

# Editorial

Dear Villagers,

It seems like March is due to be a quiet month, judging from the lack of dates on the diary page. However there are also the regular weekly things happening.

If you do have something happening, do tell the village through Contact. Remember, though, that we print in greyscale, so the lovely colour poster may look very different. Also note that an A4 poster will probably end up as a quarter page, unless there is a real shortage of material. Consider describing the event instead to complement the posters you are using elsewhere.

March brings spring, but all the quotes I found were more about winter, which I hope will end soon. Sunny days would be nice! Oh well, if it wasn't for the weather, what would we talk about?

Clive

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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.

**April copy by 10th March please.**

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## A letter from the Methodist Church

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Hi all,

Easter is very late this year, and so all those dates that are fixed to Easter are also late, starting with Shrove Tuesday (4th March), better known these days as Pancake Day—we hope to run Pancake Parlour again this year so watch out for adverts. Pancakes were eaten to use up milk and eggs, as the day after Shrove Tuesday is Ash Wednesday, which is the first day of Lent. From an early time in the Christian church Lent was a time of fasting, and for hundreds of years Christians didn't eat meat or other things from animals during this time.

No one is sure where this custom started. Lent is fascinating in that, at the start of it we're thinking about the start of Jesus' ministry and by the end we're thinking of the end of it three years later.

While we have the stories about Jesus' birth, apart from the one story of him getting lost at the Temple we have nothing else about his life until, at the age of thirty, he arrives at the River Jordan where his cousin John is having a rant about peoples' sinfulness and urging them to be baptised to show their repentance. He recognises Jesus as Messiah, and is surprised that Jesus wants to be baptised. He is persuaded by Jesus to conduct the baptism. Jesus then goes into the desert and fasts for forty days, which is where the length of Lent comes in. By around 300 AD Lent has been attached to Easter as a time of preparation. This may be because a lot of new Christians were baptised at Easter.

While Jesus is fasting, the Bible says he is tempted by the devil. His rejection of these temptations forms a sort of negative manifesto; it says what Jesus will not do to further his work. Turning stones into bread, the first temptation, represents bribery, jumping of the top of the Temple is miracle showmanship and bowing to Satan is compulsion, saying the ends justify the means.

Jesus' positive manifesto comes in the Sermon on the Mount and his other teaching about loving God and neighbours, where the term 'neighbour', as shown in the story of the Good Samaritan, is very widely drawn.

But to go back to the temptations, how often, when you look around the world, do you see leaders using one or more of those methods? (Historically the Christian church has been far from immune from this as well.) Vote for me and I'll give you benefits/cut your taxes. Do as I say or you will be killed or imprisoned. See what a wonderful person I am.

Have pancakes and enjoy Shrove Tuesday, but perhaps in Lent we could think about who we let lead us and why. Maybe this could affect our decisions in future?

Clive Salmon - Methodist Church Steward

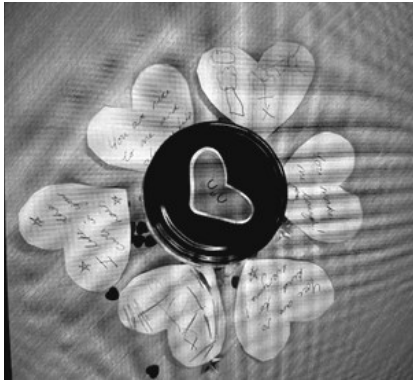
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## Harlington Lower School *plus* Wednesday Coffee

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At Harlington Lower School, we celebrated Children's Mental Health Week with a focus on kindness, self-worth, and positivity. As part of our activities, the children created beautiful positivity jars, each one carefully decorated with love and creativity. Inside, they placed thoughtful notes of kindness, heartfelt compliments, and uplifting pictures from their friends. Alongside this, we had meaningful discussions



about what makes each of us special and unique. It was a wonderful way to remind ourselves of the power of positive words and the importance of supporting one another.

We have also been developing our Facebook page in order to share all the exciting things happening in our school community. We share updates, photos and the wonderful achievements of our pupils. We'd love for more parents, carers, and community members to follow and engage with us—so if you haven't already, please follow us at Harlington Lower School!

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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.



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### **FLITTABUS TO MILTON KEYNES**

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**In March, the MK service is on: Tue 4 March 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 EXCURSIONS** – [flittabus.co.uk/excursions](https://flittabus.co.uk/excursions)

- **Wedgwood Factory**  
Wed 19 Mar 2025 – £45.00 pp inc      Transport / Factory Tour /  
Admission to W'wood Museum
- **Chatham Dockyard and "Call the Midwife" Tour**  
Wed 9 Apr 2025 – £60.00 pp inc      Transport / Call the Midwife Tour /  
Admission to Dockyard, Museum/  
Entrance to The Ropery
- **St Albans**  
Wed 30 Apr 2025 – £20.00 pp      Transport only
- **Stamford and Rutland Water**  
Wed 18 Jun 2025 – £45.00 pp inc      Transport / Time in Stamford /  
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## Flittabus *plus* Inner Wheel Club of Luton Chiltern

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- **Blenheim Palace including Flower Show**  
Fri 27 Jun 2025 – £55.00 pp inc      Transport / Admission to Palace /  
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- **Highclere Castle (aka Downton Abbey)**  
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## Inner Wheel Club of Luton Chiltern

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The Inner Wheel Club of Luton Chiltern

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# AN EVENING OF TRIVIA

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Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2025 at 7pm

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01582 504418 or 07989079432

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# Brain Tumour Research

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## March- Brain Tumour Awareness Month



Brain Tumour Awareness Month was launched in 2004 by a group of charities that went on to become founding members of Brain Tumour Research. Every March, they lead the way with a programme of activities to raise vital awareness and funds to get closer to their vision of finding a cure for all types of brain tumours. This year they celebrate their 15th anniversary and aim to bring hope to the one in three people who knows someone affected by this devastating disease. So you are invited on **Saturday March 1st** to shine a light for all those affected by a brain tumour and light a candle.

**Monday March 3rd** at 11am to observe a minutes silence and join those who will be doing the same at the centres of excellence and Brain Tumour Research Headquarters and all those participating across the United Kingdom.

**Friday 28th March** join us by putting your hats on for hope and help find a cure for all types of brain tumours.

**Saturday 29th March** in Harlington we are holding our wear a hat tea/ coffee and home made cakes event at the village hall **2-4pm** following our normal format: what's in the box, plant stall, craft stall, tombola. I will also have a recycling for good causes sack if you have anything to contribute such as jewellery including costume jewellery; coins and currency UK or foreign of any age or unchangeable currency; mobile phones, cameras or gadgets( including video cameras, digital cameras, sat navs, game consoles, iPods, MP3 players, tablet computers); stamps (loose/ single stamps, first day covers and presentation packs) after the event I will send the sack off to Recycling for Good Causes and they will recycle it and send 75% of the profit to Brain Tumour Research, do hope you will consider, during your spring clean, items you may wish to contribute to this alternative fundraising and bring them along for the bag and join us for refreshments on the **29th March**.

**Advanced Warning:** I am organising a building project to convert my garage into a greenhouse and room to prepare seed trays, prick out plants, wash pots and store the necessary equipment so I can complete tasks in the comfort of a room as opposed to my usual standing in the garden in all weathers! I do not have a start date yet but I will need to move some of the plants to provide access for this work to take place so can I please ask for your safety and enable the work to take place that visits to donate for plants or contributions would be best at weekends or only when there are no work vehicles outside the house. I



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## **Brian Goodenough *plus* HVH 100 Club & BTR *ctd.***

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Thank you to all our friends in Harlington who have given so much support to me following the sad and sudden death of Brian on December 8<sup>th</sup>.

I am sorry I was unable to speak to you all at his funeral but your presence was a huge comfort to me at this very sad and difficult time, as were your beautiful cards, flowers, meals and phone calls.

Thank you also to Father Mark for his support before, during and after the funeral

Tracey

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## **Harlington Village Hall 100 Club**

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The winner for December was Dave Thew of Oak Close with ticket number 105. The winner for January was Dee Aylett-Smith of Steeple Gardens with ticket number 22.

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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## **Brain Tumour Research *ctd.***

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apologise for any inconvenience but hope to be able to continue to provide to support you in your gardening interests.

Finally I should like to make a public vote of thanks to the Rotary of Flitwick Vale who put on a very pleasant evening with a delicious meal at Poplars Garden Centre to present generous cheques to groups/ charities that joined forces with them at Christmas last year to collect in surrounding villages and outside Tesco, Flitwick with their Christmas float. We received a cheque for £150 which was sent to Brain Tumour Research and received with grateful thanks.

Hope very much you will be able to join us at one of the events to mark Brain Tumour Awareness month.

My thanks

Jane

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# Harlington in Bloom

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We were a select group at the Harlington in Bloom Annual General Meeting! But we were pleased to welcome three non-committee members to proceedings. Most of the 2024 committee were able to stand for another year. No new nominations were received. Steve Jackson has stood down and we are sorry to lose his input and humour, but look forward to seeing him around the village. David Kingham gave a round-up of the main events of the year, Rosemary Toohy presented her Secretary's Report (a very busy year – thanks so much Rosemary for your very efficient efforts), and Judy Harfield presented the accounts in her usual, very competent way. Teresa Glenister is now formally replacing Martin Stynes as Minutes Secretary. We look forward to looking at your Spring Gardens soon! You do not have to enter for this event, as Front Gardens are judged kerbside, with nominations from Committee members and actual Award winners judged by a judge independent of the Committee. Summer Gardens has additional categories for dry gardens, hanging baskets and containers etc., as well as Public Buildings and Commercial Premises.

A reminder that *Harlington Open Gardens* will be on **5 July 2025**. Save the date! Now, the new committee is in place, we will be contacting those of you who have already expressed an interest in opening your gardens to firm up details. Of course, we welcome more entries also. We will also need helpers on the day to help at the Ticket/Map gazebo on Bury Orchard.

**Do contact Rosemary (details below) to go on our volunteer list. We always need more people with different skills, not least because, at any one time, people including committee members can be ‘under the weather’ and unable to help with the physical work. Many hands make light work; provide fun and companionship and interaction with a broad spectrum of villagers.**

Here's to a 'blooming' year for Harlington in Bloom!

*Vivienne Dunlop on behalf of HiB Committee* [v.dunlop@ntlworld.com](mailto:v.dunlop@ntlworld.com) <https://www.facebook.com/HarlingtonInBloom/> [messenger](#) or [judy.harfield@apertech.co.uk](mailto:judy.harfield@apertech.co.uk) (Treasurer); Rosemary Tuohy (Secretary) 07793 016207 [rosemarypc86@gmail.com](mailto:rosemarypc86@gmail.com) Follow us on Facebook page Harlington in Bloom for calendar events, nice pics and news updates!

**Look out for posters in the Newsagents and noticeboards, with next work party dates for 2025, and fb events tab and posts, and next month's Contact.**

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# Quiz Night

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## Quiz Night In Aid of Harlington Upper School Student Trip to Malaysia

On Saturday 22 March, Alfie Adshead, Marcus Georgescu, Callum Bird and James Osborne are running and organising a quiz at 8pm in Harlington Village Hall



These 4 life long friends met at 0-4 and are now studying for their GCSEs at Harlington upper school. The Quiz is raising money to pay for their 2 week school trip to Malaysia this July.

A major part of this trip will see the students staying and working at a turtle sanctuary, where they will be doing various jobs like: cleaning beaches, night patrols and building turtle hatcheries.

The boys would really appreciate your support, so If you would like to help them get there while having a fun filled evening then please sign up.



To sign up or find out more please scan the QR code or ask any of the boys for more details

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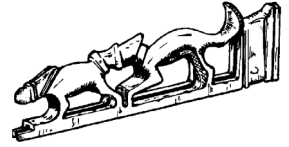
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**Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2025**

**The Monastic Heritage of  
Old Warden Parish Church**



Henry VIII insisted on demolishing Warden Abbey, but the parish church escaped virtually unscathed. With clues ranging from a 14th-century font to medieval stained glass windows, the building quietly revels in its monastic past. Speaker - Margaret Roberts

Flitwick Library Lecture Theatre, MK45 1QJ, 7.30 for a 7.45 pm start. Members are free, and visitors are very welcome £5.00, payable at the door. Tea and coffee will follow.

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

April 7th – AGM & The Old House(s) at Wrest

The history of the previous house to the 1830's, and its proposed replacements. Speaker – Chris Martin

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



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## Mrs Joan Blunt

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My Nan, Joan Blunt, was born in Sharpenhoe on 8th January 1938, the eldest child of Violet and Alfred. Three and a half years later, she was joined by her sister Margaret.

Her early life was spent at the family's pub in Sharpenhoe and attending Barton Primary School. Her parents owned the local pub, and on weekends, the family would visit her grandparents and aunt, who owned The Bull pub in Barton. Later, her parents moved the family to Luton briefly, where they ran a shop on Beechwood Road, before returning to

Harlington.

Nanny trained as a shorthand typist and worked as a receptionist at an accountancy firm in Luton—though this was only until she married Grandad. He was the love of her life. While her family was cautious at first, Grandad was a few years older, and Nan only had eyes for him, and Grandad adored her.

They married on the 4th June 1959 at Luton Registry Office when Nanny was 21 years old. True to their nature, they avoided a big fuss and had a quiet wedding before beginning their married life together.

Initially, they lived in Barton and enjoyed travelling around Europe, making wonderful memories and cherishing their time together.

From a young age, Nanny was passionate about animals, particularly dogs, which became a significant part of her adult life.

In 1963, they moved back to Harlington, settling on Church Road, where they built up their landscaping business. This eventually led to the creation of Bridge-side Nurseries, which Grandad built in 1980. Many in the community will remember them from there—it was a hub of activity, even serving as the starting point for local carnival floats.

In 1971, they had my dad, Garry. He completed their family, and instead of jetting off across Europe, they began exploring the UK together. Dad remembers Nanny as always being supportive and caring—even going so far as to write a multitude of letters to excuse him from PE during his school years!

One of my Nan's greatest passions, apart from her family, was breeding and showing dogs, particularly German Shepherds. Through this, she met her life-long friend Jen. Together, they shared a love of dog shows, collecting rosettes... and enjoying the occasional glass of wine!

Nanny and Grandad loved the outdoors. They enjoyed walking their dogs up the

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## **Mrs Joan Blunt *ctd.***

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Clappers and were known for their love of gardening and plants. For them, gardening wasn't just work—it was woven into their lives, even in retirement, when Nan would help out with volunteering for Harlington in Bloom.

When Dad met my mum, Heather, in 1997, Nan supported them in setting up their first home, just in time for my arrival. I have memories of Nanny and Grandad taking me to see tractors (one of my first loves) and having dinner with them every Saturday when Mum was at work. A few years later, my brother Fred was born, and the Saturday lunches continued. We'd often visit garden centres and pick flowers and carrots we'd grown from their garden.

Nan and Grandad were keen to get us involved in gardening. I was taught how to lay a patio at the age of five, while Fred learnt about planting. While they may have used us as labour, we were well rewarded with Nan's home cooking. Her puddings were legendary—her trifle in particular! We have been conducting trifle experiments at home sampling different ingredients as unfortunately, she has hidden her secret recipes too well. However, Fred especially loved what he called her "triangles," named after their shape, but for me, it was all about the crumbles.

Nanny and Grandad were inseparable and rarely seen apart. They worked together, lived together, and enjoyed travelling with Grandad's siblings to the coast and attending dog shows with friends. They celebrated 53 years of happy marriage together.

Grandad passed away in August 2012 after a short illness. We were able to care for him at home until the end. His loss was a huge blow to the family, and Nan never stopped grieving for him. However, she was blessed with the support of her friends in the village, who lifted her spirits and helped her navigate life without him.

After which, Nan was joined by her dog, Meg, and later by Oggie, who became her constant companion. In the last year, when she struggled to walk Oggie, her friends stepped in and walked him daily. Nanny—and we as a family—were so grateful for their kindness, which allowed her to keep Oggie.

Nanny was able to remain in their home down Goswell End Road, which she shared with Grandad surrounded by the memories they had created together.

In early December, Nanny became unwell and, after a short illness, passed away just before Christmas with Dad by her side.

Nan, we love you and will miss you deeply, but we are comforted by the thought that you are now reunited with Grandad tending to the garden with some fresh plants and vegetables.

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## Crafternoon Tea *plus* Harlington Surgery and SMC

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Have you finished a project recently? Here is one completed by one of our members – the basic Diamond Dots design was finished some time ago, but now it is framed, and ready to hang on a wall somewhere at home. I have a tapestry waiting to be framed, as well as one “nearly completed”. Do you get a sense of achievement when you finish something? It doesn’t matter how big, or how simple your achievement is, there is nothing quite like that “I made that!” feeling. So bring your “not quite completed” projects, and we will provide the space and the time (not to mention the company, and the refreshments) for you to find that feeling for yourself.

Crafternoon Tea meets on alternate Mondays, at Harlington Methodist Church. 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 March meetings will be on 10<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>, from 2 to 4 pm. 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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## Harlington Surgery and Sundon Medical Centre

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Leigh-Anne from Harlington Surgery says that for this year the ideal **latest date** for handing in **repeat scripts** is **AT LEAST FOUR working days** before you need the medication.



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# Flit Vale Wildlife Group & Wellbeing Walks

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

## Wildlife walks & talks

**Monday, March 24th, Maulden Church Hall (MK45 2AU). 7.30 pm**

**An illustrated talk on ‘Introducing Beavers to the Nene Valley – an update’ by Lara Jones of the Wildlife Trust, BCN.**

Lara will give us an update on the reintroduction project in the Nene Valley. She will talk us through the past year of the project: the big wins, the challenges and what the future may hold.

**Charge: £4.00**

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

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**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 have even more community kindness in a village that is already full of caring and compassion.**

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## World Day of Prayer *plus* St Patrick's Day

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### **World Day of Prayer.**

(a women led, global, ecumenical movement)

World day of prayer is an international, inter-church organisation which enables us to hear the thoughts of people from all parts of the world: their hopes., concerns and prayers. The preparation for the day is vast. An international committee is based in New York and there are national committees in each participating country. Regional conferences meet to consider the service and then local groups make their plans. Here in Harlington we are part of the Toddington group which as far as I know has been taking part in this global service since the 1970's.

### **'I MADE YOU WONDERFUL'.**

Service prepared by the women of the Cook Islands

7th March at 2pm

St. George's Church, Toddington

All are very welcome

The day is an amazing wave of prayer celebrated in over 120 countries. It begins in Samoa and travels throughout the world - through Asia, Africa, the Middle East, Europe and the Americas before finishing in American Samoa some 38 hours later.

Sue Spence and Vicky Yorke.

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## **St Patrick's Day (17th March)**

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"St. Patrick's Day is here, you see.  
We'll pick some shamrocks, one, two, three.  
We'll count the leaves and look them over,  
And maybe find a four-leafed clover.  
I'll sew green buttons on my vest,  
Green for St. Patrick is the best.  
I'll wear a green hat, very high,  
And dance a jig--at least I'll try!"

- *Author Unknown*



# 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**

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# Messy Church News

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In January we started to look at the story of Joseph, that's the one of Technicolour Dreamcoat fame. Fortunately the musical is not too far away from the Bible story, although scholars will tell you that what was translated as many colours should have been a coat with long

sleeves, not that makes much difference, as only the rich had such a



coat, poor people did without, so Joseph was favoured either way! However, we did do multi-



coloured coat pictures. We also made beards for Ishmaelites, and camel decorations. For Joseph's dreams we tried bubble pictures. After Joseph was in prison, we made bread for the baker and cups for the cupbearer. We also made pyramids for Egypt.

Our next Messy Church will be on 15th March 2025 at 4 pm in the Methodist Church and Halls. This will be based on a Lent theme, as it will be early in Lent. (Our April session is on Easter Saturday and will focus on Easter.)

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* Easter Treasure Hunt

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LIFE CHURCH  
HARLINGTON

Sunday services at 10.30 am in The Parish Rooms

All Welcome

## March 2025

- 2nd – Lighthouse Café Church
- 9th – Pioneer Sunday
- 16th – Dawn Charles
- 23rd – To be confirmed
- 30th – Vicky Yorke



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)



LIFE CHURCH  
HARLINGTON

## Easter Treasure Hunt

Sunday April 6<sup>th</sup>

Starting at Parish Hall 10.30

Refreshments & Activities 11.30



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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.



### **MARCH preachers are:**

- 2<sup>nd</sup> 10 am Come and See led by Rev. Claudia Lupi  
6 pm Service of Holy Communion led by Rev. Margaret Newman.  
5<sup>th</sup> 7.45 pm Circuit Ash Wednesday Communion Service  
9<sup>th</sup> 10 am Sheila Norris  
16<sup>th</sup> 10.am Rev. Claudia Lupi. This service includes Holy Communion  
23<sup>rd</sup> 10 am Angela Brydon  
30<sup>th</sup> 10 am Rev. Patrick Kandeh

If you want to join us on Zoom, the Zoom link is normally sent out the day before. Email me, [clivedsalmon@aol.com](mailto:clivedsalmon@aol.com), or phone 874481 to be added to the Zoom email list, or if you would like our printed service emailed to you.

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**COFFEE MORNING** 29th March 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)

New members are always made very welcome. No need to book ahead, just come along! We look forward to seeing you.

Speakers/activities for March are

- 6<sup>th</sup> Chris Berry, talking about experiences at the Mission Hospital in West Bengal, India  
13<sup>th</sup> John Sorsby with Barbara Donaldson talk titled 'Face the Music'  
20<sup>th</sup> Alan and Christine Parfit - Talk on Gilbert and Sullivan  
27<sup>h</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 [t315485@gmail.com](mailto:t315485@gmail.com)

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# St Mary's Churchwarden

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## St Mary's Church



**Quiz Night:** **Saturday 8th March**, Harlington Village Hall, 7.15pm for a 7.30pm start. Maximum 6 to a team, suggested donation £5 ppn to include nibbles, tea/ coffee. Or bring your own drink. If you don't have a team, don't worry, do pop along and we'll find you a team. All donations will go to our Restoration Fund and there will also be a raffle. By the way, I scored 0 out of 10 on my last spelling quiz.....but my teacher gave me an 'A' for Affort!

**Upper School Concert:** an evening concert in the church on **Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> March**. Save the date - and join us to enjoy music performed by talented youngsters from Harlington Upper School.

**Christmas Services:** it was lovely to see many of you over the Christmas period and I'm sure everyone will remember Samson's appearance at the Crib Service. Shall we just say that 'he left his mark'! Many thanks to everyone at East End who brought Samson, and very impressively, also dressed up as shepherds and kings.

**Friends of St Mary's:** If you're interested in joining this group as a general helper or to hear news about the church, and perhaps raise funds to help care for the church building, then please do get in touch.

**Recycling:** no more crisp packets please. We are still collecting biscuit and cake wrappers for recycling, but Terracycle have stopped recycling crisp packets as so many stores now collect them. Please don't leave any in the recycling bin by the church side gate, or at 43 Barton Road.

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 about a life event or for prayer, please contact [revmarkedwards@outlook.com](mailto:revmarkedwards@outlook.com), or our Lay Reader, [robert@harlingtonchurch.org](mailto:robert@harlingtonchurch.org). You can also contact myself or fellow Churchwarden Neil.

Best wishes, Tricia Churchwarden



It was one of those March days when the sun shines hot and the wind blows cold: when it is summer in the light, and winter in the shade.

~Charles Dickens, *Great Expectations*, 1861



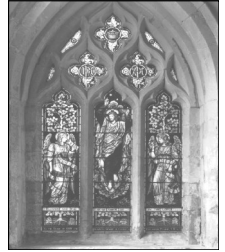


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# St. Mary's Church Services

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Everyone is welcome to attend Sunday services in our beautiful village church. This month there are special services on 5<sup>th</sup>. for Ash Wednesday and 30<sup>th</sup>. for Mothering Sunday. March's services are:



- 2<sup>nd</sup> 8 am Book of Common Prayer Holy Communion  
9.30 am Morning Service
- 5<sup>th</sup> 10 am Ash Wednesday service  
7 pm Benefice Ash Wednesday Communion at Westoning Church
- 9<sup>th</sup> 9 am Families' Messy Breakfast in Parish Hall  
9.30 am Holy Communion
- 16<sup>th</sup> 9.30 am Holy Communion
- 23<sup>rd</sup> 9.30 am Holy Communion
- 30<sup>th</sup> 9.30 am Mothering Sunday Holy Communion

## Wednesdays

Every Wednesday 10 a.m. Holy Communion or Morning Prayer (Ash Wednesday service on 5<sup>th</sup>.)

## 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

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/](http://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)**

Across the shaken bastions of the year  
March drives his windy chariot-wheels of cold.  
Somewhere, they tell me, Spring is waiting near...  
~Arthur Davison Ficke, *Sonnets of a Portrait-Painter*, 1914

# 0—4 Club *plus* Inner Wheel Club of Luton Chiltern



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Harlington Village Hall

£4.50 1<sup>st</sup> child. £1.50 for each additional child

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 kpsewing@outlook.com

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# Village Diary *plus* Directory Changes

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## March

3 <sup>rd</sup>	ADALHS	Flitwick Library 7.30 pm
4 <sup>th</sup>	Flittabus MK	Station Road bus stop 9.15 am
7 <sup>th</sup>	World Day of Prayer	St. George's Church, Toddington 2 pm
8 <sup>th</sup>	Church Quiz Night	Harlington Village Hall 7.15 for 7.30 pm
9 <sup>th</sup>	Families' Messy Breakfast	Parish Hall 9 am
10 <sup>th</sup>	Crafternoon Tea	Methodist Church Hall 2 – 4 pm (plus Zoom)
15 <sup>th</sup>	Messy Church	Methodist Church and Halls 4 pm
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Quiz Night	Harlington Village Hall 8 pm
24 <sup>th</sup>	Crafternoon Tea	Methodist Church Hall 2 – 4 pm (plus Zoom)
24 <sup>th</sup>	Wildlife Talk	Maulden Church 7.30 pm
29 <sup>th</sup>	Coffee Morning	Methodist Church Hall 10 am – 12 Noon
29 <sup>th</sup>	Coffee and Cakes	Harlington Village Hall 2 – 4 pm

## April

6 <sup>th</sup>	Easter Treasure Hunt	Parish Hall 10.30 am
7 <sup>th</sup>	ADALHS	Flitwick Library 7.30 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 APRIL 2025 DATES TO THE MAGAZINE BY 10TH MARCH 2025**

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## Directory Changes

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Add

Harlington Off-Road Cycling, Ron Simmonds

.....[harlingtonoffroadcycling@gmail.com](mailto:harlingtonoffroadcycling@gmail.com) 01525 873264

If you have other changes let me know. Next issue July or August