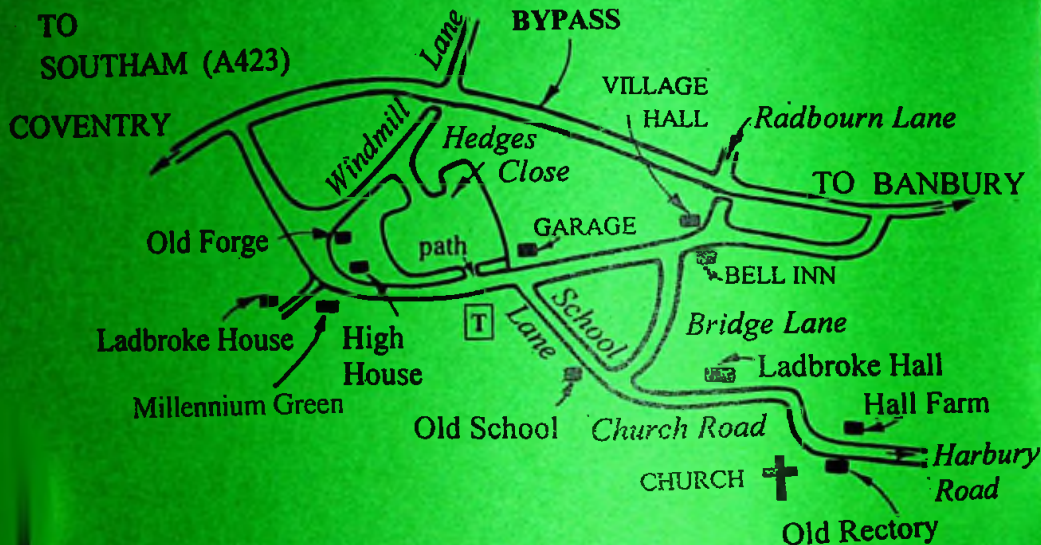


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Harbury & Ladbroke News

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January 2002

No. 334

The magazine records the Christmas celebrations enjoyed by all ages in the village. The Christmas lights will have given pleasure to residents and visitors alike; congratulations to the volunteers into putting up the display in the main streets and also to the many householders who have decorated their own houses and trees for the benefit of us all.



Father Christmas arriving at the Christmas Fayre in the pony and trap driven by Colin Humphreys

After the traumatic events of 2001, the Editors hope that 2002 will refresh the spirits. The Queen's golden jubilee will provide a focus for commemorative events throughout the country. Doubtless both villages will be putting their own plans into action.

During December a group of friends planted a tree on the Old New Inn Green in memory of the late John Hunt, Chairman of the Parish Council.



We wish all readers a Happy New Year.

Harbury Diary

JANUARY

- | | | |
|--------------|-----------|--|
| Sun | 6 | EPIPHANY - Sung Eucharist 9am, Evening Worship 6pm |
| Tues | 8 | Holy Communion 7.30pm
Toddlers' Service in Church 2.15pm
Horticultural Society Tom Hauley Room 8pm
Village Hall committee in Village Hall 8pm |
| Wed | 9 | Karate Club in Village Hall 6-8pm
<i>Talk it Through</i> , 33 South parade 8pm |
| Thurs | 10 | Holy Communion 9.45pm
Thursday Club in Village Hall 2.30pm
Myton Hospice Line Dancing at Harbury Village Club 8pm |
| Fri | 11 | Recycling collection |
| Sat | 12 | Coffee Morning in aid of Tiddington Fields Home in Tom Hauley Room |
| Sun | 13 | EPIPHANY 2 - Holy Communion 8am; Sung Eucharist 10.30am |

- Tues 15 Holy Communion 7.30pm; Mothers Union in Tom Hauley Room 8pm
ADVERTS to 31, Binswood End Harbury, by 5.30pm
 Senior Citizens' Committee in Village Hall 8pm
- Wed 16 Tea in Tom Hauley Room 3-4pm
 Karate Club in Village Hall 6-8pm
 Harbury Review Committee in the Dog Inn 8pm
 Prayer meeting in Church 8pm
- Thurs 17 Holy Communion 9.45am
- Sat 19 Men's Prayer Breakfast in Tom Hauley Room 7.30am
 Coffee Morning in aid of Brownies in Tom Hauley Room
- Sun 20 **EPIPHANY 3** - Holy Communion 8am; Family communion 10.30am
 Evensong 6pm
- Tues 22 Holy Communion 7.30pm
- Wed 23 Drop-in Tea for the bereaved at 19, Farm Street 2.30-4.30pm
 Karate Club in Village Hall 6-8pm
Talk it Through, 33 South parade 8pm
 Harbury Society Dinner at Shakespeare
- Thurs 24 Holy Communion 9.45am
PLAY A Generation Apart in Village Hall 8pm
 Thursday Club in Village Hall 2.30pm
 Parish Council at Tom Hauley Room 7.30pm
- Fri 25 **ARTICLES** to Harbury Chemist, High Street, Harbury by 5.30pm
PLAY A Generation Apart in Village Hall 8pm
- Sat 26 Coffee Morning in aid of Pre-School Playgroup in Tom Hauley Room
PLAY A Generation Apart in Village Hall 8pm
- Sun 27 **EPIPHANY 4** Holy Communion 8am; Sung Eucharist 10.30am
- Tues 29 Holy Communion 7.30pm
- Wed 30 Karate Club in Village Hall 6-8pm
 Prayer meeting in Church 8pm
- Thurs 31 Holy Communion 9.45am

FEBRUARY

- Sat 2 Coffee Morning in aid of Harbury Scouts in Tom Hauley Room
CANDLEMASS - Service of Light 12 Noon
- Sun 3 **SECOND BEFORE LENT** - Sung Eucharist 9am; Evening Worship 6pm

PLEASE NOTE

NO MARTIAL ARTS IN VILLAGE HALL NOW
 NO TAI CHI IN VILLAGE HALL NOW
 BUT THERE IS KARATE CLUB ON WEDNESDAYS 6-8PM

recognised and encouraged. There are now 20 homes in ordinary houses, helping people with disabilities to lead normal lives - some handicapped families are able to use these homes for respite from time to time. The most important thing to remember is that we are all part of the family of God, and a smile can convey so much to a person who may not understand life's complications. So - start 2002 with a smile!



Our photo shows Gwen Barber being presented by Sheila Jackson with her certificate to mark 53 years as a member of Mothers' Union.

Next meetings:

Tues 15 Jan 8pm Faith Supper (please bring a plate of food to share - sweet or savoury - any query, phone 612427)

Weds 6 Feb 2pm Service, 2.30pm Beryl Checkley: *Holiday - Australia & Japan*

Anne Moore

From the Churchwardens

The Christmas message of God's love for us is just as strong as ever and was well proclaimed. The services were, as usual, delightful. Starting with the Dressing of the Crib on Christmas Eve afternoon through the ever-popular Carol Service and the two communion

services at midnight and on Christmas morning, the total attendance amounted something over 900 people. Thank you to those who made the Church look so splendid, provided the great tree, organised the services and the music, and performed the many behind-the-scenes tasks (including cleaning the 100+ lanterns ready for next year!).

The Christmas Fayre was a huge success; there was a great atmosphere during the morning build up and all through the afternoon. The result was a record, and a cheque for £930 has been sent to Warwick Hospital A & E Fund. Thanks are due to Colin Ingram for masterminding the Fayre, to those who sold all the raffle tickets, made or gave produce, erected and then cleared away the stalls and to all who supported the Fayre.



Our photographs show two young participants in the October Family Service: Eloise Clarke as Mary with the baby Jesus and Jonathan Guy as 'a young boy with five loaves and two small fishes'. The December Family Service was the traditional Christingle Service, which uses a visual representation of God's love for us and the centrality of Jesus to our faith.

The next Family Service will be on January 20th at 10.30am - do come to this informal act of worship.

Felicity and John

Toddlers' Service

The December service was led by Mrs. Mary Catt. The two hymns we sang were: *We will rock you*, and *He's got the whole world in His hands*. Our topic was the birth of baby Jesus, how we prepare for the arrival of a baby, and how Mary would have prepared in those days.

We then put a star potato on a Christmas card showing Joseph with Mary riding on a donkey.

We had refreshments, and then took home a chocolate novelty from the Christmas tree.

Our next service is on Tuesday 8th January in Church at 2.15pm.

Lorna Bedford

Women's World Day of Prayer

The Women's World Day of Prayer Movement will celebrate its annual Day of Prayer on Friday 1st March 2002. The theme of the Service, which is interdenominational, will be *Challenged to Reconcile*.

The Service this year comes from Romania, a country of contrasts – mountains, plateaux, hills and plains, woods, meadows and a variety of flora and fauna. It is rich in natural resources and the river Danube flows into the Black Sea where there are resorts and Health Spas.

These facts may appear to paint a picture of health, wealth, and pleasure. This is not the reality, for many people still struggle after years of difficulty and oppression. However, the people are resilient and do not lose hope. This is evident in their faith and hope in God and their country.

People of all ages and from many differing backgrounds will be celebrating this Day of Prayer around the world from sunrise to sunset.

May we invite you to join in a Service here in Harbury? It will be held at 2.00pm in Church and everyone is very welcome. For more information please contact Mary Catt on 612864.

(Based on the official press release)

If a number consisting of three different digits is subtracted from its reverse, the answer is the same three digits in yet another order. What is the number?

Drop-in Tea

We are hoping to start a *Drop-In Tea*, on the 4th Wednesday of each month, at 19, Farm Street, beginning on January 23rd. This is especially for those who have been bereaved and we shall warmly welcome anyone of any age who feels this might be helpful.

We aim to offer friendship, a chance to chat, share, or just listen, whilst enjoying a cup of tea. This will not be for bereavement counselling. We hope it will be just an informal group where people can drop in any time between 2.30pm and 4.30pm to stay for as short or as long a time as they wish. If you would like to know more, please contact either Pam Brown at the Rectory or Jill Winter.

Jill Winter 612585

Laugh Line

A lady describing the small attendance at her church said:
When the Vicar says: 'Dearly Beloved', I blush.

Ladbroke News

JANUARY

- | | | |
|-------|----|--|
| Sun | 6 | EPIPHANY - Sung Communion 10.30am |
| Mon | 7 | Millennium Prize Draw at The Bell Inn 7.45pm |
| Wed | 9 | Holy Communion 2pm; Women's Fellowship 2.45pm |
| Sun | 13 | Epiphany 2 - Sung Communion 9am |
| Tues | 15 | <u>ADVERTS</u> to 31, Binswood End, Harbury by 5.30pm |
| Sat | 19 | All Saints' Church Development Plan Lunch in the Tom Hauley Room 10-12noon |
| Sun | 20 | Epiphany 3 - Sung Communion 9am |
| Thurs | 24 | Ladbroke & Deppers Bridge W.I. |
| Fri | 25 | Conversion of Paul; Holy Communion 7.30pm |
| | | <u>ARTICLES</u> to Harbury Chemist, High Street, Harbury by 5.30pm |
| Sun | 27 | Epiphany 4 - Sung Communion 9am |
| Tues | 29 | Ladbroke Parish Council Meeting in Shire Hall |

FEBRUARY

- | | | |
|-----|---|---|
| Sun | 3 | Second before Lent - Family Communion 10.30am |
|-----|---|---|

Ladbroke Flower Rota

January 6th & 13th - Valerie Copley
 January 20th & 27th - Kate Picken
 February 3rd & 10th - Gwynne Badman

Jane Rutherford

Ladbroke Church News

Our Christmas started with the Crib Service and Nativity Tableau on Christmas Eve. The congregation both young and old, I'm sure, all felt the Peace and Warmth that this service never fails to bring into this busy commercialised world of ours. The children as usual, were great. The refreshments after the service went down well too!

Our Carol Service is still to come and that is also a very happy occasion and I hope will set the scene for a

Happy, Healthy and Peaceful 2002

Betty Winkfield

All Saints' Church, Ladbroke

Development Plan

Well, we have been very busy - the ladies of Ladbroke managed to knit nearly 100 garters, which were then sold at a Christmas Charity Fayre held at Tysoe Manor. We raised nearly £500 - well done to everyone.

Our next fundraising event will be Lunch at the Tom Hauley Room on Saturday 19th January - menus are in the Church. Please support us. We are planning a lot more fundraising events for the future, so watch this space.

Jo Sowerby

Women's Fellowship

As the New Year begins, so we start with a new co-ordinator. Jo Sowerby will be taking over from me at our January meeting. I hope she will enjoy it as much as I have. I took over from Nancy Stubbs in 1994. Nancy had breathed new life into this long established Ladbroke organisation, which at the time, was looking likely to close.



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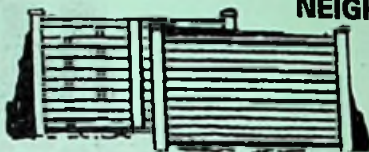
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We have been running as a Mothers' Union type group every since and although our membership is small, we have still been busy. With Jo, I hope, she again can breathe new life into our meetings and attract some new members.

Jane Rutherford is coming to talk to us about her work as a magistrate at our January meeting (again at Jo's home, Archer's Rest) after the Communion Service in Church at 2.00pm on Wednesday 9th January.

Betty Winkfield

Ladbroke and Deppers Bridge W.I.

Eight ladies and one very brave gentleman went on the Warwickshire Federation trip to Bruges on December 3rd to 6th. We all had a fantastic time and thanks to Johnson's Travel, a very good trip.

We travelled by luxury coach to our central hotel in the historic city of Bruges where we spent three nights, which included a lovely 3-course dinner on the first evening. After that we were left to explore the delightful city with its entire festive atmosphere.

The following day our coach picked us up outside the hotel and took us for a day's visit to Brussels. We visited a Chocolate Museum and spent some time just walking round the delightful shops and of course tasting the Belgium beers. Do you know that they have over 600 types?

The next day was spent having a guided tour of Bruges and then we were left to wander round the markets and shops. The evening was spent at a Medieval Burgundian Banquet in the city's Belfry cellar complete with entertainment provided by not only three very good minstrels, but also the members of the W.I. plus husbands – a truly entertaining evening and one not to be forgotten.

On the last day we just had time to do a last bit of shopping to spend all the Belgium Franks before boarding our coach for the return journey to England, and of course any trip would not be complete without the visit to the hypermarket on the way back to buy the Christmas booze.

We all had a wonderful time and we are already talking about a return trip.

The W.I. also had a very enjoyable evening at our Christmas Dinner, which was held at the Nickelodeon at Ashorne.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday 24th January – a warm welcome to all.

Hazel Sharples

Ladbroke Village hall

The eleventh draw of the Club was held on December 11th at The Bell Inn. The winners were: Francis Badman £80; Avril Court £50; Gwynne Badman £25. Sue Lord, Mike Connor, Dianne Surgey, Linda Spence and Mary Coley each won £10.

The next prize draw will be held on January 7th at The Bell Inn.

Please remember that the payments for the next six months (January to June) for those not using standing orders are now due.

Catherine Spence

Ladbroke Parish Council Report – Nov. 21st

It was a bumper turnout in the Village Hall, with all District, County and Parish Councillors, footpath coordinator Michael Boden-Pritchett and three villagers.

Village Maintenance

Rest assured that we are on to the regular replacement of the bollards at both entrances to the Village, but as fast as they are replaced they are knocked down again!

The work carried out by Richard Bennett on his section of the stream bank was particularly noted.

Police and Neighbourhood Watch

The Police consultative meetings have ceased, but they hope to set up an E-mail address for access to information.

District/County Councillors' Report

The great pressure on the 2002 budget, particularly in the Social Services, gives rise to a significant increase in Council Tax.

The roads identified for gritting are the same as last year.

The next edition of the Local Plan will be available for viewing and comment in January.

13

A meeting on January 29th in Shire Hall will hear views regarding the Mid Warwickshire boundary changes.

At the Planning Committee, 2 applications from Orange for mobile phone masts were rejected on the grounds that existing masts were situated in close proximity to the proposed site.

The recycling boxes are now in use. Residents who are physically unable to carry their box to the roadside should inform the District Council.

Footpath Report

The footpath (SM92-92a) by New House Farm has now been marked with new Way Posts. A further exercise marking the route of the bridleway and its links with the E road 2413 is planned. This will produce a reasonable short circular walk back to the village. If anyone is able to help, please contact Michael on 813066, as this will speed the process.

Financial Matters

The sum of £500 has been included in the precept to help with the Millennium Green maintenance.

Planning

There were no objections to the alteration of the roof at Woodcutters Cottage.

Chairman's Item

Unfortunately there has apparently been little progress in the adoption of Hedges Close. The upkeep of lights is therefore still the responsibility of Crosby Homes.

Carol Lane

Planning – What is it All About?

The Development Plan

Cynics would say that the ordinary citizen's input to Development Plans is about as effective as moving the deckchairs on the Titanic. Normally, when we get to have our say, the Strategic Questions have all been decided.

The Secretary of State and his Civil Servants begin the process with their "best guess" of what population increases the country will have to accommodate (including urban in-migration and from abroad) and how

much industrial growth it will generate and divvy this up between the Regions.

The fun starts as politicians and planners fight over who has the good bits (employment) and who suffers the acres of "executive homes". It's not as blatant as that, and there is some good research, which shows the effects of this growth, but even at this stage we can't say NO, we can only make the best of it.

The West Midlands Region looked into this future, and they don't like it. Their multi-modal transport study (looking at all forms of transport) has shown that, with the projected increases in homes and jobs, the M42 will have to be expanded to ten lanes to cope!

The County Structure Plan (the Strategic document for the whole of Warwickshire) has to comply with the Regional Guidance so it can only choose where the allocated development goes. Even here there have been some strange decisions – Stratford got more housing, but less employment; North Warwickshire, where there's more unemployment got more housing, and Rugby got a large employment allocation!

Only after all this has been decided does the District get its chance to plan its future. Our Local Plan will be out for consultation for the next six weeks. This is our chance to comment on the planning policies that will affect our village for the next ten to fifteen years – yet it's only the details we can challenge.

To be fair to our District, it has tried hard to find out what people want and has actively encouraged communities to produce Parish Appraisals and Village Design Statements to illustrate their vision of the future – and they have tried to accommodate these views in the Local Plan. For instance we confidently expect there will be some policies to expedite the provision of sheltered accommodation.

However, there is a long way to go before we have a proper bottom-up planning system that is built on local knowledge and circumstances rather than the "educated" guesses of mandarins in the metropolis.

Look at the Local Plan and make your views known. It's only by constant attrition that we can hope to make our presence felt and change this cumbersome system for the better.

Linda Ridgley

Harbury Society



Harbury Society

Sue Ward was the worthy winner of our Christmas Photo Quiz. She got 66 points out of a possible 88 (it was very hard this year). Many of the pictures were of the wall-ties that hold our old buildings together. Some were of quirky artefacts and details – like the stained glass inscription on

the cottage in Binswood End and the intricate doorknob of a snake swallowing its own tail on the front door of Yew Trees in Mill Street. It's all designed to make you look more closely at the place you live in.

The Society is heavily involved in the preparation of the **Village Review** and the Review Group is still looking for more **volunteers** willing to deliver and then collect the survey forms. Please let the Secretary, Linda Ridgley (612792, 16 Farm Street) know if you can help.

The next event is the Society Dinner at the Shakespeare on Wednesday 23rd January, followed in February by a "presentation" by Cecil Bloxham on the Railway and the people who worked on it. There will be a guided tour of Lichfield Cathedral in the spring.

The Local Plan will be published this month and we would urge everyone to examine it and let the District Council have their comments upon it.

Linda Ridgley

Harbury's Women's Institute

Apologies for no Christmas wishes due to a memory lapse in sending in the splurge to the H&L News last month.

Jean Abrahams continues in her 2nd year as President with an increased committee.

Dorothy Turner, Sylvia Burdett and Gunde Walshe are progressing after their recent illnesses. We wish Joan Lodge a speedy recovery.

We got in the festive mood with the Christmas party. There was superb food and good company in the Tom Hauley Room that night. A big thank you to all who helped. The entertainment was by Mrs. Carol Hancock who sang seasonal songs.

The Group Carol Service was at Long Itchington followed by refreshments. The church has similar features to Harbury so must be about the same age.

A few members joined Ladbroke & Deppers Bridge W.I. at Ashorne Hall for a meal and entertainment. Great fun and I can recommend a visit to readers.



The December speaker was Mr. David Lord who spoke on *A Pike man's Lot during the English Civil War*. This tall, strapping man dressed in the appropriate clothes told us he was Robert Ruckwood, a Pike man officer in the service of Cromwell and garrisoned at Warwick Castle. His men were called Roundheads because of their shaved heads, for hygiene reasons. Life was very basic in those days: no soap, very little washing, hands were used to eat with, and clothes were worn until they rotted away. What a smelly era!

We were shown armour, swords, pikes, muskets and helmets. Helmets also

had a more personal use! On examining the gear one was struck by their immense weight and marvelled that the men could even move. The pikes were about 16 feet in length and were used to attack horses when they were lifted as the horses approached (an example can be seen in the Braveheart film).

The Musketeers wore their powder and ball in leather pouches across their chests. They approached the enemy in lines. The front line fired, and then ran to the back, allowing them to reload. When en route to battle, private houses were commandeered for quarters and the men also expected to be fed. Again living conditions being very basic - it was common practice to put a pig in bed first allowing the lice to jump onto the warm skin.

When Royalists and Parliamentarians were in battledress they looked alike so it was a regular practice for men to switch to the side that was winning. Soldiers were plied with drinks to stop them running away.

Mr. Lord visits schools and the children love hearing his stories and holding the weapons. He is also a member of the Sealed Knot and 'battles' at Warwick Castle regularly.

We ended the evening with wine, mince pies and a 'pressie'.

A Happy New Year to all Readers

Jeanne Beaumont

Theatre Group

Do you remember the sixties?

1969 - The North Sea is first drilled for oil; President Gadaffi seizes power in Libya; Sesame Street is launched; Yassir Arafat becomes the new chairman of the PLO, and 400,000 rock fans descend on farmland close to Woodstock in New York State for a festival featuring Jimi Hendrix, Janis Joplin and The Who.

In 'Generations Apart' by Peter Gordon, The Harbury Theatre Group Play at Harbury Village Hall, on January 24, 25, and 26 at 8.00pm, the smaller but no less eventful pop festival on the Isle of Wight, has repercussions for a family in 1996.

With some familiar faces and some new acting blood, this gentle and affectionate look at all our yesterdays is accompanied by the music -- and the costumes - of the period. With tickets at £4.00 for adults and £2.50 for concessions, where else can you wallow in nostalgia so economically? Tickets from Kathleen Ellis at the Hairdresser's in Chapel Street, Harbury; the Newsagent's in Bishop's Itchington; Pat Taylor (614348); Sally Stringer (613214), or at the door.

Maybe you've a better memory for 1996? The Dunblane shooting, the BSE scare and beef ban, Charles and Diana's divorce decree and Buzz Lightyear, the Christmas toy to have?

John Stringer, Harbury Theatre Group

The ages of Ann and Bill now add up to 91. Ann is now three times as old as Bill was at the time when Ann was twice as old as Bill is now.

How old are Ann and Bill Now?

Harbury Folk Club

The theme was "Winter Wonderland", it being the first Thursday of December and the last folk club before Christmas – a novel idea (I thought) for my first attempt at "hosting" the evening.

I had already told some people that the theme was "women at work", but forgot about that; also forgot about the raffle prize and the raffle tickets and something, or was it someone else?

The performers arrived thick and fast and so did my butterflies. Who to put where, for how many songs to make the "three" halves fit nicely together, and hopefully not miss anyone out? I still have a nagging worry at the back of my mind about this.

My bright idea to drape each performer in flashing fairy lights came to a whimpering halt as the batteries ran out but no one needed lights to shine!

1st Half

Pete and Liz were worried about Santa lost in Harbury at the Dog. Margaret astounded us with her "Swanee Whistle" solo in Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer. Ron also seemed to be concerned with drink and dogs! John put the "wonderland" back into fiddle playing. Ruth joined forces with several regulars to do an "S Club 7", perhaps some dance routines next time? First break and no time to hit the bar or loo.....eeek!

2nd Half

Most of the audience were on stage as Harbury choir, gorgeous! They'll be out and about singing carols in the local pubs over Christmas. We had a Mexican Christmas recitation from Senôr Andrew, and our chestnuts were roasted by Bob and Paul as a barbershop duo. Then, always a delight, we had two younger members: Dan, slightly worried, as he hadn't done it standing up before and Susie, singing beautifully. Rik was Logging on the Road to Dundee! Then another newcomer, also a Suzy (please note the different spelling) with two self penned songs, both wonderful. Dez finished the second half by walking backwards to Christmas! Second break, still no time to dash to bar or loo.....oooh er!!

3rd Half

Keith and I complained about the "Winter Time" up north, and then Keith rocked Rudolph's red nose off accompanied by spoons, bells, and that swanee whistle again. Pete (Grassby) invited us ALL to his

40th (yeah yeah) birthday party and frightened us with a panto song called "Terror Time". Allen "Rolled Home" with the "Boarshead Carol", with wonderful harmonies from the audience, who had obviously had a chance to go to the bar! Ruth "spirited" us away with "Sweet Baby Jesus" and the whole evening was brought to a close with a dead sheep song, that Sue and Ian had "hoped to sneak in whilst we weren't paying attention earlier on in the evening". Plenty of sheep noise accompaniments from the audience, whom it would appear, had taken at least two trips to the bar!

We raised £46 for the Samaritans, who I may need after this. Then we all trouped out into the wintry wonderland and home. I still have this nagging feeling that I've forgotten someone??

Gilly Murphy

Harbury Nursery School

Parents, grandparents, relatives and carers packed the School Hall for the end of term Christmas concert. One of the Nursery's favourite activities is singing and the children's enthusiasm was clearly shown in a mix of old and new Christmas songs. Adam and Mrs. Smart were both very brave to sing in front of everyone. However, Francesca stole the show by forgetting to hand over her 'chocolate' pound coin to Henry when she bought her Christmas cracker! Forty children took part and their confidence was amazing and showed how well they have all settled in this term; some of the children were not even three years old. Many thanks to the parents for making such lovely costumes and to Marie Kennedy for making all the mince pies.



This term the Nursery will be looking at the topic of journeys, which will relate directly to the children's own experiences. The children will be talking about their own travels and developing their understanding by acting out their experiences in the role play corner, playing with construction toys or playing with sand and water. They will repeat situations they have encountered on holiday or going to town and experiment with reacting in different ways at different times, depending on how they feel. Stimulating, interesting activities appropriate to the children's age will give them the opportunity to learn best by 'doing' things.

Our Christmas Coffee Morning at the Tom Hauley Room raised over £400 and the Nursery would like to thank everyone for their support and the excellent raffle prizes donated. Our next fundraising event is a Valentine's Dance on February 16th and we hope as many people as possible will be able to come.

Extra government funding has increased a demand for places and the afternoons are beginning to fill up. If anyone is interested in finding out more about the Nursery or booking a place, don't delay and ring Kate on 612656.

Alison Baldwin

Japanese Knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*)



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As some readers may have seen in the local press, this plant has established itself in roadside verges in at least two locations in the village.

Japanese Knotweed is a very damaging plant to have in the local environment:

- It suppresses all other native and exotic shrubs and herbaceous plants by outgrowing and depriving them of light;
- This reduces plant variety and the normal habitats and food sources to our native insects and birds;
- It is very unsightly, as it is very tall and forms a dense monoculture;
- It spreads underground via rhizomes (not by seed) and is not blocked by hedges, walls, etc.;
- It is extremely difficult to kill even using commercial herbicides.

The Environment Agency considers it *the most invasive plant in Britain* (Guidance for the Control of Invasive Plants near Watercourses 1996).

In the USA and in the worst affected English counties such as Cornwall, the authorities are (rather late) launching expensive programmes to control its spread.

How do you identify it? In early spring it is identified by fleshy red-tinged shoots that grow to become tubers. The leaves are alternate, smooth and heart shaped, up to 12cm long. In late summer, clusters of creamy flowers appear which then produce sterile seeds. Plants will eventually reach 6 to 10 feet in height. In winter, the leafless red stems persist.

The plant spreads via underground growing stems or rhizomes, which can extend 7m outwards, and 2m deep from the plant. A piece of rhizome smaller than a fingernail can spread the weed if, for example, caught on the sole of a boot, car tyre or dropped in a stream. The weed can grow through walls, tarmac and concrete!

This plant was originally imported as an exotic shrub from Japan where it has natural predators; unfortunately it has no such predators in this country.

What is being done at present? The County Council are only just starting to formulate their strategy for tackling the problem but are some way away from starting work; moreover, their actions will be constrained by lack of funding. In the meantime, the County supports local initiatives provided that they comply with Environment Agency

technical guidelines. The Parish Council supports co-operation between (properly advised) village volunteers and the County.

The District Highway Surveyor (Alan Mycock) recently met us in Harbury and stated that the public could help greatly in controlling the spread of this weed.

What can we all do to help?

1. Look out for the weed in our gardens and hedgerows. Report any possible outbreaks to the Horticultural Society who will be confirming, recording and passing on such information to the Council.
2. **Please do not** attempt to remove or kill the plant on your own. This may only help to spread the plant. The work needs qualified supervision in any event.
3. **Do not** dispose of the plant elsewhere. It may only be disposed of by licensed disposal contractors.
4. Where it has been found so far, members of the Horticultural Society and others will be cutting and burning the dead foliage this winter, with County Council assistance.

What is the County Council doing? The County Council will be spraying the weed with herbicide across the county in late spring 2002 and yearly thereafter. It is more effective (but too costly for the County) to spray twice each season. A forestry contractor living locally has offered to do a late summer spray, for the cost of materials only, within the village.

Harbury will therefore be a 'test case' to see how quickly a more intensive spraying regime will kill the weed. The County fully supports this approach.

If we get on top of the problem now we will maximise our chances of checking the development of this pest and ultimately eradicating it. Once it has got a hold in people's gardens and in hedgerows it may never be removed.

If you can give any help or information concerning knotweed, could you please contact the Society (Mrs. J. Morrall 613103). We are keen to discover the extent of the problem in the village as soon as possible. Thank you.

Judy Morrall (Chairperson, Horticultural Society)
Alan Guy

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS AT THE NURSERY SCHOOL



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Behind the scenes'

VILLAGE CELEBRATIONS



Luke Ashworth -
the drummer boy



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a Xmas Cracker



Waitress Service at the Xmas Fayre

The Pre-School - Learning Through Play

The Wight School, (behind the library), High Street, Harbury

This month, the Harbury Pre-School have participated in many exciting activities during the lead-up to Christmas. The classroom looked quite splendid with paper chains hanging from the ceiling, and our Christmas tree was beautifully dressed by the children with decorations made by their little hands and some favourite pieces brought from home. The children learnt about nativity, and used their own teddies and toys to act out the story. The children also made Christmas goodies such as fudge, peppermint creams and mince pies, and they helped to weigh and measure all the ingredients.

Despite the winter weather, the children have ventured outdoors as often as possible equipped with Wellington boots, and they splashed in as many puddles as possible!

The Pre-School Christmas Party was held on December 21st. The children played party games, Father Christmas came and gave each wide-eyed child a present, and they had a splendid party tea. Parents and friends joined the children for a very loud and enthusiastic Christmas singsong, which was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

Our fundraising efforts have been so successful this year (and with more events planned) that we are now in a position to invest greatly in new equipment and toys for the children to use. More ride-on toys are on their way – and there has been a special request for a new ride-on police car by Alex and Josh. We are also completely refurbishing our "home corner" with new play equipment such as a cooker, fridge and washing machine - this equipment is most important to help the children with their role-play.

The Pre-School is also purchasing a real fridge in which to keep the children's lunch boxes cool during the morning sessions, so all their food is fresh for eating during the packed-lunch time.

The number of children at Harbury Pre-School is increasing and we are now open 4 full morning sessions per week (Tuesday to Friday, 9am to 1pm). Tuesday morning sessions are being run specifically for the youngest children – for those who are approaching or have just reached Pre-School age (2 years 9 months) or those who require more one-to-one attention. The session activities are designed to meet their young developing needs, and is intended to give extra support to the children as they progress from Toddler to Pre-School stage.

The Pre-School has published a new prospectus, and should anyone wish to receive a copy or require further information, then please contact Caroline Hill on 01926 613780 or Jo Simpson on 612781. With numbers increasing, parents should be assured that we will maintain our 1:4 ratio of staff to children whilst limiting all sessions to 16 children, and we will open in the afternoons when required.

In order to introduce Harbury Toddler children to the Pre-School, our staff will be running two of the usual Toddler sessions in January at their normal meeting times on Monday 28th January (10-11.30am) and Wednesday 30th January (1.30-3.00pm). All parents of toddlers are invited to bring their children along (whether or not they normally attend Harbury Toddlers), to the Wight School Room, which is located behind the library. A creative and fun session is anticipated.

Fundraising Results: The Pre-School held an Under 5's Christmas Disco on December 8th at the Village Club, which was a roaring success – an amazing 70 children attended and they had a fantastic time. Our special guest, Father Christmas (he does get around, doesn't he?) gave every child a present.



Children cuddling Santa at the Under 5's Disco

We have many "thank you's" to make. Firstly to the Village Club who kindly allowed us to use their most excellent function room free of

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charge, to Father Christmas for coming so far at this busy time of year, to the face painters who painted flat-out the whole time, and to everyone who supported the event. The Pre-School raised £130 - and all those involved loved every minute of it because the children had such a wonderful time.



The Pre-School held its coffee morning at the Tom Hauley room on November 24th, which was a real success, and we are extremely grateful to everyone who supported the event - we raised an amazing £350! We would like to thank all those local businesses that donated raffle prizes. We would also like to thank

everyone who worked so hard to make this coffee morning so enjoyable and such a success.

Forthcoming Fundraising Events: The Pre-School is lucky to have another opportunity to host a coffee morning in the Tom Hauley Room on Saturday 26th January. Whilst the committee will do the organisation, we are once again calling on parents, friends and supporters to bake cakes like mad, and donate raffle prizes. We will once again be doing a tabletop stall - for this we need any items (not furniture) that could be sold at the coffee morning - e.g. unwanted Christmas presents. Please deliver cakes, raffle prizes and tabletop items to Lana Long (next to the school), or bring them along in the morning before 9.45am.

Beatles Tribute Night: Everyone - keep Saturday 20th April free in your diaries for a fantastic Beatles Tribute Night brought to you at Harbury Village Hall. We have managed to hire the famous Beatles tribute band PREFAB 4 - the band performed by royal request at the Queen Mother's 100th birthday celebration in London. PREFAB 4 recreates the Beatles' hits with uncanny accuracy. The reproduction of songs from 'Twist and Shout' to 'She Loves You' to 'Saw Her Standing There' really capture the atmosphere of 'The Cavern'.

So put the date in your diary and watch out for tickets, which will be on

sale from the end of January. For further information speak to Lana Long on 01926 613311 or read the next Harbury Pre-School article in the Harbury & Ladbroke News.

Finally, Harbury Pre-School would like to wish everyone a

Fun and Happy New Year

Harbury Pre-School Staff and Committee

Harbury Primary School

French for Tots: The sessions of basic oral French on Mondays and Fridays in the Library after School are progressing well. They will restart after Christmas on January 18th and priority for places will go to those already attending. There are likely to be some vacancies too, please contact the School if you are interested.

Printer inks: Anyone who has a printer at home, work or anywhere else can bring/send used ink cartridges into School for recycling. We are setting up a collection point in the School's office. The company that collects them will be able to recycle them and make a small donation to the School funds for each cartridge received. This also applies to toner cartridges from laser printers.

The Quiz Night turned out to be a financial success as well as a social one, netting £672 for the PTA funds! Winners: Break Like the Wind and the wooden spoon was shared between Start Kicking and Diagonal Dash.

The PTA is hosting a Coffee Morning on Saturday 5th January in the Tom Hauley Room, donations and offers of help very welcome. Future events planned are an 80/20 Sale for children's toys and books (not clothes) in February, and a Family Line Dance in March. Details next term.

Foreign Currency: We have a collecting bag in the School's office if anyone wants to send in any currency that will not be useable in Europe from 1st January 2002. The coins will be collected until February Half Term and then taken to the Co-Op Bank. The bank will convert the money into £ Sterling and donate it all to Christian Aid.

Willow Tunnel: Thanks to the generous efforts of a small number of parents and other adult volunteers over a whole Saturday recently, the willow tunnel has been pruned and is in the throes of being repaired. The pupils are not allowed to use it over the winter to prevent further

damage; also the ground is extremely wet and muddy. Could we ask that parents don't allow their pre-school age children and tots into the tunnel while waiting on the playground, please?

Blue Peter Appeal: Thanks to masses of beautifully baked cakes, a magnificent collection after the Christmas Carol Concert and an unbelievable Bring and Buy Sale we raised just short of £300 for Help the Aged. We'll top it up to £300 from the football pool's profits. Many thanks to everyone for your help and support.

The Big Friendly Giant: An extract from Jessica Pickard's review:

It is great! The show of the BFG is brilliant. The costumes are very clever and I liked the way that the props were very adaptable. The horrid giants had very ugly faces and were very clever too. The BFG's cave was very good because it had all the bottles of dreams that really lit up which was very clear and effective. Sophie was kind and pleasant. The scenery was light and colourful and the way it was used for lots of different places was excellent!

This was our second venture to take all the children to the theatre at Christmas and it was a great success. The children behaved impeccably, had their refreshments (a drink would be nice to organise but rather awkward) and were all superbly looked after. This was due to the very large number of adults we took with us for supervision and safety.

Poppy Day: The district collected £1,974 and Harbury School's contribution was a massive £68.53. Many thanks to everyone who gave for such a worthy cause. We hope that those who could attend felt that our Church service for Poppy Day was meaningful, worthwhile and enjoyable.

Sponsored Walk: Unexpectedly, more money came in after the deadline date. We considered refusing it, but hadn't the heart after all the hard work. This took our total to £1,532.46, a truly fantastic amount of money. This means that the PTA should have no trouble in paying their last instalment for the computer suite and should have enough for the next couple of ventures.

Future Plans: We are looking into the possibilities of extending and improving the toilets outside by the Nursery and Rainsbrook. There is funding available, but it could take a while for plans, estimates, etc. We'll give you more news when we have it. We're also looking into having the School's lighting upgraded, as it is old and inadequate. Again, more news when it is available. We have recently had our

computer server upgraded. The new network points for the infants' new computers (thanks to the National Grid for Learning grant) are now being installed. We plan to have the computers linked around Easter, but are waiting for machines, which run software more suitable for the younger children.

Email: Our system is now up and running! Our address is admin@harbury.warwickshire.sch.uk or admin@3032.wgfl.net. We are also on track for our School's website to be ready during next term. The delay was caused by a number of changes in personnel at the host's end. After having met their technical directory recently, we are assured that everything is now on course.

Aadariyana: Thanks to Mr. Steenstra we were able to show, in assembly, some pictures of the school devastated by the earthquake earlier this year and the new school built with help of donations from Harbury. Their grateful thanks are passed on to everyone – a nice Christmas present for them and us.

Reminder that we have our traditional two teacher training days after Christmas and the children come back on Wednesday 9th January. The Nursery and Kids' Club both reopen on the same day.

Paul Milner

Big Friendly Giant

The BFG was a wonderful play and could be quite funny in places. It was very good and it involved the audience in one scene. I liked the puppets because it made the giant look much bigger than he really was. I also liked the part where the BFG was in the ballroom with the queen. The nasty giants, though you could see they were humans, had some excellent masks. All of the adventures began as a party for Sophie. Then she gets the book 'BFG' and decides to act it out. All her friends and family were characters in the play and it was very good acting. The effects were quite good as well. Some people, like Sophie's mother, had to play two different parts. I liked it when the BFG showed Sophie the dreams that he had caught. The part where they caught the nasty giants was very clever because they used shadows.

Mary van Kesteren - Y6

Pensioners' Patio

Peace and goodwill: has the robin absorbed the Christmas message? Whatever the reason, he recently declared a truce with his reflection in the window, while still fluttering up to inspect it each day. Does he sense he's looking at himself? Or, more likely, a caged and therefore impotent rival.

Recent experiments in animal powers of recognition, are said to have found that sheep can recognise up to 50 members of their flock – by sight alone, if I've got it right. Do we need to know this? In their natural state, creatures from polecats to penguins use smell and/or hearing often far more than sight, not to mention other possible senses we lost years ago.

Cold weather brought the wagtail, often seen running along nearby roofs, into the garden itself for the first time. One day he even brought a mate with him. And the chief blackbird returned at last when the going got tough. We don't possess a red carpet or we might have rolled it out to welcome him.

To return to sheep (*maybe the effect of all those looking out from the Christmas cards – the robin is hopelessly outnumbered this year*). The carol always reminds me of Jacob whose years of flock-watching for his devious father-in-law served him well. Promised all the spotted sheep and goats in Laban's flocks, he didn't waste time; his lengthy experience had, I suspect, taught him more about genetic inheritance than most people know today. He knew just which ones to mate with to get the biggest possible crop of healthy animals with markings to claim for himself. And those twigs with strips peeled off them and placed in drinking-troughs? Well, he wasn't averse to hedging his bets with a spot of sympathetic magic of the kind, which even until the last century could make an expectant mother anxious if she saw a hare. Genesis 30-31 leaves some details confused and telescopes the time scale, but I'm sure Jacob will have a great time in heaven in discussion with those unravelling genomes today!

Edyth Algar

Gardening Notes

One day fine, one day wet, one day mild, one day cold, no wonder the poor plants do not know which season they are in. Is a seasonal gardening calendar of any use now, when antirrhinums, penstemons

and roses bloom alongside polyanthus and snowdrops? Yes, there are winter tasks to be done; so on the fine mild days pull on the Wellingtons and warm sweater and repair wooden structures, and paths.

Finish planting roses, deciduous trees and shrubs before the ground is chilled any more. Now is the time to plant or repair a hedge. If we do get snow, shake it off conifers, particularly columnar ones, and clear the greenhouse roof. Incorporate some compost or manure into the borders, and prepare plots for early planting. Cover some of the vegetable plot with black polythene or cloches for a flying start in March. Cut back side-shoots on cordon apples to one bud, and spray fruit trees, bushes and roses with a winter wash on a calm day. Cut out the canes of autumn fruiting raspberries. Put manure around the rhubarb and cover it with an old bucket if you like the pink early stems.

Potatoes should be put to 'chit'. Egg boxes are useful for keeping the seed potatoes standing on end. Sow winter lettuce in a cold greenhouse or frame with spinach and early radish under cloches. Buy onions and shallots for planting later. Sow any seeds that require exposure to frost before they will germinate. The seed packet will carry instructions for this stratification. Aquilegias and delphiniums need this treatment. Stock up on canes, seed trays and fertiliser. Look out for summer bulbs in the shops and buy the fattest ones you can find.

Check houseplants regularly for pests as these can spread rapidly when plants are grouped together. Bring in bowls of bulbs as the flower stem appears and give a weekly feed once the flowers are fully open. When flowering finishes plant them out in the garden where they can build up for next year. Cyclamen and azaleas do not like warm rooms, but poinsettias do. I conclude this article with a short poem by John Taylor, *The Tale of a Flower* (see next page).

Finally, I wish everyone a **Very Happy New Year, and good gardening in 2002.**

Pat Smith

Jumbled letters

The following collections of letters can be re-arranged into a phrase or word. The number of brackets tells you the number of letters in each word.

1. BEEHIIMRRSSTVY - Ahoy me hearties! (6,2,7)
2. EGGIIINNSSTWX - Beat generation (8,7)
3. DEEGHLNNOOSTU - Keep quiet (4,4,6)

The tale of a flower

I wish you Merry Christmas
From my window sill or plinth,
For that is where they keep me
An indoor hyacinth

I'm sometimes in a plant pot
And sometimes on a jar,
My roots down in the water
Which is taking things too far.

I flower in several colours
And my scent is very strong,
And, not to put too fine a point,
Some even say I pong.

But I have been a present
From friends on Christmas Day,
So my new owners must resist
The urge to throw away
This plant upon the window sill
Or maybe on the plinth,
And, by New Year, they'll greet me
With a cherry: "Higa, Cinth!"

Horticultural Society

Anybody who didn't come to the last talk and party afterwards missed a very enjoyable evening. Mr. Turner gave a delightful illustrated talk; apparently he surprised even himself over what he knew of his subject *Lust and Loveliness in the Garden* by showing slides of statues in beautiful surroundings.

When planning a garden, use plants to screen unsightly objects, uninteresting boundaries, etc. Have a good structure by using architectural plants and fill in with others.

The spread of food at the party afterwards was excellent – many thanks to everybody who contributed, also to Ron and John, popping the wine corks in the kitchen. Judy presented Mrs. Vivian Neill with a plant in recognition for all her hard work whilst on the Committee.

The Bursary was drawn at this meeting, Mr. Alan Barr was the

winner – he will choose from a selected list of courses; we hope he will enjoy it and find it interesting.

On the dull days of winter it is good to think of the activities in the coming year, the interesting talks and the outings, in fact, it is a good idea to keep an eye on the notice board displayed at the meetings.

The *Potato* weekend at Ryton will be on Saturday 2nd and Sunday 3rd February, and it pays to get there early, selling starts at 9.30am, otherwise the popular varieties will have sold out.

The next talk, *Orchids* to be given by Mr. Smith, will be held on Tuesday 8th January at 8pm in the **Tom Hauley Room**.

Muriel Grey

Letters to the Editors

Dear Editors

The family of the late Ethel Manners would like to thank everyone who attended the lovely service conducted by Father Roy Brown.

Thanks also to Liz and colleagues of the Home Care Service. Father Roy, Lesley and Tony for their regular visits. Brenda and Ray for their help over the past 4½ years, particularly the last few weeks that Mum spent at home.

Julia, Anthony and Peter, Jenny, Andrew and Jeremy

Dear Editors

WALKING THE WALL

In October we successfully completed our challenge of walking over 60 miles along the Great Wall of China. It was tougher than we expected as there were so many steps to climb, but it was an amazing trip.

We managed to raise a grand total of £3,088 for Acorn's Children's Hospice in Birmingham.

we'd like to say a great big thank you to all those people who sponsored us. Your support was much appreciated.

Malcolm and Stephanie Okell

Dear Editors

My thanks to everyone who supported the Coffee Morning for CINDI (Kansenshi) on December 1st. We raised £225, a really worthwhile sum, which will enable the school to do so much, as any of you who have read the booklet "Empower Me" will know.

I must, as always, thank my ever willing band of helpers: Jean, Jill, June, Jim and Pat, not forgetting Joyce who always comes to price up for me.

We were joined by my granddaughter Emily, and Jackie, who was able to show photos of the project and explain in far more detail than I could.

Thank you for all the contributions of cakes, prizes and cash we received. **May you all have a Very Happy New Year.**

Gladys Hutchins

Dear Editors

On behalf of Jeanne and Salle-Ann may I thank everybody who baked and gave to our Cake Stall at the Christmas Fayre - we made £93.45, which was more than last year - Thank You again.

Muriel Grey

Dear Editors

HARBURY ALL SAINTS' CHRISTMAS FAYRE 2001

I would like to say a big Thank You to everyone who helped on the day and to all our loyal customers who made it happen in the afternoon.

All records were broken once again and the Fayre was 'buzzing' all afternoon. The weather was kind to us and the atmosphere in the Hall reflected our Happy Harbury Community Spirit.

A special thank you to everyone who bought raffle tickets both on the door-to-door 'campaign' and in the Hall on the day. We sold every book and as a result we shall be sending a cheque for £930 to the A & E Appeal fund - a magnificent effort. Incidentally, the new A & E unit is now open for 'business'.

We look forward to next year, but for now, on behalf of the Fayre committee and myself: our wish is that you have a **really wonderful Christmas and a Very Happy New year.**

Kind Regards

Colin Ingram

Dear Editors

HARBURY SENIOR CITIZENS CHRISTMAS PARTY

May I, through your magazine, thank everyone who, once again, participated in providing the Senior Citizens Christmas Party.

We would like to thank all the people who make this particular event possible. A lot of them are not on the committee, they just turn up every year to wash up, to wait on tables and generally 'lend a hand'. Without these volunteers there would be no meal. Special mention must be made of Marie Wallington and Margaret Taylor who do all the ordering, buying, costing and cooking of the turkeys.

The entertainment this year was provided by the Appalachian Dancers, Kick Start, the Harvesters and of course, rounded off by Mavis Young playing the keyboard for the carols at the end of the evening. Everyone enjoyed their evening and many people have said that it was the best yet. We do thank everyone for giving their time to provide our entertainment.

We would also like to thank all those in the village who donated raffle prizes and of course everyone who bought tickets. A & M

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Group very kindly provided transport to and from the event and our thanks go to Mike and Ian Thompson who gave up their time to ensure that the senior citizens arrived in time and were safely delivered home at the end of the evening.

We rely solely on donations and fundraising to provide both the Summer Outing and the Christmas Party and we thank all those organisations throughout the year that so kindly raise money on our behalf. This does mean that for the next year we know that we are able to provide both the Summer Outing and the Christmas Party.

Once again, thank you to everyone who helped with the party and the fundraising. We hope to see you all again at the next Christmas Party.

Jenny Evans - Secretary

Dear Editors

I would like to record my grateful thanks to the Senior Citizens' Committee for the excellent Christmas party they organised for us pensioners. The Village Hall had been decorated, and the tables laid out to present a very seasonal and welcoming atmosphere in which we were to enjoy a superb meal, beautifully prepared and served. This was followed by an entertaining display of dancing by the Appalachian Dancers Kick Start, and carol singing brought to close a most enjoyable evening.

As a village we are very fortunate to have such a dedicated band of volunteers whose endeavours we sincerely appreciate.

Ralph Swadling

Solutions:

Page 8: One possibility is: $954 - 459 = 495$

Page 17: Ann is 63, Bill is 28.

Dear Editors

Tony and I would like to express our sincere thanks to all our many friends for the love and prayers, help and support we have received over the past weeks. It is a privilege to be a part of such a caring community.

Wendy Stubbs

Dear Editors

CAROLS AROUND THE VILLAGE

Harbury Folk Club and Hereburgh Morris joined forces on December 18th for our traditional carol singing around the club and pubs of Deppers Bridge and Harbury.

The magnificent sum of £114 was collected and has been donated to the Leamington Christian Mission. We would like to thank all those who gave so generously.

Doug Freeman

Dear Editors

I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone in Harbury **Very Happy and Healthy New Year.**

I moved into the village in January 2001 and would like to thank everyone who helped to make my move into the village a smooth one. Also to say thank you to all the good friends and neighbours I have made in this short time.

With All Best Wishes

Tony Estick

Solutions:

- Page 34:
1. Shiver my timbers
 2. Swinging sixties
 3. Hold one's tongue

Dear Editors

HARBURY CHRISTMAS STREET LIGHTS

Many thanks once again, to the 'old team' for erecting the rope lights around the village centre and to all the people who supplied the power.

This year we were fortunate to receive a generous donation from the Chronicles film committee towards extra lighting which enabled us to purchase the large 'Merry Christmas' feature on the balcony over the Supermarket entrance, two smaller candle features and two strings of lights for the memorial garden in Chapel Street.

It has been gratifying to receive many favourable comments regarding the displays and, therefore, we have decided to raise more funds to expand the lighting for next and future years. To this end we have already received a very generous donation of £100 from a Harbury businessman who has lived in the village all his life but who wishes to remain anonymous. If anyone else would like to make a donation or has any suggestions for the displays in future years please contact either Brian Ingram or Dan Killian.

Dan Killian

Dear Editors

Over the past three years I have asked the County Highways surveyor to clear the drains at the corner of Hall Lane and Church Terrace - twice I have asked him to have the drain at the corner outside the churchyard cleared. The surveyor says the problem is that leaves are covering the drain cover, so that, over time, flooding occurs. The problem could be solved more readily if the leaves were cleared. Recently I met the surveyor to deal with the flooding problem at the corner of Bush Heath and Park Lane. A jetting lorry arrived as we spoke.

In the next week or so I shall give him a list of all the sunken drains/drain covers, which need attention. I am told a drain cover, outside the doctor's surgery, lifts. The surveyor says this is Severn

Trent's problem. I have, with his help, set in train a request to deal with the eastern verge of Butt Lane as far as the junction with Vicarage Lane. A request has been forwarded to have a kerb and re-surfacing. So in time, this will, I trust, happen. I also had the re-surfacing of the lane up to the tip made a priority, which seems to have solved some of the water problems there.

I have done this to help you and the Parish Council.

My best wishes to you all for a **prosperous and happy New Year.**

Stratford District Councillor Eric Dally

REGULAR DIARY DATES

BABY CLINIC: Surgery, 2nd & 4th Wednesday 2:00-4:00pm

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

BEAVERS: Scout Hut, Tuesdays 6:15-7:15pm

BEAT BUDDIES: Village Hall, Tuesdays 2pm; Fridays 9.30-11.30am and 2-3pm

BELL RINGING PRACTICE: (613605) Church, Fridays 7:30pm

BROWNIES: Scout Hut, Mondays 6:15-7:30pm

CHOIR PRACTICE: Church, Fridays 6:30pm

COFFEE MORNING: Tom Hauley Room Saturdays 10:00am-12:00noon

CUBS: Scout Hut, Wednesdays 6:30-8:00pm

DANCING CLASSES: (01789-842242) Farley Room of Village Hall, Children & Adults
 Wednesdays 4:00-9:00pm

DROP-IN TEA: (612585) 19, Farm Street, 2.30 to 4.30pm, 4th Wednesday in the month

GYMNASTICS: Harbury School, Mondays 6:00-7:00pm

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

HARBURY NURSERY SCHOOL: School, Monday-Friday; 9:00am-12:00noon;
 Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays 12:45pm-3:15pm

HARBURY PRE-SCHOOL: Wight School, High St. Monday 12:30 - 2:30pm;

Tuesday-Friday 9:00am - 12:00noon

HARBURY VILLAGE CLUB: Contact 612498

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

LIBRARY: (613297) Mondays 2:00 - 5:00pm and 5:30 - 7:00pm;

Thursdays 10:00am - 1:00pm; 2:00 - 5:00pm & 5:30 - 7:00pm;

Stories, Rhymes for U5s, 10:00am 1st Thursday in the month; Term Time only

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

SCOUTS: Scout Hut, Thursdays 7:00pm

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

TENNIS CLUB: (614614) (Apr-Sept) Tues & Thurs 6:30pm onwards (6:00pm for April);

Saturday 2:00-5:00pm; Monday & Wednesday 1:45-3:00pm

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

THURSDAY CLUB: (612273) Farley Room of Village Hall 2nd & 4th Thursday in the month

2:30pm

TODDLER GROUP: Wight School, Monday 10:00-11:30am & Wednesday 1:30-3:00pm

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

YOGA: Wight School, Wednesdays, 7:30-9:30pm Diane Surgey Tel. 817904

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

Please note:

Adverts to 31, Binswood End by Tuesday 15th January

Articles to Harbury Chemist by Friday 25th January

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We will be judging entrants in three age groups: 5-10 years, 11-17 years and Adult. Drawings should be no larger than A4 size.

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






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SPRING TERM 2002

Evening & Daytime Courses at SOUTHAM COLLEGE

START DATE: MONDAY 7th JANUARY 7.30 - 9.30pm

Learn to play the guitar	5 wks
Lip reading for adults	10 wks
Piano classes for those who wish to improve their skills	10 wks
IBT2 Advanced level computing full	30 wks
Basic computing Term 2	10 wks
Beginners German for Term 3	10 wks
Cake icing and sugar paste flowers	10 wks
Art classes including Acrylic and Oil painting	10 wks
Conversational Spanish Term 2	10 wks

START DATE: TUESDAY 8th JANUARY 7.30 - 9.30pm

Computer Literacy and Information Technology (1 place)	22 wks
Basic computing enrol week 1 (special course for beginners)	5 wks
So you think you can't draw?	10 wks
Arabic belly dancing for improvers 7.30-8.30	10 wks
Arabic belly dancing for beginners 8.30-9.30	10 wks
Greek for beginners 6.00-7.30	10 wks
Cake icing and sugar paste flowers	10 wks
Healing, energy lines and meditation learning more about the	
Chakra's by a Reiki Master	10 wks

START DATE: WEDNESDAY 9th JANUARY 7.30 - 9.30pm

E-Commerce course basic computing, including using	
and surfing the Internet	10 wks
Pillow lace making (bobbin lace)	10 wks
Keep Fit for men	10 wks
Greek for the more advanced	10 wks
Dressmaking, beginners welcome	5 wks
Cake icing and sugar paste flowers	10 wks

START DATE: THURSDAY 10th JANUARY 7.30-9.30pm

E-Commerce course basic computing for total beginners	5 wks
Beginners computing Microsoft products (part 2)	5 wks
Water colour painting	10 wks
Family badminton for beginners, 7.30-8.30pm	10 wks
Beginners Italian conversation course	10 wks
Badminton for all 8.30-9.30	10 wks
French conversation Term 2	10 wks

All courses enrol and commence week beginning 7th January 2002. The centres will be closed for the Half Term on week beginning 11th February. Fees are based on a charge of £2.25 per hour unless otherwise stated. A class for 2 hours per evening over 5 weeks costs £22.50.

If you feel that you should be entitled to a discount, please apply to Gerry Young by telephone on 01926 812560 or email: GerryYg@aol.com

DAYTIME COURSES AT SOUTHAM COLLEGE

Conversational Spanish	Mon. 1.00-3.00pm	10 wks
Children's dance classes	Mon. 5.15-6.15pm	10 wks
Healing, meditation colour learning about the		
Chakra's by a Reiki Master	Tues. 10.00-12.00noon	10 wks
Tai Chi	Tues. 1.00-3.00pm	10 wks
Keep Fit to music	Wed. 9.30-10.30am	10 wks
Water colour painting	Wed. 1.00-3.00pm	10 wks
Yoga for relaxation	Thurs. 10.00-12.00noon	10 wks
Water colour painting	Thurs. 1.00-3.00pm	10 wks
Flower preparations for Spring and Easter	Fri. 10.00-12.00noon	10 wks

DAYTIME COURSES at HARBURY Library

Beginners computing (FREE)	Thurs. 9.30-12.00noon	10 wks
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EVENING COURSE at HARBURY Primary School

Starting Computing, leading to CLAIT	Wed. 7.30-9.30pm	10 wks
Keep Fit to music	Thurs. 7.00-8.00pm	10 wks

EVENING COURSE at HARBURY Tom Hauley Room

Yoga	Wed. 7.30-9.30pm	10 wks
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COURSES at OFFCHURCH Village Hall

Upholstery and soft furnishing	Tues. 9.30-11.30am	10 wks
Upholstery and soft furnishing	Thurs. 1.30-3.30pm	10 wks

COURSES at LONG ITCHINGTON Primary School

Basic Computing for beginners for Staff, Governors & Parents		
Enrol and start Tuesday 15th (FREE)	Tues. 7.30-9.30pm	5 wks
Computer Literacy & Information		
Technology 2000 ME	Fri. 12.30-2.30pm	(FULL) 22 wks

DAYTIME COURSE at STOCKTON Village Hall

Upholstery and soft furnishing	Tues. 1.00-3.00pm	10 wks
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EVENING COURSE at STOCKTON School

Basic Computing Level 2 (for those with a basic knowledge)	Tues. 7.30-9.30pm	10 wks
Basic Comp. training for total beginner	Thurs. 7.30-9.30pm (free to some)	10 wks

COURSES at NAPTON St. Lawrence C.E. Primary School

Computer Literacy and Information		
Technology (Pre-CLAIT)	Tues. 7.30-9.30pm	10 wks
Basic Computer Literacy Starter course	Tues. 7.30-9.30pm	10 Wks
Yoga	Tues. 7.30-9.30pm	10 wks

COURSE at BISHOPS ITCHINGTON Memorial Hall

Keep fit and aerobics for all	Tues. 7.30-8.30pm	10 wks
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SATURDAY COURSE at SOUTHAM College

Creative Cookery for Children (1 session)	Sat. 10.00-12.00noon	5 wks
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Some registers have already been started and you are advised to apply early.

Postal enrolments are welcome and usually secure a place. Please make cheques payable to **SOUTHAM COLLEGE**.



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