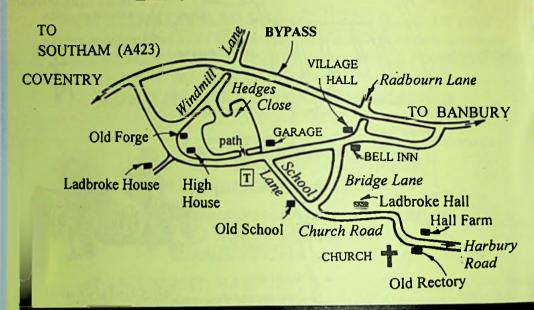
Harbury & Ladbroke News CHESTERTON RADFORD & LEAMINGTON Honiwell Close Hillside (via Fosse Way) BINSWOOD END TEMPLE END Dickens Road Levcester Close Mackley Farm Street Way Sutcliffe Drive OLD NEW INN Manor Orchard Farm Close Bush Heath Lane The Manor SURGERY Heber Drive Manor Road SCHOOL & Knightlow Way Dark Lane Chapel nelope Close All Saints' Church Park Lane Street SHAKESPEARE INN Terrace Constance WINDMILL largarei Mill Lane Close -N Fox Close LIBRARY & WIGHT SCHOOL GAMECOCK INN Fligh Street CREATION Bull Ring Farm Road Ivy Lane GROUND VILLAGE HALL Church Terrace DOG INN The Hall Pineham Avenue POST OFFICE Church Street CHURCH Percival Drive **CROWN INN** Crown VILLAGE CLUB Crown Close Drinkwater Dovehouse Close Neales Close Queens Close Bull Lane Pirie/Close Harbury House ! UFTON TO A425 & SOUTHAM (B4452) DEPPERS BRIDGE & LADBROKE (B4452)

Ladbroke



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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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The views of contributors are not necessarily those of the Editorial

APRIL 1999 No. 301

In the Daily Telegraph last weekend, Ladbroke residents were reportedly outraged at the news that Ladbroke Plc were changing the company name to the Hilton Group. The group took its name from the village in 1885 when a local racehorse trainer set up a partnership to take and place bets. In future, the name Ladbroke will only be used for the bookmaking side of the business which is a return to its original usage!

In the past, the company used rural scenes from Ladbroke to illustrate its annual reports. Since this may no longer happen the Editors decided to



Church Cottage, Ladbroke

feature a pleasant corner of the village. However, we intend to retain our title as The Harbury and Hilton News would not have quite the same ring about it!

Spring has officially arrived, bringing with it the usual crop of road works in the area! In recent weeks pavement repairs have also been prolific in Harbury (see Parish Council report).

Following last month's appeal, the Editors are delighted with the overwhelming response and welcome Zoë James from Ladbroke, Kate Thomas and Kathryn Tye from Harbury as Editors as well as Paul Smallwood our new Photographer from Chesterton. Zoë would welcome information on any Ladbroke news or events (811236) whilst Paul is willing to photograph any village events, subject to his availability (614820).

This month everyone will have been aware of the demise of two shops with Harbury. It is a sad reflection of our times when the village has increased in size, that it no longer supports the variety of retailers who are the cornerstone of the local We thank both economy. proprietors for their support to the magazine over the last few years.

Articles for next month's edition should still go to Party Paraphernalia and we will advise a new collection point for articles in the May issue.



A sign of the times - Harbury's Newsagent closed this month.

The A.G.M. of the magazine will be held on Monday 26th April in The Dog Inn at 8.00pm. All are welcome.

Lastly we extend our sympathies to the families of Pemmie Barnett, Frank Clarke, Gwen Douthwaite and Stan Greenway.

Harbury Diary

		The state of the s
APRIL		
Sun		Easter Sunday - Sung Eucharist 8am; Sunday Eucharist 9am;
		Evensong 4pm
Mon	5	Bank Holiday
		Harbury Society Pub Walk from lay-by at Bubbenhall 10am
Tues	6	Coffee Club in Scout Hut 7.30-9.30pm
		Holy Communion 7.30pm
	_	Horticultural Society in Village Hall 8pm
Wed		Holy Communion 2pm; Mothers' Union 2.30pm
Thurs	8	Holy Communion 9.45am
		Thursday Club in Village Hall 2.30pm
		Line Dancing in Village Club 7.30-10pm (Beginners 7.30-8pm) £2.50
_ ,		WI in Tom Hauley Room 7.45pm
Fri		NEWSPAPER COLLECTION
Sun	11	2 nd Sunday of Easter - Holy Communion 8am
		Sung Eucharist 10.30am
+ *	40	Evensong 6.30pm
Tues	13	Coffee Club in Scout Hut 7.30-9.30pm
		Holy Communion 7.30pm; Prayer Group in Church 8pm
		Village Hall committee meeting in Village Hall 8pm
Thuse	45	Neighbourhood Watch meeting in Tom Hauley Room 8pm
Thurs	10	Holy Communion 9.45am
		ADVERTS to 14, Binswood End by 5.30pm Line Dancing in Village Club 7.30-10pm (Beginners 7.30-8pm) £2.50
		Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme in Tom Hauley Room 8-9.30pm
Fri	16	
Sat		Stage up in Village Hall Men's Prayer Breakfast in Tom Hauley Room 7.30am
Sal	17	Cricket Club's Race Night at the Village Club 8pm
		Rugby Second XV home to Learn 3
Sun	40	3 rd Sunday of Easter - Holy Communion 8am
Juli	10	Family Communion 10.30am
		Vestry meeting & annual Church meeting in Tom Hauley Room 6.45pr
Tues	20	Holy Communion 7.30pm; Mothers' Union 8pm
1403	20	Senior Citizens' Committee in Village Hall 8pm
		Coffee Club in Scout Hut 7.30-9.30pm
Thurs	22	Holy Communion 9.45am
111010		Thursday Club in Village Hall 2.30pm
		Parish Council meeting in Tom Hauley Room 7.30pm
		Line Dancing in Village Club 7.30-10pm (Beginners 7.30-8pm) £2.50
		Holiday Snap in Village Hall 8pm
Fri	23	NEWSPAPER COLLECTION
		ARTICLES to Harbury Chemist by 5.30pm
		Holiday Snap in Village Hall 8pm
		Honday Grap III Village Hall Ophi

Sat 24 Rugby First & Third XV Home to Broad Street 2 Myton Hospice Plant Sale at The Dog Inn 1-4pm Southarn & Distr. Lions Annual Spring Party at Southarn School 2.15pm Holiday Snap in Village Hall 8pm

26 Harbury & Ladbroke News A.G.M. in The Dog Inn 8pm Mon

25 4th Sunday of Easter - Holy Communion 8am Sun Sung Eucharist 10.30am; Sunday School in Tom Hauley Room 10.30am Evensong 6.30pm

Tues 27 Holy Communion 7.30pm Coffee Club in Scout Hut 7.30-9.30pm

Thurs 29 Holy Communion 9.45am Line Dancing in Village Club 7.30-10pm (Beginners 7.30-8pm) £2.50

MAY Sat Sun

1 Myton Hospice Jumble Sale in Village Hall 2 5th Sunday of Easter - Sung Eucharist 9am

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

Please note

Adverts to 14, Binswood End by Thursday 15th April Articles still to Party Paraphernalia by Friday 23rd April

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

For Scout Hut Bookings Mr. R. Flanagan For Tom Hauley Room Bookings Mrs. Stubbs Mr. P. Winchester 614466 For Village Hall Bookings For Wight School Bookings Mrs. Hayes

THE PARISH COUNCIL

9, Sutcliffe Drive, Harbury, CV33 9LT

Chairman: Clerk: Parish Office: John Hunt Deborah Steele Tel. 614 646

613612

612782

613488

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH HARBURY SUNDAY SERVICES

Holy Communion 8.00am

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.

Rector: Father Roy Brown, The Rectory, Vicarage Lane, Harbury

Tel.: 612377

Laugh Line

Said the Rector at a wedding: Don't be nervous for, you see, everything, that's said or done, you say or do it after me.

Wilt thou take and wed this woman and endeavour to be true?

But the bridegroom, much embarrassed, stammered: After you!

FROM THE RECTOR

An important aspect of our Christian pilgrimage is having to do nothing and instead allowing our Heavenly Father to guide us from minute to minute. We recognise that this can be very difficult, and probably it is never more difficult than when we face death; either our own or other people's. When we hear that someone is seriously ill we first experience disbelief which is rapidly transformed into an understandable desire to 'do something'. We enquire about the medical case, the doctor, is the patient in the best hospital? Having checked that aspect we then turn to our prayer - and what do we pray for? Probably a miracle, or if despair is eating into us we pray in a resigned way for the person not to suffer and for a speedy end.

All these actions and sentiments are quite right and proper but they can sometimes cloud our experiences of this special period in life when we become very close to our Heavenly Father. And to some extent they are a sign that we still have a long way to go in comprehending the all-embracing commitment God has to each of us as part of his people, not just for this life but for eternity. If we believe that Christ died on the

cross and rose from the dead three days later, then we know death is not the end. It is simply the final curtain on the dress rehearsal for life. But our belief is still very weak and we long to hold on to what we have here and now, just in case there has been a big mistake.

Through this Lent we have tried to grow a little closer to our Heavenly Father by trying to develop our trusting dependence on Him as a solution to our difficulties. At no time in our lives will we need this trust more than when we face death, yet as always he does not leave us orphans. He shows us the way.

During Holy Week we contemplate Christ's death. How did He cope? What did He do? The answer is He said nothing - He simply let his Father use Him as He wished. And the result was triumph over death forever for all mankind. Jesus could have decided to escape, He could have worked a few spectacular miracles to stop the hostile crowd in their tracks; indeed one suggestion was that He should get down from the cross! He could have decided that people like Him were needed in this world and He could stay a little longer, or perhaps his mother could have persuaded Him that He was too young to die. If He had chosen any of these courses they would have certainly helped those people to see more clearly that He was indeed divine. The world was a dark, confusing place, He had already set alight a glimmer of hope something spectacular now would provide a real lamp to lighten the darkness. But no, He simply did nothing. How frustrating for everyone!

As we go forward in our pilgrimage as Easter people, let us think about His 'inactivity' for in it is revealed the activity of the Father. His solution to death turns all our worldly ideas upside down for in His death is the true life. Because Jesus simply let the Father use Him completely throughout His final week. As a result we have the permanent gift of Holy Communion; Christ with us now. We have the positive proof of the forgiveness of repentant sinners and we have the proof of Christ's complete power over our death. And in His death He gives us the greatest gift of all - the positive proof of real life forever. If He had simply lit a lamp during that week with a miracle or a change in His Father's plan, we would not have any of these consoling proofs.

But His passion and death was the turning down of the lamp because the dawn had come.

Christ is Risen. Alleluia! Alleluia Fr. Rov

Easter Prayer

Living Lord, conqueror of death, we remember with gladness how on the day of your resurrection you appeared to your disciples in your risen power and said to them: *Peace be with you.*

Speak that word to our hearts today, O Lord. Lift us above all our doubts and fears, and help us so to practise your presence and to rest upon your victory that your peace may be with us, now and for ever more. Amen.

FROM THE REGISTERS

Holy Baptism at All Saints' Harbury

21st March Tristan Aaron Thomas Clarke

28th March Daniel Ian Thomas O'Sullivan

Funerals at All Saints' Harbury

4th March Frank Clarke

29th March Gwen Douthwaite

Funerals at All Saints' Ladbroke

5th March Pemmie Barnett

25th March Stan Greenway

MOTHERS' UNION

Afternoon meeting: We held our Lenten Service in Church, led by Father Roy. The Address was given by the Venerable Donald Smith, who spoke on Aspects of Prayer. After the service, which was very well attended, we finished with the usual notices and tea in the Tom Hauley Room.

Evening meeting: Members attended the Tuesday evening service and heard the Lenten Address by Father Roy, speaking on the last two Beatitudes: Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. After the service, the meeting continued in the Tom Hauley Room with notices, discussion and coffee.

Next meetings:

Wed 7th April - Something for Nothing, Sheila Heeley

Tues 20th April - The work of a Hospital Lay Chaplain, Jill Winter

Please note - a change to both May meetings:

Wed 5th May - 2.15pm Deanery Festival Service in Harbury Church

Tues 18th May - 7.00pm Diocesan Festival Service - St. Mary's

Warwick

Audrey Tebaldi & Anne Moore

TODDLERS' SERVICE

Two mothers, Jackie and Jane took the service in March. Our topic was mothers. We talked about what our mothers do for us and what we can do for our mothers!

We looked at toy mummy animals and had to say what their babies were called.

We sang All Things Bright and Beautiful and said a prayer thanking God for our mummies. We then stuck paper flowers on to cards to give to our mothers on Mother's Day.

Lorna Bedford

Ladbroke News

APRIL

Sun 4 Easter Sunday - Family Communion 10.30am

Sun 11 2nd Sunday of Easter - Sung Communion 9am

Mon 12 Ladbroke Village Millennium Club prize draw in The Bell Inn 8pm

Tues 13 <u>ADVERTS</u> 14, Blnswood End, Harbury by 5.30pm Wed 14 Holy Communion 2pm; Women's Fellowship 2.45pm

Sun 18 3rd Sunday of Easter - Sung Communion 9am; Said Evensong 6pm Children's Church 10.30am

Thurs 22 WI meeting, speaker: Rosemary Galilee about Chicken but no Chips

Fri 23 St. George; Holy Communion 7am

ARTICLES to Party Paraphernalia, Chapel Street Harbury by 5.30pm

Sun 25 4th Sunday of Easter - Holy Communion 9am

MAY

Sun 2 5th Sunday of Easter - Family Communion 10.30am

LADBROKE FLOWER ROTA

4th April - Easter Day Jill Moore 11th April Jill Moore

18th April Betty Winkfield
25th April Lucia Teverson
2nd May Karen Birch

Betty Winkfield

LADBROKE CHURCH NEWS

At our Annual Vestry meeting on March 21st Michael Short retired as Church Warden. I personally will miss him very much, but I'm sure other people will too. We have come to rely on him so much. Steve Copley has been elected to replace Michael and I look forward to working with him.

Our Mothering Sunday Service was great fun, the children doing their bit very well - as usual. The posies were lovely, and all mothers and grandmothers - those present and those not - had one. Many thanks Jill.

The work on the church didn't start in March, but that was only because we didn't want any upheaval through Easter. It will begin on April 12th.

I hope everyone has had their Easter cards from the church. Hoping it isn't too late, may I wish you a Happy and Blessed Easter.

Betty Winkfield

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Many thanks to Linda Doyle who stepped in at the last minute at our March meeting and gave us a very interesting talk on tracing our ancestors. She has got quite a long way back with her own family, but has now found a few problems sorting out members of one family who all lived in the same area back in the 18th Century.

Next month Stella Douglas was going to give us one of her talks but as she is at the moment recovering from heart surgery we shall have to think again. I'm glad to report that Stella's operation went well, but it is still early days yet, so she is constantly in our thoughts and prayers.

Betty Winkfield

LADBROKE AND DEPPERS BRIDGE W.I.

The March meeting was held on 25th at 7.30pm in Ladbroke Village Hall.

The president, Mrs. Susan Moore took the chair. She welcomed and introduced a new member, Mrs. Jenny Barrett, to the meeting.

Six members attended the Spring Council meeting on March 21st at the Spa Centre. It was well attended and our WI were responsible for selling raffle tickets and realised almost £700 for County Funds.

Mrs. Rosemary Galilee gave us a talk in the morning on the history of the Warwickshire WI with some very amusing anecdotes.

The Speaker in the afternoon was Mr. Colin Tarn who was most entertaining. We will have the pleasure of hearing him again at the group meeting on May 8th.

Several members had an enjoyable evening with Princethorpe WI this month.

On March 22nd four members entered the WI Quiz and were placed 6th. On March 23rd fourteen members and friends had an hilarious evening visiting Hellidon Lakes for Ten Pin Bowling and supper.

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Names were taken for a day visit to Woburn Abbey and to an evening fashion show at Stockton.

Envelopes were handed out for discarded jewellery which is being collected by the WI for The National Heart Research Fund. If you have any you do not want, broken or otherwise, please give it to a WI member.

Our speaker for the evening was Mrs. Dagmar Frazer who dries and presses flowers to make delightful pictures, brooches, paper weights, cards and other decorative items. What patience she must have to make these beautiful things. Her talk was very much enjoyed. For flowers to dry, never pick before 10am, or after 3pm. Telephone directories are useful for pressing them!

The raffle prizes were won by Pam Colling, Gill Moore and Reidun Wilks. Next month the meeting will be on Thursday 22nd April, when Mrs Rosemary Galilee will give us a talk entitled Chicken but no Chips.

Tea hostesses: Mrs. Catherine Spence and Mrs. Hazel Sharples. New members and visitors are always welcome to join us.

Hazel Sharples

LADBROKE VILLAGE HALL

The third prize draw of the Ladbroke Village Millennium Club for 1999 was held on March 8th at the Bell Inn. The winners were Terence Sullivan £80; Bo M. Whitehouse £50; Alan Stubbs £25. Peter West, Dianne Surgey, Peter Towell, Beverley Bradley and Marion Grainger each won £10.

The next prize draw will take place on Monday 12th April at the Bell Inn at 8pm. We would be delighted if anyone would like to come and join us for the draw. Any new members will be very welcome - please make contact on 814362.

Catherine Spence

SOUTHAM & DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Ladbroke Section

Through the Local History Society and my daughter's connections with the Sealed knot, we were able to see a fascinating dramalogue, Will's Wife, by Lizzie Jones in Ladbroke Village Hall. Having see Lizzie perform at Banbury as a Civil War Soldier's wife, I was not disappointed.

Lizzie is a historical researcher and actress and puts both her talents together to produce 17th Century dramalogues. At Ladbroke she took Ann Hathaway and gave us an insight into her life at Stratford in 1609, when Will Shakespeare deserted her for the theatre and London. Ann was introduced to us through her authentic dress and moved into a living history as she told her story. You could have heard a pin drop as the audience was enclosed in Ann's life.

Lizzie does a dozen different characters from the 17th Century, including Oliver Cromwell's wife, the Countess of Derby and Bess of Hardwick, to name a few. At the request of the audience, we will be inviting Lizzie and Neil back to do another dramalogue for us.

Will's Wife also prompted me to look up Prudence Chebsey who married John Shakespeare at Ladbroke during Will Shakespeare's lifetime. I had said that it was unlikely that the two men were related, however I could be wrong and Prudence's family was certainly well associated with Stratford at that time and would have seen, if not met, Will's father John when Mayor of Stratford-on-Avon.

Ladbroke's Chebsey family turned out to be very interesting, because there are so few families and all with restricted geographical connections. The two earliest families on the IGI list are John at Harbury and George at Snitterfield, around 1570; surely related! From then onwards, almost every association is with Harbury, Ladbroke or Southam, and there is no reference to the name at all after William and Elizabeth christened their last child in 1574 at Ladbroke. Ladbroke certainly appears to have the longest association with this name.

STAN GREENWAY

who died on Monday 15th March

Villagers in Ladbroke are left wondering how they will manage without another much loved member of the community. He was involved with many things. To



Ladbroke he was the Village Hall guardian, coping with all the difficult bits, such as getting tenders for work to be done, acting as treasurer and getting the trust formed when the Village Hall became a charity.

To other people he was the veteran car enthusiast and expert, taking part in the London to Brighton run must years - winning it on occasions too - so I was told, but not by Stan.

Stan was a quiet, friendly, unassuming man, who always found the best in everybody. We all felt we were his best friend and always came away feeling happier after a chat with Stan.

He was Elsa's other half, there to support her when she was in pain. She is going to need our help, love and support as she learns to cope with life without Stan. She is very grateful for the 37 happy years they had together.

Betty Winkfield

LADBROKE PARISH COUNCIL REPORT - 17th MARCH

It was with great sadness that we all stood to remember Stan Greenway, who has done so much for the village in recent years.

Crime Report: An outbuilding had been entered on one of the farms in February.

It was noted that the car which had been causing a bit of a hazard at the junction between Banbury Road and School Lane is now parking further from the corner.

PC Andy Went told the Council that considerations are taking place regarding the manpower at Southam Police station and the use of community officers. It is of concern whether the community will continue to be adequately served by Warwickshire Constabulary.

The proliferation of 'blue posts' turned out to be privately owned by traffic consultants and are used to sense traffic flow.

Ongoing Matters: It is hoped that the seat will soon be back in place now that the weather is improving.

Letters are still passing back and forth regarding the surface of the bypass. The name of the contractor can be provided to any claimant whose car has been damaged by the chipping.

<u>Planning</u>: A planning application to convert barns to holiday cottages at Manor Farm was approved.

A meeting had taken place during the month with Mr and Mrs John Barrett of Chapel Ascote pig farm, at which councillors were generally assured that the methods used will greatly lessen the likelihood of pollution either to the air or to the water course. The Council are committed to try to set up mechanisms which are in place in the unlikely event of a major nuisance.

Councillors Peter Williamson and Carol Northorpe had been invited to attend a training day organised by Stratford District Council, on planning matters. Privately I rather begrudged spending a precious Saturday learning about planning applications but it was so organised that we learned some of the anomalies in planning and the best ways in which applications can be challenged in an atmosphere of good fun. Some of the examples given, e.g. the villager who kept a tank parked outside his house - made us realise that our problems in Ladbroke are manageable (so far).

Footpath Report: Michael Boden-Pritchett has brought the first two pamphlets describing Blue Lias ring walks. An auger had been purchased to facilitate the digging of holes for fence posts.

Millennium Matters: The results of the questionnaire revealed "a substantial interest" in a village New Year's Eve 'Do'.

<u>District Councillors Report</u>: Jim Taylor from Stratford District Council (SDC) advised Councillors that an application for a grant for the millennium green from SDC was successful.

He further explained the proposals for changes in local government boundaries which may link Ladbroke with Fenny Compton. Ladbroke has expressed a wish to retain links with Southam.

Carol Northorpe

HARBURY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

This was a long and challenging meeting ably chaired by John Hunt, who managed to keep order, yet allowed opponents of the Floodlighting scheme have their say.

Only four residents had taken up the opportunity to see Warwick Tennis Clubs' lights and the Planning Authority had received four objections to the plans to improve facilities at the playing fields. The Project Team had taken those objections and produced a reasoned rebuttal of all the points.

The session was, in general, good-natured but there were some pithy comments referring to "Colditz" and complaints that the team wanted to "pillage the village". There were misunderstandings about the status of the fields - they are Recreation Grounds for all the residents, and some elements of nimbyism surfaced - fears that property prices would be adversely affected. There were misconceptions about the facilities being exclusive to the existing club members and the cost to the community (funding would be from the lottery and other grants).

District Councillor Booth was careful to ensure that the most vocal protesters understood the procedures for properly registering their objections and John Woodward assured the meeting that he had carried out the most rigorous examination of the issues on behalf of the community and he believed that the plans submitted were now acceptable. The objectors he thought had not been entirely rational in their protests.

Sharon Hancock pointed out that the Parish Council had to move with the times and that Britain had the most unhealthy children in Europe because they did not play sports. She approved of improvements which encouraged them to take up sports activities.

Several Parish Councillors stressed that they had yet to make up their minds about the application which had not yet been received by the Council. A decision will be made when all Councillors have had an opportunity to inspect the plans.

Other planning matters were quickly dealt with. The Councillors were adamant that they would not allow the unauthorised multi-coloured crazing paving across the Green at Crown Cottage to remain. It was in complete contravention of the Village Design Guidelines.

Stratford District Council passed (with conditions) plans for the renovation of The Cottage, High St and the renewal of permission for a Clubhouse at Bishops Bowl. The Parish Council did not challenge plans for a conservatory at 1, South Parade or the amendments to a development at Sheen Farmyard. They complained that plans for an extension at 18, Manor Orchard were incomplete and added representations based on the Village Design Statement to their previous comments on the Appeal at the Water Tower. They asked that wheel scrubbing should be specified and lorries routed away from the village for the drainage and filling work at Ufton Hill Farm.

<u>Policing:</u> The Police Post had been officially opened. The Chief Constable was having to find a £4 million saving in the budget but wanted to protect the community beat service. Jim Chapple is holding a Neighbourhood Watch meeting on **Tuesday 13th April** in the Tom Hauley Room to which he invited all residents, especially young people.

Lighting: John Hunt found the bulkhead lights on the Percival Drive low-cost houses "appalling" and would meet Bromford Corinthia to discuss their replacement. The Parish Council had ordered a brochure on bollards.

They had not persuaded Warwickshire Rural Housing Association to lower the height of the column at Hillside and Ken Stephenson had made no progress on the survey into reducing the height of the new lights the Parish Council had installed elsewhere. They were also waiting for Ken to find a lower quote for automating the lighting of the Recreation

Grounds Car park. The Parish Council agreed to look again at the need for an extra light at the top of Pineham Avenue and a complaint about lighting in Hall Lane.

Roads: There were complaints about the mud on the road round Ufton Tip. John Woodward talked to the County Council about safety in Ivy Lane and the problems with drainage. He hopes they can come up with "a cunning plan" to remedy these problems. The bus stop outside the Manor House is to be moved to the Old New Inn Green to remove the nuisance caused by children. Footpath SM63 has been recommended for diversion.

The County Council explained that instructions for footway resurfacing had not been confused. Deppers Bridge paths had been repaired two years ago by Severn Trent but needed extra work, whilst the notices

issued to Beeches residents were sent in error. Work was not needed there and was not done. Deppers Bridge wanted its weight limit restored to stop the heavy lorries.

Environment: John "Oaktree" Woodward had planted two more Millennium trees in Binswood End.

Finance: Contrary to expectations the Parish Council received a bill from the County Council of £576.97 for the two "Twinning" name plates.

Linda Ridgley



HARBURY SOCIETY AGM

Tim Millington told the members that the Society's influence, especially on planning matters was growing. He thanked the many individuals for their contributions through the year. John Lapraik and John Smith rewalking the footpaths with a view to rewriting Cross the Stile and John Lapraik and Ed Wilson for the excellent Pub Walks. Members had contributed to the Village Design Statement and Hungry Harbury had been reprinted.

The good news from the Treasurer was the Society had reprinted Hungry Harbury and had a healthy surplus. Subscriptions had been raised to £3 for individuals and £5 for family and were now due!

The members then considered the options refined down by the County's Transport Strategy Consultations. We were asked to look at the barriers that exist to a more sustainable way of living and particularly problems with aspects of transport.

On public transport our top areas for action were: poor availability, lack of integration and poor reliability. Bottom of the list came the lack of bus shelters, which probably reflects the theoretical nature of our choices.

On parking, the cost of short and long term parking near town centres was top followed by lack of priority for residents' parking and poor enforcement of parking restrictions. Re-enforcing our rural perspective we had little concern about the lack of lorry or coach parking.

We struggled with the priorities about reducing social exclusion (even when we understood the term) because lack of access overall is a major problem for rural dwellers. But eventually we decided that the most prejudicial were poor access for people with a car to hospital, followed by poor access to work / training by the young and people without a car. Poor access to leisure facilities for those without a car came bottom of the list.

We had few concerns about poor air quality and health problems in the environmental section but did worry about the impact of major route traffic in villages and the impact of traffic on minor rural roads.

To sum up: Lack of information on public transport, cost of parking, lorries in villages and delays at rural bottlenecks were the greatest

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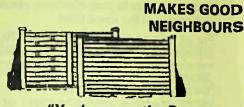


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barriers to sustainable transport and we were most concerned by the lack of accessibility to services for all kinds of carless country dwellers.

Linda Ridgley

HARBURY SOCIETY

To the East of Birmingham, encircled by major roads, motorways and local authority housing, is the oasis of calm that is Castle Bromwich Hall and its remarkable late 17th Century formal gardens whose history Dr. Margaret Thomas revealed to Society members.

West Bromwich Hall Gardens are the most extensive English formal gardens of the period 1685-1740. The Hall itself was built in 1600 with a South Avenue 1½ mile long stretching down to the River Cole through Shard End.

In 1661 the first Baronet gained his title and his son, John Bridgeman developed the gardens. John Bridgeman's son went on with the development taking it further down the hill. The second stage of the garden design was carried out by George London and Henry Wise, responsible for the Hampton Court Gardens. Key evidence for the restoration work was the Beaton Prospect of 1726 which gives a Bird's Eye view of the estate.

Orlando Bridgeman was responsible for the survival of the early garden plan for he married a daughter of the Earl of Bradford who eventually inherited her father's fortune. The couple moved from Castle Bromwich to Western Park in 1762, taking everything portable of interest, and they left the Hall to the second string of the family for the next 200 years.

There were exciting finds. An 18th Century prospect mound revealed builder's rubble of 1731 and the exact composition of the lime mortar used. Two of the garden's Sphinxes were liberated from Water Orton and Shard End.

Work on restoring the garden has proceeded in stages as funds have been available. Holly Walk has been replanted as has the Maze. The vegetable gardens have been set out. The orchard was replanted. The formal pond was recreated but will not hold water. The Canal was cleared and rebuilt but there is not the manpower for the ongoing maintenance. Work on the gardens is done by two professionals and

many volunteers.

Dr. Thomas made clear that more funds are constantly needed for the upkeep and restoration of the grounds and that she hoped society members would contribute to the income of the charity by visiting the gardens.

Next event: Pub Walk round Bubbenhall - Easter Monday 5th April, 10am from lay-by off main road by the School. Take stout shoes. Details from John Lapraik 613676.

Linda Ridgley

HARBURY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

The inscribed carafe in memory of Eva Keeling was on view for members to see.

Although enjoying their evenings, the Darts and Quiz teams did not make it to the next round. Better luck next year.

Just to let everyone know in good time, a WI Autumn Fair will be held on Saturday 16th October, at 2pm.

Activity days to enjoy: A Golf Taster day and a Leisure Day, both at Walton Hall in May; Golf Croquet at Loxley in June and two Cricket matches to watch at Edgbaston in May and September.

Mr. Alan Garforth came to talk on Chocolate, 'food of gods'. He was in the industry for over 30 years and told the history and progress of chocolate making. Chocolate started out as a drink, drunk only by the native men and the beans were used as currency. This was continued by the Spanish who plundered the Orinoco area of South America. A very cruel era as, under the command of Cortez, the Aztec race were wiped out. They had complete monopoly of the cocoa bean, which was expensive. A Spanish princess gave her French husband a gold casket filled with beans.

The drink moved on to France and the first time it was heard of in England was with Samuel Pepys. Mr. Garforth described all the stages, from the planting of the cocoa tree through to the processing and production of the various products.

Surprisingly, the main producers of the cocoa bean are now Malaya and

the Ivory Coast. Over the years many armies were given chocolate as a beverage to keep up their strength, as in the First World War and by Napoleon. Mars bars were sent out during the Falklands War.

They say chocolate is the food of the gods. Well, there were a few worshippers at the Tom Hauley Room. That was pretty obvious when bags of different types of chocolate were passed round. Well, one had to taste to know what Mr. Garforth was explaining!

April hostesses: Jean Abrahams, Jeanne Beaumont and Jean Hadley.

Jeanne Beaumont

HARBURY THEATRE GROUP

Holiday Snap, 22nd, 23rd and 24th April: Do you feel like a quick break to get away from it all? Why not come along to the next Theatre Group production: Holiday Snap, a comedy by Michael Pertwee and John Chapman. The action is centred round the activities of two couples who are each expecting a week of uninterrupted enjoyment only to find that the Portuguese villa has been double booked.

Matters go from bad to worse with the help of the inebriated timeshare representative, the arrival of mother-in-law and then the arrival of an old school friend. And that's not all!

Holiday Snap is being presented on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, 22nd, 23rd and 24th April starting at 8pm. Make sure of seeing the play on the evening of your choice by buying your tickets well in advance.

Tickets may now be bought from Kathleen Ellis' Hairdressing Salon in Chapel Street. We are very grateful to her for helping us in this way. Alternatively you can order them from Carol Percival on 612175 or Alan Barr on 612765.

Cost of tickets are £3.50 (normal concessions £2.50). Please note that since this play is more suited for an adult audience we will not be giving concessions for children.

Alan Barr

HARBURY FOLK CLUB

The weather outside might have been cold and damp but inside The Dog Inn the March edition of the Folk Club was bright and balmy. Being only a week away from Comic Relief we had chosen Comedy as our theme and every performer rose to the occasion. After the opening spot from The Harvesters, Peter McDonald tickled our ribs with two well-chosen contributions, followed by Pete and Liz and then Pete and Sue with two Les Barker songs. Rick carried on the humorous theme and was followed by Ron with a splendid self-penned rewrite of "Wild Mountain Thyme" which concerned a constipated Alsatian. Well, you had to be there. Colin Squire brought the first half to a lively close with "A Hundred Yards" and a "Wild Rover" alternative about being a Hell's Angel.

The second half saw The Wheeliebins (Emma, Kathy, Lizzie, Claire and Michele) take us "Across The Plains of Africa", always a great show stopper. John & Nick followed with a clever new version of "Paint it Black" and were followed ably by Des who was also joined by John Kemsley for a number about looking like a monkey. Melodeon fans were treated to a marvellous piece of digital dexterity by "Fourplay" who by some clever foot and fingerwork tickled each other's ivories. Margaret had the unenviable job of following them but did so superbly with three short but wonderful poems. Michele read a poem about a lost sock and had us, and herself, in stitches. By good fortune Keith Donnelly turned up and finished the second half as only he can with his unique brand of manic humour and hilarious observations. After a short break, the traditional third half was given over to Gilly Darbey who was also joined by Keith to round off a classic evening of humour and song as only they can.

The raffle raised a magnificent £65.00 for Peter Fanshawe who is walking across the Sahara Desert (thankfully not alone!) in aid of Macmillan Nurses. A 'fine' system for unauthorised squeaking of Red Noses raised a further £10.00 for Comic Relief which has gone off to be doubled by a High Street Bank. The next Folk Club will be on Thursday May 6th in the capable hands of Steve Dudley. See you there!

HARBURY NURSERY SCHOOL

This week we went on a nature walk around the school grounds looking for signs of Spring. We stopped to look at the buds on the trees that are going to turn into leaves and blossom. We looked at daffodils and talked about the different stages that flowers have; we saw some buds that will become flowers, some open flowers and some that are starting to die.



Photo by Paul Smallwood - Springtime in the Church yard

At the herb garden we touched and smelt the leaves of sage, lemon balm and mint plants. We found wood lice under stones, we also found two worms and a bumble bee. We saw some onions growing in the vegetable garden, we looked at the hedgehog pile and collected twigs on the woodland trail.

When we got back to the Nursery we decided which was the longest and which was the shortest twig and put them in order of size. We brought a Nature Checklist home, with pictures of things to look for when we're out.

After Easter we are doing a project about growing. We are going to start planting seeds and plants in the flower beds outside - any spare plants or seeds will be gratefully received!

Thank you to everyone who supported Casino Night - those who helped on the night and all those who came to play. There was a good atmosphere and it raised £350. The winners were Mr. McGowan and Mrs. Clarke who both won over twenty thousand pounds worth of chips - which converted into a bottle of wine each!

The next 80/20 Sale will be on Saturday 22nd May in the Village Hall. More information in the next issue.

Sarah Woods

THE PRE-SCHOOL - Learning Through Play

Spring has sprung and the children are leaping around like March hares, thoroughly enjoying the opportunity to play outside with the bikes, tractors, dolls' prams and pushchairs. Back indoors, they have been exploring aspects of different cultures in the world. The Chinese New Year gave us the opportunity to discuss life in China: to compare Chinese cooking implements with our own, to sample Chinese food and practise eating with chopsticks (an activity which challenged some of the adult helpers too!). We've made lanterns, dragons, including a big dragon and performed a spectacular Chinese dragon dance.

Naturally enough, we concluded this term's work with a discussion of Easter and why it is so important to Christians. The children enjoyed their special service at All Saints' Church just before Easter and we are very grateful to everyone who came along and made it possible. Term ended with a great Easter Egg hunt and we now have two weeks of holiday before Pre-School starts again on Thursday 15th April.

The summer term is always our busiest and two of our four weekly sessions are fully booked. We will therefore be offering a fifth session each week on a Monday afternoon. It will be a bit shorter than the morning sessions (12.30-3.00pm) and a bit cheaper (£2.10) and will be particularly suitable for younger children. Although our OFSTED report noted the friendly and indeed tender way the children treat each other, the tenderness of a four year old can still be a bit daunting to someone who isn't even three. We'd like to think that this session will help smaller children to settle into the Pre-School, although if you think your older child would benefit from it then we'd be delighted to welcome them along. In the summer we will be making the most of our

outside play area and weather permitting, our village rambles. There will be a sponsored wheelie at some stage so the children themselves can help to fundraise for their tables and chairs.

We have another new member of staff, Nikki Jones, who rejoins the group, having previously been a parent-helper. Nikki has completed the Basic Pre-School Playgroups Association course and of equal importance, she has settled into the team well and is already very popular with the children. Nikki has two boys, one of whom attended the Pre-School before going on to the village school.

We would like to wish everyone a very happy Easter and to remind parents that it is wrong to steal chocolate from your children.... The old story that the Easter Bunny popped back to sample the goods simply will not wash!

Harbury Pre-School Committee

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN PLAYING TENNIS?

Are you between 11 and 16 years old? If the answer is YES, then please come along to our Junior Open Night on Wednesday 7th April at 6pm. No cost, just try it out in April and May and if there is sufficient interest the Junior Club will start in June.

Look out for notices in the village about a great fun day on Saturday 1st May, when there'll be something for under 11s too.

Colin Mercer 613284

HARBURY CRICKET CLUB

We can look forward to some good cricket at Middle Road this season as the League team compete for honours in Division III of the Coventry and District League. The season gets under way on Sunday 11th April - our earliest ever start - when we play a tough match against Alveston as the first of our warm up friendlies. In the League we will welcome West Indian Wanderers (a team packed with fast bowlers), Highway, Kenilworth Wardens, and Nuneaton Old Eds. The first League match is against Newbold from Rugby.

Captain (and all-rounder) Will Russell has been re-elected, and Zak

Briggs - showing his usual flair with the bat in the winter nets - becomes Vice-captain. Will leads the bowling attack with brother Ed - who proved particularly consistent last season with bat and ball. The other half of the Briggs brothers - batsman and wicket keeper Seb will travel from London each weekend and will surely continue to be a major problem for opposition bowlers, with his unobtrusive but effective style. Les Sollis, will again provide some solidity and experience, with his ability to hit boundaries as well as perform a soft shoe shuffle across his stumps. Nearly all the young stalwarts return and it should prove an interesting season.

League cricket in Warwickshire has been significantly re-organised this year. The entire structure has been altered to allow a hierarchy of leagues below County cricket level, and the Coventry and District League is part of this new structure.

Led by Mike Daniels and with all-rounder Gary Lowe as Vice captain, the Sunday side start with the traditional fixture at Darlingscott on April 18th. It will be all systems go once the hens have been cleared off the ground. Last season, the Midweek side won the Leamington Midweek League Cup with a magnificent performance and they will be looking to perform well in the League as well as defending the Cup. New skipper, Tim Clayton, anticipates some exciting games.

Our first social function of the new season is the Race Night at the Village Club on Saturday April 17th. Tickets are available from Club members or from Party Paraphernalia.

The Millennium Celebrations came early, with the completion of the new non-turf wicket. Thanks to Stratford District Council and Harbury Parish Council for their grants. The new wicket will reduce wear on the square and allow games in wetter conditions. It should also help with evening and youth fixtures. The professional treatment of the square last autumn under the supervision of Richard Carr gives us superb playing facilities

The Club has made use of the Southam Sports Hall indoor pitches this winter, and the league players in particular have been steady attendees. Just as encouraging has been the participation of a dozen local youngsters each week, coached by Sunday skipper Mike Daniels, ably supported by John Clifford. Several of them show considerable promise

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Details of Surgery times are available from the Surgery

with bat and ball, and some summer fixtures are possible, as well as the possibility of playing in some senior games.

The midweek fixtures are not yet available. The initial fixture list is:

Cove	ntry & District Sa League XI	turday
April 11	Alveston	Fr A
April 18	Stratford Bards	Fr A
April 25	TBA	Fr A
May 1	Nuneaton OE	CL A
May 8	Pottertons	CL H
May 15	Bell VVE	CL A
May 22	Newbold	CL A
May 29	Bharat Sports	CL H

3011111	Friendly Sunda	y XI	
April 18	Darlingscott	Fr	Α
April 25	Leam. III	Fr	Α
May 2	Willoughby	Fr	H
May 3	Alveston	Fr	Α
May 9	Kineton II	Fr	Н
May 16	Barford	Fr	H
May 23	Welford	Fr	Α
May 30	Ettington	Fr	Н
May 31	Wrks. Cty Ccl	Fr	Α

Ian Jackson

HARBURY TENNIS CLUB - Summer Season at last!

By the time you read this, we will already have officially started the season with our 'Cheque Book Tournament' - aptly named to encourage members to pay up for their new year's membership of just £27 for Seniors, £6 for Juniors and £60 for Family Membership (2 Seniors and 2 or more Juniors).

This Summer we are running two teams in the local Banbury League, so if you fancy playing against other villages, call 614614 or 613284 for details. We have a busy fundraising year ahead of us too, with a planning application for better facilities (Millennium Project for Tennis, Netball and Junior Football) awaiting clearance as I write.

Regular Club Sessions: The courts are open to everyone, but you need to book if you are a non-member. Below are guidelines as to when we have organised sessions - but we also have numerous matches and friendlies, plus some tournaments too - and if you haven't booked, remember that Members take precedence!

Non Members can book a court (£2) by ringing Mary Thompson 612050.

Important dates for your diary (put them in now!):

May 1st

LTA Play Tennis

May 15th Skittles and Supper Harbury School 7.30pm

David Snell

THE BRITISH HEART FOUNDATION

As a result of all the hard work of my faithful team, Doris, Pat and Jim (standing in for Edna), and of everyone who supported us, we were able to send a cheque value £112 to the Heart Foundation.

A very satisfying result, many, many thanks to all.

Gladys Hutchins

THE KAREN BOND APPEAL FUND

As a follow up to my previous article, I am trying to trace pupils who attended Southam High School between the years 1982-1986. The reason for this is that I am planning a School Reunion to raise funds for the above appeal. It is to be held at the Village Hall on Friday 7th May.

There will be a charge on the door of £5, which will include a finger buffet. I would ask everyone who attends the event to bring any old school photographs so that at a later date a school yearbook can be compiled.

Throughout the night, there will be raffles, which we hope you will all contribute to. Obviously several prizes will be required, so any offers would be gratefully received. We are also hoping that some of the former teachers who still live in the area will be able to attend on the night.

Karen is now back in England and is having extensive physiotherapy at Warwick Hospital and although the way ahead for her is going to be a long one, we all wish her well on her recovery.

Anyone who is interested in the reunion, or would like more

information, please contact Clare Finch on 01926 642861. For donations to the K.B.A.F. please write to the Karen Bond Appeal Fund, P.O. Box 1630, Rugby CV21 2YR.

Clare Finch

SAVE THE CHILDREN FUND

A very convivial evening was spent at the Shakespeare Inn on March 24th. The evening was organised by Mr. & Mrs. Colin Humphreys and was hosted by the landlord Andy Cleaver, who supplied the dinner at cut price.

By selling on the tickets, plus a raffle, the charity raised £265 for work amongst deprived children. Thank you everyone.

Dayllis Turner

PARTY PARAPHERNALIA Ltd.

By the time you have received your copy of the Harbury & Ladbroke News, most of you will be aware that Ann and I have decided to close the shop.

We have both enjoyed over three years of trading as a Party Shop and had some fun on the way. We hope you will all support us in our decision and we thank you all for your custom over this time. Many thanks

Ann Thompson & Denise Vincent

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

There will be an Open Meeting in the Tom Hauley Room at 8pm on Tuesday 13th April. Addressing the meeting will be the Police Neighbourhood Watch Manager Bally Kaur, Kate Bailey of the Mid Warwickshire N.W. Association and our Community Beat Officer Stewart Bosworth. The meeting is open to all and I extend a special invitation to the 16-25 year old age group.

Neighbourhood Watch aims to promote good citizenship and greater public participation in the prevention and solution of crime. Come along and find out how you may help and perhaps also benefit.

J.A. Chapple, N.W. Main Co-ordinator

THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD SCHEME

We are an Open Award Group (i.e. not affiliated to any school or Youth Club) which exists to guide young people through the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme. The Scheme is open to anyone aged 14-22 who would like to undertake the Award at Bronze, Silver or Gold levels. We are a friendly group and have helped many young people through the Award Scheme in the nine years since we were established.

The main sections of the Award Scheme are:

- expeditions
- community service
- physical recreation
- learn a new skill.

We meet once a fortnight in the Tom Hauley Room, Harbury. If you are interested in joining us, or would like to find out more about the Award Scheme, please contact either Richard Wells on 815637 or Ruth Standbridge on 337389.

Our first meeting will be on Thursday 15th April 8.00-9.30pm.

Richard Wells

HARBURY CARNIVAL JUNE 12TH, 1999

If you would like to organise a stall or space on the field for Carnival day, would you please contact Kary Hunt on 613598 as soon as possible.

As well as the Carnival, we are again planning to have a series of events during the week leading up to it. These will start with the Wheelbarrow Race on Sunday 6th June, which will be hosted this year by the Old New Inn (please contact Dan Killian on 612265 to enter). The week will continue, as last year, with a team competition over a series of events and full details will be published in next month's Harbury & Ladbroke

News. As I said last month, we would like to see more teams this year, not just those from the pubs, so please give this some thought.

Submitted by John Broomfield On behalf of the Carnival Committee

EVENING COURSES AT SOUTHAM SCHOOL

START DATE - MONDAY 19th APRIL- 7.30 - 9.30PM Learn to play the guitar for all abilities Intermediate The Practical First Aid Course. (Special price set by the Red Cross) Dressmaking for beginners Piano a practical course Popagility for Ladies (8.00-9.00) Basic computer Literacy starting computing. Anyone can have a lovely garden in the Spring, or can they?	5 weeks 10 weeks 10 weeks 10 weeks
START DATE - TUESDAY 20th APRIL 1998- 7.30 - 9.30PM Windows 95 basic computer literacy - basic course Cake Decorating & Sugar paste Basic mechanics for all – Techniques to get you home Tai Chi for All Ages	10 weeks 10 weeks 10 weeks
START DATE - WEDNESDAY 21st APRIL - 7.30 - 9.30PM Pillow lace making. Beginners welcome Keep fit for Men	10 weeks
START DATE - THURSDAY 22nd APRIL - 7.30 - 9.30PM Improve your conversational French. Windows the more advanced course with CLAIT. Full but taking bookings for places in the Autumn German conversation. Drawing and water colour painting. – beginners welcome Family Badminton for beginners 7.30-8.30 Badminton for all 8.30-9.30 Basic Computer literacy (Microsoft Office 97 beginners only)	10 weeks10 weeks10 weeks10 weeks10 weeks
DAYTIME COURSES AT SOUTHAM SCHOOL Calligraphy for beginners – Tuesday 1.30-3.30pm Keep Fit to Music for Ladies Wednesday 9.30-10.30 Water Colour Painting Wednesday 1.00-3.00 Yoga for Relaxation –Thursday 9.45 – 12.00pm Water Colour Painting Thursday 1.00-3.00	10 weeks 10 weeks 10 weeks 10 weeks

NEW EARLY EVENING COURSE FOR CHILDREN

SOUTHAM SCHOOL TUESDAY 5.30-6.30PM

EVENING COURSE AT HARBURY C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

Keep Fit to Music for Ladies Thursday (22/4/99) 7.30-8.30pm.. 10 weeks

EVENING COURSES AT WIGHT SCHOOL, HARBURY

Yoga Wednesday (21/4/99) 7.30-9.30...... 10 weeks

ONE DAY AND WEEKEND COURSES AT SOUTHAM SCHOOL

Creative cookery for children Saturday 10.00-12.00 5 sessions Cookery starts on April 24th 1999

If you would like to study Japanese please give Gerry a ring at the centre or Email: GerryYg@AOL.com

Several people have asked for higher versions of First Aid. Do you or your company need people to be trained? Please give Gerry a ring on 01926 814264 (answering machine if he is teaching). Tell him what courses you would like.

THE VILLAGE BUS and A & M CARS

We don't enjoy writing this kind of notice but we know we have to, due to various increases in fuel, insurance, road fund tax etc. The cost of fares will have to go up, however, we have tried to keep the increases to a minimum. The cost of the bus fare to any destination in Learnington Spa will now be £1.45 and the return fare will be £2.90. This is still less than fares charged by other buses that serve Harbury. Please remember that our services are available to everyone and are door to door.

The services run as follows: All go to: ASDA, High Street Learnington Spa, Sainsbury's, The Parade from bottom to top and TESCO.

Tuesdays & Thursdays 10.30am - returns at 12.45pm.

Wednesdays & Fridays 10.00am, 11.00am, 12.42pm and 14.00pm

returns 12noon, 13.30pm and 14.10pm

These buses are designed to enable you to do your shopping more easily.

On the down side we no longer run the Friday and Saturday Nightowl services.

We would like to thank all those customers who have used our services

over the years and the Parish Council for supporting them.

How does the village bus work? Quite simple: All you do is pick up the phone, call the free phone number 0500 21 22 25 and ask for a seat on the bus. Give us your full address, the day you wish to travel and the route number of the bus, or if you don't know the route number, we will tell you.

For example: 23, The Beeches, Harbury, Tuesday Route AM3.

The village bus will then call at your home and collect you. Anyone can travel including those who have mobility problems or use a wheelchair, as all the buses are specially fitted for these needs, so there is no need to wait on windy wet streets! If you don't have a phone, ask a friend to do it for you or use a public phone.

You must phone no later than 9am on the day you travel, or you can phone the day before, or the day before that. Remember it's free to phone 0500 21 22 25.

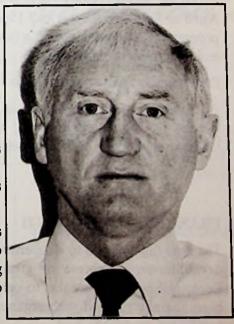
Mike Thompson

ERIC DALLY - CONSERVATIVES

As Chairman of Chesterton & Kingston I was asked to stand for the Conservatives in the May elections for District Councillor to support James Turner and Michael Doody, the County Councillor. I was pleased to accept.

It is my wish to serve Harbury as well as I have Chesterton/Kingston. I feel we have similar problems which is why I wish to serve both.

Since February our newsagent's has closed and another shop is due to open as an office. I shall be pressing for some business rates relief to protect other vulnerable facilities.



The recent rains have caused flooding at corners and have generally played havoc with the roads. I shall be on to Warwickshire County Council to repair roads and rectify the flooding problem permanently. I shall also try to help solve the problem of the Youth Club, rather than see youngsters on the street with nothing to do.

The Conservative District Councillors are keen to see better value for the expenditure of our Council taxes. Their influence on the present Council has already saved millions of pounds. We want to see these savings spent more wisely.

You have already voted for Conservative County Councillor Michael Doody, who is working hard for us, and we have James Turner who has served us well for many years. I should like you to make the team complete and vote for me. Together we shall do our utmost to serve you better.

Eric Dally

SOUTHAM & DISTRICT LIONS

Once again Southam Lions take pleasure in inviting all senior citizens to our 28th Annual Spring Party which will take place on Saturday 24th April at Southam School at 2.15pm. As usual, we have an excellent programme of entertainment arranged with some of your favourites, and time to meet old friends.

Free transport will be provided to and from the school, if required.

All senior citizens are invited, so if you know of any who are not members of a local organisation, please invite them on our behalf and let me or any other Lion know before April 21st.

Ken Graham 813652

FRANKENSTEIN FOODS II

The next time you go to a supermarket at this time of year and pick up a cauliflower, calabrese or greens that are produced in Southern Europe, the chances are that to keep it clean and insect free, it will have been liberally sprayed with organo phosphate. For those who do not



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know what organo phosphate is, it is the chemical that was once used in SHEEP DIP which has poisoned so many sheep farmers.

In this country it is severely regulated, but not so in the rest of Europe. So having put you off your tea, why not think of having an allotment and grow your own vegetables and fruit? This time of the year purple sprouting and winter cauliflower are cropping plus many other greens. The supply of piped to the allotments has been agreed by the Parish Council and should be in place before the summer months. If you are interested in renting an allotment, telephone P. Clarke on 612066.

Harbury Allotment Holders' Association

HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Mr. Brian Cook, as usual, gave his best at our last meeting and was very entertaining and informative. We had to use our imagination for the grafting episodes and were intrigued with his handkerchief story! Many thanks Mr. Cook, please come again!

The Spring flowers are really splendid again this year. Probably by the time this appears in print all the daffodils will have been dashed by high winds and heavy showers! It is now officially Spring and the clocks have been adjusted to British Summer Time.

The Show schedule has been finalised and with this in mind and the Spring weather, how about getting those cameras out! Here is a list of subjects: A fishy tale, a study of a bridge, an urban townscape and woodland in Spring - ALL COLOUR. Also when potting up pelargoniums and fuchsias, please remember to plant them in 8" pots (maximum).

When sowing seeds and taking cuttings, please bear in mind the Garden Walkabout in July. We will be having a plant and produce stall, so the surplus will come in nicely and the proceeds will be yours.

For people who intend going on the outing to Kew on Tuesday 8th June, your last chance to pay the monies due will be at the May Talk. On the actual day of the outing, please be at the Village Hall by 8.45am.

For the evening outing to Bourton House on Tuesday 22nd June please be at the Village Hall by 5.45pm. The £3 is payable that evening.

The list of gardens for the Walkabout has not yet been finalised, so anybody who has <u>not</u> been contacted and would like to open, please phone Mrs. Pat Smith on 612650.

Our next talk Roses, which will be given by Mr. Humphries will take place the day after Easter Monday on Tuesday 6th April.

Finally, just in case the magazine has not been distributed in time, our last talk before the summer break will be entitled *Scented Gardens* and given by Mrs. Kaye on **Tuesday 4th May**, the day after another Bank Holiday!

Muriel Grey

GARDENING NOTES

The lengthening days and the soil beginning to warm should mean a month of awakening in the garden, for plants and people alike. Hold back from the tempting displays of tender plants which are flooding into the garden centres until the end of the 'Blackthorn winter' and sow some hardy annuals instead. Cornflower, calendulas and candytuft are easy to grow and have flat open flowers which attract the beneficial insects.

Dead head daffodils and all early flowers, but leave the greenery to build up the bulbs. The ideal is to let it die off naturally, but if you like a tidy garden give them at least six weeks after the flowers fade. Tidy alpines and top dress with gravel.

Perennials such as hardy fuchsias which have been protected by their own dead growth or with straw can be tidied up, although we can get frosts until mid May so be ready with some night time covers if we get frost warnings.

Divide vigorous perennials like michaelmas daisies and golden rod. Take cuttings from short lived ones, e.g. lupins and delphiniums, which have to be discarded every few years as they lose vigour. Rings cut from plastic bottles will help to protect new growth from slugs. If you are buying new perennials or evergreens this is the month to plant them. Cut back late flowering shrubs such as buddleia and dogwoods which grow the most decorative bark on this years stems. Feed and mulch any plants after pruning.

The majority of the vegetables can be sown this month. Why not have a

try with just a few short rows of salad plants, even if they have to go in with the flowers, or take on one of the spare allotments. Warm up the soil by covering plots with polythene and then sow almost all except runner beans and sweetcorn directly into the beds, by the end of the month.

Feed and mulch all fruit trees and shrubs. Spray apples and pears against scab and mildew, just as the leaves start to unfold. Watch out for small caterpillar-like larvae of the sawfly which can strip the leaves off gooseberry bushes in a few days.

Spring clean houseplants and re-pot if roots are visible under the pots. Begin weekly feed and watering but withhold from cyclamen and Christmas cactus which now need a rest. Indoor azaleas can be re-potted in lime free compost and given a light trim. Plant up containers and hanging baskets towards the end of the month but don't put them out until the end of May.

Plant of the month: Magnolia

For beauty of the flower there are few to equal this shrub which is known from fossil records to date back 120 million years. Originally called Laurel-tulip trees, they were renamed in 1753 after Pierre Magnol, a professor at Montpellier University, France, who was reputed to be the first to think about the universal naming of plants.

There are over eighty species of evergreen and deciduous magnolias varying in size from 10ft up to 60ft native to the eastern USA and a larger group from India, China and Japan. It is this group which are more suited to our colder gardens. In China the plants were valued not for their beauty but for the aphrodisiac property of the powdered bark. Buy only container grown plants in April or May but choose carefully for once established the plant will probably outlast you. To see glorious specimens visit Bodnant and Nymans this month and next.

Pat Smith

Letters to the Editors

Dear Editors

Both Ann and Jo would like to express their very sincere thanks to everyone who has sent sympathy cards and supported them with the numerous telephone calls during Frank's illness and finally his peaceful and pain free death.

Many thanks to all our family and friends who attended the funeral service and gave up their time; it was much appreciated. Thanks to Mary for the lovely flowers and Andrew and Carole at the Shakespeare Inn for the first class buffet.

Special Thanks must go to Drs. Hancock and Snowdon, the staff in the surgery, Carol Organ together with the very caring doctors and nurses at Myton Hospice and Father Roy Brown for his kindness and ongoing support.

Words cannot express just what we feel at present but without the knowledge of you all being there for us - it would have been far more difficult.

God Bless.

Ann and Jo Clarke

Dear Editors

Mrs. Elsa and Miss Elsie Greenway would like to thank everyone in Harbury and Ladbroke for their love and practical support throughout the illness and subsequent death of Stan Greenway.

Special thanks go to Father Roy for his sensitivity and kindness.

Elsa Greenway

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STALLS - Peter 01294 770433
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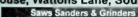
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