



HARBURY NEWS

HARBURY NEWS.

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION

COVERING ALL ASPECTS OF LOCAL LIFE

MAGAZINE ADDRESS 23 MILL STREET HARBURY TEL: 612427

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

NORMAL SUNDAY SERVICES

8.00 am. 10.00 am. 6.30 pm. (4.00 pm. in Winter)

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At our AGM we were encouraged to see that our circulation and financial position are still satisfactory. The following Committee was elected: The Vicar, Miss Aggett, Mesdames Hancock, Holt, Hutchins, Moore, Beaumont & Ridgley, and Messrs. Moore, Holt, Blunt, Bamford, Moore, Barr and Barnes.

Marian Millington, Charles Catt and Victoria Macgowan did not stand for re-election. They have served the magazine faithfully and well, and we shall miss them all. Marian was editor for a year, and has been a regular contributor. Charles has organised distribution since January 1975. Vicotria's Kaleidoscope column, her many other articles, and her enthusiasm and willingness to help made her one of our most valued members. To these three, and to everyone who helps us in whatever capacity, our sincere thanks.

(Please note: starting this month, the dating of the magazine will be that of the month in which it is distributed).

HARBURY DIARY

FEBRUARY 1976.

| | | |
|--------|------|--|
| Tues. | 10th | Young Wives, Village Hall, 2.30 p.m. Harbury Friends, School. 8.00 p.m. |
| Thurs. | 12th | Golden Age, V. Hall, 2.30 p.m. |
| Sat. | 14th | Crusaders Jumble Sale, V. Hall, 10.30 a.m. |
| Sun. | 15th | Septuagesima. Talk & Film 'The First Days of Life', after shortened Evensong. |
| Tues. | 17th | Tufty Club, V. Hall, 2.30pm. <u>Please note NewTime</u> |
| Wed. | 18th | PTA, 'Extra Sensory Perception', Talk by Mr. J. Randall, School, 8.00 p.m. |
| Fri. | 20th | Theatre Group, General Meeting, Dog Inn, 8.00pm |
| Sat. | 21st | Brownies, V. Hall, 2-4pm, Thinking Day. |
| Tues. | 24th | Harbury Society Film Show on Renovation of Historic Buildings, Dog Inn, 8.00 p.m. |
| Thurs. | 26th | Golden Age, V. Hall, 2.30 p.m. |
| Sat. | 28th | Theatre Group Production 'An Evening of Beer & Spirits', V. Hall, 8.00 p.m. PTA Cheese, Wine & Disco, School, 8.00 p.m. |
| Sun. | 29th | Footpath Ass. ramble from V. Hall, 8.00 p.m. |

MARCH 1976

| | | |
|-------|-----|----------------------------------|
| Tues. | 2nd | Shrove Tuesday. |
| Wed. | 3rd | Ash Wednesday - 1st Day of Lent. |

Thurs. 4th W.I. Mrs. Redgrave will speak on Caring for a
Handicapped Child, V. Hall, 7.45 p.m.
Sat. 6th Church Spring Fair, V. Hall, 2.30 - 4.00 p.m.
Sun. 7th Family Service, 11.15 a.m. in Church
Tues. 9th Lenten Prayer, Study & Discussion in Vicarage.
Harbury Friends, School, 8.00 p.m.

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 p.m. 2nd and 4th Wednesdays.
Special appointments, every 3rd Monday.

ALL DATES CORRECT AT TIME OF GOING TO PRESS
DATES FOR INCLUSION TO MRS. S. BENNETT, 612618.

THE VICAR'S LETTER

My dear Friends,

How time flies! When this is in your hands we shall be approaching the season of Lent.

On Septuagesima (Sunday, February 15th) the 4p.m. Evensong will be short, and then at 4.30 p.m. (instead of a sermon etc.) there will be a 10 minute introductory talk by a member of "Life" followed by the showing of a 20 minute film "The First Days of Life". This is of special interest to those who are concerned at the working of the abortion act. Of course people are free to attend Evensong only or the film only, but it is hoped that a good number will attend both.

Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent, falls on March 3rd. The Ash Wednesday services will include Celebrations of Holy Communion at 7.30 a.m. and at 10.15 a.m. I propose having the Children's Thursday evening Lenten Services again this year, beginning on Thursday, March 4th, at 6.30 p.m. I also propose having a Tuesday evening Lenten Prayer, Study and Discussion group in the Vicarage beginning on Tuesday, March 9th, at 8 pm. All will be welcome.

There is nothing in the Bible in favour of inefficiency or slackness. Every bit of work we do ought to help us towards salvation, if we do it well. We are to aim at exquisite perfection. If you make a pudding or a cake, if you sweep a floor, or if you are a priest and preach a sermon, you are to do it as well as possible, with a view to the salvation of your soul, and to bringing glory to God. A good Lent rule would be the old precept,

"Do small things perfectly".

Please do not forget the Spring Fair on Saturday, March 6th.

With every blessing,

Your sincere Friend and Vicar,

F.R. Mackley.

HOLY BAPTISM

| | |
|--------------|--|
| January 11th | Emma Kirsty McLean, 2 Oak Close, Little Stoke, Bristol. |
|--------------|--|

FUNERAL SERVICES

| | |
|---------------|--|
| December 30th | Philip Harold Knight, aged 80 years. |
| " " | Christine Joan Savage, aged 55 years (ashes interred on January 5th). |
| January 5th | Edith Caroline Over |
| January 12th | Edith Margaret Farley |
| January 16th | Myrtice Minnie Gascoigne |

We also record the death of Florence Ivy Windsor whose funeral was at Long Itchington on January 15th and whom we greatly miss, May God grant unto them eternal rest.

FROM THE CHURCHWARDENS

Numbers attending Services have increased encouragingly of late and it's been good to hear of such enthusiastic support for the Spring Fair, about which you can read elsewhere in this issue. It's been intriguing overhearing people asking one another "Have you ever heard of a town called "Gill-owned-good gracious by a bull"? or "Is there a village call "Chink-ass-boss"? If you wonder what we're talking about, turn to the article on the Spring Fair and read about the competition. Better still, buy an entry form and maybe you'll recognise clues number 6 and 5 from the above snatches of conversation.

A reminder that the Family Service is held at 11.15 on the first Sunday of every month and is really designed for children and their parents. On the first Sunday in January we welcomed the Rev. Tony Upton who conducted the service and delighted children - and parents with reminiscences of childhood Christ-mases. The service finished with the whole congregation gathering round the crib to sing "Away in a Manger".

Parents, please don't feel that your child is too young or too active to bring. We accept (and indeed expect) a degree of physical (and vocal) activity during this service and it's delightful to see two year olds dancing on their seats to the hymn tunes.

Slightly older children assist by carrying up the collection, escorted if necessary, by parent, big brother or sister or friend. Do come and join us any first Sunday at 11.15.

CRUSADERS

Jumble Sale

On Saturday, 14th February, Harbury Crusaders are holding a Jumble Sale in the Village Hall at 10.30 a.m. to raise money for class funds. Although many members do give generously week by week (we reckon the realistic cost per head is about 10p per week) this does not entirely cover the cost of the hire of the hall, badges, teaching aids, awards of various kinds and general activities, and we do therefore have to set out to raise money from time to time. This is particularly necessary now as we approach the time of the class holiday at the end of May. We should therefore appreciate all the support you can give us by providing jumble (let the Clarkes on Harbury 612406 know if you have some and we will collect) and by coming along to support the sale.

HARBURY JUNIOR & INFANT SCHOOL

A Carol Concert with Poetry readings and Nativity Play was performed in Church by Classes 9 & 10 on December 10th. This was very well received by a large audience and the clarity of voices both in prose and song were remarkable.

Before Christmas two parties of older children, staff and parents went carol singing around the village. This was enjoyed by everyone concerned even though it was a bitterly cold evening. The hot soup which was served by members of the PTA in the school hall afterwards was very welcome.

As a result of all school Christmas activities a total of £90 was collected. This was shared equally between the NSPCC, the Pool Fund and School Fund. Our grateful thanks to all who contributed in any way.

HARBURY P.T.A.

Extra sensory perception is a subject which fascinates many people whether they actually believe in its existence or not.

Mr. J. Randall is an authority on the subject and he is coming to talk to us in the School hall on Wednesday Feb. 18th at 8.00pm. This should be a most interesting meeting so we hope you will be able to come along. If you have any personal experience of

this phenomenon I am sure Mr. Randall would like to hear of it.

On Feb. 28th there is to be a Cheese, Wine and Disco in the School hall 8.00 pm to 12.00 midnight. Any profit from this will go to the Pool Fund. Tickets can be obtained from Committee members.

May I also remind you that it is time to renew your PTA membership. Membership cards can be obtained from the Treasurer - Max Cartwright, 43 Mill Street, or from any Committee member (20p per family). This year we are hoping more families will join the PTA thus enabling us to do more for the children and the school. All meetings are open to members and non members alike, so if you are new to the Village please come along, we shall be pleased to welcome you.

ANNE MEGENEY (Secretary)

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING, 29th January

PRESENT WERE: Cllrs Watts, Drinkwater, Wilkins, Davies, Atkins, Gurden, Daniels, Fell, District Cllr Mrs. Hill and the Clerk.

Also attending: L. Ridgley, G. Hutchings, P. Holt & PC Percival.

MINUTES READ AND APPROVED The Village Hall Roof is now repaired - the bill can be paid.

CORRESPONDENCE: Harbury Society (National Tree Week 6-14 March); County Museum (free loan exhibitions); W.C.C. (possible cuts in Library services are being reviewed); Age Concern Appeal (Tachbrook gave £5, Mrs. Watts suggests Harbury does likewise). PC Percival will see those whose gale-damaged fencing is causing a nuisance by obstructing the footpaths.

Negotiations on Allotments rents continue. The County Land Agent will not accept the Parish suggestion of £40 per year (£1 per plot) sticking out for £55.

Highways: Two letters from Divisional Road Engineer.

1) Rural verge cutting is reduced as part of the financial retrenchments. 2) The occupier of Porth-en-All has been requested to make alternative parking arrangements for his car, which, being always on the grass area outside, has prevented its mowing.

Councillor Fell protested that it is not a Village Green, and that the car is not his. Mrs. Watts elicited that it is his wife's. Deftly Cllrs Gurden and Drinkwater passed on to

other business, having pointed out that Cllr Fell would have been fully informed, had he attended previous Council meetings.

Lighting: Cllr Gurden sees the relinquishing of the lighting function to W. C. C. as advantageous. Maintenance will be improved and as Harbury is double rated on this at present, the Parish will be better off. Cllr Drinkwater remarks they need Cllr Wright's opinion as Chairman of the Lighting Committee. Enter Cllr Wright. Harbury can claim back the double rating. 'Why haven't we done it before? I only just found out about it.' He is against any loss of control and is suspicious of the County's motives. We would lose the ability to improve lighting in the village. Cllr Daniels agrees, but thinks the County has no ulterior motive. Mrs. Watts proposes further investigation.

Planning and Development: The District is to buy the G. P. O. land in Crown Street for old people's bungalows. Four linked detached houses are granted permission at Westbury House and similarly at Binswood End, where the developer is to be asked to provide street lighting. Mrs. Hill is concerned that the Bishop's Itchington Development Plan is being revised to include Harbury. Will this mean further development here? Stratford is asked to clarify the matter.

Deppers Playing Field is in marvellous condition, says Cllr Wright. The seat is deferred until Mrs. Catterall is here. Harbury Playing Field Advisory Committee reports that part of the central hedge is to be removed and the ditch piped. Floodlights for the 76/77 season will be erected there (the Football Club paying the Village Hall for power) and the area used for training sessions and the Junior Football Pitch. A Cycle Track to be constructed round the Tarzan Swing (Byelaws prohibit only Motor-cycles - THE Valentine DuBuisson having declared he would ride his cycle there - whatever!) Possible accidents, and the safety and desirability of having a cycle track were discussed, but finally Cllr Atkins proposed, Cllr Wright seconded and the scheme was approved.

Finance included; the exchange of papers between the PFAC and PC for the reclaiming of the double rating on Playing Field maintenance, £595 of which has now been received; and the final installment of the Playing Fields loan (made in 1936).

WE NOW OWN THE PLAYING FIELDS!

Next meeting, 26th February

L. RIDGLEY.

HARBURY OPEN GARDENS DAY

We are hoping to hold an Open Day on Sat. 11th September, when a number of gardens will be open to the public. Obviously the success of the event depends on there being sufficient gardens available and we hope that you will let us know if you would be willing to participate. We do not envisage a series of immaculate large estates but would hope that villagers with small 'untidy' gardens will also come forward. Please contact Mrs. Pam Clarke, Constance Drive on 612311 or Mrs J. Windsor on 612504.

Proceeds will be put towards Church Expenses. This is a chance to help Church Funds at no cost to yourself.

A HARBURY ORCHESTRA?

What about creating a musical scene in Harbury? The aim would be to provide the opportunity for instrumentalists or aspiring musicians of any age to join in an ensemble of their choice or capabilities. It would be a chance to gain an understanding & interpretation of a musical score that mere study & playing at home cannot give.

Of course beginnings would be humble & dependant on the amount of support given, particularly by the more experienced amongst us. I will be able to offer my help in the dance music sphere with a leaning towards the big band; so in this respect it's trumpets, trombones, saxes & rhythm. Strings & woodwind would also need an outlet. Who can help out here?

Can we find out how many would be interested in participating in some way? Contact me evenings please on any aspect of the project in the way of participation or furtherance in some way. (Stickle Rise, Temple End, Harbury 612472)

REG ROBERTS.

A NEW HEALTH VISITOR

Harbury's health visitor Miss Wilcox retired at the end of January, and we wish her every happiness and a well earned rest. The new Health Visitor is Mrs. Blackie who has moved to the area from Sussex. She will be working on a slightly different basis as she will be officially attached to the Harbury doctors, and will work with their patients in Harbury, Bishops Itchington and Southam.

Some people may be rather hazy as to exactly what the role of the health visitor is although mothers of young children

will be familiar with one aspect of their work. The health visitor is a public health nurse. She is a fully trained nurse and midwife who has taken a specialized Health Visitors' course. Her work falls into 5 categories.

- 1) The prevention of mental, physical and emotional ill health.
- 2) Early detection of ill health and the surveillance of high risk groups.
- 3) Recognition of need and mobilisation of appropriate resources
- 4) Health education.
- 5) Provision of care - support in times of stress, and advice in cases of illness and in the care and management of children. The health visitor is not however actively engaged in technical nursing procedures.

Most health visitors are responsible for a great many people and work is concentrated on high risk groups and in particular the regular visiting of children under 5, the running of child welfare clinics, visiting schools and visiting the elderly. In an area like Harbury there are large numbers of young children and home visiting takes a good deal of time. Warwickshire now has an excellent programme for the regular assessment of infant development - physical, mental and social, and the greater part of this work falls on the Health visitor.

The advantage of attachment to a medical practice is that the health visitor is in a more favourable position to identify and maintain contact with those families likely to require her assistance. No other worker combines the health visitor's knowledge and skills, and she is essential for the promotion of the health of the community in its widest sense. We wish Mrs. Blackie well in her new job and hope that she will be happy working in this area.

M. S. H.

YOUNG WIVES' GROUP

Here are details of our forthcoming programme:
We start the season with Tim Percival giving us an insight into the world of the "baddies" on February 10th.

On March 23rd the Easter Party is especially for the little ones and will start at 2.30 p.m. There will be games followed by tea (P.S. we thought 10p per child to cover the soaring cost of jellies - okay?).

We are really pleased that Chris Tovey is coming to talk to us on April 27th about his work which is of tremendous value to children needing help and guidance. PAT SARSON.

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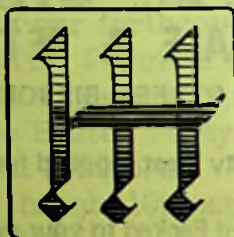
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HARBURY SPORT

RUGBY CLUB

During the first 3 months of the season all three teams have had fairly mixed success as a summary of their results indicates:

| | P | W | D | L | For | Against |
|--------|----|---|---|---|-----|---------|
| 1st XV | 13 | 7 | 0 | 6 | 167 | 214 |
| 2nd XV | 13 | 6 | 1 | 6 | 190 | 131 |
| 3rd XV | 13 | 9 | 0 | 4 | 236 | 157 |

This is however better than at the same time last year, particularly for the 3rd team who weren't even in existence then.

FOOTBALL CLUB

The football club also is having a rather mixed season in their league games, but to date is having considerable success in various cup matches - follow their progress in subsequent issues.

| League Matches | P | W | D | L | PTS |
|----------------|----|---|---|---|-----|
| 1st Team (Sat) | 13 | 4 | 3 | 6 | 11 |
| 1st Team (Sun) | 11 | 7 | 1 | 3 | 15 |
| Res Team (Sun) | 11 | 1 | 5 | 5 | 7 |
| Cup Matches | | | | | |

The Saturday 1st Team are playing Leamington St. Mary's in the semi-final of the Aston Villa Cup at Wellesbourne on Sat. Feb. 21st.

The Sunday 1st Team are playing Long Itchington away in the 4th round of the Leamington Challenge Cup on 15th Feb. Also on 15th Feb. the reserve team play F.C. Royal in the Final of the Div. 3 cup at Edmonscote stadium.

This is an excellent performance so far and the teams deserve support from the village. A good crowd of Harburians is particularly invited to Edmonscote to help bring back that first? cup. Tickets, 10p from Ken Wynne or Les Sollis.

HARBURY SOCIETY FOLK EVENING

I must apologise to anyone who wanted tickets for the Social and was disappointed, but with seventy-two members and their friends packed into the Lounge of the Crown, it was pleasantly crowded to say the least!

Members talked, ate, drank, sang and listened to Humstrum, who performed a variety of songs, old, new, witty, pretty, political a risqué. The bottle of whisky was won by Michael Barnes, none of the disasters I had been envisaging all week occurred, and the evening raised at least £25 for the Society's funds.

The next meeting will be at the Dog Inn on Tuesday 24th Feb. at 8 pm, when there will be a Film Show on the subject of renovation of historic buildings.

LINDA RIDGLEY.

A VISIT TO THE PANTOMIME

On Wednesday, January 14th the Junior School went to see the pantomime at the Belgrade Theatre, Coventry. There were so many of us that we needed three coaches. We left school at 1.30 p.m. and arrived at the theatre at 2.10. We settled into our seats and most people began to eat their sweets.

At 2.30 the curtain went up and the pantomime began. The first person to appear was Abanazar, Aladdin's wicked uncle. He was played by Simon Oates. Every time he appeared we said "Boo" and "Hiss". Aladdin was played by Anita Harris and she was very pretty.

There were two policemen called Swee Nee and Bah ho. At one stage they were put through a mangle and came out as cardboard figures. When Aladdin rubbed the lamp, which he found in a cave, a genie appeared with a puff of smoke. The Genie helped Aladdin to get back to China with a lot of treasure which enabled him to marry the Princess.

Most people liked Widow Twankey best. She would say "I love you" and we had to answer, "Thanks Twanks". Widow Twankey was played by John Blythe. The girls liked the bit where Aladdin and the Princess got married and lived happily ever after.

When the pantomime finished we lined up and then came back home on the same coaches. We arrived back at 5.50 pm and our Mums and Dads were waiting to meet us.

By Class 9.

ALADDIN

On January 8th I went to see Aladdin at the Belgrade Theatre. Anita Harris was Aladdin and his wicked uncle Abanazar trapped him in a cave, and Aladdin asked six 6 year old children to go up on the stage to sing and I got a bag full of presents and a tee shirt. CAROLE MOORE (age 6)

NEST SITES FOR GARDEN BIRDS.

Particularly at this time of year a few birds in the garden can provide the dash of colour and movement which transform an otherwise barren outlook. Providing food and water for birds at this time has the additional advantage of increasing the chances of the birds subsequently using your garden as a nesting site. However if you really want to do your best to ensure that birds nest in your garden steps must be taken to provide suitable nest sites.

Blue Tits are one of the easiest birds to encourage into the garden and if you put up a nest box there is a reasonable chance that it will be used. Tit boxes can be bought from me (£1.25 each - profits go to Warwickshire Nature Conservation Trust) or I can provide the design if you want to make your own. The boxes should be placed about 2 metres (7 ft.) above the ground in a shady position with the hole facing East or South so that the rain doesn't blow into the box. A one inch diameter entrance hole is suitable for Blue Tits whereas a $1\frac{1}{8}$ " hole will allow Great Tits and Sparrows.

If you would like to establish a House Martin colony you can buy cement nest boxes which have a good chance of success. It is advisable to put a ledge underneath the box to catch the droppings and don't put the box above your doorway!

Blackbirds and Robins will nest in an open-fronted box which is a tit box with half the front removed. Such unlikely materials as empty tins and coconut shells have also been used for these two species. Another specialist box for the more adventurous is the Swift box which must be placed at the top of the house under the eaves.

Both Blue and Great Tits occasionally nest in pipes such as clothes posts. I have often wondered whether they will use a suitable short length of pipe fixed in a tree; if anyone tries the experiment please let me know the result.

The best way of providing nesting sites for Song Thrush and many other garden birds is to plant thick fast growing

shrubs such as honeysuckle, clematis and evergreens. Good luck for the nesting season; if you want any more information or help please let me know. RON STANBRIDGE.

HARBURY PLAYGROUP

Although numbers were down compared to previous years, we all enjoyed the Playgroup Annual Dance last November, when we made approximately £15 for playgroup funds. We shall be holding our next dance early in 1977 when we hope we will be better supported by the village.

In December we had a super Christmas party. Our grateful thanks to Mrs. Colechin of Bishop's Itchington for entertaining the children with her 'Emu' act and to the new Co-op butcher making his debut as Father Christmas.

The Jumble Sale on 16th Jan. was a tremendous success, thank you everyone for generously donating your jumble and/or coming along to support us. The £70 profit was way above our expectations and will enable us to purchase a water trough and other items of playgroup equipment.

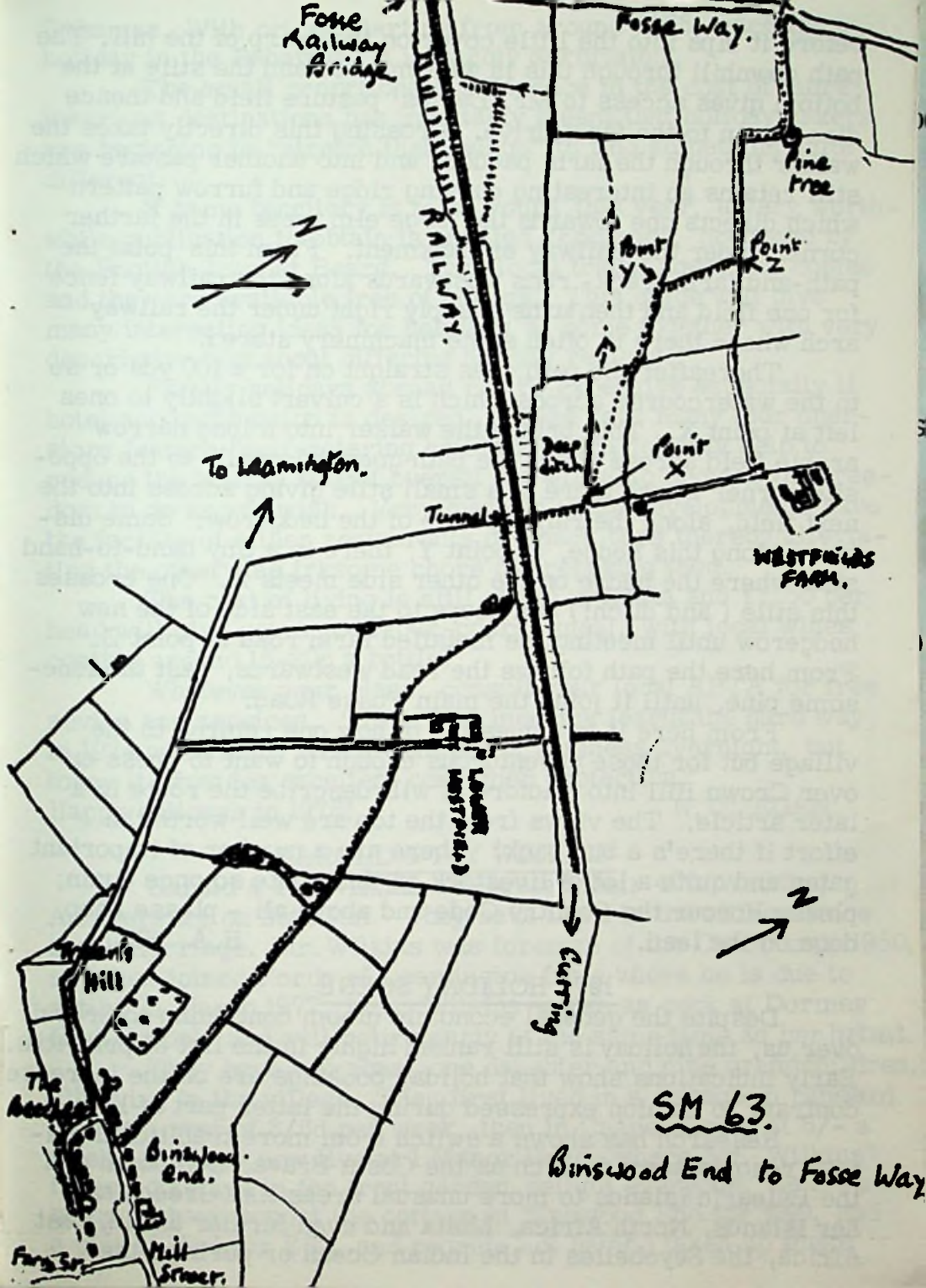
The Southam Branch of the PPA is running a Basic Playgroup course for those just starting playgroup work, or thinking of doing so, or for parents who want a better understanding of their children's play; commencing 3rd Feb. at Infant School, St. James's Lane, Southam. Further details on the notice board, in the church room.

This year's PPA National conference will be held on 9/10/11th April at Warwick University. It is open to all those concerned with the welfare of young children. Again, further details on the notice board or contact Ann Blunt 612785.

FIELD FOOTPATH No. 5

The fifth of the main radial field-paths from the village is SM 63 which points towards Radford Semele. It is a pleasant, easy path to follow but unfortunately it has no return loop path for a circular walk. For the really keen walker there are several routes beyond the Fosse Way which end up in Radford Semele or in Whitnash so that unless one is prepared to return by the same route, or use the Middle Road, a walk along SM63 really requires some synchronisation with a 554 bus.

The access to the path is at Binswood End between the hedgerow and the first of the new houses in Mr. Gurden's field. It is posted. After crossing the stile provided, the line of the path follows the West side of the hedge for some 600 yds.



Fosse Railway Bridge

Fosse Way.

Pine tree

Point Y

Point Z

Point X

Tunnel

WESTFIELD'S FARM.

To Leamington.

LITTLE WESTFIELD

Cutting

SM 63.

Briswood End to Fosse Way

Briswood End.

Mill Stream.

Fosse Way

before it dips into the little cover on the scarp of the hill. The path downhill through this is well marked and the stile at the bottom gives access to Mr. Davies' pasture field and thence directly on to the farm drive. Crossing this directly takes the walker through the farm paddock and into another pasture which still retains an interesting curving ridge and furrow pattern which directs one towards the large elm trees in the farther corner under the railway embankment. From this point the path-and farm track- runs westwards along the railway fence for one field and then turns sharply right under the railway arch where there is often some machinery stored.

Thereafter the path goes straight on for a 100 yds or so to the watercourse across which is a culvert slightly to ones left at point X. This brings the walker into a long narrow arable field across which the path goes diagonally to the opposite corner where there is a small stile giving access into the next field, along the railway side of the hedgerow. Some distance along this hedge, at point Y, there is a tiny hand-to-hand stile where the hedge on the other side meets it. One crosses this stile (and ditch!) and keeps to the east side of the new hedgerow until meeting the metalled farm road at point Z. From here the path follows the road westwards, past the lone-some pine, until it joins the main Fosse Road.

From here it is a question of how one returns to the village but for those adventurous enough to want to press on over Crown Hill into Radford, I will describe the route in a later article. The views from the top are well worth the effort if there's a bus back! There are a number of important gates and quite a lot of livestock on this route so once again; please Honour the Country Code and above all - please keep dogs on the lead.

H. A. HILL.

1976 HOLIDAY SCENE

Despite the general economic gloom continuing to prevail over us, the holiday is still ranked highly in the list of priorities. Early indications show that holiday bookings are on the increase contrary to opinion expressed during the latter part of 1975.

Research has shown a switch from more traditional holiday resorts abroad, such as the Costa Brava, Benidorm and the Balearic Islands to more unusual areas like Greece and her islands, North Africa, Malta and even further afield, East Africa, the Seychelles in the Indian Ocean or perhaps the

Bahamas. With prices starting from around £175 each for a holiday in the Bahamas, it is hardly surprising.

The small proportionate difference in the cost of more luxurious destinations has inevitably meant that holidaymakers are beginning to "stretch their wings" to find something quite different.

If home territory is to be yours this year, a very worthwhile publication to obtain is entitled "England", produced by the English Tourist Board. Your local travel agent has copies and they are available free of charge. This guide will give many interesting ideas for holidays at home together with very descriptive text about differing holiday regions.

Family holidays abroad can be expensive especially if hotel accommodation is desired. These days many tour operators feature "self-catering holidays which not only help to reduce the holiday budget overall but will also provide the freedom to do as you wish. Very many of these developments have the facility of either restaurants or snack bars thereby alleviating the otherwise irksome chore of preparing food.

The cost of living is still cheap in Malta and £1.50 per head will give you a good four-course meal, with local wines costing around 15-20p a bottle!

Whatever your plans, consult your local ABTA for free advice and services. The travel industry learnt the hard way in 1974 when many firms went out of business overnight, but today it provides excellent consumer protection.
Happy holidays in 1976!

N. C. EGAN.

HAROLD & IVY WILKINS

Harold & Ivy Wilkins celebrated their 40th Wedding Anniversary on 25th Jan. They have lived in the village since their marriage. Mr. Wilkins was foreman of the Co-op until 1950, and then joined Fords of Leamington from where he is due to retire in March 1977. Mrs. Wilkins works as cook at Dormer High School, and will retire early at the same time as her husband.

They have two sons, one daughter and nine grandchildren, all living in the village. They first lived in a cottage in Binswood End at a rent of 3/6d per week, then in Chapel Street at 8/- a week, and they now live at 1 Manor Road, where Mr. Wilkins' flower displays in the front garden delight everyone. He says he could have bought the cottage in Binswood End for £40, and a plot of land for £82, and regrets not having taken up these

bargains!

Mr. Wilkins is our longest serving Parish Councillor, having joined in 1946. As a member of the public, he attended every meeting for 2 years before being elected. He sits on the Planning, Allotments & Cemetery Sub-committees. He mows the village greens, the area round the children's swings, and the cemetery. From 1962-72 he dug the graves, and Mrs. Wilkins remembers one occasion when she held a lantern while he dug a grave in the dark!

Mr. Wilkins was P.C. Chairman for 16 years from 1947, and was on Southam R.D.C. from 1950 -9, a period when the expansion of Harbury was planned. Harbury had no mains sewerage, water supply, electricity or gas during the 1950's and it was necessary to get these before the village could expand. Mr. Wilkins was Secretary of the Warks. Produce Association, and the Harbury Produce Association which existed until March 1959. We wish Harold and Ivy an enjoyable and healthy retirement.

PETER HOLT.

CHURCH SPRING FAIR

Saturday, March 6th, Village Hall, 2.30 p.m. - 4.00 p.m.

"Fun of the Fair" - Sideshows and Stalls, Teas
Children's Ghost Tunnel

4 p.m. onwards - Entertainment:-

Hand Bell Ringers, Church Choir, Recorder Group

"Guess the towns" - Competition - Prizes £5 and £2

Entry Forms @ 10p on sale now from all PCC members
(or take a pad and sell some)

FOR SALE - "Suzi" - Pretty grey pony approx. 10 months old
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E. Picken, 21 Wagstaffe Close, Tel: 613266

or Mrs. McQuistan, 13 Manor Orchard, Tel: 612285.

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