

# Editorial

Dear Villagers,

First let me start by saying that individual items are welcome in the magazine. Obituaries of village residents, wedding anniversaries, awards, memories, favourite recipes, favourite walks. These add to our knowledge of the village and each other, and stop the magazine being just a collection of adverts for events.

Having said that, could everyone consider a few things. You are writing for Contact. You call your file "Contact". I get a dozen files called "Contact" that don't say what they're about. If you send something as a pdf or a picture think about the size the writing will be when it's in the magazine; it may end up as a part page. But do send things in. The village will love to hear from you.

Best Wishes

Clive

## 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 2026 copy by 10th October please.**

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

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## A letter from the Methodists

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Have you ever thought about how many different “years” there are? Without getting into the Chinese or Jewish new years, we have the calendar year, that starts on 1<sup>st</sup> January, the tax year that starts on 5<sup>th</sup> April, the liturgical year that starts with Advent Sunday and the Academic year that starts in September (although University students often don’t start till October).

It may be because Methodism started in a university, or possibly because of the nature of the agricultural cycle in the 1700s, but Methodism starts its year in September. Our “methodical” approach means that we move our ministers around at the same time and that new ministers start in September. It also means that that most Methodist ministers moving aren’t around to be written about for a September magazine.

We have a new minister for Harlington. She is Rev. Doreen Koffie-Williams, and she is replacing Rev. Claudia Lupi. Methodist ministers start as Local (Lay) Preachers; Doreen was a Local preacher in Kent, but comes to us having been a Minister in the Coventry and Nuneaton Circuit. A Circuit is the term Methodism uses for a group of Methodist churches that work together. There are usually a number of ministers involved, and a lot of Local Preachers. Our Circuit is the South Bedfordshire Circuit, which has 18 churches, four ministers, and 18 active Local Preachers, three of whom are members at Harlington. The senior minister in the group is known as the Superintendent. Doreen has specific oversight of churches in Harlington, Dunstable and Aley Green.



Rev. Doreen writes, “I am delighted to be stationed as Superintendent minister in this Circuit. I seek to live out scriptural holiness and mission, to touch and transform lives, challenge injustice and be a voice for the marginalised. The ‘priesthood of all believers’ is central to how I express my ministry. I value every person’s gift and mission - working collaboratively with the lay and ordained including ecumenical partners. My love is to serve the Church and wider communities, responding to spiritual, pastoral and missional needs with compassion and understanding. These attributes epitomise the nature of my discipleship - as Jesus commanded – “Go and do likewise”. I am grateful for God’s call to ministry of the word - interpreting the scriptures and sharing the Good News, presiding at Holy Communion and providing diverse pastoral care to those in need.

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## Letter *ctd.* plus Wednesday Coffee

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I am married to Samuel who is a lecturer and choral musician, and we have two sons, Seth and Shiloh. I enjoy spending time with my family and together we enjoy travelling, and sampling different dishes. I also love to cook, and sharing my food with others makes me happy.”

Doreen has a Diploma in Legal Reasoning and Analysis and a Batchelor in Law (LLB) degree. Amongst other careers, she worked for eighteen years interpreting and developing policies in the civil service. Her ministerial discipline is a BA in Theology and Ministerial Formation (Queens Foundation, Birmingham).

In this “NewYear” we welcome Doreen, as we welcome all new people coming into Harlington, and we look forward to her, and them, becoming part of our community in this village.

Clive Salmon

Senior Steward – Harlington Methodist Church

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## Wednesday Coffee and Games

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If you would like to join us for coffee/tea, a chat or a game of table tennis we would love to see you. We meet every Wednesday in the Parish Hall from 10 am until 12 o'clock. The Games Group section 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.



"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 and Wellbeing Walks

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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 urgently need admin help too for our Committee Secretarial role. Could you help with this? Vivienne [V.dunlop@ntlworld](mailto:V.dunlop@ntlworld); or Teresa [tc@nglenister.co.uk](mailto:tc@nglenister.co.uk) or**

**[harlingtoninbloom@protonmail.com](mailto:harlingtoninbloom@protonmail.com) (general email – new!)**

**Sponsors: Harlington Shop and Green Valley Construction; Nevilles Funeral Services (Amphill); 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 31 Oct Winter planting, All Welcome 10 am

Sat 7 Nov War Memorial Tidy Up for Remembrance Sunday 10 am

*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](mailto:judy.harfield@apertech.co.uk) (Treasurer);*

**[harlingtoninbloom@protonmail.com](mailto:harlingtoninbloom@protonmail.com) (general email – new!)**

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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 well-being. Yet we all get more out of it by walking together.



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# HiB Awards *plus* Directory Changes

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## HIB AWARDS 2026    Spring & Summer

### Award

|                                    |            |                            |                     |
|------------------------------------|------------|----------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Spring front garden</b>         | <b>1st</b> | Tricia Murphy              | 43 Barton Road      |
|                                    | 2nd        | Caron and Bill Murphy      | 90 Goswell End Road |
|                                    | 3rd Joint  | Margaret Reid              | 18 Glebe Gardens    |
|                                    | 3rd Joint  | John Russell               | 1 Foster Road       |
| <b>Summer front garden</b>         | <b>1st</b> | John Russell               | 1 Foster Road       |
|                                    | 2nd Joint  | Tricia Murphy              | 43 Barton Road      |
|                                    | 2nd Joint  | Peter and Carole Lea       | 70 Lincoln Way      |
|                                    | HC         | Maxine Woodbridge          | 60 Sundon Road      |
| <b>Hanging Baskets/ Containers</b> | <b>1st</b> | Pete Bostock               | 9 Brian Road        |
|                                    | 2nd        | Jessie McNulty             | 33 Lincoln Way      |
|                                    | 3rd        | Alexandra and Thomas Poole | 12 Wingate Road     |
|                                    | 3rd        |                            | 66 Westoning Road   |
| <b>Commercial Building</b>         | 1st        | The Old Sun                | The Old Sun         |
| <b>Public Building</b>             | 1st        | Parish Hall                | Parish Hall         |
| <b>Allotment</b>                   | 1st        | Roger and Nicole Ivett     | 19a                 |
|                                    | 2nd        | Darran Wicks               | 23                  |
|                                    | 3rd Joint  | Yulia Yurista              | 3a                  |
|                                    | HC         |                            | 2a                  |
| <b>Microplot</b>                   | <b>1st</b> | Martine Gent               | M2                  |

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## Directory Changes

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Harlington In Bloom

Delete Rosemary Tuohy and insert:

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

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## FLITTABUS TO CENTRAL MILTON KEYNES

## Route FL11

| Date           | Depart Harlington                                                         | Depart CMK             |
|----------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Tue 6 Oct 2026 | 9:15 am<br>Bus stop on Station Rd, a few yards down from the cross-roads. | 1:00 pm<br>Exit Door 5 |

## FLITTABUS TO FLITWICK TESCO

## Route FL6

| Dates                     | Depart Harlington                                                                                                             | Depart Flitwick |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Thu 1/8/15/22/29 Oct 2026 | 9:03 am Westoning Rd<br>9:05 am Wingate Rd<br>9:07 am Lincoln Way Shops<br>9:10 am Bury Close<br>9:12 am opposite Tabor Close | 10:50 am Tesco  |

## FLITTABUS TO HITCHIN

## Route FL7

| Dates                     | Depart Harlington                      | Depart Hitchin               |
|---------------------------|----------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Fri 2/9/16/23/30 Oct 2026 | 9:17 am Upper School<br>Goswell End Rd | 12:15 pm<br>St Mary's Square |

## FLITTABUS EXCURSIONS

| Date            | Excursion                                         | Cost                                                    |
|-----------------|---------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| Sat 17 Oct 2026 | Day Trip to Lincoln<br>7 SEATS AVAILABLE          | £ 45 pp<br>Transport only                               |
| Fri 20 Nov 2026 | Ely Cathedral Christmas Fair<br>7 SEATS AVAILABLE | £ 48 pp<br>Transport and all-day entry to the Cathedral |

**To book seats: call 07563 170067**

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## Councillor Karen Saunders

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### Councillor Karen Saunders 8<sup>th</sup> December 1962 – 11<sup>th</sup> July 2026

*This eulogy was read at Karen's funeral at St Mary's Church on 10<sup>th</sup> August:*

We were so sorry to hear of Karen's passing. Karen was a special, caring lady and will be sorely missed. We, on Harlington Parish Council, had the privilege to work with her for many years.

It is challenging to put Karen's past Parish Council work into one or two fact-bites since she did so much over a long period that it's really difficult to condense it all. Karen's main contribution was always to be someone who would take on jobs the rest of us fled from, like liaising with the dullest outside committees, often a thankless task and a time consuming one as well.

She was always willing to be included on any working party and often the only one willing to do so, but often those groups weren't game changers for many villagers. She interfaced between the Parish Council and The Village Hall at one time and Karen could always be relied upon to help close roads for Remembrance Sunday. Karen was the Parish Council representative on various committees connected to transport and in Harlington was the street watch co-ordinator and speed watch volunteer.

She provided continuity at a time when the composition of the Parish Council was constantly changing, and was stalwartly opposed to the ideas being pushed by the Society of Local Clerks that councillors shouldn't be involved directly with residents but should divert all problems and questions to Clerks.

This almost led to her being so upset that she was on the point of leaving but her presence on the Parish Council was more useful to residents than her resignation.

Whilst Karen was never the loudest in the room, her participation was always very thoughtful and considered.

She was kind and considerate, and always willing to help. Although this help was usually offered in her own self-deprecating way saying, with her usual light-hearted humour, that she would be happy to lift and shift, as long as it didn't involve too much deep thinking.

Karen always came through.

Whether this was supporting the new Clerk as she worked single handed, watering the trees behind the Parish Hall, or even digging out our failed MKII Christmas tree in order to plant the new one. Karen was there. We will truly miss her.

*Councillor Pete Hughes and Councillor John Harfield on behalf of Harlington Parish Council*

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## Quiz Night, Village Hall, Harlington Lower School

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HP HP



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## Harlington Lower School

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We are currently at the beginning of our new school year at Harlington Lower School. It has been lovely to welcome back familiar faces and to start to get to know our new families. We have been pleased to welcome new staff to our team as well.

We have been very pleased to be able to have significant capital works done to our school site over the summer thanks to the Pyramid Schools Trust. You will see from walking past that we have had new fencing installed around the school site, which brings a much-anticipated improvement to our security and safeguarding. We have also benefitted from internal improvements to our fire and lockdown systems.

As always, we are keen to welcome volunteers into school. If you are interested in helping out in school on a regular basis, especially with reading, please let us know at [office@harlingtonlower.co.uk](mailto:office@harlingtonlower.co.uk)

We are also looking for occasional volunteers who might be able to help us to brighten up our school site by planting some bulbs in planters around school. If you might be able to help, please let us know on the email address above.

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# Brain Tumour Research

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**Brain Tumour  
Research**  
Funding the fight

**Jinxed!**



Well, I think that was me stating I was loving gathering the crops. It didn't take long with all that baking, hot, dry summer for crops to dry up and fail! I apologise but it is making me think how will I approach next year's plants, vegetables and flowers I will grow, I'm sure you have all considered this too.

So those of you who visited the flower and vegetable show and ventured outside to our gazebo in the torrential rain will have had the opportunity to donate for Jim's French bean seeds, I grew 6 plants this year and they were delicious and prolific so this will be my choice against runner beans next year, if you missed them they are in a basket outside my house, be quick! Massive thanks to Jim for sharing his French fine beans and thank you to the Harlington Flower and Vegetable committee for the £68.12 I was able to send to Brain Tumour Research by attending the show and all your kind donations whether monetary or produce or plants (thank you Duncan, Sheila, Stephen and Leslie) and all those who left their produce for the charity: heaviest marrow, blackberries, pears, tomatoes, plums, cucumbers, chillies, peppers and herbs (currently sitting in water trying to get them to root and start new herb plants).

My zinnias have been amazing this year so there will be more of those next year, marigolds have been good. I plan to grow aubergines outdoors! I need to reflect more to come to further decisions.

I have been helped by so many of you and I am bound to forget somebody, but it would never be intentional. Thank you for the donations from David and Kathleen, for produce supplies from Duncan, Sheila and Julia, basil plants from Frankie and brooms, fertiliser spreaders, netting and pot.

You have all made an incredible effort to achieve an amazing result. To date you have raised £1870.15 in plants, produce, pots and sundries from outside my house. Thank you. We are well on our way to that magic £2000 before 2027!

Thanks also to Derek who took the time to talk to me at the show informing me about the breakthrough news that a man had received AI assisted surgery in this region and had a brain tumour removed and had regained his sight and thanks to Vicki who shared her newspaper with me so I could read all about it encouraging me to continue to fundraise for research to hopefully one day a cure will be found.

My grateful thanks to you all. Jane

---

## Messy Church News *plus* Half Way Up The Hill

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As we took a holiday in August, I can't put in pictures of what went on. By the time you read this we will have held our September Messy Church with it's theme of Harvest, and I hope to show pictures from that in the next issue of Contact.

Our next Messy Church will be held on 17th October.

We haven't decided what our subject will be yet, as September has proved to be a very busy month. However there will certainly be pictures and glue, probably paint, possibly cooking, certainly something involving food and whatever other things there are to make. There will be singing and the Celebration and we always finish with tea.

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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## Half Way Up The Hill—More from the Methodists

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Since Covid, we have made our morning services available on both Zoom and YouTube. So at 10 am you can join the service live or you can look at the recording later. We prefer Zoom, as this gives the possibility of talking to people after the service, or using the chat function, but YouTube is there if you prefer. We find that this is useful for our own members, those travelling for work or holidays or those unable to travel to get to church. It also is useful for others and we have had people join us from hospital or home. We also get some other visitors. We have had people join from the United States, Australia, Singapore and Germany as well as more local venues.

We don't just use this for Sunday services, it is also used for Messy Church, Crafternoon Tea and some weddings and funerals.

We have the facility for our services to be conducted over Zoom, or to have readings or similar from members of the Zoom part of the congregation.

Ask if you think you would like to join, or look for Harlington Methodist Church (live stream) on YouTube.

"October is nature's funeral month. Nature glories in death more than in life. The month of departure is more beautiful than the month of coming - October than May. Every green thing loves to die in bright colours."

- Henry Ward Beecher

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# Harlington Parish Council

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## Harlington Parish Council



**SAVE THE DATE!**

**HARLINGTON PARISH COUNCIL PRESENTS A CHRISTMAS LIGHT SWITCH ON  
EVENT SATURDAY NOVEMBER 21<sup>ST</sup> 2026**

Main event at the Village Car Park

12.45pm to 7pm

- Joe Corrigan – Singer and Compere
- Fair rides for younger children
- Food and drink stalls, including sweet treats, mulled wine and more
- Craft Fair and Santa's Grotto
- Local theatre groups, children and adult choirs
- Light switch on at 4.30pm then carols around the tree
- Local live music until 7pm

Look out for our children's colouring competition for the chance to help switch on the lights.

For more information about the schedule, who will be performing and more please see our website [www.harlington-pc.gov.uk](http://www.harlington-pc.gov.uk) (schedule subject to change)

### PARISH CLERK/COUNCIL OFFICE

Alison Doyle    01525 875933

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

Parish Office, Church Road, Harlington LU5 6LE

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## Crafternoon Tea *plus* Harlington Gardeners

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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 **5<sup>th</sup>** and **19<sup>th</sup>**, and the first meeting in November

will be **2<sup>nd</sup>**. All meetings will be on Zoom as well as in-person. Refreshments will be served at each meeting.

I have several friends who make cards, including Christmas cards – and they none of them produce the same kinds of cards! One makes cross-stitch cards – different every year, but often using the same basic designs in any given year (different colours make a lot of differ-

ence). Another buys kits – press out decoupage kits. These can be very complicated, but they are lovely. Unfortunately, they don't photograph well. Yet another uses old cards, both birthday and Christmas, and makes up her own designs, with ribbon and lace, and sits at work with bags of trimmings, and the necessary tools. And there are other makers and designers! Among the Christmas – and other - cards I receive are always some which are handmade – and those I never throw away. I have quite a collection now!

Here are three – one Christmas, one Easter, and one other. Two cross-stitch, one needle felted.

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

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## Harlington Gardeners' Society

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At our AGM on 14<sup>th</sup> 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.

Tony Roberts – HGS Secretary

---

# South Bedfordshire Association National Trust

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## **Radio Days**

**An interactive presentation by Kevin Varty on classic radio and TV tunes,  
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**Salvation Army Hall Dunstable**

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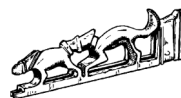
**AT 1.45 PM FOR 2.00 PM START**

All Welcome

Association Members £2

Non-Association Members £4

Refreshments £1



**Monday 2nd November 2026**

## **The King's Weighty Matter – The Annulment of the Marriage of Henry VIII and Katherine of Aragon**



The king was Henry VIII, and his weighty matter was his marriage to Katharine of Aragon. Without a legitimate son, the Tudor dynasty was in a dangerous situation. Was his marriage lawful? If not, was this why God had failed to provide a son? Henry needed to know, and the resolution has shaped our national story ever since.

Speaker Kay Kemster, Dunstable Tour Guides

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: December 7th

4 St James's Square, the London Home of the De Greys

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



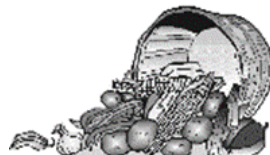
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# Harlington Village Show

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

29<sup>th</sup> August 2026



We really hope you all enjoyed the Show this year – there were plenty of exhibits to enjoy despite the scorching weather we've had, plus plenty of time to chat and enjoy some home made cake. Our entries were slightly down in the vegetable classes, but there were so many other beautiful exhibits and the hall looked amazing. Thank you to all of our exhibitors, judges, visitors and volunteer helpers. There isn't a Show without you, and if you didn't enter this year, why not have a go next year? Special thanks to our Guest of Honour, Deputy Lieutenant of Bedfordshire Charles Whitbread who kindly presented the awards and talked to visitors during the afternoon. He also loved Joyce's almond cake – if you've tried it, you'll know!

Here are the prize winners for 2026.

|                             |                                |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Flower Arranging Cup:       | Carole Preston                 |
| Vegetable Cup:              | Tricia Murphy                  |
| Vegetable Collection:       | Tricia Murphy                  |
| Photography:                | Paul Smith-Edmonds             |
| Craft:                      | Jackie Gray                    |
| Preserves & Cookery:        | Mary Caldwell                  |
| Judy Harfield Flower Cup:   | Andy Bishop                    |
| Longest Runner Bean:        | Tricia Murphy                  |
| Heaviest Marrow:            | Tony Roberts                   |
| Dahlia Cup                  | Rosie Hughes                   |
| Best Scented Rose           | Andy Bishop                    |
| Children Pre-School:        | Giovanna Seaman-Marsden        |
| Children age 5-8:           | Chloe Cook                     |
| Children 9-11               | Emilia Foster                  |
| Best Grown (veg & fruit):   | Tricia Murphy (veg collection) |
| Best Flower exhibit:        | Jackie Gray                    |
| Overall winner, most points | Tricia Murphy                  |

And finally a huge thanks to all of the Committee, who work so hard to make it all happen.

Tricia & Harlington Village Show Committee

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# Harlington Village Show

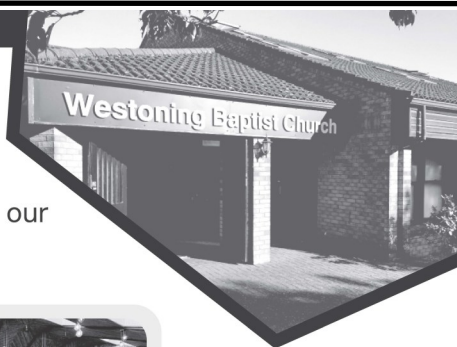
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# Advertisement

## Westoning Baptist Church

You are very welcome to join us for our services at the Church or online.



### Sunday

Services 11am & 6pm

Sunday School

9.30am - 10.30am (term-time)



### Tuesday

Bible Study/Prayer Meeting

7.15pm

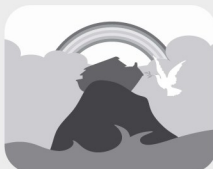


### Friday

Noah's Ark Toddlers Group

9am - 11am (term-time)

In 'Hope Hall'



Find out more



 Large free car park on site

 Zoom Meeting ID: 292 960 6969

 **Greenfield Road MK45 5JD**

 **westoningbaptistchurch.org**

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## Alpha, Maulden Art Goup, SBANTS

### Is there more to life than this?

Alpha will be coming to Harlington soon.

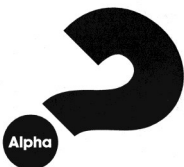
A Chance to explore life and the Christian  
faith in a friendly and informal  
environment.

**Starts 2nd October 2026**

**7.30 to 9 pm**

**Harlington Parish Hall**

**Try Alpha**



[contact@life-church-harlington.com](mailto:contact@life-church-harlington.com)

### MAULDEN ART GROUP EXHIBITION AND SALE

**SUNDAY 11 OCTOBER**

**10.00am - 4.00pm**

**Maulden Village Hall**

**Children's Activities**

**Refreshments**

**Raffle**

**Working Artists**

**FREE ADMISSION**

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## SBANTS

### South Bedfordshire Association Of National Trust Supporters Talks 2026

**Monday October 5<sup>th</sup>**

Kevin Varty      Radio Days

**Monday November 2<sup>nd</sup>**

Mike Chapman      Commonwealth War Graves

**Monday December 7th**

Ann Ledger      History of the Pantomime

**TALKS WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE SALVATION ARMY CENTRE,  
BULL POND LANE, DUNSTABLE, LU6 3AH, ALL STARTING AT 2PM**

Followed by refreshments £1

**MEMBERS £2**

**GUESTS WELCOME AT £4**

You do not need to be a member of the National Trust to join our supporters' group.

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# LIFE Church *and* Mini Lighthouse

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LIFE CHURCH  
HARLINGTON

[www.life-church-harlington.com](http://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**

## October 2026

4th – Carol Gibbs

11th – Margie Lim

18th – All age Lighthouse Café

25th – TBC



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 .

OCTOBER CAFÉ CHURCH—The Big Catch

## Mini Lighthouse

Parent and Toddler Group 0-3 years

Harlington Parish Hall

9.30 – 11am

Upcoming Dates

Sept 10<sup>th</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup>

Oct 8<sup>th</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup>

Nov 5<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup>

Dec 3<sup>rd</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>

Join us for a morning of:

Craft, Play

Storytime & Songs



All parents and carers 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:**

- 4<sup>th</sup> 10 am Come and See for Harvest  
6 pm Service of Holy Communion led by Rev. Doreen Koffie-Williams
- 11<sup>th</sup> 10 am The Worship Group
- 18<sup>th</sup> 10 am Service of Holy Communion led by Rev. Doreen Koffie-Williams
- 25<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** 31st October 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.

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### **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 **October** are -

- 1<sup>st</sup> - Sue Blain
- 8<sup>th</sup> - Members Own
- 15<sup>th</sup> - John Enejo
- 22<sup>nd</sup> - Barbara Donaldson & John Sorsby
- 29<sup>th</sup> - Richard Luscombe (Talking about a charity walk & Sky Dive (Walking on Air))

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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. Contact via email [t315485@gmail.com](mailto:t315485@gmail.com) OR leave a message on 07704315485

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# St Mary's Churchwarden

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## St Mary's Church



**Messy Church:** We will be meeting in the Parish Hall at 9am on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> October. Breakfast, story, craft and song. All welcome.

**Churchyard:** Our next tidy up session in the churchyard is on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> October, from 9 - 11am when we'll be tidying the area around the south and west doors, clearing any weeds from the wall, and it might also be our hedge cutting day, depending on the weather. See the church website or Facebook for updates at [harlingtonchurch.org](http://harlingtonchurch.org) or St Mary's Harlington. New volunteers welcome!

**Save the dates: Toddington Town Band.** Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> October at 2.30pm. Ticket information to follow, you can pay on the door (includes a cuppa and cake). Always a great concert, and this year they will be performing 'Smash Hits from Theatre and TV' which should be very entertaining. I think whoever named the television should have called it a watching machine!

**Remembrance Exhibition:** Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> November in the Parish Hall from 11.30am. An historical exhibition about Harlington with various stalls and refreshments. More info to follow.

**Christmas Tree Festival: 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> December.** Our theme this year is 'The Joys of Christmas'. We have Biddenham Handbell Ringers performing on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> at 2pm and a quartet of young musicians performing at the Festival Finale on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:booking@harlingtonchurch.org). **How do Christmas trees say goodbye to each other?.....Fir-well!**

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

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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 Festival service on 4<sup>th</sup> October.

Our October services are:

4<sup>th</sup> 8 am Morning Prayer (Book of Common Prayer)

9.30 am Harvest Worship service

11<sup>th</sup> 9.00 am Families' Messy Breakfast in the Parish Hall

9.30 am Holy Communion

19<sup>th</sup> 9.30 am Holy Communion

26<sup>th</sup> 9.30 am Holy Communion

## 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

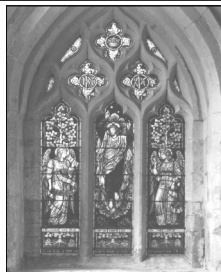
The church noticeboard is kept regularly up-to-date as is the church website which is at <https://www.harlingtonchurch.org>

The church Facebook page is: [www.facebook.com/stmarysharlington/](https://www.facebook.com/stmarysharlington/)

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)**



"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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#### OPENING HOURS



##### TUESDAY

9:00 AM – 3:00 PM

##### SUNDAY

9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Appointments outside of these hours can be arranged for an extra charge.

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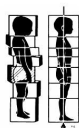
**Mob: 07970 275358**

**Tel: 01582 882245**

**Email: danieljames5@outlook.com**



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# Village Diary

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## October

|                  |                     |                                            |
|------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| 2 <sup>nd</sup>  | Alpha course        | Parish Hall 7.30 pm                        |
| 4 <sup>th</sup>  | Town Band           | St. Mary's 2.30 pm                         |
| 5 <sup>th</sup>  | SBANTS Talk         | Salvation Army Hall Dunstable 1.45 pm      |
| 5 <sup>th</sup>  | Crafternoon Tea     | Methodist Church Hall 2 – 4 pm (plus Zoom) |
| 5 <sup>th</sup>  | ADALHS talk         | Flitwick Library 7.30 pm                   |
| 6 <sup>th</sup>  | Flittabus MK        | Station Road bus stop 9.15 am              |
| 8 <sup>th</sup>  | Mini Lighthouse     | Parish Hall 9.30 am – 11 am                |
| 10 <sup>th</sup> | Churchyard Tidy     | St. Mary's Church 9 – 11 am                |
| 10 <sup>th</sup> | HP Quiz Night       | Village Hall 7 pm                          |
| 11 <sup>th</sup> | Messy breakfast     | Parish Hall 9 am                           |
| 11 <sup>th</sup> | Art Exhibition      | Maulden Village Hall 10 am – 4 pm          |
| 13 <sup>th</sup> | Parish Council      | Parish Hall 7.30 pm                        |
| 17 <sup>th</sup> | Messy Church        | Methodist Church and Halls 4 pm            |
| 19 <sup>th</sup> | Crafternoon Tea     | Methodist Church Hall 2 – 4 pm (plus Zoom) |
| 20 <sup>th</sup> | Allotment Holders   | Parish Hall 7.30 pm                        |
| 22 <sup>nd</sup> | Mini Lighthouse     | Parish Hall 9.30 am – 11 am                |
| 31 <sup>st</sup> | HiB Winter planting | Village Hall Car Park 10 am                |
| 31 <sup>st</sup> | Coffee Morning      | Methodist Church Hall 10 am – 12 noon      |

## November

|                  |                        |                                            |
|------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| 2 <sup>nd</sup>  | SBANTS Talk            | Salvation Army Hall Dunstable 1.45 pm      |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup>  | Crafternoon Tea        | Methodist Church Hall 2 – 4 pm (plus Zoom) |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup>  | ADALHS talk            | Flitwick Library 7.30 pm                   |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup>  | Flittabus MK           | Station Road bus stop 9.15 am              |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup>  | Parish Finance & GP    | Parish Hall 7.30 pm                        |
| 7 <sup>th</sup>  | HiB Tidy UP            | War Memorial 10 am                         |
| 8 <sup>th</sup>  | Remembrance Exhibition | Parish Hall 11.30 am                       |
| 14 <sup>th</sup> | HGS AGM                |                                            |
| 16 <sup>th</sup> | Crafternoon Tea        | Methodist Church Hall 2 – 4 pm (plus Zoom) |
| 19 <sup>th</sup> | Mini Lighthouse        | Parish Hall 9.30 am – 11 am                |
| 21 <sup>st</sup> | Lights Switch on       | Village Car Park 12.45 – 7 pm              |
| 28 <sup>th</sup> | Coffee Morning         | Methodist Church Hall 10 am – 12 noon      |
| 30 <sup>th</sup> | Crafternoon Tea        | Methodist Church Hall 2 – 4 pm (plus Zoom) |

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/DECEMBER 2026 DATES TO THE MAGAZINE BY 10TH OCTOBER/2026**