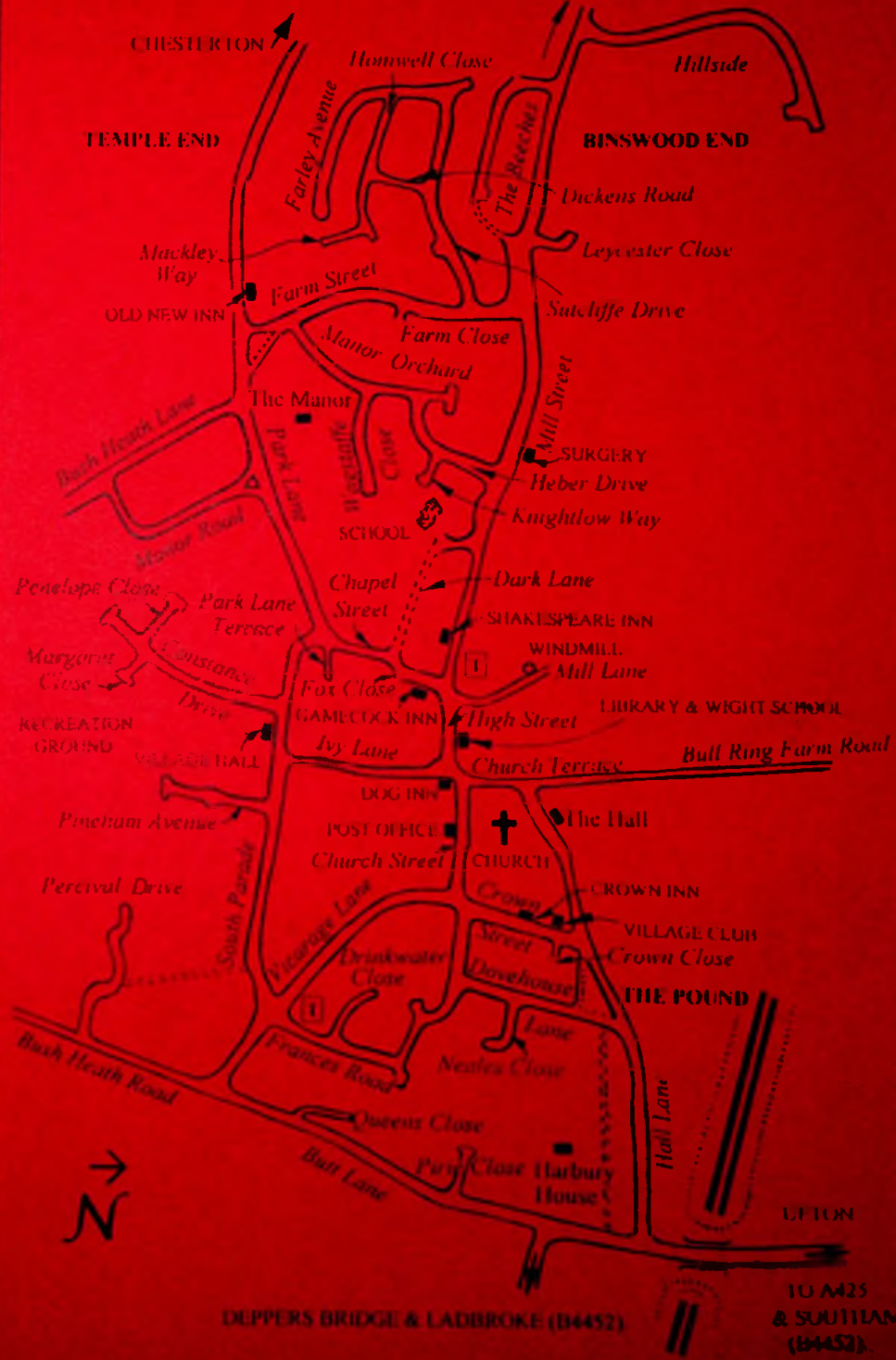
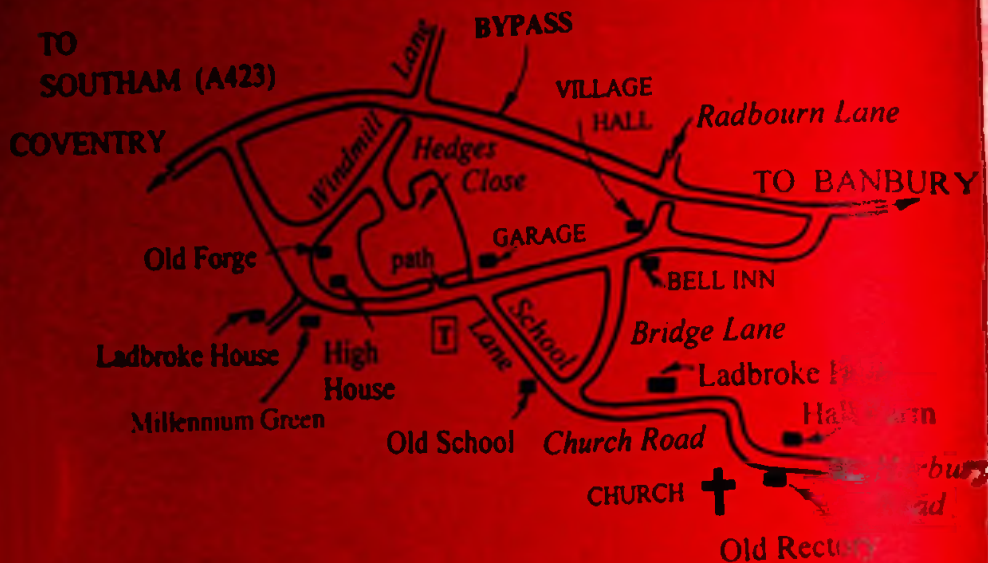


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Harbury & Ladbroke News

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

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<http://www.harburynews.freemove.co.uk>

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Distribution Manager

49, Mill Street (☎ 612009)

Magazine Photographer

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Inserts by prior arrangement

☎ 612832

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

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April 2002

No. 337

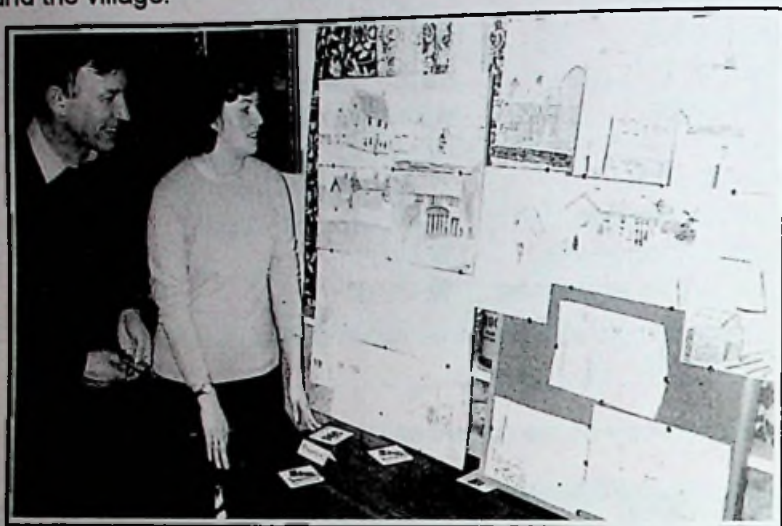


The Harbury & Ladbroke News held its AGM in the Shakespeare Inn recently. Representatives involved in all stages of the production and distribution of the magazine were present to discuss current issues in the two villages.

It was reported that the Commemorative Edition had been very well received and congratulations were offered to the team who had been responsible for its compilation. The special edition was provided free

to all subscribers as a result of a Lottery 'Awards for All' grant. There are a few remaining copies which can be purchased from Country Fayre – Mugleston for £1.50.

During the evening Committee Members voted on the outcome of the drawing competition which challenged youngsters to record scenes around the village.



Judging the drawings

Congratulations to the winners who will be announced in school at the beginning of next term. A selection of drawings will be included in the magazine in future editions.

Finally, we extend our sympathies to the families of Clive Hallam, Phyllis Howard, Kathleen Robinson and Rex Wheatley.

Harbury Diary

Sun	31	EASTER DAY Holy Communion 8.00am, Sung Eucharist 10.30am CLOCKS ON
Mon	1	EASTER MONDAY BANK HOLIDAY
Tues	2	Holy Communion 7.30pm Horticultural Society in Village Hall 8.00pm, Mr Everitt on Summer Bulbs
Wed	3	Holy Communion 2.00pm Mothers Union 2.30pm 'Talk it Through' at 33, South Parade 8.00pm

- Thurs 4 Holy Communion 9.45am
 Storytelling in the Library 10.00am
 Folk Club in The Dog Inn 8.30pm
 Youth Club in Village Hall 7.00-9.00pm
 Men's Society "Spring into Flowers" – Mrs Pat Smith in Tom Hauley Room
 (Open Meeting) 7.45pm
- Sat 6 Harbury Rugby Firsts & Extras home to Claverdon
 Tom Hauley Room Coffee Morning in aid of Church Funds
 RECYCLING COLLECTION
- Sun 7 **SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EASTER** Sung Eucharist 9.00am, Evening
 Worship 6.00pm
- Tues 9 Village Hall committee in Village Hall 8.00pm
 Toddlers' Service 2.15pm; Holy Communion 7.30pm
- Wed 10 Prayer Meeting in Church 8.00pm
- Thurs 11 Holy Communion 9.45pm
 Thursday Club in Village Hall 2.30pm
 Youth Club in Village Hall 7.00-9.00pm
 Myton Hospice Line Dancing at Harbury Village Club 8.00pm
- Sat 13 Rugby. Harbury Extras home to Coventry Saracens
 Harbury Junior Football Club Fundraising Evening in Village Hall
 Tom Hauley Room Coffee Morning in aid of Mothers Union
 NSPCC Italian Evening in Tom Hauley Room
- Sun 14 **THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EASTER**
 Holy Communion 8.00am
 Sung Eucharist 10.30am
- Mon 15 **ADVERTS to 31, Binswood End Harbury, by 5.30pm**
- Tues 16 Holy Communion 7.30pm; Mothers' Union 8.00pm
 Senior Citizens' Committee in Village Hall 8.00pm
- Wed 17 Tea in Tom Hauley Room 3.00-4.00pm
 'Talk it Through' at 33, South Parade 8.00pm
- Thurs 18 Holy Communion 9.45am
 Youth Club 7.00-9.00pm in Village Hall
- Fri 19 RECYCLING COLLECTION
- Sat 20 CHILTERN LINE DISRUPTION TO 6TH MAY
 Men's Prayer Breakfast in Tom Hauley Room 7.30am
 Tom Hauley Room Coffee Morning in aid of Harbury W.I.
 Beatles Tribute Night in Village Hall for Pre-School
- Sun 21 **FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EASTER**
 Holy Communion 8.00am; Family Communion 10.30am Evensong
 6.00pm
- Mon 22 Stage up in Village Hall
- Tues 23 **ST GEORGE'S DAY. STRATFORD CONGESTED**
 Holy Communion 7.30pm
 "Bookworms" in Tom Hauley Room 7.30pm
 Julian Group in Church 8.00pm

Wed	24	Drop in Tea for the Bereaved at 19 Farm Street 2.30-4.30pm Prayer Meeting in Church 8.00pm
Thurs	25	Holy Communion 9.45am Thursday Club in Village Hall 2.30pm PLAY "GENERATIONS APART" in Village Hall 8.00pm Parish Council 7.30pm in Tom Hauley Room
Fri	26	ARTICLES to Harbury Chemist, High Street, Harbury by 5.30pm PLAY "GENERATIONS APART" in Village Hall 8.00pm
Sat	27	Harbury Rugby Extras home to Southam Thirds Tom Hauley Room Coffee Morning in aid of the Netball Club Myton Hospice Plant Sale on Dog Car Park 12.00-3.00pm PLAY "GENERATIONS APART" in Village Hall 8.00pm
Sun	28	FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EASTER Holy Communion 8.00am; Sung Eucharist 10.30am
Tues	30	Holy Communion 7.30pm

MAY

Wed	1	HEREBURGH MORRIS DANCE AT CHESTERTON WINDMILL AT DAWN Holy Communion 2.00pm Mothers Union 2.30pm PCC in Tom Hauley Room 7.30pm "Talk it Through" at 33, South Parade 8.00pm
Thurs	2	Holy Communion 9.45am ELECTIONS IN VILLAGE HALL Storytelling in Library at 10.00am Folk Club in Dog at 8.00pm
Fri	3	RECYCLING COLLECTION
Sat	4	Tom Hauley Room Coffee Morning in aid of Motor Neurone Disease Myton Hospice Plant Sale at Dog Car Park 12 noon-3.00pm
Sun	5	SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER EASTER Sung Eucharist 9.00am; Evening Worship 6.00pm

All Saints' Church Harbury Sunday Services

1st Sunday in the month:	9.00am Sung Eucharist 6.00pm Evening Worship
2nd, 4th (and 5th) Sunday in the month:	8.00am Holy Communion 10.30am Sung Eucharist
3rd Sunday in the month:	8.00am Holy Communion 10.30am Family Communion 6.00pm Evensong
Every Sunday:	10.30am Sunday School (in Term Time)
Rector:	Father Roy Brown, The Rectory, Vicarage Lane, Harbury Tel.: 612377

From the Rector

Christ has turned all our sunsets into dawns, all our deaths into births and darkness into light. No matter how you express it, there is no way of saying in words what a difference the resurrection of Christ has made. There is no other event like it. It has not only changed the course of history, it has changed the destiny of every human creature. Christ's resurrection is a promise of life for every man, woman and child. Christ is risen and lives for ever. Through Him and with Him we can have everlasting life.

When Christ died, many things died with Him. He had taken on Himself our sin, our death and everything which could overwhelm us. That is why He died; He shared our human lot and became a victim of all that is evil. But because he did all this out of love, He proved Himself to be superior to all that happened to Him. He was not overcome by death, suffering and sin; He overcame them. He took the sting out of death and broke the strangle hold which evil has on us. No one saw that in the darkness of Good Friday. In fact it looked as if evil had overcome Christ.

His followers only knew what had been really happening when he came back to them alive. He was risen from the dead and was with them once again as the Saviour they had hoped for. They found it hard to take this in at first. The first reports they heard were dismissed as rumours. But when they met Him once again they knew that He was truly risen. And that is what they preached and handed on to us. That is the faith of the Church, preserved throughout the ages. Christ died and rose again for our salvation. And man will love for evermore because of Easter Day.

CHRIST IS RISEN. ALLELUIA.

Father Roy

From the Registers

Funerals at Oakley Wood

- 5th March – Clive Hallam aged 67
- 19th March – Phyllis Howard aged 86

Funerals at All Saints' Harbury

- 6th March – Kathleen Robinson aged 87
- 19th March – Rex Wheatley aged 72



From the Churchwardens

By the time you receive this we shall be celebrating the Resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ - at Easter. The Tuesday evening Lent services gave an insight into those who were there prior to the crucifixion of Our Lord. Thanks are due to John Eld for leading the discussions. The March **Family Service** featured pupils of Harbury School who gave a preview of the presentation they will give in Coventry Cathedral - congratulations to head teacher Paul Milner and to the staff - and of course, to the children who were very polished and confident. On March 24th the new P.C.C. will be appointed together with the Churchwardens for the next 12 months. I (John) would like to thank all who have given me support over the last three years - especially Felicity and Fr. Roy - and I wish them well for the future.

Felicity and John

Mothers' Union



Afternoon Meeting: Andrew de Smet, Warden of Offa House (the Diocesan Retreat House at Offchurch) gave the Lenten Address at the Communion Service, and talked about the value of meditation in the midst of the hustle and bustle of modern life. Offa House is a marvellous facility which is available to all - for quiet days, retreats and other meetings which require a peaceful setting away from the usual daily rush. We were all encouraged to set aside time to quieten our minds and enjoy silence and solitude.

Next Meetings:

Weds 3rd April, 2.00pm Service; 2.30pm Jo Sowerby - Fostering Children

Tues 16th April 7.30pm Service; 8.00pm Bill Gibbons - Old Leamington 1800-1850

Weds 1st May 2.00pm Service; 2.30pm Marjorie Warnes - Caring & Sharing

N.B. Members are reminded of the Coffee Morning on Saturday 13th April. Cakes, Raffle Prizes and support would be much appreciated.

Anne Moore

Toddlers' Service

Mrs Bedford introduced Alison Abbott to lead our March service. We sang "All Things Bright and Beautiful" and then Mrs Abbott talked about the beautiful world around us and the new life we see in Spring, showing us pictures of a caterpillar and a butterfly.

She also talked about how Jesus died and came alive again and we sang "God's not dead."

The children finished by colouring Easter cards.

The next service is on April 9th at 2.15pm in the children's corner of church.

C. Mary Catt

Women's World Day of Prayer

The Women's World Day of Prayer was celebrated on March 1st by people from all around the world. It was the first time we had held this annual service in Harbury. Almost fifty people, of various denominations, joined in the service here, and we were very pleased to welcome back Barbara Hodge as our speaker on the theme "Challenged to Reconcile." At the end of the service each person present was asked to work for reconciliation.

The offertory was sent to the National Committee of the W.W.D.P. who use the bulk of their income for giving grants to the work of Christian Literature Societies and charitable Christian educational projects.

We plan to hold the service again next year on Friday, March 7th when it will be prepared by the women of Lebanon on the theme "Holy Spirit Fill Us."

C.M. Catt

Laugh Line

A minister was once asked how many active members he had in his church.

'They're all active,' came the reply, 'half of them are working with me and the other half are working against me.'

Ladbroke News

APRIL

Wed	3	All Saints Church Committee Meeting – Archers Rest, Southam Rd 8.00pm
Fri	5	All Saints Church Pasta & Pie Evening
Sun	7	SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EASTER Family Communion 10.30am
Tues	8	Ladbroke Village Hall 'Third Draw for 2002' at the Bell Inn at 8.00pm
Wed	10	Holy Communion 2.00pm; Women's Fellowship 2.45pm
Sun	14	THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EASTER Sung communion 9.00am Ladbroke Parish Council Applications completion date
Mon	15	ADVERTS to 31, Binswood End, Harbury by 5.30pm
Sun	21	FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EASTER Sung Communion 9.00am
Tues	23	PCC Meeting in Church 5.00pm
Thursday	25	Ladbroke & Deppers Bridge W.I. – speaker on 'Mother of Pearl Jewellery'
Fri	26	ARTICLES to Harbury Chemist, High Street, Harbury by 5.30pm
Sun	28	FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EASTER Sung Communion 9.00am

MAY

Wed	1	Ladbroke & Deppers Bridge W.I. Group Meeting at Long Itchington Community Centre
Sun	5	SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER EASTER Family Communion 10.30am-

Ladbroke Flower Rota

April 7 th	- Jane Rutherford
April 14 th	- Betty Winkfield
April 21 st	- Tricia Everson
April 28 th	- Catherine Spence
May 5 th	- Pam Barnett



Jane Rutherford

All Saints Church, Ladbroke

Development Plan

I am able to report that the total sum raised at the Quiz evening was £234. Well done to everyone who took part.



The photo shows Betty Winkfield knitting and showing the Garters that are being sold to raise money for our fund. This is an ongoing thing and we have raised over £500 so far. Thanks to one and all for their continued hard work.

Our next event is the Pasta and Pie evening on Friday 5th April, tickets are going well but there are still some places, so call Gwyn Badman on 812187 for your ticket.

Our next committee meeting will be on Wednesday 3rd April at Archers Rest, Southam Road, Ladbroke at 8.00pm, anyone interested is welcome to come along.

Jo Sowerby

Women's Fellowship

Many thanks to all the hostesses for their hard work in providing the food and soup for the Lent Lunches — a great time was had by all who supported these events. We raised nearly £300 for our Sudanese Student at the Refuge in Cairo, Egypt. Thank you everyone.

The photo is of Beryl Ross one of our members who celebrated her 80th Birthday on February 2nd, we had a very nice little gathering at her house to celebrate this event — well done Beryl.



The members of the fellowship had a super time at our last meeting, reading our favourite poems. We had poems from Wordsworth, Patience Strong, Milton and many others. The afternoon concluded with one member reading extracts from a youthful diary dating back to her youth some fifty years ago which was most enjoyable. We finished the meeting with the words "in the evening we....." These were the last words written in her diary and this left us all in suspense as to what had taken place those many years ago. It was suggested that we all sit down and write our own ending to this sentence, food for thought!?

Our next meeting will be at Gill Moore's, The Bungalow, Windmill Lane, Ladbroke on Wednesday 10th April.

Jo Sowerby

Ladbroke and Deppers Bridge W.I.

Unfortunately, the February Meeting on the 28th was after the News deadline. The President (with her arm in plaster) welcomed members.

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Lifts to Warwick Racecourse were arranged for the onward trip to Kensington Palace. Four hundred ladies from Warwickshire descended on the Capital for a lovely sunny day with the coaches taking them right to the Palace. After a super tour there was time to visit the shops of Kensington High Street. A most enjoyable day was had by our members and no-one was left behind from our coach!

The Spring Council Meeting at The Spa Centre on March 20th was discussed and four members volunteered to be Stewards.

Notes for your diaries:

The Group Meeting will be on May 1st at the Long Itchington Community Centre. An invitation to a 'Taster Evening' on July 21st has been received from Harbury .W.I.

The date of July 18th was arranged for our Strawberry Fair in Ladbroke Village Hall. More details later.

The Shortmat Bowls Team, after another bye, are to play in the Semi-finals on Sunday April 7th at Alcester. The Final is to be held, on the same day, following these matches. After winning the Semi-finals for two years maybe the winners of the Final this year will be our team. Good luck and enjoy your matches.

The speaker for the evening was Macmillan Nurse, Mrs Margaret Bosworth, who lives in the village. She gave an interesting and informative talk about her career after her General Training. Currently there are about 2000 nurses employed in this area funded by the Charity and the N.H.S. Their work covers all aspects of care in the home, with patients and families and visits to the Hospice. They liaise regularly with the patients, Doctors and Nurses.

Many questions were asked as so many people have relatives and friends who have been prone to Cancer.

Raffle prizes were won by: Sheena, Pam and Jenny.

Tea Hostesses on March 28th will be Tina and Susan.

The speaker will talk on Homeopathy and Healing.

The speaker at the April Meeting on 25th will talk about Mother of Pearl Jewellery. Anyone, male or female, interested in this subject, do come and join us.

H.M. Sharples

Ladbroke Village Hall

The second draw for 2002 was held on March 11th at the Bell Inn. The winners were Joy Moore £80; Rhian Kelsall £50; and K. Tancock £25. J & P Laidler, Shirley Reading, Marie Kennedy, Alan Stubbs and Ken Whiteley each received £10.

The next draw will be held on April 8th at the Bell Inn at 8.00pm.

Since the number of subscribers has fallen below 70, the value of the prizes will drop next month to 1st prize - £80, 2nd prize - £25, 3rd prize £25 and 4th prizes of £10 to 5 members.

Catherine Spence

The Jubilee in Ladbroke

To celebrate HM The Queen's Golden Jubilee there will be a Garden Party at The Old Rectory, Ladbroke on Sunday 2nd June 2002 for all residents of Ladbroke, as well as those with a past or present connection with Ladbroke, and their families. Invitations with further details will be issued in due course, but meanwhile please put this date in your diary.

For further information, or to make suggestions please contact me on, Tel: 812457

Jane Rutherford

Ladbroke Parish Council Report – March 2002

All councillors, parish clerk Elsa Greenway, Pc Andy Went, District councillors Alan Akeister and Jim Taylor, and three villagers welcomed Councillor Chris Williams to his first meeting at Ladbroke following the rearrangement of boundaries which will take place in May.

Police and Neighbourhood Watch matters.

Both Pc Andy Went and Janice Berry were pleased to report that no crime affecting Ladbroke had been reported over the last month.

Parish Councillors heard, with much pleasure, the increase of police officers in the area from the current 6 to 13, even though their area of responsibility will increase to include Farnborough, Avon Dassett,

Burton Dasset and Gaydon. There will also be 24 hour car cover for the area although the opening hours of the police station will remain at 9.00a.m. – 5.00 p.m. from Monday to Friday.

Planning Matters

The hearing for the proposed Warehouse in Southam will probably be on 9th April.

A preservation order has been placed on the one hedgerow by New House Farm which was to be saved following a planning application which approved the removal of a further three.

Parish Councillors did not see any problem with the application by Mr and Mrs Badman to fell 4 trees by Sarah's Cottage,

A general discussion regarding Leylandii trees resulted in a better understanding of the legislation which states that if such trees have grown to an unreasonable height that they are obstructing light to a neighbouring property, the owners can be forced to trim them. The District tree officer could inspect such situations and provide independent judgement.

District Councillors' Report

Jim Taylor felt that villages such as Ladbroke should gain from the government money put in for the regeneration of small market towns.

Alan Akeister informed us that money was to be made available for more bussing from villages.

Chris Williams went on from there to say that the existing anomaly where bus passes were not valid across boundaries has been resolved.

Chairman's items

In view of the imminent resignations of the parish councillors, a letter had been received from Peter Derek as Chairman of the Village Hall Trustees. As the Parish Council acts as Custodian Trustee for the Village Hall, Peter questioned the charitable status of the Village Hall should there be any lapse in Parish Council continuity.

A small arrangement of flowers was given to Elsa as this was her last meeting. The Councillors thanked her again for her fine efforts over 18 years. She will be a hard act to follow.

It was with regret that all councillors then separately tendered letters of resignation for one or more of the following reasons:

Moving from the area; unwillingness to sign the new Code of Conduct which comes into force on 2nd May 2002 with the accompanying need to commit to training and declare certain financial details; personal commitments.

Carol Lane

URGENT INFORMATION TO ALL VILLAGERS

The existing Parish Councillors have felt it necessary to resign for a number of reasons.

There are vacancies, therefore, for 5 Councillors, who should preferably come from the village. They are desperately needed so that decision making which affects the village can be influenced by people who know its character, rather than by people who have no strong connection with Ladbroke. Application forms, available from Elsa on 814313 should be completed by 14th April.

The Clerk, Elsa Greenway, has retired after 18 years in the post.

The Parish Council cannot function until a clerk has been appointed, principally to take notes at meetings. This paid post must, therefore, be filled as a matter of urgency. For further information contact Elsa.

Dear Editors

I'd like to say a big thank you to all my friends in Ladbroke for their help and support to me during my recent stay in hospital.

The prayers, good wishes, cards and letters were wonderful and really kept me going when things were rather bleak.

I'm at home now and glad to say making steady progress. My love and thanks.

Betty Malcolm

Harbury Parish Council Meeting – February 2002

Councillors were dubious about assurances that aligning Police areas with District boundaries would bring any benefits to Harbury. Our Community Beat Officer Pc Nigel Hill would still have a large patrol area to cover. Kevin Biddle queried whether response times would improve and Jack Heath emphasised the need for everyone to demand an incident number when reporting crimes to the police.

Planning

The Parish supported the policies contained in the Stratford Local Plan but wanted provision of homes for the elderly added to it.

Appeals had been lodged against refusal of permission at Ladywell Cottage and Lullington Lodge.

Stratford District Council had granted permission for a conservatory at Walnut Tree Cottage; a first floor extension at Phoenix House; alterations to Harbury House and Paddock Place, Station Road and tree work at Denys Close. They accepted amendments to a two storey extension plan at 12 Church Terrace but refused the extension at Compton House, High Street.

The Parish Council fully supported the alterations at the Manor House that would replace a flat roof with a pitched one and create an entrance to the stable yard. They noted that planning permission had not been sought for the extensions to Harbury Croft. Other matters discussed were the Orange Mast proposed at Chesterton House Farm and the Southam Distribution Centre.

Chairman Dutch van Spall urged the Council to press for weight restrictions on the B4451 & 2 but Cllr Dally thought the traffic calming to be introduced in Bishops Itchington would deter some of the lorries and encourage them to go via the A423.

Work is soon to start on the extensions to the Tennis and Netball Courts. The trees have been removed and the lighting will be installed in the summer.

The Youth Project has completed Phase One and is now raising money for the next phase. They have exciting plans for a Fun Day and will provide the catering at the Beer Festival. Cllr. Biddle reported several very generous donations from villagers which he said were "fantastic".

The Chairman reported the Pump was finished but that he would need help at least four volunteers to help him get it up.

There was consternation that vandalism was still on the increase with the very worrying torching of a stolen car on the Recreation Grounds Car Park. Dutch van Spall outlined ambitious plans to install an electronic barrier with coded opening mechanism but Cllrs. thought a simpler chain or gate open and closed at twilight by volunteers would be more appropriate. Advice would be sought from the police.

Ivy Lane residents have conducted their own poll and reported that the majority wanted the road made access only. They claim that at peak periods 120 vehicles an hour use the narrow lane.

Linda Ridgley



Refurbishment of the Co-op Roof



Harbury Society

Harbury Society

Cecil Bloxham gave a short history of the evolution of the Railways in general and their impact on Harbury in general.

Before the Railway came through, Harbury was a backwater. Lord Willoughby de Broke was determined the Railway

should not ruin his hunting and set about buying land to thwart the GWR. But Isambard Kingdom Brunel, Chief Engineer diverted the route and dug a tunnel and cutting at Harbury 124 feet deep and half a mile long.

The Railway caused considerable disruption; land holdings were cut in two; many wells ran dry as the aquifer was breached, but some local landlords had unexpected windfalls.

For the rest of the village the coming of the Railway was an eye-opener! Gangs of navvies, followers and suppliers stayed for three years. Barns for living in, horses and carts for moving the spoil - were all in great demand. There was considerable lawlessness, and Warwick Courts were kept very busy.

John Stiff was the landlord of the Great Western Hotel and cabdriver. The Dog had its own brewery and the landlord was a butcher as well. The non-conformist Bustins, Enoch and Jabez began the Co-op to help the agricultural labourers.

It was the Railway that was the real salvation of the village. It brought employment in its construction and then later work at the Quarries with Greaves, Bull & Lakin. It brought the post and the weekly papers. Farmers brought their milk. People travelled to Malvern for the Festival; Cheltenham for shows and on special excursions to the Grand National. Horse breeders could send their animals to the Newmarket Races and Sales. Thirty people would go to Banbury by train on a Thursday for the Market.

This way of life ended when Dr Beeching shut the station, to Cecil's great disappointment.

The Harbury Society next event is the tour of Lichfield Cathedral on 11th May.

Linda Ridgley

Harbury W.I.

Not so much to report this month. "Good" you say? Well, one has to take the rough with the smooth, whatever that means.

The most important date to mention is the W.I. coffee morning on Saturday April 20th, 10.00-12.00pm at the Tom Hauley Room. There will be a raffle, cakes and a sales table, so come along and spend a pleasant couple of hours.

There was no speaker as it was Members Evening. Our usual merry band provided the mind-stretching quizzes and fun stuff. Many thanks to them all.

A reminder to members that we now have a sales table each month.

Next month's speaker is Miss Ruth Orpen - Sticks and Stones (Driftwood Sculptures). Sounds interesting.

April Hostesses: Muriel Coupe, Mary Entwistle and Wendy Knowles

Jeanne Beaumont

Harbury Theatre Group

At last we can reveal all ...

Well, not quite all. The unexpected illness of Gordon Robbins, who plays the major character in 'Generations Apart' resulted in the postponement of the play until he had fully recovered. Yes, the truth is that the Theatre Group has no understudies. It would be nice if some eager young thespian had sprung into the breach, creating an overnight sensation and embarking on a career of fame and fortune; but the fact is that without Gordon we were lost. Now, thanks to the wonders of modern medicine - and Warwick Hospital - he is fit again and ready to play Paul - old and young - in this gentle comedy about memories and missed opportunities. So come and wallow in nostalgia for the sixties - or if you are younger, for the nineties - enjoy some great music and recall the days when a picnic was a potted meat sandwich and a flask of sweet tea.

'Generations Apart' by Peter Gordon is our next production at the Village Hall on Thursday, Friday and Saturday April 25, 26 and 27, at 8.00pm. Tickets, priced £4.00 (£2.00 concessions) are available from Kath Ellis Hairdressers, Pat Taylor (614348) or Sally Stringer, (613214).

Production problems are not yet over. A forthcoming technical meeting will resolve how to recreate the Isle of Wight with two deck-chairs and a length of fence.

John Stringer

Harbury Folk Club

After quite a number of very successful and enjoyable meetings of the folk club, I suppose it was about time we had a disastrous meeting. Our meeting of 7th March had the potential for being such a meeting, as the day before, I was apologetically warned by the landlord of the Dog Inn, that it was unlikely that we would be able to meet in our usual venue. This was because the builders who had been working in the room had not finished.

However, in the event it turned out to be another enjoyable meeting. The landlord had very kindly availed the snug for us to have our meeting and somehow the crackling of the log fire combined with the noise coming through from the public bar contributed to a very warm and friendly atmosphere.

I had previously arranged to have a singaround and music session for the evening. This was quite fortuitous, as it was an easy format to accommodate in the available space.

At one time during the course of the evening there were no fewer than 55 people in the snug. This was more than capacity and unfortunately there were one or two people who tried and failed to get in. To those people I apologise for any disappointment and please come back next month when I have been assured that the larger back room will be back in commission.

During the evening there were 30 items performed by 18 different artistes. This must be approaching a record. The standard of music, entertainment and humour was its usual high standard and everyone seemed to enjoy the evening. There were too many performers to mention them all by name but many thanks to them for making the evening so successful.

The raffle raised a handsome £38.00 for the Warwickshire Air Ambulance.

The next meeting will be in the back room of the Dog Inn, on April 7th, and as usual starting at 8:30. John Black will be hosting the evening and with it being Easter the theme will be "Eggs, Ego and Existentialism".

Peter Bones

Harbury Nursery School



The Nursery took over 40 excited children to see Noddy at the Warwick Arts Centre. The children (and the adults) loved the show and joined in with all of the songs and even some of the dancing! Trips and treats, like Noddy, are only possible because of the parents fundraising. The Nursery is separate to the school and has to pay for staff salaries, a fair but substantial rent, new equipment and toy costs all from its fees. We need the support of the village towards our fundraising and are grateful to all those who came to our Easter coffee morning and helped us raise over £250. The nursery children (and staff) sang and danced very enthusiastically.



James & Daniel Robinson on the coach to Noddy

The nursery is fortunate in maintaining a committed staff that have worked in pre-school education for many years – with more than 30 years experience between them. It is important that we keep them to ensure that the high quality of provision that we offer continues. Kate has completed two excellent assignments in the autumn term on her course and the Nursery is really seeing the benefit from the very high level of training she receives on the degree course. It was noted by a tutor of Newman College of Higher Education that the Nursery showed; “a clear commitment to developing ‘mutual respect’ with its parents” and “emphasises the importance of developing children’s personal, social and emotional needs throughout the curriculum”.

The Nursery is lucky to share cooking facilities at the school and this half term the children have made and enjoyed egg sandwiches, peppermint creams and chocolate Easter nests. The Nursery is building a 'Wall of Kindness' and it is lovely to see how many of the older children are kind to the younger members of the Nursery.

Demand for places in Autumn 2002 is already high. All children starting school in September 2003 will now receive Government funding. If you are interested in a place, do come and visit or call Kate on 612656 or 612609 during the holidays.

Alison Baldwin



HARBURY PRE-SCHOOL - Learning Through Play

During March the children have been working on the theme of Spring and have discussed with some enthusiasm our British "inclement" weather! They have listened to the story of Noah's Ark and talked about flooding and how it affects the countryside.

For Mothers' Day the children brought a photograph of their Mum into class to show their friends. Together the children compiled a huge list of all the things their Mothers do for them (which seemed to go on forever!) and they made beautiful Mothers' Day cards. On 9th March the Pre-School children visited Harbury Primary School to join in the morning assembly hosted by the Rainsbrook Reception Class on the theme of Mothers' Day.

The children have also been learning about Easter and have joined in with various activities we planned around the Easter theme, including the most exciting finale of all – the Easter Egg Hunt!

At Pre-School we hold a regular activity called "circle time". This helps to develop the children's listening and speaking skills. The children sit in a circle and take turns to talk about absolutely anything they wish to tell their friends. For those children who just prefer to listen, then that's absolutely fine too. We keep the groups small to help build their confidence to communicate with others gradually.



The photograph shows "circle time" in progress.

The Spring Term has ended already and everyone involved in Harbury Pre-School feels a real sense of pride and achievement in how this intimate nursery is growing from strength to strength. Our Staff (who are brilliant) and our Committee, work hand-in-hand and remain united in their cause to provide a warm and nurturing environment in which children can learn through play and experiences.

We all look forward to the Summer Term (with improved weather?) where there is the exciting 'great outdoors' just waiting for the children to explore.

Beatles Tribute Night – Saturday 20th April

Tickets are selling fast for the Beatles Tribute night on Saturday 20th April at Harbury Village Hall. The evening features live music from the famous Beatles tribute band Prefab Four. The band are professional musicians who performed by Royal request at the Queen Mother's 100th birthday celebration in London. If you would like tickets or further information, then please speak to Lana Long on 01926 613311. Proceeds to Harbury Pre-School.

Harbury Pre-School Staff and Committee

Harbury Primary School

Helpers. Many thanks to all those people who answered our request to help with children's reading and other voluntary jobs within the school. Thank you also to those who said they'd love to help but can't due to other commitments. Once we've coordinated all the available

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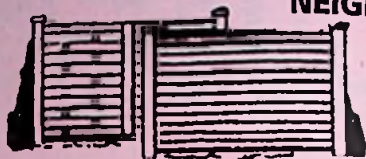
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times etc., we'll contact all the volunteers after the Easter holiday. If anyone finds time in the future and would like to help please contact us and we'll endeavour to fit you in. We are also quite happy for non-parents to come in to help too (e.g. grandparents, relatives, other adults in Harbury with time to spare). Also, thank you to those who came and helped at Southam College for the Forceworks exhibition. The children get a great deal more out of something like this with adult help and supervision.



We'd really appreciate some help with swimming next term especially getting the younger children changed. We'll send out a timetable for swimming as soon as we can in April. The garden furniture – benches, picnic tables & greenhouse could do with a coat of preservative. If anyone really enjoys this kind of therapy and has a couple of afternoons to spare, again we would really appreciate it – please contact Mr. Chapman.

Lauren Wilson in Leam wrote a great deal about the visit to Forceworks, here's an extract; *"Today we went to Southam College and in this little room that we went to work in there were activities inside. One of them was with glass and light. We had some plastic as well and you had to bend it to get some good effects. There was another one and you had to pull these strings to see which was the hardest and for me the hardest was the bottom one and the easiest was the top one."*

Many thanks for all the hard work by the PTA Committee last month. They did a tremendous job and lots of children have told us what a great time they had. We assume that their parents had just as much fun. If anyone has any further ideas for PTA social functions then please come in with your suggestions. Look out next term for the Beer Walk and the Summer Fair.

Cross Country. Kiri Shuttleworth (Y6) came in at number 20 and Emily Howell (Y5) at 51 in the county cross country championships – a very commendable performance from both girls and we are all extremely proud of them. They both did incredibly well just to get to the championships. If you see them give them a pat on the back too.

Starting School. Due to the class size limit imposed on the school, we have only been able to offer 30 places for Reception again this year. This means that, yet again, we've disappointed about half a dozen families. We do have every sympathy with people who cannot gain entry to Harbury School especially those who brought their older children here before this problem was known about. It could also prove detrimental to the community in the long run because a lack of a place at the local school in a particular year-group may cause difficulties with future house sales. It may also cause our numbers to decline and this will have a consequential impact on the already poor school budget. The staff and governors are very concerned about this situation. Whenever we get to know more we'll keep you informed.

We are in the process of reviewing our "Starting School" booklet and our school prospectus. If you think that there's something you know now that you wish you had known when your child(ren) started school then please let us know so that your experiences can help others. Please don't assume we've thought of it already – further comments about the same issue will serve to reinforce its necessity.

Envelopes. We are really keen on re-cycling and, to this end, we hang on to re-useable envelopes especially large ones that usually come in handy for sending out masses of information to governors. We have a large stock of padded envelopes that are free for anyone who would like to come in and ask for some. They could be for a friend, relative, customer etc., we don't mind if it helps someone.

Paul Milner

Harbury Tennis Club

Anyone who has recently been to the playing fields will probably have noticed the row of conifers between the Tennis and Netball courts has gone, which means that, after some two and a half years planning and fundraising, our joint project with the Netball Club has finally come off the drawing board! By the time you read this article the courts will have been power washed, the first phase of the re-surfacing. Patrick Clarke's assistance in arranging for us to have access to his allotment's water supply was much appreciated!

We had hoped to complete the re-surfacing by 12 May. However, because of the cold and very wet conditions over the last few weeks the contractor, Fosse Contracts, is behind schedule with other work so we couldn't have started the other phases without a high risk of major disruption during the first half of the season. Plan "B" will now be adopted, which is re-surfacing the Netball Court in June and coming back in late August to do the Tennis Courts and install the floodlights.

We hope to have the shelter/storage facility ready by the end of May. This will require a base of paving slabs and in the spirit of "self-help" we've adopted here comes another appeal that I'm pleased to extend to anyone reading this article! If you would like to help by "sponsoring" a slab at £5 a go (which will get your name on a roll of honour) or donating any spare slabs you may have following DIY efforts, I'd be delighted to hear from you.

Getting back to the conifers, the Horticultural Society has very kindly offered to help us in designing the landscaping to replace them.

Playing Matters

Having sorted out the timetable for the re-surfacing we've at long last been able to give some thought to the new season. Our traditional Cheque Book tournament for seniors will be on Sunday 14 April starting at 2.00 p.m. This is open to anyone over 16 who would like to come along and have a game and find out more about the Club.

Tennis for Under 16s will start the week beginning 28th April. Once again Pete Brinkley, LTA qualified coach, will take the 2 Mini groups (for Reception, Years 1 and 2) on Thursdays after school. Juniors (Years 3-6) are on Sunday mornings and Intermediates (Years 7-10) are on Wednesday evenings.

Sue will be contacting all those who played last year to let them know which session they will be attending this year if they want to join again. Anyone else wishing their children to play should contact Sue on 613284.

In the Banbury League both "A" and "B" teams have been short of match practice due to postponements and appeared to be "ring rusty" when suffering defeats against Hook Norton "A" and Charlbury "B". They both have 2 matches each to play so have opportunities to re-discover the early season form!

Finally, an early plug for **Play Tennis 2002**. For the 3rd year we are taking part in the National LTA event. It provides an opportunity for anyone to sample tennis free of charge, or, for anyone who hasn't played for some time, there will be a chance to take part in a "Rusty Racket" session. More details next month.

Colin & Sue Mercer (Tel: 613284)

NSPCC

Italian Evening

Our next fundraising event in support of the invaluable work carried out by the NSPCC will be an Italian Evening to be held in the Tom Hauley Room on Saturday 13th April. The whole evening will be on an Italian theme including a range of tempting Italian dishes. As the Easter holidays will soon be upon us and tickets will be limited please call as soon as possible to book your place. (Call 612179, 613892, 613704).

London Marathon

There is still time to sponsor Raymond Flanagan in his marathon run on Sunday 14th April. He has again very kindly offered to donate the money he raises in sponsorship to the NSPCC. If you would like to sponsor Raymond then please call any of the above telephone numbers.

Thank you to everyone for your support.

Pauline Hayes

Harbury Carnival - June 8th 2002

King and Queen



Congratulations to Billy Bench and Daisy Harrold who have been selected as our King and Queen for Carnival 2002.

Fun for All

As well as the Carnival, we are again planning to have a series of events during the week leading up to it. The Wheelbarrow Race on Sunday 2nd June, will be hosted this year by the Crown and will again include a separate race not involving alcohol (please contact Dan Killian on 612265 to enter). The team competition over a series of events will, this year, commence on Friday, May 31st and continue on June 4th, 5th and 6th.

Full details will be published in next month's Harbury News but make a note of the dates. We would like to see more participation this year (we can accommodate 8 teams) so please consider entering a team to represent your organisation, pub or simply get together with some friends.

Also, please think seriously about entering the Carnival procession. It is not hard to do, is a lot of fun and really contributes towards the success of the day.

Other Business

If you want to book a stall or space on the field please call Julie Killian on 612265.

John Broomfield

On behalf of the Carnival Committee

Best Kept Village Competition

Last year Harbury received a certificate for being the best-kept large village in the Southam area. Unfortunately we missed being placed in the countywide competition. The Parish Council feel that we deserve to do better than this and it is with the aim of promoting community involvement in looking after our village that we intend to run a village competition. This will make our village even better for the Open Gardens days and hopefully encourage more of us to care for the open spaces as well as our own property. In turn it might help us to achieve a higher rank in the competition, for which we are already filling in the application form. This year as it is Jubilee celebrations as well as carnival when the judging takes place, (first two weeks of June) perhaps it will help us to concentrate our efforts!

It might help people to know what we are judged on in the competition, mostly it is the community spirit of the village and the open and communal areas: -

Village green and open areas e.g. The Pound as well as the play areas near the Village Hall

All Commercial premises e.g. Pubs, shops, club, garages, offices, Village Hall, etc

Village notice boards, phone boxes and flower boxes at the entrances to the village

The Church, churchyard, School and Library

If we could all do "our bit" which could include all members of our families, the Parish Council are sure we could improve the look of Harbury. For instance do we bother to weed outside our wall, fence or our bit of the pavement? Do we always tidy up after our dogs? Maybe we get involved with putting up posters and forget to take them down!! If you think the signs in the village need an extra clean perhaps you could organise a cleaning party, or a flower box watering session or even find out who does the flower boxes. If you have a few extra plants left over when planting out your bedding plants, spare a thought for the people who volunteer to do the flower boxes at the entrance to the village, perhaps they would be grateful for a few. The Parish Clerk can tell you who these conscientious people are.

Calor Gas support the Best Kept Village of Great Britain with an award of £6,000, just think what we could do to improve the village with a helping hand like that. If we could get through to the county judging it

would be a step up. So to encourage you all, we will award prizes in the following categories: -

- *Best hanging basket/tub
- *Best kept and decorated commercial premises
- *School effort prize

Judging will take place during the first two weeks of June at the same time as the District Council judging. Our judges will be experienced people who have no connections with the village, this way the judging will be as objective as we can make it.

Jenny Patrick - Vice Chairman Parish Council

Southam and District Lions

We are recruiting

Last month Southam and District started a recruitment campaign for new MALE members to join us. The Lions are the largest service club organisation in the world with 1.4 million members in more than 170 different countries. There are 900 Lion's Clubs in the U.K. and Ireland, with around 21,500 members. Southam and District have 17 members of all ages and backgrounds or professions. So we are looking for new males to join us, if you are interested, or if you require further information, please ring Jim on 813577 or Terry on 817744 for a general no obligation chat.

Terry Grey

District Council Elections – 2nd May 2002

Eric Dally – Conservative Candidate



I shall be standing for re-election on May 2nd. I should have re-stood next year but the boundary changes mean that I have to stand this year.

You have received a LIB-DEM 'Focus' relating to the new offices for the Council. Truth is as follows (issued by the Director of Finance) – New rented office and area office = £929,500 per year. Elizabeth House mini refurbishment = £1,352,000 per year and a complete refurbishment = £1,727,000 per year. The LIB-DEMS

are in disarray, and will try anything to be elected. Meantime, as promised last year, the Conservatives have kept the SOA District Council to a 3% increase. A D-rate is £65.23.

Since I was elected three years ago I have tried to do as I promised then, and served to help you whenever there has been a call to ask me for that help. Your problems were mine to help with, give advice on or to solve.

For instance, I was at a Parish Council meeting in Bishops Itchington whose Clerk had received a notice that animals from areas contiguous to F & M areas were to be taken to Ufton tip. On the following Monday at Ufton PC a councillor farmer stated that at midday that day a truck had arrived from West Wales, yet the PC had the same documents to discuss that evening about the plan. I contacted the Parish Clerks, and Trading Standards (responsible for the F & M epidemic management) to inform them. It was the first Trading Standards had heard that animals were already being tipped, and the first that the vet responsible in North Warwickshire for the outbreak had heard about it. I contacted the NFU via my neighbour farmers and John Maples to complain about the short notice. Consequent protests stopped it.

This is how I respond to matters affecting Harbury. I have already told you about the roads in a former issue of the News –these matters are in train. I have helped various clubs and groups to obtain grants, and protected the interests of the Tennis/Netball clubs in my role as Chairman of Dasset Area Community Committee with their grant application change.

James Turner and I had input into the complaints about the GM trials in the Parish, whom we supported.

Three years ago I said your problems were mine also. They have been and I have done all I can for anyone who has asked for help or advice. It has been a pleasure to serve you. I should like to continue to do so, if you will support me on May 2nd. I shall be calling on you to seek your support.

Eric Dally (Tel: 651478)

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James Turner – Conservative Candidate

Dear Harbury Ward Electors,



I am delighted to have been chosen again, to stand for re-election for Harbury, together with my fellow-councillor Eric Dally.

Together, and with your assistance, we have achieved much progress in traffic calming, waste collection, local services and conservation, despite central government lack of interest and failure to deliver on decent transport services, adequate hospital arrangements and on neighbourhood policing.

I will continue my efforts to help growth in our local economy and fight the problems caused in the last year by Foot and Mouth and the September 11th events.

I will also use my past experience to preserve our local shops and the other essential local services, to see to verge-cutting and find effective safeguards for our farming community and other local enterprises.

We need, also, to support and develop other local needs; - social housing for local families, safer roads; and more provision for our hard pressed pensioners.

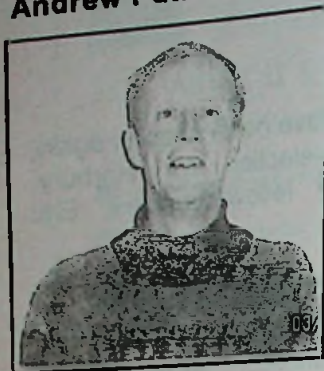
My deep-felt thanks, to my Harbury neighbours and everyone in the villages, who over 16 years, have given me support, encouragement and advice.

I look forward to meeting everyone at the Polling Station on May 2nd (where you have 2 votes!).

Sincerely

James Turner (Tel: 612915)

Andrew Patrick – Liberal Democrats Candidate



I was born in Warwickshire 57 years ago. My father was a Church of England priest, which probably explains the two patron saints in my name! I was brought up in Yorkshire and I went to University in East Anglia. I have lived and worked in West Africa, France and Somerset, so I have a wide experience of different types of community and local organisation. For nearly twenty years I was a schoolteacher of languages. Then I took an IT

qualification, and worked as a systems analyst. I'm currently with an accounting software company in Daventry.

In 1981 we came back to Warwickshire, and since 1996 we've lived in Harbury. My wife Jenny serves on Harbury Parish Council. We have 2 grown-up children. We both enjoy living in a community so full of vitality.

I'm a believer in grass-roots democracy – devolving power-making right down to where the decisions have an effect. Which is why I feel Local Government is so important. I want to see more District Council support for local initiatives.

Communities must be prepared to work to protect their environment – we need to increase the recycling of domestic waste and cut down on the use of landfill sites. Until 2 years ago under the Liberal Democrats, Stratford District was leading the way on these matters. The Conservatives have unfortunately allowed other issues to dominate their agenda – notably a cosmetic reorganisation of the Council's internal departments, and the crazy decision to sell off the Council Offices building.

If elected, I will press hard for a return to the good housekeeping practices (and good value for money) of the previous Liberal Democrat council. I will work to promote the health and prosperity of our two villages. The most pressing local needs are to agree sensible traffic-calming measures in Deppers Bridge and Bishop's Itchington, and to increase provision of activities for young people.

Andrew Patrick (Tel. 614359)

London Marathon – April 14th 2002

Many of you will have read last months Harbury News report on Raymond Flanagan running for the N.S.P.C.C. Harbury has two other entrants in this years event. Susie Tawney, who usually sticks to the shorter events, is running this year, after a gap of 20 years. She last ran the London Marathon back in 1982, when she had just started running. She has chosen to run jointly for the National Asthma Campaign (she and Elliot, along with 5.1 million in this country suffer from asthma) and for the local British Horse Society Rescue home at Oxhill near Kineton. Before having children, Susie was a keen and competitive horse owner, and has supported the B.H.S. on their 'adopt a pony' scheme. Sponsorship or donations can be made directly to her at The Old Bakery, Chapel Street or at Muglestone's, or alternatively at Nationwide, 106, The Parade, Leamington Spa, Account No. 0512/334 681 424. Cheques made payable to 'Nationwide.'

The final member of the trio is Jem Brown, an I.T. Consultant. Jem in contrast only took up running 2½ years ago, when a friend suggested they take a gentle jog around Harbury. Hooked from that point he has steadily built up to longer and longer distances. He recently ran the Reading ½ Marathon and knocked a massive six minutes off his previous best time. He hopes to complete the Marathon in around 3 hours 40 minutes. He will be running to raise funds for the Downs Syndrome Association. Sponsorship or donations can be made to him or his wife Rachel at Stonehouse, Mill Street, Harbury.

Look out for both runners on your T.V. on the day. Susie's number is 09090 and she will be wearing a purple asthma campaign T-shirt. Jem's number is 15656 and he will be sporting a Downs Syndrome T-shirt.

If your child is at Harbury School and would like to get involved why not try and guess Susie or Jem's finishing time? 30p a go, 50p for two goes. There will be a small prize for the closest guesses. All proceeds to Harbury School Fund. You may have seen the nice picture on the back of last week's Courier launching this competition.

Susie Tawney

Harbury Village Review

The questions to be included in the Review have now been finalised and a Graphic Designer who has volunteered his services is preparing the questionnaire. It is intended to issue the survey form to all houses around late May/early June. Quite a number of people have already offered to distribute and collect the forms for the Review. We have approached others villagers to see if they will do the same for their Road.

Our next call for volunteers to help us is with entering information from the completed questionnaires into Microsoft Excel. If you have spare time, experience of entering figures into Excel and are willing to help with this, do please contact John Holden (612155) or Linda Ridgley (612792). You will only need to enter numbers into cells nothing more complicated!

Once the information from the returned questionnaires has been inputted, it will then be analysed and the findings will be published later in the year.

John Holden

Golden Jubilee Summer Party

Monday 3 June 2002 – Manor Road, Bush Heath Lane, Park Lane

We were slow to get started, but plans are now well underway for this very special celebration.

Manor Road will host the event, which will run from 12 noon – 6.00pm. We are hoping for a good turn out, who will hopefully enjoy the variety of events being put on throughout the day.

Entertainment will include, Line Dancing, Beat the Goalie, Flying Bags, Who Wants to be a Millionaire, the usual kids games and a few for adults, that have never quite grown up.

Our special thanks must go to Warwickshire County Council who have allowed us to close the road, free of charge and to Harbury Parish Council for their support, also to Torribles Insurance Brokers for providing us with Public Liability Insurance.

We have also registered our event with the National Golden Jubilee Summer Party 2002, and will receive updates of events taking place throughout the country; we'll also appear in the Commemorative Magazine.

We may not be able to capture the atmosphere of the 1977 Silver Jubilee, but we can certainly use the event to draw people together and get to know new residents who've moved in during the last few months.

We still need to raise a small amount of funds, so will be holding a Coffee Afternoon on Saturday 13th April 2002 at 21, Manor Road – 2.00 – 4.00pm. There will be a number of items on sale, such as – cakes, jams, pickles, fresh vegetables and second hand books, plus a raffle with plenty of prizes.

We would love to hear from anyone else in the village who is planning a similar event. With this all taking place within Harbury Carnival Week, we are all in for some serious celebrations.

Pat Taylor (Planning Group Chairperson)
614348 or 08766 609674

Memories Of Harbury - 1915-1927

This is the second of the articles using material from the Local Collection at the village school. It is extracts from a talk given to the Harbury Society in 1986, by Reg Sharp who recalls living opposite the Crown just after the Great War (as it was called). At the time of the talk he was living in Lillington and was quite a dab hand at cartography if I remember rightly. He died some years ago. I can't remember who wrote it all down on the evening, (I expect it was me, but apologies if I offend anyone). I know Marj King typed it up when she was secretary at the school. The photo is of Crown Street from the collection at County Records Office.

Nigel Chapman 612656/ 813765

'We moved to the village in 1915. There was my father and mother, my brother Christopher and sisters Edith, Winnie, Gwen and Kathleen (plus one other).

We were from Buckinghamshire. My father was a businessman. He was moved to Leamington, where we lived for two years before moving to Harbury. Our house was called Kintyre House, and it is still standing opposite the Crown. We had 14 acres of land, which extended down to the Pound and across to the little lane, which runs from Hall Lane up to the Dovehouse. There were no mains services.



My mother was 33 when we moved in. The vicar was Rev. Beardsworth. There were many gentry around, but the rest were labourers, mainly agricultural or employed at the Cement Works. There was a great class difference.

Our evenings were spent singing songs around the piano or listening to our HMV gramophone. My father had a magic lantern powered by two candles, which showed glass slides.

We went to the Wagstaffe School. I particularly loved the chestnut tree in the grounds. Then I went to the Wight School when I was seven. Miss Johnston taught us our letters and numbers by getting us to trace them from the board into a tray of sand. The other teachers included Miss Bird, Mr. Dickens (head), Miss Bustin, and Mr. Farrow.

My father died on the 17th September 1919 of lung trouble. He lay in bed for six days before he was put in his coffin, and we had to say goodnight and kiss him each evening. The funeral procession consisted of a hearse and four carriages and he was buried in the cemetery.

My mother was persuaded to start a business in the little building attached to the house. This was a general store selling sweets, tobacco, etc. (later it was a butcher's shop). It was opened just before Christmas 1919. We must have been fairly well off, as we were sent, at age 9, to boarding school in London.

Mother was assisted by Lilian (May) Harper, who wore a big boot on one foot. Mrs. Townsend of Crown Cottage did our family wash for 4d.

In the school holidays we had 1d a week pocket money that we spent on sweets from our shop. We used to make our own ice cream in the old stables. The ice came on a dray from Leamington covered in lots of sacks. Cornets were 1d, cigarettes 2d a packet. People came over from Southam and Bishop's Itchington to buy our ice cream.

Mr. Wincott delivered our milk. It came in a huge churn on a cart, and was dispensed into jugs or buckets. Reg Thornicroft came round with bread – we used 20 loaves a week. Coal was delivered at 1s per hundredweight. There was also a scissor-grinder and a man who came round with a barrel organ and a monkey.

Everyone kept a pig. We used to like seeing it killed, the bristles burned off and cut up. Mr. Alcock the butcher had a slaughterhouse in Chapel Street, where we used to watch cattle being stunned and killed.

We all grew our own fruit and vegetables.

For washing we had a washstand in our bedrooms with a big jug for water. It was always icy cold from the pump. Under the bed was a po or gazunder if we didn't fancy going down the garden to the privy at night.

Our only light was from candles and it is a wonder that we never set the house alight. A little girl called Harvey was once terribly burned and carried horrible scars for the rest of her life.

There was a murder in Binswood End. A man killed his wife when he found her with another man. He was eventually arrested in Leamington.

Roads were very rough and holes were repaired with sharp flints. We had many punctures on our family's bike. Mr. Blackford of Ivy Lane used to repair them for 2d. Many times wagons and later lorries and cars were stuck axle-deep in the mud, as the roads in the village were unpaved. One day a wagon of cattle cake became stuck on the corner of Crown Street and Hall Lane. The men had to unload it, free it, and reload it, which took all day.

During World War I a Zeppelin came over. Mrs. Owen of the Crown panicked, believing the Germans were invading. Many men from the parish died in that war, and a War Memorial was erected and unveiled on the 11th November 1920.

When we first came here there were only five cars in the village. Mr. Fell of the Dog Inn had a wagonette drawn by a horse, which would take people into Leamington for 2d or 3d; small boys used to like to ride on the flap at the back. Mr. Edwards of Bishop's Itchington also had an old bus, which he ran to Leamington via Harbury, but this was put out of business by Midland Red in 1944.

Our family had only one bike, so if two of us wanted to go to town, one would ride a certain distance, leave the bike for the second, who was walking, and so on, like a relay.

In 1927 we moved out of the village back to Leamington. We had a flat in Leam Terrace for two years, and then moved to Avenue Road, then to 20 Lillington Road where we still live. My mother will be 100 years old next year.'

Pensioners' Patio

'April is the cruellest month,' wrote T.S. Eliot. Well, a change in the seasons never helped anyone's rheumatism. More likely he was thinking of this month's habit of raising and then dashing our hopes of warmth and sunshine. That certainly happened in 1906 when, after swallows and swifts had appeared – not to mention peacock butterflies and a variety of cranesbills – the end of the month poured down hail, sleet and snow. The Warwickshire lass who recorded and illustrated the details sprang to great heights of fame long after her death; her 'Country Diary,' moreover, produced as many spin-offs as children's cartoons and films today: curtain fabrics, china, notelets – I've still got a biscuit tin decorated with Edith Holden's painting of a whitethroat on a crab-apple spray.

That however was before Global Warming caught us unawares. Spring in the Midlands this year, we are told will be a degree warmer than the norm. So maybe it wasn't surprising that there have been clouds of gnats in the garden, plus a large bumblebee which has been visiting the *Pieris* recently. This shrub, big now for its container but apparently still happy there, sends out clusters of tiny pinky-white flowers on and off through the year, especially in winter: the bee loves it.

On the same theme, blackbirds (amongst others) made the headlines this year by producing broods in January. This may explain the bird which came the other day to feast on the collared doves' seeds. Could it be a siskin? But I felt it had to be a young greenfinch, just fully-fledged and able to hunt on its own. But that would mean a very early hatching – remembering the headlines, I suppose that's possible.

The outlook is less bright for the blackbird which comes to drink from the bird-bath.



He needs a good depth of water, for the tip of his lower mandible is twisted sideways at a right angle and he can't close his beak.

He ignores the bird-table and smaller containers, so maybe he can only take up food from a soft surface. Not for him, I'm afraid, the latest plastic surgery: we shall see if he survives.

Spring – in the Pound

Edyth Algar

Horticultural Society

Normally I report on the last talk, unfortunately the speaker could not deliver due to family illness. We had a quiz and refreshments instead, organised at the eleventh hour by Pat Smith. We all learned something I am sure.

Providing sufficient numbers of people want to go to the Malvern Spring Show 10th – 12th May, or Blenheim 13th – 16th June, or both of course, there could be concessions, please contact Judy 613103.

The evening Social will be on Tuesday 28th May by kind invitation of Mr & Mrs Brunton of 33, South Parade. The price will be £2.50 and will start at 7.30pm.

Spring is definitely in the air, birds are singing beautifully and the spring flowers are lovely. It is also seed sowing time, and when doing

so – and taking cuttings, please keep in mind the Walkabout in July, as we will be having a plant and produce stall, so the surplus will come in nicely and the proceeds will be yours.

Will those who intend going on the coach trip on Tuesday 11th June, (Members £10.00 non members £12.00) please give monies to our treasurer if you haven't already done so. This also applies to the evening trip on Tuesday 25th June.

Although the Village Show is not until September, it is time to bear in mind certain details when showing double tuberous begonias, a maximum pot size of 6" is allowed but for pelargoniums and fuchsias an 8" pot is allowed.

The list of gardens for the Open Gardens has not yet been finalised, so anybody who has not been contacted and would like to open, please contact Judy Morrall 613103.

The next talk on Tuesday 2nd April – day after Easter Monday – will be entitled "Summer Bulbs" and will be given by Mr Everitt.

Muriel Grey

Gardening Notes

This is the growing month with soft rain and gentle sunshine. In theory the garden awakes from its winter slumber but the unseasonal temperatures of this winter have given the poor old plants insomnia. Gardeners are ever optimistic so we press on.

Fork in a general fertiliser around all plants in borders. A straw or bark mulch attracts the dew, which keeps plants moist. Research suggests this should be 3" (7cm) deep. Sow quick maturing, half hardy bedding, like alyssum and petunia, in trays in the greenhouse or on a windowsill in very good light. Alternatively buy in tots if they can be kept in warmth and good light, otherwise wait until next month. When buying plants look for the named varieties for better plants, e.g. busy lizzie Accent, geranium Century series.

Put up peasticks to support lax and tall growers when plants are 6" (15cm) high. Take cuttings from short-lived perennials, e.g. lupins and delphiniums, which have to be discarded every 3-4 years. Vigorous growers, such as michaelmas daisies and golden rod need dividing annually or at most every 2 years. Sprinkle sand, grit, or crumbled eggshell around the young shoots of plants, which are particular favourites of slugs and snails. Plan to keep spraying to a

minimum by providing food and shelter for beneficial predatory insects. Hoverflies feed on nectar and pollen from open-faced flowers, but especially daisy types (compositae), and umbellifers, which have flat heads of many small flowers. It is the larvae which eat aphids and other pests as they grow to adults, so plant these kinds of flowers amongst vegetables and fruit.



Graham Prince shown at work with his bean supports in Hall Lane

At the end of the month, tidy perennials where old growth was left for winter protection, e.g. penstemons and hardy fuchsia. Complete the planting of herbaceous perennials grown from cuttings in autumn or new ones bought in. Divide crowded snowdrops. Plant fairly deep and give liquid feed. 'Plants in the green' establish better than dry bulbs planted in September. Add some manure and bonemeal to soil. Plant dahlia tubers towards the end of the month. Plant gladioli at intervals over next few weeks for succession blooming. Put in other summer bulbs, add sand to planting holes on heavy soil.

It is the final time to plant evergreen shrubs and conifers, if they are bare-rooted or balled ones. Container grown ones establish better if planted this month too. Give them a screen of windbreak netting. Spray with water as well as giving it at the roots, especially in dry spells. This is also the time for moving them. Make sure the planting hole is at least 6" wider than the diameter of the rootball. Add compost or bark and bonemeal to the excavated soil. Plant at same depth, look for dark mark on the stem. Firm soil into hole and water thoroughly. Mulch around and out to width of plant. Large conifers may need

staking on windy sites, position stake on side of prevailing wind and use tree ties to secure it. Feed and mulch all shrubs if you prune them, and remember to mulch hedges. Evergreen ones can be trimmed at end of month to restore shape. Keep horticultural fleece handy to protect early leaves and flowers on camellias, acers and pieris.



David Mann planting Shallots at Hall Lane

Before sowing any vegetable seeds, warm and dry the soil with black plastic sheet or cloches. Prepare seedbeds and rake in general fertiliser. Sow beetroot, broad beans, carrots, summer cabbage, kohlrabi, leeks, peas, spinach and turnips. At end of month put in broccoli, Brussels, autumn greens and parsnips. Under glass and in warmth sow aubergines, cucumbers, French beans, marrow, melon, outdoor tomatoes and at end of month, sweetcorn. Sow short rows of salad veg. every 3-4 weeks. Cover with cloches. Consider lettuce variety 'Salad bowl' from which single leaves can be harvested. Lettuce, radish and spring onions can all be grown in a flower border. Sow, parsley, basil and other herbs in pots. Feed and mulch all fruit trees and bushes. Sulphate of potash is good for bush fruit. In the greenhouse tidy and feed over wintered tender perennials and take cuttings from the new growth. Pinch out tips on new growth of fuchsia to form bushy plants. Plant up hanging baskets to put out end of May. Line terracotta pots with plastic before planting them up to prevent them drying out too rapidly. Put up sticky yellow traps about 22cm above top of plant before aphids become a problem.

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Spring clean house plants. Repot if roots are visible at bottom of pot. Begin weekly feed and water. This is a good month to re-seed bare patches, sow a new lawn or lay turf. If sowing seed, cover with clear plastic or fleece to keep birds off until germination. For tough wearing include some rye grass. Set mower blades at 4cm for early cuts. Plant up newly made ponds or divide established plants if they have outgrown their space. Put discarded plants on the side of the pool and pour water through them to wash out water creatures. Leave it there for a few hours before composting.

Plant of the month – Violet



One of the earliest books to separate ornamental plants from the medicinal ones was written by Rembert Dodoens in the mid-sixteenth century. Taking pride of place on the opening page of this 'History of Flowers, some decorative and fragrant plants' is the sweet violet. These flowers are found growing wild across the Northern Hemisphere, and we know of their cultivation, since the time of the ancient Greeks, who adopted the violet as the emblem of Athens. In the woods of Warwickshire, the fragrant flowers were certainly known to Shakespeare, for he mentions them in his plays no fewer than fifteen times.

Because they hang their heads, the violet symbolises modesty and shyness, and in 'Alice through the looking glass,' most flowers in the garden were talkative but the violets hardly uttered a word!

Throughout history violets have been used in medicine, as cures for headaches, and the ague, as well as a sedative, a laxative for children and a 'certain cure for the French pox.' In the East they were used to flavour sherbet and in the reign of Elizabeth I in a dessert called Mon Amy, which seemed to be a cross between a trifle and a bread and butter pudding.

Violets will grow in any reasonable soil but being woodland plants do best in compost rich soil in partial shade. They do well on the north side of a hedge or under the shades of trees. Plant them now, to bloom during their second season which is in September.

Pat Smith

Letters to the Editors

Dear Editors

We would like to say a very heartfelt thank you to all our friends for the cards, flowers and messages of sympathy, which were received this month following the passing of Kathleen Robinson. The family appreciated the services at Oakley Wood and in Harbury Church led by Father Roy and we thank him for his care and compassionate thoughts throughout the day. We were also extremely grateful for the warmth of the support given by the many local people, who had been part of her 'extended family' during the 25 years she lived in the village who attended the uplifting Thanksgiving service in Harbury church. We were pleased that many people were able to share their memories of 'Mother' with members of the close family after the service and their generosity of spirit was much appreciated. Many thanks also to Mary at Country Fayre who created such beautiful floral tributes and to Ray Playdon for his attention to everyone's needs in the Tom Hauley room.

Stan and Chris Finch

Dear Editors

Many thanks to all our friends who attended my mother's funeral and sent messages and cards of condolence.

Special thanks to Father Roy for his caring service.

John Howard

Dear Editors

Words cannot express how thankful we are to the people of Harbury Village, the sudden death of Barry Savage was more than a shock, but you all showed kindness and support to myself, Megan and Joshua.

Thank you to the teachers/helpers and children of Harbury School for taking care of Megan and Joshua.

Thank you for all the wonderful cards in which I found great comfort, flowers, donations and calls to the house.

Thank you to the people of Pineham Avenue for the bird bath and Magnolia tree in memory of Barry (which now sits proudly in the front garden).

Once again thank you so much.

Jayne, Megan and Joshua Savage

Dear Editors

We would like to take this opportunity to say a big Thank You to all our many friends in Harbury and Ladbroke for all the help, support, love and prayers that surrounded us following the death of our dear Wendy. A special thank you to Fr. Roy for the Funeral Service which really was a Thanksgiving; and also to the doctors, nurses and staff at the surgery for their care and dedication.

With our love and thanks

Tony, Sarah, Jon, Helen and Richard

Dear Editors

On behalf of the Stroke Association, I would like to express very grateful thanks to all those residents of Honiwell Close and Farley Avenue who opened their front doors and gave generously to the recent envelope appeal. The amount raised was £41.20. Thank you to one and all.

Ron Spall

Dear Editors

A huge thank you to everyone who has supported my fund raising efforts this year.

Firstly the coffee morning on March 2nd made £146.42, thank you to all who helped and supported on the day.

Secondly my 'Nostalgia' evening on March 21st. Hope you all enjoyed the reminiscing.

There are people who I must thank personally, Kary Hunt who had a card sale and raised £30, Chris and Alan Carter who very kindly donated money to buy the wine, and to Brian Taylor for providing it. Nigel Chapman who honoured us with his presence and brought some Harbury School history: he also brought some of his Pickles and Chutneys (naked Chef watch out!)

To my little band of helpers who made the evening possible, I couldn't have done it on my own. Peggie and Bill, Jeanne, June, Mary, Dorothy and Eleanor. Lastly to yourselves who helped raise £462.20 making a total this year of £608.62.

On behalf of the Meningitis sufferers everywhere. Thank you so much.

Celia Barrett

Dear Editors

Concerning the proposed extension to Compton House in High Street Last month you printed a letter from Andrew Day of Compton International to which Lin and I feel we must reply. We have been in the village a very long time now and we have a great many friends and acquaintances out there. These people know that we are not normally moaners or complainers and that if we have objected we must have a very good reason.

The extension in question would be a two storey structure that would be built right on the border line of our property. It would create a wall

approx. 9 metres long x 5.5 metres high. Can you imagine how overpowering that would be if it was built along the fence line of your garden? Following a site visit, the Area Planning Committee agreed with our point of view, and the plans have been rejected twice by a very large majority.

Mr. Day's letter has made us feel very uncomfortable but we do need everyone to know that we have no quarrel with him or his company, in fact we are in discussions at present. For our peace of mind and also for those other businesses in Harbury that could be effected, we are hoping that a compromise can be found that will not destroy our quality of life.

Keith and Lin Hayes

Regular Diary Dates

BADMINTON: Village Hall,
 Monday mornings (613174) 10:00am-12:00noon
 Mondays (612627) (Seniors) 7:00-9:00pm;
 Tuesdays (613413) (Club) 8:00-10:00pm;
 Friday (612029) (Juniors) 2:00-3:00pm;
 Sunday (613340) 7:00-10:00pm

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BELL RINGING PRACTICE: (613605) Church, Fridays 7:30pm
CHOIR PRACTICE: Church, Fridays 6:30pm
DROP-IN TEA: (612585) 19, Farm Street, 2.30 to 4.30pm, 4th Wednesday in the month
HARBURY FOLK CLUB: Dog Inn 1st Thursday in the month 8:30pm
HARBURY FRIENDS: School, 2nd Tuesday in the month 8:00pm
HARBURY JUNIORS FOOTBALL CLUB:

Under 9s: Training: 9.00am Saturday at Harbury School Pitch
 Coaches: Jim Farrell 612396 and Reno Varriale

- Under 11s:** Training: 10.30am Saturday at Harbury School Pitch
Coaches: Jim Ward 612401 and Adrian Hawley 614353
- Under 12s:** Training: Playing Fields 10:30am
Coaches: Steve Darby 613330
- Under 14s:** Training: 10.30am Saturday at Playing Fields Top Pitch
Coaches: John Wilkins 612115; Steve Wilkins 614574,
and Dave Hudson 613958

HEREBURGH MORRIS DANCERS: (613402) School Hall, Wednesdays 8:00-10:00pm

HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY: Village Hall, 1st Tuesday in the month (Oct. to May) 8:00pm

KICK START APPALACHIAN STEP DANCERS: (612734) Scout Hut, Saturdays, 10:00am-12:00noon

MYTON HOSPICE LINE DANCING: Harbury Village Club, 2nd Thursdays in the month
7.30pm

MARTIAL ARTS: Village Hall, Wednesdays 6pm

NETBALL CLUB: (613239) Village Hall Car Park, Training Thursdays 6:30pm;
Matches on Saturday Afternoon

PARISH PATHS PARTNERSHIP: (612221) Meeting on 2nd Thursday in the month at the
Shakespeare 8:00pm

TAI CHI: (614730) Village Hall, Wednesdays 7:30pm

TENNIS CLUB: April to September:

Adults (614532): Tues & Thurs 6:30pm onwards (6:00pm for April & September); Wednesdays 2.15pm onwards; Saturdays 3:00-5:00pm

Under 16s (613284): Sundays 10:00am-12Noon; Wednesdays 6:00-8:00pm; Thursdays 4:15-6:00pm

Non Members may book courts for £2 an hour at Country Fayre, Chapel St.

THEATRE GROUP: (612610) The Dog Inn, last Tuesday in the month 8:00pm

THURSDAY CLUB: (612273) Farley Room 2nd & 4th Thursday in the month 2:30pm

W.I.: Tom Hauley Room, 2nd Thursday in the month 7:45pm

YOGA: Tom Hauley Room, Wednesdays, 7:30-9:30pm Dianne Surgey Tel. 817904

YOUTH CLUB: (612688) Village Hall, Thursdays 7:00-9:00pm

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Summer Term 2002 Evening & Daytime Courses

Evening Courses at Southam College Monday 15 th April 7.30-9.30pm	
	5 Weeks
Learn To Play The Guitar	10 Weeks
Lip-reading group for all students	10 Weeks
Piano classes for those who wish to improve their skills	30 Weeks
IBT2 Advanced level computing full	10 Weeks
Basic computing term 3	10 Weeks
Advanced German Term 2	6 Weeks
An introduction to Greek	10 Weeks
Art classes including Acrylic, Oil & Water colours painting	10 Weeks
Conversational Spanish Term 3	10 Weeks
Tuesday 16 th April 7.30-9.30pm.	
Computer Literacy and Information Technology (Full)	22 Weeks
Basic computing term 2 (A course for beginners)	5 Weeks
Arabic belly dance for improvers 7.30-8.30	10 Weeks
Arabic belly dance for beginners 8.30-9.30	10 Weeks
Healing, energy lines and meditation learning more about the Chakra's by a Reiki Master	10 Weeks
Wednesday 17 th April 7.30-9.30PM	
So you think you cant draw	10 Weeks
E-Commerce Basic computing Surfing the Internet.	10 Weeks
Pillow Lace Making (Bobbin Lace) Start 10/04/2002	8 Weeks
Keep Fit For Men	10 Weeks
Dressmaking beginners welcome	5 Weeks
Thursday 18 th April 7.30 - 9.30PM.	
The over 50's computer class for beginners. How to begin Word Processing.	4 Weeks
Water-Colour Painting	10 Weeks
Family Badminton For All 7.45-9.00	10 Weeks
Beginners Italian conversation course	10 Weeks
French Conversation Term 3	10 Weeks
DAYTIME COURSES AT SOUTHAM COLLEGE	
Conversational Spanish Monday 1.00-3.00	10 Weeks
Children's Dance Classes Monday 5.15 - 6.15	10 Weeks
Mums computer class Phone for details Wed 10.45-12.00	4 Weeks

Most courses enrol and commence Week beginning 15th April 2002. The centres will be closed for Bank Holiday Monday 6th May and half term on week beginning 3rd to 7th June 2002. Fees are based on a Charge of £2.45 per hour unless otherwise stated. A class for 2 hours per evening over 5 weeks costs £24.50. Discounts may be available and requests are considered. Courses are free to the unemployed or those in receipt of certain benefits apart from a registration fee.

Keep Fit To Music Wednesday 9.30-10.30	10 Weeks
Water Colour Painting Wednesday 1.00-3.00pm	10 Weeks
Yoga For Relaxation Thursday 10.00-12.00	10 Weeks
Water Colour Painting Thursday 1.00-3.00	10 Weeks
Flower Arranging for Summer Friday 10.00-12.00	10 Weeks
Water Colour Painting Friday 1.00-3.00	10 Weeks
Evening Course At Harbury CE Primary School; 7.30-9.30	
Keep fit to music Thursday Start 11/04/02 7.00-8.00	10 Weeks
Computing leading to Clait Wednesday 7.30-9.30	10 Weeks
Evening Course At The Tom Haukey Room, Harbury	
Yoga Wednesday 7.30-9.30	10 Weeks
Courses At Offchurch Village Hall	
Upholstery And Soft Furnishing Tuesday 9.30-11.30	10 Weeks
Upholstery And Soft Furnishing Thursday 1.30-3.30	10 Weeks
Courses at Long Itchington Primary School	
Daytime Computer Literacy & Information Technology 2000 Friday 12.30-2.30 FULL	22 Weeks
Courses At Stockton Village Hall	
Upholstery and Soft Furnishing Tuesday 1.00-3.00	10 Weeks
Courses At Stockton School	
Basic computing training for the total beginner Thursday 7.30 to 9.30 pm	10 Weeks
Courses At St Lawrence C.E. Primary School Napton	
Computer Literacy and Information Technology (Beginning - CLAIT) Thursday 7.00 - 9.00	10 Weeks
Basic Computer Literacy Starter course Thursday 7.00 - 9.30	10 Weeks
Yoga Tuesday 7.30-9.00	10 Weeks
Bishops Itchington Memorial Hall	
Keep Fit and Aerobics for all Tuesday 7.30 to 8.30	10 Weeks
Saturday Courses At Southam College	
Creative Cookery For Children Saturday 10.00-12.00 start date 27/04/2002	1 Session = 5 Weeks
Children's computing Using the word processor for homework	5 Weeks

Cheques should be made payable to Southam College. If you feel that you should be entitled to a discount please apply to Gerry Young by Telephone 01926 810942- or 01926 812560 or through the Internet at gdyoung1@aol.com or GerrydYg@AOL.com. Those reserving places on Computer courses are advised to book themselves into the classes before they arrive to save any disappointments. These details may be change due to circumstances beyond our control.

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