



HARBURY AND LADBROKE NEWS

THE HARBURY & LADBROKE NEWS reflecting all aspects of Local Life is published monthly, and produced with assistance from the Parochial Church Council of ALL SAINTS' CHURCH — Vicar: The Rev'd. F.R. MACKLEY. B.A.
Telephone: Harbury 612377.

HARBURY	Holy Communion	:	8.00 a.m., 10.00 a.m. (Sung)
SUNDAY SERVICES:	Evensong	:	6.30 p.m. (4.00 p.m. in Winter)

See Church Notice Board for details of other services.
For Ladbroke Services see inside.

DOCTORS' SURGERY

HARBURY: Farm Street. Telephone: 612232
Monday — Saturday : 9.00 a.m. — 10.00 a.m.
Monday, Tuesday, Friday : 6.00 p.m. — 7.00 p.m.

LADBROKE: Craven Lane. Telephone: Southam 2577

POLICE: Telephone: SOUTHAM (981) 2366

LOCAL CONSTABLE: P.C. T.PERCIVAL. Telephone: Harbury 612175

SOUTHAM SOCIAL SERVICES Tel Southam(981) 2881

'THE HARBURY DIRECTORY' containing details of Village Organisations and essential information is freely available on request from
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By the time this issue reaches you, the Christmas festivities will already be underway. As the Diary shows, there are a great many events for the village as a whole to join in, particularly the special services at Church and the carols round the village. The Nine Lessons and Carols service, at 4p.m. on Sunday 21st December, is always a happy family occasion. In addition to the usual seasonal activities, Sunday 21st December sees the celebration of our Vicar's 50 years as a Priest. On that day the Rev. R. T. Murray will preach at the 10a.m. service, and refreshments will be served afterwards.

Tickets for the Youth Theatre Workshop's Pantomime are already selling well, so if you haven't bought yours, hurry before they're all gone!

Elsewhere in this issue is an advertisement for the eagerly awaited Harbury Guide - "Hungry Harbury", and Linda Ridgley is to be congratulated on her hard work and determination in bringing this ambitious project to fruition.

Finally, in wishing all our readers a very happy Christmas, may we ask you to spare a thought for those in the village who may be alone this Christmas. If you have an elderly or infirm neighbour, do look in to see if they need your help, or even just a cheerful word, for - although Christmas is a happy time for most of us - it can also be a very lonely time for some.

HARBURY DIARY

DECEMBER 1980

- Sun. 7th SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT. 8a.m. Holy Eucharist. 10a.m. Sung Eucharist. 3.30p.m. Evensong.
NO All Sorts this Sunday.
- Mon. 8th CONCEPTION OF BLESSED VIRGIN MARY. 7.30a.m. Holy Eucharist.
First School Concert Dress Rehearsal.
Brownies & Guides Carol Service, 6.30p.m., Church.
Tearcraft/Tupperware Party, 15 Wagstaffe Close,
from 8.30p.m.
- Tues. 9th First School Concert, 6.45p.m., School.
Tufty Club Christmas Party, V. Hall, 2p.m. (note date)

2. Playing Fields Committee, Village Hall.
 Confirmation Classes, Vicarage, 6.30 p.m.
 Bible Study, 26 Binswood End, 8 p.m.
- Wed. 10th First School Concert, 1.45p.m. & 6.45p.m. School
 Confirmation Classes, Vicarage, 6.30 p.m.
- Thurs. 11th First School Christmas Party.
 Golden Age, 2.30 p.m., Village Hall.
 W.I. Carol Service, 7.45p.m., Church.
- Fri. 12th Playgroup breaks up.
 Nursery School Christmas Lunch.
 Top School Carol Concert, Church, 7 p.m.
 Warwickshire Hunt Review, 7.30p.m., V. Hall.
- Sat. 13th Senior Citizens' Party & Entertainment, School.
 Stage up in Village Hall.
 Warwickshire Hunt Review, 7.30p.m., V. Hall.
- Sun. 14th THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT. 8a.m. Holy
 Eucharist. 10a.m. Sung Eucharist, 4p.m.
 Evensong (note change of time).
 Harbury Adventurers Carol Service, 2.30, V. Hall.
 Catholic Instruction for Children, Wight School,
 9.45 a.m.
 All Sorts Christmas Party & Disco, 11 Constance
 Drive, 7.30 to 10.30 p.m.
- Mon 15th Lower Middle School Concert, 7p.m., School.
 PCC Meeting, Wight School, 8 p.m.
 Confirmation Classes, Vicarage, 6.30 p.m.
- Tues. 16th Young Wives' & Children's Carol Service,
 2p.m. in Church.
 Tufty Club, Wight School.
 Lower Middle School Concert, 7 p.m., School.
 Confirmation Classes, Vicarage, 6.30 p.m.
 Prayer Group, 8 p.m.
- Wed. 17th Middle School Christmas Party.
 Confirmation Classes in Vicarage, 6.30 p.m.
 PTA CAROLS ROUND THE VILLAGE, 7 p.m.
 Youth Club Christmas Disco
- Thurs. 18th Dancing Classes break up.
 Youth Theatre Workshop PANTOMIME, Village
 Hall - JACK & THE BEANSTALK.
 Windmill Singers Carol Party, 8p.m., Southam
 School (for Talking Newspaper for the Blind)

- Fri. 19th School breaks up.
NSPCC Carol Singing, meet at Foodmart, 6.30pm.
Youth Theatre Workshop PANTOMIME, Village Hall - JACK & THE BEANSTALK.
- Sat. 20th Youth Theatre Workshop PANTOMIME, Village Hall - JACK & THE BEANSTALK.
- Sun. 21st FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT. 'GOLDEN JUBILEE'
of the Vicar's Ordination to the Priesthood. 8a.m.
Holy Eucharist. 10a.m. Sung Eucharist - see Churchwardens' article. 4p.m. Nine Lessons & Carols Service. (Evensong will be said at 3p.m.)
- Wed. 24th CHRISTMAS EVE. 11.15p.m., Blessing of the Crib, and Sung Eucharist of Midnight.
(No Weightaway this week)
- Thurs. 25th CHRISTMAS DAY. 8a.m. Holy Eucharist of the Dawn. 10a.m. Procession and Parish Family Sung Eucharist of the Day.
- Fri. 26th S.STEPHEN'S DAY/ BOXING DAY. 9.45a.m.
Holy Eucharist.
- Sat. 27th S. JOHN. 9.45a.m. Holy Eucharist.
- Sun. 28th 8a.m. Holy Eucharist. 10a.m. Procession & Sung Eucharist. 3.30p.m. Evensong with Carols.
- Mon. 29th Confirmation Classes, Vicarage, 6.30 p.m.
- Tues. 30th Confirmation Classes, Vicarage, 6.30 p.m.
Senior Citizens Committee, 8p.m., Village Hall.
- Wed. 31st NEW YEAR'S EVE. Confirmation Classes, Vicarage, 6.30p.m.
(No Weightaway)

JANUARY

- Thurs 1st NEW YEAR'S DAY. Public Holiday for some!
- Mon. 5th School begins
- Tues. 6th Horticultural Society (Dahlia Soc.), Wight School, 8pm

ROMAN CATHOLIC SERVICE, Harbury Hall Chapel, 10a.m.
every Sunday.

HARBURY ADVENTURERS, V.Hall, 11.30a.m. every Sunday.

ALL SORTS, 7.45p.m., 11 Constance Drive, alternate Sundays.

UPHOLSTERY, Wight School, 2 - 4 p.m. every Monday.

GUIDES, Scout Hut, 7.30 p.m. every Monday.

GYMNASTICS, Harbury School, 5.30(5-8yrs), 6.45(over 9yrs),
every Monday.

JOGGING, from Foodmart, 8 p.m. every Monday.
 BINGO, Village Hall, 8 p.m. every Monday.
 PLAYGROUP, Wight School, Tuesday to Friday mornings.
 TODDLER GROUP, Wight School, Mon. a.m. & Wed. p.m.
 NURSERY SCHOOL, Village Hall, Tuesday to Friday mornin
 BROWNIES, Village Hall, 6.15p.m. every Tuesday.
 DANCING CLASSES, Wight School, 4-7.45, Tuesdays,
 4-7.15 Wednesdays, 4-7.45 Thursdays.

SCOUTS, Scout Hut, 7.45p.m. Tues(1st troop), Wed.(2nd troop)
 YOUTH CLUB COFFEE BAR, V. Hall, 7.30-10pm, Tuesdays.
 YOUTH CLUB, Village Hall, 8-10p.m. Wednesdays.
 BABY CLINIC, Village Hall, 2p.m., 2nd & 4th Wednesdays.
 WEIGHTAWAY, Wight School, 8p.m. Wednesdays(NB change)
 GOLDEN AGE, Village Hall, 2.30p.m. 2nd & 4th Thursdays.
 VENTURE SCOUTS, Scout Hut, 8 p.m. every Thursday.
 POP - IN, Village Hall, 1.30 - 3.30p.m. every Friday.
 CHOIR PRACTICE, Church, 6.30p.m. every Friday.
 THEATRE WORKSHOP, Wight School, 2.30 - 5 Saturday.

ALL DATES CORRECT AT TIME OF GOING TO PRESS.

Dates for inclusion PLEASE to Linda Ridgley, tel 612792.

For Village Hall bookings, ring Mr. Picken, tel 612778.

For Wight School bookings, ring Mrs. Windsor, tel 612504.

THE VICAR'S LETTER

My dear friends,

Our Patronal Festival Sunday was a very happy day. We specially thank the Revd. Michael Langrish for his address at the Youth Service in the evening.

The following Sunday saw a record number at the Remembrance Service, with a record collection for Earl Haig's Fund. We thank David Goodfellow for sounding the Last Post and the Reveille for us once more.

We also thank those who brought such a splendid lot of clothing, blankets and money contributions to Church for the 'Help the Aged' appeal, and those who gave time in receiving them, sorting out the clothes, and putting them in their appropriate sacks.

The Confirmation Classes are now in full swing - three different groups meeting in the Vicarage at 6.30 on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings. Please pray for these young people as they prepare for the sacraments.

Sunday 21st December will be a special day for me personally - the 50th anniversary of my ordination to the priesthood. I was ordained priest on December 21st 1930 by Charles Lisle Carr, Bishop of Coventry, in the old Coventry Cathedral (having been made deacon on September 22nd 1929). Please remember me in your prayers on December 21st. I shall be specially giving thanks at the Parish Family Sung Eucharist at 10a.m., when I would welcome all friends, and particularly those whom I have prepared for Confirmation. The PCC are kindly providing refreshments afterwards.

Christmas approaches! Our Nine-Lesson Carol Service will be at 4 p.m. on December 21st. There will, as usual, be the three traditional celebrations of the Eucharist - the Blessing of the Crib and the Midnight Mass (Sung) at 11.15p.m. on Christmas Evening, the Mass of the Dawn, said at 8 a.m., and the Mass of the Day, sung with Procession, at 10a.m. on Christmas Day. It is hoped that the 10a.m. one will be a great family service. It would be sad indeed if any of the children were not at the Lord's Own Service on the day when the Church celebrates His birthday. According to modern regulations, those who have made their Communion at the Midnight Mass may, if they wish, receive Communion again at one of the Celebrations on Christmas Day. A list of times when Absolution may be received before Christmas will be found on the notice board inside the Church, or an appointment may be made if none of these times is possible.

The Church wishes each of you a very happy Christmas. She wants you to remember the amazing love of God, and how dear that soul of yours is to God - how dear you have been to God through all the ages of His eternity, and how Jesus Christ 'gave Himself for us' as if it were for each one, and how - even if yours had been the only soul on earth that needed redemption - St. Joseph would still for your sake have to go round the streets of Bethlehem, vainly seeking shelter, and for your sake Mary would still have to wrap her first born in swaddling clothes, and lay Him in a manger.

With every blessing,
Your sincere friend and Vicar,
F. R. Mackley.

HOLY BAPTISM

November 15th, Tracy Louise Nealon, 8 Honiwell Close.

From the Churchwardens

Advent Sunday, 30th November, turned out to be a bright and sunny morning, so the Church didn't look unduly gloomy with the old lighting on. However, the contrast was considerable when Tom Knight, our rural dean, flipped a switch and the old lights went out and the new ones came on. It is a real treat to be able actually to SEE one's prayer and hymn book. A large congregation included a representative of the contractors who read the Epistle, and the lighting engineer who designed the lighting system, who, with his wife, carried the bread and wine and water. A record number - 110 - met over breakfast at the Village Hall afterwards.

As you will know, on 21st December the Vicar celebrates 50 years of Priesthood. It is lovely that his anniversary falls on a Sunday and enables us to celebrate at our major service, the 10 a.m. Eucharist. He was ordained Priest in Coventry Cathedral, and served as Assistant Curate at St. Mary's Abbey, Nuneaton, from 1929 to 1948, and was Vicar of Burton Dassett until 1956, when he came to Harbury. We do hope that many, many people will join us to give thanks for our Vicar's faithful and prayerful ministry among us. There can be few parishes which are blessed with an incumbent of such steadfastness. Not a day goes by without Roy Mackley offering up prayer for the people of the Parish. Day by day, he is in Church reading Morning and Evening Prayer, and celebrating the Holy Communion, giving members of the Church and village the opportunity of sharing in the services of the Church - an opportunity, alas, we don't always take. Maybe all those - and there are a lot of them these days - who are normally in Church on a Sunday, would like to make a special effort to attend one of the weekday Communion services each week during Advent. What better way is there of giving thanks, and of preparing for

Christmas? We hear that in America at the moment there is a great spate of car stickers - "Put Christ back into Christmas". By preparing prayerfully for Christmas we can do just that at any rate in our own village.

ALL SORTS

The Hallowe'en Party was smashing in more ways than one. It was a good party - lots of food, fun and fireworks, a fancy dress competition, music and games. Unfortunately, just after it had finished, Peter Catt walked through a plate glass window, and spent the next couple of nights in hospital. I'm glad to say he still thinks it was a good party, especially as he won the apple ducking! We're glad to see he's more mobile now, having been promoted from crutches to sticks.

Mike Langrish came and spoke at the Youth Service on the evening of All Saints' Day, and his talk was much enjoyed, appreciated and remembered by a good congregation of the young and not-so-young.

The only December event is our party and Disco on the 14th. The next meeting is 4th January.

CHRISTMAS IN NIGERIA

(This article was kindly sent to us by our Link Missionaries, Jane and Richard Smith, to whom we send our thanks, and congratulations on the birth of a second son, Philip William, on 30th October, at Wusasa Hospital.)

When shopping last week we were rather surprised to go into the big supermarket in Zaria and hear the strains of "See Amid the Winter's Snow" from King's College Choir. After all, it is only October and, although the shop is air-conditioned and so pleasantly cool, the temperature outside must have been well over 100 deg. F - no prospect of even a slight frost here, much less a white Christmas! The piped carols, Christmas decorations, cards and wrapping paper have of course been imported from the west, along with the hair rollers, paper d'oiseys and tins of caviar which one sees on the shelves. It is disappointing that, as yet, there is so little sign of anything appropriately African for the Christmas celebration, not even a locally produced card. We must remember, of course, that Christianity has only been firmly accepted here for the past 100 years or less, and that it was introduced by the white man, which means that there are still many similarities between

Christmas in Nigeria and Christmas in Harbury or Ladbroke.

As at home, an important feature of Christmas Day, both in town and village, is the food. A family will probably kill a goat or several chickens for the celebration, and in some of our Christian villages the people have pooled their resources to provide a cow which will then feed everyone. Rice will be cooked, with a rich tomato stew, and there will be biscuits and sweets too. The day will be spent in talking, and in visiting and greeting friends, after the Church services in the morning.

Although the more sophisticated and well-to-do folk may well give and receive Christmas presents, this is not a common practice among ordinary Nigerians. For most people Christmas means new clothes, and the walk to Church on Christmas morning really is like a fashion parade. The children in particular are thrilled with their new outfits - some sown from cheap cotton by the local tailor on his treadle 'Singer', others bought at extravagant prices from the shops, and usually made in Taiwan. One year a cloth of vivid fluorescent green was most popular - and the brightest of colours still look most attractive worn next to a shiny dark skin.

Here in Wusasa there is one famous feature of the Christmas programme at Church - the nativity play by the Sunday School children. For us the play is a very important part of Christmas here, and reminds us in vivid terms that we are much closer in the culture of northern Nigeria to the actual circumstances of Jesus' birth in the Middle East. We are very grateful for this experience, when we can feel the grim reality of the way in which God came down to man.

Those of us from overseas do tend to feel especially homesick at Christmas time, and eagerly look forward to the letters and cards which come from family and friends. We hang up the cards, and our Nigerian visitors and neighbours are usually keenly interested in the snow scenes and pictures of Santa Claus! We always made a point of listening to the Kings College Carol Service on the radio on Christmas Eve, and this really does stir our emotions. We are, of course, considerably cushioned from the excessive commercialism of Christmas at home, and are pleased to

have the opportunity to celebrate in moderation. We feel that Christmas gives us a real chance to tell our Muslim neighbours the Gospel message in a very natural way, and one evening during the week before Christmas we show a nativity filmstrip outside our house - intended for the children, but others stop to look as they pass by.

So, Happy Christmas, or - as we say in Hausa - "Baraka da Krismati".

HELP FOR CHRISTIANS BEHIND THE IRON CURTAIN

Many Christians behind the Iron Curtain are undergoing acute suffering for their beliefs. Christian men who are actively working for God are often not allowed to have jobs, or are given work that pays insufficiently to meet the needs of their family. "Let them stay at home and hear the cries of their children", the communists reason. They realise how effective this kind of treatment can be, and that it arouses less anger abroad than committing Christians to prison.

Underground Evangelism is an organisation that provides emergency parcels of food, clothing and funds to meet the needs of the families of such men of God, so that they need not stop their work for fear of their families starving.

We can help by saving old postcards and stamps with $\frac{1}{4}$ " of paper around them, which the organisation can sell. Collecting point is c/o Mrs. Jeanne Clarke, 1 Vicarage Lane. Please do start to collect - £5,315 has been raised so far, which is remarkable for the small amount of effort involved! SARA BENNETT.

LADBROKE NEWS

Services etc. for December 1980 and early January 1981

Thursday, 4th December, 7.45 p.m., Mens Group, Harbury.

SUNDAY 7th December, Advent II. 8.30 a.m. Holy Communion.
11a.m. Matins.

SUNDAY 14th December, Advent III. 11a.m. Holy Communion
with Hymns. 3.30 p.m. Evensong.

Wednesday 17th December. 8p.m. Carol Singing Rehearsal at
the Old Rectory.

SUNDAY 21st December, Advent IV. (S. Thomas A.M.) 8.30 a.m.
Holy Communion. 11a.m. Matins.

Monday 22nd December. 7.30 p.m., Carol Singers round the Village.

Wednesday 24th December, 2p.m. Church decoration.

Thursday 25th December, CHRISTMASS DAY. 8.30a.m.
Holy Communion. 10.30a.m. Holy Communion with Hymns and Sermon.

Friday 26th December. S.Stephen M.

Saturday 27th December, S.John Evangelist.

SUNDAY 28th December, Holy Innocents (1st after Christmas
11 a.m. Holy Communion with Carols.

Thursday 1st January. Feast of the Circumcision of our Lord
SUNDAY 4th January. 2nd after Christmass. 8.30a.m. Holy Communion. 11a.m. Matins.

Tuesday 6th January. The Epiphany.

ALTAR FLOWERS. No flowers in Advent. 25th December and 28th December, Mrs. Rutherford. January 4th and 11th, Mrs. Badman and Mrs. Wilson.

EXTRACT FROM THE REGISTERS.

HOLY BAPTISM

26th October, 1980, Lisa Hughes (with the consent of the Rector of Southam).

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP. Our November meeting began with Holy Communion in Church, and then we adjourned to the Old Rectory House where Mrs. Emus had invited us to join with her special guest, Mrs. Ashby, on the occasion of her 82nd birthday. Mrs. Ashby was one of the original members of the Fellowship. We had a very pleasant time, and are most grateful.

Our January meeting will be at Woodlands Farm, by kind invitation of Mrs. June Barnett, when we shall discuss our 1981 programme. Meanwhile, a happy Christmas to you all.
C.H.

AUTUMN FAIR This was once again a great success, and thanks are due to all those who contributed by their gifts, their efforts, and by coming to buy. We were greatly indebted to friends from Deppers Bridge who made many contributions.....and deservedly won some raffle prizes! and we were happy to welcome friends from Harbury and further afield. As far as we can tell at present, the total

profits amounted to £300, to be divided between the Church Fabric Fund, the Church Army and the Leprosy Relief Assoc.

CHRISTMAS CARDS AND DIARIES. These proved a great attraction at the Fair. I have been asked to say that there are still a few remaining of Christmas Cards and Notelets with a picture of the Church, and also a few Ladbroke Church diaries for 1981. Apply to Mrs. J. Barnett at Woodlands Farm.

Fr. F. R. MACKLEY. All his many friends in Ladbroke extend their hearty congratulations and all good wishes to the Vicar of Harbury, who celebrates the fiftieth anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood on Sunday 21st December.

A Happy and holy Christmas to you all.

G. R. F.

VILLAGE HALL NEWS The Annual Bonfire Party on 8th Nov. in Tom Sheasby's farmyard field was an even greater success than last year. Many refreshments were available to keep out the cold. The fireworks themselves were a magnificent display, and to complete the good news, the event made a reasonable profit. The Committee members would like to thank Mr. Emus, who supplied most of the wood, Tim Allington and Geoff Timms for building the bonfire, and lastly Pat Wilson, Rowan Wilson, Meriel Williamson and Heather Teverson for working so hard with the refreshments.

A Christmas Party will be held for the young people of Ladbroke on December 6th in the Village Hall from 7 to 9 p.m. There will be games, music and of course food, so please keep this date free.

There will be a Jumble Sale to raise funds for the village hall in January. Please donate all jumble to Mary Fell, any time after Christmas.

LADBROKE YOUTH CLUB. A new Youth Club has started in the village, and anyone is welcome to join in. The club will be run by a committee, but an adult will also be on hand to offer any assistance if needed. The club's first event was a Halloween Party, which proved a great success, with apple bobbing, music, games and refreshments. The committee members are Andrew Bennett, William Bennett, Linda Smith, Philip Cockerton, Louise Monsell and Christine Ladler.

Don't forget volunteers are needed for CAROL SINGING in aid of charity. Please meet for rehearsal at the Old Rectory on Wednesday 17th December at 8 p.m., with a view to going round the village on Monday 22nd December. Mrs. Winkfield (tel 2234) will be glad to hear from volunteers.

Southam High School's sponsored 24 hour dance in aid of Myton Hospice and Kidney Research raised £602. ANDREW BENNETT took part and danced for 23 hours, raising £32. He would like to thank all those who sponsored him.

W.I. NEWS. The November meeting was a very festive occasion. Our president, Mrs. M. Emus, demonstrated table decorations for Christmas, and Mrs. M. Williams made imaginative and exciting dishes suitable for entertaining over the holiday.

Our Christmas season starts with our Christmas Dinner on 9th December at the Falcon Inn, Priors Hardwick, and then there will be a W.I. Carol Service in Harbury at 7.45p.m. on 11th December. A Christmas Party is planned for the patients in Christopher Wren Ward, Hatton Hospital, on 16th December, and donations of food will be welcome on the day to Mrs. Emus at Old Rectory House.

Our meeting on 18th December will take the form of a Christmas Party. New members will be very welcome, so please come along and join us. You will find it is a lot of fun!

J.F.

HARBURY & LADBROKE NEWS. Please note that I am now collecting Ladbroke news for the magazine, and any items will be welcome at Bridge Cottage, or telephone me at 3341.

KATE LIVERTON.

HARBURY SCHOOL

Christmas approaches ever more quickly, and preparations are already well in hand for the end of term activities.

The Lower Middle School concert takes the form of an 'entertainment' freely adapted and enlarged upon from 'The Twelve Days of Christmas'. The collections from this concert will go to the NSPCC. The same cause will also

benefit from the First School's spectacular entitled "No Room at the Inn". The Top Middle School classes have their Carol Concert for all the village in church on 12th December, when the collection will be sent to the Myton Hospice Appeal, and this fund will also be helped by the PTA Carols Round the Village on Wednesday 17th December.

We are extremely grateful to the two dads who recently installed a Music Centre in the hall for us. This was bought from PTA funds as a result of this year's sponsored walk, and will be of great use to us.

The boys' football and rugby teams have had a very good start to their respective seasons, and we are very grateful to mums and dads who help us out with transport for 'away' games. Without their help these activities would be severely curtailed.

The end of term sees the retirement of Mrs. E. Broom, who has been a cleaner at the school for 8 years or more. Mrs. Broom's quiet efficiency will be sadly missed, and we wish her a long and happy retirement.

"BONFIRE NIGHT"

The atmosphere is filled with excitement as the fire stands dark and high. Then the total darkness turns to a bright flash that burns and smells its way up to the top of the stack.

People watch the flames, their eyes staring at the great fire. Then the first firework goes up with a sharp fizzing sound, and glittering sparks are showered everywhere.

The happy and excited children and parents turn and walk up to the top of the field where the rest of the fireworks are to be lit. Sparklers are given out and children wave them about making red lines in the air that last a few seconds then fade away.

The smoke from the bonfire drifts up and makes a few of the people cough. At the fire some people are cooking potatoes to eat when they get home, and people are crunching crisps.

Young boys and girls are trying to light sticks and sparks come pouring off them to light up their faces which glow with happiness on this bonfire night.

BRUCE CARTER, Class 10.

HARBURY PTA - the winner of the 100 Club draw was Mrs. P. Scholtz of Mill Street, Harbury.

SCHOOL MINI RUGBY

On 15th November the school Mini-Rugby team took part in a competition for the Mid-Warks. Middle Schools. The conditions were atrocious, with pouring rain and lashing winds. The mirth caused by Mr. Stuart's appearance in very capacious orange waterproof trousers turned to envy as he was the only one of the Harbury spectators to remain dry! The boys won all their matches, to win their group, and then played the final against Newburgh Middle School from Warwick. The match was very closely fought, with a heavier Newburgh pack winning a lot of possession from the scrums. With only a couple of minutes to go, the score was still 0-0. Tension mounted when there was a scrum down near Newburgh's line. The ball came out to Harbury scrumhalf Adrian Thomas who dived triumphantly over the line, and then converted his own try!



The boys, seen here with their trophy, are (l. to r. back row) Craig Knowles, Stuart Simcock, Timothy Watts, Edward Russell, Christopher Millington, (front row) Stephen Hancock, Stephen Padbury, Adrian Thomas, Stephen Luke, Edward Wood and David Andrews. Congratulations to them all!

On Tuesday 15th November, the Bishop of Coventry, the Right Rev. Bishop John Gibb, visited the School in his capacity of Chairman of the Myton Hospice Appeal, to receive a cheque for the fund amounting to £910. £600 was raised by children undertaking tasks for family and friends during the summer holidays. The remainder was raised by the VIth form at a Marathon Sponsored Dance.

The school play, "An Inspector Calls" by J.B. Priestley, will be presented in the School Hall on the 11th and 12th December. Tickets are on sale at the school at 60p, and 40p for OAPs and students.

September 1982 will mark the 25th anniversary of the opening of Southam School. As part of the celebrations it is hoped that a history of the school can be published to mark the occasion. Contributions about past events and current news items, however small, are invited from old scholars, parents and teachers, governors, or from anyone in any way connected with the school over the past 25 years. Please contact Mr. Hayward or Miss Rummery at the school as soon as possible.

WEDNESDAY CUB SCOUTS

After two enjoyable 'fun evenings', a Hallowe'en Party and a Campfire with the Tuesday pack, the cubs have settled down to some hard work since half term. This has resulted in the award of Bronze arrows to Martin Padbury and John French, who has also gained the Photographers Badge along with Philip Riman.

Stephen Hancock and Carl Chick have completed their Gold Arrow training and, following an arduous hike in the Cotswolds with the scouts, also qualified for the Link Badge. They will be joining the troop on 3rd December.

Congratulations to all award winners.

AKELA.

HARBURY SCOUT GROUP

Our bazaar on Saturday 8th November raised £200 for the HQ fund. Thanks to the organising committee, and all those who came to support us. Two bonds were drawn at the close of the bazaar, and the winners were Mr. Haynes of 45 Deppers Bridge, and Mr. Hancock of 35 Meadway, Bromley, Kent.

Our Cotswold Way Walk (Part III) proved to be a damp but

enjoyable experience. 16 scouts and 4 leaders took part in this hike and camp over the weekend of 22nd/23rd November. Travelling by minibus (hired from Leamington Round Table) the lads hiked from Cleeve Common to Crickley Hill along the Cotswold Way (Gloucestershire's long distance footpath). Here they camped at Grove Farm, thanks to the goodwill of Mr. & Mrs. Garlick. By a fluke the weather was mild, so no-one complained of feeling cold. Some got a little damp by exposing their bedding to the sky when over-exuberance before lights out removed some tent pegs.

After a dawn breakfast of bacon and eggs, parties set off almost due east to reach the transport at Fossebridge as darkness fell. The views could have been better, but at least six scouts have asked me 'When are we doing Part IV? Hiking is the activity of the moment. On Sunday 30th November Harbury Scouts and Bishops Itchington Scouts joined forces to take part in the County Challenge hike at Rugby. Over the night of Saturday 6th December, Bishops Itchington have invited us to take part in yet another hike!

Graham Goodchild, our group scout leader, is moving to Hampshire. We wish Graham and his family all the best in their new location, and hope it won't be long before he is active in scouting again. Graham steered the troop through a difficult time, when leaders were scarce. His enthusiasm and organisation have seen a growth in both cub scouting and scouting in Harbury. We hope we will have the pleasure of his company when the HQ extension is finally opened some time in 1981.

Congratulations to Andrew Winter on gaining his Advanced Scout Standard. Our loss will be the Venture Unit's gain, when Andrew moves up shortly.

J. L. H.

HARBURY VENTURE UNIT

The Unit will be 2 years old in the New Year, and after Christmas we shall be holding a series of special events to which new members will be invited - more details next time.

We have recently had talks from David Clarke on photography, and Colin McQuistan on his specialised collection of stamps. Pete Hutchins is our next speaker, and we wait to see if his subject will be "Guitars" or "Computers".

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On the active side, we have both 6-a-side (outdoors) and 5-a-side (indoors) soccer competitions in December, with more hikes, a rock-climbing evening (indoors) and a winter camp in January planned. We shall be starting a series of long day hikes soon, in preparation for something big we have scheduled for April.

New members are always welcome. We meet most Thursdays at the Scout Hut at 8 p.m. Details of activities can be obtained from John Jackson, Unit Chairman (612615) or Helen Taylor, Unit Secretary (613335). R. E. W.

YOUTH CLUB

There was a surprising response to our Treasure Hunt, with all except 3 members taking part in extremely good spirits. One resourceful pair had a friend on a motorbike rushing round producing answers to clues for them, and they completed their answers in record time! Prizes were awarded on accuracy, not speed unfortunately!!

The lure of JR was greater than the prospect of a ten mile hike in the cold with JT, so our midnight walk has been postponed for a few weeks.

This month we will be having a Christmas Disco on Wednesday 17th December, so we are hoping for a good turnout for that event. New members are very welcome on either Tuesdays or Wednesdays from 8 to 10 p.m. We will post arrangements for Y.C. over Christmas and New Year in the Coffee Bar Window. J. T.

HARBURY JUBILEE MOTOR CYCLE CLUB REPORT

Activity in the Motor Cycle Club has been limited to a few basic training sessions held earlier in the year. Our main problem is that the bulk of our membership has grown up and moved on, having benefited, we hope, from learning how to handle a motor cycle in traffic-free conditions.

We therefore propose to restart the activities in the New Year for younger boys (and girls) who would like to learn the basics of how motor cycles work, and to give them the opportunity of learning to handle the club Honda in off-the-road conditions. If support warrants it, we might be able to acquire a second machine to give a wider range of activity.

We would anticipate starting in late February or early March. Would those interested please contact Tim Millington on 612808 or John Moore on 612427. JBM.

HARBURY MINI RUGBY

We have started off the season with tons of enthusiasm and some impressive results. Having so far played matches against Daventry, Stratford, Keresley, Leamington and Earlsdon, the tally stands at Won 13, Drawn 4, Lost 8. The under-9s are to be congratulated on not conceding a single point as yet, and scoring a total of 112 points; and the under-11s in notching up a total of 68 points in two games at Earlsdon. All 5 Mini teams have been invited by Leamington R.F.C. to participate in their first season of floodlight matches, and will play on Wednesday 17th December, kick-off 6.30 p.m.

The top 10 points scorers are as follows: 1st, John Winchester (u.9) - 36; 2nd, Guy Pattinson (u.11) - 32; 3rd, Dylan Adams (u.9) - 24; 4th, Elliott O'Dwyer (u.11) - 22; equal 5th, Vincent Crossan (u.9) and Chris Gaggero (u.11) both with 20; equal 7th, Gavin Chandler (u.9) and Craig McDaid (u.11) both with 16; and Martin Dufresne (u.10) also 7th with 16; and 10th, Edward Russell (u.11) - 14.

HARBURY COLTS RUGBY

The Junior Colts side (u.15/u.16) have now played five games this season, winning three and losing two. Results were: v. Kenilworth, won 24 - 10

Stratford, lost 16 - 34

Broad Street, won 14 - 8

Trinity Guild, won 24 - 18

Barkers Butts, lost 18 - 24

We have now built up a squad of 18 players, thanks to the efforts of Rob Hughes and Steve Hunt in finding additional players; but anybody between the ages of 14 and 16 who is interested in playing in what is proving to be a very successful team will be most welcome. We meet at the Clubhouse at 10.30 on Sunday mornings. Our next game is on Sunday 14th December against Solihull.

TUFTY CLUB

The Tufty Club Christmas Party will be on Tuesday, 9th December, from 2p.m. to 3p.m., in the Village Hall. New members will be very welcome.

D.G.

HARBURY ALBION F.C.

The 1st team has made its strongest attack on Div. 2 for several years and after 9 games find themselves in 4th position in the League tables. The Club has found a re-vitalised team spirit and it is hoped that the institution of a weekly Man of the Match award (M.O.M.) will spark a determination for individual prowess to be displayed in EACH game. In the past fortnight the team have overcome 2nd placed FORD SPORTS, in an evenly contested game, when Frank Robbins received the M.O.M. nomination for his spectacular saves in goal, which kept a 2-1 lead for the Albion. The game against top team Kenilworth Kings was hard fought and, although Clive Coleman took advantage of his front running position to fire at the opposition's goal, his efforts were repelled and the team lost 2-0.

The 1st team are still in with a chance of going into the semi-finals of the 2nd Division Cup, and even though success in the Cancer Cup eluded them, they can be satisfied with their total contribution of £23.50 at these matches, which was one of the highest amounts raised in the League.

1st team results:

- 9.11.80 - Harbury 2, Milton 2. (Coleman 2)
- 16.11.80 - Harbury 3, Chadwick 4. (Coleman 3) (Cancer Cup)
- 23.11.80 - Ford Sports 1, Harbury 2. (Coleman 2). MOM F. Robbins
- 30.11.80 - Harbury 0, Kenilworth 2. (MOM Andy Hopkins)

The Reserve team are enjoying their football but NOT the success they would hope for, as they are languishing at the bottom of Division 6. However, the last 2 games have seen the first win of the season, and the team members are by no means dispirited, as they know they have the skill - if LUCK was on their side! Their results are:

Played 8, Won 1, Drawn 0, Lost 7. GF 9. GA 32. Points 2.
 Leading Goal Scorers (including cup matches), K. Bloxham 8, and N. Humphreys 5.

- 2.11.80 - Harbury R. 5, Old Hearts 0. (Bloxham 3, Humphreys 2)
- 16.11.80 - Harbury R. 0, Cubbington 3.
- 23.11.80 - Harbury R. 3, Old Hearts 0. (Bloxham 2, Humphreys 1)
 (MOM Dave Raggat)
- 30.11.80 - Ford 2, Harbury 1. (Humphreys 1). (MOM T. Betts)

20. The Club enjoyed a goodnight for their Annual Presentation Dance, and thank the 180 people who supported them; special thanks going to the hard working 'bar and catering staff'. The 'Player of the Year' was Allan Merrick, and 'Young Player' was Martin Hyde, who recovered from a motorbike accident in time to collect his award.

There is a reminder about the Annual Boxing Day fixture between the ever increasing ranks of EXPERIENCED over 30s and the ENTHUSIASTIC under 30s. The event is Harbury's only answer to the day of sport celebrated so energetically elsewhere in the country, and if the football doesn't seem an attraction, then perhaps the HOT RUM PUNCH provided by the Club for all players and spectators might be?!

CHRIS FINCH.

MRS. GLADYS ROBBINS

Mrs. Robbins has been a stalwart of the Harbury Albion F.C. for more years than the majority of today's village footballers could ever recall.

She has had the sole charge of cleaning and pressing the football strip for two teams for over 25 years, and it seems unbelievable that any one person could ever cope with a mountain of mud-spattered football outfits EACH week, when most mothers dread the thought of tackling a single grime covered strip from a soccer-crazy son! Even more amazing is the fact that, in the early days, she did everything by hand, and only in recent years has she used a washing machine, which has made the load seem slightly lighter.



Some of the former footballers remember the time when she lived in Manor Road, with her husband Bill, and between them they would carry an enormous urn full of boiling water to a shed on the playing fields. During the game they served

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hot drinks to revive the hardy spectators, and later continued on to the Village Hall to provide refreshments for the football teams.

Mrs. Robbins is a true Harburian. She was born in Park Lane Terrace, and has lived here all her life apart from a brief spell, after leaving school at 14, to go into service in Coventry and Birmingham. The fact that one of the daughters from the Coventry family still visits her at her Leycester Close home speaks volumes about the kind, motherly figure who is 'Nan' or 'Mum' to many of the Close families. Her door is permanently open, and she is always happy to help out with babysitting, knitting or making up soft toys for anyone with young children.

She has 5 grandchildren, and of her 3 children, Hilda and Frank live in the village, whilst Joyce lives in Bishops Itchington. Frank's earliest recollections of family life are of the times spent in the former railway cottages in Childyke, at the bottom of Mill Lane. Afterwards the family moved into the newly completed Manor Road houses, then into cottages at the front of Leycester Close, before eventually settling into their flat in the Close, on which Frank was one of the construction team.

Apart from her impressive efforts for the Football Club, Mrs. Robbins has made her mark in Village Life, as she regularly cleans the Village Hall (a job which she took over from husband Bill, who was a former caretaker). She leaves home at 6 a.m. to do her job, at a time when most Harbury residents would be unaware that anyone was already working hard on their behalf!

The Football Club, especially, are most grateful to her, and after her recent spell in hospital the footballers sent her a basket of foliage plants, and a card, welcoming her back to..... all their muddy gear!!

TENNIS CLUB

The Committee would like to thank everyone who helped make the Jumble Sale such a success. We raised £75 towards Club funds, but this would not have been possible without the help of so many club members and friends. I would also like to mention the very hard work put in by Sue Brown in selling Christmas cards, small gifts etc. She hopes to raise a sum

in excess of £50 for club funds.

All members should now be aware that a Disco is being held in January in the Village Hall. Please contact committee members or Dave Brown (613284) for tickets - we are assured by the organisers that there will be music to cater for all tastes, and at £1.50 a head, to include refreshments, it will certainly be good value for money. D. P.

GOLDEN AGE CLUB

We would be very grateful if some kind person could help with transport to and from meetings for two of our members who live in Deppers Bridge. Meetings are on Thursdays, twice a month, from 2.30 to 4.30 p.m. Please get in touch with me if you can help. Thank you.

Our next meeting will be the Christmas Party (for members only) on 11th December.

L. KNIGHTON, 10 Wagstaffe Close, 612707.

MOTHERS' UNION

On a bitterly cold November day, what could be nicer than looking at slides of glorious sunshine! M.U. members recently had this pleasure, when Mrs. Backhouse came to tell us about the M.U. World Conference she attended in Brisbane, Australia. Although it was during Australia's winter, it was warm enough for summer dresses and sea bathing, and clearly 'a good time was had by all'.

But this was far more than a holiday - this was a chance for some 450 women from 27 countries to meet and exchange ideas, mainly on the theme of 'The Family', and Mrs. Backhouse said that a wonderful atmosphere of love and fellowship pervaded all their discussions. She said that the whole Conference could be summed up in just one of her photographs - a young Ugandan woman, clasping a silver Communion chalice, with happiness and tears shining on her face. A local Church had heard that the small Christian community she represented could not afford a chalice, and the one in the picture was presented to her - quite unannounced - during a service in Brisbane Cathedral. She was so overwhelmed with joy that she was completely unable to express her thanks in words, so instead she

started to sing - in her own language - the Magnificat - "My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God, my Saviour". Can you just imagine the scene when she took that chalice home?

The next M. U. meeting in Harbury will be on Wednesday, 7th January, and new members will be very welcome. DMH.

HARBURY W.I.

At the AGM, chaired by Mrs. Waters and ably assisted by the two ladies from Ladbroke who acted as Tellers, the following committee was elected - President, Mrs. M. Thompson; Secretary, Mrs. J. Ellis; Treasurer, Mrs. A. Atkins; Vice-President, Mrs. C. Barrett; Programme Secretary, Mrs. L. Watkin; Outings Secretary, Mrs. M. Davies; Assistant Treasurer, Mrs. J. Hanney; Press Secretary, Mrs. D. Bradley.

The Harvest Supper was very successful - excellent food and entertainment by Long Itchington W.I. and Miss C. Bradley and Mrs. D. Bradley. Thanks to all who helped make the evening most enjoyable.

Mrs. Ellis reported on Stockton' W.I.'s Golden Jubilee celebrations, and arrangements for the forthcoming Coffee Evening and Carol Service on 11th December at 7.45p.m. in Harbury Church were discussed. Mrs. Davies reported on the year's many activities, and Mrs. Atkins read the financial report which had been audited by Mr. R. Keen.

Mrs. Thompson, who has been elected as President for a further year, thanked her past committee for all their help, with a special mention to the husbands for their support. Also particular thanks went to Mrs. Tyler and Mrs. Cowan for the super refreshments they have provided over the year.

Congratulations to Mrs. L. Watkin on the birth of Laura Jane, and for the first-class programme she has arranged for next year. We hope Mrs. Merrick is fully recovered, after her recent illness.

The evening ended with an impromptu musical participation by all, provided by Mrs. Bradley and Mrs. Barrett. Members accompanied Mrs. Bradley who played the autoharp, and we also sang a 'round' which was fun.

Never a dull moment at our meetings! And this will be continued when we have our Christmas party, with entertainment from the W.I. Drama Group, and we look forward to seeing friends and prospective members on Thursday, 4th December. JEANNE BEAUMONT.

VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE

The defects in the Village Hall are gradually being put right. The rotted doors and the roof have been patched, and the Badminton Club has treated the floor so that it is not so lethal now. The Theatre Group has promised to dust the beams when it is next aloft, and Carol Percival and her helpers gave the Hall a Spring Clean while Mrs. Robbins was ill in hospital.

The revenue of the Hall will be slightly increased now that both the Pop-In and the Luncheon Club have agreed to pay more per session for the use of the rooms and the electricity. There will in future be an additional charge of £2 for anyone who wishes to use the kitchen in conjunction with the Farley Room. There was a request that the Hall should not be booked for Badminton on Fridays to the exclusion of its use for dances, which bring in more money. Dick Picken now has copies of the hiring conditions, and will ensure that everyone who books the Hall signs a copy. The Committee made a profit of £7 from its recent dance, and thought that support from the village for these fund-raising ventures should be greater.

The joint meeting with the Parish Council produced some useful suggestions for raising more money; a surcharge could be levied on unpaid bills; the Hall could be hired out at a flat rate; village organisations could be encouraged to support the Hall financially; and the Parish Council had agreed to help finance repairs to the structure of the Hall. The treasurer of the Village Hall Committee, Ken Clarke, agreed to look up the rules of the Charity Document to ascertain how the committee could make the Hall more businesslike, with perhaps a series of small committees responsible for different aspects of the running of the Hall, reporting to a major committee quarterly.

As ever, the main financial problem to face the Hall is the cost of electricity for heating. Quotes have been obtained for different systems of heating, and for improving the present one, but there is no capital to undertake the work. It may be possible to install fans in the roof to keep the heat down, and this would allow one of the heaters to be turned off, but before any major changes take place, insulation would have to be put in.

HARBURY THEATRE GROUP

"Time and Time Again", Alan Ayckbourn's comedy, is an ambitious play for an amateur company to produce, but Harbury Theatre Group ingeniously managed to overcome the difficulties of constructing a set which combined garden - complete with gnome and pool - with interior. Their new Cyclorama was a great asset, enabling effects man Peter Holt to vary the light, time of day and season realistically.

Jim Haines played the irresponsible but appealing Leonard; Steve Checkley was his boring and suspicious brother-in-law Graham; Janet Thornley his complacent, domesticated sister Anna; and Anne Watson and Trevor Grundy were the two lovers, whose relationship is destroyed by the unconventional Leonard.

The whole play was enjoyable entertainment, with some hilarious moments, such as when Joan and Leonard paddled in the gnome's pool, but the play was perhaps not quite up to the usual excellent standard of the Theatre Group. It began slowly and rather uncertainly, warming up in the second scene when there were some great throwaway lines like Leonard's description of going into bat in baggy whites as "death by embarrassment". Act Two was altogether more lively, especially when the action moved out into the garden from the rather cramped conservatory, but nevertheless it seemed at times that the full comic potential of the characters was not being realised.

LINDA RIDGLEY.

"PANTOMIME"

Pantomime today means a magical, musical presentation of one of our favourite childhood stories - Aladdin, Cinderella, etc. But where did this form of theatre come from? For its roots we must look back to the Latin word *Pantomimus* - 'one who

plays a part in a dumb show, a ballet dancer, a mime'. So we can imagine the travelling troupes in Southern Italy who spread throughout Europe, presenting their shows featuring the best-known characters of Harlequin, Columbine, Pierrot and Punch (who lives on today in the Punch and Judy shows). David Garrick staged the first English pantomime, Queen Mab, at Drury Lane on Boxing Day in 1750. It featured the adventures of Harlequin. It was six years later that 'Harlequin' was given dialogue.

Christmas under Queen Victoria became a children's festival, and the more familiar characters of the Fairy Queen and the Demon started to appear in pantomime, and by 1875 Drury Lane had girls as the Prince and Dandini, and men as the Ugly Sisters in Cinderella. It was the 1920s before Repertory Theatre productions used more simply written story lines and current songs.

In Harbury this year you can see an "original" Pantomime, in mime, with music from Mike Oldfield, Sky, War of the Worlds etc., presented by the Youth Theatre Workshop. Details of this production - "JACK AND THE BEANSTALK" - appear on the advertisement at the back of this issue. PETER J. HOLT, Harbury Theatre Group.

HARBURY SOCIETY

At last the guide to Harbury, now called 'Hungry' HARBURY, A Guide to the Warwickshire Village, is ready, and will be on sale in village shops in time for Christmas, price £1.50. It can also be ordered from Linda Ridgley, 7 Wagstaffe Close, 612792.

The book, profusely illustrated with drawings and old photographs, traces the history of the village from its foundation to the present day. For the newcomer it could be a revelation, and even for the lifelong resident there should be something new and interesting. Do you know who Lampi Turner was, or how the Co-op started? How the Navvies conducted themselves at the Vicar's Tea Party, or why Solomon Gascoyne was a wise man? To find out, invest £1.50 in the book! It will also make an excellent Christmas present.

In October, we had a successful meeting in the Shakespeare Inn, when Mr. Bob Bushway gave a talk on English Folksongs, illustrating his lecture with sung examples of traditional airs. There was a rather low turnout for the excellent talk given by Dr. Bill Allan on the "History and Work of the County Museum", but those who did attend were most enthusiastic, and contributed to a lively meeting. Dr. Allan illustrated his talk with many slides of the Museum from Victorian times to the present day. The building was erected in 1670 for use as a Market Hall, and was first used to exhibit items in 1834. The building was first opened in its present form in 1951. One of the latest additions is a Victorian School Room, which has been set up at St. John's House in Coten End, Warwick. For the future, Harbury Society has planned a Folk Evening in the new year, and a guided walk around Chesterton Woods. The Wellesbourne Society has invited the members to a joint meeting in Wellesbourne in March.

L. RIDGLEY.

HARBURY FRIENDS

At the November meeting a Bamix representative gave an impressive and amusing demonstration of their unique mixer-blender which was enjoyed by all, especially the food which we were invited to sample.

The December meeting, on Tuesday 9th, will be our Christmas Dinner, to be held at the Crown Inn, Harbury, at 8.30 p.m., with the meal to be served at 8.45 p.m.

I should like to wish all members and committee members a happy Christmas.

MARGARET BARNES.

SAVE THE CHILDREN FUND

You will be pleased to know that a collection in aid of the Save the Children Fund made recently in the village brought in £37.75. An organiser from Rugby collected the boxes, and 'phoned me the news. She sends her thanks.

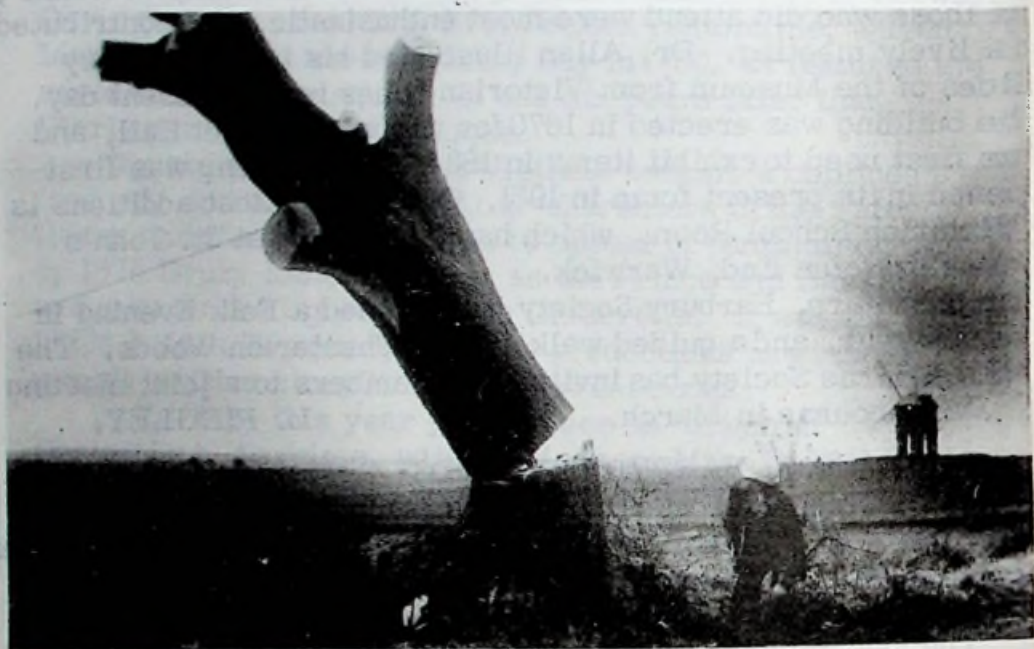
M.S.

ART & CRAFT SALE

£6 was raised at Mary Shelley's Art and Craft Sale in aid of retired donkeys. A raffle was also held, the results of which were as follows: The original sketch of Warwick Castle, by Ron Shelley, was won by Mrs. Lodge. The bottle of wine by Mrs. Elliott. The dish of fruit by Mrs. Faulkner. The Christmas cards by Steven Haynes. The evening bag by Mrs.

Ottewill, and the peacock feathers by Mrs. Shalden-Shaw. Many thanks to all who took part in this successful event.

"THE MIGHTY FALLEN"



The sturdy ash tree which stood for over a hundred years on the corner of Harbury Lane, framing the view of Chesterton Windmill, is no more.

This lusty landmark was thought by the County Engineer to be a danger, and so it was felled. However, the tree resisted the contractor's efforts for over an hour, standing firm on a solid core of heartwood, until finally - as this picture shows - the combination of saw, hawser and wedge toppled it.

LINDA RIDGLEY.

CONGRATULATIONS to Clive Taylor, of Margaret Close, on winning the Kendrick Memorial Cup for the apprentice achieving the best all round performance in craft skills. The cup was presented to him at the Automotive Products annual award winners ceremony last month.

WHAT'S ON

Christmas is the time for families to go to shows or concerts together, so here are a few suggestions: Warwick University Arts Centre have two Christmas shows. The first, from the 8th to the 13th December, is "Where the Rainbow Ends", presented by the University Drama Society. It is described as a show for children from 6 to 60! The Whirligig Theatre Co. are presenting David Wood's "Nutcracker Sweet" from 6th to 17th January. David Wood writes marvellous musical plays for children, and the lucky children of classes 6, 7 and 8 at Harbury School are going to see this at the beginning of next term.

The Spa Centre has the old favourite, "The King and I", performed by the Leamington Opera Group. It's on from 27th December to 3rd January. They also have a concert of favourite ballet music on 14th December, when Guy Woolfendon will conduct the Warwickshire Symphony Orchestra.

There's no pantomime at the Coventry Theatre this year, but a Christmas spectacular instead - 'The Two Ronnies'. It's on from 17th December to 17th January. If you prefer a really traditional family pantomime, the Belgrade Theatre's is invariably just that. This year it's 'Jack and the Beanstalk'.

Booking - The Arts Centre, 97/51226, or at John Gould's Bookshop, Regent Street, Leamington.

Spa Centre, 9/34418.

Coventry Theatre, 97/23141/2.

Belgrade Theatre, 97/20205.

PARISH COUNCIL

According to the County, the School buses are 'not overcrowded to an unacceptable standard', and 'there is no reason for believing that the numbers carried are such as to be dangerous', but when the bus passed Bruce Hannay's house he counted 12 standing downstairs. Midland Red was hurt by press reports of its refusal to hold site meetings to plan the new route through the village, but will now see a more acceptable side of publicity as Mike Ellis insists that 'drivers be congrat-

ulated on the truly professional way they negotiated the mess in Farm Street'.

What had the Gas Board been up to there? Would they fully reinstate the Green and verge? Did they have to wait until it had been resurfaced before they dug it up? The answers were: putting in a bigger main; they'd better; and it's predestined.

The newly planted trees outside the School on Park Lane have been vandalised, and the PC will appeal to Jerry Birkbeck for replacements and advice for the new resident of Ivy Lane who complained that the cherry tree was too close to his house. Bruce Hannay assured the PC that, although there was a Tree Preservation order on it, the Highways Department was in order to fell the ash tree at Chesterton if it thought it was diseased.

Complaints that the yellow lines have not been replaced elicited the information that the Engineers claimed to have run out of paint! but John Drinkwater was able to advise the PC that the Yellow Liner is approaching the village! The County won't supply a new HARBURY sign for the entrance to the village, but the Parish could buy one for £50! The PC will pass on a request from a resident of Butt Lane for the County to construct a footpath from there to Vicarage Lane, and it will take up the County's offer of up to £70 per annum towards repairs along field footpaths.

It's Precept Time Again! The time when Mike Ellis's calculator works overtime. As he was at pains to point out, the PC has to make an informed guess as to what its expenditure will be for up to 18 months ahead. Not only that, it must also take into account its income for that period, and this includes such variables as double rating relief - vulnerable to Local Government spending cuts - and Cemetery revenue, which is totally unpredictable. It must budget for increases in the electricity supplied for street lighting, an estimated £2,200 in 1981/2, and this year a special rate levied to provide a Sinking Fund for repairs to the fabric of the Village Hall. With these imponderables, and the high rate of inflation, it is most commendable that the Council has kept the increase to £1,200 (15%) which will add only $\frac{1}{2}$ p in the £ to the Rate. Remember, the Parish Rate is used directly for the benefit of parishioners. L. RIDGLEY.

WINDMILL SINGERS

We are presenting a CAROL PARTY at Southam School on Thursday, 18th December, at 8 p.m. This is being organised as the Mayor's Charity in aid of the Talking Newspaper for the Blind. The programme will contain music for all tastes, with special items for children. Please give us your support.

During December we shall also be performing in Leamington Spa, Rugby and Long Itchington.

We have a very exciting programme for 1981, and new members would be most welcome. Rehearsals are on Thursdays at Napton Village Hall at 8 p.m. Our secretary is Sheila Scott (tel. Harbury 612637). If you would like any information, why not give her a ring? KENNORDON.

IN THE GARDEN

This is the month of catalogue scrutiny, and the time to order your seeds from the Horticultural Society to obtain the best discount. You will find all seeds have gone up in price, and those firms which say 'no increase in price' may have put less seeds in their packets, so if you were satisfied with last year's seeds buy from them this year.

This last year has been very difficult, as some seeds were very slow in germinating due in my opinion to the ground never reaching the required temperature.

Potatoes still require a lot of attention as some are not keeping well. Also, protect them from frost. My experience last season was that onion sets and lettuce produced a poor show, but on the other hand celery and onions, also leeks, did very well. Of course, apples have been in plentiful supply.

On television and radio there has been a lot of talk about the benefit of using comfrey in your potato trench, so as an experiment I planted one row with comfrey in the bottom of the trench and one without, and to my surprise the one with comfrey produced double the amount of potatoes, and better quality!

I shall not be writing an article for January, or February or March, as I shall be visiting my daughters in Hong Kong and New Zealand, and will not return until early March, 1981.

I wish you all a happy Christmas and New Year. W.F. LINES.

We wish Mr. Lines a happy trip, and look forward to his return.
Editors.

THE HARBURY HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

The November meeting heard a very interesting talk by the Alpine specialist, Joe Elliott, and I understand that a number of members will be visiting his nursery in 1981.

The December meeting, with slides and a quiz, will be over by the time this magazine is on sale.

There is still time to get your discount seed order in - Dobies or Suttons - so please contact me for details.

TONY BRUNTON, 612191.

CORRESPONDENCE

Dear Editors,

Following the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal, our thanks are due to the many helpers who gave their time and considerable effort to the house-to-house collection, namely Mesdames Bunting, Cooper, Farley, Finch, Goodman, Hancock, Haynes, Keeling, Sperling, Suttie, Towell, Tucker, Wilson and Winterbottom. Other areas are covered by Mrs. Cooper (Ufton), Mrs. Bartlett (Deppers Bridge), and Miss Hillier (Bascote Heath).

In addition, we had donations from Harbury Church, Ufton Church, Bascote Heath Chapel and Ufton Bingo and Raffle Evening, together with collections at shops and pubs, and at Harbury School, making a grand total of £424.36 - an increase over last year of over £80.

JOHN BARNES.

Dear Harbury News,

Mrs. Robbins, the Village Hall cleaner, has been in hospital for a time recently. The ladies who work in the Village Hall Nursery have noticed the state in which many of the organisations have left the Hall (not ALL organisations), and so, with the permission of the Village Hall Committee, decided that a good clean of the Hall should be done before Mrs. Robbins returned.

A very large colourful notice was put in the Hall just before the Village Bonfire (attended by hundreds), saying that the Hall was to be cleaned on Monday afternoon from 12.30 to 4.30 and that volunteers would be welcome even for

just 1 hour. 6 (Six) people turned up - 5 ladies from the Nursery and the Secretary of the Village Hall Committee. There are many more than 6 organisations that use the Hall regularly, and it would not have hurt anyone to have spent an hour cleaning what is after all OUR Village Hall.

Mrs. Robbins is now back at work, but she is paid to clean, and NOT to stack chairs and replace heavy tables. So please would all organisations please leave the Hall AS THEY WOULD WISH TO FIND IT.

CAROL PERCIVAL.

Dear Editors,

When our old friend David called to ask what I thought of the Harbury News, what else could I say except that, if the local and national newspapers were half as good in their reports, courtesy and helpfulness, they would have no need to worry over their circulations, would they? As a Salvationist who has cause to be grateful for their assistance in the past, I would say to all the workers we never hear of, and to those who bear the brunt of the toil, thank you, God bless you, and keep up the good work.

May I take this opportunity to say to those interested in cottage meetings, let me know and a meeting could be arranged.

WALTER MARSHALL, 13 Bush Heath Lane.

Dear Editors,

We would like to thank everyone for the cards, gifts and good wishes we received on our Golden Wedding Anniversary, which helped to make it such a truly memorable occasion.

LUCY AND ERNIE KNIGHTON.

WEIGHTAWAY SLIMMING ADVICE

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The Editors and Committee of the Harbury and Ladbroke News wish you all a Joyous and Peaceful Christmas.

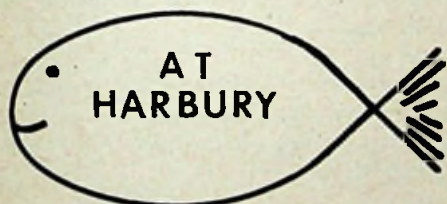
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