



# 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.

<b>HARBURY</b>	Holy Communion	: 8.00 a.m., 10.00 a.m. (Sung)
<b>SUNDAY SERVICES:</b>	Evensong	: 6.30 p.m. (4.00 p.m. in Winter)
	Family Service	: 11.30am. — First Sunday

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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It's "Free Gift" time! With this issue comes a copy of the new Harbury Directory, produced by All Saints' Church. We're sure you'll find the information helpful, and thank those responsible for compiling this useful Directory.

A big event in the Church's life was the recent Confirmation Service, when a record number of 20 candidates became full members of the Church. How encouraging it is to see that the Church in Harbury is a lively and continually growing part of the community! There will be several special services and two musical evenings during Eastertide, details of which will be found in this issue.

We are sorry to record the death of Mr. Frank Crump, a well-known and respected local figure, who was the subject of a profile in this magazine last October.

There is a move afoot to establish a tennis club in the village, for players of all standards including beginners. You can read more about this inside. It was a splendid community effort to build these courts, but the low income received from them and the ever-increasing cost of maintaining them is a considerable problem.

The AGM of the Harbury and Ladbroke News was held on 30th January. The existing Committee and Editorial Team were re-elected (shame!), but we are pleased that Miff Warr of Ladbroke will be joining the Committee, as also will Peter Hutchins.

### HARBURY DIARY

March 1980

Sat. 1st Cystic Fibrosis Jumble Sale, Wight School and Scout Hut, 11a.m.

Sun. 2nd Second Sunday in Lent. 8a.m. Holy Eucharist, 10a.m. Sung Eucharist (newly confirmed), 4p.m. Evensong.

7.45p.m., All Sorts Youth Group.

Tues. 4th Horticultural Society, 8p.m., Wight School. Bible Study, 8p.m. Dovehouse Lane.

Wed. 5th NSPCC Coffee Morning/Bring & Buy, 10.30-12, 6 Sutcliffe Drive. EVERYONE welcome.

- Wed. 5th M.U., 2.30p.m. Old Timbers, Ivy Lane. Speaker, Mrs. Billingham, Dept. of Social Concern.  
Deanery Lent Service at Radford Semele, 7.45p.m.
- Thurs. 6th Children's Special Lent Service, 6.30p.m., Church W.I., 7.45p.m., Village Hall. Speaker Mrs. Adams of St. John's Ambulance on First Aid.
- Sun. 9th Third Sunday in Lent. 8a.m. Holy Eucharist, 10a.m. Sung Eucharist (Library), 4p.m. Evensong.
- Mon. 10th Youth Theatre Workshop, 6.30p.m., Wight School.
- Tues. 11th Playing Fields Committee, Village Hall.  
Harbury Friends AGM, 8p.m., School.  
Prayer Group, 8p.m.
- Wed. 12th "Aerial Photography - its role in interpreting the past" - Harbury Society talk by James Pickering, 8p.m., School Hall. All welcome.  
Deanery Lent Service at Priors Marston, 7.45p.m.
- Thurs. 13th Golden Age, 2.30p.m., Village Hall.  
Children's Special Lent Service, 6.30p.m., Church.  
Southam School play - "Noah" by Andre Obey.
- Fri. 14th Beetle Drive at the Scout Hut.  
Southam School play - "Noah" by Andre Obey.
- Sat. 15th PTA Cheese and Wine Disco at the School, with dancing to KC Disco.
- Sun. 16th CLOCKS FORWARD ONE HOUR.  
Mothering Sunday: Fourth Sunday in Lent. 8a.m. Holy Eucharist, 10a.m. Sung Eucharist with distribution of Mothering Sunday cards (mothers and children). 6.30p.m. Evensong (note change to summer time).  
All Sorts Youth Group, 7.45p.m. at 8 Penelope Close, by kind invitation of Judith & Michael Barnes.
- Mon. 17th St. Patrick's Day. Holy Eucharist, 7.30a.m.
- Tues. 18th 10a.m. to 12noon, Coffee Morning at 5 Park Lane, in aid of Christian Book Fortnight - a good selection of Christian books will be on sale.  
Tufty Club, 2.15 to 3p.m., Wight School.  
PCC, 8p.m., Wight School.



- Wed. 19th St Joseph's Day. Holy Eucharist, 7.30a.m.  
Deanery Lent Service at Ladbroke, 7.45p.m.
- Thurs. 20th Nursery School Parents' Meeting, Village Hall.  
Children's Special Lent Service, 6.30p.m., Church.
- Fri. 21st Scouts' Whist Drive, Village Hall.
- Sat. 22nd Theatre Group Jumble Sale & Auction; see advert.
- Sun. 23rd Fifth Sunday in Lent; Passion Sunday. 8a.m. Holy  
Eucharist, 10a.m. Sung Eucharist, 6.30p.m.  
Evensong.
- Tues. 25th Village Hall Committee, 8p.m. Village Hall.  
Young Wives, 2p.m. Village Hall.  
8p.m. Bible Study.
- Wed. 26th Deanery Lent Service at Napton, 7.45p.m.
- Thurs. 27th Golden Age, 2.30p.m., Village Hall.  
Children's Special Lent Service, 6.30p.m., Church.  
Parish Council, 7.30p.m., Village Hall.
- Sun. 30th Palm Sunday. 8a.m. Palms and Holy Eucharist,  
10a.m. Palms, Procession and Sung  
Eucharist (Scouts and Cub Scouts). 6.30p.m.  
"God So Loved the World" - see details inside.
- Mon. 31st Harbury Society AGM, 8p.m., Crown Inn.

# APRIL

- Tues. 1st Horticultural Society, 8p.m., Wight School.  
Prayer Group, 8p.m.
- Wed. 2nd School, Toddler and Play Groups break up.  
M.U., 2.30p.m., Old Timbers, Ivy Lane.  
Speaker Rev. Michael Freeman.
- Thurs. 3rd Maunday Thursday.  
W.I. 7.45p.m., Village Hall, speaker Mr. Barby  
on "Exploding the Myth of Antiques".
- Fri. 4th Good Friday. Services to be announced.  
7.30p.m. "The Crucifixion" by John Stainer, in  
Church.
- Sat. 5th Scout Group Job Week begins - Scout Car Cleaning  
in Wight School playground.
- Sun. 6th Easter Sunday. 8a.m. Holy Eucharist. 10a.m.  
Sung Eucharist (PCC), 6.30p.m. Evensong.
- Mon. 7th Bank Holiday Monday.
- Tues. 8th NO Prayer Group or Bible Study this week.

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

CRUSADERS, Village Hall, 2.30p.m. every Sunday.

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

UPHOLSTERY CLASS, 2p.m. Wight School every Monday.

GYMNASTICS, Harbury School Hall, 5.30(5 to 8 years), 6.45  
(over 9 years) every Monday.

JOGGING, from Foodmart, 8p.m. every Monday.

BINGO, Village Hall, 8p.m. every Monday.

PLAYGROUP, Wight School, Tuesday to Friday mornings.

TODDLER GROUP, Wight School, Monday a.m. and Wed.  
p.m. (NB, children don't actually have to be  
toddling to be welcome here!)

BROWNIES, Village Hall, 6.15p.m. every Tuesday.

YOUTH CLUB, Village Hall, 7.30 Tuesday, 8p.m. Wednesday.

DANCING CLASSES, Wight School, 6.30-7.45 Tuesdays,  
4-7.15 Wednesdays, 4.45-7.45 Thursdays.

SCOUTS, Scout Hut, 7.45p.m. Tuesday(1st troop), Wed. (2nd)

BABY CLINIC, Village Hall, 2p.m. 2nd & 4th Wednesdays.

WEIGHTAWAY, Wight School, Thursday evenings.

GOLDEN AGE, Village Hall, 2.30p.m. 2nd & 4th Thursdays.

CHOIR PRACTICE, Church, 6.30p.m. every Friday.

ALL DATES CORRECT AT TIME OF GOING TO PRESS.

Dates for inclusion PLEASE to Linda Ridgley, tel. 612792.

For Village Hall bookings, ring Mr. Knight, tel. 613315.

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

### THE VICAR'S LETTER

My dear friends,

What a joyous occasion was the Confirmation and First Communion of our twenty candidates on the morning of Sunday, 17th February! It was a record number of candidates and, I should imagine, a record congregation in Church. It has been a great privilege to help these keen people to prepare for the sacraments. Let us pray that (in the words quoted by Bishop McKie from the Acts of the Apostles), they "may continue steadfastly in the Apostles' teaching and fellowship, and in the breaking of Bread and in prayers".



We are now in the season of Lent. In addition to our regular daily services the two special services are the Deanery Lent Service and Sermon at 7.45p.m. on Wednesdays in a different Church each week, and the "Children's Special" at 6.30p.m. on Thursdays in our own Church. On Mothering Sunday (16th March) at the 10a.m. Parish Family Sung Eucharist, Mothering Sunday cards will as usual be given to the children to give to their mothers. I will leave the announcement of our Holy Week and Easter services until later, except to mention now two musical events - "God So Loved the World" on Palm Sunday, 30th March, at 6.30p.m. and Stainer's "Crucifixion" on Good Friday at 7.30p.m.

As many of you may have noticed, a young chestnut tree has now been planted in the Churchyard, to replace the one which had to be felled.

There has been a remarkable response in the parish to Mr. George Aldhouse's appeal for clothing etc. for the Whitechapel Mission. A letter of thanks from the Mission may be seen on the literature table in Church.

We mourn the loss of Mrs. Doris Mary Johnson, Mr. Frank Crump, Mr. Jack Godfrey and Mrs. Winifred Sneyd, whom we commend to God's loving care. May He comfort those who are bereaved.

With the coming of Summer Time, Sunday Evensong will be at 6.30p.m. (instead of 4p.m.) on and after 16th March.

With every blessing,

Your sincere friend and Vicar,

F. R. Mackley.

#### FUNERAL SERVICES

February 4th, Doris Mary Johnson, Cottage Close, Chesterton Road, aged 84 years.

February 12th (at Chesterton), Frank Howard Crump, 11 Ivy Lane, aged 80 years.

#### CONFIRMATION

February 17th: Malcolm Ian Sedgley, The Emms, Fosse Way. George William Russell, Middle Road Farm. Colin Maddison Hughes, Leamington House, Church Street. Robert Michael Parker, 7 Park Lane. Adrian Richard Thomas, 3 Penelope Close. Martin Robert Thomas, 3 Penelope Close. Timothy Simon Watts, 15 Honiwell Close.

(Mr.) Derrick Wynne Thomas, 3 Manor Orchard. (Mr.) Trevor David Clarke, The Cedars, 11 Constance Drive. (Mr.) Timothy Simon Reeves, Burton Farm, Bishopton, Stratford on Avon. (Mr.) Ralph Anthony Upton, 26 Farley Avenue. Louise Jane Upton, 26 Farley Avenue. Craig Jonathan Simpson, 30 Mill Street. (Mrs.) Kathleen Pett, 30 Mill Street. Deborah Jane Cooke, 2 Knightlow Way. (Mrs.) Jennifer Ann Ingram, 17 Farm Street. Nicola Jane Harper, 20 Dovehouse Lane. Penelope Anne Simcock, 40 Sutcliffe Drive. Allison Clare White, 7 Dickens Road. Caroline Mary Healey, 1 Dickens Road.

#### From the Churchwardens

Faith, hope and charity (or love, depending on which translation of the Bible you use). These words, part of the Epistle for the day on which our Confirmation was held, are among the best known and best loved in the Bible, and they give us much on which to meditate during this season of Lent. Faith in the living Christ is basic to all Christian belief, and we pray that many in our congregation may come to a living, personal faith in Christ during this Lent. Hope is not a wishy-washy vague desire that something might happen - Christian hope is sure and certain. We liked the Vicar's comment in a recent sermon that a Christian without hope is like a racehorse with three legs! True, Christ-like love is a strong and vital thing and, we are told, the greatest of the three. Real love is being shown by those working in the Whitechapel Mission, for whom All Sorts Youth Group has been collecting clothes. It's easy enough to love the lovable, but it requires Christ-like love to love the unlovable. It is hoped to take a small group of All Sorts members to visit the Mission, and we hope that one of them will write for a future edition of the magazine.

We pray for the 20 men, women and young people, pictured opposite with Bishop McKie and the Vicar, who were confirmed so recently. It is up to all members of our Church to draw them fully into the family and fellowship of the Church.

While on the subject of Confirmation, a recent issue of the Church Times quoted from the Anglican Digest. A boy wrote



to his parents from school - "Last week the Bishop came for a Confirmation. I was sitting quite near him, and now I know what a crook looks like."!!

Confirmation Candidates, Harbury, February 1980:



(Photograph by R. Tennant)

### TO BE OR NOT TO BE .....CONFIRMED, THAT IS.

Coming from a West Country Chapel background, the decision to be confirmed as an adult did not come as a sudden revelation, nor from a desire just to 'join the club'. Over the last few years my life with the Church has grown, and with this has come an understanding of community faith, which gives a measure of peace and hope within our troubled times.

The full service must include Holy Communion, as without it there remains a certain emptiness, and the time comes to stand and declare your own faith - "I turn to Christ".

The service on 17th February was delightful, the degree of welcome and love was therefor all to see, and after the ceremony I felt more complete within the Church fellowship.

3. My day was even further enhanced by having my daughter Louise kneel at my side to receive both Confirmation and First Communion.

RALPH UPTON.

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### LADBROKE NEWS

#### Services etc. for March and early April

Sunday 2nd March. Lent II. 8.30a.m. Holy Communion.  
11a.m. Matins.

Wednesday 5th March. 7.45p.m. Deanery Lenten Service at Radford Semele, preacher Rev. P.L. Jackson.

Thursday 6th March. Men's Group at Harbury (1 Vicarage Lane)

Sunday 9th March. Lent III. 11a.m. Holy Communion with Hymns and Sermon. 3.30p.m. Evensong.

Wednesday 12th March. 3p.m. Women's Fellowship in Church, and afterwards at 4 Bridge Lane.

7.45p.m. Deanery Lenten Service at Priors Marston, preacher Rev. S. Tyrrell.

Sunday 16th March. Lent IV. Mothering Sunday. 8.30a.m. Holy Communion. 11a.m. Matins. 3.30p.m. ECUMENICAL MOTHERING DAY SERVICE - posies for children. Preacher The Ven. E. Taylor, Archdeacon of Warwick.

Wednesday 19th March. 7.45p.m. Deanery Lenten Service at LADBROKE. Preacher Canon Churchill.

Sunday 23rd March. Lent V. Passion Sunday. 11a.m. Holy Communion with Hymns and Sermon. NO Evensong.

Wednesday 26th March. 7.45p.m. Deanery Lenten Service at Napton. Preacher Rev. F. R. Mackley.

Sunday 30th March. Lent VI. Palm Sunday. 8.30a.m. Holy Communion. 11a.m. Matins - procession of Palms. Distribution of Palms at both services.

Wednesday 2nd April. 7.45p.m. Deanery Lenten Service of Music at Southam.

Thursday 3rd April. Maundy Thursday. 7.30p.m. Holy Communion.

Friday 4th April. Good Friday. 2p.m. The Holy Hour.

Saturday 5th April. Easter Eve. 2p.m. Church decoration.

Sunday 6th April. Easter Day. 8.30a.m. Holy Communion. 11a.m. Holy Communion with Hymns and Sermon. 6.30 Evensong.



Thursday 10th April, 7.45 Men's Group at Harbury (Wilmcote Lodge).

Easter Flowers: Would all those who wish to give flowers in memory of departed friends or relatives please hand the money to Mrs. Rutherford or myself by 30th March at the latest - before if possible. At the moment it is impossible to say what will be the cost of an arum lily. GRF.

The attendance at the first Deanery Lenten Service was very pleasing and I hope we shall keep it up. If there are difficulties about transport please get in touch with the Churchwardens or with me, and I am sure someone will help. GRF.

Women's Fellowship: We had a full attendance of all members (the only absentee was Canon Fishley!) and a very happy meeting at Hall Farm. Our thanks to Mrs. Winkfield for her hospitality. Our March meeting on 12th will be in Church at 3p.m. for a Communion Service, and afterwards by kind invitation of Mrs. Edwards at 4 Bridge Lane. CH.

Invalids: Good news of Hannah Hughes and Mrs. Darby, both home from hospital.

Welcome to Mr. and Mrs. K. Malcolm who have come to Ladbroke Hall. I propose to renew an acquaintance that began 56 years ago! GRF.

Annual Vestry and Parochial General Meeting - Monday 10th March, at 7.30p.m. in the Village Hall.

W.I. News: next meeting is on 28th February at 7.30p.m. - "Embroidery by Wisewoods". Competition, an edible necklace. Jumble Sale in aid of funds at Southam Community Hall on 26th April at 10a.m. Please put all those spring cleaning discards to a good cause! Mrs. Mary Fell is the main collector. The trip to Windsor - there will be some spare seats on our outing on Sunday 20th April, so if any villagers would care to join us would they be good enough to contact a W.I. Committee member. Price £2 per person.

A Ladbroke Cook Book: Mrs. G. Badman has volunteered to assemble and type recipes from villagers to make a cook book to be sold in aid of our Village Hall. She would be

helped by W.I. members. Ideally, she would like a recipe from every villager, so that this is a truly communal effort. Regional if possible - tried and tested definitely. Let's have your Family's Favourite. I. B.

Village Hall: Eight 2kw. fires are being installed by George Griffin, our tower of electrical strength, so we have warmth at last. Dave Wilson is seldom seen without hammer and nails, and the result is taking form as a kitchen area - cupboards, cooker, boiler, sink, fridge, worktops, the lot. With the warm weather, work has started on the roof, and it is very satisfying to see the gleaming grey overtaking rotten rust - well done. P.W.

Wanted - an old electric kettle in working order.

For Sale - Piano, iron frame upright, £75.

Please contact Secretary, Southam 2860.

The Village Hall Newsletter was circulated to most homes in Ladbrooke recently. The mains sewer is to be laid at a cost of around £1,000. The hall now complies with the Fire Officer's requirements, thanks to the hard work of Messrs. Wilson and Griffin. Two 9 litre water extinguishers and a small powder extinguisher must be fitted. Has anyone old extinguishers that could be reserviced? Well done, Irene and Richard Bennett for the consistent good work you have done in so many ways to help this project - a real community centre.

In order to raise money for the large amounts of wood and plumbing pipes, fittings etc. the Village Hall Committee offer for sale 20 (twenty) Debenture shares for the sum of £20 (twenty pounds) each. The shares are unsecured and interest free. Repayment will be two shares per year over a ten year period, starting 1st November 1980. The shares to be so repaid will be determined by drawing two names from a hat. Please apply in writing to the Chairman of the Village Hall Committee, Peter Williamson. So far only four of the Village Hall £20 Debenture Shares have been sold. Help your village community life to succeed - please support by buying one Debenture, don't leave it to others - you act.

Clubs, Clubs, Clubs - has anyone ideas for social meetings? The aim would be to keep the village hall in constant use -



Bridge, Chess, Keep Fit, Creche, Music, Gardening etc.  
Please anyone willing to organise an activity, contact any  
Committee member. PSF.

A message from George Griffin - at the moment there are only  
4 or 5 real doers. We need a plumber, carpenter and D-I-Y  
helpers. Also other retired villagers with a little more time  
available could make such a difference to the workload.

Ladbroke's Newshound - I am Pat Flower who, since the  
re-forming of the W.I. around seven years ago, has been  
spreading the Ladbroke word. Hurrah - my neighbour, Miff  
Warr, is prepared to carry on with the job. Please give her  
all support possible by VOLUNTEERING NEWS ITEMS  
whenever village events take place, also let her know of future  
events. Corporate co-operation can make such a difference.  
I would like to thank Irene Bennett for her sterling help with  
W.I., Parish Council and Village Hall news. Ladbroke is a  
superb little village. Thank you, Rector, for being such an  
ally, making certain we meet those editorial dates. Thus all  
April news to Mrs. M. Warr, Whiteways, Bridge Lane,  
Ladbroke - tel. Southam 3600. PSF.

Ladbroke Parish Council - At the February meeting, all  
councillors and the clerk were present. Items discussed  
were Fluoridation - it is not Government policy to enforce  
fluoridation, but up to the local County and District Councils.  
Dangerous Trees - the County Tree Man is to be asked to  
look at trees in the Spinney. Street Light - repaired.  
Budget - The Council looked at all possible ways of making  
economies and with great reluctance have had to put parish  
rate up to 1.2p in the £. By-Pass - Compulsory Purchase  
Orders in the Autumn. Parish Elections - will the village hall  
be used, and when? Best Kept Village - we are entering.  
Next meeting - Wednesday 5th March at 7.30p.m. I.B.

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Definition of Experience - the knowledge that enables you to  
recognise a mistake when you make it for the second time.

## HARBURY SCHOOL

On Wednesday 9th January a large and enthusiastic group of Lower Middle School children were whisked off to Coventry's Belgrade Theatre to see this year's pantomime, "Babes in the Wood". As always the children were a credit to their parents, the school and the village with their sensible behaviour and very vociferous participation in the entertainment. And what entertainment! The Belgrade can always be depended upon to provide a traditional pantomime with a strong storyline and beautiful costumes and scenery. This year was no exception and had the very big advantage of Mr. Billy Dainty as Nurse Molly Coddle. A tireless worker, he provided children, staff and helping Mums with much amusement, and kept the whole afternoon together. Of all the Belgrade pantomimes that Harbury children have seen, this must be one of - if not the - best.

M.T.

Harbury School has had a busy half-term sportswise. The formation of a Badminton Club for the 4th years was a welcome newcomer to after-school activities.

The under-13 football team lost to Telford, and the under-12s lost 3-1 to Warwick All Saints in the Central Area Cup, and were unlucky to only achieve a draw at Whitnash Middle School. The school also entered an under 12s team in a 6-a-side tournament where the boys put up a spirited display but just failed to qualify from their group.

David Andrews represented Central Warwickshire in the Area Team three times, and went 'on tour' to London with the team during the half-term break.

Mini-Rugby got off to a successful start with a 3rd/4th year team beating a strong Telford side 10pts to 6pts.

The Cross-Country teams completed their final league meeting with the Girls' team finishing a creditable 12th and the boys' team 15th from eighteen schools taking part. In the Central Area Championships, Sharon Andrews achieved the highest Harbury placing of 22nd - this was in a race of almost 200 participants.

Fifty children from the school took part in a sponsored Disco Dance, dancing non-stop for one hour to raise funds for a set of school Rugby Shirts and Athletic singlets. Whereas I don't



think John Travolta and Olivia Newton-John have cause to worry, my congratulations to all those who completed the dancing, especially Mrs. Wallington and Miss Nurser who displayed a remarkable amount of style if not exhuberance as the staff representatives. IAN STUART.

The School Wildlife Club has now been in existence for about six months, and attracts on average about 40 children every Tuesday evening. The members are all keen conservationists with a real concern for their environment. Apart from the usual 'animal games', film strips, etc., we have recently had two interesting speakers, Mr. Alan Barr and Mrs. Gloria Stanbridge.

Mr. Barr spoke to the children on the subject of bird-watching, illustrated by some slides. The children were told how to go about bird-watching, what to wear, what to take with them and how to identify each breed. To ensure that their enthusiasm continued, Mr. Barr has kindly provided prizes for a bird picture competition which he will be judging after half-term. Mrs. Stanbridge, of the Warwickshire Nature Conservation Trust, spoke on the subject of conservation in general, and ways in which the children could be involved. They saw slides of Trust areas where rare wildflowers and birds are to be found, as well as views of polluted countryside.

My thanks to both of these speakers for giving up their time to speak to the children, and hopefully encouraging them to continue their interest in conservation and in their environment generally.

NIGEL CHAPMAN, aged 21.

(who's he trying to kid!!)

On Thursday, 14th February, Class 8 went to Leamington Fire Station. The team of firemen were called the Red Watch. There should be 16 firemen per watch. They are not all there because some are on holiday or some are ill. There are 60 firemen at the Fire Station. The man in charge of Red Watch is Fire Officer Holder. They all belong to the Warwickshire Fire Brigade. In the fire station there are 4 poles. Poles are quicker than stairs so if there's a fire they can quickly slide down. The man who showed us around showed us all the fire engines they had. One was not there because it had gone

to a school to talk to the children about fires. First he showed us the fire engine called a Water Tender. It held 400 gallons of water. It has a 35 foot ladder on the top. There were 8x 75ft. hoses, and two cans of foam. All this stuff is in the back of the engine. You lift a door and it's there all stacked away. There is also a portable pump and there is a siren on the top of the engine. There were two axes. One was in a case with a belt which you wear. Then he showed us the Water Tender Ladder. It had the same equipment but it had a 45 ft. ladder and extra breathing apparatus, and it had flood-lights. Then we saw the Hydraulic Platform. It is also called the Simon Snorkel. The people who made it are called Simon Snorkel. It has a little cage that a man goes up in. Two men can fit but one man usually goes up. The cage can go up 85ft. high to buildings. There is a chance that the engine will fall over, so on the side of the engine there are some boards called Jacks to steady the engine. Then we went to see the Rescue Tender. It held 100 gallons of foam. It had a tool which bent iron bars back. They are called alligator jaws. Then we saw a Donald Duck film about a fire plan.

LORRAINE ANDREWS, Class 8.

#### HARBURY SCHOOL P.T.A.

There have been two very enjoyable recent events. Firstly, those who attended the origami evening had fun, trying to keep up with Mrs. Diggins as she nimbly folded rabbits, chickens, birds, flowers etc! Secondly, an interesting day at Hendon RAF Museum enlightened two coach loads. Thanks are due to Mr. Oliver for organising the trip.

The next event is the Cheese and Wine Disco on 15th March, with dancing to KC Disco. Tickets should soon be on sale from committee members or the school.

If any family would like to be a member of the PTA, they can become so by purchasing a programme, costing 20p, from John Lapraik, 11 Wagstaffe Close, 612814. Finally, don't forget the committee are always willing to receive ideas for extra and/or future meetings or outings.

R.G.O.



## SOUTHAM SCHOOL EVENTS

Sponsored Dance - this raised £100 for the Blue Peter Appeal, and the remaining balance of approx. £100 is to be sent to UNESCO.

Rotary Debating Competition - Mark Ellis and Alastair Sansome-Smith are through to the semi-finals. Their recent victory was against Radcliffe School, Milton Keynes, when they opposed the motion "This house believes that the government should give priority to research into nuclear energy for industrial and domestic purposes."

Midland Youth Orchestra - Alastair Sansome-Smith has recently had a successful audition at Aston University for a place in the Midland Youth Orchestra.

Rugby Crime Prevention Quiz - The first round of the Rugby Crime Prevention Quiz was held at the beginning of February at Bishop Wulstan School, Rugby. The Southam School team succeeded in winning through to the next round, and from there on to the final to be held shortly in Rugby and chaired by Shaw Taylor of ATV Police Five. Good luck to the team, which consists of Christine Bates, Catherine Gardiner, Helen Wilks and Ian Harier.

School Play - This year the School is performing 'Noah' by Andre Obey. Two performances are to be held, on Thursday 13th and Friday 14th March. A great deal of time and effort have been put into the production by Mrs. Doubleday and pupils of the School. Your support would be very much appreciated. Further details from the School.

## FIRST HARBURY SCOUT GROUP

First Bishops Itchington Scouts challenged us to a soccer match played at Bishops Itchington on Sunday 24th February. Harbury won 3-1, with goals by David Andrews (2) and David Wright.

Congratulations to the following scouts on the award of badges: Keith Barr (Scout Standard and Skier), Piers Metrick (Artist), George Russell (Electronics), Jonathan Walters (Scout Badge), Martin Bunting (Scout Badge). Congratulations also to Andrew Winter who has passed his Radio Amateur's Exam, and is now allowed to transmit. Our thanks to Vic Peake for his continued help in this sphere.

On Shrove Tuesday both troops combined to race for the Frying Pan trophy. Some extremely leathery 'racing pancake' were produced, and eventually Owls beat last year's winners Eagles in the final.

Birthday cards are for sale. Contact Pat Taylor, 9 Heber Drive (613335) for a catalogue. Profits are for group funds.

On 15th March we are taking part in an Inter-H.Q. hike. This is being organised by 2nd Warwick Scouts. This will involve hiking to another troop's H.Q. and camping there or sleeping on their floor.

J.L.H.

### SCOUT JOB WEEK - 5th to 12th APRIL 1980

As last year, we shall establish Job Centres, rather than knocking on doors uninvited. In this magazine is a "Job Form". If you have a job for a Cub, Scout or Venture Scout to do during Job Week, please complete the form and drop it in the collection box in the Post Office, or deliver to one of these addresses:

38 Manor Orchard	Ivy Cottage, Ivy Lane
9 Church Street	41 South Parade
31 Manor Orchard	21 Mill Street
3 Wagstaffe Close	1 Wagstaffe Close
3 Neales Close	38 Binswood End
10 Farley Avenue.	

Alternatively, you may telephone jobs to one of following numbers - 613261, 612931, 612073, 612273, 612356, 612583, 613270, 612529, 612860, 612843.

Whichever means of communication you choose, please let us have your requirements by 31st March so that we can sort and allocate jobs before Job Week starts.

Special events during Job Week will include Shoe Polishing by the Cubs in the Village Shopping Centre on Saturday 5th and Saturday 12th April, and Car Cleaning by the Scouts in the Wight School Car Park on the same days. The Venture Scouts will be helping to keep Harbury tidy by collecting scrap metal and used engine oil for recycling. They will be available to receive anything in this line that you wish to dispose of at the Scout Hut, again on 5th and 12th April. Alternatively, a phone call to Bob Wilkins on 612583 will have them hastening to your door to collect. We look forward to getting among your jobs, and thank you in anticipation for your support.

G. GOODCHILD, Group Scout Leader.



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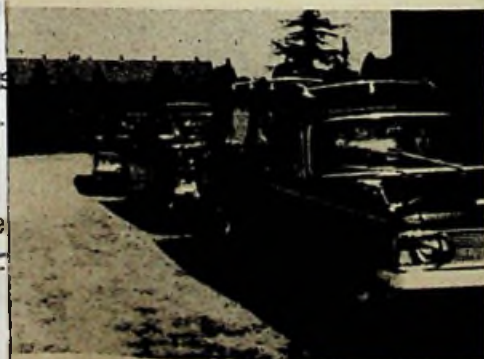
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### YOUTH CLUB

We had a very successful trip to Solihull Ice Rink, with 61 members and friends taking part. We intend to make another visit in the near future.

On 11th March there will be no Coffee Bar Club, but instead a trip to Coventry Baths, when all members will be welcome. We have two Wednesday discos this month, 5th and 19th, both from 8-10p.m., with admission 30p. Also, due to the big demand for a Friday disco, we hope to have one in April. JT.

### PROPOSED HARBURY TENNIS CLUB

There has been considerable interest in the idea of forming a tennis club in the village. The club would provide the opportunity for regular play at reasonable cost for players of all standards, and as a by-product would guarantee income to the Parish Council to help with the maintenance of the courts. The details have yet to be finalised, but the Parish Council have agreed that if a club were formed it could have the exclusive use of the courts on two evenings a week, plus two weekend sessions. As the next step, an informal meeting of all those interested in joining a club has been arranged for 12th March at 8p.m. in the Crown. If you're a tennis player (of whatever standard including beginners) please come along - at the very least it's a good excuse for a pint!

If you would like further information, please contact Sid Newman, 612839, or D. Parkin, 612451.

### RECREATION GROUND ADVISORY COMMITTEE — TENNIS

Would all adult players kindly note that the charge for using the TENNIS COURTS is 30p per hour, payable at the Newsagents. There was a drop in revenue last year, although the courts were in fairly constant use. COURTS MAY BE BOOKED in advance at the Newsagents, or via Mr. B. Hannay, 7 South Parade, tel. 612974. K. HUGHES, Hon. Sec.

### BADMINTON CLUB

We are now nearing the end of the season - time for another progress report! Our 1st team, which plays in Div. 3 of the Leamington League, is doing well and may even get promotion with luck. The second team has had mixed results in Div. 4 so far, but should manage to stay in this division next season.

3. The Men's and Ladies' team was promoted to Div. 1 at the start of the season. They have continued to play fairly well and should stay up in Div. 1 next season.

Every year the club also enters for the Roy Knox Trophy, which is a knock-out competition for clubs in the Leamington area. We have now reached the semi-finals, so all fingers crossed for 11th March, when we know whether we will be in the final, to be played later on in March. A. TASKER, Sec.

### CROSS-COUNTRY SUCCESS

David Wright, aged 12 years, of 9 Manor Orchard, ran for Kineton High School along with 22 other Kineton 1st year boys in the South Warks. Minors Cross Country Championships, held at Kineton on 16th February. From a field of 80 from all over South Warks. he was placed 3rd, covering the  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles through streams, over fences and across muddy ploughed fields in 9mins. 43secs. This means he will almost certainly represent South Warks. in the County Inter Area Championships at Coleshill on 8th March.

His efforts are the reward for many hours of lonely running through the winter months on the roads around Harbury.

### HARBURY ALBION FOOTBALL CLUB

"Nothing breeds success like success", the saying goes, and certainly this adage seems to be true for Harbury Albion, whose 1st team have taken 5 points from the last 3 games. They entered February in a successful vein, and only the first match of the month v. Lillington resulted in a defeat (8-2), with Alistair Peebles scoring the two home goals. The subsequent results show the team's encouraging return to form: WON v. Midland Rovers 6-1 (scorers M. Perry, 2, G. Bryers, 1, T. Sheasby, 1, J. Sheasby, 1) DREW v Warks. Police 3-3 (scorers T. Sheasby 1, C. Sheasby 1, K. Bloxham 1). WON v Stockton 2-0 (scorers M. Perry 1 and T. Betts 1).

The Reserve team started the month in high scoring form when they beat Offchurch Reserves 9-2 (scorers M. Perry 5, G. Lowe 1, I. Lowe 1, and N. Humphreys 1), but the remaining matches against strong opposition resulted in defeats against Khalsa 0-4 and Kestrel 0-1.

A pleasing sign of the Club's improvement is the return signings of villagers Colin Sheasby, Martin Perry, Andy Hopkins and



George Bryers, who have contributed significantly to Albion's success, as the scoringsheet indicates.

The Club offered their grateful thanks to John Mann during their last Sunday session with him in the Old New Inn, and presented him with a radio alarm clock. "Manny's" has been our unofficial HQ since we entered the Leamington Sunday League ten years ago. The team selections are posted on the notice board weekly (as well as outside the newsagents), and the Club tote, run successfully every Sunday by Bill Stevens and Drew Bloxham, announces successful winners during the lunchtime session. "Manny" may have gone, but he will not be forgotten by the legion of Club members who have passed over his threshold to argue the merits of a game over a welcome pint. CF.

### THEATRE GROUP

The popular Daphne du Maurier drama, "Rebecca" provides a pleasing contrast to the pantomime. The play, adapted by the author from her own novel, was first staged in 1940. Forty years on it has not lost its grip or excitement. "Rebecca" will be staged on the 17th, 18th and 19th of April.

The Theatre Group AGM will be held on Friday, 25th April, at 8p.m. at the Wight School.

A jumble sale, in aid of technical improvements, will be held on Saturday 22nd March. See advert for details.

Nick Watson, from Deppers Bridge, is a relatively new member of the group, with experience of acting and producing. He writes below of an attractive idea for young people aged 9-16.

JNS.

### YOUTH THEATRE WORKSHOP

"I want to go on the stage, Mum." Well, now you can. The Theatre Group is running a series of theatre workshops on Saturday afternoons during the spring. We are looking for children and teenagers up to 16 years who want to find out about theatre, and have a lot of fun in the process. We have put together a varied programme which will cover everything from mime, make-up and movement to actually putting on a play. If you are interested, we shall be holding a get-together at the Wight School at 6.30p.m. on Monday, 10th March, and would like to see you. If you cannot make it, please ring Beryl Checkley, 612519, or Nick Watson, 613242.

### HARBURY SOCIETY

Since the phenomenal success of our Folk Evening, we have not been resting on our laurels! We have arranged for two excellent speakers to address the Society in the near future (details below), and we have been involved with the Parish Council in attempts to make the Well in Crown Street (Pump Street) safe. No decision has yet been made on whether the Pump should be replaced, and if so whether by a replica. Members of the Society might like to come and give their views on this at our Annual General Meeting on 31st March at 8p.m. at the Crown. As always, we are looking for new Committee members, and hope for good support.

The AGM is a duty - so next, news of pleasurable events. On Wednesday 12th March at 8p.m. in the School Hall we have secured the services of James Pickering who will talk on Aerial Photography - its role in interpreting the past. This promises to be a fascinating lecture, with many slides, and everyone is most welcome to attend. Entry is FREE!

On Tuesday 22nd April, at 8p.m. in the Crown Inn, Mr. Lyndon Cave of the Council for the Preservation of Rural England will talk about the work of the Council and about conservation in general. This should also be an interesting talk in pleasant surroundings, so once again may I urge you to join us. L.R.

### HARBURY SPOILBANK NATURE RESERVE

This is one of 13 reserves managed by Warks. Nature Conservation Trust (WARNACT). It is a small reserve of only 6 acres, situated about half a mile from Harbury between the Deppers Bridge road and the railway line. It was formed when the railway was dug in the 1850s, and the waste spoil material - a lias clay - was tipped alongside the line. Plants slowly colonised the bare clay, eventually forming a community of locally rare chalk-grassland plants, with a large number of associated insects, including many butterflies. Hawthorn soon became established and spread over much of the reserve, forming a roost for overwintering birds, particularly redwing and fieldfare. Left on its own this hawthorn will spread over the entire area shading out most other species, and decreasing the conservation value of the reserve.

The local reserve management committee has therefore begun to take positive steps to manage the vegetation. With



the help of volunteers from the Conservation Corps we have cut a path through the hawthorn, which enables an accurate check to be made on the animals and plants living under it. We have also opened up small clearings in the scrub and widened other paths. These paths form a walk around the reserve (a little steep and slippery in places) and although access is not limited in any way, visitors are asked to respect the fact that it is a nature reserve. A leaflet giving details of the site is available from the Warnock Office in Northgate Street, Warwick.

Despite the work done, we don't have accurate records for a number of groups of animals and plants, and we also need information about how the vegetation is changing with time. If you are interested in helping in any way with this recording and monitoring work (you don't have to be an expert - we can provide assistance!), please get in touch with one of the committee, Charles Catt, Den Cooper, Roger Smith, Ron Stanbridge, or myself - ANDY TASKER, Binswood Croft, Binswood End, tel. 613273.

#### W.I.

At February's meeting Mrs. Thompson reported that the dance had been a huge success, and thanked all involved, especially Mrs. P. Middleton, Mr. G. Harridence and Mr. K. Thompson. She announced various activities and dates for 1980, and said that Mrs. G. Carter has been busy arranging outings for us, including one to Broughton Castle on 23rd Aug.

Our speaker was Mr. Lee, who gave a very interesting talk on wine making. Prior to 1939 little was heard of the subject, but since 1953 there has been a revival and there are wine circles in nearly every community. At competitive level homemade wines are superior to many shop wines. Once one has purchased the containers and utensils, wine is simple and inexpensive to make, the No. 1 rule being the importance of sterilising all equipment. Mr. Lee gave a simple recipe for a flower wine which would be ready to drink six months from the making date, and after some very nice samples of homemade wine and refreshments we happily wended our way home!

JEANNE BEAUMONT.

### HARBURY FRIENDS

At our February meeting Mr. Stobo gave us a fascinating talk on his interest in Staffordshire figures.

On 11th March we are holding our AGM (always kept very brief!), followed by a Beetle Drive, which always proves fun.

For the benefit of newcomers to the village, Harbury Friends is, as the name implies, a friendly organisation for the ladies of the village, meeting on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 8p.m. in the school. We have interesting speakers, occasional outings and a treasure hunt in July.

New members are always welcome, so why not come along - it's a good way to make new friends and have a chat over a cup of coffee.

### BLOOD DONORS

At the visit of the blood collecting team to Harbury recently, 150 donors came forward, of whom 143 were able to give blood - a record attendance! The Transfusion Service is deeply indebted to everyone for this wonderful support and co-operation - both to those who gave blood and the voluntary people who so kindly assisted.

More blood is always needed to help people suffering from illness or accident - if you are not a donor already, PLEASE consider becoming one. I will be very happy to give you more information. BARBARA FARLEY, Manor Stable. 612166.

### HARBURY CARNIVAL

Plans are progressing well for this year's Carnival. Events arranged so far for Carnival Week include a Rugby Club Barbecue, Sports Day, Bingo, a W.I. evening, and a Disco. Many of you will by now have received a form asking for help with the stalls and sideshows. If you can offer to run a stall please fill in the form and return it to either Dennis Andrews or Midge Keen. Midge has now taken over the organisation of the stalls and sideshows, and will be pleased to offer help and advice to prospective stallholders.

The Annual Carnival Queen Competition will be held on Wed. 30th April, during the Youth Club meeting. Mrs. Taylor has the details, and all local girls are invited to take part. £10 is the first prize, and £5 for each of the two runners up. A plea to all village organisations - the Carnival Queen is



chosen to represent the village throughout the year. If you have a raffle to be drawn, event to be opened, or a pile of money to be knocked down, why not ask the Carnival Queen to do the honours? Thank you. CARNIVAL COMMITTEE.  
(Bing Bingham, Bruce Hannay, Sue Andrews, Keith Thompson, Ted Coupe, Tim Percival, Jean Cox, Bill Allan, Gill Gurden, Midge Keen).

### WHAT'S ON ?

Many Londoners are said to believe that culture ends at Potters Bar, but in fact even Mid-Warks. offers a wide range of live theatre, concerts and light entertainment.

Warwick University Arts Centre opened in 1974, and comprises a 573 seat theatre, a studio theatre, a conference hall, a music centre and a large foyer in regular use for exhibitions. It is not generally realised that all performances are open to the general public, and that bookings can be made locally at John Gould's bookshops in Leamington and Warwick. This month's programme includes:

3rd March, at 7.30p.m., London Mozart Players, conductor Harry Blech. Programme includes Symphony No. 46 by Haydn, and Mozart's 29th Symphony Piano Concerto in E.flat.

4th - 8th March, Joint Stock Theatre Company in "An Optimistic Thrust", a new play devised by themselves. Cast includes Julie Covington and David Rintoul (Mr. Darcy in TV's recent 'Pride and Prejudice'.)

11th - 15th March, "Old School Ties", a new comedy in a production by the Cambridge Theatre Company. In addition, there are a wide variety of films, and FREE lunchtime concerts every Thursday at 1.10p.m.

The Spa Centre has a varied programme these days. This month's offerings include:

14th March, 'How does your garden grow', an illustrated lecture by Percy Thrower.

17th - 22nd March, 'The Arcadians', an Edwardian Musical presented by the Leamington and Warwick Operatic Society.

We have in this area a number of excellent amateur theatres. A highlight this month should be the Kenilworth based Talisman

Theatre's production of D. H. Lawrence's "The Daughter-in-Law". It's on from 10th to 15th March.

Finally, two rather different concerts. On 15th March, the University of Warwick Chorus and Orchestra, The London Chorale, and Coventry Phoenix Male Voice Choir, at All Saints Church, Leamington. Programme includes Brahms' Alto Rhapsody and Walton's Belshazzar's Feast. And on 22nd March, there's David Soul at the Coventry Theatre.

### PROFILE - ROGER 'MICK' CHICK



Mick Chick is the Warwickshire County Emergency Plans Officer - a job which he enjoys and for which he is well qualified, but which produces quips from his friends in the vein - "and what emergency have you been planning today, then?" Luckily, Mick has a tolerant nature! The unusual title of Mick's job caused us to wonder just what it entailed, and what sort of person is needed to fill such a serious sounding position.

The essence of Mick's work is to have plans available and ready to put into immediate operation to deal with a local or national emergency of any type, should the need arise. The Government is currently reviewing the Home Defence aspect of emergency planning, and a ministerial statement is promised in early spring. One of the main items under review is community involvement, including the training of community groups in potential home defence rules.

It is a statutory requirement that each local authority provides an Emergency Plans Officer, and Mick's work is really a practical form of 'insurance' should something nasty happen. The range of problems to which attention must be given stretches, for instance, from an overturned chemical tanker, through freak high winds such as we had on the New Year's Eve of 1975/6 (which came very close to being an emergency situation), to the ultimate horror of a nuclear attack.



Mick was born and brought up in Portland, where he became known as 'Mick', due to a surfeit of Rogers! He recognised that work in the area was limited to the local stone workings, which did not appeal to him, so at the age of 15 he joined the Army. He trained in Harrogate, where he spent 3 years. This turned out to be the longest period he spent anywhere, until he and his wife Lynne, with their two boys, moved to Harbury in 1976. In between, he has been to a large number of places in Europe, N. Africa, the Middle and Far East.

An early indication of Mick's initiative was when he and two army friends decided to return to the UK from Tripoli. They bought a £50 Citroen ID 19, and with £54 between them they made it home to England via Tunis, Sicily, Italy and the St. Bernard Tunnel. At one point, Royal Signals training in Germany did not suit Mick, and some quick manouvering saw him being selected for training as a pilot in the Army Air Corps. Fortunately, a 'Yeoman of Signals' Degree Course in Telecommunications was also offered in the UK, and Mick accepted. He's frightened of heights, and has a fear of air travel!

At this time he and Lynne married, but were soon separated as he had to spend 9 months in the Gulf. Lynne was able to join Mick at his next posting in Hong Kong, where their first son, Carl, was born.

After the Army, Mick joined the Police as a civilian, working in communications. Following this he moved to Birmingham for some months to advise on communications following the Birmingham pub bombings. He then took his present position in 1976, and came to Harbury.

He and Lynne were soon involved in local activities. Lynne has already spent a spell of 3 years on the PTA Committee, whilst Mick is a keen assistant leader with the enormously successful Harbury Scouts. After so many years of moving around they found the friendliness in Harbury most welcome and seem well settled.

It is reassuring to know that someone who cares, and is competent, is responsible for organising things, should an emergency arise. JBM.

#### OLD NEW INN

John and Doreen Mann were given a great send off on Sunday

26.

17th February, when they called 'Time' for the last time. They received many gifts and presentations from the regulars and the organisations connected with the Inn. The Lounge Bar gave a decanter, the Public Bar kitchen equipment, the Dominoes and Crib teams presented a pair of silver goblets, and the Football Club a clock radio. John and Doreen now retire to Oxhill, where they have a cottage next to the Peacock Inn.

The new landlady is Mrs. Mary Hendry, who previously ran the Styvechale Arms in Coventry with her husband. Mr. Hendry died only a week before they were due to take over the Old New Inn, but Mrs. Hendry intends to continue, with the help of her three sons, Michael, Keith and Clifford - and the dog, Skipper.

L. RIDGLEY.

### IN THE GARDEN

March is the first of the three busy months of sowing and planting, but don't be in too much of a hurry. Shallots can be planted with safety, and at the end of the month onion sets, and broad beans. Give a boost to spring cabbage by giving them a sprinkle of Nitra Chalk or Sulphate of Ammonia, about 3in. from the stem. Your Japanese onions can be thinned out if the weather is not frosty, and if you don't wish to transplant them they can be used as Spring Onions in a salad.

Peat blocks have been around for many years, but many gardeners found it difficult to keep them intact for any length of time. Now, with soilless compost, it is reasonably easy if you follow my method. I fill a seed box or tomato box with a peat compost, and then soak this and leave to drain until next day. Then mark the compost into about 2in. blocks, and with a pencil make a small hole and place one seed in the centre of each block. This method has proved quite successful this season, the advantage being that the roots of the plants are not broken and consequently the plant is established at once, a saving of at least two weeks.

W. F. LINES.

### HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

The meeting on 5th February was very well attended, for a talk by Mr. David Walkey on Alpines. Mr. Walkey stood in at short notice for the booked speaker, Mr. Turner of Lighthorne Herbs, who will now be our speaker on 6th May. At the next meeting,



on 4th March, at the Wight School, our speaker will be Mr. Harry Wragg, one of the judges at last year's show, on the subject of plant propagation. It also sees the end of another year, and subscription time!

If you would like to take part in the running of the Society, or have any suggestions for the future, please let me know, preferably before 4th March. TONY BRUNTON, 612191.

### HARBURY CONSERVATIVES AGM

Over 50 people came to our 1980 AGM at the Crown Inn. It was an enthusiastic meeting, which augers well for a successful year ahead. The 1979 committee was congratulated on a marvellous year, which saw the election of a Conservative Government. The branch was warmly thanked by Patrick Doyne, the Area Committee Chairman, for all the election work carried out in the Rugby constituency, which resulted in the gaining of that seat for the party.

The year saw several very successful social events in the village, and more money was raised for the Constituency Association than for many years.

Peter Holt, Ros Wilson and Peter Towell were re-elected Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer respectively, and committee members are Eileen Barnes, Bill and Beryl Griffin, Jean and Peter Halliday, Reg Harris, Gladys Hogben, Rhian Kelsall, Jean Reed, Pam Sperling, Diana Towell, Chris Wilkins, John Hall and Roger Smythe.

The evening concluded with a Ploughman's Supper. PJH.

### BOOK REVIEW: "PRAYERS OF LIFE" by Michel Quoist

I must be honest! I am not a reader of books of prayers, and so when asked to review this book I naturally hesitated, fearing that to enthuse over such a book would be hypocritical. It was not until I settled down to read the various 'prayers' that I realised they were not simply 'prayers' in the old-fashioned sense, they were more a dialogue between man and God. Even that may sound rather too 'holy', but I assure you this book is very down to earth, and so relevant to the times we live in!

As one reads to oneself, and sees the terrific variety of subjects covered, one feels that all the right words are being

put into one's mind, and you almost feel it is you actually expressing the views that are there on the printed page.

It is a book to pick up, read a passage or prayer at any time of the day, and then put down.

Some passages amuse: "Thank you for the water that woke me up, the soap that smells good, the toothpaste that refreshes..." some passages sadden, like the description of the man whose wife had left him - "A presence was lacking, a love was lacking. I missed the bunch of flowers on the mantelpiece, the powder and lipstick on the washbasin, the cloth on the table and the chairs properly arranged....". Some passages are so true - as in "The Funeral" - "People were following; the family, some crying, some pretending to cry; friends, some grieving, some bored or chatting....", and a poignant sentence from a piece entitled "The Telephone" - 'Forgive me, Lord, for we were connected, and now we are cut off'.

If you, like me, are not a regular reader of books of prayers, I do recommend you to try this one - it is very different - I am sure you will be pleased you picked it up!

"Prayers of Life", price £1.20 in paperback, is on sale on the Church Bookstall, and is published by Gill and Macmillan.

### A WEEKEND IN MOSCOW

On Friday, 1st February, I set off from Harbury to realise an ambition of mine - to visit Moscow. Travelling with Lilian Spencer and a party of local people we left Leamington en route for Luton Airport. My first nerve-shattering piece of news was that the flight was to go first to Glasgow to pick up three more passengers, as I am not the world's keenest air traveller, and I dislike take off and landing at the best of times so this was another hazard. However, nothing daunted, we arrived at Glasgow one hour later in a heavy snowstorm - shades of things to come, we thought - and the pilot cheered us up with the news that it was minus 25 degrees and snowing in Moscow.

After a very strict check at Moscow Airport we left for the Hotel Intourist, having put our watches on three hours so it was now 5p.m. The Hotel was right in the heart of Moscow, and we could see Red Square and the Kremlin from our rooms.



We settled in, unpacked and went down to supper for our first taste of Russian food. In all honesty I cannot say that either Lilian or I were hungry during our stay. Bewildered, yes, particularly by the complimentary drinks that were served with the meals, which the first evening I could only describe as Flat Pop - but hungry, certainly not. There was lots of bread and MOUNTAINS of butter, which amused some and annoyed others, but no milk, no vegetables or salads, plenty of meat and good soups which seemed to contain everything. I even had a leaf and olives in one bowlful. On the first evening we settled for a quiet night in the bar, where only hard currency was accepted, and we discussed the trips with the courier.

On Saturday, after a substantial breakfast, we left for a visit to the Kremlin, and although a coach was laid on we could quite easily have walked. We were all wrapped in fur coats, fur hats and boots, but as the coaches and all the buildings are so well heated we were too hot. We checked our hats and coats in the underground cloakroom at the Kremlin, and I was told off for combing my hair, as it is not permitted.

It took us about two hours to tour the Armoury Buildings inside the Kremlin, and the collection of armour, jewels and coachesis magnificent. We saw priceless suits of armour studded with rubies, diamonds and pearls, jewels belonging to the Czars, the collection of Faberge eggs, and the best collection of state coaches in the world.

After lunch we went on a sightseeing tour of the City, and it is a lovely city with some beautiful buildings. We were most impressed with Red Square and St. Basil's Cathedral with its golden domes. In the evening we visited the State Circus, sixteen really top class acts, and speaking as someone who normally loathes the Circus I was entranced.

On Sunday morning it was very cold and frosty, but the sun was shining and we set off the visit the Exhibition of Economic Achievements - sounds boring but it was marvellous - 88 acres dedicated to the achievements of the USSR. We enjoyed the Space Pavilion, with its life-size models of space ships and capsules, some actually used by the astronauts,

and there was an exact model of the space ship used by Yuri Gagarin. In the afternoon we visited Lenin's Museum, but it was so hot inside and we were all tired, we went out for a walk to see the Superstore 'GUM' but it was closed.

On Sunday night we went to see the new version of 'Swan Lake' performed by the Bolshoi Ballet, and this was one of the highlights for me. The dancing and music were perfection - however, only tourists can go. On Monday we were taken to the Metro, the best and without doubt the cleanest and most magnificent station in the world, but we were all struck by the faces of the people. They all look so miserable, nobody smiles, and they certainly don't look very content with their lot. After our visit to the shops later that day we began to understand why. The so-called Superstore 'GUM' was an education - it was like going back 30 or 40 years in time, no choice at all, and all the goods are of a very poor quality. Ladies' tights were £4 and £5 per pair, and you queue up for every purchase - first you decide what you want, queue to pay, and then you queue again to collect your goods. The food was of a very low standard and very expensive, and our Health Inspectors would have had a fit at the hygiene.

We saw young girls with pickaxes trying to break the ice in the gutters, and old ladies sweeping up the snow, and although they are very proud of the fact that everyone is employed, you have little freedom of choice - if you do not have a job you are found work and it could be doing anything at all.

I enjoyed the trip very much indeed, and would not have missed it, but I am even more convinced of how lucky we are to live in a Free Country, and although inflation is rising again, we have so much choice here of food, clothes and entertainment.

I felt it was so unfair that the best ballet company in the world can only perform to tourists, and that the ordinary Russian citizen had no chance at all of a ticket. I hope we will all realise one day that we should count our blessings that we live in Britain. How glad I was to get back to my husband, children and family, and I know everyone on the trip felt the same. It was great to visit, but no thanks, you can keep The System.

DIANE LAWLER.



## HARBURY JUBILEE MOTOR CYCLE CLUB

A very soggy but enjoyable trial was held on Mr. Peel's farm at Ladbroke, on Sunday 24th February, from which Ivor Matthews emerged the winner.

A training afternoon for the youngsters will be held as soon as the ground dries out. John Buck or John Moore will have details. JBM.

### PLACES TO EAT

Why not try the Woodhouse at Princethorpe, for Sunday lunch or an evening out? Bar snacks or full a la carte menu. Reasonably priced, very generous helpings, and a pleasant relaxed atmosphere.

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announces

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FULL DETAILS IN NEXT HARBURY & LADBROKE  
NEWS

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Saturday, 22nd March,  
10.30 a.m.

Harbury Village Hall

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Auction of "Top" items commences 11.30a.m.

Refreshments

Jumble collected March 15th and 16th -

please telephone Tony Knight, 613315.

Palm Sunday, 30th March at 6.30p.m. -

"GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD" - A Passiontide Devotion  
for Congregation and Choir.

Good Friday, 4th April at 7.30p.m. -

"THE CRUCIFIXION" by John Stainer, sung by the  
Windmill Singers. Soloists Ted Richardson  
and Roger Usherwood. Organist Adrian Moore.  
Musical Director Ken Nordon.

WHIST DRIVE - 21st MARCH 1980

The Scout Group is holding a Whist Drive in the Village Hall  
Friday, 21st March, at 7.30 p.m.

All adult whist players are welcome. Entrance 50p.

DO YOU ENJOY TENNIS ?

If so, and the idea of having a village Tennis Club appeals to  
you, come along to the Crown on 12th March at 8 p.m.

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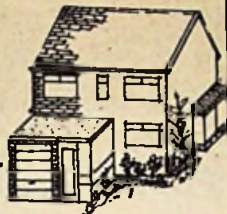
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