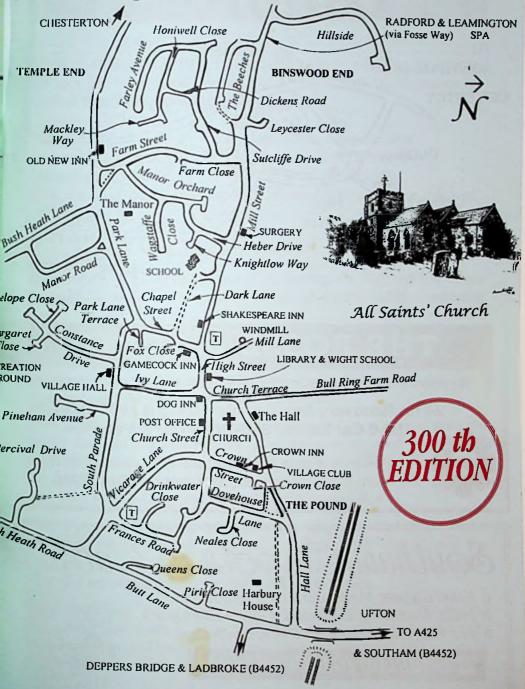
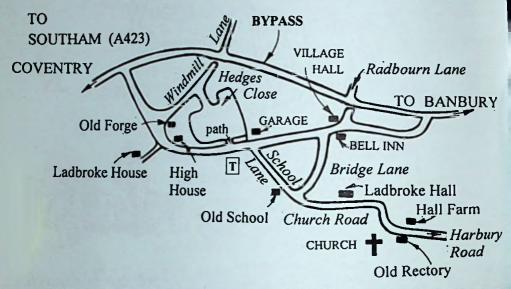
# Harbury & Ladbroke News



# Ladbroke



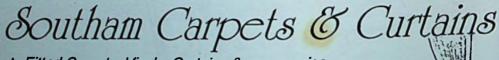
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Harbury & Ladbroke News

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 Committee.

### **MARCH 1999**

No. 300

The Harbury & Ladbroke News is celebrating the  $300^{th}$  edition of the magazine with the inclusion of a reprint of the first edition published almost a quarter of a century ago.

Some aspects of village life may have changed, but others appear to have stayed much the same! In 1974 the Parish Council were deliberating the provision of street lighting and there were discussions about the allotments and the newly completed tennis courts!

Then there was a "waiting list for the allotments", now several plots are vacant and awaiting new holders. The provision of piped water to the Pineham Avenue allotments may encourage new enthusiasts to take up the challenge. In these days of genetically modified food - why not grow your own PURE, UNTREATED ORGANIC vegetables!

Then a group of interested villagers were hoping to establish conservation areas and "make a survey of all the buildings in the village", now the excellent Harbury Village Design Statement has achieved all the earlier aims and set out guidelines for any future development.

Then there was a "thriving Youth Club" (referred to in the second magazine), now there is hope that it may be re-established and in the meantime there will be a weekly opportunity for teenagers to meet at the Scout Hut.

Then there were "plimsolls", now there are trainers with designer logos!

Then there were 12 pages in the magazine, now there are often over 40 sides with signed articles from many regular contributors.



Manor Road 'in the snow'?!

Then there were winters with heavy snow falls which occasionally isolated the village from the surrounding area, now a sprinkling of snow flakes barely covers the ground. If you left the village in the early morning recently you would have missed the light covering of snow which lasted for almost an hour!

One overriding theme quoted from the first editorial which remains just as relevant is that "we are fortunate to belong to a village that has a strong community spirit and in which a host of activities provide interest and enjoyment to many".

The Editors hope that the first magazine will provide an insight into the 'birth' of the Harbury & Ladbroke News and that comparisons will highlight some of the changes.

Finally, we offer our sympathy to the family of Doris Smith.

## Harbury Diary

### MARCH

Sun	7	Lent III - Sung Eucharist 9am; Evensong 4pm Harbury Rugby 7-12's Home to Old Coventrians
Tues	9	Village Hall committee in Village Hall 8pm 'Drop In' Coffee Club for 12-16 year olds in Scout Hut 7.30-9.30pm
Wed	10	G.A.S.S. AGM Scout Hut 8pm
Thurs		Holy Communion 9.45am
		Thursday Club in Village Hall 2.30pm
		WI in Tom Hauley Room 7.45pm
		Line dancing at the Village Club 7.30-10 (beginners 7.30-8) £2.50
Fri	12	Newspaper collection
		RED NOSE DAY
		Holy Communion 12noon, Lent Lunch 12.30pm in Tom Hauley Room
Sat	13	Meningitis Coffee morning in Tom Hauley Room
		Rugby 1 <sup>st</sup> XV Home to GEC St. Leonards
		Nursery School Casino Night in Village Hall
Sun	14	Mothering Sunday - Holy Communion 8am; Sung Eucharist 10.30am
		Sunday School 10.30am in Tom Hauley Room; Evensong 4pm
Mon	15	ADVERTS 14, Binswood End by 5.30pm
Tues	16	Police Post open in Scout Hut 10.30am
		Holy Communion 7.30pm with Lenten Address
		'Drop In' Coffee Club for 12-16 year olds in Scout Hut 7.30-9.30pm
		Senior Citizens' Committee in VIIIage Hall 8pm
Mad	47	Mothers' Union in Tom Hauley Room 7.30pm
Wed		St. Patrick's Day
Thurs	18	Holy Communion 9.45am
		Nursery School Open Afternoon 1.30-3.15pm
Fri	10	Line dancing at the Village Club 7.30-10pm (beginners 7.30-8pm) £2.50
CII.	19	St. Joseph - Holy Communion 12noon, Lent Lunch 12.30pm in the Tom Hauley Room
Sat	20	Men's Prayer Breakfast in Tom Hauley Room 7.30am
		Junior Football dinner Dance in Village Hall
		Race Night, Memorial Hall in Bishops Itchington 8pm
Sun	21	LENT V - Holy Communion 8am; Family Communion 10.30am
		VERNAL EQUINOX (Spring!)
-	-	Harbury Rugby 7-12's Home to Kersley
Tues	23	Holy Communion 7.30pm with Lenten Address
		'Drop In' Coffee Club for 12-16 year olds in Scout Hut 7.30-9.30pm
		Harbury Society talk on Restoration of Castle Bromwich's Gardens in the
		Tom Hauley Room 7.30pm for 8pm
		Meeting on Youth Club in Farley Room of Village Hall 7.30pm (Please
		use kitchen door)
		Julian Group in Church 8.10pm

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Thurs	25	The Annunciation - Holy Communion 9.45am
		Thursday Club in Village Hall 2.30pm
		Parish Council meeting in Village Hall 7.30pm
		Line dancing at the Village Club 7.30-10 (beginners 7.30-8) £2.50
		AGM of Twinning Association in Tom Hauley Room 7.30pm
Fri	26	Newspaper Collection
		Pre-School Open Morning 9.30-11.30am
		Holy Communion 12noon with Lent Lunch 12.30pm
		ARTICLES to Party Paraphernalia by 5.30pm
Sat	27	PTA Family Barn Dance in Village Hall with Ceilidh Band Reel to Reel
		Windmill Singers Crucifixion in Southam 7.30pm
Sun	28	Clocks go forward one hour today
		Palm Sunday - Holy Communion 8am
		Sung Eucharist 10.30am; Procession from School 10.15am
		Evensong 6.30pm
Mon		Holy Communion 7.30pm; Stations of the Cross 8pm
Tues	30	Holy Communion 7.30pm; Stations of the Cross 8pm
		'Drop In' Coffee Club for 12-16 year olds in Scout Hut 7.30-9.30pm
Wed	31	Holy Communion 7.30pm; Stations of the Cross 8pm
APRIL		
Thurs	1	Maundy Thursday - Holy Communion 9.45am
		Storytelling in Library 10am
		Line dancing at the Village Club 7.30-10 (beginners 7.30-8) £2.50
		Sung Eucharist 8pm followed by the Watch at the Altar of Repose till
		midnight
		Folk Club in the Dog Inn 8.30pm
Fri	2	Newspaper collection
		Good Friday - Children's service 9.30am; Devotional Hour 2-3pm
Sat		Holy Saturday - Easter Ceremonies 8pm
		Rugby Second XV Home to Redditch
Sun		Easter Sunday - Holy Communion 8am; Sung Eucharist 9am
		Evensong 6.30pm

Please note: Adverts to <u>14</u>, <u>Binswood End</u> by Monday 15<sup>th</sup> March Articles to <u>Party Paraphernalia</u> by Friday 26<sup>th</sup> March

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

For Scout Hut BookingsMr. R. Flanagan613612For Tom Hauley Room BookingsMrs. Stubbs612782For Village Hall BookingsMr. P. Winchester614466For Wight School BookingsMrs. Hayes613488

### **REGULAR DIARY DATES**

APPALACHIAN STEP DANCING: (612734) Wight School, 10:00am-12:00noon Saturdays 5

BABY CLINIC: Surgery, 2:00-4:00pm 2nd & 4th Wednesday BADMINTON: Village Hall, Mondays (Club) 7:00-9:00pm; Tuesdays (League) 8:00-10:00pm; Friday (Ladies) 2:00-3:00pm; Sunday (Mixed) 7:00-10:00pm

BEAVERS: Scout Hut, 6:15-7:15pm Tuesdays BELLRINGING PRACTICE: (613605) Church, 7:30pm Fridays BROWNIES: Village Hall 6:00-7:30pm Tuesdays CHOIR PRACTICE: Church, 6:30pm Fridays COFFEE MORNING: Tom Hauley Room 10:00am-12:00noon Saturdays CUBS: Scout Hut, Wednesdays DANCING CLASSES: (01789-842242) Farley Room Village Hall, Children & Adults 4:00-9:00pm Wednesdays. GUIDES: Scout Hut, 7:00-8:30pm Mondays GYMNASTICS: Harbury School, 6:00-7:00pm HARBURY FOLK CLUB: Dog Inn 8:30pm 1st Thursday of Month HARBURY FRIENDS: School, 8:00pm 2nd Tuesday of Month HARBURY JUNIORS FOOTBALL CLUB: (613358) 10:30am-12:30pm Saturdays HARBURY VILLAGE CLUB: Contact 613174 HEREBURGH MORRIS DANCERS: (613402) School Hall, 8:00-10:00pm Wednesdays HARBURY NURSERY SCHOOL: School, 9:00am-12:00noon Monday-Friday; 12:45pm-3:15pm Mondays & Wednesdays HARBURY Pre-SCHOOL: Wight School, High Street Tuesday-Friday 9:15am - 12:15pm HARBURY VILLAGE CLUB: Contact 613174 HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY: Village Hall, 8:00pm 1st Tues (Oct. to May) KEEP FIT (Bodywise): (495368) Harbury School 6:30-7:30pm Fridays LIBRARY: (613297) Mondays 2:00 - 5:00pm and 5:30 - 7:00pm; Thursdays 10am-1pm; 2:00 - 5:00pm & 5:30 - 7:00pm; Stories, Rhymes for U5s, 10:00am 1st Thursday of Month; Term Time only NETBALL CLUB: (612841) Village Hall Car Park, Training 6:30pm Thursdays: Matches Saturday Afternoon SCOUTS: Scout Hut, 7:00pm Thursdays TENNIS CLUB: (614614) (Apr-Sept) Tues & Thurs 6:30pm onwards (6:00pm for April); Sat 2:00-5:00pm, Mon & Wed 1:45-3:00pm THEATRE GROUP: Wight School, 8:00pm last Friday of Month THURSDAY CLUB: Farley Room of V.Hall 2:30pm 2nd & 4th Thurs. of Mth TODDLER GROUP: Wight School, Mon.10:00-11:30am & Wed. 1:30-3:00pm

W.I.: Tom Hauley Room, 7:45pm 2nd Thursday of Month YOGA: Wight School, 7:30-9:30pm Wednesdays, Diane Surgey Tel.817904



9, Sutcliffe Drive, Harbury, CV33 9LT

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

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Harbury Helpline is for you!

EMERGENCY TRANSPORT: Call Tim Millington 612808 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.

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
Alternation and the second sec	

times on special occasions. Rector: Father Roy Brown, The Rectory, Vicarage Lane, Harbury

Tel.: 612377

### Laugh Line

The rector had been on holiday and returned with his front tooth missing. The psalm at Evensong included the verse "Thou hast broken the teeth of the ungodly".

### FROM THE RECTOR

Joe's life has been ruined by his stepfather's cruelty. Even after he had been rescued and treated with great kindness by the NSPCC he would scream with fear whenever his stepfather's name was mentioned.

They say it will take years of love and understanding before this boy recovers his faith in human beings. Perhaps he never will.

Cruelty is always repulsive. Cruelty to an innocent victim has the additional sting of injustice. Such was the cruelty inflicted on Christ when he was taken by his captors and whipped. The physical pain of repetitive lashes on skin already broken and raw is recognised as a savage punishment even under a savage regime. But Christ had done nothing punishable. He had made people feel more alive, more human, more worth while whatever their station in life. He had no favourites, rich and poor could be counted among his friends.

Christ suffered because of the hatred of sinful people who sought to crush anyone they were unable to control. Christ suffered so that every person might be freed from being enslaved ever again, for love is always stronger than hatred and fear. Hatred and fear can only destroy the body they cannot destroy love because it is infinite, it is not limited to the physical part of anyone.

### Prayer for Lent

God our Father, in obedience to whose will our Saviour Christ became man and suffered on the cross for our redemption; help us by your grace to learn from His meekness and to partake of the benefits of His passion, that we may share his triumph and know the joy of His resurrection; who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit for ever and ever.

Fr. Roy

### **FROM THE REGISTERS**

Holy Baptism - )	All Saints' Harbury
14th February	Joseph Edward Malin
21" February	Phoebe Jean Dolphin
28th February	Sophie Penelope Hutchinson
Funerals - All Sa	uints' Harbury

12<sup>th</sup> February Doris Smith

### FROM THE CHURCHWARDENS

The early spring flowers around the village and in the churchyard are vivid reminders of the period of Lent which not only corresponds to the length of Jesus' fast at the start of His ministry, but also relates to a pre-baptismal fast held before Easter in the early days of the church, which lasted forty days and was probably the origin of the Lenten fast.

The Church marks this special period before Holy Week with additional services and events. Each Tuesday evening the Rector is giving a *Lenten Address* within the service, the subject for this year being the Beatitudes, the eight sayings of Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount.

A simple lunch in the Tom Hauley Room follows a Friday midday service and on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> March we shall be celebrating *Mothering* Sunday at the 10.30am service.

Details of all the services during Holy Week will be distributed to all households and we do hope that you will be able to go into Church during this very special time of year.

### **Ruth and Jeff**

### **MOTHERS' UNION**

<u>Afternoon meeting</u>: After a service of Holy Communion in church we held our meeting in the Tom Hauley Room. Unfortunately our speaker was unable to come through illness, so we had a get together telling of the jobs we had on leaving school. They were varied, ranging from teacher training, office work, shop working and going into service. It was an enjoyable afternoon bringing back memories of the days when wages were low and conditions not what they are today. But they were good times all the same.

<u>Evening meeting</u>: This followed the Tuesday evening service in church and again our speaker was unable to attend, due to illness. Pam Brown used the opportunity to outline the church's Child Protection Policy. This drew our attention to the pressing need for anyone who has charge of children to be aware of the responsibility which comes with the privilege of helping to shape their futures.

<u>Next meetings</u>: **Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> March** - 7.30pm Lent Address in Church followed by coffee in the Tom Hauley Room. Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> April - Something for Nothing by Sheila Heeley

### Audrey Tebaldi & Anne Moore

Editors' note: Last month we attributed the Mothers' Union article to Mrs. Catt whereas now Mrs. Tebaldi & Mrs. Moore write for this magazine - our apologies.

### **TODDLERS' SERVICE**

In February Mrs. Bedford talked about all the things we can do with our feet. We said an action prayer thanking God for all the things we can do.

Mrs. Bedford told the story of the hare and the tortoise and said we should all keep on trying like the tortoise. We then sang "When we walk with the Lord". Finally, the children stuck pictures of feet onto the right bodies.

The service on March 9<sup>th</sup> at 2.15pm will be about Mothers.

### C. Mary Catt

Ladbroke News

#### MARCH

Sun	7	Lent III - Family Communion 10.30am
Mon	8	Ladbroke Village Hall Prize Draw at the Bell Inn 8pm
Tues	9	Holy Communion 7.30pm with Lenten Address
Wed	10	Lent Lunch at Hall Farm 12.30pm
		Holy Communion 2pm
Sat	13	Working group meeting in Wood Street car park, Southam 10am
		History Society play in Village Hall 7.30pm
Sun	14	Mothering Sunday - Sung Communion 9am
		Mothering service 3.30pm
Mon	15	Lent Lunch at Field Farm 12.30pm
12812		ADVERTS 14, Binswood End, Harbury by 5.30pm
Sun	21	Lent V - Sung Communion 9am; Evensong 6pm
		Children's Service at 10.30am
15.30	1.274	Vestry meeting 6.30pm followed by AGM
Wed		Lent Lunch at The Bungalow, Windmill Lane 12.30pm
Thur		Ladbroke and Deppers Bridge WI meeting in Village Hall 7.30pm
Fri	26	Public meeting of Millennium Green Update
al inst		ARTICLES to Party Paraphernalia, Chapel Street Harbury by 5.30pm
Sun		Paim Sunday - Sung Communion 9am
Mon	29	History Society meeting at St. Mary's School
APRIL		
Thurs	1	Maundy Thursday - Holy Communion 7pm
Fri	2	Good Friday - Children's Service 10.30am
		Devotional Hour 12noon-1pm; Service of Music and Readings 7pm

Sun 4 Easter Sunday - Family Communion 10.30am

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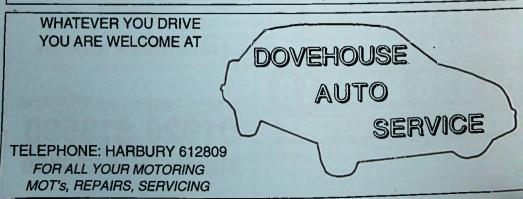
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### LADBROKE CHURCH NEWS

The next 'Big Event' in church is our *Mothering Sunday* service at 3.30pm on **March 14<sup>th</sup>**. We hope as many children as possible will come and join in the service and also give their mothers and grandmothers the traditional poses - made this year by Gill Moore.

The choir has already begun rehearsing for our Good Friday Devotional Service on April 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7pm. Rehearsals are on Monday evenings from 7pm to 8pm. Anyone who enjoys singing is welcome to join us.

The *Parochial Church AGM* will be on **Sunday March 21<sup>st</sup>** at 7.45pm - approximately, following Evensong and the Vestry meeting. The AGM is for the whole parish, the meeting will be in church. Why don't you come and see what we have been doing over the last twelve months and what we hope to do in the next year?

Our next Children's Church meeting is on March 21<sup>st</sup> at 10.30am. Please come and join us if you are about 4 years old or over. We are trying to make it as lively and interesting as we can, but we do need you.

Remember too, the special Good Friday Children's Service at 10.30am. All the Easter tide services will be in the Easter Cards delivered to every house in the village nearer the time.

### **Betty Winkfield**

### WOMEN's FELLOWSHIP

At our February meeting John Trussler took us on a 100 mile walk around Warwickshire! A very relaxing, picturesque journey from the comfort of a chair, looking at slides. I had no idea there was an identifiable 100 mile walk in our county.

From Coombe Abbey and Nuneaton down to Tysoe and Stratford and everywhere in between - beautiful.

Our Lent lunches are going well and are well attended. A speaker from M.I.N.D. will be coming to our meeting on March 10<sup>th</sup> (they work in partnership with people who experience mental distress). After church, at 2pm, we are meeting at Nancy's home, 16, Ladbroke Hall.

### **Betty Winkfield**

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### LADBROKE AND DEPPERS BRIDGE W.I.

The meeting was held on February 25<sup>th</sup> at the Village Hall at 7.30pm.

The speaker was Mrs. Linda Jones who gave us a demonstration on how to make chocolate sweets. We were able to sample them and they were delicious. Raffle prizes were won by Gill Moore, Tina Gilbert, Irene Bennett and Anne Edwards.

The March meeting will be on **Thursday 25<sup>th</sup>** when Mrs. Dagmar Fraser will be talking on *Pressed Flower Craft*. Visitors will be most welcome. The Tea Hostesses will be Reidun Wilks and Pat Kennedy.

Three members went to Haselor WI to view the results of their endeavours to make a wall hanging for their church. We were very excited by what we saw. Haselor is a small village with few needle women, but the results they achieved from everybody were amazing and really encouraged us - so everybody (not just the WI) thread your needles and await further information.

Four members and Jo Sowerby went to Denman College in February to attend a course "So you're on the Committee". It was so enjoyable and we learnt more than we had anticipated - meetings will never be the same again!

We had an amusing evening on February 15<sup>th</sup> at a well attended Beetle Drive. Unfortunately, not many children came, but all ages really enjoyed it.

### **Hazel Sharples**

### LADBROKE VILLAGE HALL

The first prize draw of the Labroke Village Hall Millennium Club for 1999 was held on February 8<sup>th</sup> at the Bell Inn. The winners were:

K. Tancock £80; Kip Warr £50; Jo Sowerby £25; Karen Birgh, Sheena Healey, Stan Greenway, Ron Abbott and Anne Edwards each won £10.

The next prize draw will take place on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March at the Bell Inn at 8pm.

### SOUTHAM & DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

### Ladbroke Section

Shakespeare - the Man of the Millennium - get a feel for the last millennium before we go into the next one and come and see *Will's Wife* at Ladbroke Village Hall on **Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> March** at 7.30pm. Tickets from Village Hall Committee or Linda Doyle.

Lizzie and Neil, theatre directors and members of Prince Rupert's Vangarde of the Sealed Knot, will be coming all the way from Lancashire to perform their historical dramalogue about Ann Hathaway; deserted by William Shakespeare when he ran away to London to seek his fortune!

This will be a brilliant portrayal of a local historical character, suitable for *all* members of the family and a rare opportunity for Ladbroke to use the Village Hall for our own simple theatricals. If we enjoy it, they will be invited back for more.

It is not clear how (or even if) the John Shakespeare who married John Chebsee's daughter Prudence in 1591 was related, but the first of their several sons and daughters was christened eight days after their marriage at All Saints' Ladbroke.

My favourite tale about our Shakespeare family occurs a couple of hundred years later, when they have moved into Southam. Squire Charles Palmer of Ladbroke Hall enjoyed his drink and amongst his ownership of The Bell and Horse and Jockey in Ladbroke, was the Black Dog in Southam - Shakespeare being the landlord. A Bedworth Wine Merchant was mortified to discover that the best quality port he had sold to Shakespeare for Palmer and his drinking pals, had been replaced by some poor quality product and Shakespeare had pocketed the difference!

Our next History Society meeting is at St. Mary's School on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> March when we have a talk on Stratford-upon-Avon's history. Visitors welcome.

Linda Doyle - 01926 814 214

### LADBROKE PARISH COUNCIL REPORT - 17th February

We all envied Councillor Geoff Timms' break to Australia as we braved the cold Village Hall for the February meeting. However, the atmosphere was warm and we enjoyed the familiar romp through the agenda.

<u>Crime Report</u>: Following two crime free months, PC Andy Went reported that Ladbroke had suffered from the recent "epidemic" of staddle stone thefts. Owners are encouraged to chisel an identifying mark on the underside or attach the top and base as the two parts are not able to be lifted together.

<u>Planning Applications</u>: The planning application for the pig farm at Chapel Ascote will be heard at the next Dassett area planning meeting. The environmental reports do not envisage any problems with air and water pollution but the Parish Council are anxious that all contingencies are thoroughly explored. To this effect a meeting is being arranged with Mr. Barrett and representatives from the environmental survey.

Footpath Report: The certificate confirming Ladbroke as a member of the Parish Paths Partnership had been received. Permission has also been given to mark E roads with red discs to allow access. A working group will meet in Wood Street car park, Southam on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> March at 10.00 a.m. to continue the clearing of the footpath over Windmill Hill. Anyone who thinks they may be able to help should contact Michael Boden-Pritchett on 813066.

There is to be a County Council moratorium on the diversion of existing footpaths. This will allow resources to be concentrated on the existing ones.

<u>County Councillor's Report</u>: A decision is yet to be taken on the exact level of increase of the Council Tax.

Following a public outcry the gritting of the roads will return to previous levels for the remainder of the year and for next year.

When the repairs to two of the bridges on the A423 have been completed, it is probable that the road will be de-trunked. This will alter the line of responsibility for the road.

Following a review of special education needs, there is to be an emphasis

on children with medium learning difficulties being placed in mainstream schools. The result of this will be the reduction of special schools from 11 to 6. The sites are still to be decided.

<u>Chairman's Report</u>: Peter Williamson advised the Council that the repair and lifting of the weight restriction on the bridge at Deppers Bridge might result in larger vehicles using the Ladbroke road. This *is* still subject to a weight restriction.

He reported back on a Stratford District Council evening at which two speakers had talked about crime initiatives (I presume on how to stop it, rather than how to start it) and energy savings. The latter speaker is to be invited to the Ladbroke AGM on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> May as there are schemes which should help individuals to use energy wisely.

The District Plan is being written. This will put detail to the Warwickshire Structure Plan which controls planning to 2011.

<u>Millennium Green Update</u>: A grant has been approved from Stratford District Council to help with the children's play area. The public meeting about which all Ladbroke residents will have been notified, is on **Friday 26<sup>th</sup> March**. The purpose of the meeting is to give an update on the Macklin site and the funding, and to talk about the proposed event for the millennium year.

<u>Any Other Business</u>: The substandard workmanship on the resurfaced by-pass was again discussed. Another letter is to be sent to W.S. Atkins, the Contractor with responsibility for roads.

Quote of the evening, following a buzz of proposed letter writing "Don't antagonise elderly clerks". Now who do you think said that?

### **Carol Northorpe**

### HARBURY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING - February

First he was a lion - defending the traditional bonfire site; then he was a lamb and fêted by his colleagues for getting water to the Allotments. John Woodward is a man of many parts.

The lion act came when plans for the Tennis/Netball improvements were discussed. John was determined to restrict the new hard surface area to

the far east of the field and he complained that the plans had been increased in size and that residents had not yet had the opportunity to see floodlights in action. He wanted the planning application withdrawn.

It turns out that the courts have just been rotated 90°; the residents are off to see Warwick Tennis Club Floodlights; there is plenty of room for the bonfire and flexibility in the time given for the Parish to respond, so the application need not be withdrawn.

Other plans were passed for an extension at 20, Manor Orchard, and Kingston Farm, Chesterton; tree work at Temple and Fairview Houses. The Parish Council made comments on the plans to build at Sheen Farm (contrary to the Village Design Statement and Backland development) and for a garage at Fairview House (gates should not obstruct footpath).

They nodded through District Cllr James Turner's plans to build a new house in the garden of 12, Church Terrace and thought the only problem likely to be caused by Biffa's "Land raising" proposals at the Tip would be increased traffic. Have they seen Packington's "Mount Biddle"?

They were surprised to discover that the Enforcement Officer was asking about the newly paved path across the Village Green outside Crown Cottage and agreed to review Parish holdings and the laws appertaining to them.

John Woodward's baa-lamb bit came when he announced that he had successfully negotiated with Severn Trent and the County Council for a water supply to the Allotments. John Hunt was delighted with the proposed improvement which he hoped would make the plots more attractive. At present only 29 of the 44 Allotments are let.

More parish projects are at last gelling. The Police Post, at the Scout Hut is set to open at 10.30am on **Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> March**. There is to be a meeting in the Tom Hauley Room on **Tuesday 13th April**, 8pm on *Neighbourhood Watch*, and the Police have been so successful in their detection of recent crime, that they have recovered more Staddle Stones than were reported stolen!

The Coffee Club for Teenagers is opening up in the Scout Hut on **Tuesdays from 7.30 to 9.30pm**.

But, after that it was back to Bollards. There seems no end to the problems with lighting. It was reported that Bromford Corinthia had

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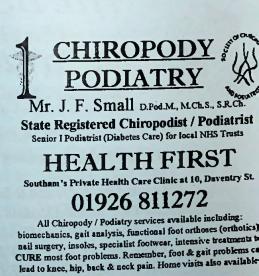
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erected lights on the front of all their low cost homes to the annoyance of the occupiers so "scuppering Ken's bollards" which he wanted as low level illumination. Shielding for the Percival Drive lights and a reduction in height of the Hillside low-cost homes light must wait because they are not yet in Parish ownership.

Former Clerk, Alison Hodge congratulated the council on the other Hillside lights and asked if the old light at Binswood End outside the site could be moved to the back of the footpath.

Staff changes at the Divisional Highways Office have had a bizarre effect on path maintenance in Harbury. John Hunt discovered that the Beeches footpath, which was recently resurfaced, is due for another coat. Ron Grey reported that Station Road (improved last year) had just been done again. It was rumoured Farm Street and Sutcliffe Pastures were next in line. The Clerk will write to "confused of Dunchurch" as Keith Thompson dubbed them.

Efforts to "save" the Gamecock came to nought Councillor Middleton reported because the magistrates did not consider parking problems relevant to their deliberations.

### Linda Ridgley

### **HARBURY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE**

The Coffee Morning was a great success. We thank all those members who donated and helped on the day and all who came to support us.

There are lots of things of interest to suit everyone. A Science Safari and a trip to Woburn Abbey, an exhibition of Shakespeare over a hundred years from the R.S.C. archives and an outing to the last Royal Tournament. I really must mention for those members who have a secret yearning to write a poem, sing, draw or, wait for it: *belly dance* (the mind fairly boggles). All be revealed at Claverdon Church Centre in June! We are hoping for a theatre trip in March and perhaps a visit to Highgrove later.

The speaker was Miss Gudrun Kohler who spoke on Hanover and Bavaria. Her hobby is photography and very good she is too.

Coming from Bavaria she brought her slides of this beautiful region. There was just 15 percent of Hanover that was not damaged during the war and it has been tastefully rebuilt and restored. Miss Kohler's father helped design some of the half timbered buildings to match the original ones. We were taken to the summer palace with gardens set out as at Versailles and an open air theatre, surrounded by statues, created for Handel's fireworks music. We were whisked from cities to towns to villages, where many still have their ancient walls intact. Beautiful churches with their stained glass windows and some quite plain, but very ornate inside. Then to the breathtaking views of the Bavarian Alps, the Black Forest, unfortunately being affected by acid rain, and the rivers and valleys. Miss Kohler's narration was very interesting and informative.

March Hostesses: Sandra Leigh, Barbara Rynes and Beryl Ashworth.

### Jeanne Beaumont

### HOLIDAY SNAP

Harbury Theatre Group's next production could be just what is needed as a pick-me-up after a long wet winter! 'Holiday Snap' by Michael Pertwee and John Chapman is a fast moving adult comedy and follows the fortunes of two couples who, through a mix-up, find themselves double-booked in a luxurious timeshare villa in Portugal.

Eve had been looking forward to checking out the four-poster with Leslie while Henry was hoping to put a smile on Mary's face.

However, the attentions of their holiday representative, the hapless dipsomaniac, Chitto, who appears at the most inappropriate moments, only serve to cramp their style further. And that is just the beginning!

How will they manage to make this a never-to-be forgotten holiday? Come along and find out on 23<sup>rd</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> April.

### **Alan Barr**

### **HARBURY FOLK CLUB**

At the 171" session of Harbury Folk Club on February 4th, the theme was "Money" so we trebled the cost of entry, making it precisely nothing as usual.

Many of the regular performers who were forewarned about the theme had forearmed themselves with relevant songs and tunes but it's always amusing to see how the others cope with adapting the theme to suit their chosen material.

Many of our regular singers were there – Ron, Des, John B, the Blues Fathers, the Harvesters and me – with occasional harmonica accompaniments from Dougie. Margaret gave a rare solo performance, Ruth (niece of "Auntie Maureen") was as impressive as usual, especially on "Fields of Gold", and it was good to see Colin Squire from Monks Kirby Folk Club again. Quite unexpectedly, the Quiet Men (Terry, Kieron and Dave) turned up and made quite a lot of noise with an interesting blend of Irish and contemporary influences. Kieron's Uillean pipes were the highlight of the evening for me, especially in "That's entertainment" with which they finished the evening for us.

The raffle raised £31.54 for REAP, an international missionary organisation which sends volunteers to Africa to help with local projects. The next Folk Club is on April 1st, at 8:30pm in the Dog Inn, with Captain Bones at the helm.

#### Peter McDonald

### SCOUT CAR WASH

As a commitment to Scout Job Week, Harbury Scouts will be holding a Car Wash on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> April from 2-4pm in the car park behind the Wight School.

At just £2 per car (or donations of more!), this deluxe, hand operated service, is a bargain that shouldn't be missed! Please support us if you can, any enquiries direct to:

Steve Dorning	612037
Andy Linforth	612696
Jim Ward	612401

### G.A.S.S. - GUIDES AND SCOUTS SUPPORT COMMITTEE

It is well over a year since G.A.S.S. was formed and we are about to hold our first AGM. We would very much like to invite all parents, and indeed anyone else who may be interested, to come and join us at 'The Hut' on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> March at 8pm.

It will be an opportunity to hear the sorts of activities that each of the

groups participate in during their weekly meetings. You will also hear about the various ways we have spent the money raised (only possible with your support) at *G.A.S.S.* fund raising events throughout the year.

Please do come along to our first AGM. We look forward to seeing you on March 10<sup>th</sup>, 8pm at 'The Hut'.

### G.A.S.S. Committee

### HARBURY NURSERY SCHOOL

This half term we are looking at rain and shine. This week we have, appropriately, been looking at rain. By flicking and splattering paint we have made raindrop pictures. We have also learnt how Doctor Foster, a lady doctor, went to Gloucester. We have been making Doctor Gloucester puppets on straws that jump in and out of yoghurt pot puddles!

We are also learning a song called Rain and Shine (to the tune of 'Boys and Girls Come Out to Play):

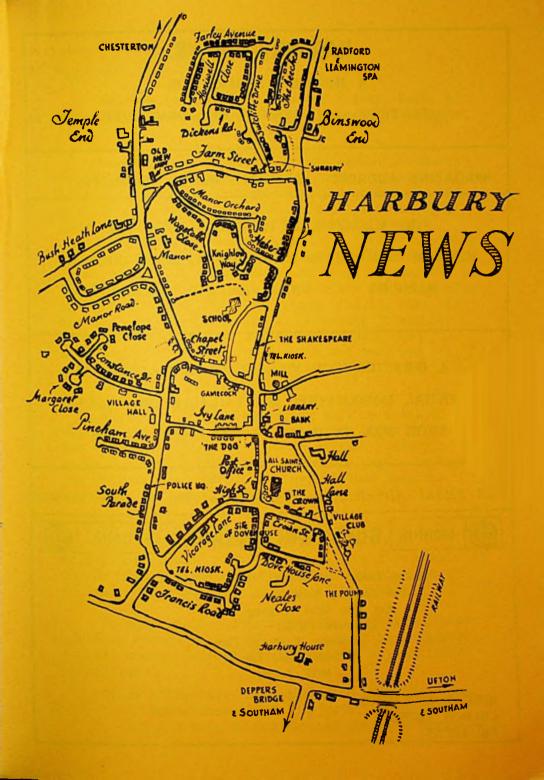
> Grey and silver spots of rain Running down the window pane Plip and plop and flip and flop In the puddles raindrops drop Pattering down all over the town We can't go out just yet to play It's only a shower lasting an hour The sun may shine again today.

During the song we make different sorts of raindrop sounds by tapping our fingers to make fast and slow rain, loud and soft rain.

Some of us are going to visit the Weather Station set up by Year 6 pupils who are measuring wind and rain. We hope that the Year 6 children will show us what they are doing.

The sponsored treasure hunt was well supported, bus tickets and train tickets being the hardest things to find. The winners were Fiona Mitchell and Sam Cheesman.

Dates for your diary are the Casino Evening on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> March, 7.30pm in the Village Hall. Call Sue Graydon on 612479 for more details.



### HARBURY NEWS.

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#### MAY 1974

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Welcome to the first issue of Harbury News, a monthly publication covering all aspects of village life.

Harbury News is backed by the Parochial Church Council, and is financed by the generous support of the advertisers, (whom we hope you will patronise), and also by individual donations. It is produced by a team comprising Diana Holt, Marian Millington, Alan Lord and John Moore - part of a larger committee and with the assistance of members of the village organisations, who contribute articles and reports on their activities. We aim to circulate all households in Harbury Parish, free of charge, for the next six months. After that it may be necessary to ask for a small subscription, by which time we hope that you will consider it to be good value and that you will have come to depend on it as a major source of information and entertainment!

Amongst the items appearing will be notes on village activities and societies, the Diary of Events, the Vicar's Letter, articles on village history, sales and wants, and a correspondence page - we hope you will write to us on both serious and humorous matters.

We are fortunate to belong to a village which has a strong community spirit and in which a host of activities provide interest and enjoyment to many. It is our hope that Harbury News will help more people to learn about and take part in village life.

Because of its central position, 23 Mill Street has been chosen as the official Harbury News Address, and all communications should go there - with three exceptions:

Diary of Events: Information to Vicky MacGowan, 17 Manor Orchard, Tel: 612938. Enquiries about events to the various activity organisers. Sales and Wants: Charges will be 5p for up to 20 words per month. Insertions should be addressed to Peter Holt, 15 Wagstaffe Close, to reach him by 25th of the month prior to issue.

Harbury Directory: Additions and changes to be addressed to Diana Holt, 15 Wagstaffe Close, Spare copies also available.

The general tone may seem rather heavy this time. We don't plan always to be so serious. Let us have your ideas please for articles and lighter items for the future. For June we plan an issue concentrating on children's activities and schools.

### HARBURY DIARY

MAY 1974

Wed. 1st.	Scouts A.G.M. Village Hall 6.00 pm
	M.U. 2.30 pm. Vicarage, Speaker Mrs. Assheton.
Thur. 2nd	W.I. Village Hall 7.45 pm.
	Crusaders, games on Playing Field 6.30 pm.
	(weather permitting)
Sat. 4th	League of Pity Party, members only, Village
	Hall 3.00 pm.
Sun. 5th	Crusaders Union Sunday, Mr. Gerry Edwards
	(Coventry) 2.30 pm. Village Hall.
Mon. 6th	Bingo, Village Hall 8.00 pm.
Thur. 9th	Golden Age Club, Village Hall, 2.00 pm.
	Crusaders, games on Playing Field 6.30 pm.
	(weather permitting)
Sat. 11th	Dance, Village Hall 8.00 pm midnight.
Mon. 13th	Bingo, Village Hall 8.00 pm.
Tues.14th	Harbury Friends, Speaker Susan Sellers, Southam Hairdresser. Harbury School 8.00 pm.
	P.T.A. Fashion Show, Harbury School.
Wed. 15th	Crusaders, games on Playing Field 6.30 pm.
Thur.16th	
	(weather permitting) Dramatic Society "Sound of Murder" Village Hall.
The: 17+h	
Fri. 17th	- In a line was a f Munder" VILLage note
Sat. 18th	Dramatic Society "Sound of Murder" Village Hall. Dramatic Society "Sound of Murder" Village Hall.
Mon. 20th	
Tues.21st	Senior Citizens Benefit Association Committee
140012100	Meeting, Village Hall 8.30 pm.

Wed. 22nd Thur.23rd	Blood Doning Session, Village Hall 2.00 pm. Golden Age Club, Village Hall 2.00 pm. Crusaders, games on Playing Field 6.30 pm. (weather permitting)
Fri. 24th	Dance in aid of Senior Citizens Benefit Association, Village Hall.
Mon. 27th	Bingo, Village Hall 8.00 pm. Football Club Dance, Village Hall, 9.00 pm.
Tues.28th	Young Wives, Village Hall. Talk on Royal National Institute for the Blind. 2.00 pm.
Wed. 29th	Snowdonia.
Fri. 31st	Harbury Dominoes League Dance. Village Hall 8.00 pm 1.00 am.
JUNE 1974	to substant the farth hereit at the sale of
Mon. 3rd Wed. 5th	M.U. 2.30 pm. at Vicarage. Speaker Hev.
Thur. 6th	W.I. Monthly Meeting, Village Hall - see next issue for details.
Sum. 9th	Village Hall.

Please send items for inclusion in this Diary to Mrs. V. MacGowan, 17 Manor Orchard, Harbury 612938.

### PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL MEETING, 21.3.74.

The meeting opened with a short talk by Major Kettle, our County Councillor, and Chairman of the W.C.C. Transportation and Roads Committee, about improvements in and around the village. Traffic problems were discussed and a request was made for close contact to be maintained between the County and Parish Councils over the new transportation policy programme.

The effects of Local Government reorganisation, whereby contact with Southam R.D.C. ceases and the Village comes under the jurisdiction of Stratford-on-Avon D.C., were also outlined. Direct contact with the latter body would be maintained through Councillor R. Gurden, Harbury's elected member.

Major Kettle detailed the new County rate increases, which amounted to 18.8p/£.

Councillor Gurden as Vice-Chairman, outlined work done by the present Parish Council, and plans for the future. Mr. DuBuisson pointed out that 'Harbury News' would now be a means of informing the public of Parish Council matters.

The outstanding need for more allotments was mentioned, and it was suggested that, when a vacancy existed, special consideration should be given to people with little or no garden.

The Council expressed their gratitude for the efforts made in maintaining the cemetery. These included the planting of new trees and numerous attractive flowers.

A financial report was presented by Councillor Wright, and the Council was congratulated on being able to maintain the Parish rate at  $lp/\pounds$  rateable value.

Parish Council support, and possible finance, was discussed for such schemes as the Village Hall extension, and it was stated that under the new District Council there should be provision for the maintenance of village recreation facilities generally.

With reference to responsibility of providing street lighting, Mr. Ellis proposed that this should be a developer's responsibility and not that of the Parish. It was reported that there was an increasing and costly amount of damage to street lamps through vandalism.

The Plans Committee reported that, under the new Warwickshire structure plan, Harbury would have no large developments in the near future, and as from 1st April the Parish Council would be asked to comment on planning applications. Interest was expressed in the possibility of a Southam office for public access to copies of plans and proposals held by Stratford D.C.

A vote of thanks was given to the Recreation Ground Advisory Committee for their work, which included many successful fund raising events. A resolution was passed to increase the number of elected members from six to nine, and the new members were subsequently elected.

Footpath Association walks were well supported this year, and all local routes had been walked. Concern was expressed over the possible closure of a footpath off Mill Street, and it was hoped to have Parish Council and legal representation at the proposed enquiry.

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#### TEMNIS COURTS

As you may remember, the Tennis Courts were completed and ready for use in November last year. With the approach of summer, now is the time for everyone to begin to make full use of them.

Bookings can be made at J.A. & E. Howard and the charge for the booking is 20p an hour - under 16's free of charge between 4.00 p.m. and 6.00 p.m. Monday to Friday.

We are hoping to set aside one evening a week for an informal get-together, when anyone can turn up and get a game. The committee would also be interested in hearing from any organisation in the village wishing to use the courts.

Please remember that plimsolls must always be worn, otherwise the court surface will be damaged.

#### HARBURY SOCIETY

Harbury Society was formed as a direct result of the Parish Meeting held in the village in October to protest against the proposed demolition of the Manor House. Shortly after this meeting, a group of interested people met to discuss the possibility of forming a society which would be properly organised to deal with any future threat to historic buildings in the village. It was agreed that the aims of the society would be to promote an interest in the history of the village through research and the collection of pictorial and documentary material, to carry out regular surveillance of matters relating to the environment of the village and the surrounding countryside, and to study community amenities. It was also felt to be important that members should be fully informed about the legal aspects of environmental affairs, particularly in relation to planning and conservation.

Support for the new society has been most encouraging. Already we have had a talk from a member of the County Council's planning department on the legal aspects of listed buildings (of which the village has twenty). Groups of members have been meeting regularly to make a survey of all the buildings in the village with the intention of trying to get some parts designated as Conservation Areas. Photographs of Harbury as it was at the turn of the century have been shown at meetings, and it is hoped to establish a. collection of these for exhibition at some future date. Members have also been keeping an eye on future building developments in the village by regularly inspecting planning applications at the Rural District Council's offices.

A full programme of monthly meetings and activities is being planned. New members of the society would be most welcome. The Secretary is Linda Ridgley, 7 Wagstaffe Close (Telephone 612792).

#### YOUNG WIVES GROUP

Three years ago a group of young housewives met in Harbury with the idea of forming a Club, mainly as a 'daughter' to the Mothers' Union, and also, because they felt there was a need for some daytime activities, especially for young mothers. From this informal meeting came the Harbury Young Wives Group. The first leader was Edna Chapple and then Jeanne Clarke, who is still the Group Leader but Trisha Harrison, of Walnut Tree Cottage, has become Chairman. The Chairman is backed up by a strong Committee: Diana Holt, Secretary, Eunice McCracken, Treasurer, Frances Moore, Social Secretary, Shirley Keir, Distribution Secretary and Vicki Tanner our Sports Organiser!

The Group has monthly meetings, usually with a speaker. Topics range widely, from child psychology and potty training to fashion and Pippa-Dee, from flower arranging to life on the beat as a Policewoman, from how our telephones work to how to be a better driver! Meetings are of an informal nature and are occasionally rendered even more so when Junior enters unceremoniously from the next-door creche (expertly and patiently arranged for us by Mr. and Mrs. Bastin) to find Mum! We commence our meetings (at 2.15 p.m. every fourth Tuesday in the month at the Village Hall) with a short prayer to unite us all, notices follow, then our speaker and we finish with material needs of tea, coffee and biscuits! We sometimes have discussions amongst ourselves instead of a speaker, although no one is forced to air their views! Even so, we soon find we become less inhibited and speak our thoughts and this in itself creates a much greater fellowship. We have visits to the local theatre with our husbands and arranged recently a Fancy Dress Party for our children and we hope more and more to enter into the various village events, we are



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struggling to keep our netball team alive and may even see the emergence of a Tennis Section if the support is there. We attend the magnificent annual service of the Mothers! Union at Coventry Cathedral, an uplifting experience in itself and also a very interesting research study into the vast variety of ladies' hats that sport such occasions! Members also help with the Church Cleaning and we have visited many old people in the Village, in conjunction with the Harbury Senior Citizens' Association, to see if any were in special need. We join Mothers' Union at some of their meetings and this helps to give us a sense of belonging to a larger organisation. Every December we combine with them in a Carol Service in our Church and this is where Junior, yet again, can display his acting ability as we encourage our under-fives to actively take part in a Christmas tableau, and how they love the dressing up!

We are only a young Group yet and we have far to go and a lot to learn but with God's help and a great deal of humility and good humour and fellowship which develops over the years we shall be able to combine activities of relaxation and pleasure with those of helping others locally. We warmly welcome new faces and stress that your underfive is not a liability but is an asset in bringing the young mothers of Harbury together!

#### HARBURY ALBION FOOTBALL CLUB

For over 40 years, Harbury has enjoyed a soccer team. During most of those years, the Club stalwart was the late headmaster, Mr. Farrow. Firstly, he excelled as a player, and later as an official - often the only official and managing the Club on a 'shoestring'.

During the first 10 years, the Club has become a lot more stable financially but regrettably not many trophies have been forthcoming. The Club now has two teams in the Leamington Sunday League, with a kick-off most Sunday mornings in the 'Top' playing field at 10.30 a.m. A £100 set of floodlights, enable training to take place on the playing field every Tuesday at 7.30 p.m.

The League consists of five Divisions, with Harbury's first team coloured yellow and blue, in the bottom half of Division One. The Second team in all maroon are more successful in Division Three, positioned around fourth in the table.

7

The next major event to take note of is the Six-a-Side Competition held during the Carnival on 15th June. A handsome trophy is there to be won by any team. Entry forms are available from the Club Secretary.

Don't forget - Soccer Sunday Mornings! Next month, more about the Club, including the Club Tote and the under 15' team.

Club Membership - 25p Chairman - W. Stevens, Manor Road, Harbury. Treasurer - P. Bench, Leamington Spa 37302. Match Secretary - L. Sollis, Farm Street, Harbury 612412. Club Secretary - M.G. Bishop, 4 Margaret Close, Harbury 612759.

#### THE FOOTPATH PETITION

Last Autumn a petition was circulated and signed protesting at the proposed closure of S.M. 62 A.

Perhaps you are wondering what became of it; or even where and what the disputed path is. It runs from Mill Street opposite the bottom of Heber Drive, across Mr. Trice's fields and joins the Harbury to Ufton path, thus giving walkers easy access to the footpaths on the North side of the village.

Mr. TRICE states that the path is an anomaly. The 190 metre spur in dispute, he says, is not really a footpath but a farm track. It originated at the end of the last century; it provided quick access to villagers' allotments which lay in a 12 acre field called Limekiln. These allotments fell into disuse, a tenant farmer ploughed the land and the gate was closed before the Great War. The public footpath legend was perpetuated when transcribed onto a map by the "error of a Parish Clerk". This path has been marked on Ordnance Survey Maps for many years.

Letters supporting and objecting to the closure were sent to the R.D.C. and in view of the controversy the case was referred to the Department of the Environment. A Public Enquiry will be held locally at a date to be announced.

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#### THE AMATEUR DRAMATIC SOCIETY

Many of you with young children will have seen our latest production "The Tale of the Red Dragon" at the beginning of March. This was a most interesting and successful effort for everyone. It was the Company's first production "in the round" - using the whole length of the Village Hall. The magical and fantastic journey by Lee Nyiang and her companions Monkey & Nightingale gave the effects and lighting team scope for ingenuity. Many of the beautiful costumes were hired from Leamington's Loft Theatre wardrobe dept. where they were made for The Wizard of Oz. JEAN SHAWCROSS made the Monkey's and Nightingale's costumes and the Dragon's headpiece. The young audiences were enthralled by the story and seemed suitably frightened when the Dragon roared amongst them.

A play specifically for children was a new departure for the society and because it was so enthusiastically received they hope to make a children's entertainment an annual event.

The Dramatic Society are currently rehearsing a splendid thriller "Sound of Murder", produced by Trevor Davis. Performances will be May 17th, 18th & 19th in the Village Hall. Posters will advertise ticket prices and performance times.

#### VILLAGE LIBRARY

Wight School, High Street, Harbury. Hours of Opening: Mondays and Thursdays, 10.30 am. to 1 pm., 2 pm. to 5 pm., 5.30 pm. to 7 pm.

From 1st April, Harbury comes under Leanington's central clearing library and this will involve several changes in policy. The lending time for books for everyone will go up from 3 to 4 weeks. The charge for overdue books will be 3p for each week or part of a week, except for children and O.A.Pis, who will be exempt from all fines. There will be a 3p charge for reservations to cover postage.

Books today can cost anything from £2 upwards for an average hardback, but you can read all the current best sellers or old favourites FREE by joining the Library. The Harbury Library has a comprehensive range of books in most of the popular categories, but any books you cannot find on the shelves can be ordered. There is also an adequate reference section, but any information that cannot be found can be obtained for you.

Please use your local library, and encourage your children to as well. There is an excellent children's section, and even pre-school toddlers may take out two books on special tickets issued to a parent on their behalf.

#### BADMINTON CLUB

The Badminton Club has been very active this season with three teams playing in the Leamington Badminton League. There are about 25 members in all, with an average attendance of 12 - 16 on a club night.

The first mixed doubles team did quite well in the second division of the league, managing to win all but one of their matches before Christmas. The second mixed team entering the fifth division of the league for the first time did not fare so well but hope to do better next season. The other team playing men's and ladies' doubles were very successful in the 2nd division.

We hope to continue playing badminton throughout the summer and to play both tennis and badminton on club nights. The summer club will be open to anyone, including beginners, at a cost of 20p per evening. Coaching will be available to anyone requiring it.

Newcomers will be very welcome during the summer months at club night which takes place at the Village Hall each Tuesday.

#### THE VILLAGE HALL

Many of the older inhabitants of Harbury will of course know the history of our Village Hall, but for some of the newer arrivals it is a fascinating story and the Hall itself is an excellent example of village life as it used to be all over England - it really is the centre of the community and is used by almost every organisation for various functions and regular meetings. In the true tradition of Harbury, the money to build the Hall was raised by the villagers themselves, and it was in 1953 that the need for a new, bigger hall was first realised. At the time of the Coronation, a party was held for the children of Harbury and it was obvious then that the old premises were nowhere near adequate. That evening, a group got together in a local pub and discussed the possibility of building a new Hall, and at the end of that meeting, everyone put 6d in the middle of the table and the fund for the new building was begun!

Ten years later, in 1963, the new Hall was opened by Mr. John Profumo, but at that time the Village Hall committee was still £2,000 in debt, and this took five years to clear. In fact, when it was first opened, the Hall was very poorly booked and it was not until the influx of new people to the village with their fresh ideas and new societies being formed, that the Hall began to be used regularly. Now there are at least 23 regular bookings from organisations ranging from Guides, Brownies, Badminton, Youth Club, Golden Age, Crusaders and many more, to the occasional wedding reception, dance and 21st birthday party.

Five years ago an extension was planned and the plans were approved but after much disheartening effort, neither the Warwicks. County Council nor the Department of Education would agree to help with costs, and so now a more modest plan is in progress; the money to be raised once more by the people of Harbury themselves. Some money of course is made by the booking charges for the Hall, but another method of raising funds for its upkeep is by the 200 Club. For those of you who do not know about this, it has replaced the old sixpenny tote and the idea is that a number of people give 50p a month to a central fund, and each month a draw is made with three prizes - one of £20 and two of £10. In addition to this, all those who have paid in for six months become eligible for a second, half-yearly draw with a prize of £100 for the winner. Anyone wishing to join this scheme should contact a member of the Village Hall committee.

The Hall is very much in demand now and it is wise to book well in advance. The person to contact about bookings and charges is Mr. P. Shawcross, 35 South Parade (Harbury 612436).

We are starting up a new branch of the League of Pity in Harbury. This is the junior section of the N.S.P.C.C., and is open to all under the age of 18. Every member has a savings box for anything they are able to save or earn, and the income from these boxes is the mainstay of the whole League organisation. The idea is that the League consists of CHILDREN raising money for other, less fortunate, children. Members receive a membership badge and a free club magazine twice a year. There is an annual party for members only (this year's will be on 4th May) at which they are presented with badges according to the amount they have saved. Each year's total is added to that of the previous year, so that it is possible for a member to eventually collect the full set of 8 badges. Ribbons are presented to members who enrol 5 recruits to the League and for every additional 5 recruits a star is given. We badly need more recruits, and if anyone would like to know more about it, please contact Mrs. V. MacGowan, 17 Manor Orchard (Harbury 612938).

#### THE VICAR'S LETTER

#### My Dear Friends,

When this first issue of the Harbury News appears, the Church will have already celebrated her glorious festival of Easter Day, but we shall still be in what are known as the "Great Forty Days" of Easter. At this time we recall Jesus' victory on the cross and resurrection, triumphant from the Sepulchre.

Easter is the "Queen of Festivals" and each Sunday is a kind of weekly Easter Day.

Forty days later on Thursday May 23rd the Church celebrates Ascension Day, the coronation of the King of Kings. Ten days after that comes Whit Sunday, or Pentecost, the Festival of the descent of the Holy Spirit and the birthday of the Church.

Please note Evensong returns to 6.30 pm. on Easter Day.

With all good wishes from

F.R. Mackley.

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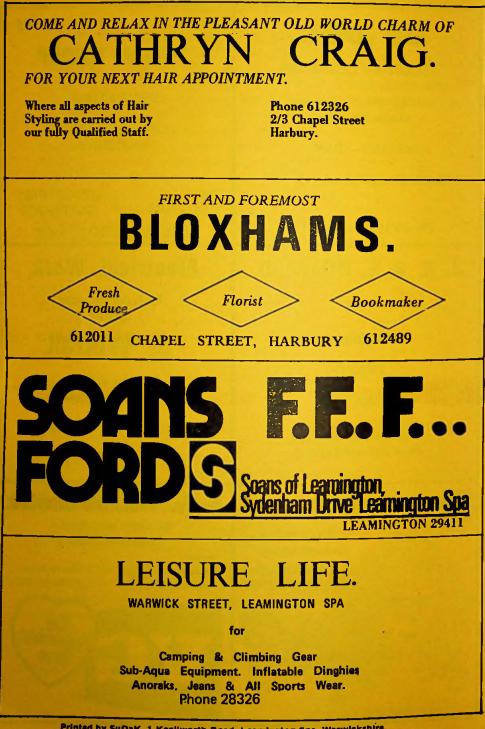
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There will also be an *Open Afternoon* on **Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> March**, 1.30-3.15pm. The Nursery will be very busy again next year, so if you are interested in a place for your child please do come along and look at our pictures and displays and talk to the staff.

#### Sarah Woods

#### THE PRE-SCHOOL - Learning Through Play

STOP PRESS: We have just had the results of our OFSTED inspection. This is a government inspection to identify the strengths and weaknesses of the education provided by an organisation so that providers can ensure that children achieve the 'desirable outcomes' of personal and social development, creative development, language and literacy, mathematics, physical development and knowledge and understanding of the world. If these outcomes are achieved, the organisation is eligible for government funding through nursery vouchers.

The report notes the Pre-School's strong emphasis on nurturing the children's self-confidence. It identifies that the provision for developing knowledge and understanding of the world is a strength of the Pre-School with 'a wealth of first-hand learning opportunities' from use of the Library, to visits from people in the community (especially George and baby Lee) and walks around the village.

The qualities of the staff were commended, including their ability to teach the use of scissors and pencils, their particular attention to teaching the children to form letter shapes and their thoughtfulness in providing a quiet pause for reflection during a 'sensitively handled' discussion of the death of a family pet. The report notes the way in which staff work on a one-to-one basis with the children to help them achieve quite complicated tasks. It was felt that the staff listen closely to the children, value their contributions and help them to develop their replies and understanding. The report also suggests that it would be useful to acquire some equipment so that the children could start to get hands-on experience of technology. (Would anyone like to donate a computer?) The overall tone of the report was very positive... in fact, we passed the inspection and a further inspection will not be required for the next two to four years, which is as good as it gets!

This is fabulous news and the whoop of joy from the Pre-School must

have been heard in Beijing (we're working on the Chinese New Year at the moment!). Five months ago, the Pre-School was under threat of closure with just six children on the roll. Now there are 20 with more planning to join after Easter, Tuesday sessions are full and we are planning to start a further session on Monday afternoons which will be a bit shorter (and cheaper) to help younger children in particular. Parents and helpers in the village have worked so hard to turn the Wight School into a bright, well resourced room for the children and the entire village seems to have rallied to our fund-raising so that we have been able to keep our charges as low as possible. Now we have the validation from OFSTED which is a fantastic seal of approval of all that we do. Many, many thanks to everyone who has helped us over the past months - the report opens with the statement that Harbury Pre-School is a welcoming, friendly and stimulating environment for children and this is an achievement in which we can all share.

Meanwhile, business as usual....

For the first half of the term the children have been learning about their own development and how they can help to care for themselves. They have brought in photographs of themselves as babies and discussed their changing needs and how they have grown. Carolyn Dorning has brought baby Lee into the Pre-School so that the children can see the difference three years can make - some of their parents also find this salutary as they realise how their tiny, dependent babies have grown into active, multi-skilled individuals, able to create fantastic hand patterns in relation to the Muslim festival of Eid!

The children have also had a visit from Daisy the cow and Flossy the horse. Before you start wondering how we managed to get two large farm animals into a busy Pre-School, we should tell you that these are glove puppets from Health Promotions in Learnington and that they have been showing the children how to clean their teeth properly. Daisy is a whizz with a toothbrush and you can probably guess Flossy's fortel George the Labrador has made one of his regular visits to us and the children were thrilled to see him have his hair brushed and his teeth cleaned too.

Our thanks to everyone who contributed to our coffee morning, either by donating raffle prizes, baking cakes and biscuits or consuming lots and lots of coffee. We were delighted with the traditional wooden toys supplied by Simply Wood and hope to work with them again. In total we raised over £115. The wonderful Southam Lions have donated £100 to the Pre-School so this is a good start to our campaign to raise £850 to replace the elderly wooden chairs and tables.

Further dates for your diaries are Friday 26<sup>th</sup> March when we will be holding another Open Morning between 9.30am and 11.30am and Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> March when the Pre-School will be attending a Church Service at 11am. Parents and relatives of the children who already attend the Pre-School, prospective members and people from the village who are interested in our work will be warmly welcomed to both events. Coffee and hot cross buns will be served back at Pre-School after the church service. There will be an Easter Egg Hunt for the children on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> April and we also have another new member of staff, Nikki Jones, about whom more next time!

#### Harbury Pre-School Committee

#### HARBURY PTA

Perhaps by taking the advice of the Quiz Master that: "there is absolutely no substitute for a genuine lack of preparation", the newly formed team Whole Gyp (from Hereburgh Morris) swept the board at the 4<sup>th</sup> PTA Electronic Quiz. Their top score of 84.5% set a new record.

When interviewed during their lap of honour, triumphantly holding the splendid silver Sutcliffe Reynolds Fitzgerald trophy proudly aloft, they explained: "Indecision is the key to flexibility".

Previous winners Black Sheep and 14/6 could only sit and smile – there had been a record number of teams entering, the beer had run out twice and, after all, Black Sheep have been winners more than any other team so far (twice) and 14/6 are the most consistent team never being out of the top three.

Quiz setter Martin Randall kept the scores flashing up on the electronic scoreboard all night and his records show great consistency except for November 1997:

	Feb 96	Nov 97	Feb 98	Feb 99
Top Score	71	66	77.5	84.5
Bottom	40	36.5	47.5	42
Average	62.8	54.5	63.8	63.8

What was it about November 1997 being so low? Well, that was the time we asked you to set a question each yourselves (because you had been complaining that the questions were too difficult!). It only goes to show, as was quoted at the Quiz,

"If you think that there is good in everybody, you haven't met everybody" or "If you can smile when things go wrong, you have someone in mind to blame".

The PTA Committee members did a tremendous job to make yet another brilliant evening of fun to part the willing punters from their Pounds, Dollars and Euros for the ultimate benefit of the Harbury school children. Thanks for your continuing support and a reminder (seeing we had to keep replenishing the supplies of booze):

<u>WARNING</u>: "Consumption of alcohol may make you think you can logically converse with other members of the opposite sex without spitting."

#### Peter Walshe

#### HARBURY CRICKET CLUB

The AGM of Harbury Cricket Club was held this month. Perhaps the most notable event was the election of Brian Wallington as an Honorary life Member, in recognition of his long and loyal service to the Club. Most of the Officers were re-elected, but Ed Russell became Chairman replacing Ian Jackson. Amongst the Captains, Will Russell (Saturday League XI) and Mike Daniels (Sunday Friendly XI) continue, but Tim Clayton takes over as Mid-week Skipper.

The Saturday Team will play in the reorganised Division III of the Coventry League, and there is considerable enthusiasm to gain early promotion, though this would mean the formation of a League Second XI. The Sunday XI already has a full fixture list of mainly local and traditional opponents. The Mid-week side is hoping that the Leamington League will be continued.



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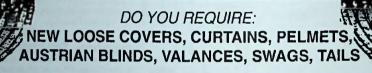
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The indoor practice nets are underway on Saturday afternoons at Southam Sports Hall.

Senior Coach, Mike Daniels reports that the Youth practices are particularly well supported, and it is hoped to play some matches this season.

The Club is looking forward to the provision of the new permanent (non-turf) wicket before the start of the season, and fund raising for this continues with a *Race Night* on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> April. New players of all ages are always welcome, and can contact the new Chairman, Ed Russell on 811795.

#### Ian Jackson

#### **HARBURY TENNIS CLUB - Exciting times ahead**

The new tennis season is nearly upon us - and it promises to be a very exciting and busy one! We are running two teams in the Banbury Summer Leagues; we are also making a very positive effort to get a Junior Section off the ground, but most important of all, we are planning a big fund raising drive for our "Millennium Project" to raise funds for floodlighting and better playing facilities at our little club.

Millennium Project: At the January meeting of the Parish Council it was agreed to support the principle of our proposals in partnership with the Netball and Junior Football Clubs of Harbury for the following:

- Floodlights to enable us to use the improved facilities more;
- Upgrading of existing courts to provide a better playing surface;
- A new multi purpose surface for 5-a-side football and other sports to give others the chance to use our facilities;
- A small clubhouse to enable spectators to watch and support the activities.

Discussions are ongoing at the time of going to press, but fingers crossed for the support and funding that we will need to upgrade a very important facility for our community which will give more people (young and old) the chance to learn and participate in the playing of tennis, netball and football throughout the year.

Junior potential: Numerous parents have expressed an interest in having sessions for their children. The Club is very keen to encourage

this too. We have set up a Junior Group Co-ordinating team of Eileen Braham (612147), Lucy Thompson (612050) and Keith Phipps (612057) and initial plans are as follows:

- The 11 to 14 year olds to have a Club night on Wednesday nights. This would start on Wed 7<sup>th</sup> April with a Junior Open Night, 6pm start.
- 7-11 Year olds will have a session on Sunday mornings Coaching will be arranged in response to demand (for a nominal charge);
- Junior matches will be sought against other clubs;
- Adult supervision and additional equipment and balls supplied free!
- Mini tournaments with prizes.

#### AND WITH JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP REMAINING AT JUST £6 PER YEAR, WHAT A BARGAIN!

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

Sunday 28th March	'Cheque book tournament' 2pm
Saturday May 1 <sup>st</sup>	LTA Play Tennis
Saturday June 12th	Carnival Teas
June Ongoing	MAJOR DRAW
Saturday June 19th	Coffee Morning
Thursday July 8th	Fun Tennis Evening with BBQ & Strawberries
Saturday Sept 11th or 18th	Jumble Sale
Friday October 1st	BIG DANCE!
Friday Nov 12th	Craft Fair Catering

#### **David Snell**

#### HARBURY CARNIVAL JUNE 12th, 1999

King and Queen - It has been difficult over the last few years to find people interested in being carnival King and Queen. This year, by way of a change, we have decided to alter the eligible age range. Anyone from 6 years to 12 years of age who would like to be considered will shortly be able to nominate themselves by putting their name, address and telephone number on a piece of paper, and depositing it in a special box placed outside Harbury school. Final selection will be by way of a popular vote amongst the children.

Fun for All - As an early reminder, the week of fun games prior to the carnival is not just for teams entered by the pubs. It is meant to be fun for all, so please think about entering a team this year.

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**Carnival Dance** - No one has yet offered to take on the running of the Carnival Dance. Any organisation wishing to do so should contact John Broomfield on 614258. All proceeds from the event will be for the benefit of whichever organisation puts it on.

#### Submitted by John Broomfield On behalf of the Carnival Committee

#### 'DROP IN' - Age 12 - 16 year olds

This article is to all you people who have nowhere to go at nights and nowhere to meet your friends. So we are giving you the chance to meet at the Scout Hut every Tuesday evening from 7.30-9.30 pm. There will be food and drinks to buy along with music. Come along to our opening night on March 2<sup>nd</sup>. For more information contact

#### Jemma Phipps 612057 Chris Lord 613722

#### **CHILDREN's BOOKS / OLD TOYS - AN APPEAL**

During a recent visit to Ghana a member of the Rotary Club of Southam was appalled to find that children in the age range of 3 to 6 years at state schools near Kumasi did not have any reading materials.

If anyone has books that they have no longer use for, there is an urgent need now in English speaking Ghana. PLEASE if you do have books/comics/toys (especially plastic toy telephones) contact 614104 when collection can be arranged or leave them in Harbury Library with Sue.

During August, the Rotary Club plans to organise a shipment out to their colleagues in Ghana for the schools in deprived areas. All books/toys will be acknowledged by the young Ghanaians who are so keen to learn. Please help if you can.

#### Bill Davies 612661 or 614104

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#### AN EVENT FOR YOUR DIARY IN THE YEAR 2000

Last September, Harbury was privileged to be host to The Caldicot Male Voice Choir, for the second year running. A wonderful evening's entertainment was enjoyed by all. Harbury school children excelled themselves and truly enhanced the evening's performance.

Just under £400 was raised. This was divided between our church and the charities of the children's choice, namely the RSPCA and The Flood Relief for Central America. So we not only enjoyed ourselves immensely - we also did some good.

The Choir will not be visiting Harbury in 1999 as they prefer a little time lapse for change of programme. The year 2000 should see them visiting us again - and we'll all look forward to that!

#### **The Organisers**

#### **INTERESTED IN BECOMING A PARISH COUNCILLOR?**

On Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> May the electors of the Harbury & Deppers Bridge wards will be invited to vote for candidates offering themselves for election to the Parish Council. There are ten places on the Parish Council (one earmarked for Deppers Bridge) and it is likely that several present members will be retiring. For an election to be held requires not less than ten nominations, otherwise the persons nominated automatically become members of the Council without having to submit themselves to the judgement of the electorate. In Britain, Parish Councils really are the grass roots of our democratic system and in a vigorous, healthy democracy the absence of an electoral contest must be a matter for regret.

If you have a concern for the well being of the area and feel you can make a contribution to protecting and promoting the quality of life in our community, please consider becoming a member of the Council. There is more to it than interminable monthly meetings and all councillors are expected to be members of the 'working parties' through which the council considers in detail the various issues that fall to be determined. Opportunities therefore exist for making available to the community many of the special skills and knowledge which are to be found in Harbury in abundance. The Parish Council's principal functions include:

- 1. The provision and maintenance of:
  - playing fields at Harbury and Deppers Bridge and of the several greens and open spaces;
  - foot way lighting;
  - allotments;
  - the cemetery.
- 2. Maintenance of roadside verges.
- 3. Considering and commenting to the District Council on planning applications.
- 4. Litter collection on all through and non-estate roads.
- 5. Leaf clearance at selective sites around the village.

The law also allows the Council to spend a limited amount of money on any purpose which it believes will be of benefit to the area and its inhabitants and this power is used principally to provide bus tickets for the elderly and disabled residents and for modest financial support for local voluntary organisations.

Additionally, the Council acts as 'progress chaser' on behalf of the village for services provided by the County and District Councils and by the Warwickshire Constabulary, and lobbies the utility companies where their activities affect the village environment.

So, that's a synopsis of what's involved in being a Parish Councillor and of the Council's work. If you want to find out more, have a word with me (612931), any member of the Council or with Mrs. Deborah Steele, Clerk of the Council (614646). Nomination forms can be obtained from Mrs. Steele, 9 Sutcliffe Drive, and must be returned to Stratford District Council by no later than **Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> April**.

Finally, even if you do not feel inclined or able to offer yourself for membership of the Council, in the event of an election, please use your vote.

> John Hunt Chairman Harbury Parish Council

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#### **OPEN LETTER TO PARENTS OF 12 to 16 YEAR OLDS**

#### **Dear Parents**

I am Ruth Dawes of 36, Southam Crescent, Lighthorne Heath. I am 40 years old, married with three children. For the last six years I have been running a Junior and Senior Youth Club on a volunteer basis at Lighthorne Heath Village Hall. I am now a part-time qualified Youth Leader and I still run both Youth Clubs.

I am writing to you because some of the young people in Harbury have asked Janet Thornley if she could help them to get some activities organised for them. Janet contacted me for some advice and invited me along to meet some of these youngsters on January 18<sup>th</sup>. After this meeting, the young people felt that they would benefit by getting their Youth Club up and running again, but that there was no-one to do this.

I would be willing to come along to Harbury and try and get the Youth Club reinstated, but to do this, I would need some support from you, the parents, as we do need to have a Committee which must have a Chair person, Secretary, Treasurer and hopefully also a Parish Councillor, County Councillor and of course, parents. Parents could also help in other ways by taking a turn in helping out on a Youth Club night. Also, if you have a talent and would like to share this with the young people, this could be put in a programme of activities. We would need board games, paper, pens, pencils, art etc. and this list goes on and on.

After my discussions with some of the young people of Harbury, I believe we could re-instate the Youth Club but to make it viable we need to work together and I mean TOGETHER - the Youth Leader, helpers, the young people, the Committee and the Community.

I would be grateful if you would be prepared to give up some of your time to come to a meeting to see if we can get a Youth Club up and running. A meeting will be held on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March at 7.30pm in the Farley Room at the Village Hall.

Thank you for reading this letter and hopefully we will see you at the meeting. For any further details, and if possible, confirmation of your attendance at the meeting, please ring Janet Thornley on 612688.

Yours sincerely



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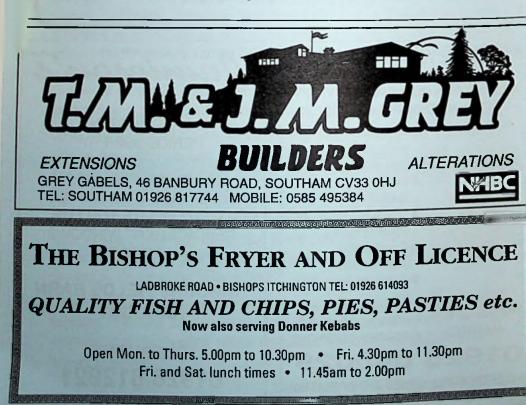


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Evening sessions are proposed to run as follows: Southam, Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> March; Harbury, Monday 12<sup>th</sup> April in the Tom Hauley Room, 7.30-9pm, and Napton on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> April.

For details and to reserve your place please contact Malcolm Tagg on 01926 817166 (evening) or 815882 (daytime).

#### **Peter Rollason**

#### **NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH**

There will e a Neighbourhood Watch meeting in the Tom Hauley Room on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> April 8pm. Further details will appear in the April edition of the magazine.

#### J.A. Chapple

#### **FRANKENSTEIN FOOD**

Have you ever thought of having an ALLOTMENT? There is ever growing evidence that having an allotment is actually good for you. Not only is the fresh produce tastier than shop vegetables, but the effort put in to growing the produce is extremely rewarding.

You can also avoid any GENETICALLY MODIFIED vegetables by growing your own. Moves are afoot to put in a water supply on the allotments at the top of Pineham Avenue which will be a great help in the dry summer months (if we get any). Now is a good time to take on a plot as it is the beginning of the growing season. Know what you are eating. It comes straight from plot to pot.

If you are interested in an allotment get in touch with Mr. P. Clarke 32, South Parade, Tel. 612066.

#### Harbury Allotment Holders Assoc.

#### **HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY**

At the last meeting Mr. Coombes gave a fascinating illustrated talk on Lilies, their history, cultivation and various varieties. He also informed us how to propagate by taking 'scales', placing them in vermiculite in a polythene bag, then into the airing cupboard for a while, and after a few weeks new plants will start to develop!

This year Ron and I actually attended the Seed Potato Weekend at Ryton Gardens. The event has obviously been so popular in past years it has been extended to two days. We went early on the Saturday, but not early enough, at least a couple of the varieties were sold out, one of which Ron wanted, but that is how it goes!

Thinking ahead - the Walkabout in July perhaps? - please sow extra seeds, then the resulting plants could be sold during that weekend with you the grower, having the proceeds. Whilst on the subject of the Open Gardens, the committee would like a few new ones for this occasion; anybody interested please phone Mrs. Pat Smith 612650, the programme is being compiled now.

The outings are now finalised, Judy has been working hard. The day trip to Kew Gardens on Tuesday  $8^{th}$  June will cost £6 each, no concessions. It is obvious from the price that the Society is paying for most of the cost of the coach. Please would those people who have their names down for this trip bring the money to the <u>April meeting at</u> <u>the latest</u>. Any alteration to the 'list', please phone Mrs. Judy Morrall 613103. The evening trip will cost £3 each, payable also at the April meeting please. More information nearer the time regarding departure times etc.

Looking even further ahead to the show in September, the schedule is being assembled with something to interest most people. As for the fruit, vegetable and flower sections, we all hope the coming season will be kinder to everyone - it needs to be!

**Muriel Grey** 

#### **GARDENING NOTES for MARCH**

Sowing, hoeing and knowing are the watchwords for this month.

Sow begonia, nicotiana, pelargonium, salvia and verbena in warmth, unless you intend to buy seedlings or tots of these summer favourites.

*Hoe* weeds in borders and then mulch with about 3 inch of compost or bark.

Know what you will be planting and be on the lookout for the plants you want. Read the labels or ask for advice at the garden centres because half the battle in the garden is knowing what will thrive in the soil and sites in your patch.

Complete the planting of bare-root roses, shrubs and trees. Plant lilies in pots or borders, and order any other summer bulbs you are going to grow this year. Try gladioli, and make an entry in the Show! Clean and sharpen secateurs and then prune the late flowering varieties of clematis. Prune back long and old shoots of winter jasmine when flowering finishes. Shear winter heather as they fade and lightly trim lavender to tidy the bushes or hedges. Shorten all main shoots on hybrid tea and floribunda roses, after taking out diseased or crossing stems.

Clear away old crops in the vegetable garden, fork the soil and then cover with polythene to warm it ready for this season. Plant shallot sets, sow broad beans, parsnips and peas. Sow early carrots under cloches. Set seed potatoes to chit in cool but light position. Complete winter pruning of apples and pears, and prune gooseberries to create an open branch structure. Feed all fruit trees and bushes with a high potash fertiliser. Put bags of compost into the greenhouse or shed to warm ready for seed trays. Wash canes, pots and trays in Jeyes Fluid solution.

Indoors or in a warm greenhouse plant dahlia tubers in trays of compost and use the early shoots as cuttings. Sow sweet peas in long tubes. I save the card tube of toilet rolls for this and then just plant the whole tube when it's time to put them in the garden. Pot up begonia tubers and tubercles of hot water plant, the latter must be kept at 15°C minimum. Increase the water to over wintered fuchsias, and begin to give a liquid feed to houseplants as the days lengthen.

#### Plant of the Month - Forsythia

Bright, bold and widely planted, would clearly apply to this popular deciduous shrub, very much a herald of Spring. It does not need its common name of Japanese Golden Bell Tree for this plant will thrive in sun or semi-shade and on any soil, making it one of the most widely planted shrubs, since it was introduced in 1845. What is not so widely known is that, although there are only 7 species mainly native to China and Korea, there are over 40 varieties with flowering periods spanning three months. The usual variety is Forsythia x intermedia which can quickly outgrow a small garden, and if you hack it back it sulks and does not flower well. For limited space there is Forsythia ovata growing to about 5ft or even one at 1.5ft, Forsythia viridissima Bronxensis. Whichever one you choose only prune it as soon as flowering has finished. In the summer the bush could support a small flowered Clematis viticella, which can be cut down almost to ground level in February before the Forsythia blooms.

The plant is named in honour of William Forsyth, superintendent in the 18<sup>th</sup> Century of the Royal gardens of Kensington Palace. He was a controversial figure in horticultural circles as a result of his claims for a concoction known as "Forsyth's plaister", in curing defects in trees. The government of the day were in great need of sound ship timber with which to pursue the wars with Napoleon, and paid £1,500 for the recipe. However, Thomas Knight, one of the original members of the Royal Horticultural Society did not believe the claims and in due course the "plaister" was thoroughly discredited.

#### Pat Smith



## The Harbury & Ladbroke News

### has two vacancies:



We are looking for someone who is able to join our Editorial Team. Can you spare a few hours one Sunday evening per month to help read articles, write the editorial and have a general input into the magazine.

Are you interested in photography? We need someone to act as photographer for the magazine. Can you attend the occasional event or take pictures of interest around the village, recording it for the News using our new camera?

If you are interested in joining the 'News' please give us a call on 612155, we look forward to hearing from you.



## HARBURY VILLAGE HALL A.G.M.

## will be held on TUESDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 1999

at

### 8.00p.m.

This is an open meeting for all people living in the village, especially those who use the Hall.

Do come and make your views known.

### SPECIAL AGENDA ITEM ART FOR THE MILLENNIUM:-

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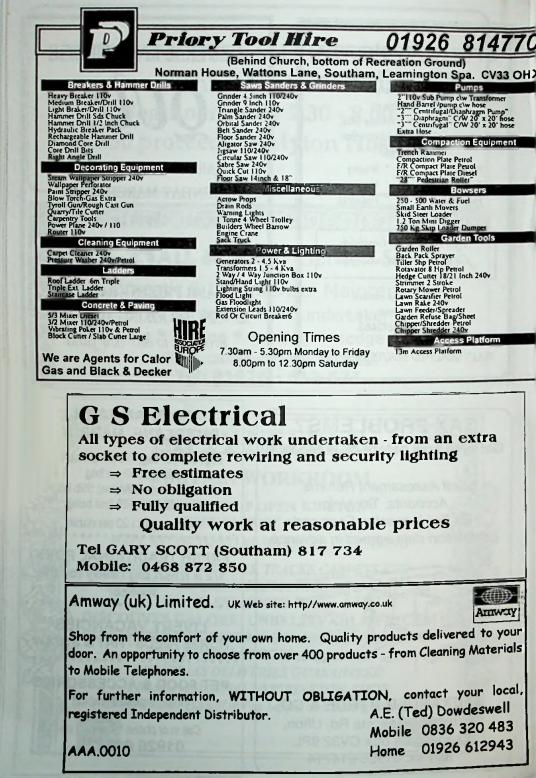
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