

Editorial

Dear Villagers,

There was a lot to fit in this month, and, unfortunately, upright posters are either full page or quarter page, so some print can be small.

So look out for page 18, particularly the Pantomime and the Upper School Senior Residents Party. For this last you need to tell them you want to go. I'm told it's very good.

Do take part in things when you can. "The more" is quite often "the merrier".

And if you have anything you want to tell the village, whether it is current events or your memories of past village days, please send them in. Does anyone know why it is Bury Orchard and Close, and not Berry Orchard? Despite Henry Ford, history is not always bunk.

In the meantime, if you're planning anything for Christmas, get ready to tell the village.

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.

December copy by 10th November please.

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

Contact is also published on-line -
<https://harlingtonvillagemagazine.org>

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A letter from the Life Church

Hello

I am a person who loves flowers. I will always have a vase of fresh flowers placed on the dining room table or on the cupboard in the lounge. My husband will often bring me a bunch of fresh flowers, especially if I've had a challenging week or just because he loves me. I love roses, sunflowers, tulips, carnations, daisies, well, I just love flowers. One Christmas my husband proudly brought me a large bunch of daffodils, exclaiming that he'd found them in the supermarket. Unfortunately I wasn't impressed as it was winter time not spring and to me, flowers should be "in season"



Gifts of flowers express special meanings. A red rose given on Valentine's Day represents love, beauty and romance; yellow roses are a symbol of friendship; white roses represent honour, purity and innocence; dahlias convey good taste, elegance and dignity; forget-me-nots express true love, memories and undying hope and the wonderful daffodils symbolise new beginnings, rebirth, unrequited love and eternal life. Did you know that floriography is the fancy name for the language of flowers? The language of flowers is linked with the Victorian era. During the reign of Queen Victoria, flowers were used to communicate feelings that the strict etiquette of the era would not allow to be openly expressed.

During the month of June we see fields and verges covered with poppies and in November we see people wearing red poppies, displays in churches and buildings and also in wreaths that are laid on war memorials. Poppies symbolise remembrance. The beautiful countryside where the men fought in the First World War were destroyed, blasted and bombed. The landscape was turned into mud. Out of this devastation the beautiful red poppies grew and flourished in their thousands. Since then, the humble poppy has become an official symbol of hope and remembrance.

As Christians we are encouraged to remember what God has done.

What does this look like in practice? **Psalm 77** gives a good example. The psalmist starts in a place of hopelessness. Then he decides to '*remember the deeds of the Lord*'. He **meditates on God's miracles** and mighty acts. This leads to an outpouring of praise and worship as he recalls the glory of God. No longer is he writing from a place of distance and despair, but a place of hope and re-

Letter Ctd., Remembrance and Wellbeing Walks

membrance. **By recalling what God has done for us** and for others, faith is restored, joy is uncovered and **our hearts turn from despair**.

As we wear a red poppy this November or see them growing in our beautiful countryside during the summer months, let's remember how God has worked in our lives and the hope he gives us.

If you don't know about the hope God gives and would like to know more, please contact one of the church leaders or come along to the church events that take place in the village.

God's blessing to you all

Carol Gibbs

Leader Life Church

Remembrance Sunday 9th November 2025

The Village will hold our annual Parade to and Service at the War Memorial on Remembrance Sunday, 9th November with the service starting at 10 50 am. The Parade will start from the Lower School.

Please note that the roads will be closed leading to the War Memorial at this time and until the Parade has moved on to St. Mary's for the United Service. Please have patience and care if you are trying to drive through the village then as there will be a lot of people around on the roads.

Harlington Ramblers Wellbeing Walks

The Harlington walks happen every Friday morning and start from the Village Hall Car Park at 10.30am. They are a great way to stay fit, enjoy the village, and meet fellow residents. It is almost impossible not to feel good when we're walking outdoors – it's a natural mood-booster and a tonic for mind and body.



Whether you used to enjoy walking but have lost your fitness or want to get started to improve your wellness, we're all in it together. We're a friendly bunch so you'll get the warmest of welcomes. Everyone walks for their own reasons, whether to ward off illness, manage health conditions or boost their wellbeing. Yet we all get more out of it by walking together.

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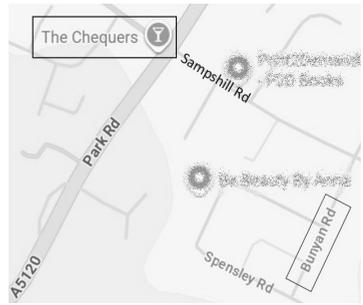


Our website: flittabus.co.uk

Your bus service run by volunteers

Addition to Route FL6 every Thursday (Flitwick to Harlington)

We have introduced a short detour in Westoning. Coming from the Flitwick direction, the bus now turns left in Westoning and progresses up Sampshill Rd to Bunyan Rd (bottom right on the map). But when coming from Harlington, the bus doesn't take the detour; it goes straight to Flitwick.



FLITTABUS TO CENTRAL MILTON KEYNES

Route FL11

| <i>Date</i> | <i>Depart Harlington</i> | <i>Depart CMK</i> |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| The <u>first Tuesday</u> of every month e.g. 4 Nov 2025 2 Dec 2025 *** | 9:15 am Bus stop on Station Rd, a few yards down from the cross-roads | 1:00 pm Exit Door 5 |

For the route map, see flittabus.co.uk/route-f111-new/

***** SPECIAL NOTE:** The December service to Milton Keynes is always very popular, and this year we are providing *two buses* to MK on 2 December. If you have any queries please call Margaret on **07 770 946 497**.
As usual on timetabled routes we don't issue tickets or reserve particular seats.

FLITTABUS EXCURSION – flittabus.co.uk/excursions

| <i>Date</i> | <i>Excursion</i> | <i>Cost pp</i> |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Fri 21 Nov 2025 | Ely Cathedral and Gift & Food Fair | £45 including entrance to the Cathedral and the Stained Glass museum |

Discover perfect presents for friends and family from over a hundred boutique stalls and designers located throughout the Cathedral's magnificent nave and aisles at Ely's Christmas Gift & Food Fair. There are plenty of opportunities to buy refreshments.

To book your place, please call 07 563 170 067 or send an email to excursions@flittabus.co.uk

Harlington in Bloom



We really enjoyed the great turn out for our Awards evening in the Village Hall. David Kingham gave a round up of the year and Alison, the Parish Clerk, kindly stepped in at the last minute to present the Awards. Our speaker for the Awards evening was 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 for more information. It was an entertaining talk which highlighted how many grand gardens were built on the Greensand Ridge amongst other things.

On the Saturday morning, we also had a display with many other organisations and groups, to welcome newly arrived villagers at the coffee morning in the Methodist Church Hall, and it was nice to see some new faces, as well as convivial to have tea and buns with other volunteers for the local organisations.

We enjoyed seeing volunteers at our Winter planting at the end of the October. Should be some nice blooms as selected by David Kingham to see us cheerfully through the winter. We will be doing a tree at the Festival in St Mary's. Do come and vote for us!

Thank you so much to our sponsors *Green Valley Construction, Harlington Shop; Nevilles Funeral Services (Ampthill); 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 8 November 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 (Treasurer); Rosemary Tuohy (Secretary) 07793 016207/ rosemarypc86@gmail.com

October's foliage yellows with his cold:
In rattling showers dark November's rain,
From every stormy cloud, descends amain,
Till keen December's snows close up the year again.
~John Ruskin, "The Months," c.1834

Brain Tumour Research



Thanks



The total raised for plants, sundries, fruit and vegetables currently stands at £1688.97. That's amazing! Those who have contributed to this total include Steve - thank you for the compost bins, Gwen for gardening items and books and cd's raising £27.31, Fran for the tradescantia cuttings, Aloe Vera plants and Fay for grasses and sedum plants, Liz for her shrubs and Frankie for the forget me nots and rose campion. Also to Grenville for his beautifully made planters. Thanks also to those donors who I didn't meet dropping off their kind donations and thanks to those who have donated for these items.

Thanks also to Lancaster Bowls Club who donated £1300 to BTR after their charity day in July. This is not included in the Fluffy Cloud total as it was raised independently but a massive Thank you to them for choosing Brain Tumour Research as their charity for the year.

Thank you to the Methodists for inviting me and other village organisations to a welcome coffee morning so that we could meet current villagers and those who have moved into the new Harlington settlements; it was a lovely morning, delicious refreshments, happy company and interested visitors. It was lovely seeing all that is on offer in Harlington: aren't we lucky to live here.

During September I took a car full of house plants, some herbs and perennials to Brain Tumour Research in Milton Keynes. Alice, Mateo and I were there with Emma Jolly, currently the community support fundraiser for BTR in our area but moving to a new job in October. I would like to thank her for all the support, encouragement and opportunities she has provided me with in my fundraising and her friendship. Emma had promoted the event to her colleagues and staff visited on their lunch break and donated £130 in total for my plants and I returned home happily with considerably reduced stocks so I have appreciated those of you who have provided plants and filled up my shelving once again. I am gradually putting the house plants into my new greenhouse as the weather gets colder so if you need a houseplant please knock and I will show you what I have available.

Plans are underway for the tea/ coffee fundraiser on 1st November 2-4pm at Harlington village hall. My trusty support group have agreed to help so my grateful thanks to Liz, Mary, Jacqui, Ketina, Tracy, Judy, Wendy, Judie, Laura, David and Beverly and my family for all their continued help and support. I will report on this event in the December Contact but look forward welcoming those

Brain Tumour Research *ctd. plus* HVAG

of you are able to attend, my thanks.

In December we will be supporting Father Christmas at Tesco and collecting for the Rotary Club. In return they make a donation to Brain Tumour Research of £150 for which we are very grateful. We do not know the date yet but hope to be collecting on 10th or 15th December so please look out for us and support us if you are able, thank you.

I am also hoping to take BTR Christmas cards to Harlington Methodist's coffee morning on Saturday 29th November 10-12 and to St Mary's tree festival on the 6-7th December so looking forward to seeing you at one of these events. It's getting busy again, please help to make this season a success.

Jane Barltrop

Harlington Village Action Group

Before...

View looking east towards Westoning



After...?



The Harlington Village Action Group

HVAG, was formed by your fellow villagers with the intent of preserving the countryside around our village from destruction by housing developments, that would more than double the size of the "village" and destroy centuries old trees, valuable farmland and the rural idyll of life in the village. There are 16 areas around our village that are under threat, and it is the group's aim to do all we can to protect them. Working with the CPRE, and the people of the village, we hope to stop the sprawl of needless urbanisation engulfing our village, and clogging the roads that access it.

Follow us, join us, help support the goal of stopping the destruction!

Scan this QR code to sign up to our mailing list:



Join our Facebook group:
Harlington Village Action Group



The countryside charity
Bedfordshire

Published by Harlington Village Action Group, supported by CPRE Bedfordshire email: harlingtonvillageactiongroup@gmail.com

How sad would be November if we had no knowledge of the spring!

~Edwin Way Teale, *Circle of the Seasons*

Messy Church News



In September we thought about harvest. Even in a village like Harlington, few people are actually involved in farming, although some people do grow food in their gardens or allotments. In Jesus' day many more people were involved, and people were closer to the land.

We thought about how arable farmers work today, and we also thought about what they used to do in Judea. We made grind stones and wine presses in clay, and a watch



tower in card. We made ploughs and threshing sleds in wood, with cut-out oxen to pull them. We also cooked unleavened bread.

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 November meeting will be held on the 15th.

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

Harlington Lower School



This half term has been a busy one as we settle into a new school year. We have had a packed half term of exciting learning, as well as a number of charity and community events.

Thank you to those who joined us for our Harvest Assembly.

It was a lovely occasion: highlights included a whole school rendition of 'Cauliflowers Fluffy', Oak Class singing 'Dingle Dangle Scarecrow' and Beech Class talking about the harvest and where our food comes from. Thanks to the generosity of our families, we collected a large amount of non-perishable food and essential items, which were donated to the Flitwick Food Bank.



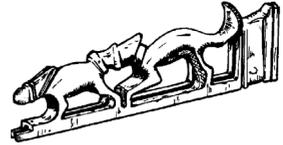
The community spirit at Harlington also shone brightly during our recent Macmillan Coffee Afternoons for school families. They were a lovely occasion for families to spend time in school with their children, whilst also teaching the children about charity and citizenship. Between Harlington and Sundon Lower Schools, we raised £506.11 for Macmillan Cancer Support. Every penny of this is going towards helping Macmillan Cancer Support provide physical, emotional and financial support to people living with cancer and their families.

We are now looking forward to our Open Days for Reception 2026. If your child is starting school in September 2026, we warmly invite you to our upcoming Reception Open Days to explore Harlington Lower School and everything that makes our community special. The dates are as follows:

Thursday 20th November – 5:00 pm

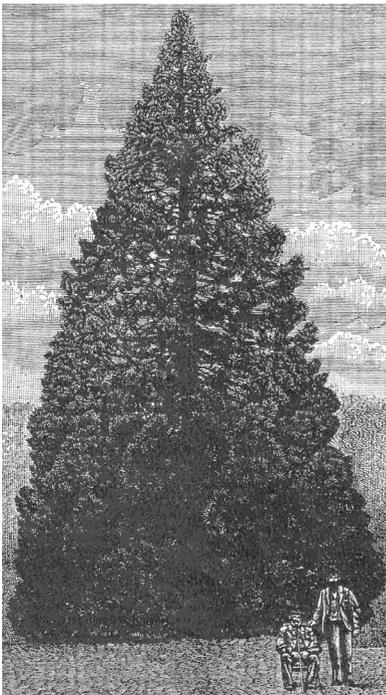
Friday 21st November – 9:30 am

There is no need to book – just turn up! If you are unable to attend at either of these times, we are happy to arrange a personalized tour. Please email office@harlingtonlower.co.uk and we will arrange this for you.



Monday 1st December 2025

Christmas at Wrest



Wrest has encapsulated the changing celebrations of Christmas, particularly since their revival in the Victorian era. Feasting, entertainment and the occasional misfortune all played their part. Earl de Grey's Christmas tree, planted in 1856, is now one of the oldest surviving. For World War One hospital patients, Christmas was an essential boost to morale. The Silsoe Research Institute's creative ingenuity made Wrest a place of magic for children, and Santa continues to make an appearance.

Speaker – Richard Luscombe (Wrest Park Volunteer History Research Team)

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:

February 2nd – The de Havilland Aircraft Company

www.adalhs.org.uk



Crafternoon Tea



Two years ago, a number of ladies decided to recycle the poppy wreaths from the war memorial, rather than throw them away when they were removed. The results have decorated public buildings in the village – both church grounds, and some at the shops,

for the remembrance weekends since that time. They will also appear this year, perhaps with some additional lengths. Over the years, I, among others, have repurposed a number of things – Christmas cards into gift tags, and/or new cards, old jumpers into new jumpers – usually in a smaller size, or for a smaller person, or repaired things, using materials at hand – canvas and yarn to recover the seat on a stool originally covered in leatherette which did not survive the attentions of toddlers. In an age when most things are designed to be thrown away – but made of “indestructible” materials – it is nice to see the results of repurposing decorating our village. We don’t know how long the repurposed poppy decorations will last, and new poppies are now made of recyclable materials, but we will continue to remember – both those who served, and those who value the remembrance with us.

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 **November** meetings will be on **3rd**, and **17th**, and our first meeting in **December** will be **1st** (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.

Contact: Tina Salmon (christinasalmon60@gmail.com), 01525 874481

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

Little Book Stop *plus* Gardeners' Society

You might have spotted a new addition to Lincoln Way: a Harlington-themed Penguin Books Little Book Stop!



In celebration of their 90th anniversary, Penguin Books are installing ninety of these across the country and fortunately my application for Harlington was accepted, and Rob and Sue were kind enough to agree to host it on their land. The idea behind this is for it to act as a free book swap, for all ages.

If you don't have a book to swap, feel free to take one and bring it back later. Please keep all books inside of the Stop, to keep our village clean and tidy.

In a few weeks, Penguin Books will be collecting the Stop to change some of the design and weatherproof it, so don't be surprised if you find that it's disappeared! If you do spot any issues with it, please do email me on maahwishmirza@gmail.com

Finally, to celebrate the Stop, Penguin has been kind enough to support me in running a short story competition for children in Bedfordshire. Stories can be on any theme, but must be set in our county. Please help to share this: I hope that this helps motivate our next generation of writers. For details on how to enter, please refer to the poster.

Maahwish

Harlington Gardeners' Society



AGM

Our AGM will take place in the Village Hall on Saturday 15th November at 7 pm. After the formal AGM we will have a talk by Dr Tom Hose. The talk will be on the history of soil and how it has affected our lives from the ice age through the Roman period to the present day.

Please bring a dish of your choice, either sweet or savoury. These will be pooled for all to enjoy. It will assist if you could let me know which you are going to bring. You should also bring your own drinks, but glasses, plates & utensils will be provided.

Tony Roberts – HGS Secretary

Bedfordshire Children's Short Story Competition

Bedfordshire **CHILDREN'S** SHORT STORY COMPETITION

To celebrate our new Little Book Stop in Harlington, I've teamed up with Penguin Books for a short story competition for young writers in Bedfordshire

Open to original stories, written by children aged 8-12 years
Stories can be up to 1500 words and must be set in Bedfordshire
Entries close on 21st January 2026

Email your entry as a pdf to maahwishmirza@proton.me and include confirmation that:

- The author of the story is between 8-12 years and is resident in Bedfordshire
- The work is entirely that of the child
- Permission of a parent/guardian has been granted

Winners and prizes to be announced in March 2026

With thanks to Penguin Books



Flit Vale Wildlife Group *plus* Directory Changes



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

Wildlife walks & talks

Monday, December 8th – On-line Zoom meeting. 7.30 pm

Flit Vale Wildlife Trust Group AGM

The AGM will take place by Zoom, commencing 7.30pm. If you would like to attend, please contact Ann and you will receive the link nearer the time.

Monday, January 12th – Maulden Church Hall, 7.30 pm

Talk by Kate Dimmock of the Harlington Hedgehog Hospital

Harlington Hogspital is a small rescue which takes in the sick, injured, abandoned, orphaned or otherwise distressed hedgehogs with the aim of rehabilitation & re-release to the wild. Hedgehogs - the only native spiny mammal, and one which is an indicator species - are currently red listed as vulnerable to extinction, so how can we help this inoffensive creature?

Charge: £5.00 per person

****Our popular quiz will be held on Friday, February 13th.**

Further details will be coming soon, put the date in next year's diary!**

Booking for indoor Flit Vale events is optional.

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

Please contact Ann by email: flitvale.info@gmail.com or

Phone (leave a message or text if you prefer) 07580 178-889 to reserve your place.

The Wildlife Trust for Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Northamptonshire

Registered charity number: 1000412

www.wildlifebcn.org

Flit Vale Local Group

www.flitvale.org.uk

Directory Changes

Harlington Juniors FC Contacts:

| | | | |
|--------------|-----------------|-------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1st team | Phil Tomlinson | 07862263140 | philtomlinson1@gmail.com |
| Reserve Team | Morgan McCarthy | 07702281845 | morganjames29@hotmail.com |
| Under 18s | Andrew Fildes | 07970775547 | andrew_fildes@hotmail.com |
| Under 15s | Karlos Williams | 07539883301 | karlos122@hotmail.com |
| Under 13s | Pat Clarke | 07855337171 | patclarke813@gmail.com |
| Under 11s | Martin Atkins | 07890691709 | martinatkins1@sky.com |

The Great Big Garage Sale *plus* Wednesday Coffee

THE GREAT BIG GARAGE SALE

Thank you to everyone who supported the Garage Sale on the 13th and 14th September. We had a very good day on the Saturday but unfortunately the weather was against us on the Sunday.

We were given kind donations from Jack Chauhan, of Beech Hill Garage, a local resident Peter Seamarks, a lady who is moving and from a gentleman who was very pleased with his raffle prize. We were given 38 very good raffle prizes.

We raised a total of £1,400, of which £1,100 was sent to the MS Therapy Centre in Bedford and £100 was given to each of three local groups.

Thank you to everyone who gave us a wonderful selection of things to sell, it really was amazing. What wasn't sold has been passed on to other charities, namely Barnardo's at Ampthill, Keech charity shop at Sundon, the Hula Donkey Sanctuary, the Homeless in Bedford and several other charities in Luton.

My thanks to everyone who helped with the setting up, helping on the sale days and the clearing up afterward. We couldn't have done the sale without you.

Gwen Gray.

Wednesday Coffee



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 are 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.



Panto, Harlington Upper School, Local History

HARLINGTON PERFORMS
EST. 1968

IN LOVING MEMORY OF ANDRA BISHOP
HARLINGTON PERFORMS PRESENTS OUR 39TH PANTOMIME

OZ

FRIDAY 5TH
DECEMBER 7:30PM

SATURDAY 6TH
DECEMBER
2:30PM & 7:30PM

WRITTEN BY:
CARL BISHOP +
NATALIE JEFFS

HARLINGTON VILLAGE HALL
TICKETS £10
CONCESSIONS £8

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT BRADSHAW'S
FROM 03/11/25 OR ONLINE:
WWW.TICKETSOURCE.CO.UK/HARLINGTON-PANTO

HARLINGTON SENIOR RESIDENTS' ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY

You are warmly invited to join us for our delightful Annual Christmas Tea Party at Harlington Upper School.

★ Highlights:

- Festive food treats
- Hot beverages
- Live music
- Familiar and friendly faces

2025

TUESDAY **16TH** DECEMBER

AT 4.00PM - 6.00 PM

RSVP NOW TO RECEIVE YOUR SPECIAL INVITATION

CONTACT US AT RESIDENTS@HARLINGTON.ORG OR
01525 755100

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SHARING THE SEASONAL JOY WITH YOU ONCE AGAIN!

HARLINGTON UPPER SCHOOL

MUSIC DEPARTMENT PRESENTS

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

COME AND SUPPORT STUDENT SUCCESS!

£5 **17TH WEDNESDAY DECEMBER**
THEATRE 6.30PM

TICKETS AVAILABLE ON PARENT PAY AND AT THE DOOR

GOSWELL END ROAD, HARLINGTON

FURTHER INFORMATION
GCAPPELLO@HARLINGTON.ORG

Local History Exhibition for 2025.

Remembrance Sunday
November 9th.
Times 11.15am-4.00pm
Harlington Parish Hall.
Church Road

See posters for further details

From the Hub of Harlington Community Cookbook

An Invitation to Share Your Favourite Harlington Recipe

If you are inspired by the thought of a Harlington Cookbook, here is how to share your recipes.

How to Contribute

Please use the template below and either:

- **Email** to robandsue@thehubandspokecafe.co.uk
- **Drop it in** to the Café
- Or **hand in to me** in person

Recipe Submission Form

- **Recipe Name:**
- **Contributor's Name:**
- **Contact Email or Phone (optional):**
- **Ingredients List:** (please specify exact quantities and units, e.g. grammes, oz, slices)
- **Method/Instructions:** step-by-step directions, including timings and tips
- **Serving Suggestions:** best way to present or enjoy the dish
- **Background/Story:** why this recipe matters to you or your family, and its connection with Harlington - max 160 words
- **Photograph of your dish** Must be good enough quality to print. If that's tricky, let me know when you'll be making it and I can come and take a photo for you.



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

Alison Doyle

01525 875933

clerk@harlington-pc.gov.uk

Parish Office, Church Rd, Harlington LU5 6LE

CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCILLORS

Cllr Mary Walsh

Mary.Walsh@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

Cllr Gary Purser

Gary.Purser@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

All Residents are invited to attend Council meetings:

| All meetings are held at the Parish Hall Church road, Harlington, LU5 6LE | 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.

LIFE Church



LIFE CHURCH
HARLINGTON

Sunday services at 10.30 am in The Parish Rooms

All Welcome

November 2025

2nd - Scott Pettingale

9th - Remembrance Sunday United Service at
The War Memorial & then at St.Mary's

16th – Lighthouse Café – relaxed
Interactive all age time
with activities for children



23rd – Dan & Rachel Harris

30th - TBC

We are currently considering some changes to our

Baby & Me  group.

Look out for further details on Harlington Village and 0-4 Facebook as well as posters around the village

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

Fear not November's challenge bold—

We've books and friends,

And hearths that never can grow cold:

These make amends!

~Alexander L. Fraser, "November,"

Methodist Church *including* Bright Hour Fellowship

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.



NOVEMBER preachers are:

- 2nd 10 am Come and See, led by Rev. Claudia Lupi
9th 10.45 am United Service at War Memorial followed by service in St. Mary's
6 pm United Bunyan Service with Holy Communion
16th 10 am Roger Owers
23rd 10 am Rev. Claudia Lupi. This service includes Holy Communion
30th 10 am Rev. Tim Haines

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

COFFEE MORNING 29th November 2025, from 10 am to 12 noon, in the hall. Proceeds this year in aid of the RNLI (Christmas Cards from Brain Tumour Research also available.)

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 **November** are:

- 6th - Nick Crago talking about the Seafarers Mission
13th - Russell Preston giving a talk for Remembrance day
20th - Richard Luscombe talking about Christmas at Wrest Park
27th - Anne and Loraine from Aley Green talking about and selling their jams
-

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

St Mary's Churchwarden

St Mary's Church



Save the date: Saturday 29th November Come and play the church organ! Throughout 2025, there have been events across the country to celebrate the playing of church organs. Between 1 -5pm, different organists will be playing varied music in the church, but also welcoming anyone who might like to have a go themselves. What a great opportunity. Perhaps you play piano or keyboard already? Don't worry, professional players will be there to guide you. Refreshments will be available. Enjoy a cuppa and cake listening to the organ, or why not have a go yourself.

Messy Church: Sunday 16th November. At 9 am in the Parish Hall. Breakfast followed by stories, song and crafts. All welcome

Christmas Tree Festival: Saturday 6th & Sunday 7th December, church open to visitors from 12 – 5pm each day. Come and enjoy a sparkly start to Christmas, plus refreshments and craft stalls with beautiful gifts and cards. Jane will also be selling cards to raise funds for Brain Tumour Research. The Festival Finale with Christmas songs and stories for everyone is at 5.15pm on the Sunday. Thank you to everyone who has already sent in an entry form. If you haven't entered yet, it's not too late, and groups and individuals are welcome. If you'd like an entry form, please email admin@harlingtonchurch.com.

Churchyard: this is a quiet time of the year, with Autumn now upon us. I've seen lots of squirrels in the churchyard and I recently watched a couple while they buried acorns for eating later on, when food is harder to come by. It was a fantastic year for fruit and it's the same for the acorns – there's more than I've ever seen before. And what do you call an oak tree that can't make it's mind up.....undeciduous!

Foodbank: This is especially important at Christmas when people are still in great need. If you'd like to make a donation, please take food items to church when open or to Sanjeev at our local shop. A list of most wanted items is usually on the church noticeboard or in the shop. Thank you.

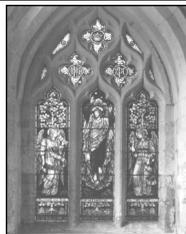
For service and event information, see Contact, the noticeboard outside church or our website: www.harlingtonchurch.org. If you'd like to speak to someone about a life event or for prayer, please contact revmarkedwards@outlook.com, or our Lay Reader Robert, robert@harlingtonchurch.org. You can also contact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

Best wishes, Tricia Churchwarden

St. Mary's Church Services

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

November services include our annual In Loving Memory service on 2nd. where we remember all those who have gone before us.* There is then the traditional Remembrance Service on 9th. in the morning followed by an evening joint Anglican/ Methodist Bunyan commemoration service at the Methodist Church. November services, including Advent Sunday are:



- 2nd 8 am Morning Prayer (Book of Common Prayer)
9.30 am Morning Praise service for All Saints
4.30 pm In Loving Memory service*
- 9th 10.50 am Remembrance at the village war memorial
11.10 am Remembrance service in church
6 pm Bunyan commemoration joint service at the Methodist Church
- 6th 9.00 am Families' Messy Breakfast in the Parish Hall
9.30 am Holy Communion
- 23rd 9.30 am Holy Communion
- 30th 9.30 am Advent Holy Communion

* 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 or Neil Walter neil@harlingtonchurch.org, or the Church Reader Dr. Robert Johns robert@harlingtonchurch.org. Alternatively email admin@harlingtonchurch.org.

For personal enquiries, for requests for prayer, or for enquiries about baptisms, weddings or funerals please contact Fr. Mark Edwards revmarkedwards@outlook.com 07305 822186 or Dr. Robert Johns robert@harlingtonchurch.org 01525 873214.

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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Village Diary

November

| | | |
|------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| 1 st | Brain Tumour Research fundraiser | Harlington Village Hall 2 - 4 pm |
| 3 rd | Crafternoon Tea | Methodist Church Hall 2 – 4 pm (plus Zoom) |
| 3 rd | ADALHS talk | Flitwick Library Theatre 7.30 pm |
| 4 th | Flittabus MK | Station Road bus stop 9.15 am |
| 8 th | Tidy Up | War Memorial 10 am |
| 9 th | Remembrance | War Memorial 10.50 am |
| 9 th | Exhibition | Parish Hall 11.15 am - 4 pm |
| 11 th | Parish Council | Parish Hall 7.30 pm |
| 15 th | Messy Church | Methodist Church and Halls 4 pm |
| 15 th | HGS AGM | Harlington Village Hall 7 pm |
| 16 th | Messy Breakfast | Parish Hall 9 am |
| 17 th | Crafternoon Tea | Methodist Church Hall 2 – 4 pm (plus Zoom) |
| 20 th | HLS Open Day | Harlington Lower School 5pm |
| 21 st | HLS Open Day | Harlington Lower School 9.30 am |
| 29 th | Coffee Morning | Methodist Church Hall 10 am – 12 Noon |
| 29 th | Organ Celebration | St. Mary's Church 1 pm – 5 pm |

December

| | | |
|-----------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| 1 st | Crafternoon Tea | Methodist Church Hall 2 – 4 pm (plus Zoom) |
| 1 st | ADALHS talk | Flitwick Library Theatre 7.30 pm |
| 2 nd | Flittabus MK | Station Road bus stop 9.15 am |
| 5 th | Harlington Performs Panto | Harlington Village Hall 7.30 pm |
| 6 th | Harlington Performs Panto | Harlington Village Hall 2 pm and 7.30 pm |
| 6 th | Christmas Tree Festival | St. Mary's Church 12 noon – 5 pm |
| 7 th | Christmas Tree Festival | St. Mary's Church 12 noon – 5 pm |
| 8 th | Flit Vale Wildlife AGM | Zoom 7.30 pm |

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 DECEMBER 2025 DATES TO THE MAGAZINE BY 10TH NOVEMBER 2025

So dull and dark are the November days,
The lazy mist high up the evening curled,
And now the morn quite hides in smoky haze:
The place we occupy seems all the world.
~John Clare (1793–1864), "November"