

Harlington Methodist Monthly

**NOVEMBER
2025**

Minister: Rev. Claudia Lupi

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Senior Steward: Martin Wallis

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Hi All,

Time changes this weekend. We move from British Summer Time back to Greenwich Mean Time. This means that, at 2 am on Sunday morning (26th October) the clocks need to go back one hour.

That makes me think. Not only does time change but times change. "The past is another country, they do things differently there." In our faith we have to find a delicate balance between those things which we can and should change as a reflection of worldly change and those things which we cannot and must not change while we desire to live in the kingdom of God.

And it is a difficult balance. Different people see it as being in different places. It is already being said that the newly proposed Archbishop of Canterbury has split the Anglican Communion, and she hasn't yet taken up the post. Unfortunately, things have always been like this in faith circles, and not just in the Christian ones. Some people feel that their faith gives certainty that what they believe is right. Sometimes we need certainty in our faith, at others we need room for doubt.

When my children were teenagers, there was a thing for wearing wrist bands that said WWJD—"What Would Jesus Do?" It would be presumptuous of us to believe we know that with complete surety, Jesus often took people by surprise. But if we think about Jesus as we see him in the Gospels, in the

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stories of how he behaved towards others, particularly those who were outcasts in society, then maybe we can get on the right track.

Whether it was dealing with lepers, sinners, children, taxmen or the rich and powerful, the Gospels give a picture of the love of God coming to the world through his son. Can we do that in this time and place?

Amen

Clive

NEW MINISTER

Further to last month's notice, the meeting with the prospective new minister is now arranged for 15th November at 2 pm and will last about 3/4 hr. This is just before Messy Church (while we should be setting up!) so I hope that many of that group will attend. If anyone else would like to come, please let me know so that we can have a broad representation of the church.

FINANCE & PROPERTY

Are you interested in serving on the Finance & Property Committee. We meet 3 times a year and report to Church Council. We monitor the finances and upkeep of the property. Please speak to Cathy if you are interested

We also still need one or more Property Stewards. A lot of the job involves getting people in to do work, and opening up for them. You don't have to do the actual jobs!

BRIGHT HOUR FELLOWSHIP—SPEAKERS FOR NOVEMBER

Speakers/activities for November are as below.-

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

HARLINGTON MESSY CHURCH



Our next Messy Church will be on 15th November 2025 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.

Our normal format is to do activities such as painting, cooking, and making things until 4.45 pm, then have a Celebration which includes singing and further activities, usually ones it is easier to do at home and that are less messy. This is streamed and recorded.

Then at 5.30 pm we have tea. By the way, the past celebrations are still on YouTube, as are the fully recorded sessions we did in lockdown.

Messy Church is always on the third Saturday. If you can help at any of these, please let Clive or Tina know so that we can arrange things most efficiently. If you stay to the end you get tea!

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN HARLINGTON

CTiH met last week to discuss our joint activities and work in the village. Among the things discussed were:

The Prayer Weekend. This went well in general, and they hope that it can start earlier on the Thursday next year. It coincided with the "Meet the Village" event, and that led to other people going in to the prayer area.

The Bunyan service will be led by us and the new Curate will speak.

The Salvation Army will lead carols on 17th December at the shops.

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity service will be on 25th January

Contact and its funding was discussed. With the new housing we will need to raise more money to pay for the increased circulation. We discussed things such as charity status and sponsorship as well as increasing advertising costs as a means of raising needed funds.

THE FOOD BANK

COVID meant we had to stop collecting for the food bank. Should we bring it back? Cathy is willing to take the food to the food bank if enough people are interested. Please let Cathy know if you think we should start collecting again.

NOVEMBER DIARY

- 1st
- 2nd** 1000 TFT Enrolment Service led by Rev Claudia Lupi
1800 **NO Evening Service**
- 3rd 1400 Crafternoon Tea
- 4th 1600 *Outside Booking Kristy Dance*
2000 *Outside Booking - PBGS*
- 5th 1545 *Outside Booking—Emily—Child Singing*
1930 *Outside Booking—Emily T-G Adult Dance*
- 6th 1445 Bright Hour Fellowship
1830 *Outside Booking—Gestalt Theatre*
- 7th 1830 626 Club
2015 TFT
- 8th 1500 Cinema Club
1700 *Outside Booking—BB Masterteam*
- 9th 1045 United act of Remembrance at War Memorial followed by service in St. Mary's Church**
1800 Bunyan United Service. This service will include Communion
- 10th 2000 *Outside Booking—Scott Hemsley*
- 11th 1600 *Outside Booking Kristy Dance*
2000 *Outside Booking - PBGS*
- 12th 1545 *Outside Booking—Emily—Child Singing*
1930 *Outside Booking—Emily T-G Adult Dance*
- 13th 1430 Thursday Fellowship Group—Zoom—Sermon on the Mount: 9
1445 Bright Hour Fellowship
1830 Gestalt Theatre—Emily T-G
- 14th 1830 626 Club
2015 TFT
- 15th 1600 Messy Church
- 16th** 1000 Morning Service led by Roger Owers
1500 *Outside Booking—PBGS*
- 17th 1400 Crafternoon Tea
- 18th 1600 *Outside Booking Kristy Dance*
2000 *Outside Booking - PBGS*
- 19th 1545 *Outside Booking—Emily—Child Singing*
1930 *Outside Booking—Emily T-G Adult Dance*

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- 20th 1445 Bright Hour Fellowship
1830 *Outside Booking—Gestalt Theatre*
- 21st 1830 626 Club
2015 TFT
- 22nd
- 23rd** 1000 Morning Service led by Rev Claudia Lupi inc Communion
1500 *Outside Booking—PBGS*
- 24th 2000 *Outside Booking—Scott Hemsley*
- 25th 1600 *Outside Booking Kristy Dance*
2000 *Outside Booking - PBGS*
- 26th 1545 *Outside Booking—Emily—Child Singing*
1930 *Outside Booking—Emily T-G Adult Dance*
TBA *Martin Wallis—Community Event—TBC*
- 27th 1430 Thursday Fellowship Group—Zoom—Sermon on the Mount: 10
1445 Bright Hour Fellowship
1830 *Outside Booking—Gestalt Theatre*
- 28th 1830 626 Club
2015 TFT
- 29th 1000 Coffee Morning
- 30th** 1000 Morning Service led by Rev. Tim Haines
1500 *Outside Booking—PBGS*

TECH TRAINING

Things are a bit clearer. I will run refresher training for the Sound System and for simplified Zoom if required, from 11 am during the October and November Coffee Drop-ins. If you can't do those days/times let me know and I will try to sort out other sessions.

Clive

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 of the joining link. Next meeting is expected to be on 13th November.

THE NEW PROJECT COMMITTEE (NOT NAMED YET)

This was formed to look at how we can serve our community. We have had three events so far with different levels of success. Workspace (poor), Get to know your village (good) & Holiday Club (fantastic). If you are interested in joining the team please speak to Cathy

OUTSIDE BOOKINGS—NOVEMBER

04th	1600	2000	Kristy Burgoine—Dance
	1945	2200	PBGS
05th	1545	1830	Emily H—Child Singing/Drama
	1830	2000	Emily T-G —Adult Dance
06th	1930	2030	Gestalt Theatre—Emily T-G
08th	1500	1800	Cinema Club
	1700	2200	BB Masterteam
10th	2000	2200	Scott Helmsly
11th	1600	2000	Kristy Burgoine—Dance
	1945	2200	PBGS
12th	1545	1830	Emily H—Child Singing/Drama
	1930	2030	Emily T-G—Adult Dance
13th	1830	1930	Gestalt Theatre—Emily T-G
15th	1600	1800	Messy Church
16th	1500	1700	PBGS
18th	1600	2000	Kristy Burgoine—Dance
	1945	2200	PBGS
19th	1545	1830	Emily H—Child Singing/Drama
	1930	2030	Emily T-G—Adult Dance
20th	1830	2000	Gestalt Theatre—Emily T-G
23rd	1500	1700	PBGS
24th	2000	2200	Scott Hemsley
25th	1600	2000	Kristy Burgoine—Dance
	1945	2200	PBGS
26th	1545	1830	Emily H—Child Singing/Drama
	1930	2030	Emily T-G—Adult Dance
	TBC	EVE	Martin Wallis—Community Event
27th	1830	2000	Gestalt Theatre—Emily T-G
30th	1500	1700	PBGS

NEW BANK ACCOUNT

The church has now opened a bank account with the Co-op Bank. If you pay money to the church by standing order or other regular means, or make occasional BACS payments, the details are:

Name: Harlington Methodist Church

Sort Code: 08-92-99

Account Number: 67420034

In the mean time we are keeping the existing account open to allow time for people to make the changes, but will close it by the end of the year.

PRAYER TIME

At the annual church meeting it was proposed that we all try to pray at the same time at 8am and 8pm but from wherever we happen to be at the time.

Here are some suggested topics for prayer at 8.

Sunday services and our preachers

Bright Hour Fellowship

Crafternoon Tea

Messy Church and leaders/helpers

626 Club and leaders/helpers

TFT and leaders/helpers

Those who come into the building for other things

Open the Book

Our Minister

All those unwell

The Village and the other churches

New people moving in to the village, particularly on the new estates

Things we do outside the church building

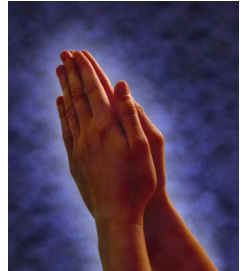
Meet the Village follow up

New Project team

The Circuit

Finding a new minister

Our ministers looking for new appointments



THE PAYNTER HOME -THE CHURCH PROJECT FOR 2026

The Paynter Home was founded by our family 100 years ago in Nuwara Eliya, Sri Lanka.



It was first started as a home for mixed race kids to protect them from a life of exploitation.

The kids today are now a mix of Tamal & Sinhalese. Some are orphans and some have parents who work in the tea estates where they work in virtual slavery.

Unfortunately, the home is not well funded and only gets 50 rupees a day (12p) for a child which has to cover all costs for food, clothes and utilities. So, we have come up with 5 targets we would like to help the home with.

1. HOLIDAYS

These kids never leave the home except when they go to school. So last March my dad and I took them to Koslanda (an eco resort) and it was the first time they had ever seen any of their country. Seeing the lads faces on the bus as we drove around the hills was amazing and seeing them so sad to leave at the end was very emotional.

Next year we would like to take them to Trincomalee as they have never seen the sea and last holiday it was the first time some of them had swum.



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2. ENGLISH

Each child in the home is bilingual and can speak Tamal and Sinhalese but in Sri Lanka to be able to get a good paying job such as in hospitality or office work you need basic English which unfortunately, the children don't have. Their written English and reading is very good but only the older ones can speak even broken English so we would like to get an English teacher in so they get to speak regularly.

3. IT

This is another area which will help the children get a good future job as at the moment none of them have ever used a computer or know basic skills. So, we are hoping to install Wi-Fi and get some old computers and tablets so they can learn IT skills and then we can also have further contact with them.

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4. SANITARY PRODUCTS AND SEX EDUCATION

Sadly in Sri Lanka sexual harassment is very high. Girls are 60% more likely to get assaulted if they are not wearing underwear. So it's my goal to educate all the children (boys and girls) as they need to know the risks as they join the world, as they are in their own little bubble in the home. I'm also looking into a monthly package with products for the girls as they are very expensive to get, and they can't use reusable products in the hills. It is very damp which will cause infections.

5. QUILTING SKILLS AND JOBS

My aunty is planning on going over next year to teach the girls how to quilt and knit so they can start their own business making blankets and things, which means the girls will learn a great skill, the boys can go down to the local markets and sell the products and we are hoping we can build a proper business so the kids have a job to go to after they leave the home.

We would love any help in fund-raising for any of these targets and as we do the kids will know it is coming from the church! Due to safeguarding reasons, I will not be allowed to send pictures of the kids faces but have asked for updates throughout the year to show the progress our donations will make. Literally all your money will be used for the kids. For e.g. the bus to take them on holiday – some floating devices for swimming – food on the trip – Accommodation and trips out – the bus back to the PH and that is all. Helpers will all be self-funding.



-Emily Thornton-Greet

CHURCH COUNCIL SECRETARY

After serving in this role for some years, Sandra has decided to retire. We thank her for her work in this area.

Tanya Setterfield has agreed to be our new Secretary, as we are now holding these meetings on Zoom.

HOME BAKING—INGREDIENTS

Some time ago – before Jo Golby moved – we were looking at the idea of providing lists of ingredients for the items brought to church by people baking at home. Last month at the “Meet the Village” coffee morning, I was asked by several people if home-baked items were (a) gluten-free, or (b) suitable for vegetarians or vegans.

If we were to provide such lists – just the ingredients, not the recipes – they could live in a drawer in the kitchen, and be retrieved when necessary. I have made lists of the ingredients for the things I usually bake for coffee mornings and Crafternoon Tea.

If you usually make something – the same something particularly – and can produce a list of the ingredients, I can laminate it, so that you don’t have to worry about producing it each month.

Bought items have to have a list of ingredients on the packaging, so all we have to do for those things is make sure the packaging is available to read – don’t throw it away until after the contents have been consumed!

Tina

ROTAS

DATE	STEWARD	FLOWERS	
02 November	tba	Caveney's	Could you be a vestry Steward? Have a word with Tina. The Flower Rota for 2025 is available. Could you fill any spaces? Speak to Doreen.
09 November	am None required pm Cathy	Remembrance	
16 November	Steve TG	Dorothy	
23 November	John	Kate	
30 November	Madeline	Tina	

REVIEW OF LAST MONTH

The service for the last Sunday in September was the United Service at the end of the Prayer Weekend. This was a well attended service, led jointly by the three churches, with the service led from the prayer tent. Our other services included



our Harvest with a morning "Come and See" and an evening Harvest Communion, the Worship Group and a further Communion Service, led, on this occasion, by Peter Baker.

Bright Hour Fellowship has met each Thursday.

Messy Church looked at the story of Elijah. We cooked cheese pull-aparts, to repre-



sent the food involved, trees for Elijah to rest under, ravens to

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feed him and Chariots of Fire. You can see more things displayed at the church.



626 Club has continued meeting. We now have new children who have joined us from the Pilgrims Chase estate.

TFT have been cooking and Bowling, as well as having a quiz.

Open The Book continues at Harlington and Sundon, and some of us went to the Harvest at Harlington Lower School.

Crafternoon Tea has had a number of new people come along to see them for their Monday meetings, some of whom now attend regularly.

Fellowship Groups are still meeting.

We used the Coffee Drop-in at the end of September as our first "Meet the Village" This seemed to go down well with everyone who came, despite us not



having many from the new housing. We had a wide representation of village groups. It will be interesting to see if this leads to any

additional attendance at our normal Coffee Drop-ins

Film Club was also held with a good attendance

ISSUE #59

Welcome to the latest edition of our monthly magazine/notices. Deadline for items for the **DEC** edition will be **THU 20TH NOVEMBER** for things for the diary to Trevor, or general articles and pictures of things being done by our church community to me by Thursday 27th November 2025. It is still possible to send late notices. These will normally be tagged on to the end of the circulated weekly service.

FLOWER ROTA—2025

Doreen has kindly agreed to manage the flower rota again for 2025 and a copy is on the notice board in the hall-way.

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.



ROOM BOOKINGS

PLEASE can all leaders and secretaries of hirers/users of the premises, keep me fully updated of dates, times, additions, cancellations, variations or any other reason so that I can be sure that the bookings diary is accurate and up to date.

Failure to update could lead to no heating, unplanned double booking or even a lost booking opportunity as examples. Outside hirers have also been requested to ensure their bookings are up to date.

Thank you for your assistance.—Trevor—contacts on page 16

WIFI

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

REFLECTION

This Sunday is Bible Sunday. We have special Sundays to persuade people to think about things they might not otherwise focus on. It seems odd that we need a special Sunday to focus on the Bible. The Bible is the written source of Jesus and God's teaching. It contains the record of the development of our relationship with God. It contains the words Jesus spoke and the stories of his life on earth. Surely we don't need a special Sunday for the Bible.

How many of us read our Bible every day? How many read it even once a week? How many can say they have read the whole of the Bible? How often do we make do with just listening to the readings we hear on Sunday?

What stops us? Is it time, or the language, or that we find some of the words difficult to understand? What would help us?

For some this will start with a Bible translation we can understand. We may be helped by using daily reading notes that have an explanation or a reflection on a passage each day. We might find that suitable commentaries aid our understanding and make the reading more meaningful.

Several years ago we were challenged to read the Bible in a year. Many of us did, some using a particular "Bible in a Year" version which had already broken the bible down into 365 daily readings. That didn't have much explanation, but did give the broad flow of the Bible.

What would help you with Bible reading? Is there something we could do that would mean you got the benefit of deeper Bible knowledge?

Prayer

Lord God, over centuries people wrote of their experiences with you and recorded what they heard you say to them. Many people have worked so that we can read those words. Give us the enthusiasm to read your word, the desire to understand what it means for us and the strength to act on what we learn.

Amen.

NOTICES Details of items for the Notices should be delivered to Trevor Caveney at the.caveney@ntlworld.com AND t315485@gmail.com
DEADLINE for inclusion in December edition is THU 20th NOVEMBER
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.'