

Editorial

Dear Villagers,

As you will see from the small size of the type on the contents list, September is a busy month. I believe that there is also a plan to bring back the “Round the Village” run. I find the exhibition on the Westoning Tanker Disaster of particular interest, if only because it happened the year before we moved here, but I don’t recall it being discussed particularly and the road changes in Westoning must have happened remarkably quickly.

If you have anything to put in to the magazine, email is best, but if you are not on line, then put something through my door; phone if you need the address but don’t try to dictate a piece.

It’s nice to have news of events, particularly happy ones, but we will also print obituaries.

Enjoy Autumn.

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.

October 2026 copy by 10th September please.

**PROMPT PAYMENT OF
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<https://harlingtonvillagemagazine.org>

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A letter from the Life Church

I hope you've all had a lovely summer enjoying the long hot sunny days.

Have you enjoyed some days out and times away? I know that before I book a trip I want to explore and find out about the place, the local area and what's happening nearby. I look at every detail, for example is there a nice cafe, good parking and lots to do. This year one of our adventures as a family was to go to the Isle of Wight, a favourite place with lots of memories. This time I wanted both to find some new places to us and to revisit some old haunts that we had been to when we took our young family there many years ago. I started to explore websites, Facebook and guidebooks. We organised our time were able to complete the planned adventures including some beautiful days on the beach, swimming in the sea and building sandcastles.

Starting the end of September, 'Alpha' is going to take place in Harlington, led by Churches Together in Harlington. Alpha is a chance to explore life and the Christian faith. Alpha is a series of group conversations that freely explore the basics of the Christian faith in an open, friendly environment. Everyone's welcome. No matter your background or beliefs, you're invited. Each session covers a different topic of faith, either in a short talk or video. Each Alpha episode is designed to engage and inspire conversation. They last about 30 minutes and explore the big issues around faith and unpack the basics of Christianity, addressing questions such as Who is Jesus? How can we have faith? and How does God guide us?

Coming to Alpha gives you a chance to explore your thoughts and feelings about God and the Christian faith. When I planned my journey to the Isle of Wight, just looking and reading information could not replace the experience of going on the ferry and spending time on the island.



As one of the church leaders in Harlington, I would like to invite you to come along and explore the Christian faith.

On Monday 28th September at 7.30 an introduction to Alpha will be held. The venue is yet to be confirmed, but for more information please email contact@life-church-Harlington.com

I look forward to seeing you.

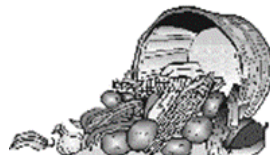
Carol Gibbs

Leader Life Church

Harlington Village Show *plus* Messy Church News

40th Harlington Village Show

Saturday 29th August 2026



Show opens to visitors from 2pm in Harlington Village Hall

Here is a reminder of the Show details, just in case the magazine reaches you before it takes place! As I'm writing this in early August before the Show, hopefully the weather behaved itself, and also that there were lots of exhibits for visitors to admire and enjoy, despite the very difficult growing season.

It's been a rather odd year weather wise (again!) with very long periods of extremely hot, sunny weather, which then meant lots of watering just to keep things alive. Many plants produced crops earlier than usual, and some were over very quickly. But nevertheless we hope the Show is a lovely village event, especially on the occasion of our 40th Anniversary. Well done to everyone taking part and many congratulations to the winners.

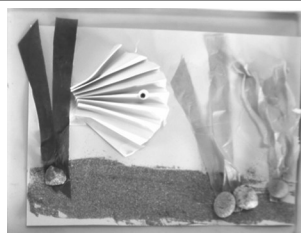
Because of submission dates for Contact, the full results from the Show will be printed in the October issue of the magazine.

Tricia & the HVS Committee

Messy Church News



In our July Messy Church we focussed on holidays, then we took a holiday in August. Massive surprise that no-one wanted to make the cream meringues, but did make



models of rock climbers, surfers and water scenes.

September is the start of a new church year, and our first Messy Church of the year is on 19th September. As ever, there will be stories and activities. You can also join on Zoom or see the Celebration on YouTube.

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 in Bloom



Forget your BAFTAs and your Mercury Awards!

Harlington Awards are the ones to have!

Congratulations to our Award winners for 2026. You will have received a written notification by now and we look forward to welcoming you, family and friends to Awards Evening on Friday 25 Sept. With our very wet spring, dry summer, hosepipe bans, we are

impressed any of you managed to get a display on at all in your front gardens and the Allotments. Glad we were not running Open Gardens this year but hats off to local villages who pulled it off! Full list of runners and riders next month. Thank you to our local judges. We appreciate your time.

We at HiB were relieved to be informed by Anglian Water, that our municipal displays fall into the exemptions categories for watering. There was some facebook SHOUTING about this and photo taken and published without consent of our David K! Like he would have used a hosepipe without checking! Mind you, it was a very nice photo and we might want to use it. Hope the copyright holder is agreeable. One comment was amusing, saying they would all be dead in a couple of months anyway. It reminded me of John Maynard Keynes : In the long run we are all dead. On a lighter note: Flowers always make people better, happier, and more helpful; they are sunshine, food and medicine to the mind; attrib to Luther Burbank

Happy gardening in the community: feel better: come and join us at any of our working parties or events and create something beautiful to look at that everyone can enjoy. Not your bag? We need admin help too for our Committee Secretarial role. Could you help with this?

harlingtoninbloom@protonmail.com (general email – new!)

Sponsors: **Harlington Shop** and **Green Valley Construction**; **Nevilles Funeral Services (Amptill)**; **Wednesday Coffee Group**; **Gwen Gray**; **Ryan Burnham (The Berry Cinema; Hackney Wick**

Dates for your Diary (Some dates may be amended or added nearer the time) All meet at Village Hall Carpark unless otherwise specified

Sat 29 Aug	Hosting HiB Gazebo at 40 th Village Show	
Sat 5 Sept	Weeding/pruning work party. All Welcome	10 am
Fri 25 Sept	Awards Evening All Welcome	7.30 pm
Sat 31 Oct	Winter planting All Welcome	10 am
Sat 7 Nov	War Memorial Tidy Up for Remembrance Sun	10 am

HiB *ctd.*, Wednesday Coffee and Wellbeing Walks

Vivienne Dunlop on behalf of HiB Committee <https://www.facebook.com/HarlingtonInBloom/> 01525633290 (leave answerphone message please) or Judy Harfield judy.harfield@apertech.co.uk (Treasurer); harlingtoninbloom@protonmail.com (general email – new!)

Wednesday Coffee and Games



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.



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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9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

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Hub and Spoke Café



The Hub & Spoke Café, Harlington

NEW TO HARLINGTON? COME AND SAY HELLO AT THE HEART OF THE VILLAGE

Last month we

:

Welcomed

new faces

Made many treat boxes

and teacher thank-yous

Fuelled 300 cyclists with food, drinks and a warm welcome

Provided caring thoughtful catering for two celebrations of life

Turned the Friday Youth Group into pizza chefs for the evening

Picked up prescriptions and helped neighbours get to hospital

Served afternoon tea for 35 guests in a private garden

Helped celebrate a wonderful 90th birthday

Catered a pre-wedding breakfast

Supported 3 brilliant charities

Delivered to 5 villages

Packed 20 picnics

Connected

you

x

Tuesday-Wednesday 8.30am to 6pm

Thursday-Saturday 8.30am to 7pm

01525 752367 6 Lincoln Way, Harlington

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www.thehubandspokecafe.co.uk

Flittabus *plus* Directory Changes

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Our information line: 07960 388111
Our excursions: flittabus.co.uk/excursions/ 07563 170067
Our NEW HELPLINE: 07908 620704

FLITTABUS TO CENTRAL MILTON KEYNES

Route FL11

<i>Date</i>	<i>Depart Harlington</i>	<i>Depart CMK</i>
Tue 1 Sep 2026	9:15 am Bus stop on Station Rd, a few yards down from the cross-roads.	1:00 pm Exit Door 5

FLITTABUS TO FLITWICK TESCO

Route FL6

<i>Dates</i>	<i>Depart Harlington</i>	<i>Depart Flitwick</i>
Thu 3/10/17/24 Sep 2026	9:03 am Westoning Rd 9:05 am Wingate Rd 9:07 am Lincoln Way Shops 9:10 am Bury Close 9:12 am opposite Tabor Close	10:50 am Tesco

FLITTABUS TO HITCHIN

Route FL7

<i>Dates</i>	<i>Depart Harlington</i>	<i>Depart Hitchin</i>
Fri 4/11/18/25 Sep 2026	9:17 am Upper School Goswell End Rd	12:15 pm St Mary's Square

Directory Changes

Harlington In Bloom

Delete Rosemary Tuohy and insert:

Vivienne Dunlop 01525 633290 (leave message on answerphone); email harlingtoninbloom@protonmail.com

Flittabus, Beer and Hymns, Alpha

FLITTABUS EXCURSIONS

Date	Excursion	Cost
Sat 5 Sep 2026	Day trip to Brighton	£ 45 pp Transport only
Sat 17 Oct 2026	Day Trip to Lincoln	£ 45 pp Transport only
Fri 20 Nov 2026	Ely Cathedral Christmas Fair	£ 48 pp Transport and all-day entry to the Cathedral

It always pays to keep an eye on the [Flittabus Excursions page](https://flittabus.co.uk/excursions/) at flittabus.co.uk/excursions/ or phone the [Excursion bookings line](https://flittabus.co.uk/excursions/) on 07 563 170 067 in case things change at short notice.

"September: it was the most beautiful of words, he'd always felt, evoking orange flowers, swallows, and regret."

- *Alexander Theroux, 1981*

Join us at the Carpenter's Arms for



On 29th September 2026

7.30pm for 7.45pm start

Come for a drink, a sing and a chat

**Is there more
to life than this?**

Alpha will be coming to Harlington soon.

A Chance to explore life and the Christian
faith in a friendly and informal
environment.

Watch this space!

Try Alpha



contact@life-church-harlington.com

Brain Tumour Research *plus* Harlington Gardeners



**Brain Tumour
Research**
Funding the fight

Loving gathering the crops!



Seems like you all are too. I am busy picking courgettes, tomatoes, cabbage, cucumbers, blackcurrants, blackberries and redcurrants and fine beans, so lovely eating veg and fruits picked just moments after they were growing!

I have received donations of courgettes, marrows, fine beans, runner beans, cucumbers, patty pans and figs and one kind person took the time to put their donation in an envelope and write a message "Enclosed with thanks - the figs were excellent!" I have passed on your kind message to the person who donated them.

So donations for plants, fruit and vegetables and pots have now reached £1723.12, Thank you everyone who has donated and everyone who has supported and hopefully enjoyed eating the produce.

There will be other opportunities to support at the flower and vegetable show so please visit and if you have any excess vegetables or fruits or plants, I would be pleased to receive them to raise funds for brain tumour research.

Special thanks to Gwen for the opportunity to scan her books to raise £24 for the charity and to Stephen, Liz and Frankie for plants for the stall.

Thank you to you all. Please keep supporting

Best wishes

Jane Barltrop

Harlington Gardeners' Society



We had a very successful BBQ on Saturday 8th August with 42 members attending. Unfortunately this could be our last, unless we can recruit a new cook as Peter is leaving the village. Any offers?

At our AGM on 14th November we will be having a talk by Kerrie Lloyd-Dawson entitled How we made our garden - from blank canvas to being accepted for the National Garden Scheme in 4 years.

We still have a few places on our annual coach outing this year to RHS Hyde Hall in Essex on 5th September with free entry for members. The cost of the coach is £35 per person.

Tony Roberts – HGS Secretary

Flit Vale Wildlife Group



Wildlife Trust for
**Beds, Cambs
& Northants**
Flit Vale Local Group



Wildlife Walks & Talks

Friday, September 11th, Folly Wood car park at 7.00 pm

Bat Walk at Flitwick Moor

Leader: Aidan Matthews, Senior Reserves Manager (Beds) Wildlife Trust BCN.

Flitwick Moor is an excellent area for bats and we hope to see and identify several species. The wider rides provide good hunting for Pipistrelles. If you have a bat detector, please bring it along. A torch is essential and insect repellent is a good idea!

Charge: £5.00 per person

Sunday, September 27th, Folly Wood car park at 10.00 am

Fungal Foray at Flitwick Moor

A joint event with the Herts & Beds Fungi Group.

We will be hoping for a mix of damp and mild weather to guarantee a good showing of mushrooms and toadstools. Experts will help you identify your findings and tell you more about the wonderful and sometimes weird world of fungi.

No charge for this event, but donations welcome

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 Beds, Cambs & Northants

Registered charity number: 1000412

www.wildlifebcn.org

Flit Vale Local Group

www.wildlifebcn.org/flit-vale-local-group

Celebrating 60 years *plus* Half Way Up The Hill

David and Christine Rands of Pilgrims Close, celebrated 60 years of married life in August. They married in Waltham Abbey, Essex not long after England won the World Cup!

David and Christine moved to Harlington in 1977, with their 2 children. They have been involved in village life, mostly revolving around the two pubs!

Christine used to help with the local Mums and Tots group, and was a proficient babysitter. Their 2 children passed through the Lower and Upper Schools

Congratulations to them both.

Pictured are the happy couple celebrating with family at The Woburn.



Half Way Up The Hill—More from the Methodists

You know how some people like everything to be familiar and others like variety? Because of the way the Methodist Church works—most of our preachers are lay folk and the style and content of the service depends largely on the preacher—our services are different each week, although they mostly follow what is known as the hymn sandwich.

However we decided that we would have one service a month which we planned to be different; if you want to know what it's like, you have to "Come and See". This service is intended to be suitable for families and for people who are not regular attenders, and can include all sorts of different things. We have even had a village pond appear in a service, not to mention a family tree the length of the church.

So when you see "Come and See" on our list, do come, if only to see what has been done this time.

1st Harlington Boys' Brigade and Girls' Association



Youth group



The Friday Thing (TFT), AKA 1st Harlington Boys' Brigade & Girls' Association, is a friendly, inclusive youth group run by leaders connected with Harlington Methodist Church.

Come along, bring a friend, and join the fun!
Your Fridays can be a whole lot better!

📍 **Where?** Harlington Methodist Church

🕒 **When?** Every Friday during term time, **8:15pm - 10:00pm**

WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT?

🎮 **Games & Challenges** — Team games, square game, sports, pool, table tennis, chess, quizzes.

🏠 **Trips** — Bowling, kayaking, swimming, crazy golf, badminton.

👤 **Events & Camps** — Camps, band tours, competitions and special events.

🔧 **Learn New Skills** — First aid, music, leadership, DIY.

● **Snacks** — Free squash, tea and coffee; tuck available to buy
And so much more to discover!!

WHAT ABOUT CHURCH?

Sometimes we'll chat about Jesus, faith and big life issues — real, relevant and not boring!

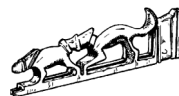
WHO CAN COME?

✓ Open to **all young people aged 11-18** (School Years 7-13)

💰 **Cost:** £2 per week (£1 for each additional sibling). Trips may cost extra.

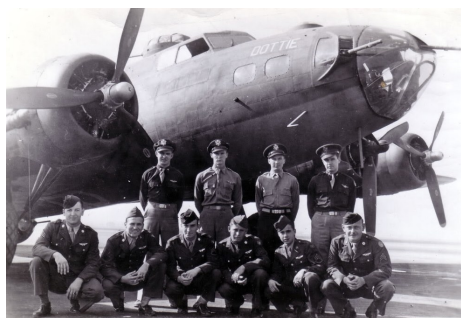
EVERYONE WELCOME!

For more information contact martinwallis@hotmail.com 07795642507



Monday 5th October 2026

Bent Bananas and the Macaroni Parson



Our speaker, David Longman, returns with his third chapter from *Tales From Bedfordshire Churches*. This includes more stories associated with the churches of our county, including the men of the 92nd, the fascinating rise of a garden's boy from Milton Bryan and a blacksmith's son from Northill. Also the untimely end of the most fashionable priest in London!

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

Next Meeting:

November 2nd – The King's Weighty Matter – The Annulment of the Marriage of Henry VIII and Katherine of Aragon

www.adalhs.org.uk

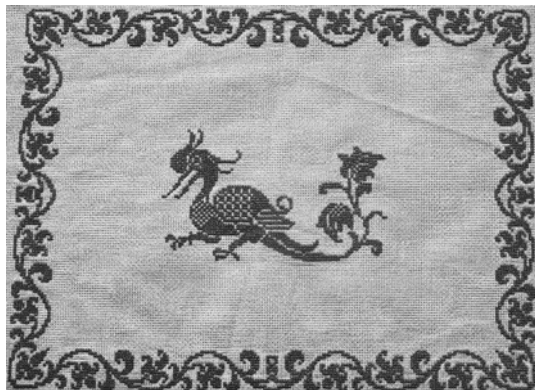


Crafternoon Tea *plus* Bike ‘n Hike

On 21st September (our second meeting this month), we will be starting our 11th year of existence as a group. The first ever meeting was on 19th September 2016. I have really enjoyed those years, and I hope you have too. If you are interested in crafts, and haven't yet met us, feel free to come along sometime.

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 meetings in **September** will be 7th and 21st. All meetings will be on Zoom as well as in-person. Refreshments will be served at each meeting.



This picture is a version of the first picture I ever put in a Crafternoon Tea article in Contact, in September 2018. Counted cross stitch, from a book of Celtic patterns – both the central dragon and the edging. Such patterns were always made in two colours – black squares and white squares, so they were easy to print.

I made it in pink on white Aida, but until Contact prints in colour, it looks better in black and white.

Contact: Tina Salmon (christinasalmon60@gmail.com 874481 website: <https://cliveandtina.co.uk>)

Bike ‘n Hike

Beds and Herts Historic Churches Trust invite people to join in the sponsored Bike ‘n Hike on Saturday 12th September 2026 between 9 am and 5pm. You can raise money for your own church and to help other churches in Beds and Herts. There are over 600 churches that you could visit! Contact www.bedshertshct.org.uk.



Harlington Parish Council



Harlington Parish Council

Cllr Terry Culverhouse	Cllr Martin Waldron
Cllr John Harfield	Cllr Marcus McNamara
Cllr Pete Hughes	Cllr David Steel
Cllr Mary Walsh	VACANT
Cllr Phillip Tomlinson	VACANT
Cllr John Russell	VACANT

PARISH CLERK/COUNCIL OFFICE

Alison Doyle 01525 875933 clerk@harlington-pc.gov.uk

Parish Office, Church Road, 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:

1 st September 2026	Finance & General Purposes	7.30pm
8 th September 2026	Full Council Meeting	7.30pm
13 th October 2026	Full Council Meeting	7.30pm
20 th October 2026	Allotment Holders Meeting	7.30pm
3 rd November 2026	Finance & General Purposes	7.30pm

All meetings are held at the Parish Hall, Church Road, Harlington, LU5 6LE

News!

Reminder: Grant and funding assistance applications to be submitted before 12 noon Friday 16th October 2026. For more information: <https://harlington-pc.gov.uk/grants-and-funding-assistance/>

Bury Orchard – information on rules and codes of conduct can be found on our website or via contacting our office.

Looking for a venue to hire?

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

Harlington Dog Show



**SUNDAY 20TH SEPT
2026**
10AM - 3PM
**HARLINGTON FUN
DOG SHOW**
DETAILS TO BE CONFIRMED!



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Scales Feathers & Fur
pet sitting services
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DOG WALKING, PET SITTING AND TRAINING

Doggy & Dwelling


Reliable pet care and house sitting

**HARLINGTON VILLAGE
NEWGROUNDS PLAYING
FIELDS, LU5 6LS**





@DOGGYANDDWELLING

Mark your calendars, get your sun cream, shorts, shirts, and water bottles (for the dogs). The Harlington Fun Dog Show is back for a second year ! Sunday 20th September 10am to 3pm for more information contact Becky Whittle or Becky Fildes at Harlingtondogshow@gmail.com

"The foliage has been losing its freshness through the month of August, and here and there a yellow leaf shows itself like the first grey hair amidst the locks of a beauty who has seen one season too many."

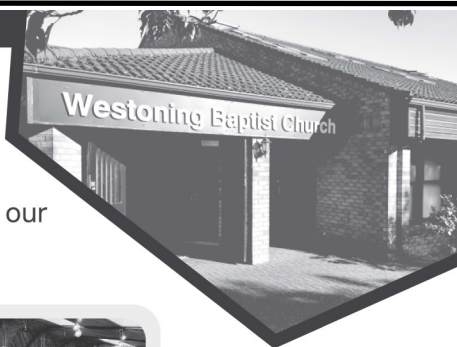
- Oliver Wendell Holmes



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

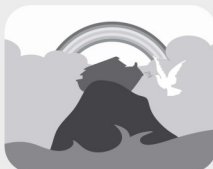


Friday

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

Westoning Tanker Disaster Exhibition

WESTONING VILLAGE HALL

Church Road, Westoning, Bedfordshire MK45 5JL

WESTONING TANKER DISASTER 1976

to mark the 50th anniversary of this event

An Exhibition will be held on

Saturday 12th Sept. 2026



11am to 5pm

Come and see the many items of memorabilia of the 1976 disaster, photos, newspapers clippings, video of eye witness accounts, and an original film - shown on the BBC news at the time. The High Street was changed overnight.

Incredibly there were no major injuries and no fatalities.

Free entry - please bring cash donation for the refreshments.

Media: please contact Mrs Pat Crowe (Organiser)

Email = westoningtankerdisasterexhib@gmail.com

LIFE Church *and* Mini Lighthouse



LIFE CHURCH
HARLINGTON

www.life-church-harlington.com

Sunday services at 10.30 am in The Parish Rooms

Whether you have never been to church or you are a committed Christian,

EVERYONE IS WELCOME

September 2026

- 6th – Communion and Sharing
 - 13th – Vicky York
 - 20th – All age Lighthouse Café
 - 27th – Prayer weekend United Service
- Methodist Church **10 am**



Wednesdays 7.15pm Prayer meeting on Zoom.

You can also contact us through our website if you have any prayer requests or would like to talk to someone .

Thursday 10th & 24th September 9.30-11.00

Harlington Parish Hall

**MINI
LIGHT
HOUSE**
For 0-3 yr olds



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.



SEPTEMBER preachers are:

- 6th 10 am Come and See led by Tina and Clive Salmon
6 pm Circuit Welcome to Rev. Doreen Koffie-Williams at The Square, Dunstable
- 13th 10 am Local Arrangement
6 pm Service of Holy Communion led by Rev. Doreen Koffie-Williams
- 20th 10 am Service of Holy Communion led by Rev. Doreen Koffie-Williams
- 27th 10 am United Service for the Prayer Weekend

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 26th September 2026, from 10 am to 12 noon, in our hall. Proceeds this year go to our charity for the year, the Paynter Home in Nuwara Eliya, Sri Lanka.

BRIGHT HOUR FELLOWSHIP

The Bright Hour Fellowship meets on Thursday afternoons at 2.45 pm at the Methodist Church Hall (except for occasional weeks – see dates below.) Members have the opportunity to hear from a variety of invited speakers, share in the company of others and enjoy a nice cup of tea.

So why not join us? New members are always made very welcome. No need to book ahead, just come along! We look forward to seeing you.

The Speakers for **September** are -

- 10th - Clive Salmon
17th - Sheila Norris
24th - AGM with Rev. Doreen Koffie-Williams

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. Contact via email t315485@gmail.com OR leave a message on 07704315485

St Mary's Churchwarden

St Mary's Church



Messy Church: We'll be back on September 13th at 9am in the Parish Hall. Breakfast, story, craft and song. All welcome. By the way, why did the toast break up with the jam?.....It found someone butter!

Churchyard: Our most recent tidy up session in the churchyard was on Saturday 8th August, when we tidied the area around the south porch, weeded, and cleared ivy and weeds from the boundary wall. Thank you to everyone who helped on the day.

Save the dates: Gift Day 12th September. The Church is open from 10am - 4pm, with live organ music, free Church tours at 11am and 2pm, (no need to book). Home made cakes and refreshments, craft and outdoor activities for children from 11am -3pm.

Patronal Festival: Sunday 20th September at 4pm, with buffet refreshments afterwards. This is an opportunity to attend an evening service whilst celebrating this lovely, historic church and it's place in village life for 100s of years.

Toddington Town Band: Sunday 4th October at 2.30pm. Ticket information to follow.

Christmas Tree Festival: 5th & 6th December. *Apologies for getting the dates wrong in the August Contact magazine!* We are planning our next Festival with the theme 'The Joys of Christmas'. We have Biddenham Handbell Ringers performing on Saturday 5th at 2pm and a quartet of young musicians performing at the Festival Finale on Sunday 6th at 5.15pm. Entry forms and information will be coming out to village groups, but if you'd like more information, or to enter, please 'book' via booking@harlingtonchurch.org.

More information on all upcoming events to follow. For service and event information, see Contact, the noticeboard outside church or our website: www.harlingtonchurch.org.

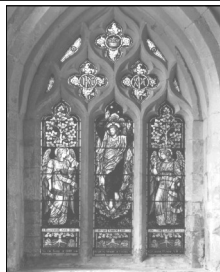
If you'd like to speak to someone about a life event or for prayer, please contact revmarkedwards@outlook.com, or our Lay Reader Robert, robert@harlingtonchurch.org. You can also contact myself or fellow Churchwarden Neil.

Best wishes, Tricia Churchwarden

St. Mary's Church Services

Everyone is welcome to attend Sunday services in our beautiful village church. This September is a special month as on 20th we are reintroducing Choral Evensong in the form of a patronal festival which will include refreshments after the service. September services are:

- 6th 8 am Morning Prayer (Book of Common Prayer)
9.30 am Morning Praise service
- 13th 9.00 am Families' Messy Breakfast in the Parish Hall
9.30 am Holy Communion
- 20th 9.30 am Holy Communion
4.00 pm Patronal Choral Evensong with the Quintet choir
- 28th 10.00 am Prayer weekend service in the Methodist Church



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.

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/

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)

"For summer there, bear in mind, is a loitering gossip, that only begins to talk of leaving when September rises to go."

- George Washington Cable

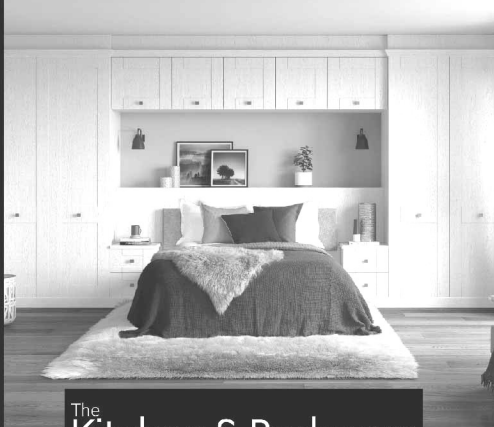
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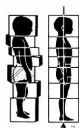
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Village Diary

September

1 st	Flittabus MK	Station Road bus stop 9.15 am
1 st	Parish Finance & GP	Parish Hall 7.30 pm
5 th	HGS Coach Trip	
5 th	HiB weeding/pruning	Village Hall Car Park 10 am
7 th	Crafternoon Tea	Methodist Church Hall 2 – 4 pm (plus Zoom)
8 th	Parish Council	Parish Hall 7.30 pm
10 th	Mini Lighthouse	Parish Hall 9.30 am – 11 am
11 th	Wildlife walk	Folly Wood 7 pm
12 th	Bike ‘n hike	9 am to 5 pm
12 th	Gift day	St. Mary’s 10 am – 4 pm
12 th	Exhibition	Westoning Village Hall 11 am – 5 pm
13 th	Messy breakfast	Parish Hall 9 am
19 th	Messy Church	Methodist Church and Halls 4 pm
20 th	Dog Show	New Grounds 10 am – 3 pm
20 th	Patronal Festival	St. Mary’s 4 pm
21 st	Crafternoon Tea	Methodist Church Hall 2 – 4 pm (plus Zoom)
24 th	Mini Lighthouse	Parish Hall 9.30 am – 11 am
25 th	HiB Awards evening	7.30 pm
26 th	Coffee Morning	Methodist Church Hall 10 am – 12 noon
27 th	Wildlife walk	Folly Wood 10 am
29 th	Beer & Hymns	Carpenter’s Arms 7.45 pm

October

4 th	Toddington Town Band	St. Mary’s 2.30 pm
5 th	Crafternoon Tea	Methodist Church Hall 2 – 4 pm (plus Zoom)
5 th	ADALHS talk	Flitwick Library 7.30 pm
6 th	Flittabus MK	Station Road bus stop 9.15 am
13 th	Parish Council	Parish Hall 7.30 pm
17 th	Messy Church	Methodist Church and Halls 4 pm
19 th	Crafternoon Tea	Methodist Church Hall 2 – 4 pm (plus Zoom)
20 th	Allotment Holders	Parish Hall 7.30 pm
31 st	HiB Winter planting	Village Hall Car Park 10 am
31 st	Coffee Morning	Methodist Church Hall 10 am – 12 noon

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 OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2026 DATES TO THE MAGAZINE BY 10TH SEPTEMBER 2026**