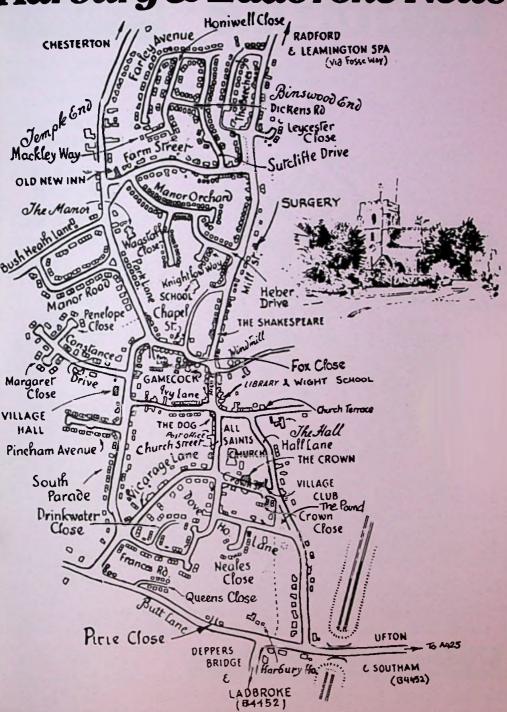
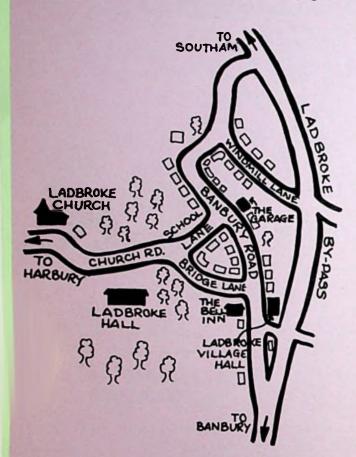
Harbury & Ladbroke News



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Harbury & Ladbroke News

THE HARBURY AND LADBROKE NEWS, reflecting all aspects of local life is published monthly and produced with the assistance of the All Saints' Parochial Church Council.

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MARCH 1997

No. 276

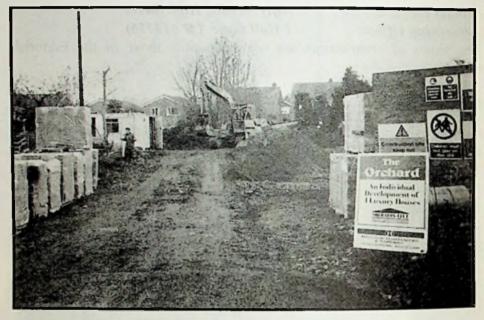
As well as documenting the lives of people in the village, the 'Harbury Chronicles' will also record the changing architectural face of Harbury. As each month goes by, these are incremental alterations - some of which may go un-noticed, but the cumulative effects alter the overall appearance of the village.



Percival Drive Development

At present three developments are planned, two of which are already in progress.

It is interesting to hear about the observations made by a Harbury pupil from his bedroom window. Last year he could see open fields, Bishop Bowl Lakes and Napton Windmill. Today his view is restricted by a cluster of new houses under construction. If other residents had been asked about their "Room with a view", they may have commented on the loss of a small natural wilderness or distant views towards Coventry and Leamington Spa.



'The Orchard' Development

Whilst it is appreciated that there is a need for new housing on infill sites, it is to be hoped that development does not encroach upon all the green spaces within and around the village.

The 'Harbury Chronicles' will provide an opportunity to show the myriad facets of life enjoyed by the citizens of Harbury at the close of the 20th Century. How will the lifestyles of our current population appear to viewers of the video in 2025 or 2050? Will there still be videos in 25 years' time?

The H&L News has provided a "window" on village activities for 23 years and the Editors would welcome comments about its future contribution at the AGM on Tuesday 4th March at 8pm in the Dog Inn.

Harbury Diary

MARC	ЭН	A STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE PAR
Sun		Lent III - Sung Eucharist 9am; Evensong 4pm
-	_	Rugby 7-12s Home to Stratford
Tues	4	Holy Communion with Lenten Address 7.30pm
		Horticultural Society in Village Hall 8pm
Wed	5	Mothers' Union Communion with Hymns and Address 2pm
		Youth Club in Village Hall 8pm
		H&L News A.G.M. in The Dog Inn 8pm
Thurs	6	Holy Communion 9.45am
		Storytelling in Library 10am
		Men's Society in Tom Hauley Room 7.45pm
		Folk Club in the Dog Inn 8.30pm
Fri	7	Holy Communion 12noon; Lent Lunch in Tom Hauley Room 12.30pm
		Bridge Evening in Village Hall
Sat	8	Blood Donors in Village Hall
		Rugby Seconds home to Coventry Tech.
		Nursery School Casino Evening in Village Hall
Sun	9	Lent IV Holy Communion 8am; Sung Eucharist 10.30am
		Mothering Sunday
Tues	11	Toddlers' Service 2.15pm
		Village Hall Committee meeting 8pm
Wed		Youth Club in Village Hall 8pm
Thurs	13	Holy Communion 9.45am
		Thursday Club in Village Hall 2.30pm
		Line Dancing at the Club 7.30pm for Myton Hospice
		WI in Village Hall 7.45pm
Fri	14	Holy Communion 12noon; Lent Lunch 12.30pm
		Newspaper Collection
Sat	15	Men's Prayer Breakfast in Tom Hauley Room 7.30am
		Rugby Second home to Banbury Sixths
		Adverts to 1 Hall Lane by TODAY please
Sun	16	Lent V - Holy Communion 8am
		Family Communion 10.30am
		Rugby Under 16s home to Lutterworth; Under 15s home to Old
		Coventrians; Under 14s home to Earlsdon
		Netball Quiz Night at the Club 7.30pm
Mon		Wight School Playgroup Coffee Morning at 1 Dickens Rd 10am-12noo
Tues	18	Holy Communion with Lent Address 7.30pm
		Mothers' Union Evening meeting in Tom Hauley Room 8pm
Wed		Youth Club in Village Hall 8pm
Thurs	20	Holy Communion 9.45am
		PCC Meeting in Tom Hauley Room 7.30pm
		Line Dancing at the Club 7.30pm for Myton Hospice
Fri	21	Holy Communion 12noon: Lent Lunch 12 30pm

Working from Home Lunch Club in the Dog Inn 12noon onwards

22 Harbury Chronicles' Mini Market in Tom Hauley Room 2pm-4pm Sat Rugby Firsts Home to Ford, Seconds home to AEI; Colts home to Old Salts Sun 23 Palm Sunday - Holy Communion 8am Procession from School 10.15am: Sung Eucharist 10.30am Evensona 4pm 24 Wight School Playgroup Cake Stall Mon Holy Communion 7.30pm followed by Stations of the Cross Tues 25 Holy Communion 7.30pm followed by Stations of the Cross 26 Holy Communion 7.30pm followed by Stations of the Cross Wed School Ends Youth Club in Village Hall 8pm 27 Maundy Thursday - Holy Communion 9.45am Thurs Thursday Club in Village Hall 2.30pm Articles to Nifty Needle by TODAY please Parish Council meeting in Village Hall 7.30pm Sung Eucharist 8pm followed by the Watch at the Alter of Repose until midnight Fri 28 Good Friday - Children's service 9.30am: Devotion Hour 2-3pm Newspaper collection Sat 29 Easter Eve - Easter Ceremonies 8pm Rugby Firsts home to Redditch 30 Easter Day - Holy Communion 8am; Sung Eucharist 10.30am Sun Evensong 6.30pm APRIL Tues 1 Holy Communion 7.30pm Horticultural Society in Village Hall 8pm Wed 2 Holy Communion 2pm Mothers' Union in Tom Hauley Room 2.30pm Thurs 3 Holy Communion 9.45am Storytelling in Library 10am Kids Club Play Scheme 10am-12.15pm Line Dancing at the Club 7.30pm for Myton Hospice Men's Society in Tom Hauley Room 7,45pm Folk Club in the Dog Inn 8.30pm Fri 4 Kids Club Play Scheme 10am-12.15pm Sat 5 Rugby Seconds home to Warwick: Thirds home to Edwardians Hereburgh Morris dance in Stratford and Warwick Myton Hospice Jumble Sale in Village Hall 10am-12noon 6 Easter 1 - Sung Eucharist 9am Sun

Please note: Adverts to: 1 Hall Lane

Articles for H&L News to NIFTY NEEDLE

Sunday School in Tom Hauley Room 10.30am; Evensong 6.30pm

Rugby Under 14s and Under 13s home to Long Buckby

Deadlines: Adverts - Saturday 15 March

Articles - Thursday 27 March (due to Easter)

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

For Tom Hauley Room Bookings	Mrs. Stubbs	612782
For Village Hall Bookings	Mrs. Hughes	612716
For Wight School Bookings	Mrs. Hayes	613488

REGULAR DIARY DATES

BABY CLINIC: Surgery, 2-4pm 2nd & 4th Wednesday

BADMINTON: Village Hall Tuesdays
BEAVERS: Scout Hut, 6-7pm Tuesdays

BELLRINGING PRACTICE: Church, 7.30pm Fridays

BINGO: Village Hall, 8pm Mondays

BROWNIES: Village Hall 6-7.30pm Tuesdays CHOIR PRACTICE: Church, 6.30pm Fridays

CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU: Over Southam Magistrates Court, 10am-3pm

Tuesdays (Except Bank Holidays)

COFFEE MORNING: Tom Hauley Room 10am-12noon Saturdays

CUBS: Scout Hut, Wednesdays

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

GUIDES: Scout Hut, 7-8.30pm Monday

GYMNASTICS: Harbury School, 6-7pm (U7-10yrs & Beginners 7-8pm;

Over 10yrs 8-9pm) Mondays

HARBURY FOLK CLUB: Dog Inn 8.30pm 1st Thursday of Month

HARBURY FRIENDS: School, 8pm 2nd Tues of Month

HEREBURGH MORRIS DANCERS: School Hall, 8-10pm Wednesdays HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY: Village Hall, 8pm 1st Tues (Oct. to May) LIBRARY: Stories, Rhymes for U5s, 10am 1st Thursday of Month NETBALL CLUB: Village Hall Car Park, Training 6.30pm Thursdays;

Matches Saturday Afternoon

NURSERY SCHOOL: Village Hall, Tuesday to Friday mornings PLAYGROUP: Wight School, Tuesday to Friday mornings

SCOUTS: Scout Hut, 7.45pm Tuesdays & Thursdays

TENNIS CLUB: (Apr-Sept) Tues & Thurs 6.30pm onwards (6pm for April); Sat 2-5pm, Mon & Wed 1.45-3pm

THEATRE GROUP: Wight School, 8pm last Friday of Month

THURSDAY CLUB: Village Hall 2.30pm 2nd & 4th Thursday of Month

TODDLER GROUP: Wight School, 10-11.30am Mondays & 2-3.30pm Wed.

UPHOLSTERY CLASSES: Wight School, 2-4pm Mondays W.I.: Tom Hauley Room, 7.45pm 2nd Thursday of Month

YOGA: Village Hall, 1-3pm Tuesday, Diane Surgey Tel.817904

YOUTH CLUB: Village Hall, 7.30-9.30pm Wednesdays

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CHILDRENS' CLOTHING: for 0-6 Years old: Call Anne Woodward 613536, Maureen Darby 613330 or Mary Catt 612864.

EMERGENCY TRANSPORT: Call Vivien Neill 613461 or Charles Catt 612864.

HELP WITH FORM FILLING:

- Job Applications, CV's, Council Tax Forms, etc.: Call Joanne Cooper 613859 or Jeff Bedford 612753.
- For University/Job Applications, interviews, CVs: Call Philip Bushill-Matthews 612476.
- For Personal Tax Claims, Rebates on Tax Paid to Building Societies or on Shares: Call Jim Chapple 612044.

HOME VISITING: Caring for a sick or elderly relative and need a break for a few hours, or you would like someone to call on you. Call Sue Dormer 613254.

HOUSEHOLD BUDGETING ADVICE: Call Tony Brunton 612191.

ODD JOBS ABOUT THE HOUSE: Call Jeff Bedford 612753.

VISITING: Hospital. If you are unable to visit a parent or relative, or parents would like support with a child in Hospital: Call Fr. Roy Brown 612377 or Keith Dormer 613254.

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH HARBURY SUNDAY SERVICES

Holy Communion, 8am
Sung Eucharist, 10.30am (Except 1st Sunday of Month:
Sung Eucharist 9am)

Family Service, 10.30am on 3rd Sunday of Month Evensong, 6.30pm (Except 3rd Sunday) Please see notice board in Church for weekday services or revised times on special occasions.

Laugh Line

Members of a local church discovered that the roof was leaking. The following Sunday the church secretary started his notices by apologising for THE DRIP IN THE PULPIT.

FROM THE CHURCHWARDENS

We are now half way through the period of Lent and a final reminder that a Lenten Address is given at each Tuesday evening Holy Communion service. For the remaining three Tuesdays the addresses are entitled: "Keeping God's Commandments"; "Living in Love and Peace" and "Forgiveness".

There is an additional service each Friday at noon followed by a light lunch in the Tom Hauley Room. A programme of the Easter services will shortly be delivered to all homes within the locality.

We welcome the recent initiative of a small select committee to promote a Millennium video for the village. We attended the recent introductory meeting for the village organisations and the enthusiasm and interest shown will ensure a successful record for the future generations.

Ruth and Jeff

FROM THE RECTOR

The celebration of Holy Week is one of the oldest observances of the Christian Church. It has its origins in the pre-Constantine period. This was an age before Christian fasts and festivals were part of the civil calendar. In Britain today we have returned to that position. Holy Week appears to have no place in the civil calendar and Good Friday is

an ordinary working day for many. It is, therefore, very easy for the Christian to pass from Palm Sunday, a day of joy and enthusiasm, to Easter Day, the day of Resurrection and rejoicing, without encountering the Passion and Death of Christ on the way.

Our services in Holy Week are a single liturgy, not a series of acts of worship totally independent of each other. Each day's worship looks on to the next, until it reaches its climax in the Easter Celebration.

This is the one week in the year when we should expect public worship to be at the top of our list of priorities - the week when we should be with our Lord in the events which led to the Cross and Resurrection, the events which are at the heart of our redemption. Is it too much to ask a Christian to say: "In Holy Week nothing is more important than being with my Lord?"

Fr. Roy

FROM THE REGISTERS

Holy Baptism at All Saints' Harbury Sunday 23rd February: Ella Louise Woolley

MOTHERS' UNION

Mrs. Celia Barrett told us about the life of the Rev. W.Wight. He was an unusual man to say the least, choosing Harbury as the place where he would create a model village. He tried to ban all smoking and drinking and provided education for all the children by building the school which was named after him. After 13 years he left the village and seems to have become more and more eccentric towards the end of his life. Celia has done a great deal of research into the Rev. Wight and we were very interested in her talk

The evening group held a Bible study session on the theme of Prayer. After reading Jesus' teaching on prayer we discussed how we could improve our own prayer life and resolved to put our ideas into practice.

Instead of our usual afternoon meeting on 5th March we have a <u>Lent</u> <u>Communion service</u> with an address by the Rev. J.Welby.

The evening speaker will be Mr. John Stringer on the making of the children's TV programme: Fourways Farm.

C. Mary Catt

TODDLERS' SERVICE

After our Thank-You prayer, Mrs. Bedford talked about our feet and legs. We said an action rhyme, using our feet and legs and then Mrs. Bedford told the story of Jesus' washing his disciples' feet. We sang "One more step along the world I go". Then we matched pictures of all kinds of feet to the correct tops and stuck them together.

C. Mary Catt

HARBURY's 'MODEL VICAR'

In his best-selling Notes from a Small Island American travel writer Bill Bryson says: "It is quite extraordinary how much good local history there is in this country". Members of the Church Men's Society know that this is certainly true of Harbury after hearing local historian Celia Barrett's absorbing talk at their February meeting about the man who built the Wight School.

Hungry Harbury describes the Revd. William Wight, Vicar of Harbury for 13 years from 1852 as a "practical humanitarian". Celia's extensive research into his life, which brings her into contact with institutions and people in various parts of the country touched by his life, has led her to conclude that he was an "eccentric intellectual".

He was born on 5th February, 1809 and at the age of 25 was joint owner of a theological library in Cheltenham. His then partner later ran a subscription library in Victoria Terrace, Leamington. He surfaces next in 1841 as a 32-year-old mature student at Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, graduating in 1845. That year he was appointed curate of St. John's Newcastle-upon-Tyne with a salary of £85 a year, paid quarterly.

By 1849 he was associated with Dr. Marsh's School in Learnington, possibly as a tutor. A pamphlet he wrote reveals that around that time he had a vision which influenced his subsequent efforts to create a "model parish". His blueprint contained a school for children of the

labouring classes, model cottages exclusively for teetotal non-smokers; separate evening classes three times a week for both women and men; a model library; a savings bank to encourage thrift; a model factory and domestic training sessions at the Vicarage for older girls.

When in 1852 he accepted the living of Harbury (population 1,000) he set out to fulfil his "model parish" dream. A list of subscribers shows that he was well connected in society and his fund raising campaign raised £3,000 towards the £5,000 target he had set. By 1865 he had built the Wight School on a Glebe land site sanctioned by the Bishop of Worcester. Eventually in part of the school he set up a model print works as indicated in the imprint on some of his publications. His goal of a model factory was thus achieved and events held in the Vicarage grounds, with alcohol and smoking expressly forbidden, were models of mid-19th century propriety.

The 1861 census - four years before he left Harbury - recorded him as a widower. Then follow some blank years before he is located again, this time in 1874 at Chislehurst, Kent. There he lived in the splendid house he named "The Arab's Tent" and the land between his house and the adjacent church he called "the Pyramid".

The fact of the 1881 census describing him as a "clergyman without the care of souls" and that his memorial at Chislehurst bears the inscription "Former Vicar of Harbury, Warwickshire" together suggest that Harbury was only the second parish he served as priest. It is believed that he was of independent means and may have been travelling abroad in those years when the trail goes dead. Certainly his published impressions of Egypt and other countries still exist in university libraries, including the Bodleian at Oxford, and Yale.

He died on 15th October 1884, aged 75, two years after making a will which made financial provision for a building which was to be a college of Domestic and Social Science for Ladies. He laid down strict regulations which the students would be required to observe. In his will he asked to be buried with "Friend", his Labrador dog, "under the laurel bank" and that a grandiose mausoleum should be provided. When it transpired that he didn't own the site he had chosen for his mausoleum, he was buried in the churchyard of St. Nicholas, Chislehurst. The will was contested by his brother Edward on the grounds of insanity, which

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But the story is not yet complete. Celia's research into the many blank years goes on. We wish her well and look forward to eventual publication of the full account of the life of Harbury's model vicar.

Peter Edwards expressed thanks on behalf of an appreciative audience.

John Algar

Ladbroke News

MARCH

Wed 5 Holy Communion 9.45am

Sun 9 Lent IV - Sung Communion 9.00am Mothering Sunday service 3.30pm Golf at the Windmill, 10.30am

Home Rugby Match Under 16s v Nuneaton, Under 15s v Chipping Norton, Under 13s v Old Coventrians

Tues 11 Holy Communion 7.30pm with Lenten Address

Wed 12 Holy Communion 2pm; Vestry and AGM in Village Hall 7.30pm

Sun 16 Lent V - Sung Communion 9am; Evensong 6pm

Wed 19 Holy Communion 9.45am

Sun 23 Palm Sunday - Sung Communion 9am

Wed 26 Holy Communion 9.45am

Thurs 27 Maundy Thursday - Communion with Hymns and Address 7pm
Fri 28 Good Friday - Children's Service 10.30am; Devotion Hour 12-1p

28 Good Friday - Children's Service 10.30am; Devotion Hour 12-1pm Music and Readings 7pm

Sun 30 Easter Day - Sung Communion 9am

APRIL

Wed 2 Holy Communion 9.45am

Sun 6 Easter 1 - Family Communion 10.30am

Flower arranging rota for Ladbroke Church

30th March Easter Day, Mrs. Rutherford 6th April Mrs. Rutherford

13th April Mrs. Rutherford 13th April Mrs. Sharples 20th April Mrs. Winkfield 27th April Mrs. Teverson

LADBROKE CHURCH NEWS

As we rapidly move through Lent towards Easter we find Mothering Sunday on 9th March. We have a special service on that day at 3.30pm, when the children will be presenting posies to their mothers and grandmothers, so lovingly made each year by Pearl Edwards. We hope the children will also be telling us why they love their mothers.

While we are thinking about the children, may I remind all families in Ladbroke about <u>Children's Church</u>. We meet at 11am on the 3rd Sunday in the month. Next will be 16th March. At the moment we have about 9 children who come to hear a story from the Bible, make or draw something relevant to that story, sing hymns and say their prayers. We would love to see more children from the age of about 4. Mums are very welcome to stay. We are usually in church for about an hour.

Betty Winkfield

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

The Lent lunches are going along well, dates and times are all in the pew sheets. We had to alter the venue for the first lunch for a very sad reason. Our love and prayers go out to Catherine and Cyril Spence. Also to their daughter and two small children on the death of a husband and father

Linda Doyle "stood in" for her daughter Jenny at our last meeting and gave us a very interesting talk on the Sealed Knot society. We were very surprised to learn that members have to buy their own medieval costumes. Many of the garments are made of leather or wool and are very thick and heavy. Once bought though they do last!

At our March meeting Canon Ken Phillips from Priors Marston is coming to talk to us about the development of church buildings from the beginning of Christianity. I have heard Rev. Phillips give this talk before, it is very interesting, please come and join us on 12th March at 7, Ladbroke Hall following our Communion service in Church at 2pm.

Betty Winkfield

LADBROKE VILLAGE HALL NEWS

The Tramps Ball on St. Valentine's Day was a great success. Our thanks go to Bob Cardalls Band who had the happy knack of playing just the right sort of music, so that nearly everyone was dancing all the time. A special thanks also to the younger members of our community who kept the evening alive. The tramp outfits were very good indeed - I'm glad we gave the Band the job of picking the winners - there were several different interpretations of being a tramp. The winners were Barbara Pink - best lady tramp and Steve Birch best male tramp. They nearly didn't get a prize as we had put them in the raffle!

The evening made £108 for the Village Hall, but the success really was in a super social evening. We are going to do it again.

p.p. Peter Derrick

LADBROKE PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

The February meeting of the Council was held in the Village Hall on Wednesday 19th.

The full council was pleased to note that the broken wooden bollards around the dangerous bend had been replaced.

The housing development has now received formal approval - 1 five bedroomed and 10 four bedroomed houses will be built as well as the affordable homes. The council have made recommendations concerning the street lighting and are considering suitable names for the new roads. The highways agency is to be urged to co-ordinate the digging of holes for gas, water, electricity, etc. to ensure the minimum of disruption. The council were assured that the forest of bollards would be removed following the completion of the building phase.

In view of the future increased activity in that section of Windmill Lane and the problems created by its bisection by the bypass, it was agreed, against the wishes of the Chairman, that all residents in Windmill Lane will be asked for their opinion whether to keep, amend or change the title, Windmill Lane.

Also in that area, a gully has been successfully created to drain the huge puddles and the County Council will be asked to assess the build up of water on the main road between the double bend and the bypass.

A letter had been received from Warwickshire County Council explaining that Harbury Lane was not on the gritting route as an alternative route to Deppers Bridge and beyond, i.e. through Southam, was available. The council will write again with the knowledge that school buses and the milk tanker necessarily have to take the shorter route.

Councillor Geoff Timms had received notification that footpath rangers will complete the clearing of the footpath from Chapel Ascote to Lower Radbourne.

Advanced warning had been supplied of a future change of postal address from Leamington Spa to Southam. Currently all mail is routed through Leamington Spa to the Southam delivery office. The proposal to elevate Southam to Post town status should lessen handling time and improve the speed of delivery. Comments are invited and may be sent to:

Mrs. L. Barker CV Post codes Royal Mail House 2-3 Lakeside Festival Way Stoke-on-Trent ST1 5ST

Carol Northorpe

HARBURY SOCIETY

Our Social at the Dog Inn with Romany Pie was enjoyable but unfortunately made a substantial loss. A series of programmes is being planned for the rest of the year.

For the Spring there will be a talk on Industrial Archaeology and Ilmington Apple Day. Deppers Bridge hopes to plant their Sentinel Oaks and John Lapraik and Ed Wilson are planning more of their "Pub" walks.

In September we are entertaining our friends from the Coleshill Civic Society by putting on two guided walks, one round the village and the other centred on the Chesterton Valley. Members and their friends are

very welcome to take part.

Bush Heath Road Hedge. Both the County and District Councils have been contacted and whilst they both tell us they are concerned about protecting landscape features they still seem to be blaming eachother!

The County has made it clear that in this instance Bryant Homes made the suggestions for improving the vision at the entrance to their site they know well the Department of Transport guidelines. So, it seems we cannot blame the County for what has happened. We wait to see what the District has to say.



Manor Road Green - under threat?

Landscape Audit Priorities. The first planting of the Sentinel Oaks has occurred and more are planned for the Spring. Together with the Parish Council we have been in negotiation with the new South Warwickshire Housing Association for permission to plant up Manor Road Green as suggested by the County's Landscape Architect. After initial reluctance

(they seemed to think that land had development potential!) they have replied asking for further details and assurances that the neighbours approve of the plan. Do you?

Millennium Video. We have suggested the Chesterton Walk in September as a suitable Society event to film. The Committee is supportive of the project but is adamant that "The Chronicles" should show the people, activities and the physical setting of Harbury as it is today.

Linda Ridgley

HARBURY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

The County has organised two coach trips of interest. One to Jodrell Bank and arboretum on 19th May and to Hampton Court on 25th June.

There is a <u>Picture Framing course</u> from 23rd to 30th April at Stoneleigh Village Hall and we look forward to a theatre trip in March.

The Short Mat Bowls 'B' team won their match against Ratley in the first round of the County Bowls Knockout. Well done!

Mrs. Mary Shelley came to speak to us on her very grand project "The Harbury Chronicles". She gave an outline of her aims which will entail an awful lot of work and dedication. At the moment it is just in its infancy.

Some members attended the meeting to meet the director, Warwick Partington. He seemed a very competent and helpful man, exchanging knowledge and ideas with the supportive audience. We wish Mary good luck with her project.

What a pleasant evening we had on 19th February, when the bells were rung commemorating W.I.'s centenary. Although a foul evening, a group of stalwarts braved the weather. We were able to watch the bellringers at work, which was most interesting and two of us "had a go". Then down the steep, narrow steps and into the church where Clive Watts was playing the organ. We all sang Jerusalem, which was quite stirring and then went to have refreshments in the T. Hauley Room.

We also had a session at playing the handbells, coached by Harry Windsor. Some got a little mixed up when we started moving position

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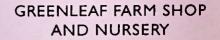
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whilst playing. As usual, one poor soul got the blame although one noticed that others were making a "pig's ear" of it too.

However, it was most enjoyable and we would like to thank Clive Watts, Harry Windsor and the bellringers for playing for us.

March tea hostesses: Mary Entwistle, Dorothy Travis and Terry Wade.

Jeanne Beaumont

THE WIGHT SCHOOL PLAYGROUP

A big 'Thank-you' to all those who supported our coffee morning on 20th January. We were delighted to raise in excess of £60 for the playgroup.

Our cake stall last month was postponed until the second Thursday in the month. Thank you to Lesley Wilkins and Nicola for organising this for us and also to those of you who gave us your support. Our next <u>cake stall</u> will be on **Monday 24**th **March** (just before the Easter holidays), so please mark it in your diary as you will be able to stock up on Easter Fayre. We look forward to seeing you there (our usual spot - outside the library) between 10am and 12noon.

On Monday 17th March, Ruth Coleman will be very kindly running a coffee morning at 1, Dickens Road from 10am-12noon. We are also looking forward to having Studio Dee's Spring/Summer collection there that morning.

Another date to put in your diaries is Saturday 3rd May, when we shall be hosting another sale of the very popular hand painted Spanish ceramics in the Wight school from 10am-12noon. More about this next time!

We look forward to seeing you at our various events.

Alison Atkinson

HARBURY FOLK CLUB - The DAFTER Awards Evening

Who can ever forget (even if they try really hard) the evening Peter Bones was nominated for a record breaking sixteen awards!!!..., but cruelly, was denied fifteen of them by a varied array of upstarts. The evening when Mike Putnam was nominated for the prestigious awards

for Most Original Theme, Most often Shaved at a Folk club, and Most often Told Off!! The evening when Doug Freeman was nominated four times, including Best Costume, but failed to win anything..., but then that wasn't surprising dressed in that T-shirt!!

This was the Folk Club DAFTER Awards (the Dog And Folk club Traditional Entertainment Review awards), the successor to the FONI's (the Folk at the Old New Inn) of all those years ago.

The evening was started by performances from the warm-up artists, Sleepy and Bo, Nick Lines, Des and Tanglefoot and then it was on with the awards!! And the winners were for:-

The Most Original Folk club Theme	Mike Putnam
The New Technofolk Award	John Black
Best Song in a Foreign Language—————	Rosemary Harley
The Most IMPROVED Melodeon Player	Celia Neill
Best Committee Member/Presenter in a Frock	Sue Hartland
The Harbury Folk club Songwriters Award	Ron Shuttleworth
The Best Costume	Jean Shuttleworth
Best Interpretation of the Folk club Theme	
Best Newcomers	Sleepy, Bo and Jay!!
Best "Non-Solo Singing" Regular Club Supporter!	John Hancock
Best CD of 1996	The Harvesters

The Person (Male or Female),

Who Has Never Been Shaved at a Folk club------Des

The Person (Male or Female),

Who Has Been Shaved at a Folk club	Steve Dudley
The Best Barbershop!!	Broadway
The Best Supporting Performer	Nick of Fill and Drill
The Best Performer, living or Working, in Warwick	Rupe and Tanglefoot
The Most Often Told Off "Regular(s)"	The Jug Band

The evening concluded with two very special awards. Firstly, to tumultuous applause, (or was it just cries of relief!) Peter Bones was awarded the coveted "Jugband Award for Good Taste". And finally, Peter Mac, after narrowly missing out on the Most Original Theme award, the New Thechnofolk Folk award (in honour of his "ironing board" recitals), and even more surprisingly, losing the Best Supporting Performer award to Nick of Fill and Drill, was recognised for his contribution to the folk culture of the village and being the most

consistent and devoted attendee by the Harbury Folk Club Life Time Award!! Sadly, Peter could not be there to accept his award!!!

Winners were presented with The Golden Bonio and Key Ring and then rewarded the audience by singing, signing, dancing, or reciting to the usual Harbury standard.

The Raffle raised forty five pounds for Breakthrough Breast Cancer. I'm sure we'll all be back in the Dog Inn at 8.30pm on Thursday 6th March for Sue's evening on a theme of "Roots".

John Kemsley

HARBURY THEATRE GROUP

Please don't get the wrong idea, but I am in need of two 1950's girl guide uniforms and a police woman's uniform. If anyone could lend the Theatre Group any of the above items, I would be very grateful.

Rehearsals for the comedy *Holiday Haunts* are going apace and an entertaining time for all the family is promised for the 17th, 18th and 19th April.

Alan Barr

HARBURY PTA - A RECIPE FOR SUCCESS

Take: 116 adults, grouped in fours; a couple of attractive, efficient serving wenches; a handful of capable, friendly bar persons; a high technology scoring system (and a man who can handle it); a superb quiz master with a stack of interesting, innovative questions, with enough "gravitas" to overrule all complaints and challenges! and a sprinkling of infallible (well almost!) scorers.

Mix all ingredients thoroughly in a large School Hall. Simmer gently at first, turning up the heat for the last hour or so when the alcohol from the bar has had time to permeate all participants! Half way through "cooking" add tasty cheese and ham sandwiches and a fistful of Raffle tickets,

RESULT? A winning formula - another highly successful and enjoyable PTA Quiz.

Thanks to all of you who entered, to the familiar "old" faces and to the new - and there were quite a few of those.

Peter Walshe, our Quizmaster, was splendid. No one realised that he had risen, as Phoenix from the ashes (his sick bed), to reign supreme. Martin the "Marvel" was a whiz on the scoreboard. These two devised the questions and set the format. Their only brief was "make it good"! They certainly fulfilled all requirements! Thank you too, to everyone who helped, both in the afternoon making the delicious sandwiches and setting up and on the evening.

The quiz culminated in a nail biting tie breaker. The contenders were ready, horns were locked. Who were they, these Titans who had left the crowd behind? Firstly, The Black Sheep, a keen, mean and lean village team with a past history of wins. Their opponents, 14/6d, Southam based outsiders, form unknown. The scene was set, the tension mounted. Into this charged atmosphere PW dropped the crucial question. Hand up for true, hand down for false. The assembled throng waited with bated breath as the teams conferred, deliberated, eyeballed one another, and then made their answers known. So much depended on this, not only reputations, but a magnificent trophy donated by Steve itzgerald (ironically a member of the Black Sheep) and also a hamper of goodies (wicker basket from Stephen Kelly).

AND THERE WE WERE ON TENDER-HOOKS

Slowly, oh! so slowly, arms stirred – or no! One arm went up, one stayed down. PW supplied the answer and it was all over!

The winners? 14/6d from Southam. Well done to them and really, really hard luck to the Black Sheep (was they robbed, was they?). They should have depended on Clive Whorton's broken arm!

At the other end of the spectrum were the winners of the Wooden Spoon. Wonderfully decorated by Nigel Chapman, this is a trophy "par excellence". The recipients were the aptly named "Wooden Spoon" (did they know something?) and coincidentally, half of this year's winning team formed part of last year's. 'Nuf said!

Apologies to all those who were unable to buy raffle tickets - we ran out - people were so keen to get rid of their money! All in all a truly splendid evening, which raised an incredible £610 for the school.

Finally a few words of thanks to the following, without whose help the evening would not have run so smoothly. Let's hear it for Jay Daniels of the Dog Inn, for helping us out over the licence (we owe you a favour) and for Peter Bones, who lent us his sound equipment, the technicalities of which are beyond my comprehension! (Thanks Pete!). See you all next year!

Sue Buck for PTA Committee

ANSWERS TO HARBURY PTA "CHRISTMAS MIND TEASER"

- 1. 1917: Revolution in Russia
- 2. 4 July: American Independence Day
- 3. 7 Coins Of The Realm
- 4. Bicycle Made For 2: Tandem
- 5. 221B Baker Street: Home Of Sherlock Holmes
- 6. Tale of 2 Cities
- 7. 80 Days To Go Round The World
- 8. 3 Coins in a Fountain
- 9. 007: James Bond
- 10. 10 Green Bottles Hanging On The Wall
- 11. 93 Million Miles To The Sun
- 12. 425 Degrees Fahrenheit: Gas Mark 7
- 13. Three Corners in a Triangle
- 14. Length Of A Marathon: 26 Miles
- 15. 22 Yards : Length Of A Cricket Pitch
- 16. 32 Permanent Teeth in a Human Mouth
- 17. 1972: Year Ceylon Became Sri Lanka
- 18. 1215: Magna Carta
- 19. 206 Bones in a Human Skeleton
- 20. 1971: End of Pounds Shillings And Pence
- 21. 2 Ugly Sisters
- 22. Speed Of Light: 186000 Miles Per Second
- 23. 1945 : United Nations Founded
- 24. 147 : Maximum Break in Snooker
- 25. 625: Lines on a Television Screen
- 26 3 Wheels on a Tricycle
- 27. 1966: World Cup Final in England
- 28 John Paul George Ringo: The Beatles
- 29. 22 Miles: Distance From Dover to Calais

- 30. 10 Downing Street: Home Of Prime Minister
- 31. 1815 : Battle Of Waterloo
- 32. 1936: Abdication of Edward Eighth
- 33, 16 Ounces in a Pound
- 34. 10 Years in a Decade
- 35. 1980: John Lennon Shot
- 36. 30 Jumps in The Grand National
- 37. 1912: Year The Titanic Sank
- 38. Psalm 23: The Lord Is My Shepherd
- 39. 180: Highest Score With Three Darts
- 40. 12 Disciples of Christ
- 41. 45 : Revolutions Per Minute of A Single Record
- 42. 9 Lives Of A Cat
- 43. 1 Foot in The Grave
- 44. 40 Days And Nights in Lent
- 45. 1963: President Kennedy Assassinated
- 46. 7 Wonders of The World
- 47 7 Players in a Netball Team
- 48. 1969: First Man On The Moon
- 49. 4 Strings On A Violin
- 50. 41 Centimetres : Collar Size Sixteen

HARBURY SCHOOL'S KIDS CLUB

Easter Playscheme

The Kids Club will be opening a play scheme during the Easter holidays. The scheme will run on Thursday 3rd, Friday 4th, Monday 7th and Tuesday 8th April at The Kids Club from 10am-12.15pm.

There will be many activities on offer from cooking, sweet-making, face painting, arts and crafts, football and team games to mention just a few. The play scheme will be for all primary school age children in Harbury.

Thank you to everyone who supported the launch party; a great time was had by all 50 children and staff. The total raised on the raffle was £48 and was used to buy a scalextric for the Kids Club.

We will be holding a <u>Coffee Morning</u> in the Tom Hauley Room on Saturday 5th April. All money raised will be used for toys and equipment for the Kids Club.

Please note: There will be free membership during the weeks of Monday 3rd and 10th March. This is a saving of £5 per family. To register with the Kids Club free of charge please pop into the club daily between 3.15-3.45pm or phone 0402 898171.

We still need 1 part time morning staff member. It would ideally suit someone semi-retired. For more details please phone the above number.

Lynn Jackson

HARBURY LADIES NETBALL CLUB

The season is flying by and I can hardly believe that there are only 5 games left to play. There was a backlog of matches due to the bad weather in January, but we have now caught up thanks to the efforts of the fixtures secretaries, Helen and Hilary Wilson. We finish at the end of April, but the Easter Break means that only 2 games are played during April itself. Then we carry on training in preparation for the <u>Handicap Tournaments</u>, which are on **Saturday 17**th **May** in Coventry.

The "A" team is having a terrific season and all of the players are committed and enthusiastic. They have a good team spirit, but of course winning does enhance that! The "Premier Division" is a possibility if they carry on like this - although that will cause problems as umpires will require further qualifications. Thinking about umpires, thanks must go to Becci McDaid, who is remaining fit and healthy by umpiring their games to a very high standard each week.

The "B", "C", and "D" teams are holding their own, although all of them have struggled with players missing matches through injuries or illness.

After a period of stagnation in the club's fund raising, it's surprising what a social evening and a few drinks can produce. In this case, a few dates and volunteers to help run many of our favourite activities.

The first thing on the agenda is a <u>Quiz Night</u> at the Village Club on **Sunday Evening 16th March** 7.30-7.45pm arrival for an 8pm start. Teams of 4 people. £8 per team. This surely has to be a bargain evening, with a grand raffle, inexpensive drinks from the bar and sandwiches thrown in. Don't miss it!

On Tuesday 15th April, in conjunction with the Village Club and by

popular demand, we are holding another <u>Fashion Show</u>. £2 per ticket from netball players or the Club. Requests for them are likely to exceed demand - so buy early. Come and see the new Spring Fashions and buy from Suzanne who put on such a good display the last time she visited Harbury.

Forthcoming events are a <u>Dance</u> on <u>Saturday</u> 3rd May and a <u>Coffee</u> <u>Morning</u> in the Tom Hauley Room on <u>Saturday</u> 24th May. Also planned is a "Safari" type evening in June. More details of these events next month.

Pat Summers

EASTER SATURDAY COFFEE MORNING - 29th MARCH

John Terry was a Rural Studies Teacher having taken the position at the school he attended as a boy in Nuneaton. Having some difficult children to deal with, he hit on the idea of converting the neglected school grounds into a farm.

The response he had from the children was really encouraging and soon they became involved in many aspects of farming. This kept them off the streets and gave them all a lot of pleasure.

The Queen became aware of this farm and was so impressed that she donated a pedigree calf from her own stock. Unfortunately due to Education cutbacks, Rural Studies was removed from the School Curriculum and John had to re-train as a Science Teacher. He still runs the farm with the children, but it has to be done in his own time and of course, on a voluntary basis funded only by voluntary contributions.

I, together with some friends, will be having a coffee morning in the Tom Hauley Room on Easter Saturday, 29th March in aid of the wonderful work which John is doing for these children and I hope I can count on your support. John has written several humorous books about the farm and his experiences and will be attending to sign copies.

Any donations for a Raffle and "Bring and Buy" will be much appreciated. My grateful thanks in anticipation.

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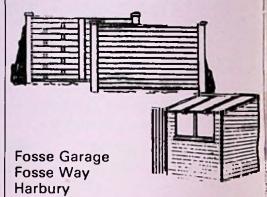
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RUNNING FOR THE B.D.A. TADPOLES

"Brother and Sister Act", Nicky and Andy West-Latham are to run in the Flora London Marathon on Sunday 13th April.

As a number of you know, I have been a diabetic for 22 years, but have recently been diagnosed with further complication related to the diabetes. We have, therefore, decided to run the Marathon in aid of the British Diabetic Association *Tadpoles*, to raise funds to help in the research and care towards diabetic children.

We are therefore both seeking sponsorship, however large or small, towards our target of £1,000 for the *Tadpoles* - you can't miss us when we are running in our "brightest of yellow" Tadpole T-shirts.

Sponsorship forms can be found at the Doctors' Surgery, Kane's the Newsagent and the Londis Supermarket. Alternatively call 613683 to forward sponsorship. Every penny donated will be gratefully received.

Nicky and I are presently enjoying all those privileges of training for a marathon! - refreshing snow and rain penetrating parts of the body that nothing else can reach! and north east breezes which enable ½ the distance training. 1 step forward, 2 steps back!

Thank you to all who have generously sponsored already and to all who will see "fit" to sponsor.

Andrew West-Latham

THE FLORA LONDON MARATHON 1997

This year, for the first time, I will be lining up with 27,000 others to run the London Marathon. I hope to finish in around 4 hours but will be very happy just to get round! I shall be running for a national charity called *Back Up* which was set up in 1985 by Mike Nemesvary, a former British and European Freestyle Skiing Champion who broke his neck in a trampoline accident. Mike hoped that *Back Up* would encourage spinally injured people to become independent and integrated through sporting activity. Once someone had sailed across a lake single-handed or skied down a slope, then to get a job, or to live independently may not seem quite so daunting.

As I try to run the Marathon this year my friend Karen will be competing in the wheelchair race. Karen broke her neck and back in a Scottish climbing accident when we were still at University. We are both hoping to raise money for *Back Up* as through them Karen has learnt to ski and attended outdoor activity courses that instruct riding, water-skiing, sailing, canoeing, abseiling, gliding and orienteering. All the equipment used is specially adapted and consequently very expensive. For example, a new ski bob like the one pictured costs £1,400.



I am collecting as many sponsorships as I can from now until the Marathon which is running on Sunday 13th April. Anyone wishing to sponsor me will find a form in the Surgery or see John and Sharon Hancock. I know that it will really spur me on to finish, so many thanks in advance.

HARBURY CARNIVAL - 14th June

Plans are progressing well for this year's Carnival and Wheelbarrow race (6 teams have already registered their interest in the latter).

In last month's Harbury & Ladbroke News we asked for suggestions for events to take place during the week before the Carnival. For our part, the Committee intends to organise the running of some traditional pub games and we will let you have further details of this event in due course. In the meantime any suggestions you may have would still be welcome - please contact Dan Killian on 612265.

Finally, may we remind anybody interested in organising or running a stall on Carnival day to also contact Dan Killian.

John Broomfield

THE THIN EDGE OF THE WEDGE

I would like to draw your attention to the January Parish Council Meeting. In particular, the plans proposed by Geoff Wilson. He revealed plans to clear contaminated soil from Harbury Lane Airfield and to create a development of 40 houses and work shop units.

On the surface this may seem the ideal solution to the unsightly mess that exists on Harbury Lane. However, I feel it must be brought to everyone's attention that a proposal of this sort has far reaching consequences for all who live in and around Harbury.

Firstly, a development on this scale will continue and escalate the erosion of the remaining green belt. Secondly development will not stop at 40 houses. Once an example has been set, everyone owning land along Harbury Lane will demand change of use from agricultural to housing and - with the development on Middle Road - the village of Harbury will conjoin with Whitnash and Leamington Spa within a few years. Do those who have invested their money in housing in Harbury - houses bought at a premium because Harbury, up till now, has been viewed as a desirable village - want to end up living in an area that is akin to no more than a suburb of Leamington?

The thin edge of the wedge? Take a closer look at the area in question bounded by Harbury Lane, Whitnash, The Fosse and the railway. The

total area is some 400 hectares. Allowing 75% of the area to be housing and 25% to be parks schools, etc., 300 hectares could be allocated for average to high density building of 21 houses per hectare (8.5 houses per acre). Thus the total area could absorb around 5,000 houses. This may seem a high figure, one that may not be justified but look at it in terms of houses per year. At present some 207 houses are being built south of Whitnash. There is a further development underway at Hillside Farm. A proposal of 40 houses plus industrial units on the disused airfield is being planned perhaps an equivalent of 80 to 100 houses. Therefore to date, some 300 houses are either being or could be constructed this year. Allowing for natural acceleration, it could take but a matter of seven to ten years before Harbury becomes a suburb of Leamington Spa.

What may be of interest is that this area is conveniently carved down the middle. East of the Fosse Way the area is under the control of Warwick District Council. The western half is under the jurisdiction of Stratford upon Avon District Council. Notwithstanding the Warwickshire Structure Plan, one wonders how close a liaison both councils maintain with each other. Very limited I should imagine for obvious reasons.

Forty houses mean increases on already stretched resources. Schooling will have to be sought for younger children. There may be up to 80 such youngsters. Can Harbury School facilitate them? Shopping for 40 plus households. Can Harbury sustain the increase in car parking for shoppers or will "Pay and Display" car parks have to be sited in the village?

There are prime areas in Leamington Spa and Warwick that can be re-developed to allow for these criteria so why not develop them. Urban re-development has many advantages, it increases the standard of the town, it enhances the facilities already in existence (public transport, shops, recreational facilities, etc.).

This disused Airfield/Scrap yard, tidied up, would be of great benefit to the environment it if was turned into a country park as it is ideally situated next to the proposed playing fields.

As I understand from the County Council, the site in question is currently being used without a licence and without planning permission. It would appear the only way to clear up this ill-gotten mess is to pay the owners a handsome sum of money and put houses on the site. Building

land can fetch up to £300,000 per acre. Ignoring the industrial units, the housing site alone must cover 5 acres thereby giving the landowner a possible minimum of £1,500,000 possible £2 million. Shouldn't we all be doing it - it beats the lottery!

Zosia Butcher, Leamington Hall Farm

HARBURY TWINNING INITIATIVE

Our first meeting in December was attended by more than 40 villagers, representing a wide variety of interests within the community of Harbury. Four speakers explained what twinning is: the benefits of twinning; what people and schools could expect from twinning and an illustrated presentation of our prospective twin - Samois-sur-Seine.

Everyone agreed the proposed twinning was a good idea and that we should proceed to develop contacts both through a steering-group and through our school.

Since then, good progress has been made on both sides of the Channel. The two schools are developing contacts with some speed. We have a steering group and Samois have a Twinning Committee.

Now we propose to go and <u>visit Samois</u>. We suggest two days: 24th to 26th May (our Spring Bank Holiday weekend) or 27th to 29th June (Jazz Festival in Samois). Anyone interested in joining a visit at either of these times, please contact Ken Stephenson (612537), Andrew Patrick (614359) or David Winter (612585).

We are also looking to involve any other people who are interested and can help with this twinning initiative - whether present at the original meeting or not. If you are a member of any Harbury social or cultural club, we would be particularly pleased to hear from you.

Jacqueline Clarke

HARBURY CHRONICLES

The first public meeting about the proposed Millennium video was well attended by Group representatives and interested individuals. They heard Chairman Peter Woodward outline the general concept of the video and then he introduced Warwick Partington, who will be our Director/Cameraman.

Warwick comes to us with a wealth of experience, having worked for various TV companies directing documentaries, sporting fixtures and Sky News. After telling us something of his background, Warwick gave us his views of the format our film should take and answered questions about cost and types of film available. He also said he would be prepared to train one or two 15 - 18 year olds in the use of film equipment and they could accompany him as his assistants. So, if you have interests in this direction, now is your chance to learn from an expert.

The importance of fund raising was stressed as we must match any grants we receive. Several events are in the pipeline, so please watch out for them and if you have any ideas of your own, we would be pleased to hear from you.

The evening ended with a brain-storming session when some good suggestions were noted. Everyone was asked to continue giving thought to the project and to discuss it with friends. Further ideas for film content or fund raising should be submitted in writing to any committee member or posted into the box in Party Paraphernalia.

Committee: Danny Killian, Moira Lamont, Peter McDonald, Anne Megeney, Bill Middleton, Mary Shelley, Janet Thornley, Robert Waterman, Peter Woodward.

Saturday 22nd March - Mini Market 2pm-4pm Tom Hauley Room (Come and sell your wares; £5 per table top). Anne Megeney will be selling books, so if you have any paper backs, etc. in good condition, please let her have them (612745). Contact Mary (612539) for tables.

Thanks to PTA/Playgroup for £80 from Coffee Morning.

Anne Megeney, Secretary

LOCAL CHARITY NEEDS DRIVERS IN THE SOUHAM AREA

The Southam Volunteer Bureau urgently needs volunteer drivers particularly in the Southam, Harbury, Bishops Itchington and Stockton areas. The Volunteer Bureau provides help with transport for elderly, frail or disadvantaged people with a genuine need to attend various health appointments.



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Volunteers are also urgently required to help in the transport of elderly people to the Day Care service of the Alzheimer's Disease Society, South Warwickshire Branch, which is held in Southam, each Monday and Wednesday.

Project Manager for the Alzheimer's Disease Society, Peter Jones said: The people concerned really enjoy coming and benefit from the company. We help up to 20 local people each week with this Day Care service, many of whom come from outlying villages. Mileage allowance of 31.7p per mile is paid for authorised journeys.

Anyone interested in becoming a volunteer driver for the Alzheimer's Disease Society or helping with transport to other appointments, is urged to contact Clarissa Roberts of the Volunteer Bureaux on 01789 296344.

Clarissa Roberts

HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

The talk on "Wild Flowers of Warwickshire" by Mrs. Pamela Copson on 4th February, was very interesting and thought provoking. The fact that there are so many different habitats was amazing in itself and also that we take so much for granted.

Anyone who intends going to the Malvern Show on 9th, 10th and 11th May, please bring £5.50 to the March meeting.

The schedule for the show is mostly done now and we hope there is something for everyone. If anybody has any new ideas for the handicraft section, please contact Ron Grey on 612515.

The Garden Walkabout will take place on Saturday 12th and Sunday 13th July. We would like a few more new gardens, so please contact Mrs. Pat Smith on 612650 if you are interested.

I think that everyone has heard of the flatworm, which first appeared in the U.K. in N. Ireland and the north of the mainland, but it has been extending its range southwards. It has been reported in Sutton Coldfield and Bromsgrove and now seems to be in the West Midlands. To monitor its movement we are all asked to keep a lookout for it. I believe there are two varieties, the New Zealand and Australian. Both look like

raw liver, pink and speckled, but the Australian variety is smaller and lighter in colour.

The predators upon them are the <u>larvae</u> of the <u>ground</u> and <u>rove beetles</u>. These are non-specialist carnivores which also eat other garden pests. Moist mulches and patches of ground cover encourage the beetles; pesticides for soil dwelling insets kill them off.

The next talk on Tuesday 4th March on Hellebores will be given by Mr. Michael Leach, and I am sure it will be interesting and informative.

Muriel Grey

GARDENING NOTES for MARCH

Now gardens are stirring, grass beginning to grow along with the weeds, we look forward to sunny days to encourage us to get into the open air. When plants push into growth they need a ready supply of nutrients so feed mixed borders, roses, shrubs and newly planted trees with a general fertiliser. Always check that you feed the correct amount. Too much is wasteful and may even damage plants, too little doesn't give the plants the boost they need so is equally wasteful.

Plant out any hardy perennials grown from seed. Top dress rockeries and alpines with gravel and tidy up the plants. Protect emerging shoots with slug pellets, but to avoid harm to pets and wildlife, put the pellets under an orange skin. Alternatively, cut a protective collar from a plastic bottle. Put in supports for plants which will need them as they grow. Attack perennial weeds as soon as you see them, dig carefully, as many have creeping rootstocks. Clear weeds from paths and paving.

Hard prune any shrubs which flower late in the summer or autumn. Most can be cut to about a foot from the ground but only take out one stem in three on variegated dogwoods. Finish pruning roses by cutting to a healthy outward facing bud about half way down each stem. Be sure to clear away all debris. Do not cut back old fashioned varieties or ones which flower only once a year because these flower on last year's growth. Prune these more lightly in summer after flowering.

Plant early potatoes into warmed soil towards the end of month, along with Brussels sprouts. Sow parsnips, spinach, summer cabbage, radish

and spring onions. Sow tomatoes and peppers for the greenhouse. Rake the lawn and aerate it before giving a nitrogen rich feed. If you did not service the lawn mower earlier, do it now.

Indoor foliage plants need regular feeding now. Repot any which have roots appearing at the base of the pot. Azaleas can be repotted in ericaceous compost and fed and grown on until the end of May when they can go outside for the summer.

Plant of the Month: Camellia

In the 17th century a Jesuit missionary, George Kamel, sent back from China the seeds of a plant favoured by the mandarins. After his death the plant which had been grown both in America and England was called Camellus. The first two camellias grown in England were raised by Lord Petre whose gardener treated them to tropical conditions, to which they succumbed. The heartbroken lord died soon after but the gardener, James Gordon was made of sterner stuff and raised another plant in 1740 which became the parent of all the early plants.

Camellias need an acid soil, but will grow happily in a large container for many years. Plant them where they will not catch the early morning sun which may damage buds which have been frosted. The williamsii hybrids are generally more hardy than the japonica ones.

Pat Smith

Letters to the Editors

Dear Editors

May I through the H&L News thank everyone who so kindly sent me cards, fruit and goodies during my recent stay in hospital.

The enquiries and messages from so many people popping in to see me cheered me up. It doesn't suit me to be housebound, but hopefully in another few weeks that will be over.

Once again many, many thanks. I can assure everyone, everything was much appreciated.

Dear Editors

The Grapevine coffee morning has been held in the Tom Hauley Room every week during term-time for the past two years - first on Wednesdays and lately on Thursdays. However since the number of people regularly coming has dwindled and a couple of our regular helpers have left, it seems the time has come to close. I'd like to thank the 'regulars' who we were glad to see week by week and of course those who dropped by now and again.

We have even had visitors from Australia who happened to be passing one day! Thanks go too to the whole Grapevine team, namely: Dorothy Travis, Mary Catt, Betty Knappe, Lisa Wicker, Pam Clarke, Barbara Hodge, and latterly Sue Lapraik and Betty Atkins.

Perhaps something similar may start again (on Wednesdays?) in the future, should the need arise.

Lesley Jones

Dear Editors

I would like to thank you all for coming to my 65th Birthday party and for your many gifts, cards and good wishes. After expecting a quiet meal with the family it was a big surprise to find you all waiting for me in the Village Hall. I had a great time in the company of my family and the most wonderful friends.

Particular thanks to Simon, Nicola and Anne for arranging it all in such secrecy and to Carol Percival and Sally Stringer for giving up their Saturday afternoon to help. A big big thank you to Jeanette and Colin Wyburn and Pete Rowell for providing the music and to Janet Thornley, Jeanette and Dot Astill for some "stimulating" entertainment.

Doug Megeney

Dear Editors

Through the Harbury & Ladbroke News, I wish to convey my thanks to all those who helped with the Church Flower Fund Coffee Morning on 22^{nd} February. A profit of £104.35 was made on the day. Thank you to all who donated cakes, bring and buy and raffle prizes and to everyone who came along and made the morning so successful.

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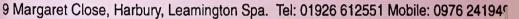
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