



# HARBURY NEWS

# HARBURY NEWS.

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION

COVERING ALL ASPECTS OF LOCAL LIFE

MAGAZINE ADDRESS 23 MILL STREET HARBURY.

THIS MAGAZINE IS PRODUCED WITH THE  
HELP OF ALL SAINTS PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL  
HARBURY — VICAR. Rev. F.R. MACKLEY

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We have heard quite a lot of favourable comment regarding the first issue of Harbury News, but we are still waiting for your correspondence. If you know of anyone in Harbury Parish who did not receive a copy, would you please inform Bill Scott, Tel: 612637, who leads the willing band of helpers who deliver our 800 copies of Harbury News. Delivery will be during the third week of the month, and final copy date is the 27th of the previous month.

Due to the large response for articles covering the various village organisations, there are still a number of features outstanding. These will be included in future issues.

This month's issue concentrates on children's activities and schools.

The Village has grown - no prophet is needed to make that point - but a few statistics may help to show by how much. The 1961 Census gives the total population as 1,378, which by the 1971 Census had become 2,380. In 1961 there were just over 100 children in the Junior and Infant Schools - now there are over 310 in our School. But while we are told that no more substantial house building is expected, the number of children of all ages will continue to grow for some time. For example, the number of children in the youngest age group in Harbury School is 54, the number in the oldest is 36, and the age groups from the village at secondary schools are smaller than that. By 1980, not so far ahead as it may seem, there could well be 100 more youngsters in the village aged 13-17 than there are now.

What does this tell us? One thing is surely that we, as a community, must do our part in trying to prepare to meet the needs of these youngsters. The school swimming pool which the PTA is planning becomes of even greater importance. Does this not help to prove the need for the Village Hall extensions? As to the development of the Youth Club - do they need a more permanent base? What a wonderful asset the Recreation Grounds at Harbury and Deppers Bridge will continue to be - we must not let their maintenance and development fall behind. These are only a few ideas - do write to us with your ideas and comments.

STOP PRESS. PTA Sponsored Walk. 64 people walked a total of 722 miles, raising approximately £275.

## MAY - JUNE HARBURY DIARY

### MAY

- Thurs 23rd Golden Age Club. Village Hall. 2.00 pm.  
Crusaders' Games, Playing Field. 6.00 pm.
- Fri 24th Dance in aid of Senior Citizens Benefit  
Association - Village Hall.
- Mon 27th Football Club Dance. Village Hall. 9.00 pm.
- Tues 28th Young Wives. Village Hall 2.00 pm. Talk on  
Royal National Institute for the Blind.
- Wed 29th Crusaders' Holiday in Snowdonia 'til June 2nd.
- Fri 31st 1. Harbury Theatre Group monthly meeting at  
The Dog Inn - 8.00 pm.  
2. Harbury Dominoes League Dance. Village Hall  
8.00 pm - 1.00 am.

### JUNE

- Wed 5th Mothers' Union meeting 2.30 pm at The Vicarage  
Speaker Reverend A. Gardner of Kenilworth.
- Thurs 6th Women's Institute. Village Hall 7.45 pm.  
Speaker Mrs. Bindman "The Jewish Way of Life"
- Fri 7th Blood Donors' Session. Village Hall 2.00 pm. -  
(note this is instead of the May 22nd session)
- Sun 9th Six a Side Football Competition. Village Hall 2 pm
- Tues 11th 1. Senior Citizens' Benefit Association Committee  
Meeting, Village Hall 8.30 pm.  
2. Harbury Friends visit to Peter Lambert's  
Sculptor's Foundry. Supper at Fox & Hen  
leaving the village hall car park 7.30 pm.
- Thurs 13th 1. W.I. Southam Group Meeting, Napton Village  
Hall. 7.45 pm. Speaker, Inspector Seaton from  
the Drug Squad.  
2. Golden Age Club, Village Hall, 8.00 pm.  
3. Avon Singers Concert - see posters
- SATURDAY 15th CARNIVAL & FETE. See posters for details.
- Tues 18th Tuffy Club. Village Hall. 2.15 pm.
- Wed 19th 1. PTA Formal Debate, "Religious Education in  
Schools". Harbury School. 8.00 pm.  
2. Senior Citizens Outing to Malvern  
2.00 - 7.00 pm.  
3. Sudan Supper. The Cottage Windmill Hill  
Farm Chesterton.
- Fri 21st Church of England Men's Society Meeting at  
the Vicarage. 7.45 pm.
- Sat 22nd 1. Brownie Revels.  
2. PTA Childrens' Sponsored Walk - starting  
at Village Hall 8.00 am in aid of Pool Fund.

Tues 25th Young Wives. Village Hall 2.00 pm. Speaker from the National Assoc. for the welfare of Children in Hospital.

Thurs 27th Golden Age Club. Village Hall 9.00 pm.

Fri 28th 1. Harbury Theatre Group. The Dog 8.00 pm.  
2. Football Club Dance. Village Hall 9.00 pm.

Sat 29th "Harbury Happening" District Crusaders Meeting. Village Hall 2.00 - 6.00 pm.

BINGO Village Hall. Every Monday. 8.00 pm.

YOUTH CLUB Village Hall. Every Wednesday. 8.00 pm.

TENNIS & BADMINTON All welcome - Village Hall.  
Tuesdays 7.00 - 11.00 pm.

INFANT WELFARE CLINIC Village Hall. 3.00 pm.  
2nd & 4th Wednesdays of every month.

### HARBURY CHURCH OF ENGLAND SCHOOL

As most of our local children attend this school, we thought our readers would be interested in a brief history as well as its current activities. The post-war history of the school began on 9th September, 1946, with the appointment of the late Mr. R. Farrow as headmaster. At that time the school had 92 Junior and Senior pupils. Mr. H.A. Andrews joined the staff on 7th January, 1947.

Records of the daily events of the school are punctuated with accounts of visits from the Diocesan Inspector of Church Schools, who commented upon the high standard of religious education in the school; severe snow storms which resulted in only 20 children being present; and celebrations in 1948 of the Silver Wedding of King George VI and Queen Elizabeth.

By September 1949 there were 108 pupils and 3 staff. The problems of working in an old school were being noted in January 1953 when temperatures in the classrooms never rose above 42°F. It was at this time that the school became controlled by the Warwickshire Education Authority.

At the beginning of September 1957 the school opened as a Junior school with sixty four pupils with Mr. R. Farrow, Mr. H. Andrews and Miss D. Taylor as the teachers. It is interesting to note that even in 1966 records of the school show that the staff considered that the 11+ selection test would be finishing the following year.

After 38 years' teaching, Mr. R. Farrow retired on 22nd July 1966. Mr. R. Morris became headmaster in January 1967. Mr. H.A. Andrews retired in April 1968.



When Mrs. Watts, who had been headmistress of the Infant school from 1949 - 1970, retired, the schools were amalgamated and Mr. Morris became headmaster of both schools.

It was in September 1970 that the school was opened as a combined Infant and Junior School, with 8 full time, and one part time, members of staff. Another 18 months passed before new buildings were provided on their present site. The school has grown dramatically, and at the present time there are well over 300 pupils.

Because of ill-health, Mr. Morris retired at Christmas 1973, after 6 years' excellent service to the school. This September will see even greater changes, with Mr. N. Oliver as the new headmaster and several members of staff leaving. However, Harbury School can look forward to a time of expansion when, without doubt, every effort will be made to give our children the very best education.

The children have been very busy recently entering work for the Daily Mirror Art Exhibition and Literary Competition, and producing entries for the Platignum Handwriting and Creative Writing Competition.

Jessifer Scott and John Jackson were awarded prizes in a competition sponsored by the B.B.C.'s 'Blue Peter' and 'Animal World'.

Collecting old bottles and jars is becoming a craze with some of the older pupils and two perfect examples of Victorian bottles, complete with marble stoppers, were found by John Thornley and Gordon Humphries. But they are keeping the site of their find a dark secret!

When the children leave Harbury a number of Secondary Schools are open to them, and we hope in a future issue to list these and give a resumé of each school's activities.

To all mothers: If your child will be starting school during the next 2 years, please contact the Acting Headmaster within the next month so that initial details can be taken about your child.

#### PARENT TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

All P.T.A. meetings are open to anyone who is interested, including of course any pre-school or prospective parents. Meetings are held at the School on the third Wednesday of each month during term time, and a full calendar has been arranged for the year.

Just a word about our other activities - 'Bun Fights and Swimming Pools' as the BBC recently described them. The local Education Authority provide only what they think is required for our children. The school staff, and sometimes the parents, know that, with a little financial assistance, the standard of education at the School can be improved.

The PTA try to provide this financial assistance, and have during the past 4 years been able to provide such items as books, a TV, a pottery kiln, pinboard, shelving, hall blackout, a sports equipment store, playground seats, Christmas presents, as well as minor items of equipment and transport subsidies.

After much careful thought the parents agreed at the last AGM to provide a learner swimming pool, with financial help from the County Council, who will provide an interest-free loan.

The PTA fund-raising to date includes £90 from the Raffle at the Square Dance. The sponsored walk total is not yet known - details next month.

Much help will be required, and committee members will be visiting each household to enlist support and answer questions.

### HARBURY NURSERY SCHOOL

We open - somewhat boisterously - at 9 am, and continue until 12 noon Tuesday through Friday. Up to 32 children are catered for at a ratio of 8 to 1 helper and we aim at a happy relaxed atmosphere, with as much material for play as possible. Our 'big' toys include tricycles, rockers, animals, cars and a small climbing frame - all available to the children for 2 half hour sessions. We spend time painting, using play-dough, model making, water play, using the Wendy house, dressing up etc. Those children who are ready tackle pre-reading and number activities. Our premises are especially helpful - the large hall for energetic activities and the two smaller rooms for painting, puzzles etc. After a break for milk and a biscuit, a story and music wind up a happy, active morning. For further details contact Mrs. Jeanne Clarke, Tel- 612406.

### HARBURY PLAYGROUP

Harbury Playgroup is held four mornings a week (Tuesday - Friday) in the Wight School (behind the Library). The Group was started two years ago when a house group had to close because the Supervisor was leaving the Village. The group is



run by a Parents' Committee and takes 20 children per morning. There is a Supervisor with two helpers every morning and we like to encourage mothers to come in on a helper rota once or twice a term.

The Playgroup is laid out each morning with our usual equipment - a puzzle table, painting, glueing, Wendy House, story corner, sand and water play, plasticine etc. and the children choose what they want to do. We also have a climbing frame and slide which has been a great success, especially with the older boys! At 11 o'clock we tidy the equipment away and have our milk, followed by singing, games or musical instruments. For better days, we have an outdoor sand pit and bikes for use in the playground.

A charge of 25p per morning is made and fund-raising functions are held from time to time to buy equipment.

Mrs. Scott, 53 Mill Street, (Tel. 612637) the Supervisor, will be pleased to give any further information to anyone interested in the Playgroup and to arrange a visit. The Roll Secretary is Mrs. Brenda White, 37 Manor Orchard (Tel. 613131) if anyone wishes to put their child's name down on the waiting list.

### CRUSADERS

3.30 on a Sunday afternoon; cars queue outside the Village Hall; a noisy eruption of small children followed by shouting, wrestling boys who leap on to their bikes and are gone. A little later, the teenagers emerge more slowly, pile into cars or stroll off hand in hand.

What is it that brings nearly 100 children and young people to the Village Hall on a Sunday afternoon? It's Crusaders, Harbury Crusaders, a Bible Class for boys and girls.

Mini-Crus, of which there are three groups, cater for the four-to-seven-year-olds and after a short time with the main class they have their own stories, singing and activities

In the main class there are junior, inter and senior groups and teaching progresses from simple Bible stories with plenty of practical activity through quizzes, Bible searching and projects to deep and often lengthy discussion by the seniors. During the afternoon, interest groups meet to prepare and practise drama, singing, modelling, literature and service.



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A number of week-night activities take place, including swimming once a month, visits to places of interest and games (both indoor and outdoor) while participation in activities outside the village are encouraged.

For further details contact Mr. K. Clarke, Tel. 612 406.

### YOUTH CLUB

Every Wednesday the Club meets at the Village Hall, and once a month on one of these nights there is a Disco - average attendance 50 to 60. At the Disco on May 8th, the Carnival Queen will have been chosen with her two attendants, all of whom will lead the Carnival procession from the Village Hall and Recreation Ground, Carnival and Fete on Saturday, June 15th.

The Club Leader for the past six years has been Harry Taylor, helped by his wife; prior to that it was Geoff Wright. The age range is 13 to 21 - the subscription 25p a year paid, if you wish, at 5p a meeting until paid off. On a normal Club night, activities include badminton, table tennis, darts, snooker, records, cards, dominoes, chess, etc., plus crisps and pop - average attendance about 40. Every other Monday about 30 members go to the Cresta Skating Rink, Solihull - no broken legs yet!

If you have read the editorial you will see how important it is that this and as many other activities as possible are available for Harbury youngsters to take part in - and to organise.

Any helpers would be very welcome - please contact Harry Taylor, 33 Manor Road.

### HARBURY RECREATION GROUND

The Parish of Harbury is very fortunate in its publicly owned Recreation Grounds. There is also a small play space in Manor Orchard and a larger play area at Deppers Bridge.

Harbury Recreation Ground Advisory Committee was formed in 1969 on the initiative of the Parish Council to help them manage and develop the Recreation Grounds in Harbury itself, and it is interesting to look at the main developments since then. The mowing was done voluntarily for three years, enabling the Parish Council in 1972 to accept the responsibility for gang-mowing by contract. There are now the hard

play area and knock-up wall, rocket climbing frame, extra swings and rings, seesaw, car park, and the piping of over 100 yards of the ditch on the Pineham Avenue side of the field. Over £1,700 had been raised by then and the balance in the bank, nearly £500, was used to start off the project for Public Tennis Courts in November 1972. These courts were opened to the public in November 1973, thanks to the efforts of a Tennis Sub-Committee and an enormous amount of hard work by many people. To raise the £2,900 needed, over £500 came from donations, "Harbury Tennis Bonds" provided nearly £1,000 and fund raising of many kinds and a three year loan from the Parish Council of just over £350 completed the necessary sum. We will need to raise at least £300 a year for the next five years to repay all the loans and to continue with other Recreation Ground work.

Two substantial seats have been constructed in the swings and slides area, and a part-time groundsman, Mr. Eric Jennings, has now been appointed by the Parish Council to assist in general maintenance of the Recreation Ground. 1974 will, we hope, see the erection of the long promised Tarzan Swing at the bottom of the first field.

Much voluntary work is carried out every year, from picking up litter to operating expensive earth moving equipment, and the Committee is very grateful for all the assistance it has, and is receiving, both in this and in fund raising.

#### HARBURY CARNIVAL AND FETE

(Joint venture by the Recreation Ground and Village Hall Committees).

SATURDAY, 15th JUNE 1974

Procession assembles 12.30 p.m. Sutcliffe Drive.

Events on the Recreation Ground from 2 p.m. -

Six-a-Side Football Tournament

Tug-of-War

Athletics

Side Shows

Clay Pigeon Shoot

Dog Show

Refreshments etc. etc. etc.



For further details (and entry forms) see programmes which are on sale throughout the village at 10p.

### CARNIVAL DANCE

Saturday 15th June, 8.30 - 12, in the Village Hall.  
Dancing to Paul Stanley.

Tickets on sale Sunday 2nd June, from 12 noon, at the Village Hall.

### GUIDES

Harbury Guides were started in 1951, by Miss Fox, who was at that time a teacher at the Village School, but the pack was disbanded when Miss Fox left Harbury in 1957. Mrs. Jill Hepburn, who had been a Guide in the original pack, reformed the group in 1964, and meetings were then held in the newly opened Village Hall, instead of the Wagstaffe School as they had been in Miss Fox's time.

Mrs. Hepburn was helped by Mrs. Eileen Petts and Mrs. Midge Keen and, in addition to the usual Guiding activities, the girls were taken to camp each summer.

Mrs. Estelle Picken (21 Wagstaffe Close) took over the running of the pack in 1972, and she and Mrs. Valerie McQuistan organise the weekly meetings, which are now held on Monday evenings in the Scout Hut, behind the Wight School. Last year 15 Guides were awarded the St. John First Aid Certificate, and the pack camped at Moreton Morrell.

### THE VICAR'S LETTER

My dear Friends,

The month of June will bring us quite a number of Church Festivals. June 2nd, is Whitsunday or Pentecost - the festival of the Holy Spirit and the birthday of the Church. June 9th, is Trinity Sunday - the feast of the Christian knowledge of God. Thursday, June 13th, is Corpus Christi - the feast of thanksgiving for Holy Communion. Monday, June 24th, is the birthday of St. John Baptist. Saturday, June 29th, is the feast of St. Peter and St. Paul.

On these great days we remember afresh the great realities. The world that matters most is the world of eternity, where God lives, and Jesus in the Holy Sacrament,

and Mary, and the Angels and the Saints. That is the world that really matters, the world which stands calm and secure.

With every blessing,

Yours very sincerely,

F.R. Mackley.

### ANNUAL CHURCH MEETING

Harbury Church held its Annual Meeting in the Wight School on 23rd April. Miss Vivienne Aggett and Mr. Harry Windsor were re-elected as Church Wardens, Mr. Ken Clarke as Treasurer, and Mrs. Janet Watts and Mrs. Diana Holt as Joint Secretaries.

The Treasurer's report showed that the excess of income over expenditure was only 79p; as all costs - particularly for heating - will rise steeply next year, the meeting decided that the Church should examine new ways of increasing its income.

Reports were received from the various organisations connected with the Church - including the Bell Ringers, the Choir, the Mothers' Union, the Young Wives and the Church of England Men's Society - and the continuing enthusiasm and success of these groups indicated the important part played by the Church in the life of the Village.

### FROM THE CHURCHWARDENS

What a shock it would be to all of us if our Church fell down! No, don't worry - it's not likely to happen but one of the duties of the Churchwardens is to take care of the fabric of the Church. Their ancient duties included keeping an orderly congregation - their long staffs still preserved along the main aisle are a reminder of this.

The Church is much more than just a building, however, and the Churchwardens are equally concerned with the fellowship and worship of the congregation and for the outreach of the Church to the Village. Many in the village join us for the special services and particularly for the occasional 9 a.m. Services with Parish Breakfast. The next of these will be on 6th October, which will be Harvest Thanksgiving, when the preacher will be Bishop Oliver Allison.

Sunday Services: 8 a.m. Holy Communion (said)  
10 a.m. Holy Communion (sung to  
Salisbury setting)  
6.30 p.m. Evensong

### THE HARBURY THEATRE GROUP

A meeting of 24 past and present members was held in The Dog on Friday, April 26th. It was decided that the Society be known in future as The Harbury Theatre Group. If you are interested in plays and kindred things why not come to a meeting? The next is in The Dog Inn - back room - May 31st - Friday, from 8 p.m. onwards.

### HARBURY SINGERS

The Singers completed their ninth season with Stainer's "Crucifixion" in Church on April 8th. John Dowding (tenor) and Richard Johnson (bass) sang solos, joining the Singers in a fine performance. About 70 people attended - a pity so few were from Harbury.

Future plans include the Annual Carol Party in School on Saturday, December 7th and a Spring Concert at Easter 1975. It is also hoped to give concerts at Radford Semele, Wootton Wawen, Kenilworth and possibly Meriden. New members are always welcome particularly men - ring Harbury 612545. Rehearsals start again on September 12th.

### HARBURY SOCIETY

A very successful Field Walk was held on Sunday morning April 21st when Tim Millington led a party of over 30 members, visitors and children. The route went from Chesterton Windmill, along the Bishops Itchington "ridgeway" - now known as Beggars Lane. Passing Lodge Clump - site of Romano-British habitation and a 17th century summer house, the walk followed the bridle path to Humble Bee Cottages and the site of the Peyto Mansion. In Chesterton the sites of the deserted medieval village and Roman villa were seen. The walk came up to the windmill again, passing the old Corn Mill on the right.

### HARBURY ALBION FOOTBALL CLUB

Saturday 21st April saw a belated but most welcome 'Spring Double'. Both the first team and the reserves won handsomely. A hat trick by Kevin Bloxham enabled the first team to win



3-0 against Kenilworth W.M.C., and the reserves defeated Emscote Rovers 3-1, goals coming from new man Peters and 'Webble' Freeman's penalty kick.

The sponsored walk on Saturday 16th April was poorly entered by members of the Club. However, many thanks to the supporters who 'showed the way', particularly the younger element, with Teresa Wallington and William Carroll turning in 24 miles and 18 miles respectively. The sum raised was in excess of £60.

The Club Tote: every Tuesday sees an average £20 payout. Most Club members have tote cards and for 5p you have the chance of a worthwhile gamble.

Please note - Bank Holiday Monday - 27th May - dancing in the Village Hall to 'Guess Who'.

### REFEREES' SIX-A-SIDE FOOTBALL COMPETITIONS

This event has been organised by the Leamington and District Referees' Association, and will be held on Harbury Recreation Ground on Sunday, 9th June. Entries have been received from teams in various counties, and all players are qualified members of the Referees' Association. Other events will include a tug-of-war, and there will be side shows and refreshments. Everyone is welcome to come and watch - there is no entrance charge. Other events: 15 June Harbury Carnival Six-a-Side. 29 June, Referees' Sponsored Walk at Edmondscote.

### CRICKET

In 1970 a small group of cricket enthusiasts made approach to become associate members of the sports section of Harbury Cement Works, to utilise the existing facilities. Since then a gradual interest has been built up with emphasis channelled towards social involvement of the community on a family front, with our wives, to whom the cricketers are extremely grateful, supplying superb teas at very reasonable prices for all who wish to partake.

1974 sees horizons slightly broadened to encompass those who wish to play on an ad hoc basis to have a good old thrash, those who wish to play a game or two where their technical aspirations can be fully utilised. Sunday being the day, why not take advantage either by playing or just watching on a sunny afternoon, where you can sit and chat, a tea if you want or have a pint after the game in very congenial surroundings.

Enquiries to Terry Bell, 30 Temple End (612565)

Rox Humphreys, 19 Wagstaffe Close (612885)

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