

# Editorial

Dear Villagers,

Spring, both meteorological and astronomical, is truly with us, and we have had some sunny days to help us forget the dark and damp of winter. Harlington in Bloom has its working parties planned for weeding and planting, and we are thinking already about the Village Show.

Some of the new houses are occupied, while we still have the disturbance and mess of others being built. Throughout the year we can expect a flow of new residents. Let's welcome all of them even if we would have preferred no new building. Who knows, some of them may help new things happen, or maintain some of the old things. Many groups need new people to keep them going—we all know of groups that have shut for lack of officers.

Have a happy Easter, with real meaning and chocolate eggs.

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.

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

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## A letter from St. Mary's Church

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Dear Friends,

Although this is the April edition of the magazine, I am beginning to write this letter whilst still in the first week of March. As the editor will tell you, printing deadlines mean that preparation of the content of the magazine does need to be made a few weeks in advance of the publication release date. As I write it is also the beginning of Lent. And during the time of Lent there is much about preparation. For the church, Lent is a time of preparation for Easter. A time when the church prepares for the celebration of the death and resurrection of Jesus. Easter Day was also a time in the early church when new Christians were baptised, and the season of Lent was a time of preparation for those to be baptised.

This year, Easter falls in April, and is perhaps the most important Christian festival, for the message of Easter is the foundation of the Christian faith. We look to the cross on Good Friday where Jesus died for us, taking upon himself the sins of the whole world. But we look also to Easter morning and to the empty tomb. Yes, Jesus died, but he rose again. And it is his resurrection from the dead that enables us to live in hope. It was the resurrection that transformed Jesus' disciples, who were empowered to spread the message of Jesus Christ across the world.

Throughout the world, Christians today celebrate the awesome power of God as Jesus calls us all out of the darkness and into his marvellous light. When we look at the state of the world today it certainly does appear that we are in times of darkness. We do need to see some light, and we are all looking for that flicker of hope.

During Lent Christians are encouraged to grow in our faith by giving greater attention to prayer, study and in reading the Bible. It is a time, as I mentioned above, to prepare for Easter. But as we take the time to prepare for what is to come, we also take time to reflect on what has passed. We look back and reflect on all that God has done for us and see how he has directed us in our journey of faith. Life might not always be easy, but God is always there for us. We are not alone on our journey. And knowing this helps us as we look ahead into the future. As we come towards Easter, we are reminded that there is hope. And that hope is in Jesus Christ, our Saviour, who died for us and rose again.

May God's blessing be upon you all.

Fr Mark

Priest in Charge, St Mary's Church



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# Harlington Lower School

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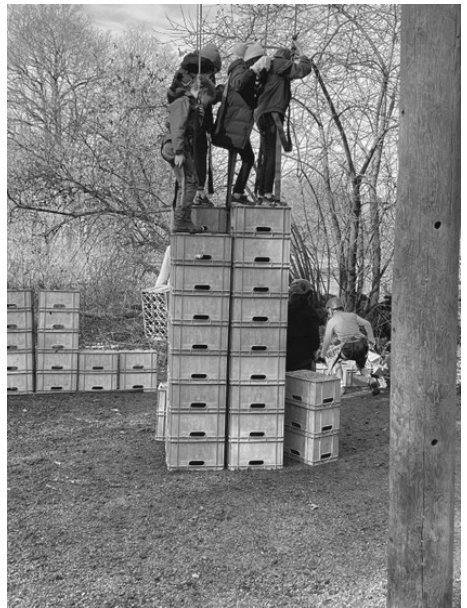
March was a busy month with lots of activities going on with in school and extracurricular. The highlight for Year 4 was a two-night residential trip to Cuffley Active Learning Centre near Potters Bar.

Two pupils have written their accounts of the trip:



*“In March we went on our residential trip to Cuffley Learning Centre. When we arrived, we were greeted by a friendly instructor and sorted into our dorms of 8. After, we made a short walk into the woodlands where we learnt about how we could use camouflage to our advan-*

*aged before he gave us the option to paint our faces in brown and green. He then explained that we needed to hide and try and make it to our home base whilst somebody tried to find us. We also did lots of activities including shelter build and zip line and to finish the day we sang songs around the campfire.*



*After a good night’s sleep, we woke to our first activity of the day – rock climbing – shortly following by fire build and S.O.S. On our final day we did crate stack and nightline before heading home.”*

*“In Cuffley the days are packed with all sorts of activities and fun stuff! The food is mouth-watering and the instructors are friendly. The beds in our dorms were comfortable and we had a shower in every dorm! Cuffley will keep you busy with fun activities that are safe and of course FUN!”*

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### FLITTABUS TO MILTON KEYNES

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**In April, the MK service is on: Tue 1 April 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)

- **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 / One-hour trip on Rutland Belle
- **Blenheim Palace including Flower Show**  
Fri 27 Jun 2025 – £55.00 pp inc      Transport / Admission to Palace / Admission to Flower Show / Admission to Grounds

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# Flittabus *plus* Inner Wheel Club of Luton Chiltern

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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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"When the April wind wakes the call for the soil, I hold the plough as my only hold upon the earth, and, as I follow through the fresh and fragrant furrow, I am planted with every foot-step, growing, budding, blooming into a spirit of spring."

- *Dallas Lore Sharp, 1870-1929*

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# Brain Tumour Research

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## Time Flies



A quarter of this year has just flown by but it has got off to a good start and plant fundraising has begun: in January £17 was raised; February £24.70 and by the 8th of March £23.20 so in total £64.90, each month increases as the days grow warmer and longer and right now we are fortunate to have drier and sunnier days encouraging us into our gardens and creating a sanctuary of peace, colour and pleasure. Come and be inspired and choose a plant or two from my plant display at 132 Goswell End Road!

Thanks this month goes to a very kind villager who over ordered on her seeds and so has donated them to Brain Tumour Research. These will include Lupins, Hollyhocks and I will have hopefully by May have 3 hanging baskets and pots available for the summer season, watch this space and thank you for sharing your seeds. Also thanks to Gwen for donating some of her books which I have scanned and sent to world of books raising £27.80. And to Nicki and Russell for garden chairs and tables, tool box, strawberry planter etc. To John for offering 2 Rattan chairs and a small table to raise funds for the charity. Your very generous donations are making a massive difference.

Hopefully by the time you read this my garage conversion will be nearly finished and I will just be waiting for my greenhouse; there should be greater access to the plants at the front of my house. Thank you all for your patience and to Bill, Dave and James for the super space they are creating for me; it will be a much more comfortable place to grow and less strenuous to work with everything on hand and carefully organised. It will also mean all my plants can remain outside the house so I am hoping it will provide a cleaner house if I am not transporting trays of seeds and plants up and down the stairs, filling my dining table with said trays and unable to find space to eat my dinner!! I do hope this all lives up to my expectations and I may even be able to find some time to sit in this quiet and reflective space to read a book or chill awhile! Wouldn't that be nice!

I have written to our MP this week as on Friday 14th March Scott Arthur, MP for Edinburgh South West, will take his Rare Cancers Private Members Bill to Parliament. To get this through at least 100 members need to back it. If passed, the Bill will incentivise research and investment into the treatment of rare cancers, including brain tumours, by:

- Placing a duty on the Government to further support research and innovation for rare cancers, through an appointed rare cancer lead

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## Harlington Gardeners' Society & BTR *ctd.*

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**Do you have a ticket for the FA Cup final at Wembley on Saturday May 17th?**

If not why not join the Harlington Gardeners' Society coach trip to the RHS Wisley garden in Surrey on that date. We still have a few places left. The cost is £30 & if you are a member of HGS (£4) you get free entry to the gardens. The coach

will leave Harlington at 9 am & return at approx. 6 pm. To book your place please contact me on 01525 753235 or by email at [antony.roberts@ntlworld.com](mailto:antony.roberts@ntlworld.com)

Tony Roberts – HGS Secretary

"The April rain, the April rain,  
Comes slanting down in fitful showers,  
Then from the furrow shoots the grain,  
And banks are fledged with nestling flowers;  
And in grey shawl and woodland bowers  
The cuckoo through the April rain  
Calls once again."  
- *Mathilde Blind, April Rain*



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## Brain Tumour Research *ctd.*

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- Putting responsibility on the Government to review the Orphan Drug Regulations, with respect to rare cancer patients
- Ensuring that patients can be easily contacted about relevant research and clinical trials

If put in place, these measures could represent a pivotal turning point in the fight to find a cure. I will keep you all posted on this.

I am hoping to be able to report on our wear a hat event on 29th March in the May edition of Contact. In the meantime wishing you all a happy spring and joyous Easter.

Jane Barltrop

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# Harlington in Bloom

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We held our first committee meeting since the AGM on 5 March. Minutes of the last committee meeting were discussed and approved. Matters Arising were discussed in the body of the meeting. Your current committee are: David Kingham (Chair), Judy Harfield (Hon Treasurer), Rosemary Tuohy (Hon Secretary), Teresa Glenister (Minutes Secretary), Vivienne Dunlop (Publicity Officer), Jane Barltrop, Anthony Price, Gill Whiting. It's always possible to co-opt people during the year. If you weren't able to attend the AGM or move to the village during the year and are interested, just get in contact with someone on the committee! We are a welcoming lot! And not very formal despite how it sounds. AGMs and such like are just the mechanics of things an organisation requires in order to function properly and appropriately, especially when funds are involved.

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

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

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

Sat 12 April Weeding/pruning work party.	All Welcome	10 am
Sat 31 May Summer Planting.	All Welcome	10 am
Sat 5 July OPEN GARDENS	TBA	
Sat 19 July Weeding/pruning work party.	All Welcome.	10 am
Sat 6 September Weeding/pruning work party.	All Welcome	10 am
Fri 26 Sept Awards Evening	All Welcome	7.30 pm
Sat 25 Oct Winter planting	All Welcome	10 am
Sat 8 Nov War Memorial Tidy Up in advance of Remembrance	Sun	10 am

*Vivienne Dunlop on behalf of HiB Committee* <https://www.facebook.com/HarlingtonInBloom/> or [judy.harfield@apertech.co.uk](mailto:judy.harfield@apertech.co.uk) (Treasurer); Rosemary Tuohy (Secretary) [rosemarypc86@gmail.com](mailto:rosemarypc86@gmail.com)

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# Harlington Parish Council *plus* Wednesday Coffee

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## Annual Parish Meeting

Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2025 7.30 pm in the Parish Hall

### What is It?

This meeting is not a Council meeting but an opportunity for residents to find out what goes on in Harlington. The format this year will be to receive council and committee reports followed by residents raising questions.

### Residents

If you wish to raise a question or make an announcement this must be submitted to the Clerk via email by **15th April 2025**. Having advance knowledge of the questions will allow them to be grouped and make it possible to give a more complete reply. If you would like to raise a question or make an announcement, please contact the Clerk –

[clerk@harlington-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@harlington-pc.gov.uk)

### Organisations

Village organisations are invited to have a stand demonstrating their activities. You will be able to meet other residents, village organisations and find out what is happening in the village.

If your village organisation would like a stand, please contact the Clerk –  
[clerk@harlington-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@harlington-pc.gov.uk)

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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.



Easter was when Hope in person surprised the whole world by coming forward from the future into the present.

*N. T. Wright*

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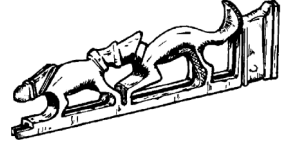
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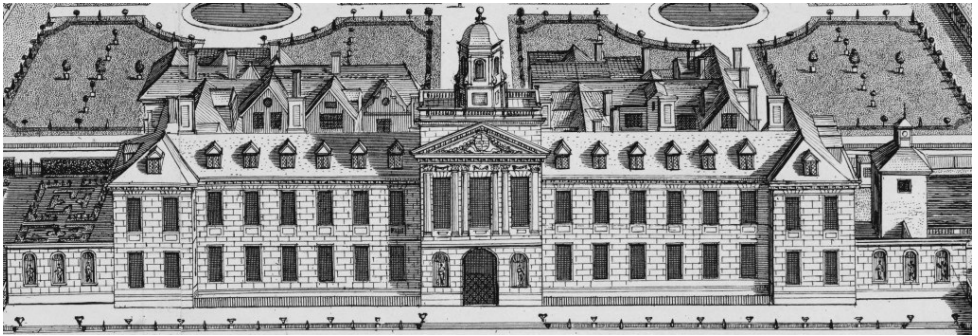
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**Monday 7th April 2025**

## **The Old House(s) at Wrest**



AGM followed by The Old House(s) at Wrest - Records of a house at Wrest go back to the Middle Ages. After successive developments it acquired a grand frontage in the 17th century. Shortly afterwards, it became the centre of the Duke of Kent's grand plans for the estate. Various replacements were proposed, until replaced by Earl de Grey's mansion in the 1830's.

Speaker – Chris Martin (Wrest Park Volunteer Research Team)

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

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



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## Barton Community Choir *plus* Wills

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Love to sing? Come and be part of something special! Founded in 2010, Barton Community Choir has been singing for joy ever since. We welcome everyone who loves to sing—no auditions required! We are an inclusive choir, and new members are buddied up to help you feel at home.

### When & Where?

📍 Ramsey Manor Lower School, Manor Rd, Barton, MK45 4NS

📅 Every Monday (term time)

🕒 Registration from: 7:00 PM

🎵 Warm-up: 7:30 PM

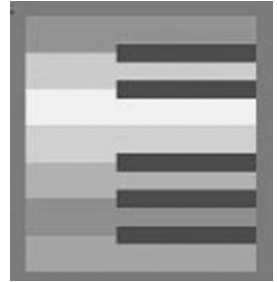
🎤 Singing finishes: 9:00 PM

🔗 Step-free access

🎉 **First session FREE!** Come along for a taster session and experience the joy of singing in a friendly community. For more details, contact us or just turn up and sing!

email: [bartoncommunitychoir@gmail.com](mailto:bartoncommunitychoir@gmail.com)

facebook: [BartonCommunityChoir](https://www.facebook.com/BartonCommunityChoir)



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## Wills

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Hi all

I am taking a look, with others, at Harlington wills for a publication later this year. We do have wills going back to the early 1500s. This is of course interesting but would love to hear from villagers who have more modern documents relating to wills. The sense of the quirkiness is not necessarily required. An example of more modern text is William Higgs of Manor Farm, he bequests £10.00 to his old cowman John Ashby Sen. £5.00 each to Henry Hinks and John Ashby jun. A churchwarden enlisted in the Great War has left a sum of money to ensure that his grave is tended in the Barton Road Cemetery.



Confidentially will be respected at all times. If you have any wills that may be of interest, please contact me on Facebook or 01525 874841.

Many thanks. Russell Preston.

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## The Friday Thing

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You may know of The Friday Thing (aka 1<sup>st</sup> Harlington Boys' Brigade and Girls' Association) for our band that leads the village Remembrance Day parade each year, but we undertake many other activities, including taking part in local and national Boys' Brigade competitions. In March, we had two successful competitions.



Firstly, our older members took part in the national Masterteam Quiz final at the BB's Scottish HQ in Falkirk. Although we came 5<sup>th</sup> out of 6 in the very close final, originally 140 teams entered, so this was a great achievement; the best we have managed in our near 30 years existence.

Secondly, three of our younger members won the local (battalion) first aid competition on 7<sup>th</sup> March in Kempston, gaining plaudits from the St John's Ambulance volunteers who set and judged the competition.



The Friday Thing is open to any young person from school year 7 and above, meeting Fridays and Mondays at the Methodist church. If you would like more information, please look at our website: <https://harlingtonmethodistchurch.uk/the-friday-thing/>

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## Harlington Village Hall 100 Club

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The winner for February was Bill Gulloch of Pilgrims Close with ticket no.72. 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.

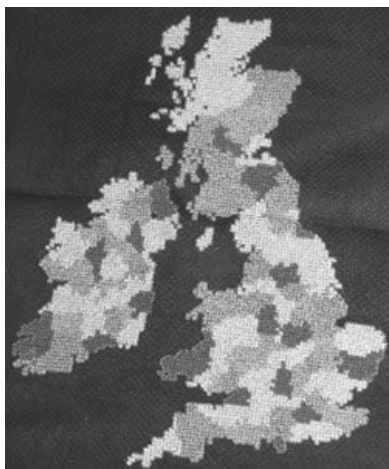
Cara Thurston-Lack, Secretary of the HVH Management committee

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## Crafternoon Tea *plus* Harlington Surgery and SMC

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Crafternoon Tea meets on alternate Mondays, at Harlington Methodist Church, between 2 and 4 pm. 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.



Planning a holiday? How many of us, I wonder, either take craft activities with us, or acquire a new activity while we are away – or, of course, both. I know at least one member of the group who “collects” craft shops in places where she is likely to return. We could, of course, consider illustrating our holiday in our craft. Another member of Crafternoon Tea made a “seaside” blanket – it was the illustration in the August 2022 Contact article. So if you think of some way of celebrating your holiday, let us know – bring us a picture.

I wondered about putting an extra cross, in a different colour, in all the places on this map I have been on holiday, but really the scale is too small. It does, however, remind me of the variety of places that are really nice to visit around our own country.

Our April meetings will be on 7<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</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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## Good Friday Walk

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Our annual Good Friday (18th April) walk around the village starts at the Methodist Church at 9.45 am and finishes at St. Mary’s with tea, coffee and hot cross buns. This year we will be leading Bible readings and prayers around the village with a narrated drama at the shops at around 10.30 ish, depending on how quickly we walk. Feel free to join us, or just to watch the drama.



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# Harlington Surgery and SMC & Wellbeing Walks

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News again from Leigh-Anne, the Medical Dispenser at Harlington Surgery.

She gives us details of the surgery's forthcoming Easter Holiday and May Bank Holiday closing dates, and the latest date for handing in repeat prescriptions:

## Easter Holiday Closures

closed Friday 18 April 2025

closed Monday 21 April 2025

## May Bank Holiday Closure

closed Monday 5 May 2025

\*\*\*\*\* There may also be a further surgery closure on Thursday 8 May 2025, to mark VE Day. To be confirmed.

## Repeat Prescriptions

As many of us know, the supply of medication to the surgery has been somewhat irregular this year, keeping Leigh-Anne and her team *very* busy.

She says that for this year the ideal Latest Date to hand in repeat scripts covering the Easter holiday period is Friday 11 April 2025.

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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.



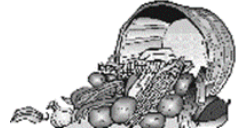
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# Harlington Village Show

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

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> August 2025



Please note that the Show will NOT be taking place on August Bank Holiday Saturday this year, as the hall was not available for us to set up on the Friday. It will take place a week earlier on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> August.

Signs of Spring are well and truly here. Time to plant seeds, care for your favourite pot plant, or perhaps take some photos. The Village Show is for the whole village to enjoy. Entering for the first time might seem a bit daunting, but the committee are a very friendly bunch and we'll answer any queries via our Facebook page. There, you'll also find updates on this year's show and classes.

We have been preparing the schedule during the past few months. You wouldn't believe how much discussion and thought goes into this! The vegetable, fruit and flower classes will be the same as 2024, so that's quite straightforward. Other classes will be different.

Craft classes: a celebration card in any medium; an animal or bird in any medium; baby's cardigan for up to 6 months – knitted or crocheted; a knitted/crochet/sewn blanket or quilt suitable for a teenager up to a maximum 42" square (any blankets or quilts donated at the Show will be taken to Project Linus, a charity providing a sense of security, warmth and comfort to children in need).

Photography classes: Harlington through a Lens; Off the Ground ; Animal Antics.

The schedules will be delivered in early July and will also contain a few tips on showing and preparing for the Show. If you have any queries, please contact us via our Facebook page. More class details will be in the May Contact magazine.

Tricia & the HVS Committee

Although St George never visited England, his reputation for virtue and holiness spread across Europe and his feast day – the 23rd April – was celebrated in England from the 9th century onwards.

He became popular with English kings. Edward I (1272-1307) had banners bearing the emblem of St George (a red cross on a white background) and Edward III (1327-77) had a strong interest in the saint and owned a relic of his blood.

The St George cross was not used to represent England until the reign of Henry VIII.

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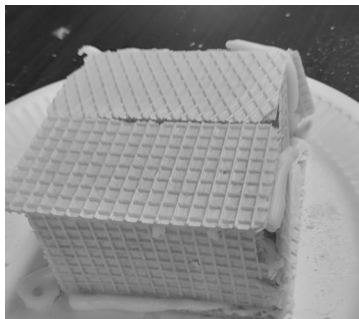
# Messy Church News

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Our February Messy Church followed on from January, and we looked at the remainder of Joseph's story. We had left him still in prison, the baker having been executed and the cup-bearer being set free. It was years after

that Pharaoh had dreams that no one could interpret and the cup-bearer remembered Joseph. So we made thin cows and fat cows and stamped pictures of wheat. We also iced biscuits to show them.



Joseph explained the dreams and Pharaoh put him in charge of dealing with the famine. We made Egyptian style collars. We made grain bags and barns. We talked



about Joseph's family coming to buy grain, and how they were eventually reconciled, and the family moved to Egypt.

Our next Messy Church will be on 19th April 2025 (Easter Saturday) at 4 pm in the Methodist Church and Halls. We will, of course, be focussing on Holy Week and 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

# 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**



# Harlington Parish Council

## Harlington Parish Council

1	Cllr Terry Culverhouse	7	Cllr Martin Waldron
2	Cllr John Harfield	8	Cllr Marcus McNamara
3	Cllr Pete Hughes	9	VACANT SEAT
4	Cllr Karen Saunders	10	VACANT SEAT
5	Cllr Mary Walsh	11	VACANT SEAT
6	Cllr Jack Goodenough	12	VACANT SEAT

### PARISH CLERK / COUNCIL OFFICE

<b>Alison doyle</b>	<b>01525 875933</b>	<a href="mailto:clerk@harlington-pc.gov.uk">clerk@harlington-pc.gov.uk</a>
Parish Office, Church Rd, Harlington LU5 6LE		

### CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCILLORS

<b>Cllr Mary Walsh</b>	<a href="mailto:mary.Walsh@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk">mary.Walsh@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk</a>
<b>Cllr Gary Purser</b>	<a href="mailto:Gary.Purser@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk">Gary.Purser@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk</a>

## All Residents are invited to attend Council meetings:

	DATE	MEETING TYPE	TIME
<b>All meetings are held at the Parish Hall Church road, Harlington, LU5 6LE</b>	8th April 2025	Full Council Meeting	7.30pm
	22nd April 2025	Annual Parish Meeting	7.30pm
	13th May 2025	Annual Council Meeting	7.30pm
	3rd June 2025	Finance and General purposes committee	7.30pm

## Want to keep up to date?

If you have not already done so, we recommend you sign up to our newsletter. You can subscribe free of charge by following this link <https://harlington-pc.gov.uk/> on the right hand side of the page, enter your email address and click the blue subscribe button. We will send you the latest Parish information straight to your inbox.

## Looking for a venue to hire?

The Parish Hall is available to hire to residents and non residents for regular or occasional bookings. If you are interested in booking the Parish Hall please contact the Council Office on 01525 875933 or use the contact form to initially check availability.

## Harlington Allotments

If you are interested in renting a plot then please contact The Council Office on 01525 875933. Please note that in order to rent an allotment you must reside within the area whose perimeter is one mile outside the boundary of the Civil Parish of Harlington. The site has a water supply, car parking facilities and padlocked entry.

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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**

**April 2025**

6th – Café Church Easter Treasure Hunt

13th – Pete Gilbert

20th – Easter Celebration – Carol Gibbs

27th – Polly Oliver

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

To register your place  
Email [contact@life-church-harlington.com](mailto:contact@life-church-harlington.com)

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.



### **APRIL preachers are:**

- 6<sup>th</sup> 10 am Come and See led by Martin Wallis  
6 pm Service of Holy Communion led by Rev. Claudia Lupi.  
13<sup>th</sup> 10 am The Worship Group  
20<sup>th</sup> **9.30 am** Rev. Claudia Lupi. This service includes Holy Communion for Easter Day  
27<sup>th</sup> 10 am To be announced

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** 26th April 2025, from 10 am to 12 noon, in the hall.  
Proceeds this year in aid of the RNLI

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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

- 3<sup>rd</sup> - Vicki Yorke  
10<sup>th</sup> - AGM with Rev. Claudia Lupi.  
17<sup>th</sup> - Rev Tim Haines  
24<sup>th</sup> - Diane Maple



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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:** many thanks to everyone who supported the Quiz Night on March 8<sup>th</sup>. We hope you enjoyed taking part. Congratulations to our winners, Double Digits (you know who you are!). Runners up were The 4 Amigos, and in joint 3<sup>rd</sup> place we had The Friday Thing, FCC & Friends, and Clueless. Well done to all the teams.

**Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> March Mothering Sunday:** we will be celebrating at our 9.30am service, with some flowers and chocolates to mark this special day. Patient: "Doctor, every time I drink hot chocolate I get a stabbing pain in my eye." Doctor: "Try taking the spoon out first!"

**Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April Harlington Lower School Easter service.** We're really looking forward to welcoming children from the Lower School in their colourfully decorated Easter bonnets, after which we'll all enjoy some hot cross buns.

**Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> April Messy Church on Palm Sunday:** come to the church from 9am for a small breakfast snack. The main service starts at 9.30am, but shortly after that, Messy Church will move to the churchyard for an Easter Egg hunt and other activities, (or the Parish Hall if wet) before meeting Samson the donkey and his pony friend. Carrots will be provided for our 2 visitors. All welcome.

**Save the date:** on **Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> June** at 3pm, we're delighted to welcome a Tower of London Beefeater (or Yeoman Warder, to give him his proper title) who will be giving a talk about his life as a ceremonial guardian of the Tower. Other highlights will include his royal connections through a previous career in the Central Band of the RAF.

**Churchyard:** The birds have been seen checking out the nest boxes, so by the time you read this we hope some might be nesting again this year. Thankfully, the moles seem to have moved out of the churchyard for the time being.

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.

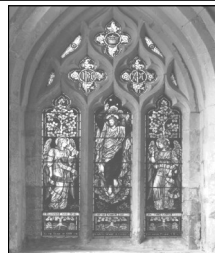
Best wishes, Tricia Churchwarden

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# St. Mary's Church Services

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Everyone is welcome to attend the services in our beautiful village church. This month is very special as it includes the highlight of the Christian year, Easter. April's services are:



## Sundays and weekdays during Holy Week

- 6<sup>th</sup> 9.30 am Holy Communion
- 13<sup>th</sup>. 9 am Families' Messy Breakfast  
9.30 am Palm Sunday Holy Communion  
concluding with greeting Samson the donkey outside church
- 15<sup>th</sup> 8.00 pm Tuesday of Holy Week Compline
- 17<sup>th</sup> 7.00 pm Maundy Thursday Holy Communion at St. Nicholas Church  
Tingrith
- 18<sup>th</sup> 9.45 am Good Friday Walk of Witness from Methodist Church  
2.00 pm Good Friday Last Hour on the Cross
- 20<sup>th</sup> 9.30 am Easter Day Holy Communion service
- 27<sup>th</sup> 9.30 am Holy Communion

## Wednesdays

Every Wednesday 10 a.m. Holy Communion or Morning Prayer

## Other times

The church can be made available for private prayer by arrangement, please contact one of the church wardens, Tricia Murphy [tricia.murphy5@ntlworld.com](mailto:tricia.murphy5@ntlworld.com) or Neil Walter [walterfamily@btinternet.com](mailto:walterfamily@btinternet.com), or the Church Reader Dr. Robert Johns [robert@harlingtonchurch.org](mailto:robert@harlingtonchurch.org). Alternatively email [admin@harlingtonchurch.org](mailto:admin@harlingtonchurch.org)

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

# VE Day *plus* Baby and Me, Advert

**The Ladies in Waiting Need  
You..... to save the date!**



**To mark 80th Anniversary  
of VE Day on Monday 5th  
May**

# Baby & Me

*for parents and babies  
0 – 12 months*

*THURSDAY April 3<sup>rd</sup> & 17th  
10 – 11.30*

*HARLINGTON PARISH HALL  
coffee, cake, & chat*



"Hark, I hear a robin calling!  
List, the wind is from the south!  
And the orchard-bloom is falling  
Sweet as kisses on the mouth.

In the dreamy vale of beeches  
Fair and faint is woven mist,  
And the river's orient reaches  
Are the palest amethyst.

Every limpid brook is singing  
Of the lure of April days;  
Every piney glen is ringing  
With the maddest roundelays.

Come and let us seek together  
Springtime lore of daffodils,  
Giving to the golden weather  
Greeting on the sun-warm hills."

*Lucy Maud Montgomery,  
Spring Song*

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# Village Diary *plus* Directory Changes

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## April

1 <sup>st</sup>	Flittabus MK	Station Road bus stop 9.15 am
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Baby and Me	Parish Hall 10 am
6 <sup>th</sup>	Easter Treasure Hunt	Parish Hall 10.30 am
7 <sup>th</sup>	Crafternoon Tea	Methodist Church Hall 2 – 4 pm (plus Zoom)
7 <sup>th</sup>	ADALHS	Flitwick Library 7.30 pm
12 <sup>th</sup>	Weeding Workparty	Village Hall Carpark 10 am
13 <sup>th</sup>	Families' Messy Breakfast	Parish Hall 9 am
17 <sup>th</sup>	Baby and Me	Parish Hall 10 am
18 <sup>th</sup>	Good Friday Walk	Methodist Church 9.45 am
19 <sup>th</sup>	Messy Church	Methodist Church and Halls 4 pm
21 <sup>st</sup>	Crafternoon Tea	Methodist Church Hall 2 – 4 pm (plus Zoom)
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Annual Parish Meeting	Parish Hall 7.30 pm
26 <sup>th</sup>	Coffee Morning	Methodist Church Hall 10 am – 12 Noon
26 <sup>th</sup>	Trivia	Warren Hill Junior School 7 pm

## May

5<sup>th</sup> VE Day Celebration

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 MAY 2025 DATES TO THE MAGAZINE BY 10TH APRIL 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

### Remove

Harlington Heritage Trust

If you have other changes let me know. The next full issue will be in the July or August edition of Contact