanks

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# Flittabus

Community Transport Ltd.



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Our website: <https://flittabus.co.uk>

**In April, the MK Flittabus leaves Harlington: Tuesday 2 April 2024**

**In May, the next bus will be: Tuesday 7 May 2024**

*As usual:*

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

**No need to reserve a seat:** *Please remember: It's first-come first-served.*

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**Flittabus Excursions** – details at: <https://flittabus.co.uk/excursions>

- \* **Ely Day Trip** – Sat 6 Apr 2024 – £25pp
- \* **Winterbourne House & Garden** – Wed 17 Apr 2024 – £38pp
- \* **National Memorial Arboretum, Staffs** – Wed 15 May 2024 – £36pp
- \* **Summer Garden Open Day at Thenford** – Fri 24 May 2024 – £38pp

For late-breaking news on our excursions, please phone **Derek Wood** on **07563 170 067** or email him at [excursions@flittabus.co.uk](mailto:excursions@flittabus.co.uk)

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## Christine Ward - Thanks

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My family and I wish to extend heartfelt thanks to all friends who attended Christine's funeral on the 5th of March. It was lovely to see how well Christine was thought of in the village. I am sure all will miss her as much as we do.

Dennis.

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## Mrs Audrey Gammon & Harlington Gardeners'

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Paul, Claire & Josie are sad to announce the passing of Audrey, peacefully, at home on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March.

Audrey and her husband Pat moved here in 1961. They loved Harlington and all the friends they made. They watched their bungalow at 20 Lincoln Way being built and no-one else has ever lived here.

The funeral is being held on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April at 3pm at North Hertfordshire Memorial Park & Crematorium. Family flowers only. If anyone would like to make a donation in Audrey's memory, the following were charities she has always supported: Cancer Research, Greyhound Trust or The Gurkha Welfare Trust.

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## Harlington Gardeners' Society

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We have a new chairman and are therefore continuing to hold events.

### **SPRING SOCIAL**

This will take place on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> April at 7 pm in the Village Hall.

We shall have a talk by Simon & Jenny Biscoe of Park Leys about their Vegetable & Flower Market Garden in Gravenhust

Entry will be free to members, and cheese & wine (also soft drinks) will be provided.

Non-members will be welcome to pay an entrance fee of £4 per person on the door.

### **ANNUAL COACH TRIP**

This will take place on Saturday 22<sup>th</sup> June to RHS Hyde Hall. Further details later.

### **ANNUAL BBQ**

This will take place on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> August at 118 Goswell End Road. Further details later.

Tony Roberts – HGS Secretary

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# Harlington Lower School

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Over the Spring Term so far we have had lots of exciting activities taking place at Harlington Lower School. Below the children have written about a few of the events that have taken place recently:

## **Football Freestyle**

We had a fabulous time at the Freestyle Football workshop with Jamie Knight. We practised our ‘blind heels’, ‘rockets’ and even did handstands with the ball balanced.

## **Quidditch**

Earlier this half term, we enjoyed a Quidditch workshop at school. The day started with an assembly, where the whole school was sorted into the four different Hogwarts houses. Each class had a session in turn and had fun playing games of Quidditch on the school playground, representing and earning points for our houses. Somebody on each team had to pretend to be a golden snitch – running around the playing area without being caught. It was a great day and we all had a lot of fun.

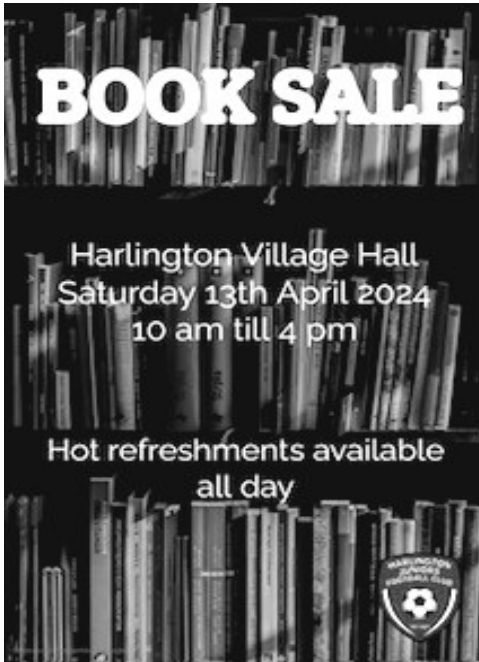
## **World Book Day**

On 7th March, we celebrated World Book Day. We were able to dress up as our favourite characters from books and did lots of fun book-based activities throughout the day. In Year 4, we had learnt the song “Reading is Amazing” by McGrammar, which we performed to the whole school. Our author was Tom Fletcher, and we spent the day focussing on his books, particularly Spaceband. After listening to some of the songs he had created, we made up our own songs to perform. We also spent part of the day sharing stories with some of the younger children in school, which was a really lovely thing to do. Finally, we had a visiting book fair, where lots of us were able to choose new books to read while raising money for the school at the same time.

As the weather brightens, we would like to extend the opportunities that we offer for children to be outside, particularly with regard to gardening. If there is anyone in the local community who might be interested in volunteering some time to garden with small groups of children, please get in touch via [office@harlingtonlower.co.uk](mailto:office@harlingtonlower.co.uk). Please note that Harlington Lower School is committed to safeguarding and any volunteers would be subject to checks including a DBS check.






# Booksale, Quiz Time & Advertisements



**BOOK SALE**

Harlington Village Hall  
Saturday 13th April 2024  
10 am till 4 pm

Hot refreshments available  
all day



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**An Evening of Trivia**  
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Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2024 at 7pm  
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# Flit Vale Wildlife *plus* HVH 100 Club

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

## Wildlife walks & talks

Wednesday, April 24th, Priory Country Park, Bedford at 7.15 pm

### Bat Walk with Colin Carpenter\*

We will meet by the car park on the first left after turning into Priory Park from Barkers Lane, (by the bottle banks) at 7.15 pm. The road is opposite the drive to Priory Marina. This car park stays open. Please be aware the gates to the main car park at Priory Country Park will be closed before our walk ends.

Bats are emerging from their winter hibernation, and Priory Country Park is an excellent area for bats, and we hope to see and identify several species. If you have a bat detector, please bring it along but Colin will bring some bat detectors with him for use by participants. A torch is essential and insect repellent is a good idea even this early in the year!

\*£4 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)

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## HVH 100 Club

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The winner of the Feb 100 club was number 72 belonging to Bill Gulloch 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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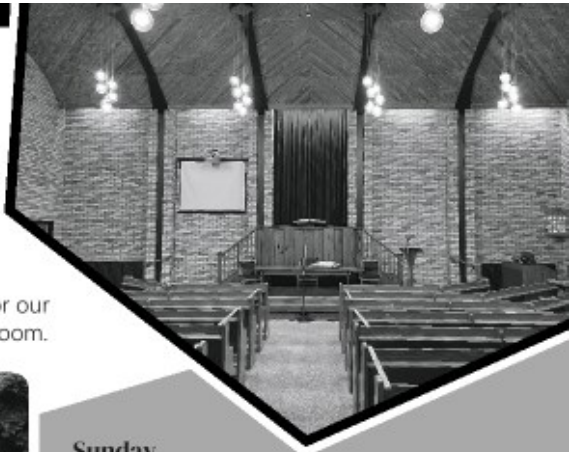
E-mail Helen Ingram on:  
**E: [helen@hi-education.co.uk](mailto:helen@hi-education.co.uk)**  
**[www.hi-education.co.uk](http://www.hi-education.co.uk)**

# 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)

### Tuesday

Bible Study/Prayer Meeting  
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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# Messy Church News

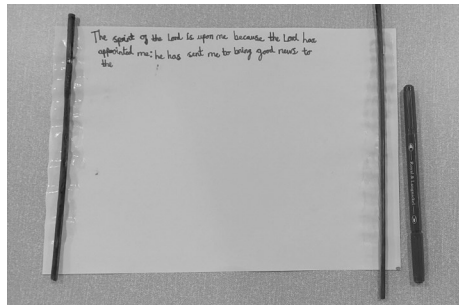
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By the time you read this, Lent will be a distant memory, and even the Easter Eggs will have been eaten, but in February, right at the start of Lent, we looked at the early days of Jesus ministry, starting with his baptism and talking about the call of the first disciples, his rejection at

Nazareth, and the wedding at Cana.

John the Baptist called some of the people who came out to see him “Snakes”, so we made snakes with paper plates—you colour a plate then you cut out the snake as a spiral with its head in the centre. We had three different doves you could make,



fishing nets, boats, clay to make jars, scrolls and bread rolls.

In our next Messy Church, at 4 pm on 20th April, we will look at the Passover and how that was celebrated when Jesus was with his disciples. We will think about the start and the various parts of the meal.

For those who don't know, from 4 pm we have activities, including painting, cooking, model making or similar, then at 4.45 pm we go into our celebration, with stories, songs and some more activities. While we're doing that, someone else is setting out tea, which we have from 5.30 pm to 6 pm.

We have a Zoom link for those who can't get to the chapel, and 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 with the Bible stories, Messy Church may be for you.

Clive

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# LIFE Church, Harlington Heritage Trust & Jigsaws

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LIFE CHURCH  
HARLINGTON

Sunday services at 10.30 am in The Parish Rooms

**All Welcome**

## **April 2024**

7th – Word Sunday

14th – Dan and Rachel Harris

21st - John Doohan

28th – Rosie Hughes

Wednesday 7.15pm Prayer meeting 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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## **Harlington Heritage Trust**

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Sunday 28 April Harlington Heritage Trust will hold its AGM. It will be in the Village Hall at 15.00 and will be followed by tea/coffee and cakes.

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## **Jigsaws**

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There is now a wide variety of subjects and sizes of jigsaws available, from fairly easy to very difficult, and for children or adults.

Please contact me if you'd like to borrow a jigsaw. Just call/ text or email your request; approximate size, "normal" or larger pieces etc and I will then deliver to your home. You're welcome to collect if you prefer. When returning a jigsaw, just let me know if there are any missing pieces or any other problem. Thank you. Tricia 07711 511729

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# Methodist Church

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We meet in person in the church and, for morning services, also have people join on Zoom, or view the service on YouTube. Everyone is welcome.



## APRIL preachers are:

- 7<sup>th</sup> 10 am Roger Owers  
6 pm Rev. Claudia Lupi. This service includes Holy Communion
- 14<sup>th</sup> 10 am The Worship Group
- 21<sup>st</sup> 10 am Rev. Claudia Lupi. This service includes Holy Communion and the Pastoral Visitors Dedication
- 28<sup>th</sup> 10 am Local Arrangement

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** 27th April, from 10 am to 12 noon, in the hall

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## BRIGHT HOUR FELLOWSHIP

The Bright Hour Fellowship meets every Thursday afternoon at 2.45pm at the Methodist church Hall. Members have the opportunity to hear from a variety of invited speakers, share in the company of others and enjoy a nice cup of tea.

So why not join us? New members are always made very welcome. No need to book ahead, just come along! We look forward to seeing you soon.

Speakers for **April** :

- 4<sup>th</sup> - Singalong with Barbara Donaldson
- 11<sup>th</sup> - Jenny Baker talking about toybox - Providing birth certificates for Street children.
- 18<sup>th</sup> - AGM with Claudia
- 25<sup>th</sup> - Richard Luscombe talking about a charity walk he went on along the River Thames.



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## ROOM BOOKINGS

Contact Trevor Caveney if you are interested in booking any of our Halls, Rooms or the Church. 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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# St Mary's Churchwarden

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## St Mary's Church



I'll tell you the most exciting news first! We are delighted that the Revd Mark Edwards has been appointed as our new Priest in Charge. The service to mark his appointment is called a licensing service and will take place in early June. We're looking forward to welcoming him to our lovely village, and do say 'hello' if you see him at the shops or cafe.

**Churchyard:** the primroses have been stunning again this year on the east side of the church, plus there's been a good show of purple violets. I've also been looking out for the birds returning to use the nest boxes – no joy so far. We'll have to wait and see if the ivy bees return to their usual spot by the west door in early Autumn, as the ground has been compacted and laid bare during all the work we've had done. Fingers crossed. Talking of fingers, which is the best hand to write a letter with? Neither. You should always write letters with a pen!

**FOODBANK collection:** just a reminder that help from foodbanks is in demand all year round, and we still collect food donations for our local foodbank. Either bring items to church or take them into the Harlington shop where Sanjeev is happy to accept your donations. The list of the items most needed doesn't vary a great deal and the March list included: tinned meat meals, long life fruit juice in cartons, jars of pasta sauce, long life milk (semi skimmed and full fat), tinned fruit, sponge puddings, plus clean carrier bags and butterfly can openers. They have plenty of pasta and baked beans! Thanks to everyone for your continued support.

**St Mary's Friends Group:** if you'd like to be a supporter of the church building and churchyard, why not join our Friends Group? You'll receive newsletters 3 times a year and will be invited to Friends get-togethers where we give updates on future plans and work. Contact us via [friendsofharlingtonchurch@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofharlingtonchurch@gmail.com)

For service and event information, either check Contact, the noticeboard outside church or our website: [www.harlingtonchurch.org](http://www.harlingtonchurch.org). If you'd like to speak to someone, please contact myself or Churchwarden Neil Walter, or email our Lay Reader, [robert@harlingtonchurch.org](mailto:robert@harlingtonchurch.org).

Best wishes, Tricia Churchwarden

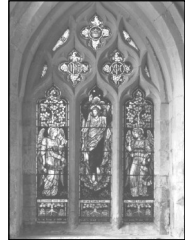


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# St. Mary's Church Services

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Everyone is welcome to attend the services in our beautiful village church. This month we continue to celebrate the Easter message which we heard on 31<sup>st</sup>. March. We also celebrate the announcement of the appointment of Rev. Mark Edwards as new Priest-in-Charge of the Benefice of Harlington, Tingrith and Westoning. His licensing service is at St. Mary's on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup>. June at 7.30 pm.



April's services are:

## Sundays

- 7<sup>th</sup> 8.00 am BCP Holy Communion  
9.30 am Holy Communion
- 14<sup>th</sup> 9.00 am Messy Breakfast in the Parish Hall  
9.30 am Holy Communion
- 21<sup>st</sup> 9.30 am Holy Communion
- 28<sup>th</sup> 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](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/stmarysharington/](https://www.facebook.com/stmarysharington/)

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)**

# Advertisements



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# Village Diary *plus* Wednesday Coffee Mornings

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## April

2 <sup>nd</sup> Flittabus	Station Road bus stop 9.15 am
8 <sup>th</sup> Crafternoon Tea	Methodist Church Hall 2 – 4 pm (plus Zoom)
8 <sup>th</sup> ADALHS AGM & Talk	Flitwick Library Lecture Theatre 7.30 pm
12 <sup>th</sup> HGS Social	Village Hall 7 pm
13 <sup>th</sup> Weeding work party	Village Hall Car Park 10 am
13 <sup>th</sup> Booksale	Village Hall 10 am to 4 pm
14 <sup>th</sup> Messy Breakfast	Parish Hall 9 am
20 <sup>th</sup> Messy Church	Methodist Church and Halls 4 – 6 pm
22 <sup>nd</sup> Crafternoon Tea	Methodist Church Hall 2 – 4 pm (plus Zoom)
24 <sup>th</sup> Wildlife walk	Priory Country Park 7.15 pm
27 <sup>th</sup> Coffee Morning	Methodist Church Hall 10 am to 12 noon
28 <sup>th</sup> HHT AGM	Village Hall 3 pm

## May

7 <sup>th</sup> Flittabus	Station Road bus stop 9.15 am
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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.

You can send things just to be entered here.

**GET YOUR MAY 2024 DATES TO THE MAGAZINE BY  
10<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2024**

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## Wednesday Coffee Mornings and Games

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If you 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.

