

Congratulations to the Ladbroke Millennium Green Committee whose hard efforts materialised on May Day with the official opening of the green. The project achieved national recognition with John Craven visiting the village to interview the organisers for the BBC Countryfile programme. The weather was almost exceptional for a bank holiday and helped to make the day a great success.

Whilst Ladbroke was celebrating, a party from Harbury were visiting Samois-sur-Seine for another successful twinning event. This turned out to be a pan European experience with both Dutch, German and Spanish groups also staying in the locality and participating in a Petanque tournament.

At a time when we read about children not having the opportunities to participate in sport. It was encouraging to see so many youngsters attending the play tennis 2000 fun day to learn more about the game. Well done to the organisers.

It is Carnival time again..... it does not seem that a year has passed since the last one! The Carnival King and Queen will be leading what we hope will be a large number of floats round the Village to the Grand Fete opening ceremony on the playing fields. No rain like last year please.



Carnival King & Queen - Charlie Gladden and Megan Yeoman

Finally we extend our sympathies to the families of Joan Dickson and Olive Hanson

## Harbury Diary

### JUNE

Sat	3	Parish Paths Partnership work day Nursery School Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room
Sun	4	<b>SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER</b> Sung Eucharist 9:00am, Evensong 6:30pm Sunday School 10:30am WHEELBARROW RACE
Tues	6	Beat Buddies 2:00-3:00pm in Village Hall. Holy Communion 7:30pm Harbury Primary School P.T.A. Meeting at School 8:00pm
Wed	7	Holy Communion 2:00pm, Mothers Union 2:30pm
Thurs	8	Horticultural Society visit to Angelsea Abbey coach leaves Village Hall 9:00am Holy Communion 9:45am Thursday Club 2:30pm Youth Club 7:00-9:00pm Village Hall Line Dancing at Club 7:30pm WI 7:45pm in Tom Hauley Room
Sat	10	Bellringers Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room

		<b>HARBURY CARNIVAL AND FETE</b> - procession begins 1:30pm Official Opening of Fete 2:00pm
<b>Sun</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>PENTECOST</b> Holy Communion 8am, Sung Eucharist 10:30am Sunday School 10:30am Evensong 6:30pm Cricket First XI Home to Arden Forest
Tues	13	Beat Buddies 2:00-3:00pm in Village Hall Harbury Primary School PTA Book Fair after school Holy communion 7:30pm Toddlers Service 2:15pm Village Hall Cttee 8:00pm in Village Hall
Thurs	15	Youth Club 7:00-9:00pm in Village Hall Line Dancing at Club 7:30pm Holy Communion 9:45pm ADVERTS TO: 31 BINSWOOD END BY 5.30PM
Fri	16	NEWSPAPER COLLECTION
Sat	17	Men's Prayer Breakfast, 7:30am Southam Rotary Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room
<b>Sun</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>TRINITY SUNDAY</b> Holy Communion 8:00am, Family Communion 10:30am, Benediction 6:00pm NSPCC Treasure Hunt
Tues	20	Beat Buddies 2:00-3:00pm in Village Hall Horticultural Society evening outing to Spring House meet at Village Hall 5:45pm Senior Citizens Cttee 8:00pm in Village Hall Holy Communion 7:30pm Mothers Union 8:00pm
Thurs	22	CORPUS CHRISTI Holy Communion 9,45am Thursday Club 2:30pm in Village Hall Line Dancing 7:30pm at Club Parish Council 7:30pm in Village Hall Youth Club 7:00-9:00pm Village Hall
Fri	23	Harbury Pre-School sponsored wheelie ARTICLES TO HARBURY CHEMIST, HIGH STREET BY 5.30PM
Sat	24	Twinning Committee Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room Cricket home to Alphis/Spinx
<b>Sun</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>FLOWER FESTIVAL</b> FIRST AFTER TRINITY Holy Communion 8:00am, Sung Eucharist 10:30am, Songs of Praise and Readings 6:00pm
Tues	27	Dassett Seniors Focus meeting, Victor Hodges House, Little Park, Southam 10:30am Beat Buddies 2:00-3:00pm in Village Hall Holy Communion 7:30pm Julian Meeting AGM 8:00pm at Rectory
Thurs	29	PETER & PAUL APOSTLES Holy communion 9:45am Youth Club 7:00-9:00pm Village Hall Line Dancing at Club 7:30pm
<b>JULY</b>		
Sat	1	T Hauley Room Coffee Morn. in aid of A.&E. Appeal Warwick Hosp. Cricket Home to Branston Paddock
<b>Sun</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>SECOND AFTER TRINITY</b> Sung Eucharist 9:00am, Sunday School 10:30am, Evensong 6:30pm Cricket First XI home to Presidents XI Harbury Nursery School Summer Family Fun Day 2:00-6:00pm
Tues	4	Holy Communion 7:30pm Beat Buddies 2:00-3:00pm in Village Hall
Thurs	6	Line Dancing at Club 7:30pm Holy communion 9:45am Youth Club 7:00-9:00pm in Village Hall Storytelling in Library 10:00am Folk Club in Dog 8:30pm
Sat	8	Mother & Toddler Group Coffee Morning in Tom Hauley Room GARDEN WALKABOUT

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**Please note:**

**Adverts to:** 31 Binswood End, Harbury by Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> June

**Articles to:** Harbury Chemist, High Street by Friday 23rd June

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**Bookings for:**

**Scout Hut**

**Tom Hauley Room**

**T. Hauley Room Coffee Morning**

**Village Hall Bookings**

**Mr. R. Flanagan 613612**

**Mrs. W. Stubbs 612782**

**Mrs. J. Windsor 612504**

**Mr. P. Winchester 614466**

**ALL SAINTS' CHURCH HARBURY SUNDAY SERVICES**

Holy Communion, 8:00am

Sung Eucharist 10:30am (Except 1st Sunday of Month:  
Sung Eucharist 9.00am)

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**

“A party of children had been visiting their Parish Church. In an essay about the visit afterwards one youngster wrote; “By the altar there’s a little cupboard where they keep wine and bread for people who can’t make it!”

**FROM THE RECTOR****WHAT MAKES YOU HAPPY?**

St. Luke’s Gospel CL6W20-26 - The Beatitudes.

How happy are you who are poor: yours is the Kingdom of God.

Happy you who are hungry now: you shall be satisfied.

Happy you who weep now: you shall laugh.

Happy are you when people hate you, drive you out, abuse you, denounce your name as criminal, on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice when day comes and dance for joy, for then your reward will be great in heaven.

A cynic once said that there are two ways of keeping a person happy: let them have their own way or let them think they are having their own way.

It is true that the desire to do our own thing is very strong in every one of us. But it doesn’t always make us happy. Very often it does; it makes us busy and active and leads to a lot of good being done. But going our own way doesn’t always bring us happiness. Sometimes it leads to disappointment and failure and we wish we had listened to other people’s advice or followed their way instead.

Another difficulty is that often we do not know what we want. We want to be happy but we do not know what will bring happiness into our lives. We have to learn from life and we have to go on learning from life. We need to look at our values. The Beatitudes are a lesson in living for those who want to follow Christ’s Way.

Christ, takes some of the most attractive things in life - riches - satisfaction - enjoyment - popularity - and says that if you have these things in abundance then you must beware. Think where they may be leading you.

On the other hand, if you have your share of hardship and suffering, if you don’t always get your own way, then you should not be afraid because you may be closer to real and happiness than you imagine.

These are hard words, but they are words of life. They demand great faith. But many people have found that they have the ring of truth. They strike a chord in us because they are spoken out of experience - Christ’s own experience. He

knew what he was talking about because he had gone through what he asks us to go through.

**Fr. Roy**

## **FROM THE REGISTERS**

### **Holy Matrimony**

**All Saint's, Harbury**

May 20<sup>th</sup> - Antony Elvin to Lucy Clare Knight

May 27<sup>th</sup> - Christopher Steiger to Emma Finch

### **Holy Baptism**

**All Saint's, Harbury**

May 21<sup>st</sup> - Joseph John Hunt

### **Funerals**

**All Saint's, Harbury**

May 5<sup>th</sup> - Olive Mary Hanson

**All Saint's, Ladbroke**

June 2<sup>nd</sup> Joan Dickson

## **FROM THE CHURCHWARDENS**

We, Felicity and John, have been duly sworn in and are Churchwardens for the next 12 months. The Archdeacon's message given at our visitations was to prepare for the new Common Worship which will be available at the year end. We are most thankful to our retiring Churchwarden Ruth Dodds for all the work she has undertaken, much of it 'behind the scenes', on an every - day basis: thank you Ruth. Our gratitude also goes out to Elsa Greenway who has prepared the pew sheets every week for many years. Elsa has hung up her computer to take a break from this commitment. Thank you Elsa. Finally, on the topic of thank you's. we thank Anne Moore for her 19 years of leading the Church choir - and to Pam Brown who has taken over.

Diary note: for the Flower Festival Week-end: Songs of Praise with readings, 6.00pm **June 25<sup>th</sup>**.

**Felicity & John**

## **MOTHERS' UNION**

Afternoon Meeting: This was a "Hobbies" afternoon, when members brought along samples of work they had done- certainly a good variety, showing hidden talents which we may not always admit to - unless encouraged! We saw some fine examples of crochet, embroidery, glass-painting, knitting, tapestry and water-colour painting. Dancing was yet another hobby, but unfortunately we weren't given a demonstration! A most welcome chance to share ideas and perhaps spark new interests or re-ignite those long forgotten accomplishments.

Evening Meeting: Beryl Checkley kindly stood in at short notice and gave a most informative and enjoyable talk on her visit to the Holy Land.

Next Meetings: **Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> June**: 2.00pm Service, 2.30pm 'The Work of the Gideons' Sheila Jackson. **Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> June**: 7.30pm Service, 8.00pm "Hobbies". **N.B. No Meeting Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> July.**

**Anne Moore**

## TODDLERS SERVICE

We started our May service by singing "Happy Birthday" to the children with birthdays in the month.

After our "Thank You" prayer we sang "Give me Oil in my Lamp," accompanied by the children on the percussion instruments as well as Mr Catt on his clarinet.

Mrs Bedford welcomed Mrs Luke who had come to tell us about nurses and how they help us. We heard how they care for us when we are ill or hurt, and then everyone who wanted to be was bandaged - including Big Ted.

Our June service is on **Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup>** at 2.15pm in the children's corner of church. All babies and children under five are very welcome.

**C.M. Catt**

## MILLENNIUM BANNERS

Over a good part of the last year, a small group has been working on a set of four banners to decorate the church in celebration of millennium year. They illustrate a quotation of Jesus taken from Luke's gospel (ch.4v.18,19).

We have really enjoyed working on them and in particular I have been amazed at the skills of each person and the way we have all managed to work together well for such a large 'first time' project. So thanks and congratulations to: Anne Moore, Dorothy Travis, Annette Hughes, Barbara Hodge, June Morris, Iris Timbs, Beryl Checkley and Mary Shelley; and for some earlier support, thanks to Jenny Patrick and Ruth Guy.

The banners will be hung along the north wall of the church in time for Pentecost (Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> June) when they will be dedicated during the morning service. Do come along and see.

**Lesley Jones**

## MILLENNIUM ORGAN OPEN DAY

### The organist entertains

The Organ Open Day, held in Harbury Church on May13th was very well attended by about 25 visitors. Our youngest visitor was Elizabeth, aged just a few months, who came with big sister and mum and dad, whilst our oldest



visitor was our good friend John Algar, actually celebrating his eighty-second birthday - so we played and sang 'Happy Birthday' for him.

Visitors were able to see inside the organ and were surprised to find that the pipes inside were mostly very much smaller than those on display across the front of the organ - some in fact as short as one inch!

Our younger visitors found the old hand pump was quite fascinating, and much energy was expended in blowing the

organ by hand whilst the organist played. Some enjoyed watching the mechanism moving up and down and in and out while others enjoyed listening to a selection of music seldom heard on the church organ - Sound of Music, Edelweiss and the march Aces High. All in all, both visitors and organists had a very enjoyable time.

If you are interested in the church organ, don't wait for the next Millennium, just ring Mavis Young or Clive Watts on Harbury 612978 or 612603, respectively, and you too could try your hand at playing and perhaps find out a lot more about this marvellous instrument.

**Clive Watts**

## Ladbroke News

### JUNE

- Sun 11 PENTECOST;** Sung Communion 9:00am  
 Wed 14 Women's' Fellowship trip to Coughton Court; meet at Church gate 11:00am  
 Thurs 15 ADVERTS TO 31 BINSWOOD END, HARBURY by 5:30pm  
**Sun 18 TRINITY SUNDAY;** Sung Communion 9:00am: Millennium Service 3:00pm  
 Pet Show at Hall Farm 11:00am  
 MILLENNIUM FESTIVAL BEGINS  
 Mon 19 History Walk around Ladbroke from Hall Farm farmyard 7:00pm  
 Tues 20 Beetle Drive in Village Hall 6:30pm  
 Wed 21 History Walk around Ladbroke from Hall Farm farmyard 7:00pm  
 Thurs 22 W.I. Meeting in Village Hall 7:30pm  
 Fri 23 ARTICLES TO HARBURY CHEMIST, HIGH STREET BY 5:30PM  
**Sun 25 1<sup>st</sup> AFTER TRINITY;** Sung Communion 9:00am  
 Car Boot sale at Walworth Farm, Bishops Itch. from 9:00am

### JULY

- Sun 2 2<sup>nd</sup> AFTER TRINITY;** Family Communion 10:30am  
 Fri 7 Strawberry Fayre in Village Hall 7:30pm  
**Sun 9 3<sup>rd</sup> AFTER TRINITY;** Sung Communion 9:00am

### LADBROKE FLOWER ROTA

- Whitsun June 11<sup>th</sup> - Anne Edwards & Marie Kennedy  
 June 18<sup>th</sup> - Mrs Clews and all flower arrangers (Village Festival)  
 June 24<sup>th</sup> - Mrs Clews and all flower arrangers (Village Festival)  
 July 2<sup>nd</sup> - Kate Todman  
 July 9<sup>th</sup> - Gwynne Badman

**Jane Rutherford**

### LADBROKE CHURCH NEWS & WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Firstly, after the very successful time we had opening the Millennium Green on Mayday. After our Family Service on the following Sunday the rector and congregation processed across Farmyard Field to bless the new green, would you believe it rained! Was it a baptism as well as a blessing?

Our next big event of course is the Millennium Festival beginning on **Sunday June 18<sup>th</sup>**. The ladies of the village, led by Mrs Rutherford and Mrs Jean Clews will be decorating the Church on the Friday before. The festivities will begin with a church service in the afternoon at 3:00pm on the **18<sup>th</sup>**. Linda Doyle's Goat and Pet Show I know will be on at the same time. I hope as many children as possible will be processing from the Village Hall to the Church. They will be representing the British saints who brought Christianity to our shores at the beginning of the first century. We hope to leave the Village Hall at 2:30pm in time to reach Church for the service at 3:00pm. It has been mentioned that some

children are shy of joining in the procession, I think it's a case of the more the merrier.

The Women's Fellowship is very involved with the flower arranging in the Church and our meeting in May was lead by Mrs Clews. We discussed with her what flowers will be available in June also different types of foliage. The Women's Fellowship members and husbands are going to Coughton Court near Alcester for their annual outing on **June 14<sup>th</sup>**. We have arranged to meet at the church gate for an 11:00am start from Ladbroke; anyone reading this who would like to come with us, you will be most welcome.

**Betty Winkfield**

### **LADBROKE AND DEPPERS BRIDGE W.I.**

The President welcomed 5 guests and our speaker VCO Marie Coleman. She explained the resolutions and took our votes in order that our President Susan could vote on our behalf at the forthcoming T.C.M. in London. The Millennium Green was officially opened on 1<sup>st</sup> May 2000 at which we had a cake stall that raised £50.00 for our funds. Our Short Mat Bowls 'A' Team played their semi-final match against Haslor at the Greig Hall in Alcester on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May and won convincingly, but unfortunately lost to Bidford in the Finals. This was the second time we have reached the final, so maybe it will be third time lucky next year! Nine members went on the County trip to Canterbury for the weekend visiting several beautiful houses, a good weekend was had by all.

Our President talked about Ladbroke Festival Week commencing on **Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> June**, and finishing on **Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> June**. There will be a week of events and activities and the W.I. are organising the following:

**A Beetle Drive** on **Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> June 2000** in the Village Hall from 6:30pm - refreshments available.

**A Car Boot Sale** on **Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> June** at the home of our President -Walworth Farm, Bishops Itchington, from 9:00am. £5.00 per pitch or £4.00 if booked in advance - refreshments will again be available. To book a pitch contact Susan on 612207.

Our Strawberry Fair this year will be on **Friday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2000**, at 7.30pm in the Village Hall when we will be having the usual Tombolla stall, White Elephant stall, Plant stall, Cake Stall and Raffle and of course lots of strawberries! - everybody welcome.

The raffle was won by Marie and Tina. The competition was won by one of our guests Theresa Daly.

Next month's meeting is to be an open meeting for the village as part of the Festival Week, and will be on **Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup>**, at 7.30pm in the Village Hall and Gwynne and Reidun will be the hostesses.

**Marie Kennedy**



## A MILLENNIUM SUCCESS



David Halsall being interviewed by John Craven

**Ladbroke not only celebrated the successful opening** of its Millennium Green, but its selection from over 260 throughout England to be featured with John Craven on BBC's "Countryfile".

On the Tuesday before the official opening of May 1<sup>st</sup>, John Craven and his team arrived in Ladbroke to film a mock set-up of our May Day proceedings. Having spent extra time at their previous destination, they arrived late but once under way the youngsters were only too willing to show off the play equipment and the older kids their prowess with bike, bat and balls. Chairman David Halsall was interviewed along with others and two hours of filming was reduced to six minutes. Although many of the adult interviews did not appear, the programme seems to have very cleverly captured all the kids that day!

It went out on BBC1 on the day before our opening, a day which turned out to be bright, sunny and entertaining. The bellringers peeled out loudly on the newly hung bells at church (now with ball bearings!) to waken everyone to the day's events. Carol Northorpe, who's father spent his childhood in Ladbroke, cut the ribbon on the Millennium Stone and with Linda Doyle's assistance lowered the Time Capsule into place at it's base. A community photograph was taken by Terence Sullivan and along with his other photographs; they will be displayed in the Village Hall during the Open Gardens, when orders can be taken.

The day's entertainment catered for young and old, with Punch and Judy, Magician, Caricature Artist, Morris Men, Tombola and stalls. Refreshments were catered for with a beer tent, baked tatties and a bar-b-que pig. Everyone cuddled Linda's lovely little fluffy goat kid and Catherine Shaw guessed her weight correctly at 7 lbs 1 oz. And not a spot of rain fell until after the day finished! What more could we ask for!

**Millennium Green Committee**

**(See pages 26 & 27 for photographs)**

### The Millennium Time Capsule

**It was a very sobering moment** when the last item was carefully wrapped in its protective cover, placed in the time capsule and the lid firmly screwed down. No one would see those items again in any of our lifetimes as it is hoped it will remain there for 100 years at least!

So now is the time for reflection on what went into it and why. What has Ladbroke tried to say about the turn of the 21<sup>st</sup> century?



First there seemed little point in filling it with official paperwork, which could be looked up in Warwick Record Office or the Library. So we went for the social history of this “throw-away” generation.

The Church and Village Hall have recently been the pivotal points until the advent of the Millennium Green. So from all three we included minutes, Trustee lists, programmes (thanks W.I.), event posters and tickets and associated paraphernalia, including of course the Millennium Eve celebrations.

For the Parish Council I went a full electoral roll, a voting card (Simon wondered where his had gone when he came to vote on Thursday!) and a plastic pig!

There are very few trades actually operating from within the village, but where we could we included business cards and items such as a combine harvester for JMT Engineering, dolls furniture for Fitrite, a screwdriver from The Garage, dried flowers by Josy Wilcox and pressed flowers from Ladbroke’s verges by Rosemary Allington.

The boys wanted to include a motorbike as several ride motor-cross and one Speedway, so the girls included model horses, of which the village is surrounded with. We even included a set of rules to play Pokémon.

A mixture of photographs of those involved with the Millennium Green and shots from around the village were enclosed. Other paper work included the estate agent details of houses recently sold, photo birthday cards of the village and a selection of the freebies; Southam Advertiser, Harbury and Ladbroke News, Villager and TV Trader (I wonder what will be watched on TV in 2100 – or even if there will be such a thing as TV?) plus a copy of the “Ladbroke” booklet.

**Linda Doyle**

## **THE MILLENNIUM HISTORY EXHIBITION**

“I haven’t seen him for 50 years!” was one remark made to me afterwards when two old boys finished chatting. “That’s my Mum as a child!” was another and “I never knew that!” was repeated again and again.

Well I had a fascinating weekend and judging by the chatter to me afterwards, I know many others did as well. It has prompted many to go home and look out old photos to add to my rapidly increasing collection and I will be in touch with all of you who requested further information on your house or family as soon as I can wade through my notes.

Karen Arnold is the clever person who won the Church Photo Competition, she managed to get 10 of them correct. Well done Karen! Mr Wyatt from Harbury was a very close second.

It is five years since the last exhibition and although I have not written a further booklet on Ladbroke yet, there is so much more information that there is certainly another in the pipeline. One of the wonderful things to come out of such exhibitions is the family connections and here I have the most interesting one to follow up. The grandson of the Palmer-Morewood who sold Ladbroke Hall after World War I and the great-great-grandson of the Reverend Charles Palmer of Ladbroke have both materialized.

For those who missed the exhibition but would like to know more about the village history, I have arranged some History Walks.

**History Walks – Monday June 19<sup>th</sup> or Wednesday June 21<sup>st</sup>. 7:00pm at Hall Farm farmyard. To finish at The Bell Inn 8:30-9:00pm.**

£1.00 per person. Numbers limited so please book with Linda Doyle. 01926 814214.

## **Pet Show**

On **Sunday June 18<sup>th</sup>**, starting at 11:00am, we are holding a Pet and Small Animal Show at Hall Farm (opposite the church).

Although aimed at the children, it will be designed for participation of anyone in the village with a pet. There will be a Best Turned Out for Rider and Pony, fun and obedience for dogs and a class for caged animals and unusual pets.

This will be followed after lunch by the local goat club holding a small Goat and Rare Breed Show.

Visitors will be welcome to cuddle and chat animals and exhibitors will be able to get entry forms from Linda Doyle or Betty Winkfield.

**Linda Doyle**

## **LADBROKE VILLAGE HALL**

The last month has seen the Village Hall participate as the venue in an unusually wide range of activities from Poll Station to Dance Hall. Fortunately the weather was dry and the Hall was not needed on May Day for the opening of the Millennium Green. However, the Committee look forward to working in conjunction with more such events on the Green in the future, wet or dry.

The highlight of the month was the Highwayman's Ball, with music provided by our very own Andy Pittaway and his Blues Band. We are delighted to say that nearly £400 was raised and the Committee are now able to look at the roofing requirements. Bearing in mind that the Hall is a World War I building which has, shall we say, a characteristic of its own, we are trying to keep its maintenance in keeping with its character.

During the **Festival Week**, its use will culminate on **June 24<sup>th</sup>** with a **wild night out** dancing to live **sixties music** with **Bob Cardall's Dance Band** from 8:00 till late. The usual bar and refreshments will be available and tickets from any of our Committee members.

## **Ladbroke Village Hall Committee**

Having endured moving house this week I am sorry to announce that I have not yet managed to uncover the Millennium Club book which tells me the winners of the April draw. It will be double listing next month - sorry about that.

My new address is now 3, Ladbroke Hall and my phone number remains the same - 814362.

Members you pay twice yearly please remember that the payment for the next six months becomes due on **July 1<sup>st</sup>**.

**Catherine Spence**

## **LADBROKE PARISH COUNCIL AND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING,- Wednesday, 17<sup>th</sup> May 2000**

At the short parish Council meeting that preceded the Annual Village meeting, Jeff Todd was elected as Chairman for the forthcoming year and Carol Northorpe continued in the role of Vice Chairman.

## **Planning Matters**

The District Planning Department confirmed the approval for the conservatory at Yew Tree Cottage and also at the Bungalow, Banbury Road.

**Village Repairs.** Even though the repairs to the footpaths and roads have been agreed, the list will have to be put in priority order to ensure best use of limited

resources. The suggestion for a footpath alongside the main road to Southam is a non starter due to the length involved.

### **Grant to Village Hall**

A cheque for £600.00 to cover the cost of insurance was made out in favour of the Village Hall

All other items were duplicated in the main meeting.

An excellent turnout of villagers were joined by County Councillor Bob Stevens and District Councillors Jim Taylor and Alan Akeister .

### **Matters Arising**

At last year's Annual Meeting it was suggested that the footpath kindly allowed by Malcolm Norgate was no longer needed because of the reduction in traffic. The land has now been given back to Mr Norgate with a letter of thanks.

### **Chairman's address**

Jeff Todd read out on behalf of Peter Williamson who was on holiday, a summary of the major events of the last year. The majority of these have already been documented in previous editions. However he went on to thank Linda Doyle for the excellent history exhibition held in the village hall last weekend; Rhian Kelsall for her vigilance in checking the cutting of the grass thus allowing the cowslips to flourish; Michael Boden Pritchett, not only for the interesting display he had mounted that evening, but for his work on the footpaths throughout the year. Finally, he thanked his fellow councillors and especially parish clerk Elsa Greenway, without whose conscientious work and lively interpretation of the rules, we would be a much poorer Council.

The Annual accounts were accepted.

### **Reports from the Organisations**

**The Allibone Trust**, Terence Sullivan on behalf of this Parochial charity that looks after the 16 acres of land at the top of Radbourne Lane, reported that the surplus money had been divided between the church and village projects.

**Church and Parochial Church Council**. Canon Roy Brown reported an average of 29 weekly communicants with special services, augmented by the Harbury and Ladbroke Choir, which attracts many more participants.

A generous legacy from Mr and Mrs George Hedge had allowed extensive repairs to be carried out to the roof and to the bells. A millennium gift of St Luke's gospel had been distributed to all households.

A chest and more lately a piano stool had been taken from the church.

**Women's Institute**. Hazel Sharples told us of the successful year enjoyed by members; of the their many interesting talks and visits; a finals place in the short mat bowling competition; the Strawberry Fair (or was it a Fayre?) and the Beetle Drive which is to be repeated on **June 20<sup>th</sup>**. The good state of the Village Hall was also testimony to their work in the shape of new stage and window curtains.

**Village Hall Committee**. Peter Derrick explained that, as a charitable trust, the Village Hall could not raise money for commercial organisations. As most village functions this year had been directed towards the Millennium Green, many Village hall events had been put to that cause but the Millennium Club money enabled the laying of the patio, which is a huge improvement. The next venture will be to improve the roof.

The Village Hall is financially in reasonable shape but more participation is always welcome, particularly young men. (Peter said that, not me!)

**Millennium Green.** David Halsall spoke of the busy period leading up to the Opening Day on May 1<sup>st</sup> which included the TV coverage. John Craven's promise to speak to Bill Giles about the weather obviously worked. An information board has been ordered. Following a tendering exercise, the contract for maintenance has been awarded to Warwickshire County Council ground maintenance team.

**Women's Fellowship.** Betty Winkfield spoke of the sadness at the death of Pearl Edwards, who had been a founder member of the group since 1945. The proceeds of the Lent Lunches had helped in the sponsorship of the boy in Cairo as well as donations to the Gideons, Acorn Children's Hospices and Mozambique.

**Bells.** During the winter the bells had been taken out and sent to the Bell Foundry in Loughborough where a small group of bellringers visited to watch the retuning process. They are now rehung on new headstocks with modern ball bearings which makes them somewhat easier to ring. There is a regular team of 5 ringers for the 5 bells but new members are always welcome to join the Thursday evening practice.

**Friends of Ladbroke Church.** The much enjoyed lunch, tea and supper events had raised money for the beautification of the church. There is to be a special civic service on **June 18<sup>th</sup>**. The children of the village will process from the Village Hall to the church dressed as the saints who brought Christianity to England.

**Children's Church.** Seven families of children regularly celebrate on the third Sunday of the month at 10:30a.m. The group is well led by Jackie Theaker and a highlight from last year was the bread-making session. (I think I'd better join) Many more children joined in the special services where there is a 'tremendous turnout'.

**Report from the County Council.** Bob Stevens congratulated the village on a well organised Millennium event.

Education. The LEA had received an excellent Ofsted inspection and Southam School has been awarded college status.

Planning and Transport. The new County Plan insists that development must be sustainable, therefore new homes must be built near towns. Subsidised buses from Southam to Leamington and Banbury now help to eliminate rural transport problems.

The detrunking of the A423 has been delayed because of the bridge repair at Marton.

Social Services. Bob reiterated the well rehearsed problem of the aging population. The published Health Improvement Programme promotes preventative health care.

The new cabinet style of council is working well and speeds up decision making.

**Report of the District Council.** Jim Taylor said that the efforts carried out by Ladbroke Parish Council were characterised by 'hard work, diligence and attention to detail'. He explained that the successful procedure for ensuring the removal of a fallen tree from the part of the stream owned by an absent landlord had formed a legal precedent. Jim is the chair of the first Area Committee locally and encouraged applications for funding from individual or group projects. He also felt that an application for a capital grant for village hall repairs would be well received.

Alan Akeister introduced himself as a new District Councillor for Southam and 'hopes to get to know Ladbroke residents better'.

**Police Report.** PC's Stewart Bosworth and Tony Saville were made very welcome. They explained that the 68 square miles divided into areas of Long Itchington, Southam and Bishops Itchington and Ladbroke which were previously looked after by individual PC's, were now 1 beat, looked after by themselves. It is hoped that the numbers may be increased next year.

Southam Police Station is manned as follows:

8.00 a.m. - Midnight Weekdays  
10.00 a.m. - 2.00 a.m. Fridays and Saturdays  
10.00 a.m. - 6.00 p.m. Sundays

The front office is open for civilian enquiries, from 9:00am – 5:00pm on weekdays.

The number of crimes (2200 last year) is fewer than in towns and police do rely on the vigilance of country dwellers. The number to call is 01926 415618. Unfortunately nothing prevented a robbery in Bridge Lane last week.

There was a long discussion regarding Neighbourhood Watch. Francis Badman brought this to Ladbroke 10 years ago but lack of co-ordinators has reduced its effectiveness lately. The police are 'reinventing' it as the Community Alert Programme which is being co-ordinated by Barry Armitage. Again this will only work if people in the community are prepared to be actively involved. Barry can be contacted through the police station.

**Daffodils in the village.** At the end of a short discussion regarding various kinds of flowers in the village, for example crocuses or wild flowers, a vote was taken. The consensus was that things should be left as they are with just the cowslips.

**Any Other Business.** In connection with flooding, Peter Derrick gave an excellent summary of the specific problems, the proposed solutions and the frustration at the inaction by the agencies involved. Elsa had previously stressed the urgency to the Flood Officer who promised to visit as soon as it was possible which was likely to be summer. Alan Akeister will arrange for the Flood Officer to meet the County Council to specifically discuss the urgency of the situation.

The meeting finished with a vote of thanks to the Parish Council, led by Francis Badman.

**Carol Northorpe**

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## **HARBURY ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 2000**

Pc Stuart Bosworth gave up his off-duty time to report to the meeting the fall in the detection rate for the Southam area (from 28% to 15%) which has coincided with the reduction in staffing at the station. There were now just two Community Beat officers, backed up by two "reactive" officers. Extra help had to be called in from Kenilworth where Sgnt. Tew was now based.

Cllrs were sympathetic to the problems the force faced but most concerned at the lack of adequate rural policing.

Parish Council Chairman, John Hunt too was concerned by the reduction in policing which meant residents despaired of an "Effective Deterrent" to vandalism and anti-social behaviour.

He said Harbury had been "extra-ordinarily fortunate" to have recruited Jack Heath, Dutch Van Spall, Ann Winchester and Jenny Patrick as Councillors

The development of the Tennis and Netball courts had been subject to careful scrutiny and debate. There now seemed a real prospect of improved road safety measures at Deppers Bridge.

He praised the efforts of the Millennium Video group and those who organised the New Year Celebration. He expressed the Council's delight that John Drinkwater's long and outstanding contribution to the community had been recognised with an MBE and recorded with sadness the recent death of Ralph Gurden and Gwen Watts who had rendered distinguished service to the Parish.

He mentioned Linda Ridgley's comprehensive reports of Parish proceedings but was somewhat dismissive of her persistent suggestions that the residents should be consulted about Council plans, articulating the view that Councillors were elected to decide what needed to be done.



Sharon Hancock, explained the progress of the controversial planning application for the Playing Fields improvements. She regretted the slow progress on removing the BT Aerial but explained that the Village Design Statement had been useful in helping the Council press for improvements to planned developments during the year.

Keith Thompson too referred to the Tennis Courts application and a number of other improvements undertaken during the year; piped water to the Allotments; the planned replacement of the large slide following a presentation from the School Children; PC approval for a skateboarding "half-pipe"; replacement of benches and the high standard of greens maintenance.

#### **Dismantling the slide**

Ken Stephenson gave a very lengthy report on Lighting; on traffic including the Road-signing review and PC plans to create a One-Way System round the Church; on maintenance; policing; housing; footpaths; the Village Hall; Best Kept Competition and training.

Jack Heath explained that the Precept was being raised in line with inflation giving Band D households a rate rise of £0.15p. Fees for the football pitch and Burial Grounds which had remained the same for three years went up by 8%. The value of Concessionary Travel tickets remained the same.

Dutch Van Spall for Deppers explained the saga of the Bridge works and the subsequent removal of weight restriction and resultant campaign for Traffic Calming. Plans for this were available for viewing at Carol Shuttleworth's house on **8th June** from 7:00-9:00pm for those who had not yet been consulted about them.

Keith Thompson for the Governors complained that the School budget had been cut for 2000-2001 but there was an additional Capital Grant of £6,200. The new Computer suite was installed. The School was twinned with Stoke Primary from Coventry whose pupils visited Harbury and shared lessons.

The Village Hall reported another good year with bookings up, (especially for education,) and hiring income increased by 44%. There was a continuous programme of improvements and the Theatre Group was fund-raising for a portable staging system which all agreed was much needed. Brian Ingram was pleased that representations made at the Warwickshire Rural Community Council AGM on the increase in water rates had brought about a sensible solution.

Retiring Chair of the Twinning Association, Ken Stephenson reported on a highly successful visit to Harbury's twin French village of Samois sur Seine where villagers competed in a Mini Olympics. Ken is succeeded by David Winter.

Cllr John Drinkwater recalled days past when attendance at the Annual Parish Meeting was much higher than the seven residents before him. "People", he said, "should take an interest in how their village is run", and he wanted the Parish Council to do more to attract them to the Annual Meeting.

District Cllr James Turner suggested there should be a guest speaker for next year and refreshments. Linda Ridgley asked the Council to consider undertaking a Parish Appraisal where all the residents were asked what the village needed, so that they felt more "engaged" in the process of local government. The Chairman said "Humph"!

**Linda Ridgley**

## **HARBURY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MAY 2000**

This was the Annual Meeting where the succession is fought over, though you'd never have realised. John Hunt was returned as Chairman for a third term with Dutch Van Spall, newcomer from Deppers, voted in as Vice and Chairman-in-Waiting.

A similarly civilised courtly manoeuvre was played out over the One Way System proposed by Cllr Drinkwater. County Highways did not favour the idea, partly because they fear it would speed-up traffic only countenancing it if the public were in full support. John Hunt suggested reversing the flow, but Cllrs were not keen to have the intrusive signs necessary. On top of that there was, the Chair pointed out, the problem of having to consult the public. John Drinkwater withdrew the suggestion with good grace.

There was no such pussyfooting over the level of policing though! There were complaints of vandalism in the Wight School Playground and Constance Drive residents were appalled that the Police were "too busy" to attend to problems on the Recreation Grounds Car Park and complained about the length of time they took even to answer the telephone. Ken Stephenson proposed printing an "Incident Sheet" in the Harbury News for all residents to record anti-social behaviour and return to the PC for transmission to the Police. That, said Dutch Van Spall, should embarrass them.

The Consultation on the Deppers Bridge Traffic Calming is proceeding smoothly and the Parish Council is expected to provide £3,000 towards the works.

Stratford granted permission for a pitched roof at 5 Heber Drive, a garage at 12 Pineham Avenue and the felling of a Leylandii hedge and three fruit trees at Pool Farm. To everyone's great joy, BT was fined £5,000 and costs for erecting the aerial without planning permission. Transco apologised for leaving their barriers on the Old New Inn Green. The Council is to compliment Stratford on its District Design Guide.

The new Play Equipment is being installed; the Noticeboard at the Wight School is to be replaced, but probably not in time for the Best Kept Village Judging; Laings will be told to remove the rubbish they dumped on Ed Wilson's land and take down the signs for Hillside, that still litter the Fosse.

To Mr Powell-Tuck's delight the Percival Drive lights are now shielded (he offered to be responsible for the erection of the Dog Fouling Signs). A lighting upgrade plan was provided for the Councillors but has not been made public. Ken has installed a bollard in Binswood End. (Do look at it as the PC wants the Public to say if they like it).



An acceptable offer has been made for some of the Council's redundant mowers which John Hunt, somewhat tetchily pointed out he had not forgotten – they were being held in reserve - just in case they were ever needed - he insisted.

Ken Stephenson reported on the Twinning Visit where he won a Medal for Boules and Sharon Hancock a Certificate for Wine Drinking! He presented to John Hunt a specially bottled Twinning Red Bordeaux and a Plaque from somewhere in Spain!

**Linda Ridgley**

## **HARBURY PARISH COUNCIL**

### **Bus Vouchers for Senior Citizens, Registered Disabled and Handicapped Persons**

Bus vouchers will be issued in **July** to the above categories of residents living within the Parish. 'Senior Citizen' means a person of State Pensionable age i.e. 60 and above for a woman and 65 for a man. For 2000 the total value of vouchers to be issued is £15.00 and each voucher is worth 50pence towards Stagecoach Midland Red services, 63, 64 and 65 and Village Taxi-Bus services. There is no time limit on the use of the vouchers, but if you have some left from previous years please use them up before using this year's vouchers.

To obtain the vouchers, please register for the Scheme by getting a form from either the Post-Office or from the Clerk to Council, Deborah Steele at 12 Hillside.

The forms must be completed and returned to one of the above by no later than **Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> July**

Vouchers will be issued in the Wagstaffe Room at the Village Hall on **Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> July** and on **Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> July** between 2.00pm and 3.30pm.

**Please note that only in very exceptional circumstances can vouchers be issued to persons who do not register by the due date of 3 July.**

In addition to the Parish Council's scheme, Stratford District Council also issue travel tokens to Senior Citizens and Registered Disabled persons. If you have previously applied to the District Council for tokens, it is not necessary to apply again; you should receive £20.00 worth by post during July. If you have **not previously applied, forms are available in the Library or by telephoning 01789 260 402 or 01789 260 423.**

**Deborah Steele**  
**Clerk to Harbury Parish Council**

## **HARBURY SOCIETY**

For the Carnival this year we are continuing our WALLS theme with a display of old photographs showing walls of the past and a quiz also based on walls.

Do come along and puzzle them out. There will be copies of our village history, "Hungry Harbury", postcards and old photos for sale too and free Village Design Statements for anyone who has not had one yet.

On **Saturday 15th July** we have a fund-raising coffee morning in the Tom Hauley Room and would welcome donations of raffle prizes and bric-a-brac to 16 Farm Street, or ring Linda on 612792.

**Linda Ridgley**

## **HARBURY W.I.**

Harbury W.I. recently hosted the Annual Group Meeting, welcoming guests from six W.I.'s in the area. County Chairman, Mrs Jeryl Stone and Executive members were also with us.

The speaker Mrs Glynis Gayton gave an interesting talk about the family bakery business, past and present, started by their father-in-law in 1920.

A successful evening which must be credited to an excellent team of helpers.

There is a Golf 'Fore' All day at Walton Hall in May, Golf Croquet at Loxley and an evening Walking Treasure Hunt around Leamington in June for those interested.

No speaker at the May meeting, as we discussed and voted for resolutions which will be taken to the Triennial General Meeting in London in June by our representative, Mrs Susan Moore.

Mrs Anne Beaty presided and was very helpful with information and advice. As she said these resolutions bring worth while changes nation-wide proving we are not just a group in a village hall.

Carnival Day approaching once more and we are having the usual Cake Stall. Would members bring cakes to the stall at about 12:30pm or leave them with Nora or at Celia's house please.

**June Hostesses:** Lyn Edwards, Sue Chaplin and Muriel Coupe.

**Jeanne Beaumont**

## **HARBURY FOLK CLUB**

For the Folk Club session on May 4th, I inherited the theme of 'Walls' from Ian who had deputised for me the month before. I decided not to attempt Mike's achievement of a rhyming report because it might get me into trouble.

A slightly smaller than usual audience gathered within the four walls of the Dog Inn to witness the entertainment from a slightly smaller than usual group of singers and musicians. Much to my surprise, there were no songs about sausages or ice cream. No, those performers who exploited the theme pretty much stuck to walls in the building sense or at least with some metaphorical connection. To start the evening, I was able to find two songs that mentioned the subject but others expected us to use our imagination a bit more. Jenny established a connection with Hadrian's Wall for her two harp tunes (the second an original composition), Des brought us the news that "Babylon is fallen", Ron came up trumps with a reminder of where you hang ten green bottles and the Harvesters had an appropriate song, "The writing on the wall". Keith A played some tunes on the mandolin but Keith D didn't. Instead, he surprised us all by singing two songs with barely a wise-crack in between! I can't remember their 'wall' connections, nor Gilly's, but no one really cared when she sang "Answer Me" so beautifully towards the end of the evening.

Despite the modest numbers, the raffle raised a terrific total £55.10 towards the 'music memorial fund', in memory of James Thistlethwaite. The next session of the Folk Club is on **July 6th**, at 8:30pm in the Dog, when the new member of our compering team, John Black, will be hosting an evening with a Euro flavour.

[PeterMcDonald@UKGateway.net](mailto:PeterMcDonald@UKGateway.net)

**Peter McDonald**

## **HARBURY PRE-SCHOOL - Learning Through Play**

*The Pre-School is in the Wight School, behind the Library (and yes, it is the same room as the one used by Toddlers!)*

Our theme for the first part of the summer term has been toys. The children have been sorting and classifying their soft toys: blue toys, yellow toys, small toys, huge toys, bears, elephants and lambs ... the categories are endless. Please feel free to continue this at home - you can always borrow and develop ideas from the weekly planning sheets to support your child's learning and play at home. We enjoy the activities so we hope you'll find them fun too. The children are also exploring how jointed and mechanical toys work and will be dismantling a few to see the mechanisms inside the moving parts. All donations of such toys are very welcome since this tends to be a one-off activity! Finally, we are going to design and build our own puppet theatre from a very large cardboard box. The story will be a traditional rendition of Goldilocks and the Three Bears, acted out in a slightly less traditional way by puppets created from lolly sticks and paper. The children are going to make tickets to give to their families and then, for one morning only, we will have our opening (and closing) performance.

Over the last term our fantastic staff have attended a variety of courses, many of them in their own time, to keep abreast of developments in Pre-School education and to add to their considerable experience of working with this age group. We are very grateful to them for their dedication and enthusiasm. The courses include:

Working with the new National Curriculum in Early Years Education

Developing spiritual and cultural awareness

Promoting outdoor play

Child protection

Promoting positive behaviour in early years

Special education needs

First aid

Fundraising continues apace. We are very grateful to the Horticultural Society which has so generously donated some money to purchase art materials. This funding is made possible by the hard work the Society puts into the Harbury Open Gardens weekend which, this year, is on the **8th and 9th of July**. The more of us that visit the beautiful gardens in the village on that weekend, the more we enable the Society to flourish and to continue to support organisations like ourselves. It's very true that what comes around, goes around! We are also planning another sponsored wheelie for the children on **Friday 23 June**. Please watch out for sponsorship forms.

Finally, we have been given a great fundraising opportunity in the chance to organise the teas in the Village Hall on Carnival Day. This money is seriously needed and we want to do a good job. Sadly, we have decided therefore that we should focus all our energies on this activity rather than on the float and so we won't be entering the carnival parade this year. We will decorate the hall with some of the work produced by the children and we will set up a children's corner for their refreshments. All donations of cakes, biscuits and buns, all offers to take money, serve teas and wash up are gratefully received. For those of you who have never helped with anything like this before, it's hard work but it's also hilarious and really good fun. So please, do volunteer before we send the boys round (OK, so it's only Little Max and Charlie but they can look very fierce!)

**Harbury Pre-School Committee**



## HARBURY NURSERY SCHOOL

The children have been listening to some popular fairy tales, singing 'princess' songs, making magic wands and decorating happy and sad Cinderellas. These magical activities have developed descriptive vocabulary, role play skills and emergent writing.

Alexander: "I wish I could change into Super Ted and fly into the sky".

Elliot: "I wish I had a real magic wand!"

On June 16<sup>th</sup> the older Nursery children will be taking part in a Fairy Tale assembly and telling the school children some of their special wishes.

Mrs Harris the reception class teacher has visited the Nursery to meet the older children before they start school and small groups will be visiting the reception class in the next few weeks.

The Nursery will be entering a float in this year's carnival as "The Ugly Bug Ball" when the children will be dressed up as different bugs. Parents and children are at present busy making various parts for the float. The Nursery will also be holding a Tombolla stall on Carnival Day, so please come and support us.

The Nursery Committee are holding a Summer Family Fun Day from 2:00pm until 6:00pm on **Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> July**, at the home of Liz Henry. We hope the weather will be kind to us as there will be a BBQ, Bouncy Castles, Wellie Throwing, Target Shooting, Skittles, a Bumper Raffle, Tombolla, Face-painting and the children will also be taking part in a sponsored obstacle race. Tickets are available from Liz Henry on 613946 and cost £5.00 per adult and £2.00 per child including food (children under 5 years are free of charge). Please come and join us, we look forward to seeing you.

**Marie Kennedy**

## HARBURY PRIMARY SCHOOL PTA

We had a very busy meeting on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> May discussing events past and in the planning.

It was great to see that due to the hard work of the PTA, the support and generosity of the parents and children, we were able to give the School the first cheque for **£4000** towards the new computer suite. This is the first of three donations that we have committed ourselves to in helping provide such an excellent resource for our children's education. So, a **GREAT BIG THANKYOU to EVERYONE** involved. When you get an opportunity to have a look at the computer suite you can feel proud that you helped supply it by supporting the PTA (and had a good time in the process!!).

Thank you to every one that came to the **BEETLE DRIVE** on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> May. A good time was had by all and a special thanks must go to "**THE BEETLEMASTER**" himself, Mr Nigel Chapman, who devised every way possible to throw dice and draw beetles. There was even a Sellafield beetle who had two heads! Big thanks also go to everyone who helped with food and drinks.

It was a shame that the Mexican Beach Disco had to be cancelled due to lack of support, the general feeling was that people didn't want to get their beach gear on in April. You could have worn a poncho!!

We will now be having a disco on **Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> November** so make sure you put it in your diaries now!! We won't be having a theme so you can just come as you are!

Don't put your diaries away just yet...scribble these dates in while you have the chance,

## **Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> June – School Book Fair**

We will be having a fine selection of books for sale after school on this day. There will be good quality children's and adults books at a fraction of the normal price. We will also be having coloured sand ornaments for children to make (just like on the Isle of Wight). Please come and have a look at what there is available.

## **Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> July – 2nd Harbury Beer Walk**

Forget the opening of the Tate Modern.... the Queen Mums Birthday... The Olympics.... Wimbledon.... The European Cup! **THIS IS** the most important cultural event in everyone's calendar (well it is in mine anyway!!).

Imagine in one day, sampling the delights of the Warwickshire countryside, visiting delightful English hostelrys, catching a glimpse of "merrie old England" in the form of the Hereburgh Morris Dancers, tasting a selection of fine English ales and then falling over in a hedge somewhere!!

Well this is your chance..... for only £10 registration fee you can take part in this wonderful day out. This includes a ½ pint of beer at the nine beer stops. We are having a barbecue at The Shakespeare at the end of the walk, £3.50 for food. We also have special Millennium Beer Walk Tee shirts for sale at £6 each. Give me a ring to register and get your Tee shirt before they all sell out.

## **Friday 29<sup>th</sup> September (provisional) - PTA QUIZ**

A clash of the titans! Get a team of four together come and pit your wits against Magnificent Martin and Precise Pete (sorry Peter I was struggling a bit with that one) and some of the best minds in the Midlands. (If their Mums let them out). Not for the fainthearted and certainly not an event to be missed.

## **Monday 9<sup>th</sup> October – PTA AGM**

One, if not the, most important event in your social calendar. We are on the lookout for enthusiastic, vibrant, vivacious, effervescent, energetic, committed (in any sense of the word), eager, passionate, fervent new committee members, and failing all that anyone who will buy Nigel Chapman & myself a pint after PTA meetings!! Not a tall order I hear you say. Come and see how you can help.

## **Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2001 – Auction of Promises**

Looking into the dark and distant future, we would like people to start thinking now how you can help with this event. Anything that you have to offer, big or small will be appreciated. Can you cut someone's lawn, or have you got a couple of tickets to the Seychelles tucked away somewhere that you would like to auction off for the sake of Harbury Primary School.

We want to make this a really big event, so if you have anything you could offer for auction, please ring me. Many thanks in anticipation.

Anyway that is enough to whet your appetites. **PLEASE** get involved, in any way you can. You are very welcome to the next meeting on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> June, 8.00pm at the school and we hope to see lots of new faces at the AGM.

We are looking to help the school in as many ways possible. We are aiming to raise a lot of money over the next year for the computer suite and other projects. It is for the future of our children that we are working and we sincerely hope that families are having a good time in the process.

**Ian Ashworth 613304**

## **1<sup>st</sup> HARBURY CUB SCOUTS**

### **New Leader Required To Share Leadership of Cubs**

As readers may be aware there are 2 leaders leaving at the end of the Summer term. To put it bluntly someone will have to come forward to share the



Leadership with me or we will be unable to run meetings from September until mid-November and from the beginning of March until the beginning of May. This is roughly half of the meetings in a year and if they cannot be arranged then effectively the pack will have to close down. If Cubs cannot run then it is only a matter of time before Beaver and Scout numbers start to fall. At present all 3 of the Harbury Scouting groups are full with boys waiting to join. There is a well equipped Scout Hut and excellent back-up from GASS. Training is provided by the Scout Association at times that suit parents. In short there are many reasons for volunteering to help organise Cubs. Any number of leaders is possible; it doesn't need to be just one person who volunteers to help. Uniform does not *have* to be worn. Your sons have great fun at Beavers / Cubs. Do not let them lose out.

**Baloo (Rob Davis) 612457 or  
07967 151294**

## **HARBURY TENNIS CLUB**

Pleased to report that our "Play Tennis 2000" weekend was a tremendous success helped considerably by the weather perking up. The two sessions on Saturday concentrated on children between 5 and 15 years old and **75** of them took part so, as with last year we were most grateful to the Netball Club for the use of their Court to take the "overflow" from the Tennis Courts.



### **Anyone for Tennis?**

The theme of the day was fun with plenty of assistance on the Courts. Pete Brinkley, an LTA qualified coach took the lead, ably supported by "guest" County player Sarah Wilson and Club members. The fun was not confined to the Courts and there were refreshments available including a barbecue organised by Mary Thompson. All in all it was a tremendous day and I would like to say a big thank you to everyone who helped out.

The Sunday was aimed at adults, either beginners or those in the "Rusty Racket" category but the emphasis was still on fun. This was also very successful, attracting 14 players with quite a few signing on for the following on Sunday morning coaching sessions the Club has arranged.

On the playing front the 'A' Team recorded the Club's first win of the season in the Banbury Summer league, beating Deddington 'B'. The 'B' Team is still looking for its first win but came very close against Deddington 'D', losing the match but picking up the bonus point by winning more games than the opposition. A special mention to Jemma Phipps (15) who has made her debut this season and come on in leaps and bounds. With Tim Lockley as her mentor she is also developing tactical awareness beyond her years!



## Under 16 News

There has been a tremendous start to the new season and we now cater for all age groups between 5 and 15. The minis have 20 signed up (we now have a waiting list!), with 26 Intermediates playing on Wednesdays. The biggest group by far is the Juniors and for its first session there were 42 very enthusiastic children playing and, once again we are grateful for the use of the Netball Court as an overflow area.

**Colin & Sue Mercer (613284)**

## HARBURY CRICKET CLUB

Not a good month for cricket, with some decidedly wet weather causing cancellation of matches. The combined league side with Southam Cricket Club playing in the Midlands League Division 7 East and captained by Neil Moran from Southam with Ed Russell, the Harbury Club Chairman, as vice-Captain, had a decidedly shaky start in their first match against Belle Vue, but produced a much better performance against Attleborough seconds. Harbury/Southam scored 202 and then skittled out the opposition for 67 with Ed Russell taking 2-16. Then against Newbold they managed a draw with Ed taking a brave 6-83 against some big hitting. The Sunday Friendly XI had a tough game against old rivals Willoughby on May 7<sup>th</sup>. Skipper Daniels made the mistake of agreeing to a limited over game and Harbury paid the price with a heavy defeat in the absence of all three Lowes. There was no chance of the draw so beloved of Harbury's veteran team. The side performed well against Kineton, and reached 174-3 by tea with Phil Linnett running into early form with 72, and a patient and undefeated 55 from John Wilkinson. Kineton achieved a draw (wrong decision again, Mike) with 103-7 but there was quality bowling from skipper Daniels 3-11, Ian Lowe 3-35 and a remarkable 10 overs, 9 maidens and 1 wicket from 2 runs by John Clifford. The Sunday seconds were all set to play on the 21<sup>st</sup>. with a team with 5 under 16's but the rain came down. The Club are particularly looking forward to the Sunday XI v President Rex Humphreys XI on July 2<sup>nd</sup>. Rex has got together a dream team from Harbury's golden past and hopes to include Terry Bell, Johnny Keyte and Kevin White to name but a few - be there.

**Ian Jackson  
612615**

### Saturday League XI Division 7 East - team in co-operation with Southam CC

Date	Opponents	Type	Venue	Match Sponsor
<b>June</b>				
3	Bedworth IV.	CL	A	
10	Leamington IV	CL	A	
17	Peugeot II	CL	H	Rollasons
24	Alvis/Sphinx IV	CL	H	Old New Inn
<b>July</b>				
1	Braunston Paddox	CL	H	Moneywise Centre
8	Belle Vue	CL	A	

### Sunday Friendly First XI

Date	Opponents	Type	Venue	Match Sponsor
<b>June</b>				
4	Hockley Heath	Fr	A	
11	Arden Forest	Fr	H	Old New Inn
18	Stratford Bards	Fr	A	
25	Barford	Fr	A	
<b>July</b>				
2	Presidents XI	Fr	H	Old New Inn
9	St Benedict's Alcester	Fr	A	

### Midweek Leamington League XI

Date	Opponents	Type	Venue
<b>June</b>			
8 Thursday evening	Leamington Folk	MidLL	A
12 Week of	Norton Lindsey	Cup	A
21 Wednesday evening	Cricketers	MidLL	H
29 Thursday evening	Cavaliers	MidLL	A

<b>July</b>				
3 Week of		Not yet decided	Cup	?
12 Wednesday evening		Leamington Folk	MidLL	H

**Sunday Friendly Second XI - 2000**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Opponents</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Venue</b>	<b>Note</b>
<b>June</b>				
11	Bishops Itchington	Fr	A	<b>The match of the season</b>
25	Yelvertoft	Fr	A	

**NSPCC**



**Raymond with his children, Kate, Emma and Adam a few yards from the finishing line**

We would like to say a big thank you to Raymond Flanagan who successfully completed the Stratford Marathon on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> April. He agreed to be sponsored in aid of the NSPCC and raised over £500, for our funds. Well done!

A good night was had by all at our ‘Millennium Quiz Night’ on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May. We raised £305.

Our next function will be a ‘Treasure Hunt’ on **18<sup>th</sup> June**. Great fun for all the family so watch out for the posters in the village for further details.

**NSPCC Committee**

**TWINNING WEEKEND 2000**



**“Harbury shows the flag in Samoa”**

At 6.00am on the Friday before the Mayday weekend, a bleary eyed group of villagers set off for Samois-sur-Seine, Harbury's twin village in France. Ages ranged from toddler to pensioner. For some it was the first visit, for others a chance to meet established friends. As well as hosting an official Twinning weekend, Samois were participating in a European Sports weekend with the neighbouring community of Bois-le-Roi and villages from Spain, Germany and Holland.

As we drove southwards, the weather deteriorated, and we struggled around Paris in the Friday rush hour in torrential rain. We arrived in Samois late and tired but the warmth of our welcome soon made amends. We awoke next morning to lovely weather that stayed with us for the next three days.

It was our first visit to Samois and we found it a delightful place. The village has a favoured position on the banks of the Seine and borders the magnificent Fontainebleau forest. It is difficult to know what to pick out from three busy and happy days. There was of course wonderful food and wine. The atmosphere was vibrant, and laughter frequent. Somehow, with goodwill on both sides inadequate language skills sufficed and our appreciation of each other's culture grew.

Some time was found for sporting endeavour. Moira and Brian Lamont excelled at Petanque as did Susie Tawney in the running. The young martial arts team with their trainer David Hoffman demonstrated their skills. Most of us took part in a multi-national parade through Samois on Sunday morning wearing a variety of patriotic dress. Monday was Mayday when Samois has a traditional market and we all enjoyed buying cheese, sausages and wine, and we had our photograph taken in the square with our French hosts. The weekend was rounded off with a picnic outside the Village Hall. David Winter, the new Chairman of the Twinning Association expressed thanks on behalf of us all in his perfect French. (Those of us who never seemed to progress from Whitmarsh Book 1 were jealous). It was hard to say good-bye to our French friends and all too soon we were boarding the coach for the return journey. We would like to express our personal thanks to everyone who made the weekend possible and we are looking forward very much to Samois's visit to Harbury in 2001.

**Sharon & John Hancock**

## **STAYING WITH A FRENCH FAMILY**

I met Coraline and her family when they visited Harbury for the twinning ceremony. They invited me to stay. I am eleven years old and so is Coraline. My parents and brother stayed with another family in Samois.

Before I got there I was nervous because I didn't know what it would be like and it was my first time away by myself. I went to meet Coraline in the car and then we went back to her house. We went into her bedroom upstairs. When it was supper time the food was very different, but I really liked it. The starter was *foie gras* with bread and the main meal was ratatouille and meat. For pudding we had raspberries and strawberries. When we had finished, instead of putting their knives and forks together they put them back on the mat. Another night the children of some friends cooked some pasta for us. They were very generous and helpful.

On Saturday morning we walked from the square to her friend's house and I held the guinea pigs. In the afternoon we went to Fontainebleau Palace. The gardens were enormous and filled with trees. Afterwards we walked to the shops to look for an English dictionary for Coraline, because after I had been staying with them she was going to stay in Devon on an exchange, organised by her school.

On Sunday morning there was a procession through Samois and the Spanish joined us there. We stood at the front of the procession holding a figure. The weather was very sticky and I was getting very thirsty. The Spanish were singing along and there was a trumpet player playing some lively tunes. The procession went on for a long time and afterwards I was getting tired. We went back to some friends of the family and had some very special cheese which the family ordered from Fontainebleau. There was a plate with lots of different types of cheese, mild and strong. I liked the cheese more than I thought I would. Later on, we went out to play in the garden and then we went back to Coraline's house and stayed up until very late. Coraline left for England at about two o'clock in the morning. The next day we left for Harbury and we got home at about six o'clock.

I got on very well with the whole family including Coraline's sister, Florian. She helped out a lot with translation. I would definitely go to stay with them again and I hope Coraline can come and stay with us.

**Harriet Guy**

## **SPORTS EURO 2000 - SAMOIS SUR SEINE - PETANQUE**

Each time we go to Samois we meet different sections of the community and this time was no exception - we met the Petanque players. It has to be said that this is a game that attracts players of all ages and although most are men, a considerable number of women also play. The one thing they all seem to have in common is that they take it seriously and without exception, they are all experts!!

There were two matches over the weekend, one in nearby le Bois-le Roi and the second in Samois itself.

The French very kindly organised it so that the teams were always a mixture of the nationalities represented, therefore the English, Germans and Dutch were paired with the very good French players.

Three games with different partners gave you a score through some method, which we still don't completely understand. The games were hard fought and tape measures were in constant use to define the nearest boule to the shot. There were prizes for everyone who entered from highest to lowest score and small souvenirs of wine and biscuits - very kind to their visitors.

It was extremely enjoyable and we all hoped that we had learnt most of the rules and that our game had improved for the re-match at Samois next day.

It was very hot next day and although we looked forward to playing again, the very good French players must have been praying that their English partners improved. Well, yes they did! The format was basically the same as the previous day with the addition of an unexpected final made up of the players

who had been in the highest scoring teams throughout the day. They were divided up into two teams of three and Linda and Brian were included as top female and male foreigners respectively. Moira won a cup for being the highest woman scorer to go with the shield she won the day before for being the highest placed foreign player.



**Henri Boizette, Brian and Moira Lamont with the tournament organisers Françoise and Laurent Bourguignon**

### **Brian & Moira Lamont**

#### **MAY 1<sup>ST</sup> 2000 - DAWN**



At 4.45am the first Hereburgh'ers arrived at Chesterton Windmill to awake Mike (Squire) Putnam from his slumbers. The 20 plus dancers and musicians were joined by an equal number of spectators, and at 5.00am the traditional "Hal-An-Tow" was sung to welcome in the May'o. A good friend from Verden had joined our May Day tradition, having driven from Banbury which is almost as far as Germany.

A spectacular sunrise greeted the dancers, and the following photograph was taken at 05:39am. The Hereburgh'ers retired at 6.00am to a welcome breakfast in the village. Our thanks to Thwaites Estate for giving us permission to dance at Chesterton Windmill.

**Sunrise through Chesterton Windmill**

### **Doug Freeman**

#### **PARISH PATHS PARTNERSHIP**

We have now put together our work plan based on the surveys carried out last year. Our work will initially be aimed at the priorities we have identified throughout the whole parish, followed by paths on the Centenary Way and then to complete the paths where we have already carried out work.

At the end of last year the group undertook the construction of its first stile on the footpath starting at Temple End heading towards Chesterton (SM65). Drawing on the experience of John Buck and muscle of Mike Morris the job went very smoothly. With this success under our belt we decided the group



would be able to tackle the majority of outstanding work ourselves and have been provided with a good selection of hand tools by WCC.

The group has been out a number of times this year. We started by clearing the wood material from the path at the top of Binswood End leading to the Fosseway (SM63) so that it would be easier to maintain throughout the summer. New foot plates have been fitted to 2 stiles on footpath SM65 and another to SM84, the footpath running past the quarry. Here we have also constructed a new stile and carried out some cleaning work around the stiles.

Our next workday will be on **June 3<sup>rd</sup>** when we will be doing some general clearing on paths close to the village in an attempt to keep them passable during the growing season. We plan to meet the first Sunday of each month, anyone that would like to join us please contact me on 612221



Some of the group constructing the stile and carrying out clearing work on SM84

### Clive Taylor

## HARBURY CARNIVAL - JUNE 10<sup>TH</sup> 2000

A few last minute items.

1. There will be a Tug of War competition organised by Peter Lambert 811617. Please contact him if you are interested in taking part.
2. Coventry City are going to run a penalty shoot out with a football signed by their players as a prize.
3. Will last year's winners please return cups and shields to Kathleen Ellis (the hairdressers) as soon as possible so that they are available on Carnival Day.
4. We need cakes (plenty of them!) for the afternoon teas. Please take any kind donations to the Village Hall on Carnival morning.
5. There is still time to book a stall but please contact Kary Hunt on 613598 as soon as possible.
6. Programmes and raffle tickets are available from various shops in the village and from Committee members.

To ensure the success of the event we hope that you will support us with your usual enthusiasm, floats, groups and fancy dress.

## Fun Week

The Wheelbarrow Race on the **4th June** will commence from the Gamecock. Please have your team in place by 12:30pm so that form can be studied and odds set. If you still need to enter please contact Dan Killian on 612265.

For the other events taking place during Carnival week please assemble at the appropriate pub for a 7:30pm start. The order of events is:

Monday 5th - Boules at the Dog

Tuesday 6th - Skittles at the Old New Inn

Wednesday 7th - Test of Strength at the Crown

Thursday 8th - Quiz at the Shakespeare

Please help to make this a success and enter a team. You need a squad of up to 12 people with any 4 to compete on the night. Entry forms from the above venues or from Dan Killian.

### **John Broomfield**

## **HARBURY BLUES FESTIVAL 2000 - SATURDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> JULY**

Last year's Blues Festival was a great success, so we're back this year with a similar format. We've 6 live bands who will perform outdoors at Harbury Rugby Club.

After their tremendous performance last year we are delighted to welcome back our headline band **Little Red Rooster** from Philadelphia, USA. Supporting them we have a strong line up including the excellent **Hangover Blues Band** from Leamington, **DB Smith**, **The Boogie chargers**, **The Crossroads Blues Band** and **The Mad Bar Stud Brothers** - a couple of crazy saxophone players from Essex.

The music starts at 3:30pm and will continue throughout the afternoon and evening. A licensed bar and hot food (burgers, hot dogs, etc) will be available during the day and, in the afternoon, entertainment for the kids will include pony rides, bouncy castle and face painting.

Last year the numbers attending exceeded expectations and some later arrivals hoping to find chairs and tables were disappointed. This year we expect more people and you are welcome to bring your own seating.

Despite the outside venue, numbers are controlled by licence restrictions, so please buy your tickets early. They cost £10.00 and are available from Kathleen Ellis, Hair Salon, 2 Chapel Street, Harbury or ring 01926 815196/814323. For more information visit our website at [www.harburybluesfestival.co.uk](http://www.harburybluesfestival.co.uk).

### **Nicky Lewis**

## **A ROAD TO SANTIAGO DE COMPESTELA BY BIKE**

In August this year I will embark upon a Pilgrimage from St. Jean Pied de Port to Santiago hoping to complete the 800 km journey in three weeks.

Friends and family who have long known of my plans, have urged me to seek sponsorship for my efforts. I have chosen a charity close to my heart; it was not difficult.

During the early part of last year, I helped Rotary International in the Northern region of Ghana and saw the problems towards getting surgical teams into remote areas. I also saw the transformation and smile of an old man as his eye patch came off and he realised he could see the number of fingers that the surgeon was holding up following a cataract operation.

I hope to raise funds toward the purchase of essential equipment, specifically for use at an eye camp in Ghana. This will be organised through SITE SAVERS



INTERNATIONAL AND ROTARY. If you would like to help with sponsorship please make any donation payable to Rotary's African Vision. I can collect or send your sponsorship monies to me at 29 Neale's Close, Harbury. CV33 9JQ

Please help to give the gift of sight ... just £30.00 funds cataract surgery for two blind adults or £500.00 buys a moped so that a field worker can reach more people ... £18.00 restores the sight of a child.

Thank you.

**Bill Davies (614104)**

## **HARBURY VICTORIAN STREET FAYRE - 14<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2000**

### **CHARITY: Children in Need**

Preparations are now under way for the above and any offers of help would be appreciated. As previously advised, the main benefiting charity this year is Children in Need with all the proceeds from catering at the Beer Festival and the Grand Raffle going to this very worthy cause.

However, the Fayre also offers the opportunity for other charities and village organisations to raise money by taking either a full stall or half stall and the rental charge is at 'cost' in order that those renting a stall have the minimum outlay. As in previous years the stalls will be 10' x 5' in size and covered and the charge for a full stall will be £26.00 and the charge for a half stall (5 x 5) will be £13.00. Please call Dan Killian on 612265 to obtain a booking form as we will only be able to allocate stalls on the receipt of a completed form with the cash/cheque enclosed. Early booking would be appreciated as we will have to pay for unused stalls if the supplier does not have sufficient notice of the exact numbers required.

The format of the Fayre will be as other years with stalls either side of Chapel Street, roundabouts, penny arcade, Punch & Judy, street entertainers, fancy dress competition, etc. We do not envisage any formal entertainment but hope to rely on the talented Harbury residents to entertain the 'crowd'. Harbury school children have already offered their services and more offers would be very much appreciated, bearing in mind the Victorian theme of the event.

The Fayre can only succeed with help from many people, so if you can help in any of the ways above please let me know or if you are unable to offer your services then please come along on the day and support us.

**Dan Killian (612265)**

**On behalf of the Victorian Street Fayre Committee**

## **HARBURY'S THIRD (WORLD) MILLENNIUM PROJECT**

The Harbury Chronicles video is wonderful, and Harbury in Lights at New Year was brilliant. But how else can we in Harbury commemorate the millennium? Is there any way we could - say - make a small but lasting contribution to some Third World community?

These questions were prompted by an article in the Guardian of May 17, about the little Yorkshire village of North Dean. Among various plans to mark the millennium, they felt that one of their projects should be of benefit to a Third World country - maybe small, like Britain, but less well-off. A majority of households in the village agreed to make a one-off financial contribution (\*see below). It happened that a member of the village had personal knowledge of a hospital in Uganda which could make very good use of their generosity. The result, already, is a new (small) ward specifically for HIV and Aids patients.

So here are two questions:

1. \*How would your household respond to the idea of contributing *the equivalent of what you normally spend on an evening out*, to a Third World project to be agreed upon?
2. If the idea gets support, are there people in Harbury with personal knowledge of a Third World community with a specific need, which might be helped by such a project?

We should like to hear your reaction. Please contact any of the following:

**Fr. Roy & Pam Brown   Bob & Martine Jenkins**  
**David & Pam Clarke   Marian Millington**  
**John & Sharon Hancock   Andrew Patrick**  
**Rosemary Harley   David & Jill Winter**  
**John Hunt**

## **DASSETT SENIORS' FOCUS**

This is the new name of Southam Older Person Forum which was felt to be cumbersome and not reflect the geographical spread that was included in the group. The group covers approximately the same area as the Dassetts planning area within Stratford District so the name reflects this. The group is open to all who have at least 50 years experience (of living); reverse ageism!

The last meeting, which are every 2 months or so, was in April. The speaker was Kevin McGovern supported by Andy Stoke, both from Warwickshire County Council transport section. They explained their areas of responsibility: support for public transport; public transport publicity and home to school, including disabled transport. From the point of view of the group it was the first two that were of most interest. The rural transport budget that was introduced a couple of years of ago has been extended to 2004 at the same level. Other points of interest were: there will be a national number for transport enquiries by the end of the year. WCC has its own public service vehicle inspector which covers vehicles and systems, the South Warwickshire rural transport initiative has been approved by the Countryside Agency for £¼ million over 3 years. When setting up the rural transport initiative the guidelines used were: every community of 50 or more would have at least one bus a week on market days and every community of 500 or more would have a daily bus to the nearest town. WCC are looking to making improvements in the Leamington-Banbury corridor. A fifth Flexibus is being obtained. A new timetable for the area is imminent – new format rather than significant changes in services, timetables available from Shire Hall and the travel centre in Regent Street, Leamington..

Considerable discussion followed and we were able to feed back our concerns over transport into the system that has at least some influence on policy. An example is that although Harbury has a good bus service to Leamington (approximately hourly during the day and several in the evening and on Sundays) it is still very difficult and long winded to get to Warwick Hospital. Publicity for services is not as good as it might be but this was acknowledged and work is ongoing to improve this aspect. Harbury also has weekday services to Coventry and the new A & M service to Stratford.

The next meeting of the group is on **27<sup>th</sup> June** at 10.30am at Victor Hodges House, Little Park, Southam. The speaker will be Janet Bonser, chief officer of South Warwickshire Community Health Council on 'Health Matters!'. I shall be going and if anyone needs further information get in touch with me.

**Charles Catt**

## **PENSIONERS' PATIO**

Open the window suddenly and even the Chief Blackbird scurries under a shrub. (Swift movement means predators??) Open it slowly and he stands his ground,

obviously expecting manna from heaven in the form of Hovis crumbs. Sit motionless a foot away from the bird-bath, as I was doing on one of the two (or was it even three?) warm days so far, and he comes to splash in the water as if I wasn't there. Flattering until it struck me that maybe to him a human who doesn't move is just an overgrown garden gnome. Young birds, of course, seem fearless until their elders teach them otherwise. (There's a comment on the subject in the Book of Genesis: chapter nine, verse two.)

I sometimes think how miserable it must be to live as an ant, or indeed any social insect. Just a fragment of circuitry in the swarm's computer network, programmed to respond in a certain way to a certain stimulus and then expendable. When I meet a solitary ant apparently doing his own thing I wonder if he's seen the light and is taking the first step towards individual consciousness. But it's more likely that he's been sent to milk the swarm's herd of aphids - there'll be plenty of those around soon.

Back to earth though: the clematis Montana, in a near-death stupor for some time after its amputation, now (surprise! surprise!) peeps over the top of the wall to laugh at us as we come up the drive. And why not? Whose idea was it? Conveniently, I can't remember. There's a lovely specimen festooned over the walnut tree just behind us; maybe it'll throw a roving stem across the intervening gap and shoot along the roof of the bungalow. Like human beings, plants need space - and in both cases some need more than others.

**Edyth Algar**

## **HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY**

Mr Trinder, the speaker at the last talk on "Grasses & Grasslike" illustrated with the help of slides the many types and uses of grasses. It was warm in the Farley Room and this caused distortion of the slides, which affected the focussing! However, he managed to convey what useful plants can be found in the fast family they comprise. Many make splendid and interesting autumn and winter colour but I could not help thinking that the wind would play havoc with some of the taller varieties.

I think the coach to Angelsea Abbey on **Thursday 8 June** is fully booked, Judy has been very busy and now all we need is a fine day. The coach leaves the Village Hall at 9.00am on the dot, so please be there early (with umbrellas for insurance!)

Will members who intend going on the evening outing to Spring House on **Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> June**, please meet at the Village Hall at 5:45pm. This should be a very pleasant evening, provided the weather once again plays its part.

The open gardens weekend will soon be here again. Teas will be served in some gardens on the Saturday, in the Farley Room on the Sunday (just in case the weather is wet and cold). There will also be plant and produce stalls, so any excess cuttings or seedlings will be welcome. This event is the Society's main fundraiser, please make it a success by supporting it, as we hope that the weather will do so!

The time for the Village Show is creeping ever nearer, the schedules will soon be available. The Committee has decided that the show (**Sat. 9<sup>th</sup> September**) will be open to Ladbroke & Deppers W.I. and residents of Ladbroke as well as members of Harbury W.I. and Horticultural Society and residents of Harbury and Deppers Bridge, as before. This they hope will widen the competition and bring in more entries. These last few years the handicraft section has been progressively shrinking, almost to extinction and the judge supplied by the W.I. has been seriously under employed. There is a separate schedule for the children, now available, and this year entries are required by **7<sup>th</sup> July**, no later.

One of the classes is for the best Impatiens plant in a max 6" pot. Seedling plants available, also schedules, from Ron Grey on 612515. Should you this year intend to exhibit wines, it is very important to use clear glass bottles, with flanged closures (so that the judge may properly evaluate clarity and colour and does not have to struggle unduly to open the bottles).

**Muriel Grey**

### **GARDENING NOTES**

With luck, this is the month when the borders are a riot of colour and the perfumes fill the evening air. Is it tempting providence to even write that?! Gardeners are ever optimistic so get out the garden furniture and bring out the tender plants which you have overwintered. Bedding plants can now be put out in safety. There really isn't any advantage in buying them earlier, and when buying look for the ones which are not in bloom, unless you want to be sure of a particular colour. They establish more easily and last longer.

Rock and alpine plants need to be cut back hard after flowering finishes to prevent them straggling. Divide any which have outgrown their space or have grown outwards leaving a bare centre. If you don't need the extra plants pot them up to give away or sell at the Walkabout. Early flowering perennials also need cutting down to within 15cm of the ground, then delphiniums and lupins may bloom again. Deadhead roses, cutting back to a strong bud to encourage more flower shoots to form. This is the best month to take softwood cuttings of shrubs. Take a 10cm soft young shoot, trim it to just below a bud and remove the lower leaves. In a pot of light compost this should root in about 8 weeks.

Hosue plants are now looking forward to a look at the garden, so find them a shady place for the next 4 months but remember to water them. A recent Gardeners Question Time suggested using houseplants as part of a border display. An idea worth trying but not in a very sunny garden.

In the vegetable plot the tender ones which give us the summer harvest, tomatoes, courgettes, sweetcorn and French beans can be planted out. Some of them are pretty enough to go in with the flowers but they do need space and feeding. Herbs are at their peak for flavour so pick them for drying or freezing in ice cubes. I prefer the colour and taste of the frozen ones so any tiny containers are saved for this purpose. It is time to look ahead to winter crops so plant out leeks and the brassicas. Sow turnips and swedes.

### **Plant of the month – Helianthemum**



**Helianthemum 'Ben Nevis' one of the reliable 'Ben' series**

Look up the derivation of this name and you find 'helios' the sun, and 'anthos' a flower, from Greek. In old gardening books the common name was Sun rose, but now look in the Royal Horticultural Society Encyclopaedia and the flower is

a Rock rose. Which ever common name you call it this 'Rose' looks as sweet although it does not smell like a rose at all! In a dry sunny spot this small hardy evergreen will give weeks of colour. The first ones to be grown here were the yellow and white ones which are native to S. Europe. Now shades of pink and red have been added to the range, with names such as Fire Dragon and Cerise Queen. Although each flower lasts only a few days they are produced in such profusion that the plant is covered in blooms. After about two months the flowering finishes but a trim over often persuades more buds to form in September. They do well on our alkaline soil where it is well drained. Plant them along the front of a sunny border to enjoy the flowers and afterwards the evergreen foliage gives a good ground cover. Replace the plants after 4 or 5 years when they become straggly.

**Pat Smith**

<b>Letters to the Editors</b>
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*Dear Editors*

*Christian Aid Week*

*The door to door collection this year raised a magnificent £876.00. Our thanks to all those who donated, delivered, collected and counted.*

***David & Barbara Thistlethwaite***

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*Dear Editors*

*I would like to make a request on behalf of all wheelchair users; the visually impaired, mums with prams or pushchairs; the frail and elderly. This request goes to the drivers of cars and vans who are increasingly (and illegally) parking partially, or wholly, on our pavements. In Harbury the pavements are mostly very narrow, and any infringement causes great difficulty to any of the above groups, necessitating moving out into the often fast moving traffic. PLEASE THINK BEFORE YOU PARK!!*

***Pam Brown***

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*Dear Editors*

*A sincere thank you to all those who support the Coffee Mornings held to raise funds for Rotary charities.*

*Your kindness is very much appreciated.*

***Doug Hardy (President)***  
***The Rotary Club of Southam***

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*Dear Editors*

*Could I thank everyone in Harbury, Deppers Bridge and the surrounding areas for all their support and encouragement during the May District Council elections.*

*I greatly enjoyed going around the villages talking to people, and now look forward to a further period representing the Ward on the District Council.*

*I will continue to hold "open-house" for anyone who has particular points or problems that need discussing, or advice.*

*Yours sincerely*

***James Turner (District Councillor)***