



# **HARBURY NEWS.**

**A MONTHLY PUBLICATION**

**COVERING ALL ASPECTS OF LOCAL LIFE**

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**MAGAZINE ADDRESS 23 MILL STREET HARBURY TEL: 612427**

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HARBURY — VICAR. Rev. F.R. MACKLEY**

**NORMAL SUNDAY SERVICES  
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We are fortunate in Harbury to have a community which is prepared to work at providing a wide range of activities for almost every age and interest. There is however one serious shortcoming which will become increasingly evident during the next few years unless we make an effort now. We refer to the lack of facilities for teenagers.

The Youth Club does a great job in providing a weekly meeting point and they also have trips to swimming, ice skating etc. but there is a limit to how much the hardworking Mr. & Mrs. Taylor can do without help. Scouts, Guides, Crusaders and so on all help in their way but they are rather specialised. Having discussed the subject with Mr. & Mrs. Taylor we think that a basic need is somewhere for teenagers to meet on evenings other than Wednesdays when the Youth Club operates in the Village Hall. To this end the Youth Club are hoping to meet in the Whight School room for coffee and records on Sunday evenings starting late September - details from the Taylors. This should help but it really needs more. Surely, in a village whose PTA can finance and build a swimming pool for the younger children, there are sufficient people who care enough to do something for the older ones?

Harbury News does not pretend to know the answers but it can be used to air your views on the subject. If you are a parent, teenager or interested in helping in some way, let us hear from you. We would like to propose a meeting of those interested during October to see what can be done - How about it?

The Harbury News distributors will be taking orders for 1975/76 when the next issue is published. We are pleased to say that we shall be able to keep the price down to 50p for the year - thanks to the generosity of our advertisers - so we hope to receive your order for YOUR magazine.

### HARBURY DIARY

SEPTEMBER 1975

Tues. 9th Nursery School & Playgroup re-start.  
Harbury Friends, Talk by Mr. Bamford,  
local artist & craftsman, School 8 p.m.  
Harbury Society Open Meeting, 'Footpaths &  
Rambling', by Vivian Bird, journalist & broadcaster.  
Harbury Singers re-start, 8pm, 8, Penelope Close.

- Weds. 10th PCC Meeting, Wight School, 8.00 p.m.  
 Thurs. 11th Golden Age, Village Hall, 2.30 p.m.  
 Sun. 14th Family Communion, Preacher The Rev. Douglas Ross  
 10.00 a.m.  
 Tues. 16th Tufty Club, V. Hall, 2.15 p.m.  
 Brownies re-start.  
 Weds. 17th PTA Discussion on 'The Effect of TV Advertising on  
 Children', School, 8.00 p.m.  
 Thurs. 18th W.I. Produce Show, V. Hall, 7.00 p.m.  
 Fri. 19th Theatre Group, Dog Inn, 8.00 p.m.  
 Sat. 20th PTA Garden Party in the Grounds of Temple House.  
 by kind invitation of Mr. & Mrs. M. Lambert, 3.00pm  
 Sun. 21st Family Communion, Preacher The Rev. Douglas Ross  
 10.00 a.m.  
 Tues. 23rd Young Wives, V. Hall, 2.30 p.m.  
 Harbury Senior Citizens Ben. Ass., V. Hall, 8.00 pm  
 Thurs. 25th Golden Age, V. Hall, 2.30 p.m.  
 Deanery Synod Meeting, Welfare Centre, Southam.  
 Fri. 26th Theatre Club Dance, V. Hall, watch for details.  
 Liberal Association Post-Conference Wine & Cheese  
 party.  
 Sat. 27th V. Hall Committee Cheese & Wine Evening.  
 Eastern Green Flower Festival.  
 Sun. 28th Footpath Assoc. Ramble, from V. Hall, 2.30 p.m.  
 Tennis Tournament.

## OCTOBER

- Thurs. 2nd W.I. 'Adopting a Vietnamese Orphan' by Mrs. Osborne,  
 V. Hall, 7.45 p.m.  
 Mens' Society, 7.45 p.m., 23 Mill Street.  
 Fri. 3rd Harbury Sen. Cit. Ben. Assoc. Dance, V. Hall.  
 Sat. 4th NSPCC Autumn Fair, V. Hall, 2.30 p.m.  
 Harvest Festival Eucharist, Church, 6.30 p.m.  
 Harvest Supper, V. Hall, 7.30 for 8.00 p.m.  
 Sun. 5th Harvest Thanksgiving Services.  
 Thurs. 9th Golden Age, V. Hall, 2.30 p.m.  
 Fri. 10th PTA Supper Dance to 'The Likely Lads', V. Hall,  
 8-30 - 1.00am  
 Sat. 11th Golden Age Sale of Work, V. Hall, 2.30 p.m.  
 Sun. 12th Crusaders Birthday Sunday.  
 Tues. 14th Help the Aged Appeal - bring good used clothing to church  
 Harbury Sen. Cit. Ben. Assoc., V. Hall, 8.00 p.m.  
 Harbury Friends 'Mysteries of the Mexican  
 Pyramids', talk & slides, School, 8.00 p.m.



Wed. 15th Help the Aged Appeal - see Tuesday  
PTA A.G.M. & talk by Mr. A.J. Lord,  
'The Solicitor in Society'.  
Thurs. 16th Tennis Courts Jumble Sale, V. Hall, 6.00 p.m.  
Fri. 17th W.I. Harvest Supper, V. Hall  
Sat. 18th Liberal Party Jumble Sale.

Advance Notice: Sat. 1st Nov., PCC Bonfire & Fireworks.

CRUSADERS V. Hall, 2.30 p.m. every Sunday  
BINGO V. Hall, 8.00 p.m. every Monday  
YOUTH CLUB V. Hall, 8.00 p.m. every Wednesday  
BABY CLINIC V. Hall, 2.00 p.m. 2nd & 4th Wednesdays  
special appointments every 3rd Monday.  
HARBURY SINGERS 8 Penelope Close, 8pm every Tuesday.  
TENNIS COURTS Open Evenings, Wednesdays, 7.00 p.m.  
ALL DATES CORRECT AT TIME OF GOING TO PRESS  
DATES FOR INCLUSION TO Mrs. S. Bennett, 612618.

### THE VICAR'S LETTER

My dear Friends,

One of the events of the coming weeks will be the Harvest Festival - our special thanks to God for our daily bread and for all His material blessings. This year we are having an innovation in that we are having a special Harvest Eucharist ("Eucharist" means "Thanksgiving") in Church on the Saturday evening (October 4th) at 6.30, to which all are invited. The address will be given by the new Archdeacon of Warwick (The Venerable Edward Taylor) and it will be his first visit to Harbury Church. This will be followed by a Harvest Supper in the Village Hall (at 7.30 for 8.0), at which entertainment will be provided by members of the Theatre Group. The Harvest Thanksgiving will be continued on the Sunday (October 5th) when the services will be at the usual Sunday times and everyone will be welcome.

May I close with a quotation from a famous book of spiritual reading - William Law's "A Serious Call to a Devout and Holy Life"? He writes:- "Devotion is neither private nor public prayer; but prayers, whether private or public, are particular parts or instances of devotion. Devotion signifies a life given or devoted to God.

He therefore is the devout man, who lives no longer to his own will, but to the sole will of God; who considers God in

everything, who makes all the parts of his common life parts of piety by doing everything in the Name of God and under such rules as conformable to His glory."

With every blessing,

Yours sincere friend and Vicar,

F.R. Mackley.

### Holy Baptism

August 10th - Jeremy Edward Hayes (4 South Parade)

### Funeral Services

August 19th - Hannah Frances Eden, aged 63 years.

August 29th - Florence Edna Roach, aged 50 years.

### FROM THE CHURCHWARDENS

After the long hot summer, our thoughts are already turning to Thanksgiving for Harvest, and we have planned two days of praise and rejoicing. On Saturday, 4th October we have Harvest Thanksgiving Communion Service at which we shall be delighted to welcome the Archdeacon of Warwick as preacher. This is a Service for all the family and we hope that the whole village will be well represented. This will be followed at 7.30 for 8 by our Harvest Supper in the Village Hall. All are welcome at this and we look forward to a very happy evening. Tickets will be available shortly and will be £1.25 for adults and 50p for children and senior citizens. We do assure that you will have value for money. After the meal there will be an entertainment by the Harbury Theatre Group.

On Sunday, 5th October the usual Harvest Thanksgiving services will be held and we hope to see very many of you at one or more of these Services. We normally have one of our twice-yearly Parish Breakfasts at the Harvest week-end but we felt that it would be more convenient this year to hold this in connection with the weekend of our Patronal Festival, 1st and 2nd November so please book these dates now. The Village Bonfire Party will be held on Saturday 1st and the Family Communion at 9 a.m. followed by Parish Breakfast on Sunday, 2nd.

### W. L. PRODUCE SHOW.

Our annual Produce Show will be staged, as an experiment for one year, mid-week. The show this year will be at the Village Hall on Thurs. Sept. 17th. Although the entries are for members only, the exhibits will be open to the public from 7pm to 9pm that day. Members of the public will be most welcome,



coffee will be served and articles made by our Handicraft Group will be on sale during the evening.

MONICA DAVIES.

P.T.A.

GARDEN PARTY - SEPTEMBER 20th. Mr. & Mrs. Lambert have generously agreed to the use of the grounds of Temple House for a garden party starting at 3pm on Saturday 20th Sept.

During the afternoon there will be displays & exhibitions be the schoolchildren, a number of local organisations and The Leamington & Warwick Aero Club, lots of stalls and sideshows, a children's fancy dress competition, teas & ice cream. The weather forecast promises sunshine so come along and enjoy yourself.

THE EFFECT OF T. V. ON CHILDREN - SEPTEMBER 17th.

A discussion on the above subject will be held in the school starting at 8pm. The PTA programme indicates that Mary Whitehouse, Secretary of the National Listeners & Viewers Assoc., would lead the panel of speakers. In spite of a written acceptance of the PTA's invitation last November, Mrs. Whitehouse wrote again at the end of July 1975 to say that she would be unable to come because she was moving out of the Midlands - a remarkable piece of discourtesy from someone who is supposed to represent the preservation of traditional standards of conduct. Fortunately the other panelists representing the Television Advertisers are still to be with us and at the time of writing invitations are being extended to speakers who have carried out research into the effects of T.V., to give balance to the discussion. The evening should give ample scope for the audience to express their points of view about a subject on which everyone thinks he or she is an expert.

FIRST AID. At a recent PTA meeting on swimming first aid, Mr. Robins of the St. Johns Ambulance Brigade suggested that he would be prepared to hold a series of classes in Harbury, leading to a St. Johns Ambulance certificate if sufficient support was forthcoming. If you are interested please contact me at Harbury 612637.

BILL SCOTT.

VILLAGE HALL 200 CLUB - WINNERS FOR AUGUST

Mr. J. Godfrey, The Beeches - £20.00

Mrs. Green, Hall Lane - £10.00

Mrs. Grey, Mill Street - £10.00

## SOUTHAM LEISURE CENTRE

To quote Mr. Alan Hayward, the Head of the Centre, it is now 'happily back from enforced exile' - in other words, Southam High School has been pronounced safe and the new buildings are ready for occupation.

A wide variety of courses are available, ranging from Heraldry to Folk Guitar, Book-keeping to Yoga. A new feature will be the magnificent indoor sports hall which will be used for Basketball, Badminton, Judo, Fencing and Keep-Fit.

Classes to be held in Harbury are as follows:-

Ladies Keep Fit, Mondays 7.30 - 9pm in School, beginning Sept 8th  
Upholstery Mondays 2 - 4 p.m. in the Wight School from Sept 22nd  
French, Thursdays 7.30 - 9.30 in School from Sept. 25th.

Enrolment evening is on Sept. 18th at the High School from 7.30 - 9.30 pm. Enrolment may also be made by post and a Prospectus is available from Mr. Hayward at the Centre.

## 1st HARBURY SCOUT GROUP

(Canoes built to Specification)

Skip specified! The scouts built! The Committee financed!

Four Trylon 'Tiger' fibreglass canoes have been constructed between Jan. & Aug. this year. They were successfully tested at Fenny Compton Marine by nine very keen scouts (and Akela who seemed to find it easier sitting in the water). This year the annual camp took the form of an extended patrol camp at Napton alongside the Oxford Canal, lasting from 9th - 16th August. The prime objective being to train the scouts in the use of canoes. A high all round camping standard was achieved and a number of younger scouts were found to be proficient cooks.

Many scouts are now well on their way to attaining their scout standard & advanced scout standard badges, i.e. 6 mile hikes, 12 mile overnight hikes, cooking, axemanship and backwoodsman (that is bivouacing and cooking meals on an open fire without the use of cooking utensils).

By the end of the week all members reached a very high standard of canoeing and we are all looking forward to testing our skills on more advanced water, & possibly an autumn camp.

We would like to say 'Thank You' to all the parents and the committee whose efforts made the camp & canoes so successful.

BOB SMALL & GARY PICKEN (PATROL LEADERS).



## PARISH COUNCIL (AUGUST MEETING).

Councillor Mrs. Watts expressed criticism of the Harbury New for its reporting of the July meeting of the council. "This was a very flippant account", she said, "and made us into a public laughing stock". Councillor Atkins agreed. The council welcomed publicity provided it was impartial, he said. Councillor Drinkwater, the Council Chairman, felt that he must emphasise the voluntary nature of the service given by councillors. (Our report last month was certainly not intended to be flippant nor do we believe that it made the Parish Council 'a laughing stock'. The work done by the Parish Council is essential to our way of life and very much appreciated. Editors)

Dutch Elm Disease was again discussed, this time at some length, and it was finally agreed that the County Council should be approached about the possibility of loaning equipment for injecting trees.

The monthly heavy refuse collection is to end on Sept 26th. This was a decision taken by the District Council, in spite of the protestations from the Parish Council. In future heavy refuse will be collected only every three or four months. "Paying more and getting less" was the way Councillor Davies summed it up. People could, of course, take their own refuse to tips in Leamington or Stockton but it was agreed that the District Council should be asked to provide a skip at some convenient place in the village.

Double yellow lines will soon be appearing on both sides of Crown Street if a resolution to that effect is accepted by the County Engineer. Parking there has been causing problems since the introduction of the one-way system and the consequent increased use of Crown Street. Extending the one-way system to include Crown Street was a possible alternative to the eyesore of double yellow lines, but this would introduce other hazards and was not favoured by the County Engineer.

Councillor Wilkins announced that an allotment will soon fall vacant. The Council agreed that it should be offered to the next applicant of the waiting list. Any kind of special preference system was too difficult to operate. Councillor Wilkins also expressed concern that damage could be caused to graves in the burial ground by the heavy mower having to be used when relatives failed to keep the grass near the graves properly cut.

DAVID WINTER,

## BULKY HOUSEHOLD REFUSE COLLECTIONS.

In the interests of economy, the present monthly collections of large household rubbish will end on 26th September, to be replaced by collections 3 or 4 times a year, depending on the amount of refuse left out for collection. Advance notice of collection dates will (according to the 'Courier') be given on Town Parish Council notice boards. Between collections you can take your own bulky refuse to the tips as shown below:

Princes Drive, Leamington: Monday - Friday: 8am - 4.30pm  
Saturday: 8am - 4pm, Sunday: 9am - 3pm

Stockton: Monday: 7.45am - 5pm, Tues. - Friday: 7.45am - 4.30pm

Saturday: 7.45am - 1pm.

For further information contact Mr. P.J. Sandford,  
Stratford on Avon 67575, Ext. 237.

## HARBURY THEATRE GROUP

Several plays are being considered for performances in the Village Hall or possibly in the Church, on November 27, 28 and 29. Two will be read on Friday September at 8.00pm at Middle Road Farm, when anyone interested in acting or backstage work will be most welcome.

Similarly, members are invited to bring songs, prose and poetry readings on pastoral themes to the next General Meeting of the Group on Friday, September 19th at 8.00 at the Dog Inn, in preparation for the Harvest Supper on Oct. 4th.

Another play in February, followed in April by an evening of one-act plays, are among our future plans.

This month we regretfully said farewell to Trevor Davies our Chairman, who is leaving us to live in Shrewsbury. We thank him for all his work in the past. John Stringer has been elected as Chairman.

JOHN STRINGER (613214)

## MUSIC RESULTS

Congratulations are due to two pupils of Mrs. M.J. Cooper of 38 Sutcliffe Drive (Tel. 612536). In the recent examinations of the Royal School of Music, Amanda Welsh passed her Grade 1 pianoforte and theory exams and Jane Luke passed her Grade 3 pianoforte.



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## HARBURY SOCIETY - DUTCH ELM DISEASE

The Society is in the process of conducting a survey to ascertain the extent of Dutch Elm Disease, but a preliminary survey indicates that it is widespread.

You will probably have noticed, in the hedgerows around the village and in the village itself, that there are many dead and dying trees. In fact it is difficult to find an Elm in the village that is not diseased. Most of those along Park Lane have the disease although they were injected with fungicide this year. There are three dead on the corner of Binswood End and The Beeches, many are dying in Hall Lane and there are two in Dark Lane, dangerously close to the School, which also have the disease. It is easy enough to spot an Elm with Dutch Elm Disease; leaves turn brown and wither as if winter has come in summer and the tree rapidly becomes bare of leaf. Once in this condition there is little hope of recovery and the tree is merely a source of infection.

The recent warm dry spell was ideal for the spread of Elm Bark Beetle which carries the fungus. Ideally, all infected trees should be felled immediately and the bark burned to prevent the spread of the disease, but the epidemic is such that the authorities have given up insisting on this and so the disease rages unchecked. It now seems inevitable that the majority of our Elms will die within the next year or so. Ponder on this a moment. Imagine perpetual winter, with the skeletons of dead Elms stretching as far as the eye can see, with only the occasional Ash or Oak as relief (and remember that Oak Wilt is now ravaging the USA from whence we inherited this plague.)

We would press all who can to fell Elms which they own as soon as they become diseased and to ensure that they do their utmost to protect other species on their land as they will assume greater importance as the Elms die. Further we urge that wherever possible felled trees are replaced with disease resistant species. The County Land Agent recommends Lime as a replacement tree.

### NSPCC & LEAGUE OF PITY

We are holding our annual house-to-house collection during the week beginning September 27th, and we hope very much that you will be as generous as possible - last year you gave over £55, for which we were most grateful.

On October 4th at the Village Hall at 2.30 we are also

having our Autumn Fair at which some of our young League members will have their own stalls. We shall be selling NSPCC Christmas cards and this year's selection is both attractive and reasonably priced. There will be a Fancy Dress Competition for children, its theme is "Children's Story and Nursery Rhyme Characters" and will be judged at 3.00pm. - a small prize for every entry so do please encourage your children to enter. Other attractions include a raffle, button stall, handicrafts, sideshows and teas, and a bring & buy, and the standard of items for sale is as always very high, so with Christmas presents to think about you might well find the answer to those problem ones! Contributions to the handicraft stall would be most welcome and will be sold on a profit shared basis with the contributor. For more details please contact Victoria Macgowan, 612938; Liz Bunting, 612450; or Mary Buttress, 612075.

VICTORIA MACGOWAN.Hon. Sec.

### 1975 BRITISH GRAND PRIX.

Have you ever thought how much it would cost to race in Formula One? One car would cost £20,000 and that in fact is just the chassis and the body. The engine would set you back a further £10,000.

If you saw the British Grand Prix you would have seen about £240,000 skid off the track in the rain straight into the barriers. The new safety netting helped because last year Silverstone and most other race circuits had Armco barriers, these are steel barriers which are put round the track to stop the cars smashing into the crowds.

The reason that all this money went down the drain was because of aqua-planing. All Formula One cars have 'slicks'. These are wide, bald tyres which heat up and adhere to the track and improve roadholding. During wet weather they don't because the water makes the car act like a boat, and at 150 mph that is no joke.

Emerson Fittipaldi driving a Texaco Marlboro McLaren won the British GP because he didn't change from slicks to wet weather tyres at the first rain storm but did the second time. The reason is because the first rain wasn't heavy enough to make the tyres plane. In this way he avoided losing more time than necessary and had the most suitable tyres on for longer than most of his competitors. PETER HUTCHINS (Age 13)



## SPORT.

Once more, though it is hard to believe in this long hot summer, the time has come when all the winter sporting activities begin their competitive seasons again. They all rely heavily on an enthusiastic and faithful nucleus of players and organisers, but are also very dependent on new players each season to fill their gaps and bring new experience to their sides. THE BADMINTON CLUB meets every Tuesday evening in the Village Hall beginning on September 9th, when the A.G.M. will also be held. Sessions are from 8pm to 11pm and the club would particularly welcome experienced players to strengthen its ranks. THE FOOTBALL CLUB has begun a season with 3 teams in the Leamington leagues. A new Saturday team will be competing in the re-formed Saturday league while last year's 2 teams will be competing in the Sunday leagues 2nd and 3rd divisions. New players are always welcome, young and not so young, and anyone interested should either turn up at training on Wednesday evenings on the playing fields or contact Ken Wynne on 612927. THE RUGBY CLUB has also started its matches, the first home fixture for the 1st XV being on Saturday Sept 13th. The club is again running 3 sides and would also be very pleased to see any interested new faces, whether experienced players unwilling to admit they are too old, or novices with lots of energy and enthusiasm. Training is on Weds. evenings on the Playing Fields.

## HIDDEN INDUSTRY OF HARBURY

In our midst just along the road from the Gamecock in Chapel Street there used to be a sign saying "Precision Metal Products Ltd." Although the sign was knocked down by the scrap lorry the firm flourishes in the heart of our village. They were joined about 6 months ago by "Willoughby Fabrications" with a welding shop further up the yard.

Don Osborne, who runs Precision Metal Products is a Dorset born man now living in Leamington and has been in business in Harbury since 1951. With a friend he started a machine shop in the old Mill in Mill Lane at that time, and moved to the existing premises after 8 months, when he went out on his own. He now employs up to 5 people, turning out parts up to 4'6" Diameter for Aircraft, Bombs, Naval use, Boatbuilding and Marine Engineering, supplying firms such as Rolls Royce and Bowman.

Roy Willoughby, the man behind "Willoughby Fabrications"

makes longboats for canal use. He lives in Stockton and started making longboats with Don Cole in Ladbroke 5 years ago. Roy moved to Harbury when Don Cole started 'Colecraft' at Southam. He employs 3 people at Harbury at present and constructs the metal hulls of the boats. They are then taken to his canal-side base at Calcutt (between Stockton & Napton) where the boats are finished off. Boats up to 40' can be made in one piece but larger ones are made in 2 halves and then welded together when they reach Calcutt. The boats are Roy's own design and are made to last a long time. He keeps costs low by fitting reconditioned "maximised" diesel engines and having many of the fittings made by Precision Metal Products. The boats he will make in the future are likely to be smaller as he has a design for a 26ft aluminium hulled boat on the drawing board.

The popularity of canal boating has increased greatly during the last 5 years but even now there is only a density of 1 boat per 8 miles of canals. It would take a continuous 5 years to travel along all of Britain's canals.

Don Osborne and Roy Willoughby are very well aware of their situation in this quiet country village and strive to maintain a low profile. Their success in this wins our congratulations and we wish them both every success for the future.

PETER HOLT.

#### PLACES TO GO: No. 8 - EDGEHILL

If you're looking for something to do one weekend why not take a short drive to the site of one of the great battles to be fought on English soil - Edgehill. Beside the historical interest this is one of the most beautiful parts of the county. The Edgehill escarpment is capped by a beechwood and amongst the trees is the Castle Inn which incorporates the Octagonal Edgehill tower, built as a folly in 1749. The inn contains many military relics some of which have been found on the battlefield.

The battle took place on 23rd October 1642. 14,000 Parliamentary troops marched from Worcester commanded by the Earl of Essex with the intention of intercepting the Royalist army led by Charles I who were marching on London from Shrewsbury.

Essex camped at Kington on the night of the 22nd October. By this time Charles had reached Edgecote near Chipping Warden but marched 7 miles westward in order to stand and fight. On the morning of the 23rd the Royalists prepared for



battle on the Edgehill escarpment with a panoramic view of the plain beneath (now mostly part of the CAD Kineton camp). The Royalists advanced at midday and a bloody and indecisive battle ensued. In the evening Essex withdrew his forces to camp at Kineton, and then to Warwick, and the Royalists despite heavier casualties marched on to Oxford where Charles I made a triumphant entrance. Many of the dead are buried in Graveyard Coppice within the army camp.

A public footpath from the top of the hill takes one to the pretty village of Radway, and back up the hill, with the most beautiful view all around.

To round off the afternoon turn off Edgehill down Sunrising Hill, and turn left through the Tysoes, Upper, Middle and Lower to Compton Wynyates. The view of Compton Wynyates will be familiar to many as it so often appears in fictional Books of England. It is really best approached by the footpath from Upper Tysoe, over Windmill Hill (the site of a restored windmill), and then beneath you, the picture book 16th century house with its multitude of chimneys and yew-lined garden. I for one don't think there's a better sight in England.

Directions: From Harbury, to Bishops Itchington, then the B4451 to Kineton, then the B4086 to Edgehill. Turn right on to the A422 down Sunrising Hill then left through the Tysoes to Compton Wynyates. A leaflet on the Edgehill nature trail is available at the County Museum in Warwick.

SHARON HANCOCK.

### 19th CENTURY HARBURY

During the 17th and 18th centuries Harbury, although a large village, doesn't seem to have been a very flourishing place; the land around Harbury was described as being "poor and unproductive". In 1730, there were 148 houses - 7 of which were uninhabited - a figure higher than the national average.

By 1841, the population was 1,039 living in 254 houses. It is interesting to see some of the professions followed by the villagers. There were - four bakers, two blacksmiths, two builders, six butchers, two corn millers, thirteen farmers, three grocers, five inn-keepers, eight shoemakers, two surgeons, two saddlers, two milliners, six shopkeepers and one bricklayer. The Post Office was at Mr. John Cooper's; letters arrived by foot-post at 9 a.m. and were dispatched at 6 p.m. There were carriers to Banbury on Thursdays, to Leamington

on Tuesdays and Saturdays and to Warwick on Tuesdays. It is obvious that Harbury was, like most villages at the time, self-supporting to a great extent. Coal was drawn from the railway station, by the ton or half ton, mostly by farmers.

During the middle of the century, the village acted as a reservoir of labour for the neighbouring "close" parishes of Chesterton and Ufton. By 1871 the population had risen to 1,121. The rateable value was £7,891-16s. The cottages were highly rented (50s. to £4) but indifferently built and overcrowded. There were few gardens but a sufficient supply of allotments. On the enclosure of the common fields of Harbury in 1780 an allotment of 30 acres was awarded in lieu of the right of the poor to cut furze. In 1870, land was enclosed at a cost of £450 and divided into 118 allotments producing a gross rental of £80. The net proceeds amounted to about £55 and was distributed monthly to the sick and needy and any remaining to the poor on St. Thomas's Day.

In 1874, Edward Williams was the Lord of the Manor and he with R. Heath, Miss Sabin and Miss Ryland were the principal landowners.

The church was enlarged in 1873; the cost amounted to about £4,000 towards which Miss Ryland of Barford gave £1,000 and the rest was paid by subscription. The vicarage was valued at £350 and was in the patronage of J. Hudson and the incumbency of Rev. Matthew Harvey Hale M.A. of St. Johns College, Cambridge. The Weslyans and the Primitive Methodists also had chapels in the village.

The Wagstaffe school was restored in 1866 "for the children, whether boys or girls, of all resident inhabitants of the Parish of Harbury who shall apply for admission."

C. KEELING & M. THOMPSON.

### KALEIDOSCOPE

In May I mentioned in this column Rod & Ann Brown who live in Germany, and would now like to congratulate them on the birth of their third son, William, in August..... Last month Diana wrote Kaleidoscope as I was on holiday, and I would like to endorse her request for the missing Village Hall letters to be replaced, failing which it might be better to remove the rest it looks awful now..... There's probably a good reason I am not aware of, but could someone please enlighten me as to why



the shops, bank, Post Office and library have each chosen a different early closing day (or opening day) so that it is impossible to go out on one day and do everything? Considering how few shops we have, I wouldn't have thought it an outrageous request for them to agree on a mutually satisfactory day off....  
....Economic penury has forced us to dig up half our garden in order to grow our own vegetables, but with a cat and kids I'm opposed to pesticides, so amongst our gardener readers, is there anyone who can tell me what to plant that will survive the ravages of English garden wildlife, of which we seem to have a positive zoo-ful?.....Cats and other fish lovers will be pleased to know that a mobile wet fish shop now visits the village every Friday morning. It parks outside the Co-op from about 9.30 a.m. until he sells out - probably about 1 p.m.

#### HARBURY THROUGH THE EYES OF A VISITOR

We've moved, the Taylors said, it's a village, they said, and you must come and visit us. Well we came, we saw and were conquered.

We arrived on a hot sunny afternoon clutching a copy of the Harbury News because of the very useful cover without which we may never have found Penelope Close, tucked away as it is behind the Village Hall. Incidentally we had read the Harbury News from cover, not by design but because we found it interesting and it gave us an insight into your village life and we had a feeling we would like Harbury. In contrast to our adopted home town of Weymouth it was a haven of peace and quiet because although Weymouth is a lovely place to live and we have safe bathing on our doorstep, it does lose its appeal in the high season when we swarm with summer visitors; we are pleased that people like our town but September comes as a welcome release.

We smiled when we saw the Village Hall. Was it like the Village Hall in the television series? we wondered, and did it all happen there!! Well, after spending a most enjoyable Friday evening in the Pub, with a group of villagers who made us so welcome, we realise that it does all happen and we were pleased to hear that when streaking was in vogue you had one obliging gentleman who kept you in with the national trend.

Harbury is such a pretty village and we did enjoy just wandering around and being part of your community; it is also

a wonderful centre being near to Coventry, Warwick, Stratford, Leamington, Bourton-on-the-Water, all of which we enjoyed visiting. You have something special in Harbury, difficult to define but perhaps 'togetherness' sums it up. Long may it survive.

BRENDA & GEOFF WHITEHEAD  
SUZANNE & CAROLYN.

### AMERICAN TENNIS TOURNAMENT

SUNDAY, 28th SEPTEMBER at 2.00 p.m.

If you are interested in playing, please give your name to Ray Hoare as soon as possible (612486), as numbers will have to be limited. Partners will be drawn for at the start of the tournament. Any standard welcome.

Entry fee (to include refreshments) : 25p.

### ALL SAINTS CHURCH, HARBURY

#### H A R V E S T   T H A N K S G I V I N G

SATURDAY, OCT. 4th - 6.30pm FAMILY COMMUNION  
followed by HARVEST SUPPER & ENTERTAINMENT by  
HARBURY THEATRE GROUP - 7.30 for 8.00 pm, Village Hall  
Adults: £1.25, Senior Citizens & Children: 50p.  
Tickets from Vicarage or P.C.C. Members.

FUTURE EVENTS. A reminder that Mrs. Sara Bennett (612618) is making a future events diary so that if you are planning an event, you can check if your date clashes with something else and also register your 'claim' to a particular date.



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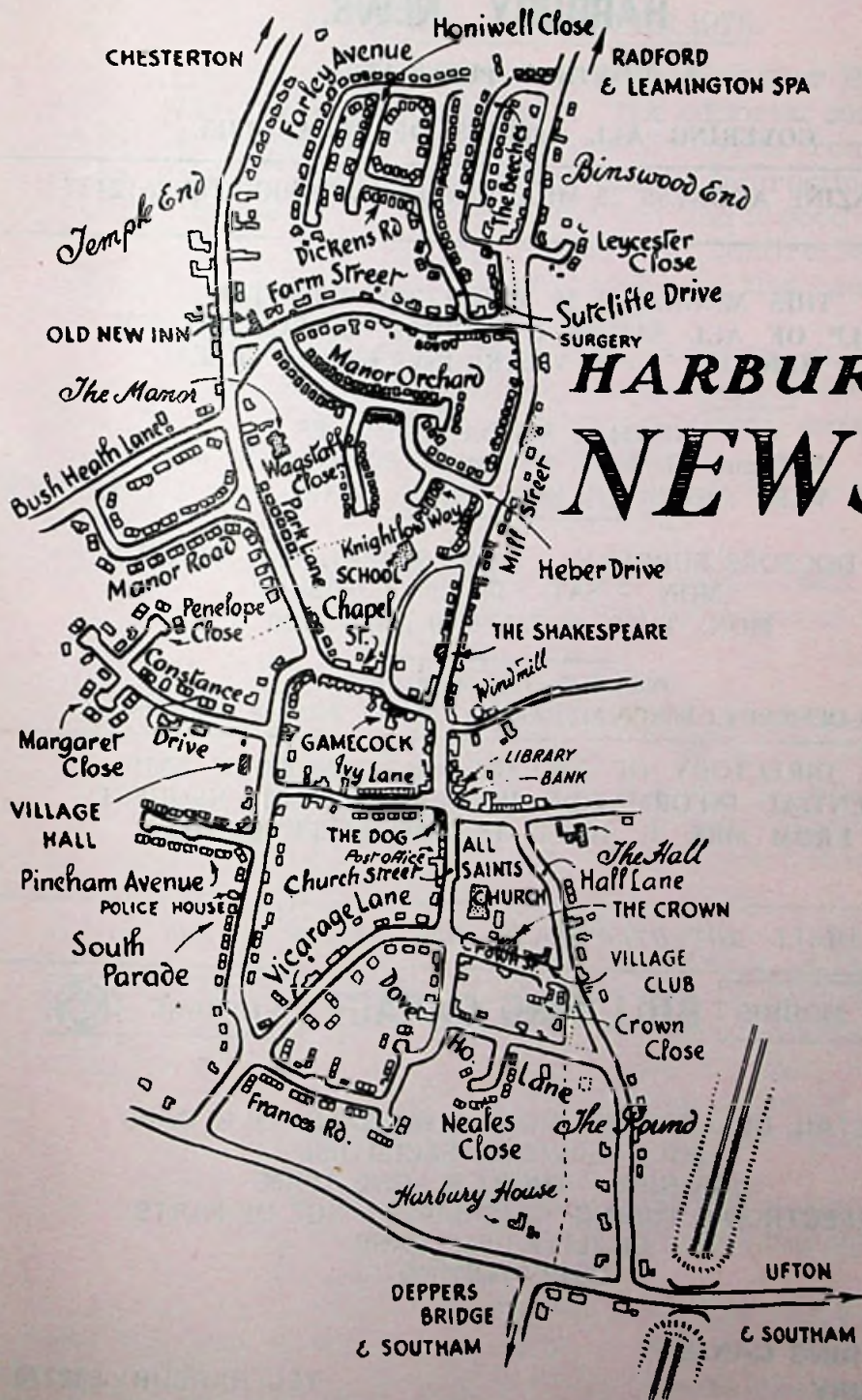
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