



# HARBURY NEWS

# **HARBURY NEWS.**

**A MONTHLY PUBLICATION**

**COVERING ALL ASPECTS OF LOCAL LIFE**

**MAGAZINE ADDRESS 23 MILL STREET HARBURY.**

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## JULY - AUGUST 1974

This issue includes reports on three important and controversial issues, which will affect life here in Harbury. Being Imposed upon us are the Rate increases, the Secondary Education re-organisation, and the (almost) certain Motorway development. On the other hand, we ourselves are endeavouring to improve our village facilities by building the swimming pool, and the enlargement of the Village Hall has already commenced.

### JULY - AUGUST HARBURY DIARY

#### JULY 1974

Sat. 13th Crusader Area Sports in Birmingham.  
Sun. 14th Last Crusaders before summer break. Restart on September 8th.  
Tues. 16th Tufty Club, Village Hall 2.15 p.m.  
" " Parents Evening for Brownies.  
Weds. 17th PTA Quiz Night, 8.00 p.m. "The Dog Inn"  
Thurs. 25th Golden Age Club, Village Hall 2.00 p.m.  
Fri. 26th Harbury Theatre Group Meeting The Dog 8.00pm  
Sun. 28th Harbury CC v Wavertree, Liverpool CC 2.00p.m.

#### AUGUST 1974

Thurs. 8th Golden Age Club, Village Hall 2.00 p.m.  
Fri. 16th Football Club Dance, Village Hall.  
Tues. 20th No Tufty Club, ~~Village Hall 2.15 p.m.~~  
Thurs. 22nd Golden Age Club, Village Hall 2.00 p.m.  
Mon. 26th LATE SUMMER HOLIDAY.

BINGO Village hall, Every Monday, 8.00 p.m.  
YOUTH CLUB Village Hall. Every Wednesday. 8.00 p.m.  
TENNIS & BADMINTON Village Hall Tuesdays 7.00-11.00pm  
INFANT WELFARE CLINIC Village Hall 2.00 p.m.  
2nd & 4th Wednesdays of every month.

ALL DATES CORRECT AT TIME OF GOING TO PRESS.  
DIARY DATES FOR INCLUSION TO MRS. V. MACGOWAN,  
HARBURY 612938.

YOUNG WIVES There will be no meeting in July & August

## HARBURY CARNIVAL

All records were broken at Harbury's Carnival and Fete on Saturday June 15th. More people, more procession floats, more entrants in all the competitions, more profits and more sunshine combined to make Carnival Day a day to remember.

There were over 50 entrants in the procession, which was judged by Messrs. Justice, Knight, Williams and Lewis and the winners were as follows:

Decorated Floats - 1st Harbury Youth Club, 2nd Tennis

Courts Committee, Joint 3rd Harbury Brownies and Harbury Girl Guides.

Trade Floats - 1st 'Spar' Grocers.

Horse Drawn or Mounted - 1st Sue Middleton & Napoleon.

Decorated Bicycle - 1st David Sutton and friends, 2nd Edward Timmins and John Jackson, 3rd Vian Davys and Jonathan Walters.

Fancy Dress (children) - 1st Helen Shawcross and Helen Guy, 2nd Louise Upton, 3rd Melanie Ceney.

Fancy Dress (adults) - Muriel Gilliver, 2nd Deborah Smythe and Diane Hohn.

The athletics events attracted over 100 entries, and the results were as follows:

<u>First</u>	<u>Second</u>	<u>Third</u>
<u>Flat Race (5 - 7 years)</u>		
Leasal Keyte	Susie Cooper	Mark Taylor
<u>100 Metres (8 - 11 years)</u>		
Stephen Bell	Julie Alcock	Gordon Humphries
<u>100 Metres (boys 12 - 15 years)</u>		
David Davies	Howard Machell	John Griffin
<u>Flat Race (under 5)</u>		
Michaela Sedgeley	Michele Alcock	Jennie Williams
<u>3-legged Race</u>		
Elaine Woodward	Joanne Callow	Jane Callow
& Julie Major	& Carole Cowper	& Deborah Prior
<u>HIGH JUMP (Girls under 12)</u>		
Josephine Turner	Kim Wilkins	Susan Ellis



FirstSecondThirdHigh Jump (Boys under 12)

Stephen Bell	Stephen Cooper	Andrew Hunt
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High Jump (Boys 12 — 15)

David Davies	Geoffrey Biddle	David Palmer
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Obstacle Race (under 5)

Karen Hartley	Stephen Hancock	Andrew King
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Obstacle Race (5 - 7)

Julie Andrews	Malcolm Sedgeley	Mark Taylor
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Obstacle Race (8 - 11)

Stephen Taylor	Neil Humphries	Julie Alcock
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100 Metres (men)

David Davies	Leone Keyte!!	John Hancock
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200 Metres (boys 12 - 15)

David Davies	John Griffin	Gary Picken
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200 Metres (girls 12 - 15)

Rebecca Osborne	Elaine Woodward	Julie Alcock
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Sack Race (boys & girls 4 - 7)

Malcolm Sedgeley	Helen Keir	Cheryl Reid
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Sack Race (8 - 11)

Julie Alcock	Neil Humphries	Gordon Humphries
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400 Metres (men)

John Hancock	David Davies	Ron Coleman
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Twenty-two dogs entered the dog show. The winner of the Pedigree Class was a pug owned by Mrs. Smith, second was a Maltese owned by Mrs. Mann, and third was Mrs. J.K. Braso's labrador. In the non-pedigree class, the winners were dogs owned by Miss Mann, Mr. Glenn and Miss B. Brown.

The Six-a-Side Football Tournament was won by Southam Football Club, and the winners of the Tug of War were a team from the Walnut Tree Inn, Leamington. The Junior Football competition (under 15s) was won by Southam Junior Team.

Side shows and stalls of all kinds were run by many Village organisations for the enjoyment of the crowd which numbered more than 2,000 - one of whom was Mr. D. Killian, of Chapel Street, Harbury, who won £10 in the Lucky Programme Draw. The prizes were presented by Denise Mantle, the Carnival Queen.

A rough estimate of the profit made puts it in excess of £450. This is to be shared equally between the two organising Committees, the Village Hall Committee who are extending the Hall, and the Recreation Ground Committee, who are repaying the loan which financed the recent building of the tennis courts on the Recreation Ground.  
From the Athletics Organiser:

Thanks to the weather we had twice as many entries this year for the athletics. In fact we ran out of numbers, having catered for one hundred! Next year entries before the day would be appreciated; thank you to the thirty who did so this year. I apologise to those children who missed their races due to poor announcing at the start. When we obtained a megaphone things improved a bit. The number of entries for some events (notably the boys & girls 100 metres) meant that those at the back didn't stand much of a chance. We will have heats for these popular events next year. Thanks to all the helpers, including John Ridgley, Dick & Estelle Picken, Dick & Maureen Thurlow, Janet Thornley, Ben and Rita Leefe (from Stratford) on the high jump, David and Jill Winter, and my wife (for putting up with a lot). Ideas for next year, concerning the type of races you would like and the organisation, would be most welcome. I think the treasure hunt was a success, though three clues 'disappeared' during the afternoon. A special thank you to Mr. Jennings for manning the First Aid Tent.

John Hancock.

### THE VICAR'S LETTER

My dear Friends,

What is it that marks out Christianity from other religions? It is a faith in a person - Jesus Christ: a faith so thorough that we give ourselves up to His guidance because faith in Him is held to be faith in God, union with Him is held to be union with God.

To a true Churchman, behind Church doctrine and Church duties stands an unseen but present Lord. Christianity is, in fact, Christ. His person, and men's relation to Him is the very heart of His religion.

With every blessing,

Yours very sincerely,

F. R. Mackley.



## From the Church wardens.

It was a great joy recently to have a visit from members of the Cathedral Congregation who attended Evensong and afterwards joined members of our own congregation for coffee and refreshments in the Vicarage.

We were delighted to receive offers of help with the exhibitions to be staged over our Harvest Thanksgiving weekend. If anyone else can offer exhibits of historical interest to the village or is prepared to share particular skills or handicrafts please do get in touch with the Vicar or one of the Churchwardens. A reminder of the dates: Saturday and Sunday, 5th and 6th October.

### SUDAN SUPPER - JUNE 19th

The evening added a further £20 to the Sudan Fund which it is hoped will reach £100 before the beginning of October when it will be presented to Bishop Oliver Allison on his visit to the parish.

### SECONDARY EDUCATION IN WARWICKSHIRE

Parents of children at Harbury School invited Mr. Beetham (Officer in Charge of Secondary Education in Warwickshire) and County Councillor Major Kettle to a meeting on 4th June, to explain the proposals concerning the Secondary Schools' reorganisation.

Major Kettle said changes are needed because of general dislike of the 11+ selection method, a desire to improve secondary education available, and because present 6th forms are too small and therefore uneconomic.

The proposed changes, which will only affect children born in 1965 or later, are to be considered by the County Council at the beginning of July. According to the proposals, there will be no 11+ exam from 1976 onwards, and in 1978/9 Harbury School will become a 'combined school', i. e. a first and middle school, catering for children up to the age of 12. (This change has been postponed from 1976 because of shortage of money).

When the children leave Harbury they will go to Southam which will then be the Comprehensive School for this area. In readiness for this change, work has already begun at Southam School to enlarge it to an eventual 8-form entry size,

with approx. 1,080 pupils. The staff will be almost doubled and facilities will be improved to cover a wider syllabus, including at least one additional language.

At the age of 16 it would be possible for pupils to transfer to the proposed Blackdown/Leamington College federation, in which Leamington Boy's College building will be converted for use as a 6th form college, with a very extensive syllabus.

Several questions were put to Mr. Beetham and Major Kettle, mainly seeking re-assurance on various points in the proposals. Mr. Beetham told the meeting that Mr. Skinner, who will take over as headmaster of Southam School in September, is currently formulating plans for the extended school, and it is intended to invite him to a meeting in the village to outline those plans to parents.

A fortnight after the Harbury School meeting, parents from the whole 'catchment area' attended a consultative meeting in Southam, at which the panel included the Vice-Chairman of the School Managers, the Headmaster-elect of Southam Comprehensive School and representatives of the County Council Education Committee.

Mr. Beetham again described the proposal which would shortly be considered by the County Council for secondary education in the area, as outlined above. Several possibilities had been examined by the Council's Working Party, but the proposal now being put forward was selected as being the most feasible and satisfactory within the present financial constraints. An unequivocal assurance was given - endorsed by Mr Skinner, the headmaster-elect - that Southam would be transformed into a comprehensive school at least the equal of any of its size.

From the body of the hall, however, disquiet was voiced on the following counts; the time-scale in which this upgrading could be achieved, bearing in mind that, after the first non-selective intake in 1976, Southam would not be comprehensive in all age-groups until 1981; the restriction of parental choice because neighbouring areas' children would go to secondary schools at 12+ while Southam and South Warwickshire stayed at 11+ until about 1980; the possible effect on plans from changes in national policy and financial allocation.



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The panel undertook to ensure that these points would be given full consideration before the County Council put forward its agreed proposals for ratification by the Department of Education and Science.

Among the areas upon which no firm proposals had yet been formulated were: the future relationship with the Roman Catholic Foundations in the area and the policy of the County Council over continuing to take places at the local Direct Grant schools.

#### THE BISHOP BRIGHT SCHOOL. LEAMINGTON

This is the most modern of our local Grammar Schools, having opened in 1967. The building was provided by the R. C. Archdiocese of Birmingham, and a grant from Westminster. The School has four classes entering each year, of mixed abilities, and there is no streaming in the school. The large catchment area includes Warwick, Leamington, Kenilworth and Stratford. Initially the pupils were predominantly R. C. - this is no longer so. The school has developed a good academic standard, noted for its modern methods, and has obtained its fair share of University places, including Oxbridge.

#### HARBURY PLAYGROUP

Harbury Playgroup parents & friends held a most enjoyable Social Evening in The Dog on Thursday 20th June. Music was supplied by Mr Clive Watts on the electric organ. Raffle prizes were won by Mrs E. Cooke, Mrs C. Upton and Mrs. A. Brown.

#### KEN FOXWELL

Ken Foxwell came to Harbury in 1970 as Deputy Head of the newly combined Junior/Infant School. Under Dick Morris he saw the Junior Section rehoused from the Wight School to the new building. After secondment to Birmingham University for a year, Ken returned to become Acting Headmaster last September. He has recently been appointed Headmaster of Birch Green Junior School in Ormskirk.

We wish both him & his wife Jan, every success in this new venture.

#### THE SCHOOL POOL.

\*The order has been placed with Buckingham's. \*Planning confirmation is expected in two weeks. \*Preparation and site work will be started early in July. (continued page8)

WANTED:- Labourers, Bricklayers, Surveyors -  
Please contact Geoff Healey or any P.T.A. Committee member.

### CHILDREN'S SPONSORED WALK

142 Children walked a total of 1221 miles on June 22nd to raise money for the Swimming Pool Fund. A very good effort by them all, but special mention must be made of Neil Humphries (22miles), Stephen Bell (20 miles) and Gordon Humphries (19 miles). Best Girl - Josie Turner (17 miles).

### M 40 MOTORWAY

We are threatened by six lane motorway passing within one mile of our village centre. The Department of the Environment are consulting the public in the relatively early stages of planning the Warwick section of the M40. Three alternative routes have been put forward; Warmington, Knightcote and Harbury. The latter puts the six lane highway in a cutting between Harbury Lane and Chesterton Windmill before crossing the Fosse Way and skirting round the north side of Bishop's Tachbrook. The Department held an exhibition of the plans in Leamington spa on June 28th & 29th. The Consultation Document which some of you may have picked up from the Post Office contains a questionnaire which you are invited to complete by August 9th.

The decision by the Secretary of State on which of the three routes he favours will be published by the end of the year. Should the Harbury Route be chosen, a large number of objections by local inhabitants could result in a Public Enquiry. We must await his Statement and be prepared to act swiftly and effectively. The Harbury Society Secretary, Linda Ridgley (612792) is collecting further information.

### RATEPAYERS' ASSOCIATION MEETING, 13th JUNE.

The enormous rates bills recently received by Harbury householders prompted the Association to hold a Protest Meeting. About 200 people attended, and the Chairman was Mr. G. Watson. Present to answer questions were Mr. Mc Millan, (County Treasurer), Cllr. Wheeler and Mr. Cox (Chairman & Treasurer, Stratford D.C. Finance Committee), and Major Kettle (County Councillor for this area). A background of the County's present state was detailed, & it was stated that re-organisation in the Warks. area was costing



more as the County was now one of the smallest in England. Estimates at December 1973 showed costs would go up by 45% because of inflation etc. Government rate relief for this area was originally fixed at 21.5p, but after the Election this was reduced to 13p.

Mr. McMillan said that education was a big factor in the increases with the raising of the school leaving age, more spending on nursery schools, pay awards and threshold payments to teachers. Also the council house rents freeze means that ratepayers are now subsidising some council tenants.

The subject was raised about payment to Councillors for attending meetings. At District level payments are only made for meetings called by the Council, not for political meetings. The amount is £5 for a morning or an afternoon. For the County, Major Kettle said the proposal to pay for political meeting attendances was passed by only one vote - he and his colleagues voted against it. All Conservative meetings are arranged for the same day as Council meetings, so councillors do not receive double payment.

Cllr. Geoff Wright (Chairman, Harbury P.C. Finance Committee), was told by Mr. Cox that the District Council will be taking over financial responsibility for double-rated items, e.g. some recreation facilities. Cllr. Wright also said Harbury P.C. had reduced their rate by 0.4p, due to greater efficiency - what new efficiency methods were being undertaken by the District Council? He was told that salaries had not been increased as much as in some other counties, although this may lead to staff losses.

Major Kettle put the suggestion of rates being offset against tax, and also said that rate relief, if applied for by all those entitled to it, would put some of the burden on the Government.

The following resolution was recorded: That this meeting of Ratepayers of Harbury, in the County of Warwickshire, deplores the recent savage increases in rates in this Parish, and further deplores the Government's adjustment of the rate support grant which substantially increased the immediate burden to the Parish Ratepayer, whose rates have increased by 91%. Copies of this resolution are to be sent to The Prime Minister, Messrs. Heath & Maude, Local Councils etc.

## THE GREAT WHEELBARROW RACE

There was a touch of the old Windmill Theatre, "we never closed", attitude about the Wheelbarrow Race on Weds. 26th June - despite torrential rain! Entries were down due to the weather but all credit must go to those who did take part, particularly the entries from Daventry and Leicester, who helped to carry on what must now be an annual event in the village.

Winners for the third year running were Dick Picken & Tom Rankin who set a record winning time of 11 minutes 8 seconds! Much praise must go to the village licensees who enter into the spirit! of the event, and to echo someone at the finish of the race - "see you next year".

Bryan Scandrett (Harbury Theatre Group)

## AVON SINGERS CONCERT - JUNE 13th

Despite many counter-attractions about 60 people attended a concert in the School Hall given by the Avon Singers. This group is made up of music students and staff from Coventry College of Education, and they were most entertaining and versatile.

The programme ranged from choral renderings of English folk-songs to a most impressive performance on the flute of the Sailors Hornpipe which had us all stamping our feet. We were entertained with solos, duets, trios and an assortment of instrumental items, all performed with gaiety & verve. Let us hope we shall have a return visit soon.

Shirley Keir.

## N.S.P.C.C. & LEAGUE OF PITY

At Harbury Carnival the N.S.P.C.C. & League of Pity Stall raised more than £27.00. A popular attraction was the "Guess the Weight of the Digger" competition. The results were:- "Over 10" Winner:- Mrs. P. Sheasby, Temple End, who won a carriage lamp; and

"Under 10" Winner:- Carl Wallington, 7 Manor Road, who won a scale model of the digger.

The Digger actually weighed 5 tons 16 cwts. and many of the 113 contestants were very close to the correct weight.

Harbury N.S.P.C.C. would like to thank Massey-Ferguson very much for loaning the digger, all those who kindly donated produce for the stall, and supported us on The Day.



## HARBURY CONSERVATIVES

About 30 members of the Harbury Conservative Branch attended the Annual Cocktail Party organised by the Fenny Compton Area Committee. The Party was held at Lighthorne Roughts, the beautiful home of Mr. & Mrs. A. Josephs. Altogether some 130 people enjoyed the drinks & refreshments, & tried their luck on the tombola & games. About £120 was raised for the Area Funds - around £30 more than at last year's party.

The Chairman of Harbury Branch is Reg Harris, Lullington Lodge, Dovehouse Lane.

P.S. The Conservative Mini at the Carnival contained 84 balloons. This was correctly guessed by Mr. Johnson, of Park Lane Terrace.

## HARBURY LABOUR PARTY

After a break of ten years, the village once again has a Labour Party. At an enthusiastic public meeting in April officers were elected and an executive committee & social committee established. A varied social programme was launched on the 9th May with a successful evening at The Crown. An encouraging recruitment campaign has produced a strong and active membership of all ages and from all section of the community.

Efforts to attract new members will continue and anyone interested is invited to contact Janet Thornley - tel. 612493 or Vicky Tanner, South Parade.

## HARBURY LIBERAL ASSOCIATION

The Branch originated after the 1964 Election. Our Political ambitions are obviously to return Liberal Councillors. As a result of the last Election Liberal activities have spread to Southam, Bishop's Itchington & Ladbroke. We naturally can always use more help & new members.

Although sready political progress is being made, there are plenty of opportunities for us to enjoy ourselves. Our future programme is always in the Harbury News. Readers wishing to join us should contact Geoff Fuller, 3 Park Lane.

## 200 CLUB WINNERS

£100 - A.B.A. Thorpe, Radford. £20 - B. Knapp, Neales Clo.  
£10 - J. Hunt, Farley Ave. £10 - V. Newbury, South Parade.

## HARBURY SENIOR CITIZENS' OUTING

On Wednesday, 19th June, Harbury Senior Citizens Benefit Association arranged a delightful outing for us. Starting at the Village Hall and occupying 3 coaches (there were about 140 of us altogether), we wended our way through our lovely Warwickshire and Worcestershire country lanes to Warwick, Stratford, Alcester, Inkberrow & Worcester, passing the Cathedral on our left.

On over the lovely River Severn then past the County Cricket Ground, forking left for Malvern Link and so to the Winter Gardens in the centre of Great Malvern.

The coaches drew up immediately outside the entrance to the restaurant so we were all soon inside, seated at the ready-laid tea tables. A splendid tea, nicely, quickly and cleanly served, was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone after which we returned to our coaches. The route chosen for our return journey was really beautiful and included Upton-on-Severn, Tewkesbury and so to Stratford then via Charlecote - back home to Harbury by about 7.30 p.m.

We wish to thank most sincerely the Officers & Members of the Senior Citizens Benefit Association for their generosity & kindness - it is greatly appreciated: Thank you again!! - Two of Harbury's Senior Citizens.

### BROWNIE - GUIDES

Harbury Brownies enjoyed attending the Annual Southam Area Revels at Hunningham on Sat. 22nd June. There is a Parents' Evening on 18th July & a Swimming Gala on Oct. 3rd.

### CORRESPONDENCE

#### THE COVER OF HARBURY NEWS

There were three mistakes made in the map of Harbury. Church St. is named High St; the "t" is missing from Knightlow Way; Bush Heath Lane has three extra houses - they were trees on the original drawing! Mr. Bamford was not personally responsible for all these errors. M.M.M.

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