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## The Online Link St. John's Hillingdon



No. 33 Sun 1st - Sat 7th November 2020  
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St. John's Church,  
Royal Lane, Uxbridge UB8 3QP  
[www.stjohnshillingdon.org.uk](http://www.stjohnshillingdon.org.uk)

### Your Sunday Service Link (10.30 am):

Click on the Loving, Growing sharing Image  
above from Sunday 10am or on

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89481452808>

### Church Administrator: Nikki Bell

Email [stjohnshillingdon@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnshillingdon@gmail.com)

Text/Phone 07972 618584

### Vicar: Alan Bradford

Email [abradford@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:abradford@hotmail.co.uk)

Emergencies Text/Phone: 07847672599



On Sunday afternoon Anne and I met in the Memorial Gardens with the Chairman of Hillingdon Royal British Legion, Ian Ritchie, and with Standard Bearer Darren. We were getting ready for our **Remembrance Sunday service on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> November at 10.30am online**. We filmed our words for the Act of Remembrance and also a poppy being laid on behalf of the Royal British Legion.

Similarly, on Monday, Anne and I met with Alan Pannell, Ian and others from the Boys' Brigade so that we could film The Last Post, Reveille and the laying of a wreath on behalf of the brigades.

We will be using the footages taken at our Remembrance Sunday Service. It's great that we can still work in teamwork with our good friends from the Legion and the Brigades for our Remembrance Sunday Service, despite Covid-19. Please see 'News' for details of how you can get your poppy – please wear for our service!

This **Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> November** is often referred to as **All Saints' Day** with it being **All Souls' Day** on the Monday. During this Sunday's service there will be the opportunity to light a candle in your own home, and/or we will do as part of our service, to remember your loved ones. You might also like to read out the name of a loved one or have this read out for you. If you would like a name to be read for you, please email, text or phone me.

Please let your friends and neighbours know about these next two services coming up, both open to anyone. Both will use our normal Sunday Zoom links – just click on a link on the homepage of our website.

Keep Praying! **Alan**

### **Prayers**

#### **Those on the frontline**

Please pray for all workers on the 'frontline' as we see increasing numbers of those catching the coronavirus and increasing hospital admissions. This week you might also like to pray specifically for paramedics and ambulance drivers.

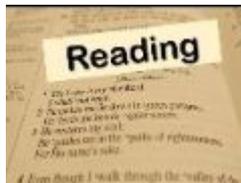
#### **Your Street**

Take a moment to pray for those who live on your street: neighbours, those of faith, those of no faith, those isolated indoors.

#### **Azerbaijan and Armenia**

An escalation of hostilities between the leaders of Azerbaijan and Armenia has created tension that could lead to all-out war. Ask the Lord to give both leaders wisdom and sound counsel, and pray for peace.

The spread of Covid-19 in Azerbaijan and Armenia has led to extremely strict quarantines. Pray that Christians will be Christ's voice of hope and peace to those in despair



#### **Acts 21: 17-34**

17 When we arrived at Jerusalem, the brothers and sisters received us warmly. 18 The next day Paul and the rest of us went to see James, and all the elders were present. 19 Paul greeted them and reported in detail what God had done among the Gentiles through his ministry. 20 When they heard this, they praised God. Then they said to Paul: "You see, brother, how many thousands of Jews have believed, and all of them are zealous for the law.

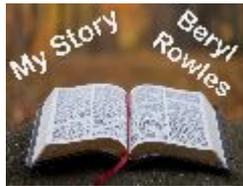
21 They have been informed that you teach all the Jews who live among the Gentiles to turn away from Moses, telling them not to circumcise their children or live according to our customs. 22 What shall we do? They will certainly hear that you have come, 23 so do what we tell you. There are four men with us who have made a vow. 24 Take these men, join in their purification rites and pay their expenses, so that they can have their heads shaved. Then everyone will know there is no truth in these reports about you, but that you yourself are living in obedience to the law.

25 As for the Gentile believers, we have written to them our decision that they should abstain from food sacrificed to idols, from blood, from the meat of strangled animals and from sexual immorality." 26 The next day Paul took the men and purified himself along with them. Then he went to the temple to give notice of the date when the days of purification would end and the offering would be made for each of them. 27 When the seven days were nearly over, some Jews from the province of Asia saw Paul at the temple. They stirred up the whole crowd and seized him,

28 shouting, "Fellow Israelites, help us! This is the man who teaches everyone everywhere against our people and our law and this place. And besides, he has brought Greeks into the temple and defiled this holy place." 29 (They had previously seen Trophimus the Ephesian in the city with Paul and assumed that Paul had brought him into the temple.) 30 The whole city was aroused, and the people came running from all directions. Seizing Paul, they dragged him from the temple, and immediately the gates were shut.

31 While they were trying to kill him, news reached the commander of the Roman troops that the whole city of Jerusalem was in an uproar. 32 He at once took some officers and soldiers and ran down to the crowd. When the rioters saw the commander and his soldiers, they stopped beating Paul. 33 The commander came up and arrested him and ordered him to be bound with two chains. Then he asked who he was and what he had done.

34 Some in the crowd shouted one thing and some another, and since the commander could not get at the truth because of the uproar, he ordered that Paul be taken into the barracks.



### **My Story; Beryl Rowles**

I was born in 1936 in a Private Hospital near Sudbury, I went back to try and find the hospital later in life hoping to find a grand old house, but sadly the land had turned into a housing development. My Dad was in the Navy and my mum was a seamstress, I had any older sister who was 3 years older than me, sadly my sister passed away a few years ago.

I was born with dislocation of both hips and some back problems, which I still have today. So my early childhood was spent in Great Ormond Street Hospital. As my Dad was in the Navy my parents had to move quite a lot. At the time I was in GOSH, my mum was living in Wales, so my Nanny and Auntie would visit me. I have fond memories of my time in GOSH, I remember a lovely little boy who was opposite me he had bright red hair and I thought he was just lovely, but he was quite naughty and would always get in to trouble, I often wonder what happened to that little boy. I also remember the kindness of one nurse, Sister Martin she would look after me as my mum was unable to visit me.

As a result of spending so much time in hospitals they don't upset me at all, I know some people don't like them, but I have never been afraid of hospitals and will often support those going to hospital.

When I was able to go home and live with my parents and sister, I needed quite a bit of looking after. I couldn't walk very well, I had a stick splint across both legs, I can remember hanging my dolls clothes from the stick. I used to love playing with all the children. They used to push me around in a push chair, they would pick up speed quite quickly, I used to love it.

During the war I was evacuated to an old country estate, I think I have mentioned this before during our VE Day celebrations, so I won't go into this again.

I started school at the age of 7 ½ Years old, I really did not like it at first, as the Head Teacher had put me in the nursery group, because they thought I could not read or write. In those days hospitals did not offer any type of learning. But my sister had taught me how to read and write as she used to love to play Teachers. She was always the teacher and I was her student. I was always so grateful to her for that. So as soon as the school realised that I could read and write I was placed with my friends which I loved.

My best memory of being at school was when I was finally able to go out and play with my friends. I used to watch all the children playing from the window in the classroom, as the school was worried that one of the children might knock into me or push me over. That first day was amazing, I can remember it like it was yesterday, I went out and held the hand of my best friend, who I am still in contact with today we keep in touch by phone and speak regularly. Before lock down I would drive to meet her and we would catch up in person. We have both been there for

each other on the best days like Weddings, Births etc and some of the lower days when things don't go so well.

I loved to dance when I was younger. Dancing is where I met my husband. It's a funny story really I always said that meeting my husband was my biggest mistake, but in a good way....We used to laugh about it all the time. One week I went dancing with 2 friends and met this lovely gentlemen who was in the Army, I danced with him all night he had fair hair and glasses at the end of the night he said that he would see me the following week. So the next week I was looking for this man that I had met and there he was fair hair and glasses (or so I thought) so we danced all night again.. at the end of the night I asked him whether he was going to be deployed and he said that he wasn't in the Army!! It didn't matter as he was the one for me... I loved his motorbike and I used to enjoy seeing his mum, we used to play games while he was studying all the time up in his room working on his Higher National. I always said that I was courted by his motorbike and his mum!

We were married on 21<sup>st</sup> September 1957 and within 3 days of our wedding we moved into our house which I still live in. My husband was a wonderful man we had lots of happy times together. Our house was always filled with laughter, I think laughter can carry you through almost anything. We have 2 children, Tina who lives local and visits all the time. I am so grateful that Tina helps me so much. She has a daughter who is a qualified engineer for Dyson and a son who works in the city.

Andrew our son now lives in Australia with his wife and 2 younger children. So, I have 2 older grandchildren and 2 younger. I connect with Andrew via Facetime which is great as I get to see them all.

I have worked in many different areas throughout my life. I worked for 21 years with a Mental Health Team in Ruislip. I still prayer for all the people that I met during my time with the group. We would meet every week, it was wonderful to see people helping each other, We welcomed all ages to come along. I would organise social events which were great even though I was told that we would never be able to get the group to social events, they did and I don't remember forcing anyone they just loved the group and the companionship. I also loved working with the group.

I worked at Harlington Hospice as a bereavement counsellor for many years this is where I met Jean Jenkins. Not many people will know that I am a qualified counsellor. Jean Jenkins asked me to come along to St John's, and this is where I was introduced to a wonderful church and some wonderful people starting with the Monday Group. I thoroughly enjoyed my time with the Monday group. I continue to enjoy worshipping at St John's and fellowship with the congregation I have made some amazing friends over the years. *Beryl Rowles*



### **Preparing the garden for wildlife in the winter.**

Now is the time to tidy and check the garden for winter...

Leave an area to remain undisturbed where wildlife can live over winter.

Make a log pile for small creatures to hide in.

Build a home for a hedgehog.

Put up bird boxes now ready for spring.

Check that they are in the right position for the birds you are hoping to attract.

Make fat balls ready for winter.

Clean bird tables.

Prepare places to hang bird feeders Wait and watch.

Make a nature diary to note the things you see. *Christine Rodrigues*



**Harris Family Tomb**

One of the most ornate tombs in St John’s Churchyard is that of the Harris family, (Eliza, together with her parents Thomas and Charlotte). It’s not so much the architecture of the tomb that fascinates me, but rather the touching poetic inscriptions.

Eliza Harris was the daughter of Thomas and Charlotte Harris. She died aged 15 in 1802. This is what is inscribed underneath her name:

“Early, bright, transient, chaste as morning dew,  
She sparkled, was exhaled and went to heaven”.

Charlotte Harris died in 1816 aged 60 and was buried in the same tomb as her daughter. This is her inscription.

“Oh take these tears, mortality’s relief,  
and till we share thy joys forgive our grief  
these little rites, a stone, a verse, receive,  
T’is all connubial filial love can give.”

Thomas Harris died on the 1<sup>st</sup> October 1820 aged 82. From 1767, he had been the leader of a consortium who owned The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden theatre following the death of John Rich (also buried in St John’s Churchyard). Inscribed on the tomb are these words:

“By his decease his children are deprived of a most affectionate father.  
His performers and theatrical retainers have lost a kind and liberal friend”.

The Harris family lived in a house called Belmont from 1798. In 1805 it was demolished and a new grander house was built. The estate stretched from Belmont Road to Uxbridge Common. Below is shown a photo of the tomb in its sadly depleted state and a painting of Thomas Harris. *Christine Bartlett.*



Thomas Harris



Harris Family Tomb



**Samaritans Purse Operation Christmas Child**

Thank you to everyone who has once again supported this amazing charity. We have had such a fantastic response. There is still time to pack a shoebox this can be done online via the link below

or by contacting Nikki.

*The Covid -19 global pandemic has disrupted everyday life for millions of people all around the world. Samaritans Purse have looked into ways in which they can modify their collection and processing, following strict government guidelines so that the process is safe and to ensure that boys and girls around the world know that they have not been forgotten during this time of fear and uncertainty.*

You can pack a shoebox online by giving a donation of £20 and Samaritans Purse will pack a shoebox for you, just click on this link for more information <https://shoeboxonline.samaritans-purse.org.uk/> Nikki Bell

# NOTICES

### Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> November All Saints' Day

It's **All Saints' Day** this Sunday with it being **All Souls' Day** on the Monday. During this Sunday's service there will be the opportunity to light a candle in your own home, and/or we will do as part of our service, to remember your loved ones. You might also like to read out the name of a loved one or have this read out for you. If you would like a name to be read for you, please email, text or phone Alan – contact details at the front of The Online Link. Open to anyone – share details with others of the link to get on.

### The Children's Society Home Coin Boxes.

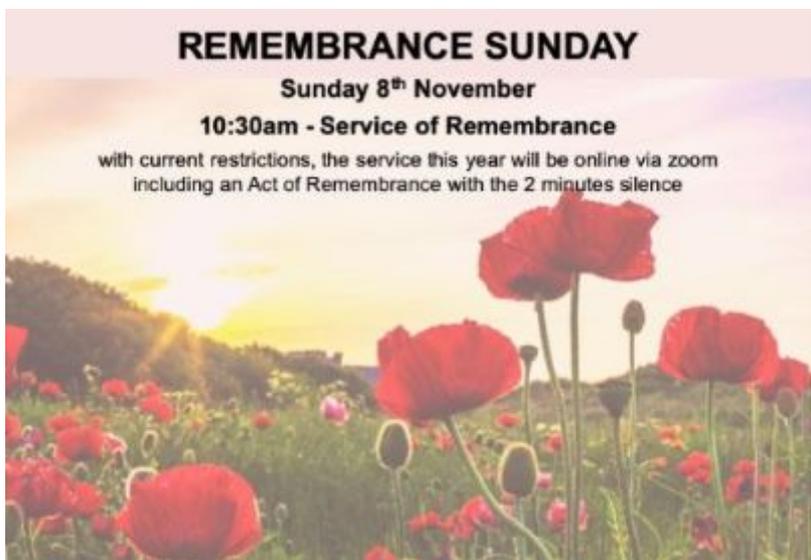
Please hang on to your collecting boxes for the time being. The Children's Society do not want us to be placed at unnecessary risk by handling boxes, counting coins and taking trips to the bank. If you are a box holder, you will be contacted when we are able to collect your box. *Christine Bartlett*

#### CHEQUES

Payable to:  
Hillingdon Parochial Church Council  
St. John's Church  
Royal Lane  
Uxbridge  
UB8 3QP

#### STANDING ORDER

Set up a Standing Order with your bank or building society using these details:  
Barclays Bank, 142 High St,  
Uxbridge, UB8 1JX  
Sort Code: 208916  
Account No: 20465615





## POPIES AVAILABLE

9:30-11:30am on Monday 2nd Nov from the Gardening Team in Church Garden

Collecting for our local Hillingdon Branch of the Royal British Legion

[Click here for pdf file of this edition](#)

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