

Editorial

Dear Villagers,

From an over full issue in September to a quieter one in October. Do tell what is going on, and let people know what you have done in the month. Harlington is still quite an active place, and many people would like to join in. Who knows what new people, who will surely come if the building work gets going properly, will want to do.

I see that the Pantomime rehearsals are happening, and people are starting to plan for Christmas! I visit a garden centre regularly (for tea and cakes, so don't be too surprised) and they already have decorations and trees on display.

We are now in Autumn, and the days are getting shorter. Where has the year gone? Just three months left to make something of 2024. Is there anything you would like to have done and could still possibly do? There is still time.

Best wishes,

Clive

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Contents

Letter from the Methodist Minister	4
Harlington Neighbourhood Help	5
Remembrance Day History Exhibition	5
Coffee Morning	5
Harlington in Bloom	6
Harlington Village Show	7
Brain Tumour Research	8
Remembrance Sunday	9
Ramblers Wellbeing Walks	9
Flittabus	10
Halloween Fayre	11
ADALHS	13
Harlington Surgery and SMC	14
Poem—Picture Perfect	15
A year in the life	16
Crafternoon Tea	17
Flit Vale Wildlife Group	18
Wednesday Coffee and Games	18
Harlington 0—4 Club	19
Messy Church News	21
Life Church	22
Baby & Me	22
Methodist Church	23
St. Mary's Churchwarden	24
St. Mary's Church Services	25
Village Diary	28
Harlington Directory Changes	28

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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.

November 2024 copy by 10th October please.

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Letter from the Methodist Minister

Dear friends of Harlington,

A new year, working, pension, academic, ecclesiastical, school...has just begun. Our village has representatives of different groups, origins, interests, ages, life status, knowledge, talents, religions, and the character of each one.

But the love for Harlington unites us all.

If we keep our minds, our perspectives, our life, even our home and our desire to know the other wide open, if we make ourselves available and we are ready to listen, to welcome, if we are truly prepared to walk together in Harlington to weave communion with everyone, if we became committed to helping those who are most in difficulty in our village, if we dedicate altogether to eco-friendly sustainability, we can really undertake a path aimed at peace, for the common good, in Harlington and its surroundings.

The unity of our village and the will to offer our personal gifts not only to our individual small world but to Harlington itself is an invitation to hope for the minorities, marginalized, lonely, and neglected nature.

This is also the logic of Christ: to give something that belongs to us, to others—in according to our gifts; we could simply offer our precious, sometimes hectic time to help somebody make a CV or find a job, we can help a young person improve at school, visit somebody lonely or help clean the house of an elderly person who needs support. Or we can just learn to shut up and listen to the heart of who is in front of us, putting our neighbour at the centre.

It is up to us whether we do it or not.

Those are the sacrifices to make, fighting for justice and the freedom of others.

Let's move away from egocentric positions and look at others mirroring, recognizing ourselves, and empathizing with those who need our attention. We must remember to journey with others on a familiar path and stop to support those who fall by our side instead of taking a run-up to arrive first.

May the hope illuminate the lives of Harlington inhabitants, tearing them away from nonsense and sometimes even desperation. May this call to solidarity and the invite to openness involve and awaken everyone!

May we all continue to be or become witnesses and new sowers of this hope through concrete signs that make it visible and credible.

May the peace of God be with you all!

Claudia Lupi,

Minister of the Methodist Church in Harlington and of anyone who needs it.

HNH, Remembrance Day Exhibition, Coffee.

Having just manned the HNH phone for a week to allow for a holiday, I have to say what a brilliant team of volunteers we have.

Since we started the group in 2000 it has evolved a great deal and without the files to refer to, I can only guess at the thousands of trips that have been done.

That said, just a few more drivers would lighten the load! The phone holder should not be taking on so many jobs herself just because she can.

HNH will pay for your DBS check, expenses (petrol and parking) and just a few jobs a year will greatly help. Hospitals, doctors and shopping trips make up the biggest part of their work but just taking a client to visit a friend or the theatre can make life so much better.

Please help if you can. Their phone number is 07849 835410

Mary

Remembrance Day History Exhibition

Sunday 10th November 11.15 am – 4 pm Harlington Parish Hall

Free local history exhibition & Harlington's role in D-Day, 11.15am - 4pm in Harlington Parish Hall, LU5 6LE. Refreshments available, including 'Harlington pasties' and home made cakes. Exhibitions with local history and photography. Contact booking@harlingtonchurch.org for more information.

Coffee Morning

2nd October 2024

10 am to 12 Noon

Hub & Spoke Café

In aid of Macmillan Cancer Support

Harlington in Bloom



We had a good weather day for our weeding party on 7 September. Thanks to all who turned out or said hello! Did you know we welcome all who can come even for an hour or so? And there is no long term commitment! Just pitch up on the day and help out to make your village look marvellous. And it is a BIG SHOUT OUT to the Water Heroes who quietly watered the beds and

containers, particularly contributing during these summer months, and monitoring if necessary between our deluges and drought periods this summer. Thank you.

We look forward to welcoming you to our HiB **All Village Effort morning 10 to 12**, on Saturday 5 October. We really need more help on the bigger beds and large shrubs, and will be focusing on the bed outside Orchard House, across the road from the Harlington Surgery. Originally, envisaged as a Dry Bed (*oasis*?) when dry summers were envisaged – now a bit random! Still a very important visual bed right by the crossroads. The dry summer didn't materialise, as it rained that summer too, but the name persists. Please do put your name forward to assist or just turn up! Bring your gloves (*definitely*), loppers, shears, rakes, forks, green bags (*maybe*). Hoping the dynamic uplift will see many of you there and it's not too derivative!

All very welcome to our work parties below. Secateurs, trowels, spades, clippers, gloves, green bags all handy. Stop by and say hello even if you are not free to help. Working party dates for the rest of the year are now on the events tab on the Facebook page!

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

Sat 5 Oct Village Effort Day to tackle the Bed near Orchard House 10.00am

Sat 26 Oct Winter planting All Welcome 10.00am

Sat 9 Nov War Memorial Tidy Up in advance of Remembrance Sun 10.00am

Vivienne Dunlop on behalf of HiB Committee <https://www.facebook.com/HarlingtonInBloom/> [messenger](https://www.facebook.com/HarlingtonInBloom/messenger) or judy.harfield@apertech.co.uk (Treasurer);

Rosemary Tuohy (Secretary) 07793 016207 Follow us on facebook page

Harlington in Bloom for calendar events, nice pics and news updates!

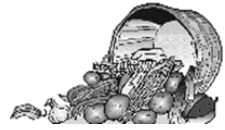
"There is no season when such pleasant and sunny spots may be lighted on, and produce so pleasant an effect on the feelings, as now in October."

- Nathaniel Hawthorne

Harlington Village Show

38th Harlington Village Show

Saturday 24th August 2024



We really hope you all enjoyed the Show this year – there were plenty of exhibits to enjoy and plenty of time to chat and enjoy some home made cake. But instead of saying ‘I could do better than that’ or ‘I could have entered that class’, please DO enter – that’s what makes the Show worthwhile and it’s fun as well. But 2024 was certainly a difficult year in which to keep vegetables and flowers in good health. Thank you to everyone for braving the damp weather during the afternoon of the Show.

Well done to **all** the exhibitors, and especially to those entering for the first time. We hope you enjoyed the Show and we’ll look forward to seeing you again next year! A huge “thank you” to everyone who helped set up the hall, who exhibited, judged or served refreshments. And many thanks to our guest of honour who presented the trophies; Kate Dimmock from Harlington Hogspital. Here are the prize winners for 2024.

Flower Arranging Cup:	Jackie Gray
Vegetable Cup:	Tricia Murphy
Vegetable Collection:	Tricia Murphy
Photography:	Sue Stainer
Craft:	Jackie Gray
Preserves & Cookery	Anne Brown
Fuchsia Cup:	Tricia Murphy
Flower Cup:	Tricia Murphy
Longest Runner Bean:	Alastair MacArthur
Heaviest Marrow:	David Archer
Dahlia Cup	Tricia Murphy
Best Scented Rose	Anne Jones
Children Pre-School:	George Jenkins
Children age 5-8:	Georgina Wynn
Best Grown (veg & fruit):	Claire Abbot (cabbages)
Best Flower exhibit:	Anne Jones (rose)
Overall winner, most points	Tricia Murphy



Harlington Village Show Committee

Brain Tumour Research



Much Thanks



Thank you to all those of you have taken the time to tell me you enjoyed my last article and report on our visit to Queen Mary University hospital in the September Contact. It is always good to receive feedback and know it has been of interest to some of you, my thanks.

Also thanks to my 13 year old great niece, Alyvia, who visited me at the beginning of September and had taken the initiative to design a new poster for my plants at the front of my house and she has brought me up to 2024 speed as she has set up the opportunity for visitors to my plants at 132 Goswell End Road to donate using a QR code. By scanning this you will reach our Fluffy Cloud fundraising page where you can donate and read more about our fundraising ventures and how it all began. All this daunts me but I appreciate it is second nature to most of you, and some have asked how to donate for their chosen plants when they don't have cash, so thanks to Alyvia, there is now a way. Our young people are a credit to us, and I like nothing more than when they are able to enable us to learn and keep up with the speed of our world. Elliot has helped in a similar way when he suggested making a community group so you can be informed when I have new plants or fruit and vegetables which might determine if you would like to visit my home. There will be a posting on the Harlington Facebook page, thanks to Elliot's family, where you can request that Elliot adds you to the community and you will receive these notifications, good luck and thanks to Elliot and his family.

I have finally come up with a date for a garage/gazebo sale to raise funds for Brain Tumour Research: on Saturday 19th October at 132 Goswell End Road from 10-2pm. We will be serving tea/coffee and home made cake as well so please do come along. I will be selling: a Black and Decker drill, heat gun, ladders, dinghy paddles, garden tools and equipment, Singer sewing machine, record player, cd's, books, records, Moses basket, art folders and lots more please come and support. Special thanks to my friend Liz who is supporting me in this venture.

Finally thankyou to John who sold his Butler sink and donated the proceeds of this to the charity, a donation received from Judie and Sylvia. Donations to the tabletop sale from Faye, Ian, Liz and Darren (£221.50 raised at this event). Thanks to Jenny, Tony, Frankie, Liz, Duncan, Jackie, Debbie and the Flower and Vegetable Committee for donations of fruit and vegetables to raise funds for the charity and Jim for French Bean seeds for the 2025 season of growing, to Rachel and Paul for their galvanised raised bed. Thanks to all those who donate

Brain Tumour Research, Remembrance & Walks

or have supported anonymously or if I have forgotten someone's kindness please accept my appreciation and thanks.

On a last note: You have done it! We have broken the record for sale of plants from outside my house. On the 9th of September the total raised stands at £1873.19; we are now on our way to £2,000!!

Continued thanks and appreciation for your support, help and encouragement
Jane, Alice and Emma

Remembrance Sunday - 10th November

Planning is already underway for our annual act of remembrance at the War Memorial, followed by the service in St. Mary's church. If you wish to lay a wreath on this occasion please let the Parish Clerk know so you can be included in the list.

We start at 9.50 am at the memorial. Remember that the roads will be closed for the parade and service.



Harlington Ramblers Wellbeing Walks

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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FLITTABUS TO MILTON KEYNES

On the first Tuesday of each month Flittabus provides a service from Harlington to Milton Keynes and back. Ideal for city shopping.

In October, the MK service is on: **Tue 1 October 2024**

In November, the MK service is on: **Tue 5 November 2024**

As usual: **Departure from Harlington: 09:15 am**, from the bus stop on Station Road, a few yards down from the crossroads.

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

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

For details of the route and timings of the MK service please see the new timetable, available on all Flittabus buses.

NEW FLITTABUS SERVICE TO HITCHIN

The Flittabus Chairman, Linda Horn, says the first FL7 Flittabus that ran between Harlington and Hitchin on 6 September 2024 “went well and the Harlington passengers really seemed to appreciate being able to visit Hitchin”.

A reminder: The FL7 service runs every Friday, departing from the Upper School on Goswell End Road at 09:17 am. The return journey departs from St Mary's Square in Hitchin at 12:15 pm.

FLITTABUS EXCURSIONS – details: flittabus.co.uk/excursions

* **Silverstone Museum and Bell Plantation Garden Centre**

Wed 9 Oct 2024 – £45.00 pp Transport and Museum Admission

* **Lincoln**

Sat 19 Oct 2024 – £35.00 pp Transport only

If you wish to book a place on an excursion, please phone **Derek Wood** on **07563 170 067** or email him at excursions@flittabus.co.uk

Flittabus accepts payment by Bank Transfer / Cash / Cheque / Credit or Debit Card.

Halloween Fayre



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Or 07548375772.

All profit on the day going to Macmillan Cancer care.

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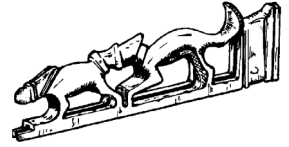
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Monday 7th October 2024

Tales from Bedfordshire Churches – The Admiral, The Rector and Long John Silver



All Saints, Little Staughton



St Leonards, Old Warden

The tales include the story of Admiral Byng, Rev Edward Drax-Free of Sutton and the last resting place of the infamous pirate from Treasure Island (based on a real person).

Speaker: David Longman

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

Members are free, visitors are very welcome £5.00 payable at the door.

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

www.adalhs.org.uk



Look up the origin of “pour encourager les autres”.

Sundon Medical Centre & Harlington Surgery



Sundon
Medical centre

News from **Deanna Chesham**, administrator at the **Sundon Medical Centre**, keeping Harlington Surgery patients up-to-date with happenings in the practice.

What's new at SMC and the Harlington Surgery?

Sundon Medical Centre are now offering appointments on Mondays from 4pm until 8pm.

Alternatively you may be contacted to attend an appointment at any of the GP practices in the Hatters Health Primary Care Network (PCN). For surgery contact details see: <https://HattersHealthNetwork.co.uk>

All information gained within the PCN will be shared with your registered GP and your clinical records will be updated. This will provide easier access to primary care services in the north Luton area. Please do support by keeping your appointment whenever possible.

Flu Vaccinations

From September, the government wishes us to concentrate on 2-3yr olds, pregnant women and 6 month to 17 year olds who are at clinical risk. Please contact the surgery for an appointment, and please be aware that vaccinations are limited.

From October we will be booking over-18s and housebound patients for flu vaccinations. We will be contacting patients in due course.

New Mums

If you are a new mum, the surgery will contact you with an appointment for your baby's first vaccination at 8 weeks. Thereafter you will need to book your baby's immunisations at 12 and 16 weeks.

Do you have medication you're not using?

Please be advised that you can return any unused medication to the Harlington dispensary, or to any pharmacy, so they can destroy it in a safe manner.

Phlebotomist

We are pleased to announce that our new phlebotomist, Ms Anchal Anchal, has joined Sundon Medical Centre. She will cover both SMC and Harlington Surgery.

Poem—Picture Perfect

Lone figures in a frozen world,
of ice flows on the Seine.

A magpie on a slanted gate,
in sunshine after snow.

On the beach at Trouville,
surf and sand, sailing, sky.

With sunrise at Le Havre,
a ghostly impression of ships and cranes.

Yachts on the water, rich reds & blues,
in summer sun at Argenteuil.

From a balcony on a Paris street,
a riot of flags, like some fiery inferno.

Furnace heat almost scorching the wheat,
down the track to the beach at Pourville.

Three boating sisters in hats and full dresses,
fishing rods, reflections, so green and serene.

Charing Cross Bridge looming in fog,
mere shapes and trails of smoke and steam.

Across Venice's Grand Canal,
water and palace, all sunlight and shimmer.

Waterlilies and willows,
again and again, never the same.

I may be waist deep in poppies,
when I next turn the page.

© Duncan Willox 30.03.22

A Year in the Life

January, so the song goes, brings the snow; makes your feet and fingers glow. Those of sufficient age may know the rest of the song as it runs through the weather for a year.

Having a little space this month I thought I would review a year.

The year starts with New Years Day, of course, and a traditional New Year's Day Walk, led by Toddington Rambling Club. We are still in the Christmas season, which continues till Candlemas, although most consider it finishes with 12th Night, when superstition requires decorations to come down.

February brings Valentine's Day, not celebrated that much in the village, although there is usually a Disco for the children. Depending on the date of Easter, we have Shrove Tuesday, celebrated by Pancakes, with Pancake Parlour at the Methodist Church, in aid of our charity for the year.

March (or April if it's late) brings Easter. Palm Sunday brings a donkey to St. Mary's, then the Churches join together to walk round the village on Good Friday, and in recent years have performed dramatized and costumed versions of the Easter story, before gathering in St. Mary's for Hot Cross Buns, which now appear in the shops all year round and with their origin forgotten.

April comes with the occasional April Fool, and with St. George's Day, another event not much celebrated here.

May starts with May Day, again not celebrated. I do remember when there was Maypole dancing at the Lower School.

June heralds the start of Summer. Harlington in Bloom has it's Summer planting.

July, at the end of the school year, brings the Lower School Summer Fair, which is now one of the few Outdoor fun days remaining. Anyone want to restart the Village Carnival?

August features the Village Show, with produce, craft and cooking; with enough categories that most people could enter one.

September is a restart month, when things that were dormant in the school holidays start up again.

October is when the churches celebrate harvest, although harvesting is done in July and August for the most part, depending on the weather and crop. It finishes with the Halloween Fayre, and that imported custom of Trick or Treat. At least in the village there is a convention; if there is a pumpkin outside it's OK to call.

November has the Remembrance Sunday gathering at the War Memorial, when

Crafternoon Tea

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.

Among the crafters I see regularly there are a number who make at least some of the Christmas cards they send. It made me wonder – how many of us make Christmas presents these days? My mother used to knit my father a chunky cardigan or jumper every year. He always expressed surprise, and certainly she never knitted that when he was in the room. She and I have both knitted dolls clothes – those were my first finished pieces. But hand-knitted clothes for children are very out of fashion in my family, so I knit for myself, for friends or for charity.



These are 2 foot square blankets made for the L&D, for the neo natal unit, before the pandemic. Not just made by me – and now we make them for other charities.

Who or what do you make for? Are you making anything for Christmas?

Our October meetings will be 7th, and 21st. Both meetings will be on Zoom as well as in person, and refreshments will be served at each meeting.

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

A Year in the Life *Ctd.*

the uniformed organisations parade and wreaths are laid. We also commemorate the arrest of John Bunyan, arrested at Lower Sampsell and held in Harlington Manor until being taken to Bedford Gaol.

December brings the village pantomime. This is seen by many as the forerunner to Christmas. There are many Carol Services in the village churches, but a new tradition is the open air carols with the Salvation Army outside the shops in Lincoln Way.

We have had a number of extra activities such as the Coronation celebration as well. What events do you like particularly? What would you like to add?

Flit Vale Wildlife Group *plus* Wednesday Coffee



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

Wildlife walks & talks

Seed Collections with Colin Carpenter

October 6th Sunday - Ickwell Green - 10.00am start

Meet at Ickwell Green from 9.30am, there is plenty of parking nearby.

We will be collecting English Oak, Beech, Hornbeam, Small-leaved Lime and Hazel.

October 20th Sunday - Ampthill Park - 10.00am start

Park and meet at Ampthill Park's West Car Park (the one nearest the A507) from 9.30am.

We will be collecting English Oak, Beech, Hawthorn and Sweet Chestnut

On both days, Colin will be around until 3.00pm, so if you want to stay until then, please bring a packed lunch.

No charge for helping with seed collections, but donations welcome.

Booking for outdoor Flit Vale events is essential, as places are limited.

Please contact Ann by email: flitvale.info@gmail.com or phone (leave a message or text if you prefer) 075801 78889 to reserve your place.

The Wildlife Trust for Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Northamptonshire
Registered charity number: 1000412

www.wildlifebcn.org

Flit Vale Local Group

www.flitvale.org.uk

Wednesday Coffee Mornings and Games



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.



0 - 4 Club *plus* Advertisements



**HARLINGTON
0-4
CLUB**

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

Harlington Village Hall
£4.50 1st child. £1.50 for each additional child
Children under 6 months £1 or free with older sibling
Monday & Friday 10 am – 11.30 am. Term time only



HARLINGTON04

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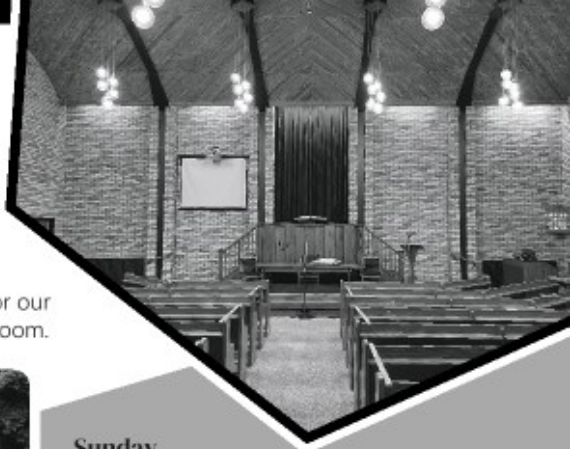
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Services 11am & 6pm

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

Tuesday

Bible Study/Prayer Meeting
7.15pm

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📺 Zoom Meeting ID: 292 960 6969

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🌐 westoningbaptistchurch.org

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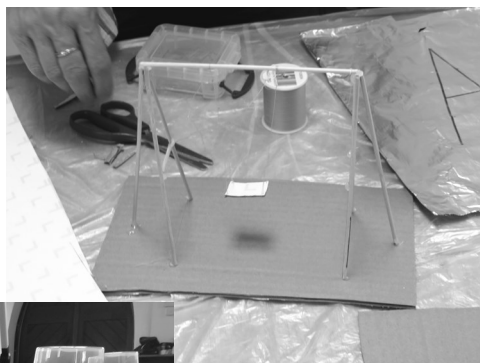
emma@thehelpfulpuffin.co.uk / 07935 475363 for an informal chat about what you need and how I can help. (Former Harlingtonian with retained family connections).

Messy Church News



Like many other things, Messy Church took a holiday in August, so we don't have pictures to show for the month.

Messy Church is a different way of being "Church". Not everyone likes to sit down and listen to someone talk, or to stand up and sing. Messy Church gives a chance to do things and make things, some of them very messy, although the reason behind the name is more complicated than that. If you come along there are a variety of things to do, and we try to cover all ages and skill levels. In July we had a model swing to make, for example., which required some skill with measuring and use of a glue gun. The previous July we had made lighthouses with red and transparent plastic cups.



Our next Messy Church will be on 19th October at 4 pm in the Methodist Church and Halls. Peter was a follower of Jesus who became a leader in the church. In October we will look at the

things he did.

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

LIFE Church *with Baby & Me*



LIFE CHURCH HARLINGTON

Sunday services at 10.30 am in The Parish Rooms

All Welcome

October

6th – Rose Agnew

13th – Dawn Charles

20th – Lighthouse Café church

27th – John Doohan

Wednesdays 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



BABY & ME
for parents and babies
0 – 12 months

coffee cake

TOYS

Harlington Parish Rooms
Thursday 17th October
10 – 11.30

 Life Church

Methodist Church *including* Bright Hour

You are all invited to join us at any of our services. If you can't attend in person you can join us on Zoom or YouTube if you have access to the technology. You can also view the YouTube recording later if you wish.



OCTOBER preachers are:

6th	10 am	Come and See for Harvest led by Tina and Clive Salmon
	6 pm	Service of Holy Communion led by Rev. Jenny Spouge
13th	10 am	Worship Group
20th	10 am	Rev. Claudia Lupi. This service includes Holy Communion
27th	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, or phone 874481 to be added to the Zoom email list, or if you would like our printed service emailed to you.

COFFEE MORNING 26th October, from 10 am to 12 noon, in the hall. Proceeds to our project which this year is Brain Tumour Research

BRIGHT HOUR FELLOWSHIP

The Bright Hour Fellowship meets every Thursday afternoon at 2.45pm at the Methodist Church Hall each week (unless shown otherwise)

Members have 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.

Speakers/activities for October are

- 3rd - Dr. Robert Johns
- 10th - David Piper about bagpipes and Scottish Dress
- 17th - Rose Agnew
- 24th - Alan and Christine Parfitt about Gilbert and Sullivan
- 31st - Rev. Claudia Lupi

Helen James

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)

St Mary's Churchwarden

St Mary's Church



Churchyard: we had another successful work party in early September to carry out some weeding, trimming, path clearing and memorial stone cleaning. Thank you to everyone who came to help, and we plan to organise another date soon. As I write this in early September, sadly the ivy bees have not returned. Perhaps all the work on the south porch affected the area of sandy soil they seem to love?

Harvest Bring & Share Supper: **Saturday 5th October** at 6.30pm in the church. The Supper takes place before our Harvest service on Sunday 6th October at 9.30am. The church will have been decorated with flowers, fruit and vegetables etc. Join us for the Supper by bringing a small amount of food, and any drink you prefer. Tea and coffee available.

Toddington Town Band: **Sunday 13th October at 2pm** in the church. This is always a popular event and well supported. The band plays entertaining music which will brighten your day. Tickets on the door, £8 adult and £6 concessions. Refreshments included and there will be a raffle.

Christmas Tree Festival: **Sat 30th Nov & Sunday 1st December.** If your village group, business, or group of friends would like to decorate a tree for display in the church please register your interest via email - booking@harlingtonchurch.org. The church is open between 12-5pm on both days, and there's a Festival Finale celebration at 5pm on the Sunday, with stories and songs. The theme this year is 'Christmas Around the World'. What do you call a few Christian arborists bearing gifts.....tree wise men!

For service and event information, either check Contact, the noticeboard outside church or our website: www.harlingtonchurch.org. If you'd like to speak to someone about a life event or for prayer, please contact revmarkedwards@outlook.com, or our Lay Reader, robert@harlingtonchurch.org. You can also contact myself or fellow Churchwarden Neil.

Best wishes, Tricia Churchwarden

It was a late-October Sunday, the leaves tinged with brown, and the air crisp in a way that made you shiver if you stood still too long.

~Joseph Kita, "Growing Old and Staying Young," *Wisdom of Our Fathers*, 1999

St. Mary's Church Services

Everyone is welcome to attend Sunday services in our beautiful village church.

October's services are:

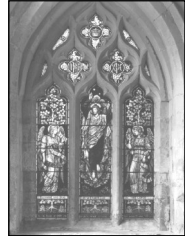
Sundays

6th 8.00 am Book of Common Prayer Holy Communion
9.30 am Harvest service

13th 9.00 am Messy Breakfast in the Parish Hall
9.30 am Holy Communion

20th 9.30 am Holy Communion

27th 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 Fr. Mark Edwards revmarkedwards@outlook.com 07305 822186 or Dr. Robert Johns robert@harlingtonchurch.org 01525 873214.

Further information and useful links

The church noticeboard is kept regularly up-to-date as is the church website which is at <https://www.harlingtonchurch.org>

The church Facebook page is: www.facebook.com/stmarysharlington/

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

Remember that we are here for you.

Fr Mark Edwards, Dr Robert Johns (Reader), Tricia Murphy and Neil Walter (Church Wardens)

October is a hallelujah! reverberating in my body year-round....

~John Nichols (b.1940), The Last Beautiful Days of Autumn

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Village Diary *plus* Directory Changes

October

1 st	Flittabus MK	Station Road bus stop 9.15 am
2 nd	Coffee Morning	Hub & Spoke Café 10 am - 12 noon
5 th	Village effort day	Orchard House flower bed 10 am
5 th	Bring & Share Supper	St. Mary's Church 6.30 pm
6 th	Seed Collection	Ickwell Green 10 am
7 th	Crafternoon Tea	Methodist Church Hall 2 – 4 pm (plus Zoom)
7 th	ADALHS	Flitwick Library 7.30 pm
13 th	Messy Breakfast	Parish Rooms 9 am
13 th	Band Concert	St. Mary's Church 2 pm
17 th	Baby & Me	Parish Rooms 10 am
19 th	Garage Sale	132 Goswell End Road 10 am – 2 pm
19 th	Messy Church	Methodist Church and Halls 4 pm
20 th	Seed Collection	Amphill Park 10 am
21 st	Crafternoon Tea	Methodist Church Hall 2 – 4 pm (plus Zoom)
26 th	Winter planting	Village Hall Car Park 10 am
26 th	Coffee Morning	Methodist Church Hall 10 am to 12 noon

November

2 nd	Halloween Fayre	Harlington Village Hall 1 pm – 5 pm
5 th	Flittabus MK	Station Road bus stop 9.15 am
9 th	War Memorial Tidy	10 am
10 th	Remembrance	War Memorial then St. Mary's 10.50 am
10 th	History Exhibition	Parish Hall 11.15 am – 4 pm

Don't forget the regular weekly things that aren't shown here such as the Wednesday Coffee and the Wellbeing Walks.

You can send things just to be entered here.

GET YOUR NOVEMBER 2024 DATES TO THE MAGAZINE BY 10TH OCTOBER 2024

Directory Changes

Remove: Living Testimonies

Insert: Mid Beds Conservative Party.

midbedsconservatives@gmail.com www.midbedsconservatives.org.uk

Harlington Hotshots Netball Club, Emily Thornton-Greet emilytg@me.com

Change: Brownies Contact to Laura Davies 2ndharlingtonbrownies@gmail.com