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# Editorial

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Dear Villagers,

As we start October, I notice the winds have been getting stronger and the temperature has been dropping. The equinox has passed and Autumn is truly upon us.

We will, unless this issue has gone out very quickly, have had our first “Get to know your village” and hopefully met some new and interesting people. As our village grows, we need to make the effort to keep the village community vibrant, and not become just another dormitory, as so many place, particularly those with good transport links, are.

At the same time many people are working against continued urban sprawl. Villages shouldn't be expanded till they merge with each other and the countryside that we cherish disappears or is turned into a park. There are tensions, but it's not down to the new residents. 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.

**November copy by 10th October please.**

**PROMPT PAYMENT OF  
ADVERTISING INVOICES WOULD  
BE GREATLY APPRECIATED**

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<https://harlingtonvillagemagazine.org>

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## A letter from St. Mary's Church

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Dear Friends,

I am writing this at the beginning of September, and as I look out of the window, there is a heavy downpour of rain. In fact the past couple of days have been wet. For those who like the warm weather and sunshine we were very blessed over the summer, but the lack of rain was not good for the garden. The lack of rain will have affected many things in the garden, but the biggest thing for me was the grass. That lovely green grass which is pleasing to the eye became very brown and was not a pleasant sight. So I am now thankful for the rain. The grass in my garden now beginning to look lush and green again.



This has made me think about how often I say thank you to God. I think it is very easy to offer thanks when something good has happened to us or when our lives are going well, but what about when we are going through some tough times? I'm sure there are occasions when we all face difficulties of some sorts. It would be quite an achievement if we were able to say that we are living life stress free. Whatever environment we are in, at some point we are likely to come across stressful situations, whether at work, at school, at home, driving or shopping. The list can go on and sometimes it is the simple everyday things that get us down.

The big question however, is what do we do when we are going through a tough time? We all deal with stressful and difficult times in different ways. Some people may bottle things up and let their problem eat away inside of them. Some will share their problems with anyone who will listen.

But what about thanking God when times are difficult for us? That may seem to be a strange question. Do we really want to thank our Lord when we are going through a tough time?

The translation in the Amplified Bible for Philippians 4:6-7 says, **“Do not be anxious or worried about anything, but in everything [every circumstance and situation] by prayer and petition with thanksgiving, continue to make your [specific] requests known to God. And the peace of God [that peace which reassures the heart, that peace] which transcends all understanding, [that peace which] stands guard over your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus [is yours].”**

It is in our time of need when we should more than ever be turning to God. And

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## **Letter Ctd. and Vi (Pat) Patten**

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the amazing thing is that nothing is too trivial to God. We can turn to Him for even the smallest thing. If something is troubling us, God wants us to tell Him, for it is often those small and trivial things which get us down, get us worked up, and become a big issue.

Paul tells us in 1 Thessalonians verse five to always be joyful. Is it possible for us to always be joyful, especially when we are stressed, when we are feeling low, when nothing seems to be going right? But we need to read on, for Paul continues that we should keep on praying and no matter what happens, to always be thankful. And this is the key. When we are struggling and really do need some support, pray. We should tell God what we need, but also try to find something in the situation to thank him for. When we are going through a tough time, God wants us to call on Him. He wants us to know He is there, by our side, and this is certainly something we can be thankful for.

Life can be a struggle and for a time it may seem there is no relief. But then the rain comes, giving refreshment and renewal. I'm sure we have all been impacted in various ways by some difficult and stress, and it will not have been easy trying to cope.

Let me encourage you. Try not to worry about anything, but instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and every day, find something to thank him for.

May God bless you all.

Fr Mark

Priest in Charge, St Mary's Church

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## **Vi (Pat) Patten**

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We are sad to announce that our Mum Vi (Pat) Patten passed away peacefully on the 2<sup>nd</sup> September at the age of 95.

Mum was known by many in the village for her Keep Fit that she taught for many years. Mum's funeral will be held in Wye (in Kent) where she lived having moved from the village to be closer to myself, David and my brother Robert.

We will be visiting the village at a future date to catch up with any of you who are able to celebrate the life of mum.

David, Robert and Martin Patten

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# Flittabus

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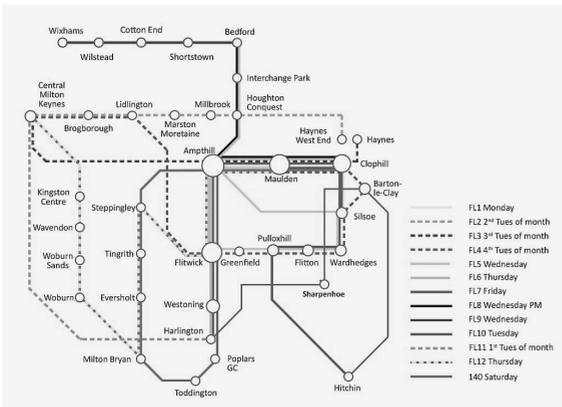
Bus passes are accepted on all routes.

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**Flittabus Routes** This map shows all the Flittabus routes, in black and white.

For the colour version see: [flittabus.co.uk/route-map/](http://flittabus.co.uk/route-map/)



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

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# Brain Tumour Research

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**Brain Tumour  
Research**  
Funding the fight

## Tea/ coffee fundraiser



I have booked Harlington Village Hall for our annual tea/coffee afternoon on 1st November, where refreshments will be served as well as the usual games, plant, craft stall and Christmas merchandise between 2-4pm. I do hope you will put this date in your diary and will be able to join us.

Thank you to all those who planned and organised the Harlington Village Show. It was a great day supported by so many of you and you helped us raise £83 this year, a huge success made possible by the kind donations of vegetables from Duncan, Liz, those who donated their prize vegetables that had been entered into the show and Andy, Rachael, Julia and Stephen for their lovely plants delivered the week before the show, perfect timing. It was lovely to be able to chat and spend time with so many of our supporters, thank you.

Thank you to those who have made personal donations to the charity: I received a lovely encouraging letter with one of these donations which really inspired me and drives my fundraising efforts.

By supporting in any of the above ways in our plant, fruit and vegetable fundraising you have now brought our total amount raised this year to £1580.71 and our total fundraising efforts has now topped £60,000!

Don't stop now Harlington, if you haven't yet joined this mission it's not too late: come along to the tea/ coffee event on the 1st November or visit 132 Goswell End Road for your plants/fresh fruit and vegetables (whilst in season).

Look forward to meeting you,

Jane

PS construction work is complete and supper with a glass of wine in the greenhouse has been celebrated!

"The sweet calm sunshine of October, now

Warms the low spot; upon its grassy mould

The purple oak-leaf falls; the birchen bough

drops its bright spoil like arrow-heads of gold."

- *William Cullen Bryant*

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# Harlington in Bloom

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We'll have a write up next month in November on the Awards evening held at the end of September as this copy is written in advance for the Contact copy deadline! I am including some new results received below. Our speaker for the Awards evening is Felicity Brimblecombe of the Bedfordshire Gardens Trust. The Trust is run by volunteers whose aim is to *promote, record,*

*conserve and help others appreciate our county's gardens, parks and designed landscapes.* Check out [bedsgardenstrust.org.uk](http://bedsgardenstrust.org.uk) for more information.

**Commercial Building:** The Old Sun

**Public Building:** The Parish Hall

**Allotments:** **1st** M 4 Yulia Yurist; **2nd** 19a Roger Ivett; **3rd** 30a Richard Whaley:

**Micro Plot** M4 Yulia Yurist

**Summer Garden:** **1<sup>st</sup>** 43 Barton Road;

**2<sup>nd</sup>** Kanderstag; 1 Foster Road; **3<sup>rd</sup>** 104 Goswell End Road and 49 Barton Road;

**Highly Commended** 18 Glebe Gardens; 10 Robinson Crescent

**Hanging Baskets/Containers:** **1<sup>st</sup>**; 102 Goswell End Road; **2<sup>nd</sup>** 43 Barton Road;

**3<sup>rd</sup>** 1 Daubeney Close; **Highly Commended:** 12 Wingate Road; 21 Glebe Gardens, 6 Oak Close

**Dry Gardens:** **1st** 12 Robinson Crescent; **2<sup>nd</sup>** 41 Lincoln Way; **3<sup>rd</sup>** 39 Sundon Road

Congratulations to you all!

We look forward to seeing volunteers at our Winter planting at the end of the October. In the meantime, a heartfelt thanks to our volunteer waterers around the village who did great work in the heat over this astonishingly dry summer. The summer planting in the beds, planters and boxes at the 4 entrances to Harlington, simply would not have survived without your help. Thanks also to those who



*Rose at the Old Sun*

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## HiB Ctd. plus Wellbeing Walks

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helped with the weeding at the village hall on 6 September. And a mention to two committee members, Gill and Judy, that I spotted quietly tidying up the War Memorial without fanfare in advance of VJ Day. Nice one ladies.

Thank you so much to our sponsors *Green Valley Construction, Harlington Shop; Nevilles, Funeral Services (Amphill); Wednesday Morning Coffee Group, Gardeners' Society, The Hub and Spoke Cafe.*

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

Sat 25 Oct Winter planting All Welcome Meet Village Hall 10.00 am

Sat 8 Nov War Memorial Tidy Up in advance of Remembrance Sunday  
10.00 am

*Vivienne Dunlop on behalf of HiB Committee <https://www.facebook.com/HarlingtonInBloom/> or [judy.harfield@apertech.co.uk](mailto:judy.harfield@apertech.co.uk) (Treasurer); Rosemary Tuohy (Secretary) 07793 016207/ [rosemarypc86@gmail.com](mailto:rosemarypc86@gmail.com)*

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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.



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

- Nathaniel Hawthorne

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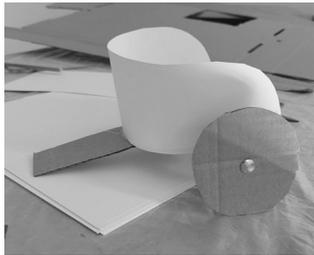
# Messy Church News

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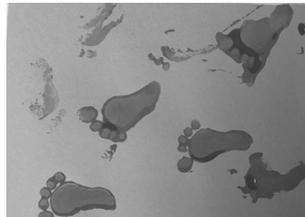


Traditional Church can be very sit-down and formal. Even less formal services can be limited in what happens. Some people like this; others find it doesn't help them learn or remember. Messy Church is all about adding another dimension, where you can make things. Some people find that their minds work best

when their hands are working as well. So at Messy Church we use our hands to make things that are associated with the story or theme that we have for any session.



Also, the clue is in the name, some things are messy. Not everything is, but it's hard to keep your fingers clean if you're working with clay, or baking bread, and as for making hand prints or foot prints....



We're fortunate in that at the Methodist Church building we have lots of rooms; some where we can make a mess, others that are good for singing or speaking and a room where we can have tea, because eating together is also fun.

We meet on the 3rd Saturday each month (except August) at 4 pm in the Methodist Church and Halls. We have 45 mins of craftwork, followed by a celebration with a story and songs, and more activities, before we finish with tea.

Our October meeting will be held on the 18th.

Don't forget, while children need an adult with them to help them with crafts, 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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# Harlington Lower School

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At the time of writing, we are currently in our first full week of the new school year. We have been delighted to welcome all the children back to school for the new year, especially our new families, who we are very much looking forward to getting to know. It has been wonderful seeing the children settle into their new classes.

We have been busy over the summer making improvements to our learning spaces. We're excited to announce that our Year 1 classroom now has a new outdoor area and offers continuous provision, allowing children more opportunities to learn through play. Additionally, we've had a wall removed in our Reception area, giving both children and staff more freedom to move around and collaborate.

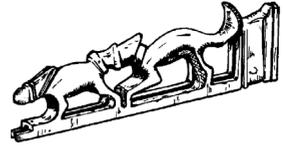
We want to be an active part of our local community, and we're always looking for new ways to work together. The Senior Leadership Team will be holding a community drop-in session at the Hub and Spoke Cafe on Wednesday, October 15th, from 6.30-7.30 pm. We'd love for you to join us to discuss how the school can better support the community and how the community can get involved with us.

If you have some time to spare, we are always looking for more volunteers. We need help with reading and our Forest School programme. If you don't fancy working directly with the children, we'd also appreciate any help from willing gardeners to make our school grounds look wonderful. Please contact us at [office@harlingtonlower.co.uk](mailto:office@harlingtonlower.co.uk) if you can lend a hand.

Finally, we would like to extend a special invitation to all community members to join us for our Harvest Assembly on Friday, October 3rd, from 9-9:30 am. The children will be presenting what they've learned about where food comes from and singing some harvest songs. This event is not for parents, but we would be delighted to have members of the community attend. If you wish to join, please contact [office@harlingtonlower.co.uk](mailto:office@harlingtonlower.co.uk). The children will also be collecting for the local food bank.

"The gilding of the Indian summer mellowed the pastures far and wide.  
The russet woods stood ripe to be stripped, but were yet full of leaf.  
The purple of heath-bloom, faded but not withered, tinged the hills...  
Fieldhead gardens bore the seal of gentle decay; ... its time of  
flowers and even of fruit was over."

- *Charlotte Brontë*



Monday 3rd November 2025

### Millbrook Proving Ground



An aerial view of Millbrook proving ground.

04.72 Vauxhall Motors Ltd

From personal knowledge and Vauxhall material, David will give a presentation about the construction, use and development of Millbrook Proving Ground and the history of Vauxhall Bedford Vehicle Testing.

Speaker - David Blair

Flitwick Library Lecture Theatre, MK45 1QJ, 7.30 for a 7.45 pm start. Members are free, 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.*

Next meeting:

December 1st – Christmas at Wrest

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



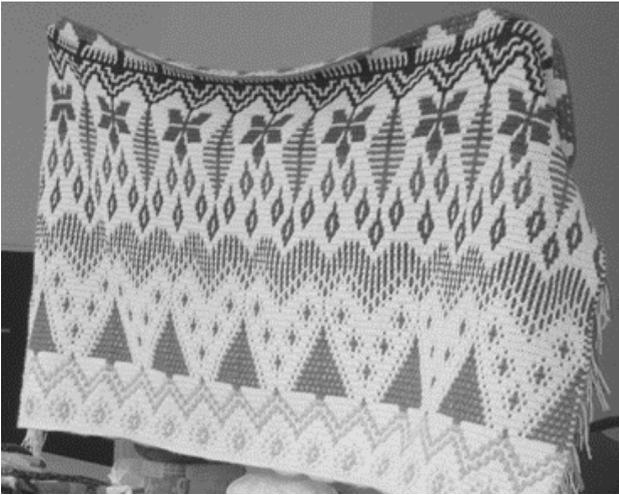
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## Crafternoon Tea

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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.

Our **October** meetings will be on **6<sup>th</sup>**, and **20<sup>th</sup>**, and our first meeting in **November** will be **3<sup>rd</sup>** (just in case the delivery of Contact is late!) All meetings will be on Zoom as well as in-person. Refreshments will be served at each meeting.



This is a new crochet technique to me. Instead of working from one side to the other, and then back again, at the end of the row, the yarn is cut, leaving an end (if you look closely, you can see some ends on the right hand side of the image), and then start again at the same edge as before, of course, meaning that there are yarn ends at both sides of the work. Talking to my sister, over

the summer, I showed her an earlier picture of this blanket, being made by a Crafternoon Tea member, and explained what I understood of the technique (which, to be fair, consists of what I have just written), and she said “Oh! That explains it – I have just bought a kit, and I couldn’t understand how it worked!” The blanket in the image depicts the seasons – winter at the bottom, followed by autumn. Again, if you look closely, you will just be able to see that the crafter is working on summer. The colour scheme changes with the seasons, so that winter is in “icy” colours, through reds and browns for autumn. The summer colours include green for the trees. We are looking forward to watching the progress – although I suspect that, like for many of us, most of the progress is made at Crafternoon Tea meetings!

**Contact: Tina Salmon ([christinasalmon60@gmail.com](mailto:christinasalmon60@gmail.com)), 01525 874481**

**Website: <https://cliveandtina.co.uk>**

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# Harlington Neighbourhood Help

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## Harlington Neighbourhood Help 25 Years of Community Spirit

On Monday 9th September, volunteers, clients and supporters gathered at The Hub & Spoke Café to celebrate a very special milestone – 25 years of Harlington Neighbourhood Help.

What began in May 2000 as an idea around a kitchen table has grown into a vital part of village life. Officially launched at the Harlington Village Pageant on 9th September 2000, the scheme had over 80 people signing up on the very first day. Since then, it has quietly but powerfully supported neighbours with lifts, errands, prescription collections, phone calls and friendly check-ins.



The anniversary celebration was marked with an array of sweet treats and a giant sausage roll created especially for the occasion. Amongst the guests were original group members Mary, Betty and Gill, as well as past Secretary Ron Smith, who fondly recalled his 13 years in post.

Small acts of kindness can make a huge difference – not just to others, but also to your own sense of belonging in the village. Being part of Harlington Neighbourhood Help is extremely rewarding and meaningful.

The scheme is now busier than ever, handling over 400 jobs a year with 50 regular clients and 23 volunteers. During the celebration, the team from BRCC joined in, presenting a certificate in recognition of the scheme's impact.

### ♥ Looking to the future

While the celebration was a chance to reminisce, it was also an important moment to look ahead. Harlington Neighbourhood Help always welcomes new volunteers. The commitment can be as little or as much as you can give – from offering lifts, to running errands, or just being a friendly voice on the phone. Volunteers choose which jobs to do and when, with mileage expenses covered at 45p per mile.

If you'd like to be part of a group that has been making a difference in Harlington for 25 years – and will continue to do so for many more – please get in touch.

Because sometimes, a small act of kindness is all it takes.

Call HNH on 07849 835410 or Sue regarding volunteering on 07887 708304

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# Harlington Gardeners' Society *plus* Baby and Me

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## AGM

This will take place in the Village Hall on Saturday 15th November when we will have a talk by Dr Tom Hose on soil & it's value to gardeners. Please put this date in your diary. More details later.

Tony Roberts – HGS Secretary

"October gave a party;  
The leaves by hundreds came-  
The Chestnuts, Oaks, and Maples,  
And leaves of every name.  
The Sunshine spread a carpet,  
And everything was grand,  
Miss Weather led the dancing,  
Professor Wind the band."

- *George Cooper, October's Party*



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## Baby & Me

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### Baby & Me

*for parents and babies*

*0 – 12 months*

*coffee, cake, & chat*

*THURSDAY October 2nd & 16th*

*10 – 11.30*

*HARLINGTON PARISH HALL*



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# Flit Vale Wildlife Group

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

## Wildlife walks & talks

**Saturday, October 25<sup>th</sup>, Nene Wetlands visitor centre (NN10 6FH), Meet at 10.00 am**

**Walk around the beaver enclosure at Nene Wetlands with leader Lara Jones, SPA Engagement Officer**

Take a walk around the beaver enclosure at the Nene Wetlands with Lara and find out what our furry friends have been up to since their arrival in February. In this daytime walk, we will spend some time looking at their habitat, learning about their management and hopefully spot some signs of their work. Beavers are nocturnal creatures, so we are unlikely to spot them on this walk, but we will spend some time at the Nene Wetlands Visitor centre where we can watch plenty of trail camera footage of their antics on the screens.

Free car parking is available at Rushden Lakes for 5 hours maximum.

Charge: £4.00 per person

Booking for outdoor 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) 07580 178-889 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)

"Clouds gather, treetops toss and sway;  
But pour us wine, an old one!  
That we may turn this dreary day  
To golden, yes, to golden!

The heavenly blue of fresh new days  
Oh, friend, you must employ them  
Before they pass away. Be brave!  
Enjoy them; oh, enjoy them!"

- *Theodor Storm, A Song in October*

Autumn has come, but never fear,  
Wait but a little while yet,  
Spring will be here, the skies will clear,  
And fields stand deep in violets.

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## Wednesday Coffee *plus* Maulden Art Group

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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.



**Maulden Art Group  
Exhibition & Sale  
Sunday 19th October  
11am - 4 pm  
Maulden Village Hall  
FREE ADMISSION  
Children's Activities  
Refreshments  
Working Artists**

# DISCOVER CASTLEFIELD PARK



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\*To selected plots only. Computer Generated Image shows typical Crest Nicholson homes.  
Prices and details correct at time of going to press.

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# From the Hub of Harlington Community Cookbook

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## An Invitation to Share Your Favourite Harlington Recipe

Between the 25th Anniversary of Harlington Neighbourhood Help on 9 September 2025 and the 5th Anniversary of the Café on 9 March 2026, I'm finally going to make myself create a special Village Recipe Book as some of you will have heard!

This collection will celebrate the flavours, memories, and traditions that make Harlington unique – at a time when our village is changing so quickly. I've gathered copies of past school-led cookbooks and will be reaching out to some former contributors, but to make this book truly shine, I'd love your input.

Whether it's a treasured family favourite, a seasonal staple, or a brand-new discovery, please consider sharing a recipe that means something to you and to Harlington.



Full details of how to submit your recipes will come out shortly, but as well as the obvious things (ingredients, methods, serving suggestions) I am looking for the Background/Story: why this recipe matters to you or your family, and its connection with Harlington - max 160 words. I am also looking for a photograph of the finished item.

I am looking forward to gathering your delicious contributions and stories to create a book that celebrates the flavours of our village.

Cheers,

Sue

P.S. I'm lucky to have a few helpers but if you have any useful contacts or would enjoy proof reading, photography or lending another skill, please do let me know. I am self-funding this project, so anything that keeps costs down or contributes will make a big difference! A £1 for every book sold will go to village causes such as Neighbourhood Help

# 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	Cllr Declan King
4	Cllr Karen Saunders	10	Cllr David Steel
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:

<b>All meetings are held at the Parish Hall Church road, Harlington, LU5 6LE</b>	DATE	MEETING TYPE	TIME
	14th October 2025	Full Council	7.30pm
	21st October 2025	Allotment Holders Meeting	7.30pm
	4th November 2025	Finance & General Purposes	7.30pm
	11th November 2025	Full Council	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.

## Stay up to date with local news and events

Pick up the Harlington Paperchain from your local Parish Council Office and The Hub and Spoke Cafe! To keep up to date with local news, events, and stories from around the village, the Paperchain is your go-to source for everything happening in Harlington.

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# LIFE Church

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LIFE CHURCH  
HARLINGTON

Sunday services at 10.30 am in The Parish Rooms

**All Welcome**

## October 2025

5th - John Doohan

12th - Life Church 25<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration

19th - Lighthouse Café Church  
Theme 'Sharing'

Donations to Foodbank



26th - TBC

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)



**You are invited to our**

*25th Anniversary*

**Sunday 12th October 10.30am**

**Celebration Service**

**Harlington Village Hall**

**Guest Speaker: Pete Gilbert**

\*\*\*\*\*

**EVERYONE WELCOME**

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# Methodist Church *including* Bright Hour Fellowship

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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.



## **OCTOBER preachers are:**

- 5<sup>h</sup> 10 am Come and See, led by Martin Wallis
- 6 pm Service of Holy Communion led by Rev. Jenny Spouge
- 12<sup>th</sup> 10 am Worship Group
- 19<sup>th</sup> 10 am Peter Baker This service includes Holy Communion
- 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 October 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 on Thursday afternoons at 2.45pm at the Methodist church Hall each week. Members have opportunity to hear from a variety of invited speakers, share in the company of others and enjoy a nice cup of tea. 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 for **October** are:

- 2<sup>nd</sup> - John Enejo
- 9<sup>th</sup> - John and Barbara about something musical
- 16<sup>th</sup> - Frederick Cole
- 23<sup>rd</sup> - Rev. Margaret Newman
- 30<sup>th</sup> - Rev. Patrick Kandeh

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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



**Harvest Brunch: Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> October** in church at approximately 11 am on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> October after our 9.30 Harvest celebration service, which includes some favourite hymns. The church will be beautifully decorated for Harvest. It's a bring and share brunch, you are welcome to join us. Tea and coffee provided.

**Messy Church: Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> October.** At 9am in the Parish Hall. Breakfast followed by stories, song and crafts. All welcome.

**Toddington Town Band: Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> October** in the church at 3pm. Your feet will be tapping as the band plays entertaining music to brighten your day. Tickets on the door, adults £8.

**Christmas Tree Festival: YES,** we're excited to announce that we will be having a Christmas Tree Festival on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> December. We'd love to see as many groups and individuals as possible taking part. All you have to do is decorate a Christmas tree in church and the theme this year is 'All Things Bright & Beautiful'. More information will be sent out to village groups in due course, but if you'd like to enter as a group or individual, please register your interest via [admin@harlingtonchurch.org](mailto:admin@harlingtonchurch.org). The more the merrier, let's make it really special. But why are Christmas trees rubbish at sewing?  
.....they always drop their needles!

**Churchyard:** the wild flower areas have been strimmed and raked ready for the autumn. The leaves will soon be falling from the trees, and blocking the gutters and drains as usual! It's sad that the box moth continues to attack the hedge around the Garden of Remembrance, so we may have to replant it with some different hedging or plants. And I haven't seen the hare again yet – maybe he's too frightened of me to come back!

For service and event information, see 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, [robert@harlingtonchurch.org](mailto:robert@harlingtonchurch.org). You can also contact myself or fellow Churchwarden Neil.

Best wishes, Tricia Churchwarden

Remember that we are here for you.

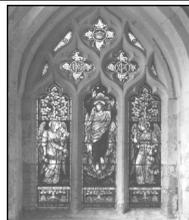
**Fr Mark Edwards, Dr Robert Johns (Reader), Tricia Murphy and Neil Walter (Church Wardens)**

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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 we have a special Harvest Brunch after the 9.30 a.m. service on 5<sup>th</sup>. and then a Harvest Praise service with the Quintet choir on the afternoon of 12<sup>th</sup>. Our October services are:



- 5<sup>th</sup> 8 am Morning Prayer (Book of Common Prayer)  
9.30 am Harvest Worship service followed by brunch at about 11 am
- 12<sup>th</sup> 9.00 am Families' Messy Breakfast in the Parish Hall  
9.30 am Holy Communion  
5.00 pm Harvest Praise with the Quintet Choir at Westoning Church
- 19<sup>th</sup> 9.30 am Holy Communion
- 26<sup>th</sup> 9.30 am Holy Communion
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Nov 8 am Morning Prayer (Book of Common Prayer)  
9.30 am Morning Praise service for All Saints  
4.30 pm In Loving Memory service\*

\* to have the name of a loved one read out in the service contact any of the people listed below

## Wednesdays

Every Wednesday 10 am Holy Communion or Morning Prayer

## Other times

The church can be made available for private prayer by arrangement, please contact one of the church wardens, Tricia Murphy [tricia.murphy5@ntlworld.com](mailto:tricia.murphy5@ntlworld.com) or Neil Walter [neil@harlingtonchurch.org](mailto:neil@harlingtonchurch.org), 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/>

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# Village Diary

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## October

2 <sup>nd</sup> Baby and Me	Parish Hall 10 am
3 <sup>rd</sup> Harvest Assembly	Harlington Lower School 9 – 9.30 am
6 <sup>th</sup> Crafternoon Tea	Methodist Church Hall 2 – 4 pm (plus Zoom)
6 <sup>th</sup> ADALHS talk	Flitwick Library Theatre 7.30 pm
7 <sup>th</sup> Flittabus MK	Station Road bus stop 9.15 am
12 <sup>th</sup> Messy Breakfast	Parish Hall 9 am
14 <sup>th</sup> Parish Council	Parish Hall 7.30 pm
15 <sup>th</sup> Lower School Drop-in	Hub and Spoke 6.30 – 7.30 pm
16 <sup>th</sup> Baby and Me	Parish Hall 10 am
18 <sup>th</sup> Messy Church	Methodist Church and Halls 4 pm
19 <sup>th</sup> Art Exhibition	Maulden Village Hall 11 am – 4 pm
19 <sup>th</sup> Toddington Town Band	St. Mary's Church 3 pm
20 <sup>th</sup> Crafternoon Tea	Methodist Church Hall 2 – 4 pm (plus Zoom)
21 <sup>st</sup> Allotment Holders	Parish Hall 7.30 pm
25 <sup>th</sup> Beaver Walk	Nene Wetlands Centre 10 am
25 <sup>th</sup> Winter planting	Meet at Village Hall 10 am
25 <sup>th</sup> Coffee Morning	Methodist Church Hall 10 am – 12 Noon

## November

1 <sup>st</sup> Brain Tumour Research Fundraiser	Harlington Village Hall 2 - 4 pm
3 <sup>rd</sup> Crafternoon Tea	Methodist Church Hall 2 – 4 pm (plus Zoom)
3 <sup>rd</sup> ADALHS talk	Flitwick Library Theatre 7.30 pm
4 <sup>th</sup> Flittabus MK	Station Road bus stop 9.15 am
8 <sup>th</sup> Tidy Up	War Memorial 10 am

Don't forget the regular weekly things that aren't shown here such as the Wednesday Coffee and the Wellbeing Walks, not to mention the regular church services.

You can send things just to be entered here.

**GET YOUR NOVEMBER 2025 DATES TO THE MAGAZINE BY 10TH OCTOBER 2025**

"Delicious autumn! My very soul is wedded to it,  
and if I were a bird I would fly about the earth  
seeking the successive autumns."

- *George Eliot*