

Harlington *April*

Methodist **2024**

Monthly

Minister: Rev. Claudia Lupi

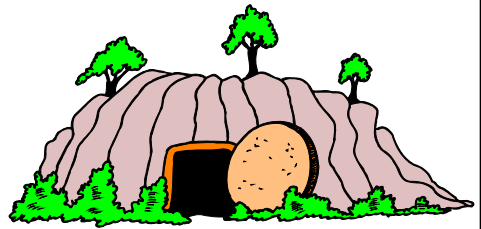
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Senior Steward: Martin Wallis

01525 875850 martinwallis@hotmail.com

Dear brothers and sisters,

The Easter of Jesus' resurrection offers the opportunity, in a time of history full of war, new terrorist attacks, domestic violence, prejudice against people of different culture, gender, race and sexual orientations, in a time where we destroy nature carelessly, to open our hearts to hope and commitment for a new life.



The love that church leaders, peacemakers and eco friends in Harlington, spread through the word of dismay and indignation for what happens, is the sign of a common commitment for the well-being of all and everything that represents life.

We need to carry out a serious and careful reflection on reality to rise above the rubble: we can only get up if we walk together, working for a new lifestyle for the benefit of the entire community and world.

Lent reminds us every year that "good, as well as love, justice and solidarity, cannot be achieved once and for all; they must be conquered every day".

Friends, let us therefore fight for justice with the dedication, the patience and the perseverance of the farmer who sows with all his means and never gives up on doing good.

We must have a concrete commitment. Each, in relationship to their abilities

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and their social role, they are called to work and collaborate in the resurrection of our small and close, or big and far, world.

Everybody can contribute to a radical change and live as a risen person.

Happy Easter all

Claudia

NEW PROJECT FOR 2024 – BRAIN TUMOUR RESEARCH

If you read the “Contact” regularly, you will know that Jane Barltrop has been fronting this charity in the village for a number of years. This year, we will add our contribution to hers. I am hoping to persuade Jane to come to some of our coffee mornings, with written information about the charity, and perhaps to bring some of her plants to sell, depending on what she has available. I have also asked her to let us know about any of the events she is hosting, so that we can get involved where appropriate, or simply publicise them where we cannot be involved.

Tina

YOU ARE INVITED ...

To come to the Square for 6.00pm on 28th April 2024, to celebrate forty years of preaching, with Tina and Robin Wright, and 25 years of worship leading, with Clive and Stephen Parkinson.

The Local Preachers’ Celebration service takes place every year, but this is the first time we have had worship leaders who have reached 25 years of service. The Circuit has decided to have both celebrations together, and since Harlington will be represented in both aspects, it would be nice to have our own congregation to celebrate with us. Under other circumstances, the service might have taken place at Harlington, but since Stephen can no longer drive, we have opted to make life easier for him.

If you would like a lift to the service, please ask!

Tina and Clive

APRIL DIARY

1st 1900 TFT Band Practice

2nd

3rd 1545 *Outside Booking—Emily-Child Singing*

4th 1445 Bright Hour Fellowship

5th 1830 626 Club

6th

7th 1000 Morning Service led by Roger Owers

1800 Evening Service led by Rev Claudia Lupi inc Communion

1915 Outside Booking—Lydia Kidman—Choir

8th 1400 Crafternoon Tea

1900 TFT Band Practice

2000 *Outside Booking Scott Hemsley*

9th 1600 *Outside Booking Kristy Dance*

10th 1545 *Outside Booking—Emily-Child Singing*

11th 1445 Bright Hour Fellowship

12th 1830 626 Club

13th *1600 Cinema Club*

14th 1000 Morning Service led by Worship Group

1900 Outside Booking—Lydia Kidman—Choir

15th 1900 TFT Band Practice

16th 1600 *Outside Booking Kristy Dance*

17th 0800 *Outside Booking—Emily –Dance Exams*

1545 Outside Booking—Emily-Child Singing

18th 1445 Bright Hour Fellowship

19th 1830 626 Club

2015 TFT

20th 1600 Messy Church

21st 1000 **PASTORAL VISITORS DEDICATION** with Rev Claudia Lupi inc
Communion

1900 Outside Booking—Lydia Kidman—Choir

22nd 1400 Crafternoon Tea

1900 TFT Band Practice

2000 *Outside Booking Scott Hemsley*

23rd 1600 *Outside Booking Kristy Dance*

24th 1545 *Outside Booking—Emily– Child Singing*

25th 1445 Bright Hour Fellowship

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26th 1830 626 Club

26th 2015 TFT

27th 1000 Coffee Morning

28th 1000 Morning Service led by Local Arrangement

1800 Local Preachers and Worship Leaders Celebration @ The Square

1900 Outside Booking—Lydia Kidman—Choir

29th 1900 TFT Band Practice

30th 1600 *Outside Booking Kristy Dance*

BRIGHT HOUR FELLOWSHIP

The Bright Hour Fellowship meets every Thursday afternoon at 2.45pm in the hall. 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. 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 soon.

Speakers for April are as below.-

4th - Singalong with Barbara Donaldson

11th - Jenny Baker (talking about toybox - Providing birth certificates for Street children).

18th - AGM with Claudia

25th - Richard Luscombe Talking about a charity walk he went on along the River Thames.

Helen James

FLOWER ROTA—2024

Doreen has kindly agreed to manage the flower rota for this year and a copy is on the notice board in the hallway.

Regular bookings have already been added BUT please check to see if any have been missed.

PLEASE check the list often to see if you can fill a space. Unable to provide the flowers? No problem—just make a donation to Doreen and she will sort out a flower display on a 'blank' date.

OUTSIDE BOOKINGS - APRIL

<u>DATE</u>	<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO</u>	<u>GROUP</u>
03rd Apr	1545	1830	Emily Hancock—Child Singing
07th Apr	1900	2030	Lydia Kidman—Choir
08th Apr	2000	2200	Scott Hemsley—Band
09th Apr	1600	2000	Kristy Burgoine—Dance
10th Apr	1545	1830	Emily Hancock—Child Singing
13th Apr	1500	1900	Cinema Club
14th Apr	1900	2030	Lydia Kidman—Choir
16th Apr	1600	2000	Kristy Burgoine—Dance
17th Apr	0830	1530	Emily Hancock—Dance Exams
17th Apr	1545	1830	Emily Hancock—Child Singing
21st Apr	1900	2030	Lydia Kidman—Choir
22nd Apr	2000	2200	Scott Hemsley—Band
23rd Apr	1600	2000	Kristy Burgoine—Dance
24th Apr	1545	1830	Emily Hancock—Child Singing
28th Apr	1900	2030	Lydia Kidman—Choir
30th Apr	1600	2000	Kristy Burgoine—Dance

ROTAS

<u>DATE</u>	<u>STEWARD</u>	<u>FLOWERS</u>
07 April	am Madeline pm Tina	Tina
14 April	John	Christine and Alan Parfitt
21 April	Tina	
28 April	Cathy	

Could you be a vestry Steward? Have a word with Tina.

The Flower Rota for 2024 is available. Could you fill any spaces? Speak to Doreen.

REVIEW OF THE MONTH

This has been a busy month for us. We had the TFT sleepover, during which they prepared for the BB Enrolment and Children and Youth workers' Dedication Service.

We had the Celebration of the Life of Christine Ward (much of the Eulogy is printed in the April Contact magazine which can be found on-line at <https://harlingtonvillagemagazine.org> if you don't have access to a paper copy).

Mothering Sunday was led by Angela Brydon, from the North Beds circuit, and we had the usual gifts and flowers. We also had our usual communion and other services.

The 1st Sunday of the month was also our AGM. You should have all seen the Annual Report, let me know if you haven't.

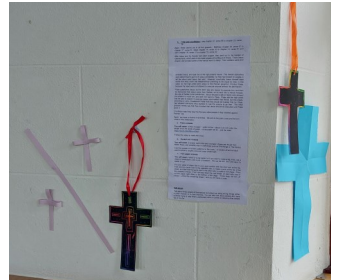


626 Club continued to meet. We had our biggest ever attendance one week, 31 children. The children made the pouches for the Mothering Sunday Gifts. They also make a variety of other things.



As they said at the enrolment, TFT has been successful at a number of BB competitions at both a local and a national level. They currently have the Battalion Colours.

Messy Church met, with a new family attending, an ex 626 member is now a



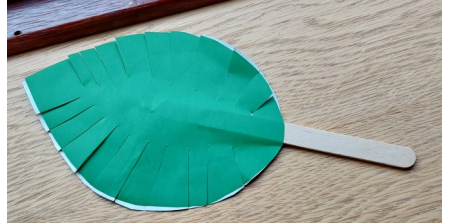
mum and came with her children. If everyone comes to the same session we would have quite an attendance! We were thinking about Easter. Samples of many of the things we made are in the church, to-

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gether with our booklet (which can also be found on www.cliveandtina.co.uk).

We had a further visit from Pre-school. 14 children and 6 adults came to us to learn about Easter. As this was the Friday before Palm Sunday we included making model palm branches to wave and we gave them Palm Crosses to take away as well.



The Bright Hour Fellowship met regularly and writes, "Last month we had music related to poems, a talk about the need for the Leprosy mission to have better facilities for their work in Pakistan, a talk about how people in Sri Lanka managed to build a meeting place and about the life of a headmaster in Schools."

Film Club had another good turnout.

The Thursday Fellowships continue, although there is a pause on the afternoon group at present.



Last but not least, our united Good Friday Walk of Witness happened. This year St. Mary's (Robert Johns) organised it and developed the liturgy. We had a good number start out from our church, with more joining on the way. We went round to the usual places, and had a word of scripture and a prayer at each, but dropped in to St. Mary's to cos-

tume before going to the shops for a dramatised presentation on the grass of the full Good Friday story. We had a further stop at the cemetery and then went back to



St. Mary's for tea, coffee and hot cross buns. Watch out for more and better pictures coming out later.

HARLINGTON MESSY CHURCH



Our next Messy Church will be on 20th April 2024 at 4 pm which will be live/Zoom/Streamed. If you would like to join us, either as a participant or a helper, please feel free. People may well be needed to help small children. There will be a number of things to do, some involving things to eat. As our April session falls

between Easter and Pentecost (which is the day after our May session) we are going to look at Passover.

Our normal format is to do activities until 4.45 pm, then have a Celebration which includes singing and further activities, usually ones it is easier to do at home. This is streamed and recorded.

Then at 5.30 pm we have tea. By the way, the past celebrations are still on YouTube.

CHURCH AND TECHNOLOGY

I recently met with some of the people I was at university with and it occurred to me that I was doing many of the same things now that I did then. The thing is that the way of doing them has changed considerably. For example, I used to be involved in duplicating. We were quite advanced in the way we worked, we had a scanner that cut stencils electronically.



Nowadays, few people (if any) will use a duplicator, as computer printers and photocopiers have made them obsolete. The same is true of many other things (although the problem with the latest change to the landline was noticeable last week when the internet went out!)

With the changes in technology come changes in the way it is used. The term “paperless office” was coined in the belief that computers would mean that we would not print out so much, but, at least initially, because they made it easy they seemed to increase the amount of paper—that may be changing. Who would have thought that the development of the mobile phone would lead to fewer people speaking on the phone, even as there were more phones?

What does this mean for the Church? We are in the business of communication. How do we communicate in the present age? I leave this as a thought.

Clive

ISSUE #40

Welcome to the latest edition of our monthly magazine/notices. Deadline for items for the **MAY** edition will be **THU 18TH APRIL** for things for the diary to Trevor, or general articles and pictures of things being done by our church community to me by Thursday 25th April 2024. It is still possible to send late notices. These will normally be tagged on to the end of the circulated weekly service.

FELLOWSHIP GROUPS

The two Thursday Fellowship groups still meet, every other week.

At 10.30 am. Live. Please contact Helen/Sandra for dates and location.

At 2.30 pm. On Zoom. Contact Tina (874481) for dates and details for the joining link.

WIFI

WiFi is available in the Hall. Ask Clive for the password. Note that the system keeps information on the type of sites visited.

CHANGE OF CONTACT EMAIL

The usual contact email **hmc.bookings@ntlworld.com** is currently working again—sometimes!

Please submit any items or room booking requests to: the above address **AND the.cavenays@ntlworld.com** and/or **t315485@gmail.com**

Hopefully one of them will get a response!

Thank you. Trevor

CONTACT NUMBERS

Over the coming weeks Mary and I will have less access to our home land-line number. Please use our mobile numbers as first point of contact either for talking, SMS, WhatsApp, etc. The numbers are: -

TREVOR—07704 315485

MARY—07733 482444

Superintendent's 2024 Easter Message to the Circuit

CHRIST IS RISEN! HE IS RISEN INDEED – ALLELUIA!

Here we are, at the end of March, the end of Lent and in Holy Week as I write this, coming into the second quarter of the year again. I believe we are particularly thinking Easter as the days become brighter and summer approaches. But before we get there, please let's stop and think about what it means to be living in Easter time, such as it is with wars, rumour of wars, political instability, economic turmoil, declining Church membership, injustices etc, the list goes on engulfing our world.

In spite of all that is mentioned above, it's Holy week again. I will like to take this opportunity to encourage us all to stop think about what we are doing for the church and world, what we have been, how we are going to face the world in future beyond Easter. In the midst the world's trail and difficulties it is worth noting that Lent and Easter inescapably hang together.

So, for me, the journey of Lent leads us to the unveiling of the exciting paschal mysteries. We become in awe of the Son of Man's triumphal entry into Jerusalem, and as we are taken through the events of Holy Week, the "fall of the 'shadows'" represented in Maundy Thursday which vividly echoes the pain, the anguish and the ultimate sacrifice Jesus makes on Good Friday. Therefore, embodying the passion and His death. 'It is finished' cries Jesus! (c.f. John 19:30) Or is it?

Easter Sunday is a time that gives us a chance to reflect on the considerable contribution Christian communities make to our national life, offering support and a sense of belonging to so many across our town and the country. Christianity and its values of tolerance, compassion and charity are embedded in our history and national fabric.

As we look forward in great hope and expectation, may we stand in faith and not be fearful of shut churches. God's love is still open, all embracing and a great comfort to the sorrowful. At the heart of the Gospel is that Christ has been raised form the dead. Whether you believe it or not, the resurrection of Jesus Christ was the most significant event in history, and through the ages of the Church's practices and history the Bible has addressed some of the commonly asked questions about the resurrection of Jesus.

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Did the resurrection really happen?

Why does the resurrection matter?

Why does the resurrection matter to you?

My friends, holding on to this belief, no wonder why on the 31st of March most of us will be attending services in Churches across the Circuit to celebrate this wonderful story and victory of Easter Sunday! A stone was rolled and out rose Jesus, the Great Saviour who died and rose again for our sake.

In Matthew 28::6, it says it best: "He is not here; he has risen!" As your superintendent, I invite you on behalf of all my ministerial colleagues and Churches to please join us in one of our Easter Sunday services as we celebrate this great truth! The Son of God is risen and alive, so that we may find joy in relationship with God. Let me also, wish you all a spirit filled and inspiring morning on Easter Day as we join together in worship services across the Circuit.

Finally, as we join together and reflect on Jesus's great sacrifice and as we put the difficulties of our time aside for the moment, let us also endeavour to join together in thanking the Good Lord who created us and the God who sacrificed his one and only Son to die on the cross for our sins.

John 3:16 says: "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."

A Prayer for Easter Day

Lord, we come with all our doubts and fears to be touched with the truth of your resurrection.

We come with all our sorrows and pain to be held with the hope of your resurrection.

We come with our disappointments and failures to be strengthened by your resurrection.

We come as we are. We come for we must. We come to celebrate your resurrection. Amen

(David Clowes- 500 Prayers for All Occasions (pg. 22))

Wishing you a Happy and Blessed Easter.

Yours in His Service,

PATRICK

NOTICES Details of items for the Notices should be delivered to Trevor Caveney at the caveney@ntlworld.com. OR t315485@gmail.com

DEADLINE for inclusion in March edition is **THU 18th April**

CHURCH BOOKING DIARY

PLEASE check with Trevor before adding any dates or events.

Prayer Chain number: Dorothy Preston 874841

Church Website: www.harlingtonmethodistchurch.uk

Church YouTube channel:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCTMWR_QCxujkh1zHjTFcoJw

FACEBOOK

Don't forget the church has a Facebook page. You can use this for communicating, and it's very good for showing pictures. If you want to join the group, contact Martin. Remember, the more people who use it and who belong to the group, the more useful it becomes.

COMMUNICATION WITH THE CHURCH FAMILY



Pick up your pen, pencil or keyboard and share with us what you are doing in your life and as part of the Church.

Please feel free to send me items of interest, messages, birthdays, anniversaries or anything else you might wish to share for inclusion in future editions of these E-notices. Keep safe.

Trevor & Mary

CONTACT MAGAZINE

The latest edition is available at <https://harlingtonvillagemagazine.org>

Paper copies will also be available.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

'The calling of Harlington Methodist Church is to respond to and celebrate the Gospel of God's presence. In all of our activities we seek to serve Harlington and the wider world. Most of all we aspire to honour and serve the living God.'