



# Harbury & 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 - Rector: Canon Antony Rowe, The Rectory, Vicarage Lane, Harbury. Tel: Harbury 612377

## SUNDAY SERVICES

### HARBURY

Holy Communion - 8.00am, 10.30am (Sung)

Evensong - 6.30pm (Not 1st Sunday)

### LADBROKE

Holy Communion - 9.00am (with Hymns)

Mattins and Communion - 11.00am (3rd Sunday)

Evensong (1st Sunday) - 6.30pm (Summer)

- 3.30pm (Winter)

Please see notice board in Church for weekday services or revised times on special occasions.

## DOCTORS' SURGERY

### HARBURY

Farm Street, Telephone: 612232

Monday - Saturday : 9.00 am - 10.00am

Monday, Tuesday, Friday : 6.00 pm - 7.00 pm

### LADBROKE

### DISTRICT NURSE

Craven Lane, Telephone: Southam 2577

Office Hours : L'ton 881451.

After 5.30 pm : S on Avon 67799

### HEALTH VISITOR

Tel: Southam 7377

### POLICE

Southam Station. Telephone: Southam 2366

### LOCAL CONSTABLE

P.C. T. Percival Telephone : Harbury 612175

### SOUTHAM SOCIAL SERVICES

Telephone: Southam 3110

'THE HARBURY DIRECTORY' containing details of Village organisations and essential information is freely available on request from - Mrs A Moore, 23 Mill Street, Harbury.

**EDITORIAL OFFICE** 23 Mill Street, Harbury. Tel: 612427

**ADVERTISING** 17 Manor Orchard, Harbury. Tel: 612938

The views of contributors are not necessarily those of the Editorial Committee.



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**HAD A  
BUMP?**



The tradition of Community service has a long history in this country, and has continued to develop alongside the welfare state. Harbury people have cause to be grateful for the work of volunteers who help with activities such as meals on wheels and the luncheon club, as well as with numerous youth groups. In another sense we owe thanks to people who give up their spare time to serve on bodies like village hall committees. Harbury village hall is a vital asset in our local community, and a hall is even more significant in a small village like Ladbroke where - very sadly - there is no longer a school. Harbury and Ladbroke News salutes all those people who are willing to serve the Community in this way.

The County Council elections, which take place as we go to press, are a reminder of the debt of gratitude that we owe to all those people who serve on Parish, District and County Councils. Their work is rarely noticed, unless we wish to complain or get into difficulties; but it is an arduous and time consuming task. It was therefore, particularly fitting that Harbury's District Councillor John Drinkwater was given the honour of proposing the vote of thanks to Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother when she visited Stratford last month.

We are glad to hear that Reg Harris is on the mend after an unaccustomed bout of illness. His many friends will be looking forward to seeing him about again soon.

Those who have lived in the village for some time will be sorry to hear of the death of Ken Couchman - our sympathies to his widow Judy and their daughter Carole.



# HARBURY DIARY

MAY 1985

- Sat. 4th Harbury GANG SHOW at Village Hall.
- Sun. 5th EASTER IV 8 am Holy Communion, 10.30 am Sung Eucharist.
- Mon. 6th MAY DAY BANK HOLIDAY Craft Fair in Village Hall 10 am to 5 pm  
 Christian Fellowship 8 pm - 8 The Beeches, 16 Binswood End, 77 Mill St., Corner Cottage, High St.  
 Coffee Morning/Bring & Buy, 14 Sutcliffe Drive 10.30 12 noon in aid of Flower Festival.
- Tues. 7th National Housewives Register Book Group 8 pm
- Thurs 9th Girls Club in Village Hall  
 Golden Age 2.30 in Village Hall  
 W.I. 7.45 pm in Village Hall Resolutions with VCO  
 Parish Study Course at 13 Mill Street, 8.15 pm
- Fri. 10th National Housewives Register Jubilee Celebration  
 Evening at Dog Inn 8 pm  
 Football Club Dinner at the Charlecote Pheasant.
- Sat 11th W.I. PRODUCE SHOW 3 - 4 pm Village Hall.  
 Christian Fellowship 8 pm Corner Cottage, High St.
- Sun. 12th EASTER V ROGATION SUNDAY 8 am Holy Communion, 10.30 am Sung Eucharist, 4 pm Rogationtide Service at Deppers Bridge Recreation Grounds.  
 Free Church Service 2.30 pm
- Mon. 13th SCOUT JOB WEEK starts.
- Tues. 14th ST. MATTHIAS APOSTLE Holy Communion at 7.30 pm  
 Harbury Friends 8 pm at School.
- Wed. 15th Parochial Church Council 8 pm at Wight School.  
 COVENTRY MUMMERS performing outside Gamecock 8.30 pm  
 Dog Inn 9.30 pm.
- Thurs. 16th ASCENSION DAY 9.30 am Harbury School Service, 10.30 am Holy Communion, 8 pm Sung Eucharist.  
 Girls Club in Village Hall.  
 Flower Festival Meeting 8 pm in Wight School.  
 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 7.30 pm in Village Hall.
- Fri. 17th ACTION RESEARCH BRING & BUY 10 am - 12 noon 37 Mill St.  
 Christian Fellowship. Open Meeting Colbourne House, Upton, Rev. John Haynes on 'Body Ministry' 7.45 pm
- Sat. 18th Council for the Disabled SPRING FAYRE, Youth Centre Southam, 10 am.  
 SCOUT CAR WASH & SHOE SHINE, Wight School.  
 P.T.A. Sponsored Walk.



- Sun. 19th THE SUNDAY AFTER ASCENSION 8 am Holy Communion  
10.30 am The Confirmation & Eucharist, Bishop  
Vernon Nicholls. 3 pm The Adventurers Birthday  
Service in Village Hall (NO A.M. MEETING)  
6.30 pm Evensong.  
3 pm. NSPCC Annual Fun Run (see inside for details)  
Harbury Society visit to Bishop Bowl Lakes 11.30a
- Mon. 20th Christian Fellowship 8 pm. The Spiers, Chesterton  
Road. 17 Farm St. Corner Cottage, High St.  
77 Mill St.
- Tues. 21st Senior Citizens Committee 8.30 pm Village Hall.
- Wed. 22nd Flower Festival Meeting 8 pm in Wight School.  
National Housewives Register Theatre visit to  
Stratford.
- Thurs. 23rd Golden Age 2.30 pm in Village Hall  
Girls Club in Village Hall.  
PARISH COUNCIL 7.30 pm in Village Hall.
- Fri. 24th School ends. Playgroup breaks up.
- Sat. 25th All articles for inclusion in June issue to  
Editors BY TODAY PLEASE
- Sun. 26th Christian Fellowship 8 pm (phone 613340 for venue)  
WHITSUNDAY 8 am Holy Communion, 10.30 am Sung  
Eucharist, 6.30 pm Evensong. Adventurers -  
NO MEETING TODAY.
- Mon. 27th WHITMONDAY 9 am Holy Communion, 10 am Parish  
Whitsun Hike.
- Tues. 28th Young Wives 8 pm at The Crown.
- Wed. 29th Carnival Pet Portrait Competition Village Hall  
1.30 - 5 pm.
- Thurs. 30th Whist Drive at Village Hall.
- Fri. 31st THE VISITATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY  
7 am Holy Communion.  
Theatre Group meeting at Wight School 8 pm.

## JUNE

- Sun. 2nd TRINITY SUNDAY 8 am Holy Communion, 10.30 am  
Sung Eucharist.  
Children's CARNIVAL SPORTS at the Playing Fields
- Mon. 3rd Bingo at Village Hall 8 pm
- Tues. 4th Harbury Society Annual MYSTERY TOUR (look for  
posters for clue to Start!)
- Wed. 5th Mothers Union AGM at 25 South Parade.  
CARNIVAL SOAP BOX DERBY  
Scout AGM with Venure Group Slide Show 7.30 pm  
Scout Hut.

- Thurs. 6th Bring & Buy Cake Stall 11 am Village Hall  
 Family Beetle Drive 7 pm Village Hall.  
 Folk Evening at Old New Inn, 8.30 in Lounge Bar.
- Sat. 8th HARBURY ANNUAL CARNIVAL AND FETE  
 CARNIVAL DANCE in Village Hall.

### REGULAR DIARY DATES

FREE CHURCH SERVICE, Harbury Church, 2.30pm

2nd Sunday in the month.

HARBURY ADVENTURERS, Village Hall, 11.30am Sundays.

UPHOLSTERY CLASSES, Wight School, 2-4pm, Mondays.

GYMNASTICS, Harbury School. 6-7pm (under 7s and beginners). 7-8pm(7-10yrs). 8-9pm(over 10yrs) every Monday.

SLIMMING & KEEP FIT, Village Club 7-8.30 and 8.30-10pm, Mondays.

GUIDES, Scout Hut, 7.30pm Mondays

BINGO, Village Hall, 8pm every Monday.

TODDLER GROUP, Wight School, 10 - 11.30 am Mondays, and 2.00-3.30pm Wednesdays.

PLAYGROUP, Wight School, Tuesday to Friday mornings.

NURSERY SCHOOL, Village Hall, Tuesday to Friday a.m.

LUNCHEON CLUB: Village Hall every Tuesday & Friday 12-30 p.m.

DANCING CLASSES, Wight School, 4-7.45pm Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

BROWNIES, Village Hall, every Tuesday evening.

SCOUTS, Scout Hut, 7.45pm every Tuesday.

BADMINTON, Village Hall every Tuesday.

HARBURY FRIENDS, School, 8pm 2nd Tuesday of month.

BABY CLINIC, Village Hall, 2-4pm, 2nd & 4th Weds.

DANCING CLASSES for Children & Adults, Farley Room, Village Hall, 4-9pm Wednesdays.

GIRLS' CLUB, Village Hall, Thursday evenings.

W.I., Village Hall, 2nd Thursdays, 7.45 p.m.

POP-IN, Village Hall, 1.20 - 3.30 every Friday.

CHOIR PRACTICE, Church, 6.30pm every Friday.

DATES FOR INCLUSION IN THE HARBURY DIARY PLEASE TO  
 LINDA RIDGLEY - telephone 612792.

For Village Hall bookings, ring Mr. Picken, 612778.  
 For Wight School bookings, ring Mrs. Windsor, 612504.

## REGULAR WEEKDAY SERVICES IN HARBURY & LADBROKE

Tuesday: 7.30p.m., Holy Communion in Harbury.  
 Wednesday: 10.30a.m. Holy Communion in Ladbroke.  
 Thursday: 9.45a.m. Holy Communion in Harbury.  
 Friday: 7 a.m., Holy Communion in Harbury.

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## FROM HARBURY CHURCHWARDENS

Election of Churchwardens We extend our congratulations to Mr. John Moore, on his being elected Churchwarden, to replace Miss Vivienne Aggett, at the Annual General Meeting. Commiserations too, to Anne, on becoming the Churchwarden's wife!

Our thanks have already been extended to Viv, when at the meeting she was presented with a book token from members of the Church Council. John and Anne already play a prominent part in the running of the Church, being involved in all of the major events, together with Anne training the Choir.

The position of Churchwarden is the highest office a layman can hold in the Church, carrying with it legal responsibility for the Church Fabric and Plate, and in representation to the Bishop of the affairs of the Parish. The Churchwardens will be sworn in at the Archdeacon's Visitation, to be held at Upton on May 20th.

We look forward to a further period of growth and activity, when the recent Stewardship Mission, in which John and Anne took a leading part, begins to bear fruit.

The remainder of the AGM concerned the election of the new Parochial Church Council, reports from the representatives of Church officers and the Rector's remarks.

The new PCC comprises:- V. Aggett, P. Clarke (Sec)  
 R. Dodds, R. Harris, B. Harrison, A. Hughes, L. Hayes  
 S. Keir (M.U.) J. Lodge, A. Moore (Choir) M. Rigden,  
 (Flowers) J. Smith, T. Smith, W. Stubbs, D. Thomas,  
 N. Thomas, P. Towell (Mens Group) M. Waterman (Elec-  
 toral Roll) J. Windsor.



Treasurer Ken Clarke reminded us that we had never paid our Diocesan Quota for the last 3 years but following the Stewardship Mission we should be in a much stronger position from next year onwards. It was hoped that some or all of the underpayments could be cleared.

The Rector thanked all who helped to run the Church's affairs and was pleased that Sunday morning services were well attended but regretted the low attendance at Evensong and mid week services other than Thursdays. He hoped that a full scale Mission would be mounted in the future.

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The Windmill Singers' production of Stainer's Crucifixion on Good Friday, with Bryan Harrison and Clive Watts taking the solo parts, was both moving and enjoyable, and we thank them all.

The new Altar Kneeler was dedicated on Easter Sunday and very fine it looks too. We are most grateful to the Mothers Union for their efforts and skills.

On Tuesday 7th May the Rector invites the Stewardship Mission Hostesses and Visitors to a gathering in the Rectory. It would be nice if everyone who is able were to attend the 7.30 pm Eucharist first.

Finally, as the new Churchwarden may I pay my own tribute to the work that Viv Aggett has done in the Parish. I cannot hope to emulate her - I am only glad that she will continue taking an active part in our Parish. I will however, do everything I can to justify the trust which has been placed in me.

### HARBURY ADVENTURERS

We are celebrating our 5th birthday on Sunday 19th May at 3 p.m. in the Village Hall with a service, followed by a party and a birthday tea for the Adventurers. We hope all parents and friends will join us for the service. TWO NEW LEADERS are urgently required from September. If anyone has an hour to spare on Sunday mornings, please contact Shirley Keir, 25 South Parade 612794.



## FREE CHURCH SERVICE

The Free Church Service offers the opportunity for people of all denominations to worship together. It is a Family Service, has a children's address and lasts for less than an hour.

We hope to have a short meeting after the service on May 12th. We shall discuss the future of the services and would appreciate your comments and prayers. The preacher on May 12th will be Bob Telford from Saltisford Evangelical Church.

Please join us. S. Jackson.

## FROM THE RECTOR

Most people have their favourite hymns, which they enjoy singing over and over again, and I must admit that there are hymns of which I am particularly fond. However they are not restricted to a few and my list of favourite hymns varies considerably. I like many of the traditional seasonal ones, some of the loud hearty joyful ones and some of the quieter, more meditative, ones. If I was asked which hymns on record I would take with me to a desert island I should find it difficult to make my choice, but then I could always ask for a good hymn book and sing the ones not on record for myself. I could then sing them as I prefer them to be sung and disturb no one in the process.

There is one particular hymn, though, which always delights me and that is 'Veni, Creator Spiritus', 'Come Creator Spirit', but it must be sung to the plainsong tune 'Mechlin Melody'. This hymn to the Holy Ghost probably dates back to the 9th Century but the version most preferred in the Anglican Church is Bishop John Cosin's, who became Bishop of Durham at the Restoration in 1660. It was contained in the Book of Common Prayer in 1662, at the Ordination of a Priest and the Consecration of a Bishop, and in 1980, when the Alternative Service Book was published it retained its place of honour, as before, at Ordination Services.

0.  
Naturally the hymn is to be found in the section of hymn books containing the hymns for Whitsuntide and almost invariably it is used at Confirmations. This month we celebrate the great festival of Whitsun, on Sunday 26th May and on the previous Sunday, the 19th May, the Confirmation is to be held. Of course the 'Veni, Creator Spiritus' is not only a hymn but a prayer which we would do well to use frequently, not only on special occasions.

'Thy blessed unction from above  
Is comfort, life and fire of love;  
Enable with perpetual light  
The dullness of our blinded sight'

Before the gift of the Holy Spirit was given, the disciples were weak, timid and afraid, but once the Spirit descended upon them they became bold, courageous and purposeful. Just as those early followers of Jesus needed God's grace, so do we in this present generation. We need the fire of God's love to warm our hearts, we need his strength and light to make us really alive and able to make our way through the complexity and perplexity of the world in which we live today.

The Sacrament of Confirmation is to be administered by Bishop Vernon Nicholls, formally Bishop of Sodor and Man and now one of the Assistant Bishops in this Diocese. Years ago he was offered the living of Harbury but before he had a chance to consider the possibility he was appointed elsewhere. Naturally in the circumstances he is looking forward very much to his visit.

I hope you will support the candidates for Confirmation very strongly with your prayers and your presence on the day and I hope you will be there too on Whitsunday. Perhaps you might like to look up the hymn I have mentioned and use it as a prayer, first for the candidates and secondly for yourself.

ANTONY ROWE

### The Years Mind

In many churches the names of those who have died are remembered in the prayers in church on or about the date of their death. At Harbury we are in the process



of compiling such a record of names, to be used as the dates occur. A list is now on the table in church on which parishioners are asked to write down any of their relatives or friends they wish remembered in this way. At Ladbroke such a list is already in existence, but if there are any other names, which people would like to add, please give the information to the Rector.

It is usual, on the day, when a name is to be remembered for relatives and friends to attend the service.

### HOLY BAPTISM

7th April (at Ladbroke) - Ian Charles - son of John Mark and Patricia May Teverson, The Poultry Farm, Banbury Rd. Ladbroke.

### FUNERALS

12th April (at Ladbroke) - Ronald Sheriff, 26 Ladbroke Rd, Bishops Itchington Age 78 yrs.  
 15th April (at Harbury) - Elizabeth Dickens, formerly of Harbury. Age 94 yrs.  
 25th April (at Ladbroke) - Thomas Henry Orland, 47 Deppers Bridge. Age 93 yrs.

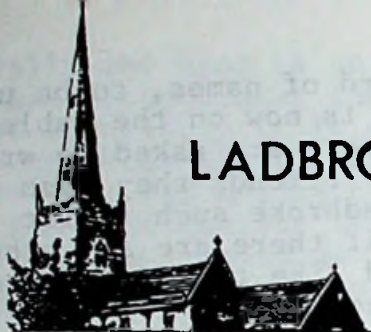
### WHIT MONDAY PARISH HIKE

If there is sufficient interest and support, a hike is to be planned for Whit Monday, 27th May. It would be a hike in the Cotswolds. We should set out to the starting point of the hike in cars at 10 o'clock from church. All you would be required to do is to take a packed lunch, suitable clothing depending on the prevailing weather, good stout footwear and, as it is for all ages being a parish do, to be able to keep up with the Rector.

A list for names of those wishing to take part will be on the table in church from Sunday 5th May.

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# LADBROKE NEWS

## MAY DIARY

Sun.	5th	<u>EASTER IV</u> 9 am Holy Communion with hymns 6.30 pm Evensong. Dedication of the Royal Arms Preacher The Rev. Ronald Murray former Rector of Southam.
Wed.	8th	Women's Fellowship 2.30 pm in Church.
Sun.	12th	<u>EASTER V</u> (Rogation Sunday) 9 am Holy Communion with Hymns 4 pm Open Air Rogationtide Service at Deppers Bridge
Tues.	14th	ANNUAL PARISH MEETING
Wed.	15th	10.30 am Holy Communion W.I. Coffee Morning in Village Hall.
Thurs.	16th	<u>ASCENSION DAY</u> 7.30 pm Holy Communion with Hymns.
Sun.	19th	<u>THE SUNDAY AFTER ASCENSION</u> 9 am Holy Communion with Hymns. 11 am Family Mattins with Simple Communion following
Wed.	22nd	10.30 am Holy Communion
Sun.	26th	<u>WHITSUNDAY</u> 9 am Holy Communion with Hymns 12 noon Holy Communion
Wed	29th	10.30 am Holy Communion

## JUNE

Sun	2nd	<u>TRINITY SUNDAY</u> 9 am Holy Communion with Hymns 6.30 pm Evensong.
Thurs	6th	<u>CORPUS CHRISTI</u> 7.30 pm Holy Communion wit Hymns.

## CHURCH FLOWER ROTA

May 5th Mrs. Timms, May 12th Miss Junod May 19th  
Mrs. Cooke, May 26th and June 2nd Mrs. J. Barnett.



## CHURCH AFFAIRS

Do try to come along to the Special Evensong service at 6.30 pm on Sunday 5th May, when the new Royal Arms will be dedicated as a tribute to Canon Fishley. Refreshments will be provided in the church after the service.

Let's hope the weather stays fine for the Open Air Rogation Service being held in Deppers Bridge Playground on the 12th May at 4 pm. This is a Family Service and the idea is to bring along a picnic tea!

Thank you to all who supported the Coffee Morning on April 18th in aid of Church funds. We made a nett profit of £40. Incidentally, whoever had the white raffle ticket no 66 - I owe them 1 dozen eggs.

Betty Winkfield

## LADBROKE WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

We were very pleased to welcome Mrs. Winnie Miles from St. Faiths Shelter, Coventry, to our meeting in April. She brought with her a young assistant, who had recently joined the management team. They answered questions and told us about the work done at St. Faith's. It started in 1890 and until 6 months ago catered for unmarried mothers. Now there are 2 flats for young families, 2 bed-sits for mothers and babies and a therapeutic unit. This helps girls and young women emotionally disturbed - mainly due to unhappy home lives. St. Faith's relies mainly on voluntary support but does get money from DHSS.

Our next meeting on May 8th will start with a service in church at 2.30 pm. After this we have been invited by Miss Mary Conlan to visit her in her new home in Southam.

We are having the cake stall at the W.I. Coffee Morning on May 15th. Will you please bring cakes, jam etc. on the morning to the Village Hall or let me have them the day before.

Nancy Stubbs

LADBROKE & DEPPERS BRIDGE W.I.

The extended and closely knit families in the African community compared with the small and widely scattered families in the Western civilization was the theme of a very interesting talk by Miss Junod at our March meeting, her intimate knowledge of this topic provided much thought in the audience.

In complete contrast Mrs. Beryl Darkes enthralled us with some really artistic and creative floral arrangements at our April meeting. She managed to assure us that we too could take half a dozen daffodils and a twisted willow branch and produce a work of art. It is hoped that later in the year we can start some flower arranging classes at the Village Hall under the expert guidance of Mrs. Darkes.

On Wednesday May 1st a party of Ladbroke & Deppers Bridge members will join neighbouring W.I.'s for the Group Meeting held this year at Southam.

All Villagers are cordially invited to a Coffee Mornin at the Village Hall on Wednesday May 15th. at 10.30 am A raffle, a white elephant stall, a homemade cake stall and a plant stall are only some of the delights laid out.

The trip to London has been cancelled due to lack of support, but our outing to York on Sunday July 7th will still take place. If you are interested in joining us please ring Mrs. Gould. Southam 4516.

LADBROKE VILLAGE HALL

The observant ones amongst you will have noticed that the south wall has now been renewed and the indigenous population evicted.

It has been encouraging to see a marked rise in booking throughout this last year which helps justify the imminent additional work.

May 14th sees the annual Parish Meeting when half of the present committee are due for election. Fresh faces are always welcome; anybody interested in this rewarding hobby(!) please contact Mike Todman on Southam 4365. The next event is planned in June, watch this space and the notice boards for details!



## LADBROKE PARISH COUNCIL

At the meeting in March, concern was expressed about the rise in crime in our area. There have been cases of petrol syphoning, burglary and even the theft of a trailer full of coal from our local layby! The chairman reported that the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme would be completed in the near future. As the School house in School Lane was about to be sold, it was thought that a new Parish Noticeboard should be erected before the new owners take possession of the site.

There was a lot of discussion about the dangers to motorists from mud left on the roads, and Police Constable Rawlings advised on the legal situation; he was also able to help in the local problem of vehicles parking too close to the junctions of Bridge and School Lanes.

At the April meeting, the Parish Council reported that work on the Bypass was going very well. They were continuing to monitor the heavy lorries who were using School Lane as a regular route to Bishops Itchington and also the poor state of the recent road repairs in the village.

Next meeting Tuesday May 14th at 7 pm to be followed by the Annual Parish Meeting, to which all members of the village are invited, at 8 pm in the Village Hall. This meeting has been held annually in the village since 1896, and every year the minutes have been written down into a special minute book, so providing a complete history of Ladbroke in the 20th Century. For some strange reason, this book is now missing and is quite irreplaceable, is there any chance of whoever has it, returning it (perhaps anonymously on my doorstep!)?

KATE LIVERTON

Congratulations to Mr & Mrs. Tom Hook of Ladbroke Hall, who celebrate their 55th or Emerald Wedding Anniversary later this month. We wish them every continuing happiness.

Finally - after many discussions on our playbus, the mothers of Ladbroke would very much like to have a small play area with play equipment in the village; where they could play safely. We are looking for

offers or suggestions of land, that we could perhaps use. Could anybody please help us. Telephone Kate Todman on Southam 4365, or Helen Colvin on Southam 2248.

### LADBROKE BY-PASS

Work started on this 1.25 mile single carriageway road just before Easter and should be finished in October.

The Department of Transport are paying local contractor, Galliford & Sons, £700,000 to build the road, designed by County Council Engineers.

Despite problems for site staff in the first two weeks - no water, no electricity, no phones and no toilets, - work is now ahead of programme. The culvert taking the stream under the new road is already in place and earthmoving is well advanced, mainly due to surprisingly dry ground conditions, so early in the year. Diversions of water and electricity services too are ahead of schedule.

Ladbroke residents will know that the site offices are behind the village hall. The County Councils Resident Engineer, John Rush, can be contacted there (Tel South 7519) to take up any problems arising from the contract.

More reports on progress later.

REW

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### FIRST HARBURY MIDDLE SCHOOL INTER-HOUSE SWIMMING GALA

On Tuesday 12th March, Harbury School held their first inter-house swimming gala. There were 34 races, ranging from 'Blow the Ping Pong Ball' to the 'Pyjama Race'. Mr. Crawshaw organised the races, and the competitors were all carefully chosen to their abilities. I was nervous before my first race, looking down the pool it looked like the English Channel! After that race my confidence was built up, so on my second race I was a little less nervous. It was the pyjama race, after it had ended some people in my class dived in and collected the pyjamas. Morris always seemed to be just in front, but when it got to the last race they were tying with Watts. It was all up to the fourth years. The pressure was on, Watts put up a good race but Morris won. There was an





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AT  
WEEKENDS**

**DOUG &  
MAVIS POWELL**

**HARBURY 612599**



enormous cheer when Emma Finch and Steven Thompson collected the trophy.

I would like to thank all of the staff and parents who helped. It was altogether a very enjoyable night at the Leamington pool!!

Damien McDonald-class 7

### FIRE AT 'THE DOG'

Since my request for information on the above topic in December, I have come across the following article in the Courier dated 9th July 1887. Thanks are due to many people in the village who were able to give clues as to the date of the fire. Particularly helpful were Mr & Mrs Shields of Whicham Old Rectory in Cumbria who were able to place it within a couple of years.

COURIER - JULY 9th 1887 (FIRE - JULY 4th 1887)

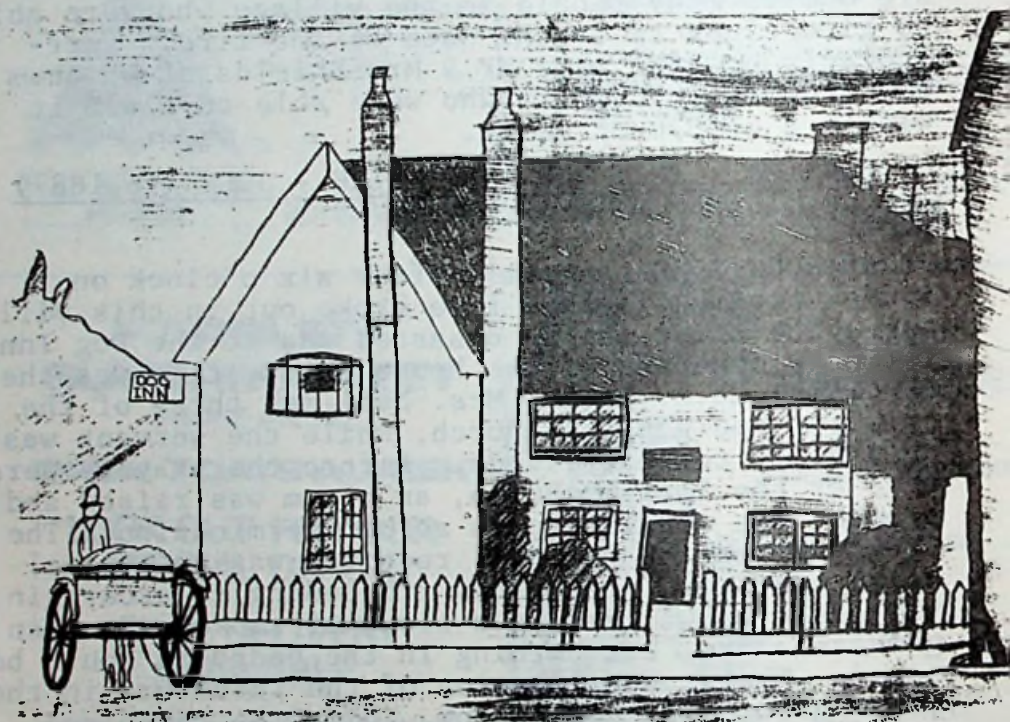
### HARBURY

DISASTROUS FIRE - shortly after six o'clock on Sunday evening last, a fire broke out in this village. The scene of the disaster was at the Dog Inn. The only occupant of the house at the time was the landlord, Mr.R. Neil. Mrs. Neil and three of the children had gone to church, while the servant was on a visit to her friends. Before the prayers were over at the Parish church, an alarm was raised and brought the service to an abrupt termination. The first intimation Mr. Neil received was an unusual noise upstairs, and on his proceeding to ascertain the cause he was met by a cloud of smoke. He then gave an alarm, but nothing in the bedrooms could be saved. The greater portion of the furniture in the sitting room and smoke room, including the piano paintings, tables and chairs was safely removed. In the construction of the house a large quantity of wood was used, and the roof was thatched. It can therefore be easily imagined how, after a month's dry weather, the fire would make rapid progress. A large concourse of people assembled, and no little consternation was felt. The Southam Fire Brigade, under the command of Dr. Holmes (captain), arrived at half-past seven, but most of

the damage was then done. They, however, remained until after one o'clock. The property, which is now a complete wreck, belonged to the Leamington Brewery Company. The damage may be estimated at several hundred pounds, but is covered by insurance. The origin of the fire is unknown.

The accompanying drawing is a copy of the painting which hangs in the present public bar, showing the building in about 1870 when the landlord was a Mr. Berry. This drawing was made by Adrian Taylor of Class 9.

NIGEL CHAPMAN - HARBURY SCHOOL



FOR  
WEDDING DAY PICTURES  
 IN COLOUR

consult Mike Bloxham,  
 Rose Cottage, 21 Mill Street,  
 Harbury



## HARBURY P.T.A.

Advance notice is given for the Bar-B-Cue on 13th July 1985. Preference in the past was given to PTA members on a first come basis. But now the constitution has been altered to the effect that all parents of children at the school are automatically members. This means that tickets will be even scarcer, please book them now and avoid disappointment.

The Sponsored Walk held annually along the tried and tested safety route will be held on May 18th at 9am-12 noon. Walkers will be raising funds for specific equipment to supplement teaching and provide better computing capability.

- NATURAL POOL with advice from WARNACT/WARWICK UNIVERSITY
- a second DISC-DRIVE for the school computer
- a COMPUTER PRINTER to enable hard copy to be taken by the children using the machine.

This is an excellent fund raising event and we appreciate your support.

Jaqui Powell (Tel 612246) is looking for 6 mixed teams (4 ladies + 4 gents) to take part in It's a Knockout on 28th June 1985. Non-competitive fun games in Knockout style will be staged. Pubs, Clubs, Societies, Organisations, ad-hocs etc. from the village should contact Jaqui if interested. There's got to be a winner!

KEN STEPHENSON

## HARBURY CARNIVAL 1985

Yes it's nearly Carnival time again and we are aiming to produce an even bigger and better event. Festivities begin on 29th May with a Family Pet Photo session (see article for details). We have many of the traditional Carnival Week activities but are also trying some new ventures. The Soap Box Derby is one of these. There will be 3 categories of entry, under 12's, 12 to 17 and 18 and over. All events will start from the Crown Inn in Crown St. and will take the form of timed races around parts of the village. For the older entrants we hope to

make it a race around the village Public Houses. The Rules will be simple, 2 people per soap box (one drive and one to push), human push power only.

There will be prizes and certificates for the younger winners. To make the evening a success we need your support. Further details and entry forms from Rob Ralphs on 613813 or any committee member or read the posters around the village.

W.I. are organising the Family Beetle Drive on Thursday 6th June at 7 pm and follow that with a pint with Peter McDonald and the Carnival Folk in the Old New Inn Lounge from 8.30 pm onwards.

Carnival programmes will be on sale soon from Committee members and the Village shops. These admit one adult or two children to the fete, and also contain details of Carnival Week and Carnival Day itself. Please buy some!!



Carival Queen Louise Houghton and attendants Emily Macgowan (on the left) and Karen Mancell.



## CARNIVAL QUEEN

Our congratulations and thanks to all of the lovely entrants. Twelve girls entered this year's competition, which was held during the Carnival Queen Disco on Friday 26th April. The panel of judges had an extremely difficult job selecting a winner. They chose Louise Houghton with Emily Macgowan and Karen Mancell as attendants. Congratulations and our wishes for an enjoyable year. Many thanks to the judges for their help, to Hayley Green the retiring Carnival Queen; and to Mike Bloxham for the photograph.

## CARNIVAL PET PORTRAIT COMPETITION

Wednesday 29th May 1.30pm - 5 pm in the Village Hall  
Bring your pets along for a free sitting courtesy of John Wright photography and you could win a framed portrait of your pet. All photographs will be displayed in the Village Hall on Carnival Day Saturday June 8th and you may then purchase them if you wish. Any queries please ring 612408. HELEN TAYLOR

## SCOUTS

Interested in camping, canoeing, pioneering, hiking and many other activities?? Then why not come to the Scout Hut on Tuesdays. We desperately need your help as scout numbers have risen so much. We will train you, no previous experience necessary. Contact Mike Pallot 613270 for further details.

GANG SHOW This Premier Harbury Gang Show will have been held 3rd & 4th May and thanks to the tireless efforts of 'Bahgeera' (Sue Exton), will no doubt be a resounding success. Many thanks also to Keith Burford for his music, Lin Hayes for backup and for all the support of everyone else, not least to parents, cubs, brownies, scouts guides & venture scouts themselves.

## CAR WASH 50p - Wight School - JOB WEEK

Scout Job week should have been held at Easter but because of the holiday timing have been moved to 13th to 19th May. The highlight of job week will be a 50p Car Wash at the Wight School on Saturday morning 18th May and a shoe shine. Why not have your car cleaned while you shop? M.P.

HARBURY SCOUT GROUP A.G.M.

The A.G.M. will be held at the Scout Hut on Wednesday June 5th 7.30 pm, when the Venture Group will give a slide show of their recent activities.

All parents are invited to attend and the Committee would ask you to come and support the group and also to leaders who give so much of their time so willingly on your behalf. A.M.

1st HARBURY SCOUT TROOP

The Scouts are not dead!! Summer camp is to be held this year from 25th May to 1st June at Welford on Avon. As the camp site is adjacent to the river it was thought prudent to book canoeing lessons. Three dates were fixed the first being on Saturday 20th April. After the beautiful weather on the Thursday and Friday, a great morning was envisaged by all. This image was soon cracked when we set off under grey skies, and completely shattered when the snowstorm arrived. Despite freezing temperatures 17 Scouts and 3 Venture Scouts tackled the waters of Napton Canal under the expert guidance of Mr. Keith Garner of Daventry; and thoroughly enjoyed themselves as well as learning the basics of canoeing. Thank you to Mr. Phil Mayer for his invaluable help and towing hook.

As numbers have risen quite dramatically recently, no more Scouts can be taken at the present time. However we are looking for additional help in order to rectify this as soon as possible.

If anyone has any unwanted articles of Scout Uniform contact me (Joe Van Hoorebeek - Tel 613419) so that we can form some kind of Swap Shop. J.J.V.H (Skip)

HARBURY VENTURE SCOUT UNIT

On Thursday 4th April 13 Venture Scouts and 4 leaders left Harbury at 7 pm for a backpacking holiday in Snowdonia. We arrived at our first camp in Nant Gwynant at around 12.30 a.m. Friday. The tents were erected and everyone had a good night's rest. We awoke the next morning to what we did not want - rain. It poured the whole day. For the walks each day we were split up into 3 groups, a leader taking each one. The leaders alternated each day. Everyone arrived back at camp on Friday soaking wet and very tired after a hard day's walking. The campsite to our dismay (we stayed at the



same campsite Thursday and Friday but moved on on each of the other days) was almost awash so John Hancock managed to hire a bunk house for the night. It was not much but it served its purpose. The following day, Saturday, was better. We walked up Snowdon, partially using the Watkyn path. The view at the top though was no reward for the climb as you could hardly see your hand in front of your face because of the low cloud. That night we camped near the Pen-y-Gwryd Hotel. After a welcome fry-up we visited the hotel and gave the locals a rousing sing song. The next day again brought rain but it did not deter us from our walking. The camp site for that night was at the base of Tryfan (near Lake Ogwen). It was reached about 7 pm.

On Monday morning we all had a welcome wash at Caenarvon swimming baths, (with the exception of Chris Millington who forgot his swimming trunks). That day's walk was a short one because we were walking up to the mountain refuge near the top of Camedd Llewelyn so we did a bit of climbing and abseiling before setting off at 3.30 pm. On arriving at the mountain refuge a decision was made that some tents should be put up because of the limited space inside the refuge. There were groans from the people who were to sleep in tents outside but they rapidly turned to cheers in the morning when everyone in the refuge had had a wet and cold night. We left the refuge at about 10.30 am and descended to Aber on the coast. We had successfully completed our aim of walking across Snowdonia. Thanks go to the leaders who so gallantly put up with us all, Joe Van Hoorebeek for being our Harbury liaison and to Mr. Sedgley from Fosse Egg Farm for his donation of countless eggs for the camp.

J.M.

Footnote: Venture Scout Easter Camp - Snowdonia  
No doubt readers will already have heard horrific tales of torrential rain and blistered feet from the Venture Scouts themselves. This article is aimed at uncovering a secret world, a whole sphere of activity undertaken before the drumming on the rain forced near mortals to face another day. A world where cars move mysteriously across mountains to greet the tired travellers when they descended from

the hills.

Day 1 - Drive 4 miles then run back through the rain for breakfast at 8 in the morning.

Day 2 - Drive 5 miles, then run back 4 miles and 1300 ft. of ascent to arrive before most of the party has stirred.

Day 3 - Rise at 4, before dawn, run down to the valley in the dark over rocky terrain, covering 6 miles and descending from 3200 ft. to 1000 ft. Drive 15 miles then run back up to 3200 ft., ascending 2800ft. and covering 5 miles, to arrive back at the 'refuge' before most of the party knew what day it was. All this, plus completing the same walks which left the rest of the campers feeling physically shattered. At the same time remaining cheerful enough to burst into song when the rain was running down his neck, to joyfully whistle through breakfast when his tent had leaked all night and to smile benignly when the lads decided to shake him off a rope bridge into the icy cold river Aber.

Are these the actions of Harbury's lunatic fringe?

Is the bionic man lurking in Mill Street?

We would all like to say a big 'thank you' to John Hancock, our leader, the man who puts the Ad into Venture Scouting! B. LONDON

### STARVING AFRICA

After further generous donations the final total of Third World Lunch was £200. Also a letter has been received from the Joint Mission Hospital Equipment Board thanking the many people who knitted the vests for children in Africa. I quote "...we would like to know that we deeply appreciate the share they have taken in our task to help a needy world." More consignments are planned, so please keep knitting. Patterns, if you haven't got one, are available from Chris Andrews, 30 Temple End.

JILL WINTER

### ONE WORLD LINK

I have recently received a letter from Johannes whom it is hoped to establish a link between Harbury and Johannes home village in Bo, Sierra Leone.

He says "The type of link I want for my village will be different from the Bo Leamington link. I would



very much need assistance to help with our improvement programme but I want my people to realise that with a little sacrifice we can do a lot and not be so dependant on others. I shall write when I return from my village with a list of all our projects and some of the strategies we have for raising funds. Extend my sincerest greetings to you in Harbury. We need all your prayers and encouragement to go ahead with our plans."

As soon as I have more details from Johanes, I hope to arrange a meeting of those interested in the link.

M.S.H.

### HARBURY CRAFT CIRCLE

On Monday 6th May there is a Craft Fair from 10 am to 5 pm. in the Village Hall. There will be a least 23 Crafts on display and for sale. As previously, the emphasis will be on quality at a reasonable price: Admission is free and everyone is invited to come and look round. Many of the craftsmen will be demonstrating and there will be some new faces as well as some familiar ones. Refreshments will be served in the Farley Room in aid of the Village Hall fund. Do come and look round at what we hope you will find a most interesting display.

Our next Craft Fair will be in conjunction with the Flower Festival and Garden Walkabout on Saturday 13th July. If there is anyone who would like their Craft considered for inclusion ( we try to avoid duplication) please telephone Janet Watts on Harbury 612603 or any other member of the Craft Circle.

J.W.

### HARBURY FOLK CLUB

Just when I thought that the start of the Easter holidays might reduce the attendance at the Folk Club, well over fifty people turned up at our meeting on April 4th and the Old New Inn Lounge was bursting at the seams.

Our guest was Dave Tickle from Harborne who had appeared briefly at the club in February. His material consisted of mainly contemporary songs with his own guitar accompaniments plus occasional extra instrumentation from yours truly.

Two singers made their first appearances at the Club. Sue plucked up courage to sing to an audience for the very first time and acquitted herself very well. We were also pleased to welcome Malcome to sing a few songs, while visiting relatives in the village. The 'regulars' (Pete & Liz, Alan & John K., John B. and Mike) presented a pleasant blend on songs and styles ranging from unaccompanied solos to jug band music. For the benefit of new readers, the Folk Club meets on the first Thursday of every month, in the lounge bar of the Old New Inn, starting at 8.30 pm. Admission is still free, everyone is welcome, and singers and musicians are encouraged to 'have a go'. The next meeting is on June 6th. PETER MCDONALD (613730)

### ACTION RESEARCH FOR THE CRIPPLED CHILD

Ann Roden attended her last meeting as chairman on March 19th. We would like to thank her for the tireless work and enthusiasm she has put into the position and we wish her and Neil the best of everything in the future.

At a recent meeting the following agenda was drawn up to cover the rest of the years activities:-

May 17th Friday: 10 am - 12 noon Bring & Buy at Dorothy Groves, 37 Mill Street.

June 17th-21st: House to house collection.

June 28th: It's a Knockout.

Sept 28th: 1920's Casino Evening in Village Hall 8 pm - midnight.

Oct 24th: Jumble Sale.

Dec 20th: Carol singing round the Pubs.

If you would like to help and have fun with our fund raising, please ring Janice Grundy 612930.

### HARBURY FLOWER FESTIVAL

We would like to thank all friends who supported and gave donations, gifts and help to make the Coffee Morning such a success. The sum of £101.21 was raised for the Church Flower Festival. The next fundraising event will be a Coffee Morning with Bring & Buy and raffle at 14 Sutcliffe Drive on Tues 7th May 10.30 - 12 noon

J.E.Watts & I.E.Drinkwater



EXCHANGE VISIT SOUGHT FOR YOUNG CZECH STUDENT

Lukas is a 15 year old son of a long standing Czechoslovak friend, who is a journalist, a journalist in Prague. He and his mother are coming to England on holiday during July, when they will stay mostly in London, where she once worked with the Czech News Agency. She would then like Lukas to be able to stay on for a couple of weeks with an English family on an exchange basis. His "opposite number" would be invited to Prague whenever it suited. Lukas already speaks some English, but his parents think he could really improve his acquaintance with English and the English by staying on without her. The period involved would be for about two weeks starting around July 20th. During his stay, I would hope to entertain him on a couple of occasions, but obviously it would be best for him to stay in a family with children about his own age. I would like to be able to let Lukas' parents know as soon as possible about any arrangement, as there is quite a lot of red tape involved at their end before he can get a visa!

Please contact me for further details.

Heather Turner, 11 Church Tce, Harbury. 612915.

HARBURY MOTHER AND BABY GROUP

Thank you to all those who responded to the request in February's H&L News for contributions towards a leaving present for Mrs. Margaret Blackie who retired as Health Visitor on 31st March.

Thanks to your generosity we were able to present her with 3 framed pictures of Harbury, a £6 Marks & Spencer Gift Voucher and some flowers; all of which were very much appreciated. CLARE TAYLOR

HARBURY YOUNG WIVES

Our April meeting was well attended. Health Station 2 from Southam gave a very interesting talk on Health and Beauty. It was pointed out that the best way to lose weight and stay healthy was to eat the right foods and exercise regularly. We all shuddered when a pound of fat from the butchers was shown to us, it made us realise that even a pound of excess weight looked a lot! Various diets were discussed

and we all sampled the Micro Diet.

Afterwards a beauty demonstration was given emphasizing the importance of cleaning and toning the skin before applying any makeup.

Our next meeting with the A.G.M. is on Tuesday 28th May at The Crown, 8 pm. Members will be receiving a menu and details through their letter boxes shortly.

VANDA BALL

### HARBURY W.I.

In April members of Harbury W.I. listened to the story of Mrs. Pat Plant's journey across the Canadian Rockies to an Indian Wedding.

In May Harbury W.I. looks forward to their Produce Show on Sat. 11th May which will be on view to the public from 3 - 4 pm.

At the next meeting members will be voting on the resolutions which form an important part of W.I. life. The W.I. has a political voice and is keen to involve members in important issues at both national and international level. You may have heard recently that the W.I. is backing the urgent need for improved rural bus services, something Harbury residents would welcome!

The resolutions being put forward in May are, briefly  
1) HELP FOR DRUG ADDICTS, urging the Government to give more and better regional provision.

2) ACID RAIN, urging the Government to control the emission of sulphur and nitrogen oxides from power stations (non-nuclear stations are the major emitters).

3) WORLD FOOD, urging the Government and EEC to establish long-term technical and financial aid towards Third World agricultural self-sufficiency.

4) DEATH GRANT, requesting realistic and index-linked increases.

5) W.I. THIRTY YEAR RULE, to allow the national federation to update former but topical resolutions in order for them to be used again.

There are many aspects to the W.I., come along and support us at this interesting meeting at 7.45 pm on Thurs. 9th May. New members always welcome!

HEATHER HAWKINS 612493



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## JUNIOR TENNIS

The beginning of season tournament at the Coventry Racquets Centre, was hopefully enjoyed (including the sauna and jacuzzi!) by all who entered. The results were as follows:-

Group 1 Green Section: 1st Sarah Bunting 2nd James Mayer 3rd Michelle Waggott. Red Section: 1st Vincent Crossan 2nd Vanessa Smith 3rd Penny Ottewill  
Group 2 Green Section: 1st Charles Mayer 2nd Chris Ottewill 3rd Ian McDonald. Red Section: 1st Trudi Waggott 2nd Wendy Ottewill 3rd Stephen Thompson.

Coaching, by Jenny Waggott has now commenced. When the six sessions are completed, junior tennis sessions will be on Mondays and Thursdays 4-6 pm. Intermediates (children at secondary school) will be on Friday evenings 5 pm onwards. Names and £2 junior membership fees (this helps cover the cost of balls and court maintenance) to Rosemary Ottewill, 43 Mill St. 613402.

## HARBURY FUN-RUN 1985

This year's fun-run starts at the Village Hall at 3 p.m. on Sunday 19th May.

Last year nearly 160 'runners' of all ages took part. Why not join in this time? If you can't run you can enjoy walking round. Serious runners and Fancy-Dressers should all register early - entries accepted on the day, from 1.30 pm. Entry fees are 60p adults 30p children with all proceeds to N.S.P.C.C. funds.

Drinks are provided at half-way and end of run, and all who finish receive a certificate indicating finishing time. R.E.W.

## CHESTERTON AND THE SWANS - the story so far .....

At least one pair of swans overwintered in the 'Lake District' between Chesterton and Gaydon. Perhaps 'within the near deserted Parish of Kingston describes the place more accurately. The young pair took up residence on the lake below Kingston Manor and were there between 22nd & 30th January. Then

disaster struck! The frost came, the lakes froze and according to Mr. Bill Clifton a wily old fox crept across the ice and took the swans by surprise. Feathers and bones can still be seen in the narrow field between Kingston Manor Farm Road and the lake, a sad reminder of thwarted hopes.

On 4th March an older (and wiser?) pair of swans came to the usual swan nesting lake by Chesterton Church. These have been luckier or perhaps are more experienced. After an initial feeding phase, often in the surrounding fields, they have constructed a new nest some yards south east of last years model. The pen is now sitting on her eggs but exactly how many remains to be seen. Anyone care to guess at a hatching date? Last year it was about 15th May. Survival rates of cygnets seem poor. Out of last years six only one survived to anything like maturity. J.L.H.

#### DRY ROT - HARBURY THEATRE GROUP

Just to report that although we felt we put on a good show, we did not come away with any trophies when we took our extract to the Drama Festival in Coventry.

However, success in Harbury is what really matters to us - and the audiences' response to 'Dry Rot' in the Village Hall showed that we achieved that! As always, many thanks to all who helped in any way, which for this production included 'Classic Drapes by Erica' in Leamington who lent us some super curtains.

D.Holt

#### HARBURY SOCIETY

We have now surveyed the trees recommended for Tree Preservation Orders and have identified their owners. Now it is up to Stratford District Council to designate

The Conservation Areas Regulations protect all the trees within the Areas from lopping or felling. Owners are required to give the District Council notice before beginning work on the trees. The TPO will give the same protection to important trees outside the areas.

Mr. Poupard has kindly agreed to allow us to explore his Nature Walks at the Quarries on Sunday 19th May.



We will meet at about 11.30 am in the Coarse Fishing Car Park which is down the main entrance drive and to the left. Do come along and bring your children, but please leave dogs at home. Apparently they upset the fishermen!

The Mystery Tour will take place on Tuesday 4th June and make its way tortuously round the village again. More details of this later.

Once again we are running a second hand crockery and glass stall at the Carnival on Saturday 8th June and we hope that all the members will be able to take some part, collecting china and perhaps selling on the day. I will send you details of what we would like you to do later, but in the meantime don't throw anything away! LINDA R.

### MUSIC SUCCESSES

The three candidates entered at the Easter Session of Piano exams. were successful. They are:

James Tancock	-	Grade 1
Daniel Tancock	-	Grade 2
Carole Moore	-	Grade 5

Well Done!

M.J.COOPÉ

### DISCOVERING YOUR WATERWAYS

I needed no second invitation to contribute something on our local waterways as I have been into 'mucking about on boats' since childhood and have travelled much of England by narrowboat over the past 10 years; indeed it was the canals that led us to settle in Harbury. The waterways have something to offer for everyone and not just boaters; they are a haven for coarse fishermen, the naturalist, for towpath walking or just 'gongoozling' (standing and watching), and we live at the crossroads of the nationwide system of canals which provided the transport for the Industrial Revolution.

What could be more enjoyable on a fine day than a walk along the towpath - few sounds except the birds or the occasional plop of a vole in the water and yet around the next bend to discover a boat working its way through a lock; locks make ideal picnic spots. Just 3 miles away along the Welsh Road are the Bascote wide locks on the Grand Union with access to a good towpath, or half a mile N.E. of the roundabout along the Fosseway are the Fosse locks, again with good walks either way; both places have parking space. Or what about a walk up the narrow locks from Napton to Marston Doles - an ideal stretch for gongoozling or even helping a boat through one of the 8 locks you pass

For really spectacular views and an idea of what the engineers of 200 years ago could do I recommend a walk up the Hatton Flight of 23 locks from The Cape (near Warwick Hospital) to Hatton - with the attraction of pubs at the top and bottom to revive yourself. It is here that the Inland Waterways Association, which actively campaigns and works for the preservation of our canal heritage, is staging a sponsored walk to include Hatton, Warwick and Leamington on Sunday 9th June. This is a fun event with several options as to distance and an incentive to man's best friend to go along, in the guise of prizes of up to a year's supply of 'PAL' for the best sponsored dogs. As one of the organisers I will happily supply details to anyone interested (Tel. 613570). Next month I hope to cover holidays afloat and two interesting local boating events in July. P.R.T.

#### HARBURY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

The Council is to congratulate Mr. Bristow of the Horticultural Society and his helpers for their work in transforming the old Rose Garden in Chapel Street. The low maintenance flowering shrubs and all the work has cost less than £100.

The new noticeboard outside the Library attracted favourable comment.

Mrs. Pratt has been doing excellent work keeping the



Playing Fields free of litter. The complaints about the potholes and the Constance Drive lake are said by the authorities to be 'in hand' and British Rail is to be asked to repair its style and foot-bridge at the cutting. Councillors are keeping their eyes peeled for street cleaners since their complaints about lack of cleansing have provoked a reply from the County that although urban shopping streets are cleaned weekly Harbury's are weakly cleaned - only twice a year! The District Council forced by the County to take on the Amenity Cleansing function, claims that 2 men clean half the village every week, on a Wednesday. No-one has spotted them yet!

Councillor Dave Andrews has surveyed the Cemetery with tree expert Quentin Nicholls who recommended two pines be felled and ten other trees be tidied up. Three quotations have been ordered for the work and the Council gave Councillor Andrews 'carte blanche' to proceed provided near neighbours were warned when the work takes place as some wood had to be burned on site. Mr. Nicholls will advise on work to be done to trees at The Pound, Hall Lane and the damaged chestnuts at the Mill Street Pumping Station where the authorities promise the verge will be made good when conditions allow.

P.C. Percival got the Parish Council to reiterate its policy of allowing children to play on the Village Greens providing no damage is done. As the chairman said - 'that's what they are for!'

Dennis Atkins is rarely at a loss and following dispute at the March meeting over the dim light in Vicarage Lane, he reported that according to his records it had been up-graded to colour-corrected Mercury and the Electricity Board had confirmed that. He asked the Board to investigate why the light is so feeble.

Deppers Bridge isn't to get a Speed Limit or double white lines, pedestrian refuges or a zebra crossing - it's too straight and narrow! So says Mr. Vallis prompted to reply by the attentions of our M.P. Alan Howarth. Deppers has got bigger 'Children' signs and a 'Slow' warning.

Cllr. Saunders is worried about parking problems at

the Rogationtide Service at Deppers and had suggested that as long as it is dry up to two dozen cars could be accommodated on the field itself.

He asked if there could be more equipment provided for the Playing Field.

There was a great deal of soul-searching over the future role of the RGAC whose members are resigning at the Annual Parish Meeting (Steve Chaplin explains the position elsewhere). It was suggested that the task of inspecting the play equipment on a daily or weekly basis could be undertaken by one of the Parish employees and that a qualified person could do the job at longer intervals. The public will be asked for its views at the APM.

John Drinkwater reporting on the Highfield Stud planning position said that the District Council had allowed them the change of use to a Stables so that the business could continue.

For many years the Cricket Club has used the Blue Circle Recreation Grounds at Deppers for all its home matches but it will have to leave next year. It applied to the PC for funds to construct a Cricket Square at the Rugby Club and the PC agreed to provide £250.

The Netball Club which uses the Tennis Courts for its matches applied to the PC for permission to practice on the hard play area now that the Tennis Season has started and they cannot use the Courts. In the past the Netball Club's appeal for a Court of its own had been rejected by the Council but this year they are to be invited to put their case at the Annual Parish Meeting on 16th May, 7.30 pm at the Village Hall. Everyone should come.

LINDA R.

COVENTRY MUMMERS will be paying another visit to Harbottle on Wednesday 15th May and will perform outside The Gamecock at 8.30 pm. and outside The Dog Inn at 9.30

Please come along and watch this traditional, historical entertainment.



PROFILE - SHIRLEY KEIR

Library-users and Church people, we all know her - but how much do we know about her? She is from Mortlake - went to the very traditional Grammar School in Richmond, left at 16, her 'O' levels then qualifying her for the Library Service.

She served for two years at Richmond Library taking her Library Association Entrance exam by correspondence. She next moved to the College of Estate Management in South Kensington, a very different field, including undertaking searches. This gave her the taste for a more specialised research type of Library work and

she moved on to the Library of the Kingston Polytechnic as Assistant Librarian. This post was conditional on her completing her studies. However, Shirley's major interest now took over but a sympathetic Chief Librarian kept her at Kingston for the next nine years during which there was never time for study!

At five Shirley had her first successful singing performance - at a Congregational concert run by her grandfather. By eleven she was playing the piano and at thirteen she started singing lessons. Such fripperies were not approved of as examinations approached so Shirley was eighteen before she joined the Merrymakers School of Singing and Dancing in Putney. Singing in concert parties Shirley even performed for the local Borstal. As Prince Charming

in a pantomime her review talked of 'a fine singer, but a very bad actress!'

She sang in many American musicals and assures us that her acting improved. She was a member, and frequently a soloist, in her church choir.

Her hours at Kingston were long but Shirley, luckily, fitted in Badminton. It was on the court that she met Hamish, a lecturer in Chemistry from Aberdeen. They were married in 1964 and lived in Ewell. There Helen and Debbie were born.

In 1969 Hamish joined the Coventry Polytechnic as Senior Lecturer in Bio-Chemistry. Hamish went house hunting from Warwick and decided Kenilworth, their first choice, was a bad financial bargain. He saw their house in South Parade and did not hesitate - it had the large garden which was Shirley's chief demand!

The garden - on their arrival was a jungle, the house was suffering from a plague of spiders, street lighting was nil - a shock to the system of a Londoner! With two small children it took some time to become involved but Shirley discovered the Harbury Singers, run by Michael Barnes. Singing church music, small oratorios and madrigals, it was what she needed.

Soon she was also involved in Harbury Friends, Young Wives and The Mothers Union being leader/chairman of all of them at some point!

In 1975 an assistant was required at the Library - Shirley was welcomed with open arms and after the retirement of Reg Champion four years later became Assistant-in-charge. This March she will have been attached to the Library for ten years.

She has been an active member of Harbury Church for many years and has served as a teacher first in the Crusaders and then the Adventurers.

For the last nine years she has enjoyed singing with the Leamington Spa Bach Choir and this, combined with Hamish's wide knowledge of music, has opened up new areas of musical experience.



With her musical daughters, her garden, her dachshund, her knitting, wine making (dandelions by courtesy of the Churchyard), reading and walking Shirley has an ultra busy life belied by her sympathetic and calm exterior.

MARGARET RIGDEN

### SOUTHAM AND DISTRICT COUNCIL FOR THE DISABLED

A Spring Fayre, in aid of the above (which raises money to help with transport for the disabled), will be held on Saturday 18th May at the Youth Centre, Southam, commencing at 10 am. Please Come and Buy!

Donations of cakes, plants, produce, nearly new, bric-a-brac, offers of help etc will be greatly appreciated: please contact Rosemary Ottewill 43 Mill Street. 613402.

Also is anyone interested in attending Rugby Sport for Disabled on Saturday mornings.

R.O.

### WARWICK DISTRICT SERVICE FOR THE COMMUNITY/

FURNITURE AND TRANSPORT operate a collection, renovation and distribution service for the needy in the Kenilworth, Leamington Spa and Warwick area

We are interested in receiving any usable furniture which you may wish to donate. By ringing us on Warwick (9) 490019 arrangements can be made for collection. Should you wish to do so, you can deliver any items direct to our workshop at Unit 4 Dongan Road, Cape Industrial Estate, between the hours of 9 am and 4 pm Monday to Friday.

K.CHISHOLM

### SOUTHAM BRIDGE CLUB

New members welcome at Southam Community Centre Wednesdays 1.30 pm - 4.30 pm. For further information ring Harbury 612163, or just come to the Centre.

IN THE GARDEN

In the Midlands May is the month when nearly all seeds can be sown in the garden. Finish sowing Broad Beans - Early Peas can be sown also Beetroot, Parsnips, early and late Potatoes, Spinach, Swedes, Lettuce and Radish. Plant out Brussell Sprouts plants and Summer Cabbage. French Beans are best left until the middle of the month. Tomatoes in a cold Greenhouse at the end of the month. Ridge Cucumbers, Marrows and Sweet Corn can be planted out in the first week of June. Also prepare your netting for your Strawberries and Raspberries.

Keep digging any spare ground and prepare it for your Savoy Cabbage and all winter greens. May is a good month to plant Flower seeds some of which may be useful to the decorators at the Flower Festival in the Church which is in conjunction with the Garden walkabout on Saturday 13th July. W.F.LINES

HARBURY HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

The April meeting was a great success and again a record attendance. Professor Bleasdale's lecture gave a very interesting account of the work done at the N.V.R.S. at Wellesbourne. There was also helpful advice given at question time. He was thanked by John Algar. The May meeting will be a talk and helpful hints on 'Preparing for the Show' and I am sure we will all be able to learn something from the expert

This will be the last meeting of the season so we shall be pleased to see all the members. E.P.LINES

CORRESPONDENCE

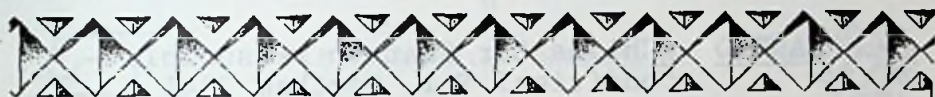
Enid and Ronnie Sherriff wish to thank all friends for the messages and letters of sympathy and kindness shown to them in the sad loss and sudden death of a dearly loved husband and father. Also for the beautiful flowers and for attending Church for Ron's Funeral Service.



### RUBY WEDDING

We would like to thank so many of our friends in Harbury, including the members of Mothers Union, for all your good wishes and gifts that you gave us on the fortieth anniversary of our wedding. We are so grateful and also that so many of you supported us at the service in church.

Roy and Esmé Churchill



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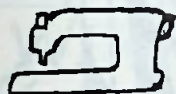


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