

# Editorial

Dear Villagers,

While I hope you all checked the old Community Directory, and therefore there are no changes to be made, I know things don't work like that, so please check this new one and tell me if there need to be any corrections or additions. These can then appear in future months.

January's activity list looks like everyone is recovering from Christmas, although the early copy date won't have helped. It is good to see two new activities, a painters (artists) group and Gestalt Dance, which includes adults. We wish them well.

Best wishes to you all for the New Year. As our village expands, let us hope for new friends to join us in our community and enhance village life. Who knows, we may have people to take on both old and new challenges with us.

Clive

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Harlington Village Magazine

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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.

**February 2025 copy by 10th January 2025 please.**

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<https://harlingtonvillagemagazine.org>

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# A letter from the Life Church

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What does New Year mean to you? To me it's an opportunity to look back over the past year and to set new goals and challenges for the coming months.

Lots of people set a goal to get fit and loose weight which is evident when you arrive at the local leisure centre in the new year, only to find the car park is solid, not a parking place available anywhere.

The gym is full and there are very few spaces in the various exercise classes or indeed, at the coffee shop. It's always the same every year, people decide to get



fit, loose weight and radically change their life but within a few months the motivation has waned and the old habits start again. The leisure centre has started to return to the normal levels of clientele. In January, social media, supermarkets, television and newspapers will be advertising a variety of diets and food to promote a healthy



lifestyle. We are all encouraged to improve our health and wellbeing, often setting these goals at the beginning of the year but do we also think about goals to improve our spiritual health? What is our spiritual health? Do we believe in God? Can we have a relationship with him? Does he impact our lives? Are you searching for the meaning of life?

As Christians, we believe in a God who created the world and came amongst us as a baby and who grew up into the man who was crucified on a cross for each and every one of us. We celebrated his birth a few days ago and we will be remembering his death and resurrection at Easter.

Have you set a goal for this coming year? How will you achieve it? Starting a new hobby, running around the village, swimming up and down the pool? Often these can be lonely things to do and we achieve better results working with

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# Letter ctd. *plus* Inner Wheel Club of Luton Chiltern

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others. God created Church to be a family where we can encourage and support each other in growing closer in our relationship with God. This support can help us to work towards our goals and help us not to loose heart as often happens when we go it alone. Do you want to explore what a relationship with God looks like in 2025?

Please contact one of the church leaders or come and join us - all the details are in Contact.

I pray as you start 2025 that you will encounter God, the creator of the universe who came to make his home amongst us, to love us, to save us.

Love and prayers

Carol Gibbs

Leader Life Church.

If you are interested in exploring faith in a small group where we enjoy food, ask questions and there are no barriers, ([alpha.org.uk](http://alpha.org.uk)) please contact me by email [contact@life-church-harlington.com](mailto:contact@life-church-harlington.com)

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## Inner Wheel Club of Luton Chiltern

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   <p><b>INNER WHEEL CLUB OF LUTON CHILTERN</b> <i>Charity Concert in aid of</i> <b>KEECH HOSPICE CARE</b> <i>(&amp; Other Local Charities)</i> <i>by</i> <i>The Woburn Sands Band</i> <i>presenting a</i> CONCERT OF POPULAR LIGHT MUSIC <i>Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2025</i> at Barton Village Hall Hexton Road, Barton Le Clay, MK454JY Concert commences 7.30pm ADMISSION £10.00 Cash only PAYABLE AT THE DOOR</p> <p>Raffle</p> <p>Tea &amp; Coffee Available</p>	<p><b>INNER WHEEL CLUB OF LUTON CHILTERN</b></p>  <p><b>SATURDAY 25<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2025</b> <b>2.00PM - 5PM</b> <b>ST MARGARETS PARISH CENTRE</b> <b>LUCAS GARDENS - LU3 4BG</b> <b>REFRESHMENTS AND RAFFLE</b> <b>ADULTS £8.00 - CHILDREN £4.00</b> <b>FOR TICKETS</b> <b>PHONE VAL 07889 898807</b></p>
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## Poem *plus* Harlington Heritage Trust

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### LATE JANUARY

Maybe earth turns more slowly,  
now dusk seems to linger,  
though spring's umbilical cord  
still slips through my fingers.

Maybe in the frozen soil,  
bulbs await a certain day,  
when winter's shrouding cloak  
begins to thin and fray.

Maybe under that drift of leaves  
a hedgehog passes time,  
asleep but senses pricked and primed,  
just waiting for a sign.

And maybe I can't hear the spells,  
whispered on the breeze,  
but I'll rejoice on seeing  
buds upon the trees.

©

Duncan Willox

31.01.24

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## Harlington Heritage Trust

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Harlington Heritage Trust will be having an EGM (Extraordinary General Meeting) on Sunday 19 January at 15.00 in Harlington Village Hall. The meeting is to officially agree the dissolution of Harlington Heritage Trust, which will be on or before 31 March 2025. Refreshments will be provided.

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# Flittabus

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# Flittabus

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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 January, the MK service is on:      **Tue 7 January 2025**

***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.*

## **FLITTABUS SERVICE TO 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**

Flittabus runs many scheduled Excursions throughout the year over south-east England and the Midlands. For details, see **[flittabus.co.uk/excursions](https://flittabus.co.uk/excursions)**

The buses are also available for Community Hire to places of special interest to passengers – for example, to a golf club contest or a ladies' day out. For details, see **[flittabus.co.uk/community-hire](https://flittabus.co.uk/community-hire)**

If you wish to book a place on a scheduled Excursion, or to discuss Community Hire, 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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"The Old Year has gone. Let the dead past bury its own dead. The New Year has taken possession of the clock of time. All hail the duties and possibilities of the coming twelve months!"

- *Edward Payson Powell*

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# Brain Tumour Research

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**Brain Tumour  
Research**

Funding the fight

**Happy New Year**



As another year passes and we welcome in 2025, I need to finish 2024 saying a massive thank you to everyone who turned out in the cold, wet and windy weather to attend our coffee/tea fundraising event on the 23<sup>rd</sup> November. It may have been cold and wet outside, but the hall was full of warmth and love. It was so good to welcome regular supporters of these fundraising events as well as meet new and first-time supporters, and people who had been missing through ill health returning to our events; it was a very special afternoon. We had quite a few children joining us this time, it was very special. I hope those of you who attended enjoyed your afternoon catching up with friends, making new friends, drinking tea/coffee and eating cake, and playing our games. I hope you managed to find a plant or craft item that you could wrap up for Christmas or treat yourself to, or maybe you bought Christmas cards or merchandise from our Brain Tumour Research stall. Whatever you did, you helped us to raise £842.32. How amazing is that? Thank you all for supporting.

A massive thank you also to those who helped put on the event, helping to set up the hall, made crafts, provided prizes or plants, those serving refreshments and who baked a cake, those who ran the stalls, a very big thank you to you all. A purse was handed in to me so if you attended and lost a purse, please contact me and describe your lost purse and hopefully I can return it to you. (Please see the end of this article for my contact details)

I should like to update you on our total raised for the charity over the last 9 years which now stands at £55,250.06. You all have made that happen! My family and I feel fully supported by you all as you follow our fundraising activities and support wherever and whenever you can. We never feel alone in our mission to raise funds and awareness of brain tumours. We are making a difference!

Thank you also to St Mary's for the chance to sell cards at the Christmas tree festival, a fantastic opportunity. I will report back in the next Contact on the amount raised.

It has been a successful fundraising year, plant sales exceeded my expectations so at the end of November, as I write this we have raised £2,065.29. The gazebo sale raised £215.50, HLS summer fair raised £42, Flower and vegetable show £65, 2 plant sales at BTR Headquarters £180, Garage sale £465, Justgiving £318.30. Thank you to all those who have made donations during this year which have amounted to £1220.



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## Harlington Gardeners' Society *plus* Rotary Club

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Our Spring Social will take place on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> January in the Village Hall starting at 7 pm and will be free to members. The highlight of the evening will be a talk by Felicity Brimblecombe, who is secretary of the Bedfordshire Gardens Trust.

They are who are currently researching all categories of garden in Bedfordshire. You can find more information on their web site <https://bedsgardenstrust.org.uk/>

Tony Roberts – HGS Secretary

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## Rotary Club

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Rotary is a Service organisation which initiates and supports projects locally, nationally and worldwide. There are some 50,000 members in the UK, in 1,800 Rotary clubs, and over 1 million members worldwide.

The local Rotary club has met since 1987. It is a local service club, open to men and women. We meet weekly over a meal at a local pub/restaurant to discuss and follow up on opportunities for service which can range from organising a local community garden to gathering funds and equipment for start-up businesses in Africa, and of course at this time of year, to pumping up the tyres on Santa's sleigh.

Howard Mann 07717 302062

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## Brain Tumour Research *Ctd.*

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July was a memorable month visiting St Marys university hospital to visit the research laboratories and to place fundraising plaques on the wall of hope. It has been a busy and a productive year.

Wishing you all a healthy and successful new year 2025. We hope to see you all at future events and hopefully will be reinstating our next big fundraiser when we wear a hat and do this all again at the end of March. Thank you Harlington.

Jane Barltrop

Mobile: 07763 326980

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## Harlington Lower School *plus* Wednesday Coffee

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December is always a busy time of year and at Harlington Lower School we had an exciting and joyful time with lots of Christmas and winter activities.

Families were treated to delightful nativity performances by both Reception and Key Stage 1 pupils, with beautiful singing adding to the magic.

A highlight for the whole school was our trip to the pantomime in Dunstable. There was much laughter and cheer in the theatre and we are deeply thankful to the FRIENDS of Harlington Lower School whose fundraising paid for the trip at no expense to the school or the parents.

We also enjoyed our visit to the Methodist Church to hear the Christmas story and we look forward to sharing the Easter story with St. Mary's Church later in the term. Our term then concluded with a beautiful carol service in the school hall for children and staff.

December was also a busy time for the school choir as they took the festive spirit beyond the school, performing at Luton Airport, the Bright Hour and in a special concert with Ampthill Town Band. Their voices brought smiles and festive joy to all who heard them.

As we return to our daily routines, we cherish these moments of togetherness and creativity that made this festive season so special and that embody what it means to be part of Harlington Lower School. We want to say a huge thank you to all who supported and participated in our events. We wish everyone a wonderful New Year filled with happiness and opportunities!

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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.



# HARLINGTON NEIGHBOURHOOD HELP



## Notice of Annual General Meeting 2025

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> February from 7.30pm

at 25 Sundon Road

All interested parties welcome

Harlington Neighbourhood Help (HNH) started in May 2000 as a pioneer group for Bedfordshire with initial funding of £200 and 80 volunteers.

We currently have 23 volunteers, most who are drivers, but we also have non-drivers as we help with forms, prescription collections, shopping etc.

We have again completed over 400 'jobs' this year in the village

Transport requests are for anyone who has difficulty using local public transport, but tend to come from our older residents. DBS checked **volunteer drivers** drive people to and wait during the appointment, and are reimbursed at the rate of 45p per mile. We always need more drivers. Most local journeys are currently completely free thanks to donations.

Our committee has 7 members including a Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, and Minutes Secretary. All are volunteers and are elected at the AGM each year.

If you'd like to get involved in any way contact Suzan Whittle,  
Secretary, on 07887 708304

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## Harlington Village Hall 100 Club

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The winner of the 100 Club for November was Gwen Gray of Lincoln Way with ticket number 8.

If you wish to be part of the 100 Club and have the chance to win £50, please contact me at: [harlingtonvillagehallsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:harlingtonvillagehallsecretary@gmail.com)

The money raised goes towards the upkeep of the Village Hall.

Cara Thurston-Lack, Secretary of the HVH Management committee

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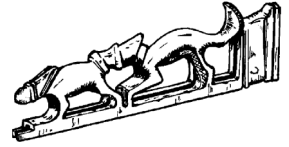
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## Ampthill & District Archaeological & Local History Society



Saturday, January 11<sup>th</sup> 2025

### Celebrity Lunch at Millbrook New Village Hall

We continue our Celebrity Lunch series this year, using the same premises and a tradition of superb food that has helped to make these events so memorable. Mulled wine and a hot meal followed by an illustrated talk:

#### Shackleton's Endurance: rediscovery and remnants

Speaker - Mark Frary



Mark Frary and Mensun Bound



Endurance 22 Expedition



Shackleton's Queen Alexandra Bible

In 2022, a team of archaeologists, explorers and scientists found Sir Ernest Shackleton's Endurance 106 years after she was crushed in the Antarctic pack ice. Ampthill author Mark Frary has co-authored a new book about the expedition called *Wonders in the Deep* with the team's director of exploration Mensun Bound. Mark will share insights about the expedition from Mensun, talk about some of the artefacts that remain on the Endurance, and talk about the ill-fated expedition's Bedfordshire connection.

Timings for the day:

12.00 - Doors open, mulled wine and soft drinks

12.30 - 14.30 Lunch

14.45 - 16.00 - Shackleton's Endurance: rediscovery & remnants

16.30 - Close. (approximate timings)

**Cost for the Day is £ 37.00**

**To book please use the society's website contact page.**

February 3rd - Forensic Archaeology: Recoveries from the 19th Century to the Present – Dr David Errickson

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



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# Harlington Community Directory

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## CHURCHES

Parish Church: Dr Robert Johns Reader .email:robert@harlingtonchurch.org .....01525 873214  
St John's Church RC.....parish.holyfamilyandstjohn@northamptondiocese.org  
Methodist Church Senior Steward: Martin Wallis.....01525 875850  
Baptist Church Contact: Sue Yule.....01582 875410  
Life Church Key Leader: Carol Gibbs.....www.lifechurch-beds.co.uk 07890 692574  
Friends of St. Mary's.....friendsofharlingtonchurch@gmail.com

## EDUCATION

Harlington Lower School Head: Mrs V Blunt.....office@harlingtonlower.co.uk 01525 752500  
Friends Of Harlington Lower School..... fhlsa99@gmail.co.uk  
Parkfields Middle School Toddington Head: James Hughes.....  
.....parkfields@cbc.beds.sch.uk 01525 872555  
Harlington Upper School, Goswell End Road, Head: Mrs H Jones .....  
admin@harlington.org 01525 755100

## HISTORY AND ENVIRONMENT

Amphill & District Archaeological & Local History Society,  
Clive Makin@ntlworld.com.....www.adalhs.org.uk 01582 655785  
Harlington Heritage Trust, John Thurston, 2 Shepherds Close.....01525 874683  
Local History, Russell Preston, 9 Station Road.....01525 874841  
Local History And Genealogy John Thurston, 2 Shepherds Close.....01525 874683  
Harlington P3 Pete Hughes.....07763 341426  
Wildlife Trust Flit Vale Group.....flitvale.info@gmail.com

## HOBBIES, ARTS AND CRAFTS

Crafternoon Tea, Tina Salmon.....christinasalmon60@gmail.com 01525 874481  
Gestalt Theatre (Adults) Natalie Jeffs... ..gestalt.theatre@gmail.com 07793 116621  
Harlington Gardeners' Society, Tony Roberts – Secretary .....01525 753235  
Harlington In Bloom, Rosemary Tuohy ..... rosemarypc86@gmail.com 07793 016207  
Harlington Performs Natalie Jeffs, .....gestalt.theatre@gmail.com 07793 116621  
Harlington Village Show Tricia Murphy .....01525 754241  
Jigsaw Library Tricia Murphy .....01525 754241  
Sewing And Knitting For Charities, Vicky Yorke .....v.yorke@sky.com 01525 872267  
Toddington Rambling Club Tony Roberts.....toddingtonramblingclub.co.uk 01525 753235

## LAW AND ORDER

Amphill And Flitwick Area, ..... www.police.uk/bedfordshire/70 General Enquiries 101  
Bedfordshire Police.....'..... www.bedfordshire.police.uk 01234 841212  
Street Watch, Harlington..... harlington@street-watch.org

## LIBRARIES

Barton Library Bedford Road, Barton MK45 4PP .....01582 881101  
Flitwick Library Coniston Road, Flitwick MK45 1QJ .....01525 715266  
Toddington Library 9 Market Square Toddington LU5 6BP .....01525 873626

### Barton, and Toddington

Tuesday, 9am – 1pm  
Wednesday, 2pm – 6pm  
Thursday, 9am – 1pm  
Friday, 9am – 1pm and 2pm – 6pm  
Saturday, 9am – 4pm

### Flitwick

Tuesday – Friday, 9am – 6pm  
Saturday, 9am – 4pm

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# Harlington Community Directory

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## LOCAL REPRESENTATIVES:

**Parish Council Clerk:** Stewart Wilks, Parish Council Office, Church Road, LU5 6LE  
.....clerk@harlingtonpc.gov.uk ..01525 875933  
Website: <http://www.harlington-pc.gov.uk> Office Open 9.am – 2.00pm daily  
**Central Beds Councillor:** Mrs M Walsh .....mary.walsh@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk  
.....0300 300 8514  
**Member Of Parliament:** **Blake Stephenson** (Con) House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA  
[blake.stephenson.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:blake.stephenson.mp@parliament.uk)

## LOCAL SERVICES

Hub and Spoke. Café, Pizza. (take away and delivery) 6 Lincoln Way .....  
[www.thehubandspokecafe.co.uk](http://www.thehubandspokecafe.co.uk) .01525 752367

## MEDICAL

Sundon Medical Centre, 142-144 Sundon Park Road, Luton  
General Enquiries.....01582 571130  
Appointments only.....01582 574142  
Book on line:.....[www.sundonmedicalcentre.nhs.uk](http://www.sundonmedicalcentre.nhs.uk)  
Harlington Surgery Westoning Road (Operates with Sundon Centre).....01525 874066  
Toddington Surgery, The Medical Centre, Luton Road, Toddington.....01525 872222  
Book on Line:.....[www.toddingtondoctors.co.uk](http://www.toddingtondoctors.co.uk)  
Dentist 23 High Street Flitwick.....[www.flitwickhighstreetdental.co.uk](http://www.flitwickhighstreetdental.co.uk) 0715550/717288  
Dentist 19 Dunstable Street, Ampthill..... [www.amphilldentalpractice.co.uk](http://www.amphilldentalpractice.co.uk) 403205  
Physiotherapists 7 Station Square, Flitwick.....[www.chartered-physiotherapy.co.uk](http://www.chartered-physiotherapy.co.uk) 720882

## MEETING PLACES

Harlington Methodist Halls.....hmc.bookings@ntlworld.com 01525 754527  
Harlington Parish Hall..... <http://www.harlington-pc.gov.uk> 01525 875933  
Harlington Village Hall .....[www.harlingtonvillagehall.co.uk](http://www.harlingtonvillagehall.co.uk) 07725 031153

## MEN & WOMEN'S GROUPS

Bright Hour Fellowship, Helen James ..... 07914 937702

## POLITICAL PARTIES

Conservative Party Mid Beds Conservative Pary.....midbedsconservatives@gmail.com  
.....[www.midbedsconservatives.org.uk](http://www.midbedsconservatives.org.uk)  
Labour Party Mid Beds Labour Party.....[www.midbedslabour.org.uk](http://www.midbedslabour.org.uk)  
Liberal Democrats Central Beds Liberal Democrats.....[www.centralbedslibdems.org.uk](http://www.centralbedslibdems.org.uk)

## PRE-SCHOOL

Harlington 0-4 Club (Playgroup) ..  
Harlington Village Pre-School .....[staff@harlingtonvillagepreschool.org.uk](mailto:staff@harlingtonvillagepreschool.org.uk) 07963 534038

## SOCIAL AND WELFARE SERVICE

Harlington Neighbourhood Help.....07849 835410  
Citizen's Advice Bureau Community House, Court House, Woburn Street, Ampthill MK45 2HX  
Mon –Thurs .....[www.citizensadvice.org.uk](http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk) 402742  
Rotary Club Howard Mann 07717 302062  
Royal British Legion –

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# Harlington Community Directory & Gestalt Dance

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## TRANSPORT

Mid-Beds Link-A-Ride Community Transport .<http://www.link-a-ride.co.uk> 01525 840511 (for people with personal mobility problems)

Thameslink Trains ..... <http://www.thameslinkrailway.com> 0345 0264700

## YOUTH

626 Club Clive and Tina Salmon.....01525 874481

Boys Brigade/The Friday Thing Martin Wallis.....01525 875850 / 07795 642507

Gestalt Theatre (Children's, and Youth) Natalie Jeffs.....[gestalt.theatre@gmail.com](mailto:gestalt.theatre@gmail.com) 07793 116621

Girl Guiding UK:

Rainbows Claire Livingstone ..... [harlingtonrainbows@hotmail.com](mailto:harlingtonrainbows@hotmail.com)

2nd Brownies Laura Davies .....[2ndharlingtonbrownies@gmail.com](mailto:2ndharlingtonbrownies@gmail.com)

Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Explorers, Network

Kate Nippard.....07908168412

Harlington Lower & Sundon FC .....[hlsfootballclub@gmail.com](mailto:hlsfootballclub@gmail.com) 07578710607

Harlington Hotshots Netball Club Emily Thornton-Greet.....[emilytg@me.com](mailto:emilytg@me.com)

If you spot any errors or omissions in this list please let me know as soon as possible. I will publish changes each month and a new full issue will come out in July/August.

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## Gestalt Dance

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GESTALT THEATRE is starting our own Dance Clubs!!

Both Starting Wednesday 15th January

KIDS: Every Wednesday in the Village Hall from 5:45-6:45. Ages 6-16

ADULT: Every Wednesday in the Methodist Church from 7:30-8:30. Ages 17+

We will be learning a mix of styles from Jazz & Lyrical to Hip Hop & Commercial each week. Hopefully as time goes on we can build up to performances and depending on how many come add more classes for the kids. It's a space where the kids can improve their skill while also collaborating with me on pieces.

Adult classes are just a fun space to learn a different routine each week in different styles, in a supportive space where we can collaborate and enjoy dance. There will not be any performances unless people would like too. There will also be different levels of the same choreography so all abilities can be challenged.





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## Crafternoon Tea

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I have had people say to me, “I would love to come to Crafternoon Tea, but I’m no good at craft, so there isn’t any point.”

There are two answers to this: one is “come anyway, and try some different crafts.” Not everyone is good at knitting, or crochet, and there are so many other crafts to try, although knitting and crochet are the ones that get the most adverts, the most attention. Not everyone at Crafternoon Tea knits or crochets – though many of us do.



The other answer is to make the craft simpler. This blanket is made with a double layer of ‘bubble fleece’, stitched together with rickrack ribbon (ribbon made in a zig zag – available in all sorts of colours) and with felt cut out figures also stitched on. The edging is also bought. Requirements: the materials, scissors, thread, and a sewing machine – although everything could be hand stitched if the machine were not available. The most important requirements for any craft activity are an active imagination to see what could be done, and the desire to achieve.

A possible third answer is – “just come and enjoy the company”, but many people feel that they

should do something. We will welcome you, whatever your reason for coming.

There are likely to be all sorts of different 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 January meetings will be on 13<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>. 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](mailto:christinasalmon60@gmail.com)), 874481, website: <https://cliveandtina.co.uk>**

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# Flit Vale Wildlife Group & Wellbeing Walks

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

## Wildlife walks & talks

**Monday, January 27th 2025, Maulden Church Hall, 7.30 pm**

**The Future of Nature Conservation\*. A talk by Brian Eversham, Chief Executive of the Wildlife Trust for Beds, Cambs & Northants.**

There will be several topics covered during this talk: Climate crisis; extinction crisis; the role and diverse meanings of ‘rewilding’. Why management matters; how to prevent extinction whilst building future landscapes and habitats. New legislation supporting better conservation; wildlife winners – species likely to benefit in the future and the Wildlife Trusts’ vision for the future.

Brian’s talks are always hugely interesting and thought-provoking – don’t miss this one!

\*£4.00 per adult

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

Please contact Ann by email: [flitvale.info@gmail.com](mailto: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](http://www.wildlifebcn.org)

Flit Vale Local Group

[www.flitvale.org.uk](http://www.flitvale.org.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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# Harlington Neighbourhood Help Good Neighbours

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**Looking to Kick off 2025 with a heartwarming resolution?  
How about volunteering as a driver for Harlington Neighbourhood  
Help Good Neighbours!! We are always on the lookout for amazing  
individuals who want to join our fantastic team and make a real  
difference in Harlington.**

**Tel: 07849 835410**

We are a group of residents who help our fellow villagers by driving them to and from appointments – for example to the doctors, hospital, dentist, optician, vets, or shops. We also drop off and collect prescriptions and sometimes just have a cup of tea and a chat



There are about 10 'jobs' a week and we would love more volunteer drivers to share the load. It is very rewarding, and you make a big difference to village lives and get to meet new people. We cover the cost of getting you Disclosure and Barring Service checked and are fully insured – and your mileage is reimbursed at 45p a mile.

It is completely up to you how much time you can commit and when, and we can accommodate drivers who only want to do local trips or certain days or times or months, even. For example, if you prefer a regular commitment, we now have several regular weekly assisted shopping trips to Tesco, especially on Wednesdays or Thursdays. We make sure people get what they need, and a friendly face to help them around the store is always welcome!  

**So, if you're ready to bring some extra sunshine into our village and meet some lovely people along the way, give us a ring on the number above and let's make 2025 a year of even more community kindness in a village that is already full of caring and compassion.**

# Advertisement

## Westoning Baptist Church

You are very welcome to join us for our services at the Church or online.



### Sunday

Services 11am & 6pm  
Sunday School  
9.30am - 10.30am (term-time)



### Tuesday

Bible Study/Prayer Meeting  
7.15pm



### Friday

Noah's Ark Toddlers Group  
9am - 11am (term-time)  
In 'Hope Hall'



Find out more



 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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John Bunyan was arrested in the month of November, so we remember him particularly during this month. He is an important part of both the faith journey of this country, and also of the development of English literature.

In our Messy Church we thought about both his life and his most famous work, Pilgrim's Progress. In his life Bunyan was a Civil War soldier, a tinker, a preacher, a writer and a prisoner. Pilgrim's Progress tells the story of Christian going from the City of Destruction to the Celestial City, with all the challenges



on the way. We thought that chocolate mousse would work well for the Slough of Despond, and we made Wicket Gates and pictures for the Celestial City. We also made swords for soldiers, preachers in trees and quills to write with.

Our next Messy Church will be on 18th January 2025 at 4 pm in the Methodist Church and Halls.

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 *with Baby & Me*

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## LIFE CHURCH HARLINGTON

Sunday services at 10.30 am in The Parish Rooms

**All Welcome**



### January 2025

5th – Carol Gibbs

12th – Polly Oliver

19th – 10am United Service with St. Mary's  
& Methodist church – Parish Hall

26th – Café Church

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

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## Baby & Me

*for parents and babies*

0 – 12 months



toys



*coffee, cake, chat*

*Thursday 23rd January*

*10 – 11.30*

*Harlington Parish Hall*



*Life Church*

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## Methodist Church *including Bright Hour*

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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.



### **JANUARY preachers are:**

5<sup>th</sup> 10 am Rev. Claudia Lupi. This is our annual Covenant Service and includes the Sacrament of Holy Communion

#### **No Evening Service**

12<sup>th</sup> 10 am Worship Group

19<sup>th</sup> 10.am United Service at the Parish Hall, Preacher Roger Owers

26<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** 25th January 2025, 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 (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 January are

9<sup>th</sup> Pam Greener

16<sup>th</sup> Nigel Bibbings

23<sup>rd</sup> Rose Agnew

30<sup>th</sup> Rev. Claudia Lupi



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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



**Churchyard:** This is a time of fallen leaves, blocked drains and gutters. The number of leaves in the churchyard has to be seen to be believed. Sadly our work party in November was postponed and December was just so busy. Maybe in January we'll be able to have another work party – details will be on the village Facebook.

**Friends of St Mary's:** their next committee meeting takes place in mid January. If you're interested in joining this group in general (not necessarily the committee!) to help raise funds to care for the church building, then please do get in touch.

**Christmas Tree Festival:** a big thank you to everyone who entered a tree in the Festival or visited the church. The trees looked spectacular, and voting was very 'competitive'. The winners of the public vote for best adult and children's trees are: Best Tree Adult 1. Harlington Crafters 2. East End Stables. Best Tree Children 1. Harlington Beavers 2. Harlington Cubs. Overall Best Dressed 1. Harlington Rainbows 2. Harlington Village Show. And special thanks go to the Lower School Choir who sang beautifully for us, led by Headteacher Mrs Blunt.

**Easyfundraising:** a very simple and easy way to raise funds for our church repair and restoration is to join the website **easyfundraising**. Use an email address and password to join, and your 'good cause' is St Mary's Church, Harlington, Beds. It is specifically Harlington as there are so many St Mary's! Then every time you shop online go via the easyfundraising website or app. Retailers give a % of what you spend to your chosen 'good cause', in this case St Mary's Church. And it doesn't cost you anything at all. The % given by the retailer varies, but there are now over 8100 retailers listed on easyfundraising, including the most well known, plus holidays, insurance etc. The church has raised almost £2000 through this scheme. If you need more help or information, please contact [admin@harlingtonchurch.org](mailto:admin@harlingtonchurch.org). Every purchase helps. Thank you.

**Recycling:** We are still collecting biscuit and cake wrappers for recycling, but Terracycle have stopped recycling crisp packets as so many stores now collect them. So please do not leave any crisp packets in the recycling bin by the church side gate, or at 43 Barton Road. Did you hear about the bin which got dressed up?.....It heard it was being taken out.

Best wishes, Tricia Churchwarden

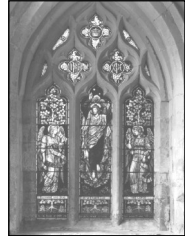


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# St. Mary's Church Services

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To welcome the New Year why not come to one of the services in our beautiful village church? Everyone is most welcome. On 19th. January all churches in Harlington meet together for our annual service for Christian unity, a very special occasion.



Our January services are:

- 5<sup>th</sup> 8 am Book of Common Prayer Holy Communion  
9.30 am Morning Service for the new year
- 12<sup>th</sup> 9 am Families' Messy Breakfast in Parish Rooms  
9.30 am Holy Communion
- 19<sup>th</sup> 10 am Churches Together Christian unity service in the Parish Hall  
(no service at St. Mary's)
- 26<sup>th</sup> 9.30 am Holy Communion

## Wednesdays

8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>th</sup>, and 29<sup>th</sup> 10 am Holy Communion or Morning Prayer

Please note: no service on 1<sup>st</sup>. January

## 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)

## Further information and useful links

For personal enquiries, for requests for prayer, or for enquiries about baptisms, weddings or funerals please contact Fr. Mark Edwards [revmarkedwards@outlook.com](mailto:revmarkedwards@outlook.com) 07305 822186 or our Lay Reader Dr. Robert Johns [robert@harlingtonchurch.org](mailto:robert@harlingtonchurch.org) 01525 873214.

You can also contact either Churchwarden.

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

Remember that we are here for you.

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

# Advertisements



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# Advertisements



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 [kpsewing@outlook.com](mailto:kpsewing@outlook.com)

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# Village Diary *plus* Artists

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## January

7 <sup>th</sup>	Flittabus MK	Station Road bus stop 9.15 am
11 <sup>th</sup>	Celebrity Lunch	ADALHS Millbrook New Village Hall 12 Noon
11 <sup>th</sup>	HGS Social	Harlington Village Hall 7 pm
12 <sup>th</sup>	Messy Breakfast	Parish Hall 9 am
13 <sup>th</sup>	Crafternoon Tea	Methodist Church Hall 2 – 4 pm (plus Zoom)
18 <sup>th</sup>	Messy Church	Methodist Church and Halls 4 pm
19 <sup>th</sup>	HHT EGM	Harlington Village Hall 3 pm
23 <sup>rd</sup>	Baby & Me	Parish Hall 10 am
25 <sup>th</sup>	Coffee Morning	Methodist Church Hall 10 am – 12 Noon
25 <sup>th</sup>	Beetle Drive	St. Margaret's Parish Centre 2 – 5 pm
27 <sup>th</sup>	Crafternoon Tea	Methodist Church Hall 2 – 4 pm (plus Zoom)
27 <sup>th</sup>	Wildlife Talk	Maulden Church Hall 7.30 pm

## February

3 <sup>rd</sup>	ADALHS	Flitwick Library 7.30 pm
4 <sup>th</sup>	Flittabus MK	Station Road bus stop 9.15 am
8 <sup>th</sup>	Band Concert	Barton Village Hall 7.30 pm
13 <sup>th</sup>	HNH AGM	25 Sundon Road 7.30pm

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 FEBRUARY 2025 DATES TO THE MAGAZINE BY 10TH JANUARY 2025**

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## Artists

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'We are a small group of amateur artists who meet to paint on Friday mornings in the Parish hall from 10-12.

There is space for others who would like to join us. If interested you could pop in to see us one Friday morning or you could contact Pat on 07484614892'.

Pat King

